

2016 Spring Town Hall Meeting



State Representative Mary Jo Daley
148th Legislative District



Agenda

- Budget Overview
- Hot Topic: Gerrymandering
- Legislative Success: SB3 – Medical Marijuana Act
- Climate Caucus
- State Military College Selection Committee Volunteer Opportunity
- Upcoming Events
- Q & A



2015-2016 Budget Update

- Impasse lasted 9 months
- December 23, 2015 – House set to vote on framework budget
- December 29, 2015 – Governor uses his power of the line-item veto on HB1460
 - \$23.4 billion of \$30.3 billion released
- March 23, 2016 – Governor Wolf allows HB1801 budget to become law
 - Governor did not sign, will not veto; vetoes Fiscal Code
 - Lapsed into law Monday, March 28, at 12:01 a.m.
 - Releases remaining \$6.9 billion



2015-2016 Budget Update

- HB1801
 - \$232 million LESS than HB1460
 - Includes \$310 million in unrealistic cuts and lapses
 - **-\$200 million** in prior year funds
 - **-\$93 million** to mandated Medical Assistance payments
 - **-\$17 million** to Department of Corrections
 - Out of balance by at least \$290 million
 - Does not reimburse schools or human service providers for impasse-related borrowing costs



2015-2016 Budget Update

- More bad news...
 - State's credit rating may be jeopardized further
 - On March 3, Standard and Poor's Rating Services warned of a potential downgrade by the end of March if the structural budget imbalance remained unaddressed
 - According to the Independent Fiscal Office (IFO), the commonwealth is facing a **\$1.9 billion gap for 2016/2017**, growing to more than **\$2.6 billion in the following years**



