



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Leanne Krueger-Braneky

161ST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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FALL 2018

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Connecting people with real jobs

The need for good, family-sustaining jobs is an issue I hear about often when I ask people in our community what issues matter most to their families. So I recently hosted a House Democratic Policy Committee public hearing on connecting workers to the real jobs that are in demand here in Delaware County.

I was joined at Neumann University in Aston by state legislators from across the commonwealth. We discussed matching workforce development efforts to the jobs that Pennsylvania businesses need to fill.

We focused on policy efforts to help build a better pipeline from schools to jobs as well as reforms to build a stronger and more diverse workforce in Pennsylvania.

We heard testimony from Delaware County Community College President Joy Gates Black; DCCC Dean of Workforce Development and Community Education Dr. Karen Kozachyn; Eastern Controls Executive Vice President of Business Development Jim DiNunzio;

Delaware County Chamber of Commerce Board member Cathy Cardillo; and Keystone+Mountain+Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters representative Vanessa Salazar.

Connecting job seekers with jobs begins with engaging local businesses and making investments in people. Whether that involves connecting a business owner to qualified candidates or creating qualified candidates in schools, the commonwealth must commit to supporting legislation, funding and programs that help people find good jobs. We also must support our workforce development agencies, local business community, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs, and colleges and universities to create those outcomes.

The meeting was one in a series being held across the state on the House Democrats' Plan4PA, which focuses on putting people first, good jobs, quality schools and fair taxes. Those interested can visit www.plan4pa.com for additional information about the Plan4PA.



#MeToo hearings scheduled for Harrisburg

In September, the House Labor and Industry Committee will hold public hearings on a slate of bills related to the #MeToo movement, aiming to improve the toxic culture of sexual harassment and even assault in workplaces across the commonwealth.

Any woman in any workplace knows that we have a problem with sexual harassment and misconduct that has gone unchecked for generations. There are bills languishing in the Capitol right now that could help protect workers and turn the tide against perpetrators.

Most of the bills to be discussed would affect all employers in Pennsylvania. Some bills, however, solely focus on the Capitol and the runaway climate of sexual misconduct that has cost taxpayer money and has stolen attention from the important jobs on which the legislature should be focused.

I am proud to be at the forefront of this work, and I look forward to keeping you updated in September. If you haven't already, please sign up for my weekly email at www.pahouse.com/Krueger-Braneky.

Bills expected to be discussed include:

- **H.B. 1965 (state Rep. Leanne Krueger-Braneky)** – would clearly define sexual harassment in state law, install a bicameral nonpartisan Office of Compliance, require elected officials to reimburse taxpayer settlements for sexual harassment, and establish standard procedures to investigate claims made within the General Assembly (#METOO Act).
- **H.B. 2280 (state Rep. Maureen Madden)** – would expand the types of employers covered under the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act to include any employer with at least one employee. It also would include some professions that are often taken advantage of or overlooked. Under these reforms, protections for domestic workers, including nannies and housekeepers, and independent contractors would be expanded.
- **H.B. 2282 (state Rep. Christopher Rabb)** – would update human relations law to include those who work in agriculture, domestic services, interns and volunteers. Employers would be required to provide interactive training in discrimination, harassment and retaliation prevention.
- **H.B. 2283 (state Rep. Dom Costa)** – would improve workplace conditions in Pennsylvania by giving employees clearer descriptions of unacceptable behavior, including sexual harassment.
- **H.B. 2286 (state Rep. Margo Davidson)** – would expand the statute of limitations for filing a complaint with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission from 180 days to two years and include a right to trial by jury, punitive damages and the award of attorney fees to a prevailing plaintiff.
- **H.B. 2284 (state Rep. Mike O'Brien)** – would amend the Whistleblower Law to expand the statute of limitations for the filing of a complaint of retaliation by an employee from 180 days to two years and include a right to trial by jury and punitive damages.

Aston Township Fire Co. receives \$1M state grant

Congratulations are in order for first responders with Aston Township Fire Company. The company received a \$1 million Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant, announced by Gov. Tom Wolf in August.

By winning this large highly competitive grant, Aston Township Fire Company not only stood out across the state, but its service to the community had to be second to none. Under the leadership of Chief Mike Evans, these firefighters and EMS workers put their lives on the

line every day to keep us safe.

With the money, Aston Township plans to renovate and expand the former Green Ridge Fire House, which is located on Duttons Mill Road. The existing building was constructed over 30 years ago and is outdated and undersized. The proposed improvements involve renovating the existing 5,250-square-foot building and constructing a 15,430-square-foot addition. The new firehouse will have six fire truck bays, two EMS bays, a recreation room, office space, meeting rooms, bunk rooms and storage and accessory spaces.

This award will help keep local taxes down and help keep people safe. I'm proud to have helped support this grant to the community and look forward to championing other great local projects.



Here to serve you!

I have two district office locations for your convenience. If you haven't stopped in to see what state services my staff offers, I encourage you to visit us at either location at your earliest convenience. You can always call ahead to schedule an appointment.

