



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Tina
DAVIS

141ST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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Rep. Davis opposed tax increase at the pump



Rep. Davis voted against proposals that already are increasing gasoline and diesel prices at the pump.

"I fully support the need for transportation funding, but I could not support reducing wages for our hard-working middle-class families while at the same time significantly increasing the price of fuel," Rep. Davis said. "Also, this legislation did nothing to ease crushing toll increases on the Pennsylvania Turnpike for our daily commuters here in the southeastern part of the state."

The funding plan, signed into law late last year by Gov. Tom Corbett, gradually

increases the tax rate on wholesale gasoline purchases, potentially adding 28.5 cents a gallon to gasoline prices and 38.5 cents for diesel over five years. The first tax increases took effect in January.

Some of the more than 150 tax and fee increases being phased in by the transportation plan include:

- A 28.5-cent-a-gallon increase on gasoline;
- A 38.5-cent increase on diesel;
- A \$2 increase for passenger car registrations;
- An optional \$5 county vehicle registration fee;
- A \$61 increase for personal registration plates;
- Annual registration increases for large trucks for the next four years;
- A \$2 increase for driver's license renewal;
- A \$15 increase for photo ID cards;
- A \$15 increase for replacement driver's licenses; and
- A \$32.50 increase for certificates of title.

"The law will have serious repercussions -- now and down the road -- on household budgets, fuel prices and incomes," Rep. Davis said. "I am disappointed that we were not able to solve the transportation-funding shortfall without harming the middle class."

A promise kept on property taxes

Rep. Davis voted for House Bill 76 -- The Property Tax Independence Act -- to eliminate school property taxes. The measure failed, unfortunately.

"My vote kept my promise to the people of the 141st District to try to eliminate this unfair and archaic tax," Rep. Davis said. "This legislation was not perfect but was a step in the right direction toward funding our schools in a fairer and more equitable way.

"I will do my utmost to make sure the fight to eliminate school property taxes does not end with this vote," Rep. Davis said.

Similar legislation is still being considered in the Senate.

Rep. Davis questions governor's budget proposal

Rep. Davis said that Gov. Tom Corbett's proposed state budget would continue to hurt middle-class families in Pennsylvania.

"Pennsylvania workers, families, students and retirees have been harmed by his policies of the last three years, and little that he proposed in February would suggest a change for the better," Rep. Davis said. "Education continues to get cut, raising local school taxes while the governor keeps giving tax breaks to big business and special interests."

Continued on page 3

Bipartisan award



Rep. Davis was named a winner last year by the Bipartisan Policy Center for her public service entry concerning work on behalf of veterans. Rep. Davis, who was honored at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, donated her \$500 prize to the Bucks County Chapter of Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

Agenda for Women's Health

Rep. Davis has introduced legislation that would make online posting of sexually explicit photos or videos – without the person's consent – a crime.

"The legislation – House Bill 1901 -- provides legal consequences when relationships turn abusive in the social media," Rep. Davis said. "Online harassment by former intimate partners is a growing problem, and Pennsylvania should have the tools to prosecute it."

The bill would make "revenge by invasion of privacy" a third-degree felony, carrying a penalty of up to seven years in prison when it involves a minor. When involving non-consenting adults, the legislation calls for escalating fines, probation and prison terms in aggravated cases.

The legislation targets those exposing a photograph, film or videotape of intimate actions to a third party with the intent to harass, annoy or alarm the person depicted. It would not be a crime if the adult depicted consents to the release of the material.

H.B. 1901 is part of a seven-bill Agenda for Women's Health package unveiled in December by the legislature's bipartisan Women's Health Caucus, of which she is a member. The bills in the Pennsylvania Agenda for Women's Health include:

- **Workplace accommodations for pregnant women:** H.B. 1892 and S.B. 1209 would require a covered employer to make reasonable accommodations related to pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions unless those accommodations would prove an undue hardship on the employer's operations.
- **Increased eligibility for breast and cervical cancer screenings:** H.B. 1900 would allow women between ages 30 and 65 to qualify for the state Healthy Woman Program if they meet all other applicable requirements.
- **Equitable protections for domestic violence victims:** H.B. 1796 would ban municipal ordinances that penalize crime victims for calling for help.
- **Pay equity legislation:** H.B. 1890 and S.B. 1212 would clarify and update the legal standards for pay-equity lawsuits.
- **Sanitary conditions for nursing mothers:** H.B. 1895 would require employers to provide a private, sanitary space for employees who need to express breast milk.



