




STATE REPRESENTATIVE Donna Bullock

195th Legislative District

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September 2019

State budget falls short

I voted no on the 2019-20 state budget that was enacted in June. While it did provide some good things, such as more funding for education and early childhood learning, libraries and the state's Rainy Day Fund, it fell short where it would have counted the most.

The budget left working families and our most vulnerable citizens behind. It did not raise the minimum wage, which could help more than a million Pennsylvanians – many of them women – create more than 6,000 jobs and draw workers to our state. Each of our neighboring states has increased its minimum wage, so it's time for us to do the same!

It also eliminated the General Assistance Fund. The \$200 a month cash assistance program helped victims of domestic abuse, veterans, residents with disabilities and people who are struggling with opioid addiction purchase basic necessities. Unfortunately, not all of my colleagues saw the value of this lifeline.

The budget package failed in other ways. It did not adequately invest in the Department of Environmental Protection or environmentally friendly programs, and the accompanying school code rolled back school lunch shaming protections.

I go to Harrisburg to fight for you and everyone in Pennsylvania. Budgets are supposed to be opportunities to do what's right. There were simply not enough rights in this one.

Honoring public servants



I was honored to welcome the Oliver family, friends, neighbors and public officials for the street naming ceremony that renamed a portion of 29th Street, between Master Street and Thompson Street, the Frank L. Oliver Memorial Highway.



Above: 30th Street Station is finally renamed after the late Congressman William H. Gray III.



Right: I joined Rep. Movita Johnson-Harrell and the Mantua Civic Association to honor Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell for her years of service.

Gun violence is a public health epidemic

Understanding gun violence as a public health issue can be difficult, but necessary. The causes and symptoms are complicated, and how we treat it can be even more complex.

I am fighting to reduce gun violence by crafting a responsible legislative response. As a part of the PA SAFE Caucus, I am working with other state legislators to advance nearly 30 commonsense gun reform and other public safety bills, including my legislation to protect our children in recreation centers and parks. This summer, there were two mass shootings and several other gun-related incidents at recreation centers in Philadelphia. House Bill 1764 would prohibit firearms and other dangerous weapons in public recreation areas.

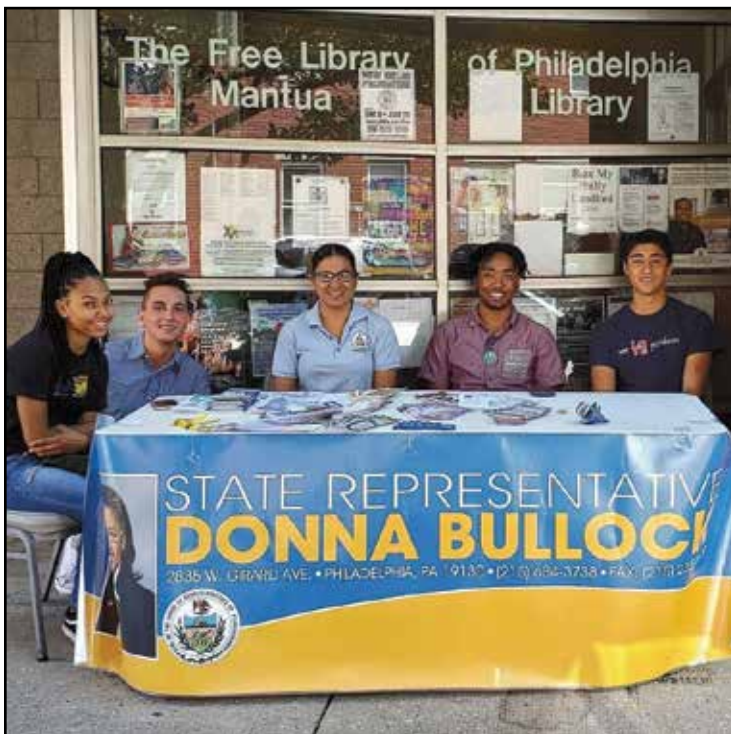
Another way I am working on this public health issue is by strategically bringing resources back to Philadelphia. The Philadelphia House Delegation secured an additional \$2.5 million for the Gun Violence Task Force, which



targets gun traffickers and gets illegal guns off the street. As a member of the Governor's School Safety and Security Committee, I also helped bring \$3.8 million in school safety grants to the School District of Philadelphia.

I am also listening. In July, I took part in a House Democratic Policy Committee public hearing to discuss gun violence as a public health epidemic across the Commonwealth. I also attended a community violence forum hosted by Sen. Sharif Street. At both events, legislators heard from law enforcement, advocates and families impacted by gun violence.

All Pennsylvanians, especially our children, should be able to live, work and play without fear of losing their life to senseless gun violence. That's why these efforts are a priority for all of us.



