is serving 18 months to five years in prison. In Somerset indecent assault, 12 counts of intimidation of a witness The legislation became urgent when two Republican This bill was signed into law by the governor in Commonwealth where elected district attorneys were impeachment resolutions, they attempted to implement balance of power and respecting the other two institutions, and they put their heavy hand on the separation of powers and checks and balances. Interestingly, 2015 is when the Supreme Court flipped the Republican chief justice could continue to serve. In fact, these same politicians fast-tracked legislation to get a constitutional amendment on the ballot 2015 to increase the age a judge can serve, so that the Republican chief justice could continue to serve. Unfortunately, my Republican counterparts in rezoning the judiciary. The coronavirus pandemic has pushed many consumers to do more of their shopping online. That comes with a risk of falling for scams and fraud. The Better Business Bureau reports an increase in online purchasing scams between 2019 and 2020. Just this year, 74% of consumers who were victims lost money and received no product. The BBB shares the following prevention tips:

- If the deal looks too good to be true, there is a good chance it is.
- Be careful buying hard-to-find products.
- Be sure to the Wiretap Act aims to help. This legislation would amend the Crimes Code to authorize individuals deceptive practices by telemarketers, and this proposed amendment It's currently difficult for consumer protection advocates to combat this action that was brought up in this current session. The committee regularly reviews legislation related to the justice system. The Judiciary Committee reviews bills pertaining to law enforcement and corrections, including the Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office, State Ethics Committee, Senate Judiciary and House Judiciary Committees, and provides oversight to numerous state agencies The Judiciary Committee is tasked with reviewing legislation related to the justice system. It was my honor to be reappointed this legislative session to serve as the chair of the Judiciary Committee to continue to face an uphill battle against the overcrowding of our criminal justice system. During Gov. Wolf’s tenure, we’ve made tremendous strides for example, passing the first ‘Clean Slate’ bill to help individuals who have served time get back on the straight and narrow. But we have a long way to go and continue to face an uphill battle against the overcrowding of our criminal justice system.
Pennsylvania’s opioid crisis is no by means no, yet in Against this backdrop, the Board of the opioid crisis declaration was allowed to expire because the legislature did not act. Because of a constitutional amendment adopted the first time, the primary goal of the General Assembly’s approval is now required to extend a destination declaration to be in place, the amendment required two Public leaders to refuse to bring up legislation to extend the opioid declaration further. Law enforcement agencies report that more than 5,000 opioid-related overdose deaths in Pennsylvania from overdose, a 16% increase from 2019.

**SUN SAFETY REFORM**

This fall, the Judiciary Committee unanimously approved HB 1564, a bill that takes a very common sense approach to making gun safety safer. It prevents anyone who has been convicted of a violent crime from possessing a firearm.

Under current law, an individual can lose their ability to lawfully possess a firearm if convicted of certain offenses. But the law only applies to what are called “completed” crimes, and fails to include offenses of attempt, conspiracy or solicitation to commit those offenses. This bill would fix that by amending the Uniform Firearms Act to prohibit individuals convicted of attempted, conspiracy or solicitation related to enumerated offenses from lawfully possessing a firearm. This bill is by no means ideal for those of us who want real gun reform, but considering the current makeup of the General Assembly, it is a step in the right direction.

We have seen steps in the wrong direction, too.

In November, in typical fashion, the majority chairman called an immediate meeting of the judiciary committee to consider a dangerous bill that would allow anyone to carry a firearm openly on the streets of Philadelphia. The bill would remove the requirement that someone possess a license to carry a concealed firearm or hide a firearm on their person or in their car. The bill also would allow anyone to carry a firearm openly on the streets of Philadelphia.

I was disappointed to see the Judiciary Committee consider the bill with no notice to the members or public. Gov. Wolf had already vetoed the bill, which he did in early December.

