



# Voters Guide Primary Election May 17, 2022

Published by League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh Community Information Center Koppers Building 436 Seventh Avenue Suite 350 Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-261-4284

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New Pittsburgh Courier April 27-May 3, 2022

This Voters Guide was prepared by the League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh and the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund. The League is a non-partisan organization and does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. Its purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

The Voters Guide listings are based entirely on material submitted by the candidates and is printed as submitted. If a questionnaire was not returned, only the candidate's name and party is listed. Every candidate was asked to submit a photograph; those received are printed.

The guide lists all candidates in the May 17, 2022 municipal primary for Pennsylvania US Senator, Pennsylvania Governor, Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor, Pennsylvania US Representative, Pennsylvania State Senator, and Pennsylvania State Representative.

The party of the governor is, by practice, given the first position on the ballot in Pennsylvania.

#### Voting in a **Primary Election**

To vote in this primary election you must have been registered to vote by May 2, 2022. **League of Women Voters Guide To The Municipal Primary Election** May 17, 2022

**VOTERS GUIDE 2022** 

# (Polls open from 7 AM to 8 PM)

Your registration is permanent if

• you did not change your address

• You did not change your name

To check your registration status, go to

https://www.pavoterservices. pa.gov/pages/voterregistrationstatus.aspx

#### **Identification Require**ments for New Voters

If you are a new voter or if you are voting at a polling place for the first time, then you must bring your voter ID card or a photo ID such as a driver's license, student ID or some other form of Federal or State government issued ID. Some forms of non-photo ID are also acceptable such as a firearm permit, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check. If you do not have any acceptable ID, then you must be

allowed to vote by provisional ballot. If you voted in the prior election and are voting at the same polling place, you are NOT required to bring or provide identification.

### Mail-in and **Absentee Ballots**

Mail-in ballot Any qualified voter may apply for a mail-in ballot. You may simply request this ballot type without a reason or excuse. To apply online, go to vote.pa.gov. Contact the county election office to request a paper application. Applications for a mailin ballot must be received by your county election office by 5 pm on May 10, 2022. Completed mail-in ballots must be received by the Elections Division by 8 pm on Tuesday May 17, 2022 to be counted (not postmarked by May 17 as postmark does not matter).

**Absentee ballot** If you plan

to be out of the municipality on election day or if you have a disability or illness that prevents you from going to your polling place on election day. you can simply this ballot type, which still requires you to list a reason for your ballot request. Registered voters who are ill, disabled, or will be absent from the municipality on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot. Completed APPLICATIONS for absentee ballots for the May 17. 2022 primary election must be received by the Elections Division by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2022. Completed absentee ballots must be received by the Elections Division by 8 PM on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 to be counted (not postmarked by May 17).

#### Write-in Voting

For Write-in voting information, check with the workers at your polling place before entering the voting booth.

# NEW PITTSBURGH COURIER **Election Day Problems**

If your right to vote is challenged at the polls on Election Day and the problem cannot be resolved at the polling place, the Judge of Elections at the polling place should telephone the county Board of Elections. The problem could be resolved by phone if your name appears on the county records. If it does not and you want to try to resolve the problem, then you can go in person to the county Board of Elections where a judge from the Court of Common Pleas will be on duty to resolve election problems. Alternatively, vou can ask for and vote by provisional ballot. If it is later determined that you were eligible to vote, your ballot will be counted. You will be given instructions on how to determine if your vote was counted.

If you have any questions or need to report any problems, call the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-687-8683 or the Allegheny County Elections Division at 412-350-4500.

#### **Internet Voters Guide**

This Voters Guide and other useful information for voters can be found on the League's web site at https://lwvpgh.org or can be found by going to www.vote411.org and typing in your address and zip code.

### **PENNSYLVANIA U.S. SENATE**

TERM: 6 years

### DEMOCRATIC

**Alex Khalil** 

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Montgomery **Occupation:** IT Quality Specialist Education: BS Electrical Engineering Technology from Temple, MS Information and Library Science from Drexel, JD, from Temple Law School Qualifications: I am a Jenkin-

**SALARY:** \$174,000

**ALEX KHALIL** 

town Boro council member elected twice, activist, attorney, single mom of a dyslexic child and a daughter of immigrants, educator and small business owner Campaign Website: www.alexkhalilforussenate.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/Alex4USSenate Twitter: twitter.com/Alex4USSenate

#### **Questions:**

**Q**: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Lower prescription drugs, bring back manufacturing to the US, economic and environmental renewal. Focus on clean water, air and healthy soil. Combat climate change. Stand for Human Rights. Healthcare as a human right

**Q:** What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections? **A:** Alex supports and will protect the right of every eligible American citizen to vote by mail in ballot or in person voting.

Voter suppression will not be tolerated in any form and will fight for the right to vote. Alex supports stiff penalties for those who try to suppress the vote. Voting is a part of democracy and should be protected. Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: Stop the confiscation of Native American lands by mining companies. Support regenerative farming to prevent runoff that can harm PA waterways. Alex supports providing tax credits to farmers who switch to regenerative farming. Provide more regulation and oversight on all mining to ensure protection of waterways. Currently \$15 billion worth of mine reclamation yet to be completed in PA. Convert old coal mines to geothermal systems. Convert old coal power plants to battery storage facilities. Ensure all Pennsylvanians have access to clean drinking water. Stop pipeline construction near fresh water and all water ways, schools, homes and parks. Require Methane capping for gas and oil wells.

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny Occupation: U.S. Representative,

PA-17 **Education:** BA, University of Pennsylvania; JD, University of Pennsylvania Law School

Qualifications: U.S. Marine 2009-2013; Asst. U.S. Attorney 2013-2017; U.S. Representative, 2018-current

Campaign Website: conorlamb.com Facebook: Facebook.com/ConorLambPA Twitter: Twitter.com/ConorLambPA

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

**Conor Lamb** 

A: My first priority is to do my part to help protect our democracy. That starts, I believe, with eliminating the filibuster so that we can pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Freedom to Vote Act. I will also work to pass the many other important bills that we've passed in the Houseincluding to raise the minimum wage, protect the right to choose, cut prescription drug prices, prevent gun violence, and Build Back Better, among others.



**Q:** What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections? **A:** I will vote to eliminate the filibuster and to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Freedom to Vote Act, as I have in the House, so that we can prevent states from passing the kind of discriminatory voting restrictions that we're seeing come out of Republican state legislatures across the country. I will also continue working to reform our campaign finance laws.

Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: The world emits 51 billion tons of greenhouse gases each year, and we need to get to zero by 2050 to avoid the worst effects of climate change. I support a comprehensive plan to accomplish that, and a flexible energy policy that invests in several different energy sources. I believe natural gas has a role to play as a bridge fuel as we continue to expand renewable energy sources and develop the technology we need to store renewable energy at grid scale. In the House, I helped increase research funds for solar and wind, as well as for modernizing the grid. I also passed a law to reinstate tough methane standards. And I support major investments in carbon and methane capture technology. You can read more about my plan at https://conorlamb.com

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community? **A:** That's a very broad question, particularly when there are so many challenges to the international community right now, and different challenges require very different responses. In general, I think it is important for the U.S. to stay actively engaged with the rest of the world, to play the leading role in building international coalitions to confront problems like climate change and COVID that affect all of us, and to support democracies and promote peace and human and civil rights wherever they are threatened.

#### Malcolm Kenyatta

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Philadelphia **Occupation:** Representative in Pennsylvania General Assembly Education: Bachelors - Temple University, Masters - Drexel University

**Campaign Website:** www.malcolmkenyatta.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/

Mmkenyatta Twitter: twitter.com/malcolmkenyatta

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

**A:** I'm in this race to make sure the basic bargain is accessible to all folks, good jobs backed by a union, the ability to go to the doctor and to afford the prescription you may need and to go to a safe school and get an education.

Q: What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections?

A: The insurrection on January 6, where armed white supremacists tried to execute elected officials to forcibly overturn the certified results of a fair and free election, has already begun inspiring lawmakers throughout the US to make it harder for marginalized communities to vote.

ballot box. Increased voting by mail allowed a surge in democratic participation across communities and demographics in 2020, resulting in the higheI have outlined an 8 point plan for protecting our democracy and moving forward legislation that matters here. https:// malcolmforpa.medium.com/a-new-day-for-americandemocracy-an-eight-point-plan-24bd7f32f324

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Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: Our planet is rapidly approaching the point of no return as global temperatures continue to rise. The United States must lead the world in responding to the climate crisis on the scale, scope, and urgency this moment requires. But climate justice isn't limited to reducing our dependence on fossil fuels. That means we need a moratorium on new fracking and to end tax breaks to oil and gas giants, shifting our resources to fund a just transition and investments in green energy technology so Pennsylvania remains an energy leader.

Climate justice means investment in green union jobs for workers leaving the fossil fuel industry, accountability for the communities poisoned by fossil fuel extraction, and innovation. Especially in states like PA whe

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

A: The US must continue to protect our NATO allies, Israel, and other major non-NATO allies across the world.

#### John Fetterman

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny County **Occupation:** Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania Education: Albright College, B.S. 1991 University of Connecticut., M.B.A. 1993 Harvard University Kennedy School, M.P.P. 199

Qualifications: Risk-Management Insurance Underwriter, Chubb & Son 1993-1994 Member, AmeriCorps 1995-1997 Program Coordinator, Braddock Out-Of-School Youth 2001-2007 Founder & President, Braddock Redux 2003-2017 Mayor of the Borough of Braddock, 2006-2019 Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania, 2019-Presen

JOHN FETTERMAN

Campaign Website: johnfetterman.com/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/JohnFettermanPA Twitter: twitter.com/JohnFetterman

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Among my top issues are tackling income inequality and economic injustices; raising wages and benefits for working families; reforming the criminal justice system; codifying Roe v. Wade into federal law; passing anti-discrimination protections for the LGBTQ+ community; protecting and expanding the right to vote; and protecting and expanding the union way of life.