Folsom District Office



701 E. MacDade Blvd.
Folsom, PA 19033
Phone: (610) 534-6880
Fax: (610) 534-6881

Hours of operation:

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Located on the corner of MacDade Blvd. and Fernwood Ave. just a ½ mile from Route 420 & MacDade Blvd.

Brookhaven Office

Brookhaven Borough Building
2 Cambridge Road
Brookhaven, PA 19015
Phone: (610) 447-3297
Fax: (610) 447-3378

Hours of operation:

Tuesdays, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.,
Wednesdays 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.,
& Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

To get to my Brookhaven Office, please enter through the main doors of the Brookhaven Municipal Center.

Success by the numbers

In 3 years since taking office, my staff and I have been dedicated to fighting for you. Here's a glance at our work.



13,538

constituents served

523

certificates/awards/citations



\$8,802,682

state grants to serve the district

61

local public events, including veterans breakfasts, small business meetings, senior fairs and events, public policy hearings, shredding and recycling events, open houses, SEPTA photo days, and much more!

Committees I serve on

Appropriations
Commerce

Environmental Resources & Energy
Labor & Industry

State funding for school districts

Penn Delco	Ridley	Wallingford-Swarthmore
2018-19 – \$6.4 M	2018-19 – \$12.2 M	2018-19 – \$3.6 M
2017-18 – \$6.3 M	2017-18 – \$12.1 M	2017-18 – \$3.5 M
2016-17 – \$6.2 M	2016-17 – \$12 M	2016-17 – \$3.4 M
2015-16 – \$6.1 M	2015-16 – \$11.5 M	2015-16 – \$3.3 M

August senior breakfasts

In August, I hosted a senior breakfast at the Plush Mills Senior Living Community to highlight programs and laws important to senior citizens in our district. I also hosted a District Wide Senior Breakfast in Rutledge on August 21st in honor of National Senior Citizens Day.



Events like these are some of my favorite to host. Meeting seniors is both inspiring and humbling, and the experience always motivates me to continue working hard to create better communities for all.

Our senior breakfasts also give me the opportunity to share how my office can help seniors navigate state programs and services beneficial to them. I enjoy having the chance to answer questions about legislation and the budget.

I will continue to host Senior Breakfasts/Lunches throughout the District this fall. Please call my office at 610-534-6880 or email me at RepKrueger-Braneky@pahouse.net if you'd like to be notified when a breakfast is coming to your neighborhood or if you'd like me to visit your senior organization or community group.



Senior Expo will reach hundreds



In addition to my regular senior breakfasts and meetings, I hold an annual senior expo that attracts hundreds of our area's older and wiser residents to highlight the range of services available to them.

My office regularly helps seniors with property tax and rent rebates, prescription drug coverage plans and handicap placards, but my expo brings together all the wonderful private and nonprofit services here in Delaware County, including providers from the health care and quality-of-life service industries.

There will be a free flu shot clinic and SEPTA will be on hand taking applications and photos for the SEPTA Key Senior ID.

If you are a senior, or have a loved one who could benefit from a one-stop shop for senior services, I hope to see you at my expo this September!

Senior Expo

Thursday, Sept. 20 • 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Brookhaven Municipal Center

2 Cambridge Road; Brookhaven 19015

Call 610-534-6880 with questions.

SEPTA announces free regional rail for seniors to begin Sept. 1

Get your SEPTA Senior Key Card photo taken at my office!

Beginning Sept. 1, seniors age 65 or older will be able to ride SEPTA regional rail for free, just as they have for years on SEPTA buses, subways and trolleys.

In related news, seniors will no longer be able to use paper Pennsylvania Senior Citizen Transit ID Cards for SEPTA travel starting on Sept. 1, and SEPTA no longer accepts Pennsylvania driver's licenses issued after July 2017 or Medicare cards.

Those 65 and older can apply for a free SEPTA Senior Key Card at my District Office, eliminating the need to travel to SEPTA headquarters. The SEPTA Photo ID card will then be mailed to you by SEPTA.

I'm proud to share that I have helped over 1,000 seniors process their applications, and I look forward to helping more! Please call ahead to my office at 610-534-6880 to make your appointment.

REAL ID update

PennDOT anticipates that Real ID-compliant licenses will be available in Spring 2019. Until then, PennDOT will continue to request extensions from the federal Department of Homeland Security until Real ID-compliant licenses and ID cards are available for purchase. The extensions give Pennsylvania more time to comply with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005, which was passed to improve domestic security after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Currently, Pennsylvania driver's licenses and IDs do not possess the advanced anti-counterfeiting security features required by the REAL ID law.

No one will be forced to obtain a REAL ID when it becomes available in 2019. However, a non-compliant license or ID will be insufficient for air travel or federal facility access once REAL ID has been made available. A U.S. passport or other federally approved ID would be required for such activities if you do not choose to acquire REAL ID.