**OPIOD CRISIS CONTINUES**

Gun violence is at a crisis level in Pennsylvania, and the Judiciary Committee should be doing all it can to fight this crisis. Instead, the majority party wants to continue to politicize these issues. There are many other measures our colleagues should be advancing, but they’re not being up. I will not stop advocating for real reform, but unfortunately the only hope we have to pass responsible firearm reforms, such as regulating ghost guns, universal background checks, and stolen and lost and stolen reporting requirements, safe storage, and an extreme risk protection order, is to change the makeup of the legislature.

I’m proud to have been appointed to serve on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, an organization that works to make our commonwealth a safer, more supportive place to live.

PCPD works to improve our justice system, keep our schools and neighborhoods safe, provide resources to victims of crime, and more.

I want to know that gun violence is plaguing far too many of our communities. Local efforts can make a huge difference in stopping the violence, and I look forward to these awards supporting those efforts.

Under Pennsylvania’s House of Representatives, I’ve had the pleasure of serving on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, an organization that works to make our commonwealth a safer, more supportive place to live. I’m committed to doing so.

**COMMITTEE ADVANCES IMPAECMENT RESOLUTIONS**

Under Pennsylvania’s House of Representatives, I’ve had the pleasure of serving on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, an organization that works to make our commonwealth a safer, more supportive place to live.

**WORKING TO BETTER ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

In late October, Gov. Wolf announced efforts to better address environmental justice and support low-income communities and communities of color that are adversely impacted by pollution.

The governor’s executive order permanently establishes an office of Environmental Protection, and also formally establishes the Environmental Justice Advisory Board and an Environmental Justice Interagency Council.

Legislation has been proposed by my colleagues to codify the requirements of the newly established office. This bill is a response to the White House’s Climate Action Plan, which calls for improving environmental and public health outcomes by reducing pollution and the negative impacts of climate change.

This fall, a package of legislation was announced that aims to strengthen protections for students and combat sexual violence.

This bill, which has passed the full House and is now awaiting a vote in the Senate, requires that faculty members report any credible sexual assault and other forms of sexual violence.

All of us in Pennsylvania have the right to clean air and water, and to live without fear of violence. We must work to ensure that vulnerable communities are disproportionately burdened with the adverse health effects of pollution.

We have to work harder to protect them and our environment, and I’m committed to doing so.
Moreover, we need to reform our archaic bail system. Recently, the Pennsylvania House majority has moved to rein in cash bail, an archaic system that allows for personal gain, like deep pocket looking to special interest with a for the desires of every to improve the lives of children, and sometimes in jail, people can lose their employment, their in Pennsylvania from overdose, a 16% increase from 2019.

Pennsylvania’s opioid crisis is by no means over yet, in fact, Governor Wolf released an opioid crisis action plan in September 2020. The plan aims to address the opioid crisis by focusing on prevention, treatment, and recovery. However, the plan also includes measures to reduce the burden of the crisis on Pennsylvania’s communities. This includes providing access to medication-assisted treatment, increasing the availability of naloxone, and addressing the underlying social and economic factors that contribute to opioid use.

In the same month, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives passed HB 1564, the Pennsylvania Opioid Addiction and Treatment Act. The bill would create a new state agency to oversee the distribution of opioid research funds and provide additional resources for treatment and prevention. The bill would also establish a new system for monitoring the distribution of prescription opioids, which could help to prevent the diversion of opioids for illegal purposes.

This fall, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives approved HB 1564, a bill that takes a very common-sense approach to addressing the opioid crisis. The bill would create a new state agency to oversee the distribution of opioid research funds and provide additional resources for treatment and prevention. Under current law, an individual may lose their ability to lawfully possess a firearm if convicted of certain offenses. However, the law applies to what are called “criminal offenses,” and excludes offenses committed in the context of lawful self-defense or personal protection.

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The Pennsylvania Opioid Addiction and Treatment Act would make it easier for people to get the help they need to overcome addiction. The bill would establish a new system for monitoring the distribution of prescription opioids, which could help to prevent the diversion of opioids for illegal purposes. In addition, the bill would provide resources for treatment and prevention, including funding for medication-assisted treatment programs, and would require prescription drug manufacturers to contribute to the state’s opioid crisis fund.