2016-2017 Budget Overview

- Major components
 - Education
 - Human services
 - Government reform



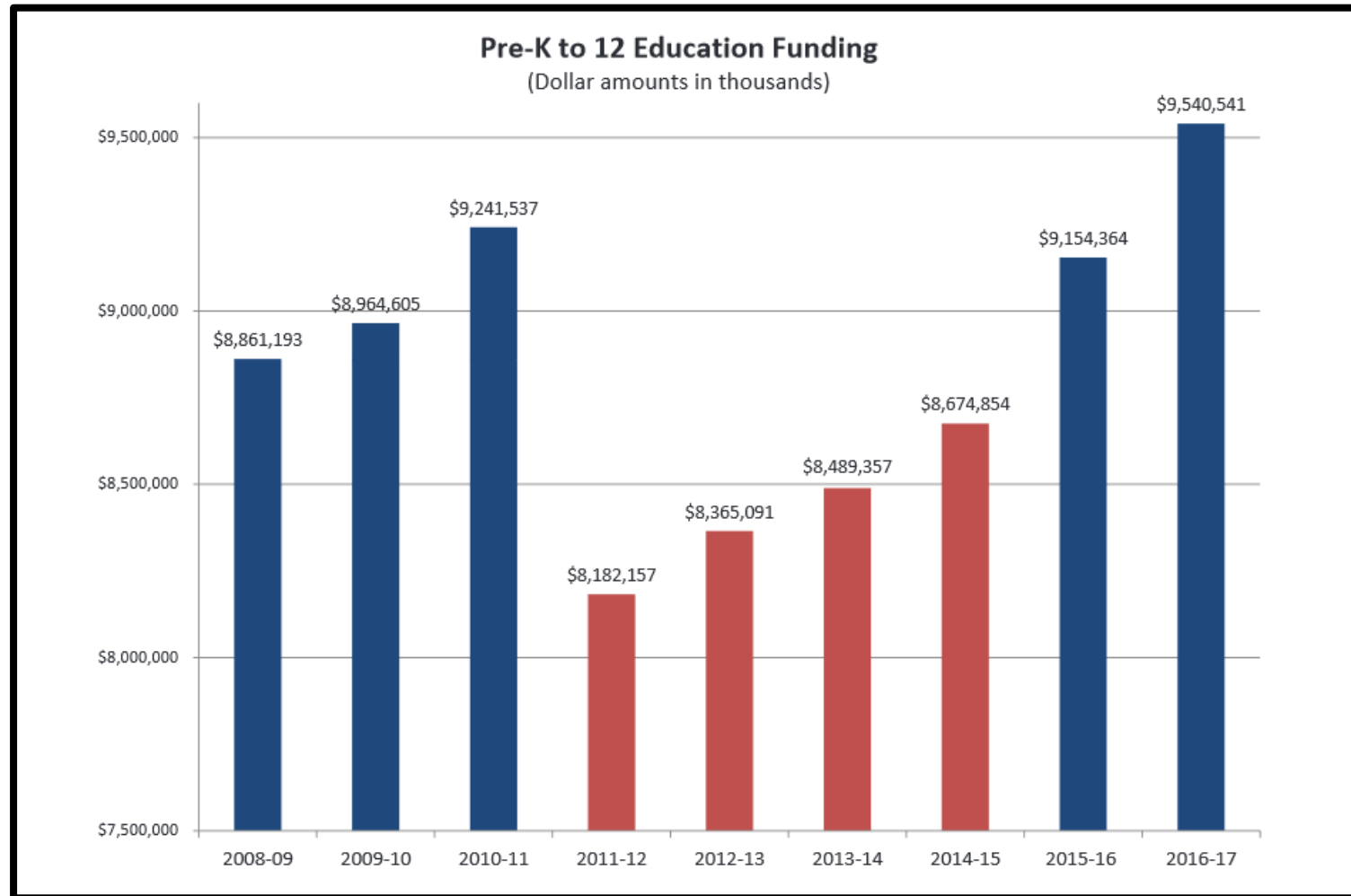
2016-2017 Budget Overview

- **Education**

- Significant investments pre-K through college
- Accountability standards reviewed
- Charter school reform
- Bridging the Gap - High School to College and Careers
- Reinvesting in higher education
- Why important?
 - Average student loan debt in Pennsylvania: \$33,000 (March 2016)



2016-2017 Budget Overview



2016-2017 Budget Overview

- **Human Services**

- Caring for our Most Vulnerable
 - Implement express lane eligibility for health care coverage for children
 - Increase access to child care for low-income working families
 - Reduce waiting lists for individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities
 - Restore human services funding for counties
- Combating the Heroin and Opioid Epidemic
 - \$34 million increase to treat more than 11,250 individuals
 - Creation of the interagency Heroin Task Force
 - Equip all State Police vehicles and Capitol Police with naloxone