Q: What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections? A: I would strongly support legislation in Congress, such as the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, the For the People Act, and the Freedom to Vote Act, which aim to expand voting rights. It is important that we make it easier for people to vote, eliminate dark 48 states, including Pennsylvania, have introduced or money in politics, and knock down restrictions that I will work to grow our economy by creating an en-

passed oppressive voting bills that restrict access to the marginalize voters, mostly voters of color. I would proudly eliminate the filibuster to do it.

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In the aftermath of the 2020 elections, I was removed from the floor of the PA state Senate after resisting Republican efforts to refuse to seat Senator Jim Brewster after he fairly won his election. We must enshrine the right to vote into federal law to stop Republicans from undermining it, and as Senator I will do everything to make that happen.

Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: Climate change is an existential threat, and we need to transition to clean energy as quickly as possible. I have never taken a dime from the fossil fuel industry, and I never will. It's a totally false choice that we have to choose between jobs and a clean environment. We can have both, that's why I am always going to fight for creating thousands upon thousands of good-paying green union jobs as we transition, all while increasing our energy independence. My plan for the transition to clean energy starts with immediate investments into research and development and innovation; expanding renewable energy sources; and ensuring clean transportation infrastructure; and investing in environmental iustice measures.

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

A: I am very happy that President Biden is rebuilding the US's standing in the international community after former President Trump damaged it so much. As a world leader, America must first and foremost ensure proper diplomatic relations, protect its allies, and engage in vigorous diplomacy across the globe. In addition, where there is a need, and to the extent that we can, America must help. That includes accepting refugees fleeing war in their countries, or providing humanitarian aid, military aid, and other support to countries like Ukraine that are defending themselves from attacks on their sovereignty by brutal dictators like Putin.

### REPUBLICAN

#### **Kathy Barnette**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Montgomery Occupation: MOM | Veteran Author | Political Commentator **Education:** College Graduate **Qualifications:** Kathy Barnette is a veteran, former adjunct professor of corporate finance, sought-after conference speaker,



& conservative political commentator. Kathy served her country proudly for 10 years in the Army reserves.

Campaign Website: www.barnetteforsenate.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/BarnetteforSenate/ Twitter: twitter.com/kathy4truth?lang=en

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: I will work to make America energy independent again. As your U.S. Senator in Pennsylvania, I sponsor or co-sponsor legislation that reverses the hostile environment in the energy sector that Biden and Democrats have created and reinstate drilling for natural gas and oil on federal lands.



vironment where our companies do not have to flee our nation to escape onerous taxes and regulations. I will work to create an economy where the middle class are not perpetually squeezed. And, I will work to create an economy where those who find themselves below the bottom rung of the economic ladder believe there is hope for them to work to create a different life for themselves.

**Q:** What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections?

**A:** If the election of 2020 has taught us anything it is that elections have consequences and that nothing is more important than the people knowing that their vote counts.

I will work to enforce the obvious fact that IDs matter and must be shown before a person is allowed to vote.

I will work to remove dead people from the voter rolls.

I will work to remove those people who no longer live in the state.

I will work to reverse Act 77.

I will work to make it illegal for third-party entities to spend massive amounts of money to assist states with their elections (i.e., Zuckerberg's entities spending money to install drop boxes in certain areas)

**Q:** What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

**A:** I will work to make America energy independent again.

No one is going to produce energy as clean and as safe as America.

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community? **A:** America is the face of freedom. When we "lead from behind" we create a vacuum and as we are all watching unfold today, despotic regimes will move rapidly to fill that void.

Today, the Biden Administration's foreign affair's strategy looks like a game of wack-o-mole. There's no discernable end game. There's no deliberate strategy and as a result the world is now a more dangerous place.

If your concern is the health of the climate then the Biden Administration's lack of a credible foreign affairs strategy is enemy #1.

America's #1 challenge today is the need to re-prioritize what is important to America first. Our nation must be made strong again.

#### Mehmet Oz

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Montgomery

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **George Bochetto**

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Philadelphia

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Jeff Bartos**

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Montgomery Occupation: Developer Campaign Website: JeffBartos.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/ BartosForPennsylvania Twitter: twitter.com/jeff\_bartos

Questions:

Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Dave McCormick**

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

Sean Gale

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Montgomery

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Carla Sands**

Party: Rep

**Biographical Info: County:** Cumberland **Occupation:** Former Ambassador and Business Woman **Education:** Doctor of Chiropractic **Qualifications:** Worked with NATO and the DOD to secure the United States against our foreign adversaries like Russia and China as the US Ambassa-

dor from 2017 to 2021. Received the DOD's highest civilian honor, The Medal for Distinguished Public Service. Increased US exports to Denmark over 43% while US Ambassador.

Campaign Website: Carlasands.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/CarlaHSands Twitter: twitter.com/CarlaHSands?ref\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor

#### Questions:

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law? **A:** - no response

**Q:** What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections? **A:** no response

**Q:** What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: Election law resides with the states not the federal government. I support the recent passing of PA legislation to implement voter ID in 2023. Also, we have to carefully win back republican control of the PA supreme court and end mail in ballots. Most western countries do not use mail in ballots because they are so open to fraud.

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

**A:** We need strong American presidential leadership. I support peace through strength. Only by showing adversaries that there are consequences to their actions will the chaos around the world cease.

Bad actors are taking advantage of a weak US president who is also compromised. We know that the Hunter Biden laptop is authentic and the corruption has been predominantly influence pedaling of his fathers elected positions.

### **PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNER**

TERM: 4 years

SALARY: \$213,000

**JOSH SHAPIRO** 

**Description:** Description of office: The Governor is the chief executive officer of the Commonwealth, executing the laws of the state through Executive Agencies. A Governor must be at least 30 years old and have been a US citizen and resident of the state for seven years preceding the election. S/he manages the financial affairs of the state and must annually present a balanced budget to the General Assembly. The Governor has extensive appointive powers, may recommend legislation, and signs or vetoes bills passed by both houses of the General Assembly (subject to 2/3 override). S/he is Commander-in-Chief of the state National Guard, except when they are called into the actual service of the United States. The Governor can grant reprieves, pardons, and paroles. The holder of this office may only be reelected once.

# DEMOCRATIC

#### **Josh Shapiro**

#### Party: Dem Biographical Info: County: Montgomery Occupation: Attorney General of Pennsylvania

**Education:** University of Rochester, BA; Georgetown University Law

Center, JD **Qualifications:** Whether as a State Rep., the leader of PA's third-largest county, or Attorney

General, I've brought people together to get things done. As Governor, I'll continue to tackle the challenges facing Pennsylvanians and will move our Commonwealth forward.

Campaign Website: joshshapiro.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/JoshShapiroPA Twitter: twitter.com/joshshapiropa

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: As Governor, my top priorities are creating opportunity for Pennsylvania children by improving our education system, building a stronger economy by creating jobs, cutting taxes and lowering costs, and making our communities safer all across the Commonwealth. In order to move Pennsylvania forward and build a better future for our children, we must work together to achieve these key priorities. Throughout my career—and every day as Attorney General—I work hard to bring people together, solve problems, and get things done for Pennsylvania. As Governor, I will continue to do just that so that we can solve our biggest problems—because that's how we will deliver results for people across our Commonwealth and move Pennsylvania forward.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: Defending democracy is the foundation for mak-



CARLA SANDS





JEFF BARTOS

ing progress in Pennsylvania. I believe that if we lor of Arts, History want to grow our economy, improve our schools, and make our communities safer, then we need a stable democracy where all Pennsylvanians' voices can be heard.

As Governor, I will continue my work to ensure voters have access to the ballot box and that every legal vote is counted in every election. That's why I released a ten-step plan to defend democracy, ensure access to the ballot, and improve our elections by appointing a pro-democracy Secretary of State, allowing counties to pre-canvass and cure ballots, establishing automatic voter registration and early in-person voting, and vetoing any attempt to restrict mail-in voting in Pennsylvania.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: Throughout my entire career, I have worked to defend Pennsylvanians' constitutional right to clean air and pure water-and as Governor, I will continue that work by investing in clean energy and clean transportation, adopting the 2020 Grand Jury Report recommendations to minimize health hazards arising from fracking, plugging orphaned and abandoned oil and gas wells, and addressing lead contamination in order to keep protecting Pennsylvania's environment.

As Governor, my priority will be ensuring Pennsylvania has a comprehensive climate and energy policy that protects consumers, creates jobs, capitalizes on our strength as an energy hub, safeguards our environment, and moves our Commonwealth forward.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: Every Pennsylvanian deserves to feel safe at home, at school, and in their community-and I know we can achieve that while upholding Pennsylvanians' rights and traditions.

Throughout my career, I have worked with my colleagues in law enforcement and with local communities across our Commonwealth to fight gun violence and keep Pennsylvanians safe, taking thousands of illegal guns off our streets, shutting down gun trafficking rings, and working to close the ghost gun loophole. As Governor, I will support common sense gun legislation to close background check loopholes, keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals, and work with the legislature to increase funding for gun safety training programs.