Getting a REAL ID will cost \$30 more than the standard license (\$60.50 as compared to the current cost of \$30.50). Your REAL ID – compliant license or ID will include any time left on your existing ID, plus a four-year term. Once you have a REAL ID, there will be no extra fee to renew it beyond the regular fee.

If you would like a REAL ID, please note that customers who obtained their first license or ID card before September 2003 will need to visit a licensing facility with documents verifying their identity.

PennDOT might need to verify the following documents:

- Proof of identity (original or certified copy of a birth certificate with a raised seal or valid U.S. Passport)
- Proof of Social Security Number (Social Security card)
- Proof of all legal name changes (marriage license or court order issued by your county's family court)
- Two proofs of current, physical PA address (current, unexpired PA license or ID and a no-more-than 90-day-old bank statement or utility bill with the same name and address)

PennDOT has advised customers to begin gathering the required documents as soon as possible, especially if they will need to obtain replacement documents.

You can contact my office for more information or for help gathering any documents.

Telephone town hall is Sept. 5

I will hold a telephone town hall to discuss the budget and other state issues at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 5.

You will automatically receive a call at the start of the meeting. To “attend” the meeting, just stay on the line.

You can simply listen in, ask a question live, or leave feedback when the meeting has ended. Questions also can be submitted by emailing townhall@pahouse.net.

If you only have a cell phone and not a land line, you must sign up using the form on my website at www.pahouse.com/Krueger-Braneky.

You only need to sign up once!

Do you have unclaimed property with the state?

Unclaimed property through the state Treasurer’s office can include a closed bank account, uncashed checks, including pay checks, lost stocks and bonds, contents of safe deposit boxes, proceeds from the demutualization of insurance companies, expired gift cards/gift certificates, and more.

I encourage anyone who hasn’t checked the database to stop by my office, where my staff will check the database for free. It only takes a moment.

The Treasury Department also informs my staff when they know of an individual in the district who has unclaimed property. It currently has more than \$3.4 billion in unclaimed property.

One thing to note, there are many for-profit companies that send out solicitations to Pennsylvanians, offering to claim their funds for a fee, but we do all of this work for free. Please call or stop by to see us!



SCS celebrates its 40th anniversary

I was proud to present Senior Community Services with a House citation honoring 40 years of service and dedication to the community. SCS is a nonprofit organization that began in 1977 through the joint efforts of Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging and concerned citizens. Starting with one senior center, SCS has developed into a strong community organization, encompassing four multipurpose senior centers, three neighborhood centers and a broad array of services for homebound older persons throughout Delaware County. I look forward to 40 more years of its continued success!



Stay informed!

Join my email update list

I maintain an email list for those who wish to receive weekly updates from me about public meetings, traffic alerts, community events, state and local programs and services, and other items of interest to the community. If you would like to be added to that list, please email my office at RepKrueger-Braneky@pahouse.net.

Social media update

You can follow me on Facebook at [Facebook.com/RepLeanne](https://www.facebook.com/RepLeanne). There you will find updates from Harrisburg, district news, and other important state-related information.

You can also follow me on Twitter @RepLeanne.

@RepLeanne

www.facebook.com/RepLeanne

www.pahouse.com/KruegerBraneky



State Representative

Leanne T. Krueger-Braneky

701 E. MacDade Blvd.
Folsom, PA 19033

lpo.kaf.0818

Mark your calendars!

Thursday, Sept. 20

Senior Expo

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Brookhaven Municipal Building • 2 Cambridge Road, Brookhaven, PA 19015
This free event will include local, state and federal resources for seniors, a flu shot clinic, SEPTA Key Senior ID Card photos, and more. Call 610-534-6880 with questions.

Thursday, Oct. 11

Small Business Networking Breakfast

8:30 a.m.

Neumann University

I will host a networking and listening session over breakfast, during which small-business owners can find out more about the state support, legislation and resources available to help them grow their businesses. Call 610-534-6880 or email RepKrueger-Braneky@pahouse.net to RSVP.

Thursday, Oct. 18

Expungement Clinic

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Reservations are required to participate in this free service. Attorneys will be available to provide a summary of your Pennsylvania criminal case history and discuss options for clearing your record. In most cases, the attorneys will be able to file petitions on your behalf to expunge your record. In cases where expungement is not an option, we can provide resources for additional assistance. Call 610-534-6880 for full details or to RSVP.

Saturday, Oct. 20

Free Shred Event

9 a.m. - noon

*Northley Middle School
2801 Concord Road
Aston, PA 19014*

Get rid of old documents securely with on-site shredding. Paper will be recycled. Limit of five boxes per vehicle, please.

Thursday, Oct. 25

Veterans' Lunch

11 a.m.

Too many of our veterans return home and have trouble accessing the assistance they deserve and have earned through their sacrifices. Veterans and their family members are invited to enjoy a light lunch while learning about state and local resources for veterans. Please call 610-534-6880 or email RepKrueger-Braneky@pahouse.net to RSVP.