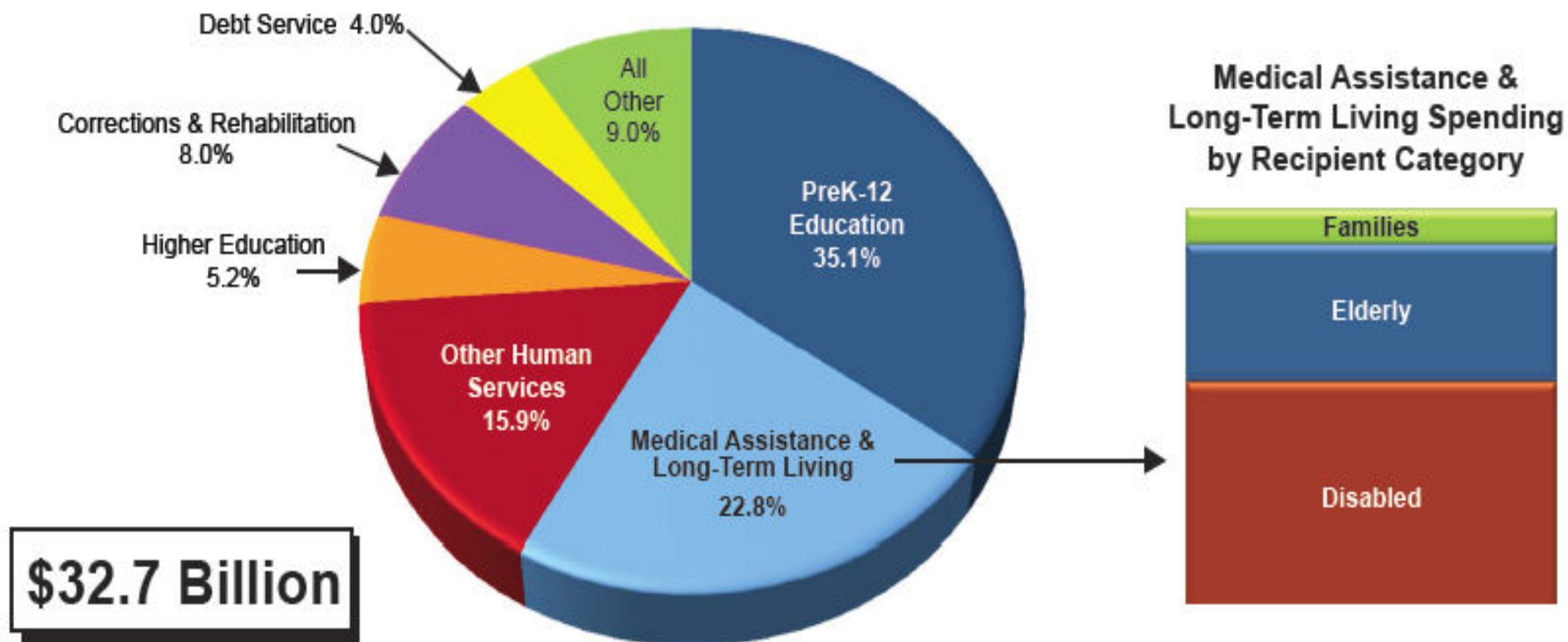
2016-2017 Budget Overview

- **Government Reform**
Improving Government Efficiency
 - Online voter registration
- Pension Improvements
- Modernizing PA's Wine and Spirit System
- Making Pennsylvania Safer
 - Create one comprehensive department: Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
 - Improve treatment of inmates with mental health issues