### REPUBLICAN

#### Lou Barletta

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Luzerne **Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Douglas V. Mastriano**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Franklin **Occupation:** Senator Education: PhD, History; Masters Strategic Intelligence; Masters Airpower Theory; Masters Military Operational Art; Masters Strategic Studies, Bache-

Qualifications: 1986-Commissioned in the US Army, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (2ACR) on the Iron Curtain, 2ACR Desert Storm in Iraq, Afghanistan (three deployments), Senior leader of NATO unit in Afghanistan comprised of 18 nations, Award winning author, Professor of Army War College (Carlisle) Campaign Website: doug4gov.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ Fight4pa

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Infrastructure, Energy Production, Road / Transportation Improvements, School Choice, the Right to Life

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: Voter ID, Poll Watcher Protection, Increased Penalties for violating voting law, Repeal Act 77

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: I'm an Eagle Scout and respect the environment —we are stewards of the land

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: Uphold the constitutional protections delineated in our state and federal constitutions

#### **Nche Zama**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Northampton **Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Dave White**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Delaware **Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Melissa Hart**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny Occupation: Attorney and Confacebook sultant HartforPA, twitter @HartofPgh Education: J.D. University of Pittsburgh, B.A. Washington & Jefferson College Qualifications: Attorney and former State Senator and Congresswoman with significant accomplishments and coalition building as a Republican from a Democrat-

ic district Campaign Website: HartforPA.org Other websites: Facebook, HartforPA and Melissa Hart Twitter, @HartofPgh

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Cut bureaucracy, end regulatory overreach, and work with the legislature to effect change-cut out excessive use of executive orders and constitutional amendments. Have respect for the process developed by the Founders.

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: Repeal Act 77 and clarify that our voting system be compliant with the PA constitution allowing for voting on election day in person and also by absentee ballot for voters who qualify, to be received by mail or delivery by the voter by election day at the board of elections with an absentee ballot that a voter must apply for in advance, voter ID must be instituted. No delivery other than by the voter or by the post office should be permitted, that is no "drop boxes" or other places that are not secure.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: Enforce regulations that are designed to allow development and industry with an eye to long term impact on air water and the environment. We must balance our responsibilities to maintain our beautiful state with the people's needs for a robust economic environment. If we do this, we will see more advances in clean energy production and environmentally sensitive development because Pennsylvanians will be able to create and develop new technologies with resources from a robust economic environment.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I support the 2nd amendment and a citizen's rights to own firearms. Communities and organizations offer safety courses for young and old all over the commonwealth. I am supportive of these and have participated in them.

PA currently has laws requiring background checks.

#### **Bill McSwain**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Chester **Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Charlie Gerow**

Education: JD Villanova Law

Qualifications: Business owner, vice chairman of CPAC Campaign Website: charliefor-

governor.com Facebook: facebook.com/CharlieforGovernor

Twitter: twitter.com/CharlieforGovPA

**Questions:** 

**MELISSA HART** 

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how

**CHARLIE GEROW** 

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Cumberland **Occupation:** Businessman School





MASTRIANO

would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

**A:** My priorities will be a thriving economy, a great education system and election integrity. I will do as I have always done, building coalitions and finding common ground to find winning solutions to the challenges we face.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I would sign a law to repeal Act 77. I will appoint a Secretary of the Commonwealth who is both experienced in conducting elections and fully committed to the rule of law.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: The constitutional guarantees of Article 1, Section 27 are vital to the future of Pennsylvania. As governor, I will appoint cabinet and agency officials committed to the protection of our environment and good stewards of our natural resources.

**Q**: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I am deeply committed to the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Pennsylvanians gun owners as well as Article 1 Section 21 of the Pennsylvania constitution.

Joe Gale

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Montgomery **Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

**Jake Corman** 

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Centre **Occupation:** President Pro Tempore, Pennsylvania State Senate

Education: Jake received an Associates Degree from the Pennsylvania College of Technology and then a Bachelor of Arts from the Pennsylvania State Universitv

Qualifications: Dedicating his life to public service, Jake built a reputation as a champion for personal freedoms, education, creating jobs, public safety and as a strong fiscal watchdog for Pennsylvania taxpayers, defeating all of Tom Wolf's tax increases. Campaign Website: www.cormanforpa.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/CormanForPA Twitter: twitter.com/CormanForPA

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Election reform, education, jobs and public safety. I have a track record of working with members of my own party and Democrats to forge compromise. As Americans, we must be committed to a government that seeks compromise, while also fighting for what we believe to be right. I've been able to help Pennsylvania make historic investments in the education of our children, while defeating tax increases that would hurt working families. We negotiated my pension reform bill with a Democrat governor but

defeated tax increase proposals. We can't be ruled by partisanship and talking points; we have to be willing to roll up our sleeves and get things done. When I'm governor, I'll get to work immediately with our legislature and put people first.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: If we don't have faith in our elections, we have nothing. That's why I launched our review of the 2020 election in a transparent fashion. Gov. Tom Wolf ignored Act 77 by giving illegal, last-second directions to county voting offices on mail-in ballots. This behavior led two counties in one senatorial district to tabulate votes differently and change the outcome of an election. Our Supreme Court, outside of their judicial mandate, added unsecured ballot drop boxes. As governor, I will support reform legislation that eliminates drop boxes, institutes photo ID requirements, and ends what has been a disastrous, no-excuse mail-in-ballot program.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: I have a strong track record of supporting our environment and natural resources, namely Pennsylvania's landmark Growing Greener program. In June 2002, we doubled the funding to over a half billion dollars. In doing so, we've cleaned up abandoned mines; funded local parks and trails; expanded farmland preservation and protected some of Pennsylvania's most beautiful open spaces. I believe we have a responsibility to be guardians of our natural resources.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: Further gun control measures concentrate more power in the hands of government. If we go down the path of giving government more authority to decide who can and cannot possess a firearm, that's a slippery slope that could seriously erode our Second Amendment rights. We all want safer streets and safer communities. Our prosecutors must be committed to prosecuting criminals who commit crimes with guns, not let them walk free like we're seeing in Philadelphia with District Attorney Larry Krasner and his soft-on-crime mentality.

# PENNSYLVANIA LIEUTENANT GOVERNER

#### **TERM:** 4 YEARS

**SALARY:** \$213,000

Description: Description of office: The Lieutenant Governor will be elected jointly with the Governor in the General Election although candidates are nominated separately in the Primary. A Lieutenant Governor must be at least 30 years old and have been a US citizen and resident of the state for seven years preceding the election. S/he is President of the Senate, presiding over the Senate but having no vote unless the Senate is equally divided. S/he is Chair of the Board of Pardons and the PA Emergency Management Council. The PA Constitution provides that in case of the death, conviction or impeachment, failure to qualify, resignation, or other disability of the Governor, the powers, duties, and compensation of the office shall be transferred to the Lieutenant Governor for the remainder of the term or until the disability is removed. There are no term limits to this office.

### DEMOCRATIC

**Austin Davis** 

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny Questions: Candidate has not yet responded.

**Ray Sosa** 

Party: Dem

**Biographical Info:** County: Montgomery Consultant **Occupation:** to Management Education: Leadership Certified, Harvard University. BS in Business Administration. Insur-



**RAY SOSA** 

Qualifications: Ray has been

lines of authority)

appointed by three different US Governors to lead districts in coordinating Emergency Management Response. Ray was the Chairman of the Governor's Human Rights Advocacy Committee for 10 years, fighting for hospitals, juvenile justice centers, foster care, equality, and nursing homes.

Campaign Website: raysosaltgov2022.com/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/raysosaltgov2022 Twitter: www.twitter.com/raysosaltgov201

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Criminal Justice Reform, have a fairer bond regulation that does not impact our minority, and indigent population, and meritory commutations of sentences with a path to rehabilitation. Revamping our emergency response system and infrastructure to withstand a natural disaster due to climate change. I have 15 years of experience reaching across the isle to get legislation signed into law. As the future president of PA senate, I would be the peacekeeper of the senate. Keeping in mind that the PA Lt. Governor is the Lt. Governor for everyone, there are plenty of opportunities to create good will if I allow everyone regardless of political party to share their points and voice their opinions. That's how you get things done! Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: There is a growing trend in PA where electoral maps are being challenged and redrawn to benefit only one party. There is also a trend to restrict the manner in which you choose to cast your vote. I would oppose any law that seeks to limit voting rights or represents an attempt at voter suppression. Our focus must be in facilitation and extending our voting options to defend our constitutional right to cast our vote. This is regardless of the party you belong to.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

**A:** I believe that our incumbents have not paid any attention to our air and water quality for the last 10 years, at least. The water quality in most of our major cities is deplorable and as a result the air quality is disastrous as well. It has come to a point that most water resources are unusable and represent a threat to the health of the population. I would sup-



**JAKE CORMAN** 

port legislation that aggressively imposes fines for mail, and make registration easier. I'm the prime polluters in the state. I would also support funding for programs that actively reverse the damage. I consider this well within the duties of the Lt. Governor as the chair for the Emergency Management Commission for the state. Our water and air quality is an emergency and it should be treated as such.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

**A:** I believe that while we all have the right to bear arms, it should be contingent on a background check to assess criminal or violent behavior history. I am a firm believer in keeping military style weapons away from the general population, banning "Ghost Guns" and any attachments that could be used to make a regular weapon automatic.

Firearms safety courses should be mandatory and we should eliminate the "Gun Show Loop". As a society we must balance the rights of our community with the safety of our people.

#### **Brian Sims**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County**: Philadelphia **Occupation:** Pennsylvania State House Representative (D-182

Education: J.D. in International and Comparative Law, Michigan State University College of Law; B.S., Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania



**BRIAN SIMS** 

Qualifications: I've served as a PA Rep. for a decade. I worked as a disability and civil rights attorney and served as staff counsel at the Philadelphia Bar Association. I also served as the president of the board of directors of Equality Pennsylvania and as the chairman of Gay and Lesbian Lawyers of Philadelphia.

Campaign Website: sims4pa.com/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/brian.k.sims Twitter: twitter.com/BrianSimsPA

Other websites: www.instagram.com/briansimspa/

#### **Questions:**

 $\mathbf{\hat{Q}}$ : What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: The Lt. Governor serves as the President of the Pennsylvania Senate and chairs the Board of Pardons. Pennsylvania needs a progressive President of the Senate who knows how to operate in, under, and around Republican rules to stop the onslaught of bigoted and discriminatory legislation from advancing and promote the passage of equity-focused legislation. I will be the first civil rights attorney to chair the Board of Pardons and will work towards decarceration. Our state has unjustly imprisoned far too many individuals, and while the deeply racist and classist roots of our criminal justice system make reforming it impossible, the Board of Pardons is one of the few places where we can bring justice to those who are falsely imprisoned.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I've spent a decade fighting for legislation to ensure access to the ballot for all. I'm a member of the State Government committee-the committee that passes laws regarding elections-and I've sponsored legislation to create early voting, expand vote by

sponsor of a package of bills that aim to make voting more accessible for returning citizens. As Lt. Governor I'll stand against voter suppression laws that come through the Senate and will use the statewide platform to push for early voting, automatic voter registration, election day as a public holiday, and the re-enfranchisement of returning citizens. I'll do everything in my power to protect and expand voting rights for all Pennsylvanians.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: I am the only candidate in the race for Lt. Governor that is against fracking. Pennsylvanians deserve clean air and water, and the continuation of fracking in our Commonwealth is in direct opposition to that goal. I am the proud sponsor of HB 100 which aims to transition Pennsylvania to one hundred percent renewable energy by 2050. Our state needs to invest in renewable energy sources and green infrastructure in order to complete the transition away from fossil fuel dependence. As Lt. Governor, I will work with Democratic leaders in the Senate and the Governor to eliminate fracking in the Commonwealth and pass necessary legislation like HB100 that will transition Pennsylvania to one hundred percent renewable energy sources.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: With a gun violence epidemic affecting families across Pennsylvania, we desperately need comprehensive background checks and safety training. I support the enforcement of red flag laws, lost-gun reporting laws, eliminating straw purchases, and comprehensive background checks to decrease the likelihood that guns fall into the wrong hands. I am the prime sponsor of HB393 which would only allow licensed firearms dealers to sell ammunition and businesses to use existing licenses to sell both firearms and ammunition. Nearby states have passed such laws, and there is no reason Pennsylvania cannot do the same. As Lt. Governor, I will work with members of our legislature to curb gun violence so that our Commonwealth is a safer place for all.

### REPUBLICAN

#### **Clarice Schillinger**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Montgomery **Questions**: Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **James Earl Jones**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Montgomery **Occupation:** Petroleum Consultant Education: BS/MBA **Qualifications:** Military Retired/Businessman **Campaign Website:** www.jonesforltgovernorpa.com **JAMES EARL Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/ groups/187558356211346

Twitter: https://twitter.com/JonesforAmerica

JONES



Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: I would prioritize legislation and laws to focus on the economy, environment, education and energy programs. Economy: use various measures to control and regulate both private and public sectors. Environment: support legislation to protect jobs and industry while reducing threats to the environment and increasing public health. Education: allow for school choice in providing for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public education. Energy: support governmental actions affecting the production, distribution, and consumption of energy in a business manner. As President of the Senate, I would advocate meeting with both the Senate leaders and the House of Representative leaders of both parties on a monthly basis.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: To me, voting is a sacred American right. In the Pennsylvania Constitution, Article 7 is clear on how voting in the Commonwealth is conducted. After the 2020 election, I see the need to push for more restrictive voting laws (such as voter identification) designed to protect against accusations that future elections will not be stolen with fraud and against security failures. Also, due to issues created with Act 77, I would support an RFP (Request for Proposal) to address specific gaps or complaints discovered in the current electronic machines to increase voter integrity. I will work to protect our right to vote and protect our election systems from partisan or foreign interference, and help build trust in our democracy.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: One of the pillars of my campaign is protection of the Commonwealth's environment and our natural resources. I would urge the Governor to remove the job killing REGGI (Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative) and any other obstructive legislation. Regulations protecting our natural resources must be (1) compliant with all applicable statutes relevant to the protection of the public's natural resources (2) demonstrate a reasonable effort to reduce the environmental incursion to a minimum (3) more beneficial in reducing environmental harm than the costs incurred implementing the regulations. I would push for improving technology and educating the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) on the best measures to safeguard our natural resources.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: The language is clear in Article I, Section 21 of the Pennsylvania State Constitution, stating: "The right of the citizens to bear arms in defense of themselves and the State shall not be questioned". Additionally, the US Constitution, 2nd Amendment states those rights "shall not be infringed". My position on red flag laws is they are unconstitutional. I am in favor of gun merchants and local law enforcement background checks and individual requested firearm safety training programs.

#### **Rick Saccone**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny **Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### John Brown

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Northampton Questions: Candidate has not yet responded.

### **Chris Frye**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Lawrence Occupation: Mayor (New Castle, PA)

Education: Bachelors from Gannon University in Social Work and Masters from University of Pittsburgh in Social Work with a concentration in Community Organizing and Social Administration

Qualifications: Current mayor (New Castle), responsible for day-to-day management of employees; chief executive, proposes & manages \$26M budget; 15 years of executive/management experience; serves on executive and legislative committees Municipal League; workforce development & juvenile probation experience.

Campaign Website: www.CitizensForChrisFrye.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/mayorchrisfrye Other websites: Instagram: mayorfrye4lt

#### Questions:

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: As lieutenant governor, my role would be to primarily work to advance the governor's agenda. However, it is my desire to work as a conduit between the governor's office and the more than 2,500 municipalities. I know, first hand, as mayor of a Pennsylvania municipality, that Harrisburg often disregards us. They never ask what we need. They pass unfunded mandates and leave us to fend for ourselves. I will support and push an agenda that take into consideration the effects legislation has on local communities. As mayor, I have an agenda, but that agenda is based in large part on input from the community. I take a bottoms up approach. Listen to the voters & community so they can help shape the agenda and have a stake & say-so in their community.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I support limiting mail in ballots. I support requiring ID to vote. I support auditing to be sure that we have integrity in our elections.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: I believe in legislation that protects our environment; however, we must allow the private sector to tap into our natural resources, specifically our energy resources, to bring in new revenue sources and lower the tax burden on our taxpayers. I am not opposed to limited government oversight to insure that our environment is not destroyed, however, I do not believe a large government bureaucracy that regulates an industry into

Q: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I support the second amendment and am myself a conceal carry permit holder. I believe that the government has no right to interfere with our right to bear arms. I am not opposed to limited laws that are truly intended to prevent guns from falling into the wrong hands. However, I would fight against legislation that makes it hard for good, law abiding citizens to purchase fire arms. We cannot allow the minority (criminals) to dictate our laws.

### Jeff Coleman

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** 

County: Cumberland Occupation: Principal, Churchill Strategies

Education: BS, Liberty University Qualifications: Small business owner, former borough councilman, former two-term state representative

Campaign Website: www.Colemanforpa.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ColemanforPA Twitter: twitter.com/colemanforpa

#### **Questions:**

**CHRIS FRYE** 

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: The centerpiece of my campaign has been the urgent need to restore civil discourse in our public dialogue. While the lieutenant governor's role in policy is limited to the priorities of the governor, I believe there is a need to expand the participation of parents in the education of their children, offer a renewed vision for struggling small towns, and create a path to work, community, and good citizenship for ex-offenders.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: Maintaining-and in too many cases, restoringpublic confidence in our electoral process is a challenge that can be addressed in a level-headed, bipartisan way free of rancor over past or looming elections. I am confident that with the right leadership Pennsylvania can do this without sacrificing our centuries-old tradition of welcoming the vote of every citizen.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: As a son of rural Pennsylvania I am deeply aware of the beauty of our environment and the harm that has been done in the past exploiting natural resources. It is a core mission of government to properly balance the obligation to protect the environment with the need to ensure that farmers are not harmed and the economic life of small communities is not destroyed.

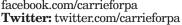
Q: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I support the provisions of the federal and state constitutions outlining the rights and responsibilities of gun ownership, which I do not believe to be inconsistent with maintaining public safety. While the lieutenant governor has no vote on these or other policy issues-outside of breaking a tie on procedural votes—I am a strong ad-vocate for promoting of safe, responsible use of firearms.

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Lebanon **Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Carrie Lewis DelRosso**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny Occupation: Member of State House of Representatives Education: University of Pittsburgh Qualifications: Oakmont Council Member 2018-2020: State House Member 2021 **Campaign Website:** www.CarrieForPA.com **Facebook:** facebook.com/carrieforpa



#### Questions:

**Q**: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law? A: Lower CNIT- Push for PA to more attractive state to manufacture and produce Provide a better return on investment with k-12 edu-Fully fund law enforcement Secure Elections Promote Ag Growth

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws? A: Voter ID

Provide a more efficient system for early/absentee voting and deadlines

Voter Confidence -ballot security

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: Promote energy growth and independence in PA while always mindful of our environment.

Q: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: Protect our 2nd Amendment; right to people to bear arms

**Teddy Daniels** 

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Wayne Questions: Candidate has not yet responded.

# **PENNSYLVANIA U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 12**



**JEFF COLEMAN** 

cation Fully fund infrastructure

CARRIE LEWIS

DELROSSO

Description: Description of office: The US Constitution requires that the House of Representatives be composed of Representatives from each state, elected in proportion to population. There are 435 members of the House of Representatives, with 17 Representatives allotted to Pennsylvania after the 2020 census. A US Representative must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen of the United States for the past seven years, and be a resident of the state they seek to represent at the time of the election (though not necessarily the same district). The House of Representatives is responsible for introducing and voting on bills, resolutions and amendments, and for approving the budget. Representatives also serve on various policy committees. The House may send Articles of Impeachment of elected officials to the Senate and elects the President if there is a tie in the Electoral College.

### DEMOCRATIC

#### Jeff Woodard

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny **Occupation:** Executive Director Education: Masters Degree in Business Administartion; Masters Degree in Criminology (Point Park University; Bachelors Degree In Philosophy (Carlow University); Associates Degree in Criminal Justice (Westmoreland County



**JEFF WOODARD** 

Community College); PA ACT 120 Police Academey; PA State Constables Academy

Qualifications: Executive Director of PA College Access Program; CEO of PA Expungements & Pardons, LLC; Served as Assistant to Former Lt. Governor; Elected State Constable; Elected Democratic Committeeman; Adjunct Professor at CCAC and Robert Morris University; Campaign Manager, Staff and Candidate of 29 Campaigns

Campaign Website: www.votejeffwoodard.com

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: I would work on Education; Inflation; Taxes; Voting Rights; Veterans Issues; LGBTQ+ Equality and Federal Legalization of Cannabis. I am willing to work with all members of Congress regardless of party to get legislation passed for the good of the constituents.

Q: What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections?

A: I will work with the Members of Congress and the President's Administration to pass legislation to ensure all eligible voters have access to free and fair elections. This includes online registration, early voting, and as many accessible locations possible.

Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: I support tax credits to energy efficient homes and building equipment and implementation of solar energy systems. I would also support electric and hybrid vehicles. I want strong clean energy. I believe in carbon emissions, carpooling and mass transit. We may have to look at mitigated climate change to save the environment and cure several illnesses.

Q: How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

**A:** I believe the United States play a major role in the international community dealing with the major issues of the world, but again we should have a voice at the table as we do in working with other countries. It should not be the responsibility of the United States to police the world.

**Steve Irwin Biographical Info:** 

County: Allegheny **Occupation:** Attorney Education: Georgetown University Law Center, J.D. (1983-1986)• Harvard University, A.B., cum laude, Government (1977-1981) **Qualifications:** Commissioner, Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission \* Pennsylvania Securities Commissioner \* Pittsburgh Chair,

Anti-Defamation League • Chair, Civil Rights Commission's Pennsylvania Advisory Committee • President-Elect, North American Securities Administration Ass'n \* Chair, Pgh Parking Authority Campaign Website: steveforpa.com

**STEVE IRWIN** 

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SteveIrwinPA Twitter: mobile.twitter.com/steveirwinpa

#### **Questions:**

Party: Dem

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

**A:** Everyone should have a fair shot at a decent life. To me, that means healthcare, infrastructure, education, economic opportunity, and protecting our environment. It means reinvesting in Southwestern Pennsylvania, building a green transition that brings new union jobs into the area, and ensuring that everyone has access to a livable wage and affordable housing and healthcare, even at a time when things are getting more expensive. When it comes to working with others, over the course of 30 years in public service I've found commonalities across all kinds of differences. I'm focused on building trust and working together to find doable things that I can accomplish in Washington which will make a real

difference in people's lives. Q: What will you do in office to ensure all eligible vot-

ers have equal access to free and fair elections?

A: American democracy is at a pivotal moment, and we need to work to protect it. We're not living up to our potential when we keep people from being able to cast their votes in free and fair elections, whether that's because the lines are too long, the requirements are too harsh, or because they're voting in a district that's not fairly drawn. In order to improve access to free and fair elections, I support the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which would outlaw discriminatory practices that make it harder for people to vote and help ensure that all our votes count equally. Taking steps like this one can move us toward a truly democratic society and help protect the peaceful transfer of power.

**Q:** What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: We're facing an existential threat from climate change, and we need to work together to transition to a green energy economy. Southwestern Pennsylvania should be a leader in that transition. We have long been essential to the nation's energy research and production, and moving to a green economy means continuing that legacy by creating new union jobs in sustainable energy production and working with local employers to support their transitions to cleaner fuels. We should do everything we can to achieve President Biden's goal of carbon neutrality no later than 2050, and we can do that in ways that help our region flourish.

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

A: The U.S. plays a unique role on the world stage and, at a moment when the world order could be shifting, we need to continue protecting democracy worldwide. That means maintaining our reciprocal relationships



#### **William Parker**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny **Questions**: Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Summer Lee**

#### Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: PA

**Occupation:** State Representative Education: Summer is a proud graduate of Woodland Hills High School, Penn State, and Howard University School of Law.

Qualifications: Summer is an organizer, attorney, advocate and two-term state representative for

PA's 34th HD, the first Black woman ever elected to the legislature from Western Pennsylvania, the founder/ chair of UNITE, a grassroots PAC that has helped elect progressives region-wide, up and down ballot. Campaign Website: www.summerforpa.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/SummerforPA Twitter: www.twitter.com/SummerforPA

#### Questions:

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: In Congress, I'll bring upon the same values and track record I've been dedicated to as an organizer, advocate, and state legislator-bringing broad coalitions of folks together for environmental, racial, and economic justice, so we can win real victories for all working people. This means a just transition to a clean energy economy, tackling our climate crisis, taking on corporate polluters and ensuring clean air and water for all. It means supporting/strengthening unions, raising the minimum wages, passing paid family and sick leave, protecting workers' and their rights to organize with the PRO Act, passing Medicare for All, challenging mass incarceration and passing police accountability measures.

Q: What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections?

A: Not only must we end racist voter ID and suppression laws, restore the full power of the Voting Rights Act, and end gerrymandering, but we must go farther and provide every person in our country with the right to vote-from previously incarcerated people to immigrants, everyone deserves a voice in our democracy.

Congress should be making it easier to vote, not harder, that means automatic voter registration, nationwide early and mail voting, federal holidays for election days, and same day voter registration.

As long as corporations can funnel billions into elections, our democracy will continue to belong to the highest bidder-we must pass comprehensive campaign finance reform and end Citizens United.

Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would

SUMMER LEE

A: We must pass a Green New Deal through a just transition to a 100% clean and renewable energy economy, centered in good-paying union jobs, with strong protections for workers and frontline communities who've born the brunt of environmental racism. This includes ending fracking, which poses a disproportionate threat to communities like the Mon Valley community where I was born and raised, and which I represent today. We must hold corporate polluters accountable, invest in infrastructure to mitigate impacts from extreme weather events, landslides and erosion, fix aging and or lead pipes, and ensure clean water for all, to ensure a livable future for this and future generations.

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

A: I believe in a human rights and diplomacy centered approach to foreign policy. This means moving diplomatic solutions like the new version of the JHCPOA/ Iran Deal forward, and building a clean energy economy, away from Big Oil and the authoritarians who control the wells. Instead of giving the Pentagon billions for private weapons contractors and endless war, we must pass budgets that prioritize people (education, health care, infrastructure, housing and more). We must create a functional, humane, inclusive immigration policy, starting with comprehensive immigration reform and a pathway to citizenship, welcoming asylum-seekers and stopping brutal and discriminatory policies around detention, family separation, and deportation.

#### **Jerry Dickinson**

#### Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny **Occupation:** Constitutional Law Professor

Education: BA from College of the Holy Cross, J.D. from Fordham Qualifications: Jerry is a constitutional law professor at the University of Pittsburgh, a human rights activist, a husband,

and a father. He has clerked for a federal judge, served in South Africa as a Fulbright Scholar, and founding the Housing Rights Project as an attorney. Campaign Website: jerrydickinson.com

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/JerryDickinson-ForCongress

Twitter: twitter.com/JerrySDickinson

#### **Questions:**

**Q**: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: In Congress I will fight to pass Medicare For All, support common sense efforts that create jobs and rebuild our communities like the bipartisan infrastructure bill, and make sure Russia is held accountable for its invasion of Ukraine. I know I'm not going to agree on everything with every member of Congress, but throughout my life, whether it was in the foster home with 11 siblings, whether it was in the courtroom advocating for my clients, or whether it's when my students disagree in the classroom at Pitt—I've been able to effectively navigate disagreement and build consensus. I plan to do the same in Congress.

**Q:** What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections? **A:** Our democracy is facing an all out assault from the far right. I support the John Lewis Voting Right Act, which would restore protections for minority voters that were gutted from the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court in 2013. I also support the

Freedom to Vote Act, the Judiciary Act (2021), and **Biographical Info**: the Protecting Our Democracy Act. Since the Citizens United Supreme Court decision, dark money has flooded our political system. Republicans and Democrats alike have been beneficiaries of these lax campaign finance laws. It's time for this corruption to end. I support the For The People Act, to overturn Citizens United, adopt a small-dollar fundraising model for federal campaigns.

Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: Every time I take a walk through Frick Park with my daughters to go to the playground, I wonder what the air quality is at that moment, and whether it's safe to be outside for too long. In 2020, Pittsburgh had two months of "unbreathable air quality days". We shouldn't have to live like this. I support the goals and principles set out in the Green New Deal. I'm committed to making sure workers and unions have a seat at the table and ensuring a just transition when it comes to addressing climate change. That's why I also support a federal jobs guarantee, to ensure no one will lose their jobs as we transition to a green economy.

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community? A: The U.S. should continue down the road of diplomacy with our allies and enemies. Economic sanctions are imperative to minimizing the threat of war. We need to continue to provide humanitarian aid and a robust refugee program. I believe the U.S. should impose harsher sanctions on Russia for their invasion of Ukraine.

### REPUBLICAN

**Mike Dovle** 

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny **Questions**: Candidate has not yet responded.

# **PENNSYLVANIA U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 17**

#### **TERM:** 2 YEARS

# SALARY: \$174,000

Description: Description of office: The US Constitution requires that the House of Representatives be composed of Representatives from each state, elected in proportion to population. There are 435 members of the House of Representatives, with 17 Representatives allotted to Pennsylvania after the 2020 census. A US Representative must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen of the United States for the past seven years, and be a resident of the state they seek to represent at the time of the election (though not necessarily the same district). The House of Representatives is responsible for introducing and voting on bills, resolutions and amendments, and for approving the budget. Representatives also serve on various policy committees. The House may send Articles of Impeachment of elected officials to the Senate and elects the President if there is a tie in the Electoral College.

### DEMOCRATIC

**Chris Deluzio** 

Party: Dem

**County:** Allegheny **Occupation:** Lawyer **Education:** Bishop Canevin High School, U.S. Naval Academy, Georgetown Law Qualifications: Iraq War veteran, Voting rights attorney, union organizer

**Campaign Website:** www.chrisforpa.com **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/ChrisforPA

Twitter: twitter.com/ChrisForPA

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: My desire to serve in Congress is animated by a core principle that we should be fighting for our common good. We should be fighting for a vibrant economy that leaves no one behind, not a system that rewards corporations and the ultra wealthy. These are values that I will bring to Congress and guide my decisions serving the people of Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District.

**Q:** What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections? A: As a voting rights attorney, I deeply understand what is at stake; threats to our right to vote and our democracy are dire. In states under GOP control, Republicans are erecting hurdles to voting, locking in majorities through gerrymandered maps, and taking advantage of our post-Citizens United campaign finance landscape. I know these issues (elections, especially) well from my work at Pitt Cyber and the Brennan Center, and I would hope to continue much of the good work that's been done on bills like the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: I absolutely support federal investment to create and support new union energy jobs and believe that regions like mine -- which are energy-producing regions most likely to be impacted by the shift away from fossil fuels -- ought to benefit from federal resources to combat the climate crisis. That investment must also be buoyed by climate resilience investments from Washington. And we should be looking every single day for ways to create union jobs that improve our air and water quality: projects like capping abandoned wells and research into carbon and methane capture and hydrogen. And I'll work to make sure that nuclear energy remains a strong and viable part of our energy mix as the path to decarbonizing accelerates.

Q: How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

A: I saw firsthand the costs of a war that we never should have fought (Iraq), and committed myself to work hard to make sure we never again commit such a folly. I have seen far too many fellow veterans suffer with the pain of their service, and so I have worked to use my law degree to serve them: as a mentor in Allegheny County's veterans treatment court and through pro bono work with the Veterans Consortium. We must be judicious in sending Americans to fight and die abroad, and I will not support sending your children or mine into another 'Forever War' when there are other options available to protect American interests. We should support democracy and freedom abroad, provide American diplomatic leadership, and stand strong with allies.



**JERRY DICKINSON** 



**CHRIS DELUZIO** 

#### **Sean Meloy**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny **Occupation:** Community Advocate **Education:** Penn State University Qualifications: I've been working to organize our communities and make our government representative of the people it's meant to protect by helping elect LGT-BQ elected officials as Vice Pres-

ident at LGBTQ Victory Fund and worked to pass legislation on Capitol Hill advocating for transformational policy.

Campaign Website: www.seanmeloy.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/SeanMeloyPA

Twitter: twitter.com/MelovSM

Other websites: www.instagram.com/seanmeloyforcongress/

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: In Congress, I will prioritize issues that will impact working and middle class families in Western PA, fighting for relief for working families, creating good union jobs for the 21st century, and ensuring everyone is protected under the law. Extremism on both sides has hindered progress, but the far-right has said no to even common sense solutions like raising the minimum wage, creating jobs through solving climate change, and better pre-k and childcare opportunities for our children. If elected, I will put the people of Western PA first and never forget where I came from.

**Q:** What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections? A: Whether it is protecting mail-in ballots or resolutions at the PA State Democratic Committee or as a member representing PA at the DNC, I have been on the record calling for the elimination of the filibuster to pass the "For the People Act" and other comprehensive voting rights protections. As a member of Congress, I will work to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act which will prevent voter suppression. If you can't win elections, you should work to represent the needs of the people betterbut instead, conservatives are trying to change who is able to vote. It is despicable and must be stopped. Everyone who can legally vote should be able to vote by whatever method they prefer—and we should be encouraging convenience in doing this.

**Q:** What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

**A:** Climate change is real and we are all feeling it, whether extremists want to admit it or not. It has long-term effects with large-scale impacts that will affect everyone and if not addressed will lead to severe and irreversible damage. Western Pennsylvania has a unique opportunity to be a leader in the green industries. We must work with unions, labor, working families, and members of elected office to build a plan that will take into consideration those most affected by climate and industry. We must pass President Joe Biden's Build Back Better legislation and the PRO Act to get anything done.

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community? **A:** I believe the US has a responsibility to lead the charge on the issues impacting Americans at home and abroad. As an international leader, the United States must protect democracy, particularly if the to challenges facing the international community? impacts of conflict can be detrimental to the safety A: While Russia is wreaking havoc, China is still



and freedom of innocent people. When I was growing up, the enemy of the United States was the enemy of both political parties because we shared a belief in democracy. That doesn't seem true anymore as the GOP becomes more extremist and embraces ideas that our country has traditionally uniformly combatted. I believe as Americans, we must protect our Constitution and stand on the right side of history. Republican

### REPUBLICAN

#### **Jeremy Shaffer**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny Occupation: Software Engineer. Business Founder & Entrepreneur.

Education: Carnegie Mellon University (Ph.D. and Master's Degrees in Electrical and Com-Engineering National puter

Science and Defense Fellowship-U.S. Navy). Tulane University (Bachelors' Degrees in Computer Science and Computer Engineer-

ing – Valedictorian of Engineering School). Qualifications: Former Ross Township Commissioner and Board President

Campaign Website: www.JeremyShaffer.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/shaffer4pa **Twitter:** twitter.com/JeremyShafferPA

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: The biggest issue we face is our out-of-control national debt, which surpassed \$30 trillion this year. This debt puts an unbelievable burden on our children and grandchildren. We must reign in spending and act now to get America's fiscal house in order before it's too late. Additionally, I will protect the sanctity of life, defend our 2nd Amendment right to bear arms, advance economic reforms, empower parents and local schools, and challenge the political establishment to work for you, the people. Washington is broken, and I will work hard to help fix it by working with anyone to get things done.

**Q**: What will you do in office to ensure all eligible voters have equal access to free and fair elections? A: The American people deserve to feel fully confident in the outcome of our elections. In Congress, I will stand against power grabs that would undermine election integrity and voting rights. Free and fair elections are at the core of any functional democracy.

Q: What measures, regulations, or acts, if any, would you support to mitigate climate change?

A: It's important to protect our environment, preserve green space, and allow everyone to breathe clean air. We have done much to make our Pittsburgh area cleaner and greener; however, there is still more to do. As a volunteer for the National Park Service and a longtime member of Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and Friends of the Riverfront, I have always been a strong advocate for clean air and clean water, and you can expect nothing less from me as your Congressman. I do believe we can have vibrant industry and a clean environment -it's not an either/or choice.

**Q:** How do you view the role of the US in responding

the greatest foreign threat facing America. We need leaders willing to stand up to the Chinese Communist Party, end our dependence on China, and bring home the manufacturing of essential products. We need to stop taking a short-term view of China and develop a long-term strategy.

#### **Jason Killmeyer**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny **Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

**Kathy Coder** 

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny Occupation: Leadership Con-

sultant Education: MS Organizational Leadership, BS Business, BA

**KATHY CODER** 

**Qualifications:** National and International experience devel-

oping leaders in all sectors. 10 years of local government getting results. The only candidate with roots in every part of the district.

Campaign Website: coderforcongress.com Facebook: facebook.com/CoderforCongress Questions

Candidate has not yet responded.

### **PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATE DISTRICT 38**

#### **TERM:** 4 years

SALARY: \$95,432

Description: Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The PA Senate consists of 50 members, representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. Senators must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The Senate develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the House of Representatives). In addition, the Senate tries officials impeached by the House and authorizes executive appointments. Senators serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation. There are no term limits to this

### DEMOCRATIC

**Lindsey Williams** 

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: Occupation:** Incumbent State Senator County: Allegheny

Education: Dickinson College, BA; Duquesne University, JD Campaign Website: lindseyforpa.com



LINDSEY WILLIAMS

**VOTERS GUIDE 2022** 



**JEREMY SHAFFER** Communications Facebook: facebook.com/lindseyforpa Twitter: twitter.com/lindseyforpa

#### **Questions:**

Candidate has not yet responded

### REPUBLICAN

#### Lori Mizgorski

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny

#### **Questions:**

Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Jake Roberts**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: Occupation:** Attorney County: Allegheny Education: J.D., University of Pittsburgh School of Law Qualifications: Chief Public Defender - Clarion County, PA Campaign Website: WWW. jakerobertspa.com

**JAKE ROBERTS** Facebook: www.facebook.com/

JakeRobertsPA Twitter: twitter.com/J\_RobertsWVRoss

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: I would move to eliminate any Covid-19 vaccine mandates in PA by employers or schools.

I would ban any teaching/discussion/curriculum in PA schools about a person's sexual orientation or gender identity.

Expand gunowner rights by making PA a Constitutional Carry state (voted "NO" by Lori Mizgorski). Open up PA's pipelines to maximize oil and gas production AND exports; and move to pull back our gas tax, while making electric vehicle owners pay their fair share of taxes.

Take any teaching or discussion of anything associated with Critical Race Theory "CRT" out of PA's schools. Keep biological males out of women's sports and bathrooms. Pass legislation that severely restricts access to abortion in PA. Repeal Act 77 and mandate Voter ID

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: Act 77 needs to go. We can not have secure and safe elections that Pennsylvanians trust for as long as we have no-excuse mail in voting and ballot drop boxes.

Instead, absentee ballot voting should be reserved for only the most unique situations, such as for service members who are overseas, but most all other Pennsylvanians need to vote in person AND show valid photo ID to cast a vote.

We also need to make sure that the votes that are cast are being tabulated and documented correctly. I support a full and detailed forensic audit of the 2020 General Election, and a deep investigation into the Dominion voting machines. If deemed necessary, I would support a return to complete paper ballots without electronic voting.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions

would you take to protect these rights?

A: Corporations and individuals cannot be permitted to pollute our water systems and air without punishment.

However, I do believe that the "climate change" lobby has grossly exaggerated the risks associated with greenhouse gases and burning of fossil fuels, all while overselling the benefits and practicality of so-called "green energy."

Ultimately, it is our oil and gas resources in PA that provide the greatest opportunities to prosper economically as a state, and we must capitalize on those resources, or run the risk of a dire economic future.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures

A: The 2nd Amendment guarantees every US citizen's right to protect themselves against a tyrannical, authoritarian government. To allow the government to create countless hurdles and red tape before allowing a person to exercise his/her constitutional rights is a violation of one of our nation's most sacred fundamental principles.

I am strongly opposed to expanding background checks, implementing red flag laws, or mandating firearm trainings. Instead, I would expand gunowner rights by making PA a Constitutional Carry state, free from unnecessary licensing requirements.

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATE DISTRICT 42**

#### **TERM:** 4 years

### **SALARY:** \$95,432

**Description:** Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The PA Senate consists of 50 members, representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. Senators must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The Senate develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the House of Representatives). In addition, the Senate tries officials impeached by the House and authorizes executive appointments. Senators serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation. There are no term limits to this office.

### DEMOCRATIC

#### Wayne D. Fontana

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: Occupation:** Realtor County: Allegheny **Education:** Associate Degree in Business from Community College of Allegheny County Qualifications: State Senator, 2005-present; Senate Democratic Caucus Leadership, 2011-pres-



WAYNE D. FONTANA

ent, Allegheny County Council, 2000-2005; Council Vice-President, 2004-2005; PHEAA Board Member, 2008-present; PHEAA Vice-Chairman, 2011-present; Sports & Exhibition Authority of Pittsburgh & Allegheny County, 2006-present;

#### Questions:

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Gun violence continues to plague our communities. One solution that has worked in other states is enacting extreme risk protection order legislation like my Senate Bill 134. ERPOs authorize a procedure for loved ones and/or law enforcement to protect persons who are a threat to themselves or to others by temporarily removing their access to firearms. The public is on our side on this issue. "Red flag" laws enjoy broad support across the ideological spectrum. I will continue to work with advocates like Cease-FirePA to put pressure on legislative leaders to allow a vote on my SB 134.

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I have been a long-time advocate for mail-in ballots. My SB 128 would conduct our elections by mail. Eight other states conduct their elections primarily by mail, including Colorado that has been voting by mail for over 20 years. Voting by mail is safe, secure, convenient, cost efficient for counties, and popular across party lines.

I would change is to give counties the ability to pre-canvass ballots they've received prior to Election Day. Because county election offices cannot begin counting mail-in ballots until the polls have closed, this often leads to the final tally being delayed several days. PA is the outlier nationally in this respect. My Senate Bill 128 would give counties the ability to pre-canvass 7 days prior to Election Day.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: Smart investment in electric vehicle infrastructure by the commonwealth will fuel consumers' transition from internal combustion engines--about 40% of our greenhouse gas emission. It is also important that Pennsylvania ensures that our public transportation systems are adequately funded, as buses and commuter rail removes millions of trips in low-occupancy vehicles from our roads.

And as chairman of the Sports and Exhibition Authority, I was pleased to advocate for solar panels to be installed at Heinz Field in Pittsburgh and for PPG Paints Arena to be the first facility in the league to be certified LEED Gold

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

**A:** We must take action to combat the gun violence in our communities. No other country suffers from gun violence as much as we do.

As I stated earlier, my SB 134 is the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act. This would put a process into place for family members or law enforcement to petition a court to temporarily remove firearms from an individual who is threatening to harm themselves or others. ERPO is modeled after Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Protection Orders and provides for due process and standards for evidence. This concept enjoys support across the political spectrum and among gun owners and suicide prevention advocates.

Campaign Website: votefontana.com

# **PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 19**

#### TERM: 2 years

**SALARY:** \$95,432

Description: Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The PA House of Representatives consists of 203 members representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. Representatives must be at least 21 years old, have been a citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The House develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the Senate). The House also has the exclusive authority to impeach public officials. Representatives also serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation.

# DEMOCRATIC

**Glenn G. Grayson** 

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded

#### **Aerion Andrew Abney**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny **Occupation:** Voting Rights/Social Work **Education:** Masters Social Work - University of Pittsburgh Campaign Website: voteaerionabney.com/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/ AerionAndrewAbney/ Twitter: twitter.com/TripleA2

# **Questions:**

**Q**: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Anti displacement strategies that are part of our planning, programming, and policies. Working with PHFA and City Housing Authority to provide resources to increase affordable housing in the district.

Quality education that isn't determined by a students' zip code. Simplifying the funding formula and provide a more equitable funding distribution model for our schools.

Creating more access to quality job opportunities that pay a living wage.

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I would push for automatic voter registration, same day registration, increased pay for poll workers, pre-canvassing and more.

ABNEY

While the State makes laws about our election process, elections are run at the County level. However, the State doesn't provide adequate funding to Counties to consistently do things like early voting sites or to purchase drop boxes or to pay for mail ballot postage.

We need to provide Counties with the resources needed to expand access to the ballot for our electorate

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: I would vote to increase funding to the Department of Environmental Protection which has been underfunded for years. They have an important role to play in regulating and penalizing bad actors that abuse our environment.

Additionally, I would push to improve our issue with storm water runoff. This not only leads to major flooding in the region but it also overwhelms our sewer systems causing rain water and waste to mix and get pushed into our rivers.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is vour position on these measures?

A: I support any measure that seeks to keep firearms out of the hands of people who want to cause others harm. Additionally, I support gun buy back programs and safety trainings.

# PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE **DISTRICT 20**

Description: Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The PA House of Representatives consists of 203 members representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. Representatives must be at least 21 years old, have been a citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The House develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the Senate). The House also has the exclusive authority to impeach public officials. Representatives also serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation.

### DEMOCRATIC

#### Nick Mastros

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law? A: Candidate has not yet responded

#### **Emily Kinkead**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny

Occupation: State Legislator / Attorney

Education: Bloomsburg University of PA; Bloomsburg, PA; B.A. Political Science, B.S. Biology | University of Pittsburgh School of Law; Pittsburgh, PA; Juris Doctor Campaign Website: emily4pa20.

com Facebook: facebook.com/emily-

4pa20 Twitter: twitter.com/emily4pa20

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

**A:** My priorities are and will continue to be criminal justice reform, ending gun violence, and growing the economy. I supported community bail funds when the GOP tried to eviscerate them. This is both a racial justice and income inequality issue. I have pushed back against permitless concealed carry and preemption of local common sense gun laws. I have brought back more than \$16 million to my district and I will continue work toward passing legislation that addresses these issues. I have developed a bipartisan reputation as someone who is thoughtful, a competent legislator, and works hard. I will continue to push my bill HB 1054, which would establish an insurance and low-cost grants program for homeowners who have been impacted by landslides.

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I am a co-sponsor of the K Leroy Irvis Voting Rights Protection Act. Beyond that, I have been raising the alarm about the numerous attacks on our democracy for the year that I have been in office. See my full remarks about the Republican attacks on our democracy from my December 2021 press conference here: https:// www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7yEAGPTFfA I will continue this fight for as long as it takes, on as many fronts as it takes, to ensure that we have free and fair access to our elections by every qualified voter.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: I voted twice to protect Governor Wolf's right to enter Pennsylvania into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). I have worked to secure funding to replace lead water service lines across my district and will continue to do so. I have also worked with local advocacy groups to address air quality issues in Allegheny County. I will also advocate for finally fully funding the Department of Environmental Protection so that it can finally have adequate staff to protect our natural resources and hold polluters accountable. I will also advocate for harsher penalties so that fines for polluting can no longer be considered the cost of doing business. Q: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I support those measures. The major uptick in gun violence we have seen since the beginning of the pandemic speaks to the incredible economic uncertainty faced by many people and the lack of investment that many kids are getting in their education. I have spent my time in office educating constituents about the programs available to support those affected by gun violence, including securing considerable grant dollars to support and expand these programs. I will continue to put this issue at the forefront of my work in the legislature.