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Additionally, the bill would create a new state agency to oversee the distribution of opioid research funds and provide additional resources for treatment and prevention. This would be a significant step forward in addressing the opioid crisis in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Opioid Addiction and Treatment Act is an important piece of legislation that would help to ensure that Pennsylvanians receive the treatment they need to overcome addiction.
SUN SAFETY REFORM

This fall, the Judiciary Committee unanimously approved HB 1546, a bill that takes a very common sense approach to gun safety reform.

Under current law, an individual can lose their ability to lawfully possess a firearm if convicted of certain offenses. But the law only applies to what are called “completed” crimes, and fails to include offenses of attempt, conspiracy or solicitation to commit those crimes.

This bill would fit that by amending the Uniform Firearms Act to prohibit individuals convicted of attempt, conspiracy or solicitation related to enumerated offenses from lawfully possessing a firearm.

This bill is by no means ideal for those of us that want real gun reform, but considering the current makeup of the General Assembly, it is a step in the right direction.

And we’ve seen steps in the wrong direction, too.

In November, in typical fashion, the majority chairman called an immediate meeting of the Judiciary Committee. A strenuous bill, with provisions to allow for the committee to offer amendments to even the read bill before the meeting, just hours after the Senate had sent it to the House.

The bill would remove the requirement that someone possess a license to carry a concealed firearm or hide a firearm on their person or in their car. The bill also would allow anyone to carry a firearm openly on the streets of Philadelphia.

I was disappointed to see the Judiciary Committee called to consider the bill with no notice to the members or public. Gov. Wolf had already said he’d veto the bill, which he did in early December.

Gun violence is a crisis level in Pennsylvania, and the Judiciary Committee should be advancing, but they’ve not been called up.

And we need to keep fighting to stop this assault on our rights and our fellow Pennsylvanians. We need to keep fighting with a deep sense of our history and our legacy.

In 1872, Governor Impeachment was a rarely used remedy but it’s one I believe we have to use. We have to use the power we have been given to protect us.

We have to protect ourselves.

The list goes on and on...
is serving 18 months to five years in prison. In Somerset indecent assault, 12 counts of intimidation of a witness
In Bradford County, the DA was charged with three
The legislation became urgent when two Republican
November.
their jobs.
charged with serious crimes but allowed to keep doing
Commonwealth where elected district attorneys were
bipartisan bill to address situations throughout the
judges would be elected by region thus giving less
impeachment resolutions, they attempted to implement
the balance of power and respecting the other two
branches of government. Last session, along with the
separation of powers and checks and balances.
attacks on the judiciary are purely political.
rule of law and advance the public good, and the
on the Judiciary Committee that it was the very first
Remember that the Supreme Court is controlled by a majority of
the Supreme Court is controlled by a majority of
manage its own administration. This is no coincidence,
as usurp the judiciary's constitutional authority to
"held accountable" in reelection campaigns as well
LGPO.S.1221
@RepTimBriggs

PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM SCAMS
The coronavirus pandemic has pushed many consumers to do more of their shopping online. That comes with a risk of falling for scams and fraud.

● Be careful buying hard-to-find products.

The Better Business Bureau reports an increase in online purchasing scams between 2019 and 2020. Just this year, 74% of consumers who were victims lost money and received no product. The BBB shares the following prevention tips:

● If the deal looks too good to be true, there is a good chance it is.

You asked for more uniformity in Pennsylvania’s prison system.

is a bipartisan bill to address situation throughout the Commonwealth where elected district attorneys were charged with serious crimes but allowed to keep doing

This bill was signed into law by the governor in November.
The legislation became urgent when two Republican district attorneys faced serious charges while in office. In Berks County, the DA was charged with three separate charges of sexual assault, five counts of indecent assault, 12 counts of intimidation of a witness or victim, one count of obstruction of justice and one count of perjury. The case finally went to trial in 2019.

indirect assault, strangulation, simple assault and criminal trespass. This case is still pending.
The new law will require a district attorney to maintain an active law license to hold office. The district attorney is the top law enforcement officer in each county, and if a district attorney’s law license is suspended or service in office should also then be suspended.