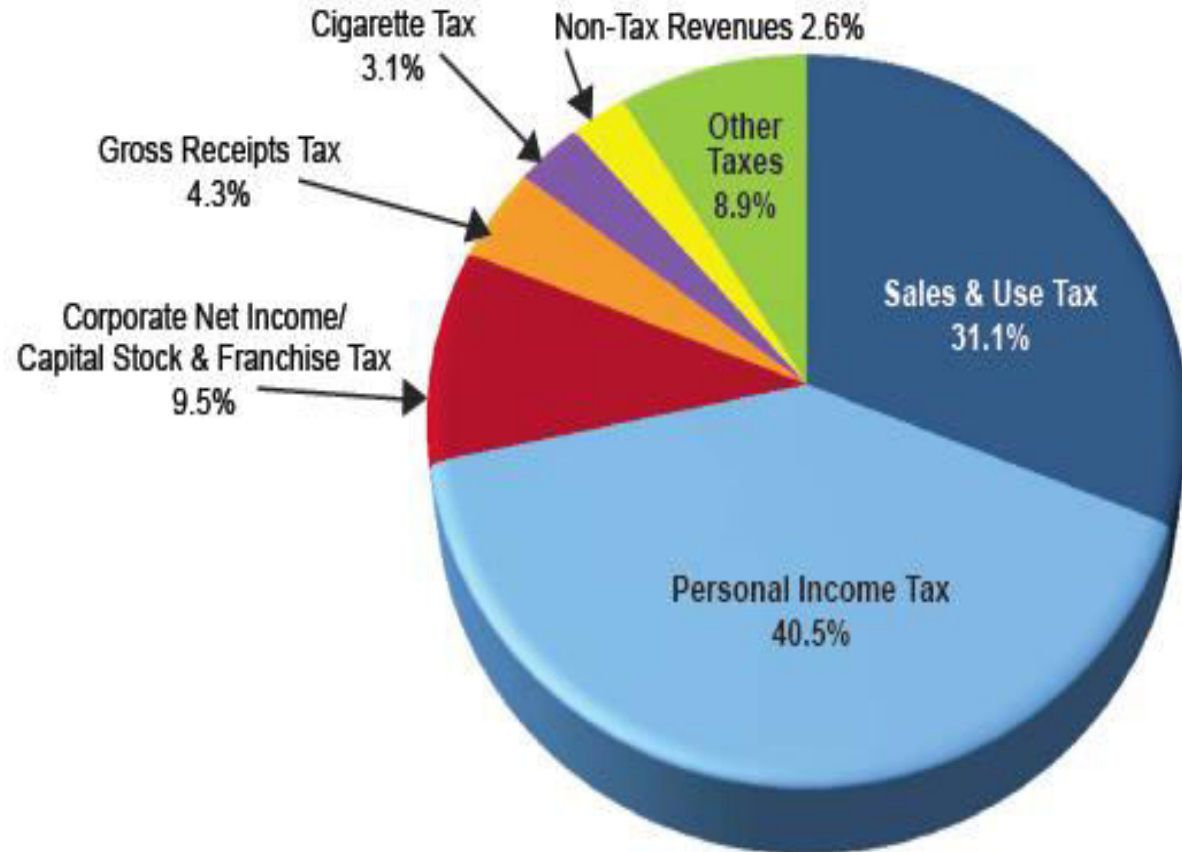
2016-2017 Budget Overview

General Fund Expenditures

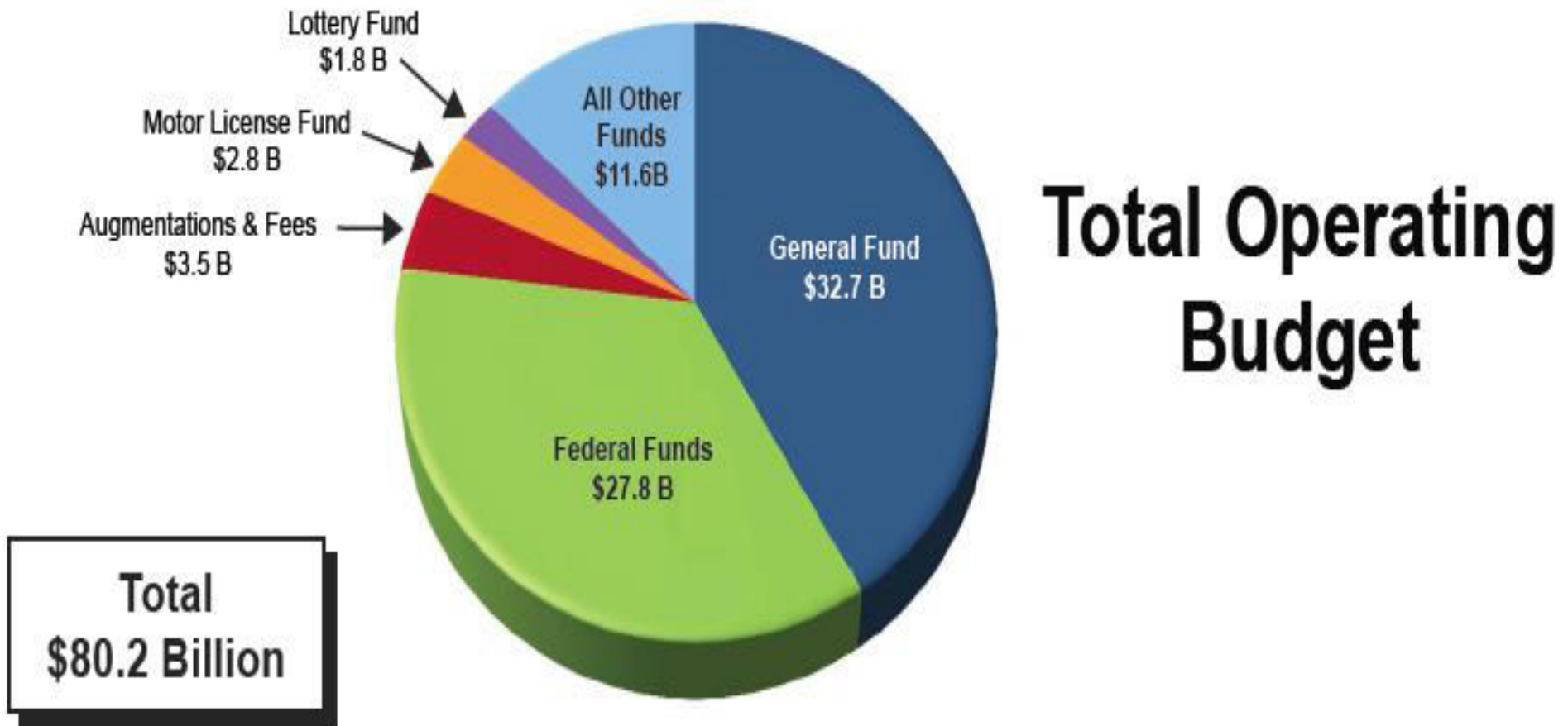


2016-2017 Budget Overview

General Fund Revenues



2016-2017 Budget Overview



How does PA resolve its structural deficit?