Above: The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus hosted a meeting to discuss the State of Health Equity in PA Report.

Left: Each summer, my office meets constituents where they are by setting up hours outside the office. This summer, our interns staffed pop-up offices at the Widener, Cecil B. Moore and Charles Durham Libraries.



I joined colleagues and PennEnvironment for a news conference at the state Capitol to announce the Zero Waste PA legislation package.



Fighting to end illegal dumping, protect our environment

Furniture, tires, construction materials and other debris are illegally dumped on our city streets and in vacant lots. Dumping is not only an eyesore, it also hurts property values and can negatively impact the environment and local ecosystems. Low fines and lack of enforcement are not a deterrent, and vulnerable communities continue to get dumped on.

In order to crack down on people who litter or dump illegally, I have proposed legislation that would increase the fines and penalties for those perpetrators.

My legislation is part of the Zero Waste PA package that would address issues created by a disposable society, including single-use plastics such as straws, plastic bags and Styrofoam takeout food containers; electronic waste; funding Pennsylvania's recycling programs and more.

Resources to Curb Illegal Dumping

Got trash? The Sanitation Convenience Center at 2601 W. Glenwood Ave. accepts household trash, tires, mattresses, electronics and other materials. For hours and more information, visit www.philadelphiastreet.com or call 215-685-3955.

See trash? Please report dump sites to 311. However, if you see someone illegally dumping, call 911. Do not confront anyone you see dumping. Provide as much information about the incident as possible, including the:

- Location
- Description of the people
- Make, model, color, and license plate of their vehicle
- Material being dumped

It's time we put out the call: **Don't dump on us.**



Families Against Mandatory Minimums encouraged legislators and policymakers to visit a prison this summer. I visited with inmates at SCI Chester, but I also took my summer interns on a tour of the historic Eastern State Penitentiary here in the district.



I introduced a resolution to recognize Back to School Week in Pennsylvania and supported several back to school events, including this one with The Branch Family Foundation at Smith Memorial Playground.



Investments in the District



I joined Sens. Vincent Hughes and Sharif Street, Council President Darrell L. Clarke, Rep. Movita Johnson-Harrell, and representatives from the Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Unemployment Project and Clarifi to present \$300,000 in state grant money from PHARE to protect low-income seniors from tax foreclosures.

As your state representative, I continuously advocate for state funding that invests in affordable and workforce housing, community economic development, green initiatives, historic preservation, infrastructure, public safety and community programs in the district. These investments boost our local economy, preserve our neighborhoods, and create opportunities for all residents.

Here are a few projects that received funding over the summer:

- \$200,000 to Mt. Vernon Manor CDC for the Mantua Preservation Project to rehabilitate and preserve 29 affordable housing units.
- \$1 million to Project H.O.M.E. for the Rowan Judson Diamond project to renovate and preserve 39 affordable housing units for people with special needs.
- \$200,000 to Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia for the Oxford Green project to develop 20 affordable, energy-efficient row homes.
- \$2.24 million for affordable and workforce housing as part of Sharswood Phase I and Phase II.
- \$500,000 to WURD Radio for new office space in Mantua and repairs to tower antennas.
- \$1 million for the development of a supermarket in Mantua.
- \$1.7 million to Philadelphia Museum of Art Core II for building renovations and a new public space.
- \$60,490 to Philadelphia Girls' Rowing Club for the restoration of windows and doors of its historic house on Boathouse Row.
- \$25,000 to Eastern State Penitentiary for evaluation of the structural conditions of the wall.

Representing PA at the Energy Academy in Colorado

I was honored in August to be the first legislator to represent the Commonwealth during the Clean Energy Legislative Academy in Colorado.

The four-day conference brought together a bipartisan group of state legislators and their staff from across the country to learn about emerging energy issues and resources we will need to develop effective clean energy policy in our respective states.

In addition to my community solar legislation, I have co-sponsored legislation that would responsibly reduce our reliance on fossil fuels while also supporting renewable and clean energy in Pennsylvania.



STATE REP. DONNA BULLOCK
Presents

GIRARD AVENUE *Street Fest*

OCTOBER 5
NOON - 6 P.M.



29th & Girard Ave.

Street Festival will stretch along
Girard Ave., from 26th - 29th streets

Come meet Representative Bullock and her staff. They will be available to provide constituents with information on state government-related programs and services available. Community partners will also be available to assist with local resources.



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Donna Bullock



My office can help you with:

- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- 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 Departments of Health and Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
- Problems or questions about the state lottery
- PACE cards for senior citizens
- Information about federal, state and local government agencies

Any problem with state government!

Stay connected to what's happening in Harrisburg and in the community by signing up for my email updates.

Go to www.pahouse.com/Bullock to sign up. You can also follow me on social media!

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