Rep. Davis discusses her House Bill 1901 – which provides legal consequences when relationships turn abusive in the social media – at a bipartisan Women's Health Caucus news conference called in December to unveil a seven-bill Agenda for Women's Health package.

VETERANS CORNER

Rep. Davis spurs action to help disabled vets

Rep. Davis' involvement with veterans' issues paid off this year when the state

Department of Transportation responded to her requests and eased verification requirements for severely disabled military veterans to obtain placards or registration plates for needed parking privileges.

"PennDOT dropped burdensome requirements confronting injured heroes before they could submit an application," said Rep. Davis, who had begun drafting legislation with PennDOT to remove the conditions. "It's the right move for our veterans."

Rep. Davis said eligible veterans now will simply be able to provide PennDOT with a copy of their VA benefits letter listing disability information to obtain the placard or plate, which enables them to park in spaces designated for disabled



About 200 veterans and family members attended Rep. Davis' "Evening To Honor Our Veterans" event in November at the Benjamin Franklin Middle School in Levittown. Brigadier General Andrew P. Schafer Jr., assistant division commander of the 28th Infantry Division of the Pennsylvania National Guard, was the guest speaker.

citizens and grants them an extra 60 minutes beyond the legal parking period.

With the plate or placard and upon request, local authorities also may erect a sign near a driver's home indicating that a parking place is reserved for the person with a disability.

"I became aware of the hurdles facing injured veterans while helping a constituent obtain a registration plate and I am pleased to see results from the efforts," Rep. Davis said.

Any constituent having problems obtaining a Severely Disabled Veteran Plate is urged to call Rep. Davis' office at 215-943-8669.



Rep. Davis welcomed the undefeated Neshaminy High School Girls' soccer team and its coaching staff to the state Capitol, where they were honored in the House of Representatives for capturing their first state title in the 2013-14 PIAA Class AAA state championship game, held in November at Hersheypark Stadium. En route to a state final, 2-1 overtime victory, the team posted 19 shutouts, won their second consecutive Suburban One National championship and the school's first girls soccer District 1 crown. At left is House Speaker Sam Smith, and flanking Rep. Davis are state Reps. Frank Farry and Gene DiGirolamo.



Rep. Davis' Senior Expo in September at the Bristol Township Senior Center proved to be a rousing success. Besides a wealth of information made available about state programs and services, the free event brought many friends and neighbors together for an enjoyable time.

Senior Expo success!



Rep. Davis questions governor's budget proposal *Continued from page 1*

Rep. Davis said the governor has been promising for three years that severe budget cuts would fix Pennsylvania's economy.

"Instead, the state has fallen to 48th among all states in job creation and 41st among all states in projected job growth," Rep. Davis said. "While states surrounding Pennsylvania are showing budget surpluses and recovering economies, Pennsylvania faces a \$1.4 billion budget deficit and little hope on the horizon from the governor other than election-year mirages."

The governor's spending plan includes no increases for basic education funding for K-12 public education.

"We've seen the damage when the governor cut almost \$1 billion from public education, including the 20,000 education jobs lost, widespread property tax increases and countless lost opportunities," Rep. Davis said. "His budget proposals are yet another lost opportunity to fix what has gone so wrong."

Hulmeville and Penndel boroughs, new sections of Middletown and Bristol Township to join the 141st Legislative District

Dear Friend,

In 2013, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upheld a redistricting plan that redraws the boundaries of all 203 state House and 50 state Senate districts.

Once the new plan is in effect in December, the 141st Legislative District, which I currently represent, will see some changes. The 141st District will include the boroughs of Hulmeville and Penndel as well as new sections of Middletown and Bristol Township.

These changes do not affect your township or school district affiliation. If you are unsure of which ward and precinct you live in, please visit www.votespa.com or call my office.

During my tenure in the General Assembly, I have focused on issues that affect families, from halting the harms of property taxes to supporting a fair levy on natural gas drillers to support tax relief and our public schools. I've been a strong advocate on veterans' issues and government reform, having championed legislation that would prohibit public officials and candidates from accepting any gift valued at more than \$50.