Increase taxes

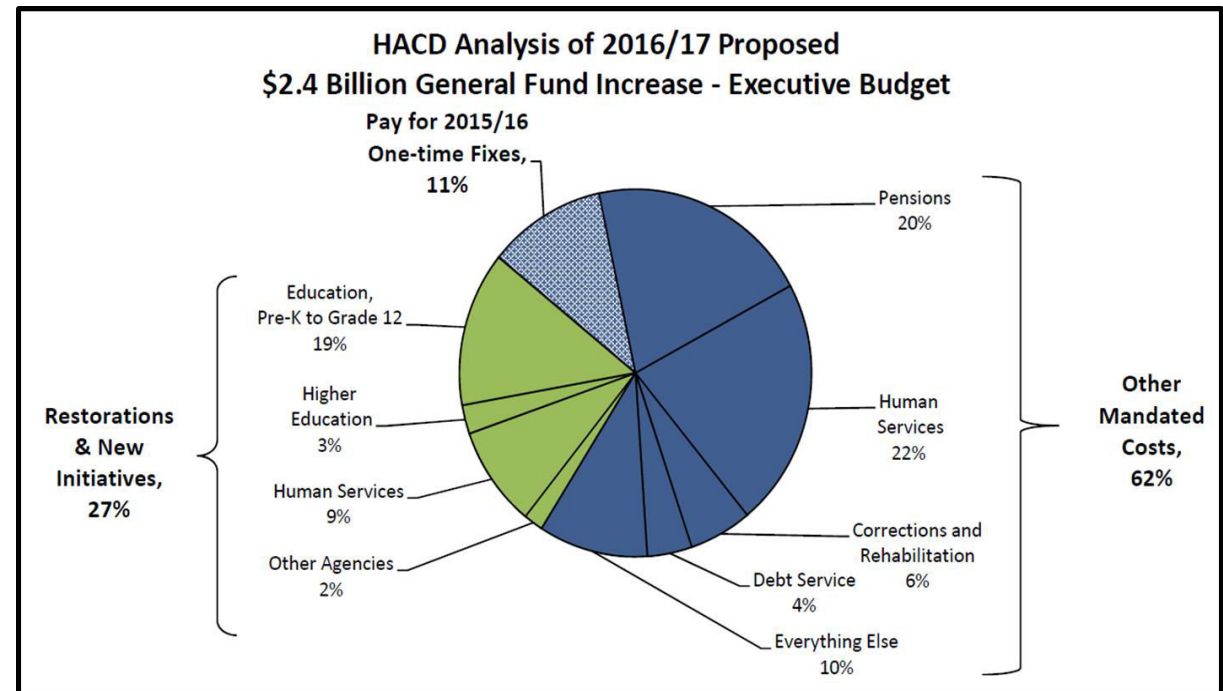
Proposed PIT increase to 3.4%

- Example:

Annual Salary of \$50,000

- A person paid weekly would see an increase in the PA Personal Income Tax of \$3.17 or increase of \$165 annually