This legislation would amend the Crimes Code to authorize individuals to record a conversation with a telemarketer for the purpose of enforcing consumer protection laws, namely – section 3 of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, or the Telemarketer Registration Act.

Consumer protection legislation advances: This fall, the Judiciary Committee advanced HB 1985, a bill that would help hold telemarketers accountable.

In October, Gov. Tom Wolf announced that Pennsylvania’s prison population is the lowest it’s been in 20 years.

The Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office suggests anyone who believes they were scammed file a complaint by visiting its website: www.attorneygeneral.gov/submit-a-complaint/scams-complaint/.

In November, the Judiciary Committee reviewed bills pertaining to law enforcement and corrections and filed several complaints with the Pennsylvania State Police, the Attorney General’s Office, the Department of Corrections and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. The bills are tasked with

reappointed this legislative
including the Pennsylvania
Commission on Crime and
Commission, Pennsylvania
The Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office suggests anyone who believes they were scammed file a complaint by

provides oversight to
numerous state agencies
and inmate populations and
includes the Pennsylvania
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reviews legislation related
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Consumer protection legislation advances: This fall, the Judiciary Committee advanced HB 1985, a bill that would help hold telemarketers accountable.

This legislation would amend the Crimes Code to authorize individuals to record a conversation with a telemarketer for the purpose of enforcing consumer protection laws, namely – section 3 of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, or the Telemarketer Registration Act.

It’s currently difficult for consumer protection advocates to combat deceptive practices by telemarketers, and this legislation provided a tool to help.

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Do your research before buying products.

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY MODERNIZATION BILL

This fall, the Judiciary Committee uncovered through a bipartisan bill to address situations throughout the Commonwealth where elected district attorneys were charged with serious crimes but remained in office during their tenure.

This bill was signed into law by the governor in November.

The legislation became urgent when two Republican district attorneys faced serious crimes while in office. In Bradford County, the DA was arrested and charged with rape, is serving 18 months to five years in prison. In Somerset County, the DA was charged with rape, indecent assault, strangulation, simple assault and criminal trespass. His case is still pending.

The Better Business Bureau reports an increase in online purchasing scams between 2019 and 2020. Just this year, 74% of consumers who were victims lost money and received no product. The BBB shares the following prevention tips:

● If the deal looks too good to be true, there is a good chance it is.
● Look closely at the shipping information you receive from scams.
● Do your research before buying products.

The Judiciary Committee reviewed bills pertaining to law enforcement and corrections during the current session to serve as a role model for advancement of our prison system during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as work on criminal justice reform.

In 1972, the Pennsylvania Crimes Code classified 262 offenses, by 2020 it ballooned to over 1,500 criminal offenses and is growing every session. Republicans in the legislature seem to be silent as they attempt to undermine our trust in our democracy to maintain our way of life. I will not be silent as they attempt to undermine our democracy.

The special session ended with two large packages of legislation. In one, 1,500 criminal offenses and 1,500+ violations. The committee reviewed bills pertaining to consumer protection, and the Judiciary Committee announced that Pennsylvania’s prison population is the lowest it’s been in 20 years.

In October, Gov. Tom Wolf announced that Pennsylvania’s prison population is the lowest it’s been in 20 years. Reaching that milestone reflects what we have achieved as a state in criminal justice reform. We all should have learned in middle school the importance of the three branches of government.

The three branches of government are trying to exert pressure on the courts, which will be a key player in the process to redraw congressional and state legislative districts. Make no mistake, these district attorneys faced serious crimes while in office. In Bradford County, the DA was arrested and charged with rape, is serving 18 months to five years in prison. In Somerset County, the DA was charged with rape, indecent assault, strangulation, simple assault and criminal trespass. His case is still pending.

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