



Summer
2022

State Representative | 164th Legislative District

GINA H. CURRY

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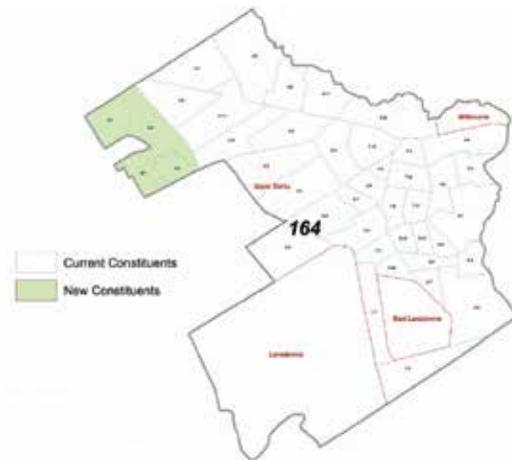


Hello Neighbors, Community Members and Friends,

Thank you for welcoming me into the 164th Legislative District! Over the past nine months, since I was officially sworn in as state representative, I have enjoyed working with and for the communities in the district. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know so many neighbors, community stakeholders and visionaries throughout the community at events, legislative meetings and here in my office. As we prepare for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year, I am excited to hold several events with our youth in mind. I am also looking forward to our senior community tour scheduled for Thursdays throughout October and continuing to fight for the important issues that matter to all of us here in the district and throughout Pennsylvania. This area is unique because we have so many cultural backgrounds, languages and customs that make up who we are, and my office is continuing to work on our outreach to everyone. I am thrilled to announce that my office will participate in a special pilot program that provides telephonic interpretation services, so that we can effectively provide communication to everyone who may need language assistance while being served in the office. My focus during the next half of this year will continue to be on areas of concern around education equity, affordable housing, small business development and equitable services for veterans and community members who find themselves in challenging circumstances. I hope to find solutions to help combat food, housing, addiction and mental health disparities. I encourage everyone to stay connected to my office. Call, make an appointment to visit and follow my weekly e-blasts and social media updates for information about my communities, legislation and events. Thank you for your continued partnership and I look forward to serving the district.

Gina H. Curry
State Representative | 164th Legislative District

The New 164th Legislative District



If you have any questions or would like to get news and information about the district, please contact my office by emailing RepCurry@pahouse.net or calling (610) 259-7016.

Every 10 years, following the U.S. Census, the boundaries of Pennsylvania's state House and Senate districts are redrawn to maintain equal representation based on population.

In February, the Legislative Reapportionment Commission voted on the final maps. These maps were then upheld by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Starting December 1, 2022, the new 164th Legislative District will include:

- Part of Upper Darby Township
- East Lansdowne Borough
- Lansdowne Borough
- Millbourne Borough

The following community will no longer be in the 164th:

- Yeadon Borough

Budget Update

The 2022/23 state budget is a historic investment in education, housing, and ending gun violence.

Education

- Increase of almost \$750 million (\$525 million in Basic Education Funding and \$225 million in Level Up funding).
- \$100 million in special education.
- \$100 million in school safety and security.
- \$100 million in mental health resources in schools.
- \$79 million investment in early childhood education.
- Senate Bill 99 (I'm working on a companion bill in the House):
 - Requires school entities to enter into at least one agreement with an institution of higher education; Establishes the Talent Recruitment Grant Program; Requires the Pennsylvania Department of Education to designate a Chief Talent Officer and publicly post demographic data for educators and administrators at different stages of the teacher pipeline.

Upper Darby School District will receive \$65.2 million and William Penn School District will receive \$36.2 million in basic and special education funding. We have two of the state's lowest-funded school districts in our area. This bill will help level the playing field for all children, no matter their zip code.

Whole Home Repairs

The budget will invest \$125 million into the newly created Whole Home Repairs Program.

It will provide:

- Up to \$50,000 as a grant or loan to repair, update and adapt homes throughout Pennsylvania.
- Staff to help people access the assistance they need in the order they need it.
- Financial support for workforce development programs in related fields.

This program is really going to benefit residents of the 164th Legislative District. Once the funds become available, I will be sure to update you.

Tax Changes

- Reduces the Corporate Net Income Tax from 9.99% to 8.99% on January 1 and 0.5% reduction annually until it is 4.99%.
- A new state child and dependent care tax credit based on the federal program.

Other Investments

- \$1.4 million for the Delaware County Health Department.
- \$100 million for mental health programs.
- \$75 million for the violence intervention and prevention grant program.
- \$90 million for child care stabilization.
- \$25 million for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.
- \$20 million for historically disadvantaged business assistance.

Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program

The state budget includes a \$140 million increase to the Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program. Eligible recipients will receive an additional one-time check that is equal to 70% of what they receive in this year's rebate. **There's no need to act!** The state Department of Revenue will send the additional funds automatically.

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older; widows and widowers 50 or older; and people with disabilities 18 or older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded.

If you have not filed for 2021, there is still time. The deadline has been extended until **Saturday, December 31, 2022.**

If you need help with the Property Tax and Rent Rebate paperwork, contact my district office at **(610) 259-7016.**



In March, I held a Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program Event at Simpson Gardens. My staff and I met constituents and assisted with rebate applications and other government-related programs. We hope to hold a similar event in the future.

Gun Safety Legislation

There have been more mass shootings than days so far in 2022. I am angry with the lack of action we see in Harrisburg. As a member of the PA Safe Caucus, I'm working to secure funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to help our communities pay for safety and security initiatives, and I strongly support a ban on assault weapons, universal background checks, and introducing cooling off periods. Our attempts to move gun safety measures to the full House for a real debate continue to be blocked.



In April, I joined colleagues and students of the Peace and Social Justice Group from Parkway High School in Philadelphia on the steps of the Capitol.

Constitutional Amendment Proposal

Last month, the state House and Senate passed a dangerous bill that would limit rights instead of protecting them.

The bill proposes several constitutional amendments that could be put on the ballot as early as May 2023.

Senate Bill 106 would:

- Pave the way for an abortion ban.
- Impose a barrier to voting by instituting a Voter ID measure that would disenfranchise low-income, urban and elderly voters.
- Require the Auditor General to audit election results.
- Allow Pennsylvania's Governor candidates to choose their Lieutenant Governor running mate.
- Give the General Assembly the ability to overrule regulations without the governor's approval.

Constitutional amendments cannot be vetoed by the governor. They must be passed by two consecutive legislative sessions and if they succeed, they are put on the ballot for voters to decide.



Pennsylvania Commission for Women

Earlier this year, I was appointed to Governor Wolf's Commission for Women. The commission advises the governor on policies and legislation that impact women; supporting economic and civic opportunities for women; encouraging mentoring programs for girls and young women; identifying programs and opportunities for the benefit and advancement of women; and serving as a resource center for Pennsylvania women. I was sworn-in in March by Judge Forbes. It is a privilege to get to serve the commonwealth alongside other remarkable women. We owe it to every girl and woman to find ways to remove the barriers that women face at work, school, and home.

State Representative Gina H. Curry

I'm here to help!

My team and I can help with:

- Property Tax/Rent Rebate
- Information about jobs, housing relief and utility assistance
- Prescription assistance for seniors
- Driver's License & Vehicle Registration

I'm ready to make state government work harder for you.

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Maternity Desert in Delaware County



In May, I had the pleasure and honor of inviting my colleagues, state Representatives Mark Longietti, Mike Zabel, Mary Isaacson, Chris Sainato, Mike Schlossberg, Morgan Cephas and Tina Davis, to join me for a conversation about the current health care crisis and Maternity Desert in Delaware County.

The hearing was coordinated to discuss the immediate impact that the decision to close community-based services throughout the Crozer Health facilities, will have on our community in the 164th, throughout the county and neighboring counties.

The heartfelt, knowledge-filled testimonies of all the community partners and stakeholders who participated in the hearing stressed the destructive facts that the closures will be responsible for creating additional structural inequities, irreversible harm, and a rise in maternal and infant mortality among women of color and all women who live and attempt to deliver their babies in this county.

Standing with Health Care Workers

Those who work in our health care facilities spend their days keeping Pennsylvanians healthy and we need to make sure that we are doing all we can to protect their job and keep them safe.

In May, I joined nurses protesting the closures of health care facilities in Delaware County.



I also support two bills that would keep both patients and health care workers safe.

HB 106, the Patient Safety Act, would set appropriate ratios for Pennsylvania hospitals dependent upon the acuity of the unit's patient needs.

HB 348, the Health Care Facilities Violence Prevention Act, would require a health facility to establish a workplace violence prevention committee. That committee would create, review, administer, and provide guidance on programs to ensure workplace violence is being reported and addressed and that employees are protected.

Nearly \$1.4 Million Invested in the 164th District

- \$1.3 million awarded to Upper Darby Township for roadway and sidewalk improvements along Garrett Road, also known as the Garrett Road Modernization Multimodal Connectivity Project. These upgrades include adding bicycle lanes, ADA-curb ramps, and redesign to support pedestrian safety.
- \$20,000 Nonprofit Security Grant for Upper Darby Township & Sellers Memorial Free Public Library. The grant funds security enhancement projects.
- \$25,000 has been awarded to the Upper Darby Township & Sellers Memorial Free Public Library. The Keystone, Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund will assist in funding a planning study to analyze the three township libraries to determine how to modernize the facilities.
- \$53,325 in Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services grants were awarded to the following local fire and EMS companies:
 - East Lansdowne Fire Co. #1: \$15,000 (Fire) and \$8,325 (EMS).
 - Lansdowne Fire Co.: \$15,000.
 - Upper Darby Fire Co. No. 1: \$15,000.



Reforming Abusive For-Profit Hospital Deals

In June, I joined House and Senate lawmakers from Delaware County to discuss new legislation that would prevent the financial looting of Pennsylvania hospital systems by private-equity and for-profit companies.

In Delaware County, we have seen firsthand what it looks like when a for-profit hospital system puts profits over people.

A package of six bills was introduced in response to decisions made by Prospect Medical holdings - the parent company of Crozer Health - to close numerous departments, cut health care staff, and discontinue services within several Delaware County hospitals.

2022 General Election Important Dates



Register to vote
or update your registration

Deadline: **October 24**



Request mail-in or absentee ballot

Sign up by: **November 1**



Deadline for mail-in or absentee ballots

Due: **November 8**



Election Day

Polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Date: **November 8**

vote.pa.gov



Second annual Pride festival in Upper Darby.



Senior Sunrise Breakfast at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lansdowne.



Thank you to everyone who came out to our first in-person Youth Job Fair Event at Lansdowne YMCA in April.



Senator Tim Kearney and I collected over 1,000 feminine hygiene products during our month-long donation drive.



Our first open house in April! It was a pleasure to get to meet you and discuss the services our office offers!



Presenting Mrs. Barbara Benglian a recognition citation. She recently retired after 52 years of music education in the Upper Darby School District.



In March, I attended the grand opening of the new Murphy's Giving Market, located at 7408 West Chester Pike in Upper Darby. Murphy's Giving Market provides free food, job training, housing, counseling and more. I am proud of the work Desiree La Marr-Murphy has done to give back to our community. Earlier this year, Philabundance partnered with the market.



Ribbon cutting for Penn State Brandywine's new LaunchBox in Lansdowne.



Juneteenth flag-raising ceremony and community celebration in Lansdowne.



Shredding & Safety Event, along with Representative Mike Zabel.



Senator Tim Kearney and I hosted a Black and Diverse Business Forum.



4th of July parade in East Lansdowne Borough.



Opening of the Delaware County Health Department Wellness Center in Yeadon.



State Representative
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<https://www.pahouse.com/Curry/emailsignup>

Upcoming Events

Inspi-HER'd

September 10

Naylor Run Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Equity in Education: Mental Health

September 29

Virtual townhall from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Townhall

October 5

(partnering with Senator Tim Kearney)

21st Century Club from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Senior Tour

October 6

Alician Senior Apartments: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

October 13

Simpson Gardens: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Senior Breakfast

October 28

Watkins Ave. Senior Center : 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

TO REGISTER FOR ANY EVENT OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CALL THE OFFICE AT
(610) 259-7016 OR EMAIL REPCURRY@PAHOUSE.NET.