Cut Expenses



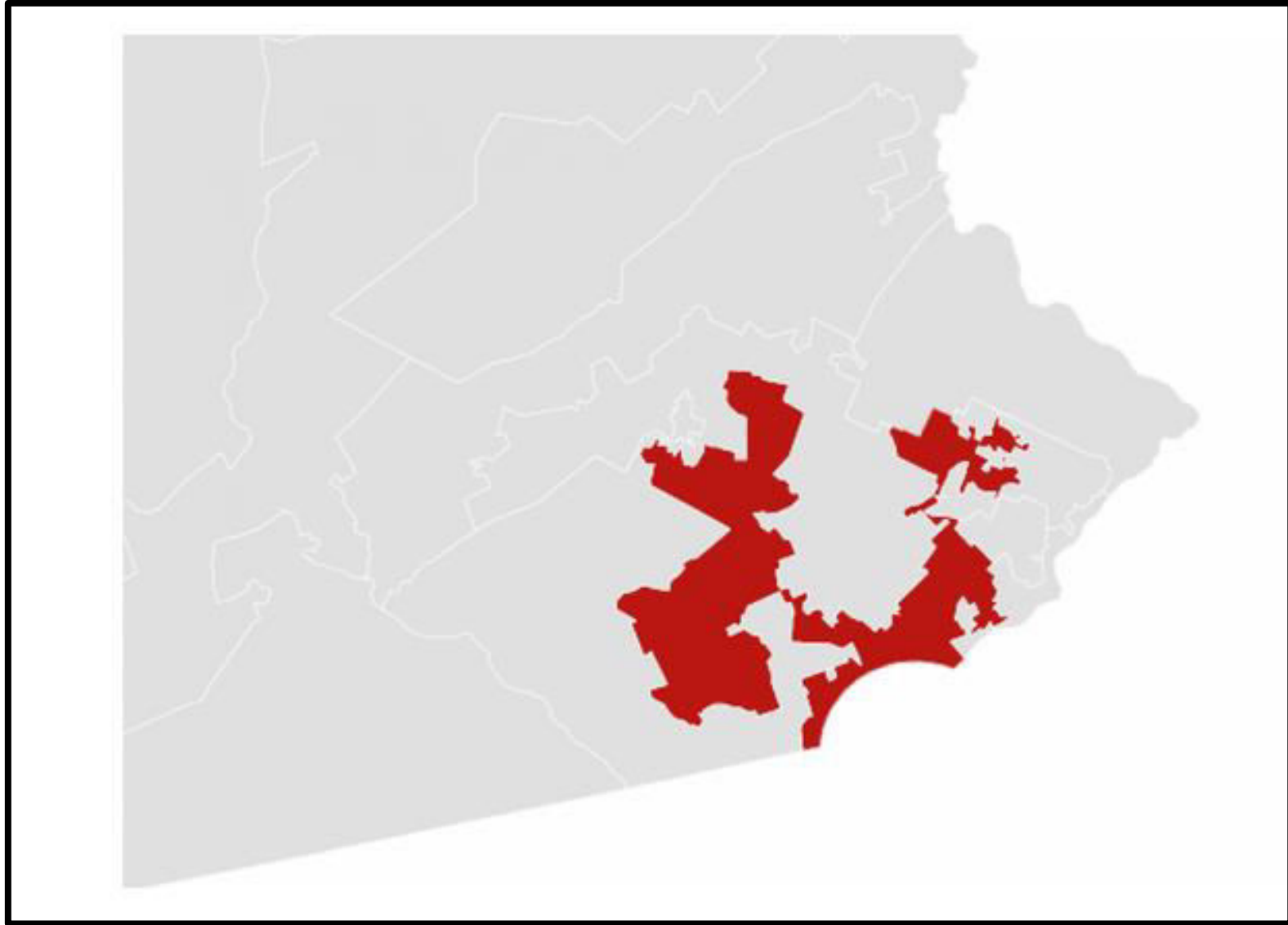
Hot Topic: Gerrymandering

- Originated in early 1800's in Massachusetts
- “An attempt to establish a political advantage for a particular party or group by manipulating district boundaries to create partisan-advantaged districts”
- 7th Congressional in PA ranks in country's top 10 most gerrymandered
- 13 of 18 Pennsylvania's Congressmen are Republican; Republicans only account for 37% of registered voters
- Prime Sponsor: HB878 – Requiring Openness and Fairness in Redistricting (no constitutional amendment required)
- Co-Prime Sponsor: HB1835 – Legislative and Congressional Redistricting (constitutional amendment required)



Thanks to a
“Name That
District contest,
Pennsylvania’s 7th
Congressional
District will
henceforth be
known as

*“Goofy
Kicking
Donald
Duck”*



Legislative Success: SB3 – Medical Marijuana Act

- Referred to House in May 2015
- Member of bipartisan working group to amend bill
 - Only residents of Pennsylvania will be eligible for ID card
 - Health insurers not required to provide coverage
- Final passage in House on March 16, 2016 with vote of 149-43
- Senate may concur or amend
 - Concurrence sends bill to Governor for signature
 - Amendment sends bill to a House/Senate Conference Committee



Legislative Success: SB3 – Medical Marijuana Act

Qualifying conditions in SB3

- Cancer
- HIV/AIDS
- ALS
- Parkinson's
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Spinal cord damage related to Intractable Spasticity
- Epilepsy
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Neuropathies
- Huntington's Disease
- Crohn's Disease
- PTSD
- Intractable seizures
- Glaucoma
- Sickle Cell Anemia
- Some kinds of severe, chronic, or intractable pain
- Autism

Permitted forms of medical cannabis in SB3

- Pill
- Oil
- Topical (gels, creams, ointments)
- Forms medically appropriate for administration by vaporization or nebulization
- Tincture (liquid extract)
- Liquid



Climate Caucus

- In Harrisburg, there are divergent views on “climate”
- Is it be possible to use the SB3 model of a bipartisan working group to find common ground on this topic?



State Military College Selection Committee

Volunteer Opportunity

- Opportunity to appoint an eligible student applicant to receive a full scholarship to Pennsylvania's designated military academy
- Required to appoint a Selection Committee
- Veteran status preferable
- Review of applicants takes place in January/February
 - Final selected applicant due to school in March



Upcoming Events

- **April 5 and April 19 – APPRISE Medicare Counseling**
 - 2 p.m. @ the District Office, 815 Fayette Street, Suite 200 in Conshohocken
 - Will discuss Medicare enrollment, Part A and Part B, prescription plans, Medicare Advantage plans, and other health insurance options
- **April 16, 2016 – FREE Shredding Event**
 - Old “Annie Sez” parking lot @ 925 Montgomery Avenue in Narberth
 - 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
 - 5 banker’s box/5 paper bag MAXIMUM
- **June 17, 2016 – Senior Fair**
 - Colonial Elementary School @ 230 Flourtown Road in Plymouth Meeting
 - 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 - 50+ vendors, food, and raffle prizes