My legislative website, www.pahouse.net/Davis, features information about me and the district, as well as news releases and links to an employment center and a variety of key state resources. You may also sign up for e-mail alerts for up-to-the-minute news from the Capitol and around the region.

I look forward to serving you!

All the best,

Tina M. Davis

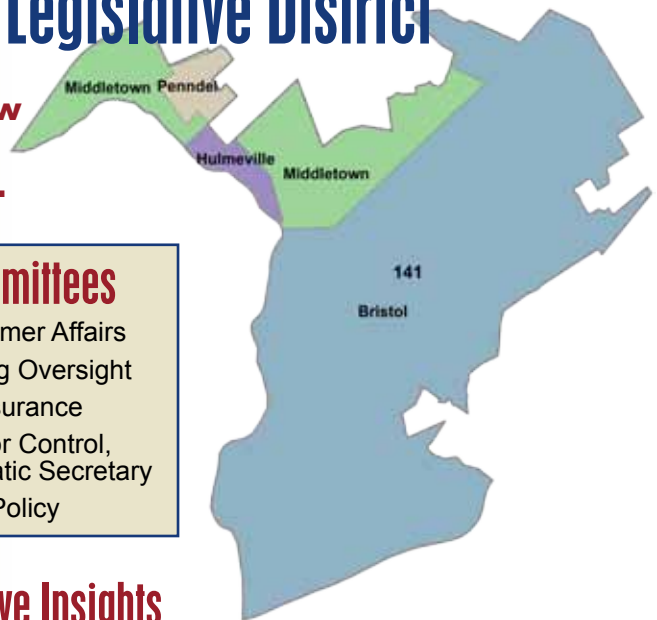
The New 141st District.

Committees

Consumer Affairs
Gaming Oversight
Insurance
Liquor Control,
Democratic Secretary
Policy

Legislative Insights

- Opposed massive increase in gasoline tax
- Voted for Property Tax Elimination Act, H.B. 76
- Support levy on natural gas drillers to support tax relief, public education
- Oppose privatization of Pennsylvania Lottery
- Support fair funding of public schools and higher education
- Prime sponsor of Scrap Material Theft Prevention Act, H.B. 1086
- Prime sponsor of Foreclosed Property Maintenance Act, H.B. 1743
- Prime sponsor of bill to crack down on online sexual revenge, H.B. 1901
- Prime sponsor of bill banning political gifts, H.B. 855
- Prime sponsor of Internet gaming legislation, H.B. 1235
- Prime sponsor of legislation to regulate recovery houses
- Prime sponsor of H.B. 635 to increase loan amounts for volunteer fire companies to purchase equipment





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Save the dates!

Upcoming events

Protect yourself from identity theft!

Are you concerned about the safety of your personal information when discarding important documents? If so, please plan to bring personal financial documents that are no longer needed, and any other unneeded papers with confidential information, to my free shredding event.

FREE Document Shredding Event

Saturday, April 26
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Rep. Davis' district office
3611 Green Lane, Levittown

Bring personal financial documents that are no longer needed, and any other papers with confidential information, such as account numbers and signatures.

- ✓ Documents containing Social Security, credit card and bank account numbers
- ✓ Credit card applications
- ✓ Canceled or unused checks
- ✓ Insurance and income tax records
- ✓ Bank and credit card statements
- ✓ Pension information

Please bring paper documents only. Staples are OK but please remove paper clips. There's a limit of five bags or boxes per person, please.

Here to help!

Three Day Treasure Hunt!

June 24, 25 and 26

Rep. Davis' district office
3611 Green Lane, Levittown

The state Treasury is currently holding almost \$2 billion in unclaimed property and it wants to return that property to its rightful owner.

We can help. In fact, Rep. Davis' staff has scheduled three days in June to help find what is rightfully yours. Please stop by Rep. Davis' Levittown office at the following dates and times so we can help you search for any unclaimed property:

- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 24.
- 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 25
- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thursday, June 26

Examples of unclaimed property include:

- Closed bank accounts
- Uncashed checks, including paychecks
- Lost stocks and bonds
- Contents of safe deposit boxes
- Expired gift cards/certificates



Constituent Services

**My office can help you with a variety of
services and information.**

- Free notary service
- Car registrations, special tags, disability placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Assistance in obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Birth and death certificates
- Problems with the Department of Public Welfare (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Complaints or questions about utilities and the PUC
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions