

September 2019

POLICY RECAP

A Summary of House Democratic Policy Committee Meetings



REP. TIM BRIGGS SEPTEMBER 3 | KING OF PRUSSIA **GUN SAFETY REFORM**

State Rep. Tim Briggs hosted a hearing on gun safety reform at the PA Turnpike Commission's Eastern Regional Office. Local law enforcement, public health experts and gun control advocates shared feedback on a legislative package that would require the safe storage of firearms, universal background checks and reporting of lost or stolen firearms.

REP. ELIZABETH FIELDER SEPTEMBER 4 | PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL BUILDING TOXIC CONDITIONS & EMERGENCY FUNDING

Rep. Elizabeth Fielder hosted a hearing to spotlight school building toxic conditions and need for emergency funding at Furness Horace High School. Students and school officials

stated the importance in improving school conditions to ensure an effective learning environment for all students. The committee toured the school after the hearing.



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REP. STEVE SAMUELSSON
SEPTEMBER 5 | BETHLEHEM
BEN FRANKLIN TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS

Rep. Steve Samuelsson hosted a joint hearing with the House Republican Policy Committee about the success of Ben Franklin Technology Partners NEPA at Lehigh University. Ben Franklin effectively uses state funds to spur start-up business development across Pennsylvania.



REP. KRISTINE HOWARD SEPTEMBER 9 | EXTON STATE OF FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

Rep. Kristine Howard hosted a hearing at West Whiteland Township Building on Pennsylvania's foster care system. Members and testifiers discussed how the state can better support the critical role that foster care plays in the development of children.





PA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS SEPTEMBER 10 | PHILADELPHIA YOUTH PERSPECTIVE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Rep. Jordan Harris hosted this joint hearing with the PA Legislative Black Caucus to hear youth perspective on criminal justice at Universal Institute Charter School. Youth shared their personal stories and experiences in the Philadelphia Youth Community Court held at the school.





REP. MIKE ZABEL SEPTEMBER 11 | HAVERTOWN RISING COSTS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Rep. Mike Zabel hosted a public hearing in Haverford Township on the rising costs of prescription drugs. The committee heard from stakeholders and consumers about the impact of the current system and why costs need to be reduced to make medical care more affordable.



REP. JOE CIRESI SEPTEMBER 12 | POTTSTOWN ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE ARTS

Rep. Joe Ciresi hosted a hearing on the economic impact of the arts at Steel River Playhouse. Testifiers explained how the arts significantly affects a local community's economy and why the state needs to provide more assistance to enhance this economic effect.



REP. DAN FRANKEL

SEPTEMBER 13 | PITTSBURGH

THE PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIC OF GUN VIOLENCE

Rep. Dan Frankel hosted a public hearing on gun violence at the University of Pittsburgh. Testifiers expressed the public health epidemic caused by gun violence and the need for more gun safety legislation combined with additional mental health support.





REP. DANILO BURGOS SEPTEMBER 23 | HARRISBURG PA HEMP'S INDUSTRY

Rep. Danilo Burgos requested this Capitol hearing on PA's hemp industry. State officials and hemp industry representatives described how the industry's growth can benefit PA's economy and residents.



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Rep. Mike Sturla is chairman of the House Democratic Policy Committee. The Policy Committee holds public hearings and meetings across the state, and serves as the catalyst to enacting major policy initiatives put forth by members of the House Democratic Caucus. You can find details about upcoming hearings, hearing testimony from previous hearings and Chairman Sturla's Policy Point of the Day by visiting www.pahouse.com/PolicyCommittee.

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