**AERION ANDREW** 

**EMILY KINKEAD** 

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 21

#### TERM: 2 years

SALARY: \$90,300

Description: Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The PA House of Representatives consists of 203 members representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. Representatives must be at least 21 vears old, have been a citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The House develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the Senate). The House also has the exclusive authority to impeach public officials. Representatives also serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation.

### DEMOCRATIC

#### Sara Innamorato

Party: Dem Biographical Info: County: Allegheny Occupation: State Legislator Education: University of Pittsburgh, 2008 Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Qualifications: I've been a proud Lawrenceville resident for thirteen years, and actively work to coordinate with local commu-



nity organizations on social services and affordable housing solutions. I devoted my career to nonprofit work in community development, job creation, and environmental justice.

Campaign Website: saraforpa.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/SaraForPA Twitter: www.facebook.com/SaraForPA Other websites: www.instagram.com/innamo/

#### **Questions:**

**Q**: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

**A:** I stand with our neighbors in fighting for affordable housing, worker's rights, guaranteeing access to affordable healthcare and reproductive rights, clean air and water, raising the minimum wage, and making smart investments in our infrastructure.

Given the current composition of the statehouse, pushing transformational legislation that is needed to achieve a Pennsylvania for us all is highly unlikely. Still, I work with impacted community members, policy experts, and my colleagues to proactively draft legislation that residents can organize around. The only way to work toward these agenda items is to stand firm and work to build grassroots movements to include the government toward these goals.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

**A:** In 2019, I introduced a bill that would raise the number of residents registered to vote in Pennsylvania. The You're Registered bill enables automatic

voter registration when qualified citizens interact with state services. Additionally, I have supported and co-sponsored a package of bills that would boost statewide voter turnout and voter protections. Bills promoting voting rights and transparency are key to making it easier and safer for citizens to exercise their right to vote. I strongly believe in same-day registration for citizens and making no-excuse absentee voting a permanent part of the process.

**Q:** Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: We need to fully fund the Department of Environmental Protection's operations and maintain oversight to ensure that funding is going toward investigations, testing, and enforcement. We need to raise fines for violating clean air and clean water regulations. The current fines are not much of a hindrance for the largest polluters. We need to require fracking companies to disclose the chemicals they use in fracking fluids and vigorously prosecute companies who dump wastewater into our waterways.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I support strengthening background checks, closing existing loopholes, and also reinstating laws that promote responsible gun ownership. I would work to reinstate laws intended to target irresponsible gun owners and straw purchases by holding gun owners accountable for failing to report missing or stolen firearms that are later used in a crime. I would support closing the gaps in Pennsylvania that enable domestic abusers to access guns and support laws that would allow friends or family members to petition for extreme risk protective orders.

### REPUBLICAN

#### **Frank Perman**

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 23

TERM: 2 years

**SALARY:** \$90,300

### DEMOCRATIC

**Dan Frankel** 

Party: Dem Biographical Info: County: Allegheny Occupation: Legislator Education: The Pennington School (1974), Kenyon College (1978), and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government's Senior Executives in State and Local Government program (2000)

**Qualifications:** Representative of Pennsylvania's 23rd Legislative District for 23 years, Democratic Chair of the House Health Committee, and



/

**DAN FRANKEL Term:** 2 years

Co-Chair of PA SAFE Caucus and LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus.

Campaign Website: electdanfrankel.com

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

**A:** Equality, the environment, firearm policy reform, government reform, and reproductive rights will be my priorities in my next term. I have been fighting for these progressive values for two decades and have worked to build coalitions of lawmakers to advocate with me. For example, I founded the Women's Health Caucus and the LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus. These caucuses have become passionate groups of leaders fighting for policies there were often disregarded just 20 years ago.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: Everyone should be able to vote easily, whether they have a disability, are incarcerated, have an unstable address, or have an inflexible work schedule. Therefore, I support expanding access to ballot drop boxes, sameday registration, and guaranteeing the ability to vote early.

In addition, updating Pennsylvania's voting laws shouldn't stop at improving voting access. It's time we let our election officials canvass mail-in and absentee ballots before Election Day, allowing for a faster and more accurate ballot count.

**Q:** Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: Relying on oil, coal, and natural gas for Pennsylvania's energy needs is an unsustainable path for our people and planet. The role of the General Assembly should be to invest in green energy solutions while we effectively tax and regulate polluters. I always have and always will oppose giveaways and incentives that exclusively benefit the fossil fuel industry and will continue to work to close the Methane Loophole, which allows too many fracking wells to go unregulated in Pennsylvania. Lastly, I will continue to lead the fight in the PA House against the medical "gag rule" that prevents doctors from speaking with their patients about the chemicals in fracking and its potential impact on their health. Q: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

**A:** As co-chair of the PA Safe Caucus, I have fought for two decades to pass common-sense gun regulations. I support legislation for comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and mandatory firearm safety training for gun owners. Any rational person can see that deadly weapons should be regulated at least as much as, say, swimming pools or lawnmowers.

In the face of the Republican-led legislature's refusal to take up meaningful reform measures, I introduced two bills to allow municipal and county governments to create local laws that reflect residents' desire to have reasonable limits on gun use and ownership. I also drafted legislation to require prospective gun purchasers to obtain liability insurance first.



Salary: \$90,300

# DEMOCRATIC

#### **Brandon J. Markosek**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

**Questions:** 

Candidate has not yet responded.

#### REPUBLICAN

**Steve Schlauch** 

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

#### **Questions:**

Candidate has not yet responded.

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 24**

**TERM:** 2 years

SALARY: \$90,300

### DEMOCRATIC

#### **Martell Covington**

#### Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny Occupation: Legislative Aide

Minority Leader, Sen. Jay Costa Education: Howard University Campaign Website: www.martellforpa.com/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ Martell4PA

Twitter: twitter.com/martellforpa

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Public Health which focuses on maternal and infant health, making sure that mothers, particularly Black mothers are being supported to the fullest extent possible before, during and after birth and that their babies are given all the care available to protect their lives.

Community Investment: increased minimum wage in PA, increase support to small

businesses and entrepreneurs. A deliberate focus on affordable housing.

Education & Equity: encourage collaboration with and between education stakeholders, advocate for increased support for socio-economic and disability focused education and out of school time. Environmental: push for infrastructural audits to ensure that our city will remain safe through varied weather conditions in our city

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: House Bill 2090, known as the K. Leroy Irvis Voting Rights Protection Act, sponsored by House Leader McClinton, would make voting easier by providing more ballot drop locations, permitting same day registration and continuing to allow for early voting.

investment in direct action. I also believe that the

dollar amount of fines, spills and leaks should be

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being

considered on comprehensive background checks,

red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is

A: I support all of these measures. I believe that

each of these measures is necessary. We have a duty

to protect our communities especially after the in-

crease in gun violence over the past 3 years. Firearm safety training is essential and it should be ac-

cessible and a measure of accountability to all that

own guns or are considering gun ownership. I am in

support of Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO)

La'Tasha D. Mayes

the first day I am able to.

greatly increased.

create, and push legislation that

your position on these measures?

would you take to protect these rights?

These are all things that have been adopted in other legislation passed and signed into law?

states. I plan to sign on as a cosponsor to this bill on A: My campaign platform is healthcare access + reproductive justice, COVID-19 relief + recov-As representative-elect I will advocate and fight every, community safety, environmental justice and voting rights. I would also prioritize equiery day against the unrelenting attacks on voting table public education and raising the minimum rights we see happening at every turn in Harrisburg. I will take an active approach to this by collabwage and opportunities for workers to unionize. orating with colleagues and stakeholders to pursue, The legislation I would champion would be rooted in the intersectional values of racial, gender Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarand economic justice. I have worked with my colleagues in the State House of Representatives antees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the for over a decade winning legislative and policy preservation of the environment. What actions change and I would continue building those relationships as well as with non-elected policymak-A: First, we have to make sure that all lead lines are ers informed by advocacy organizations and combeing replaced in homes, schools and public serving munity organizers who work directly with those facilities. The commonwealth also needs to work to first and most impacted by proposed legislation. expand knowledge around the dangers of radon and Q: What changes, if any, would you support makthe importance of radon testing. It is about investing to Pennsylvania's voting laws? ing in education that builds mobilization, as well as

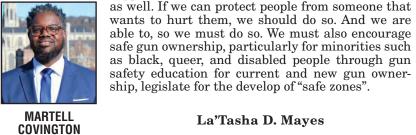
A: I have organized for voting rights focused on building the voting power of Black women since 2004. I led the creation of the New Voices Voice Your Vote! Project in 2009 in collaboration with the PA Center for Women in Politics. For the past eight (8) years, VYV! has outreached millions of times to voters across Pennsylvania turning out 80% of the voters we engage. From my direct experience with voting laws, I would maintain vote by mail, early voting centers, dropboxes that made it easier for Pennsylvanians to vote in 2020 and I would support pre-registration for youth and same-day voter registration. I would advance legislation to combat voter suppression, increase penalties for voter intimidation and increase election worker pay rates.

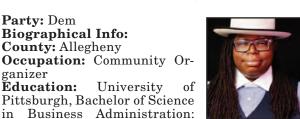
Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: If you ask Alexa about the weather, she will talk about air quality alerts before telling you the forecast for the day. Pittsburgh is one of the worst metro regions in the nation for poor air quality with high levels of particulate matter that impact the health of largely Black and poor communities. Pollution from toxic waste, trash and sewage overflow, privatization of our water and increasing water rates impact all Pennsylvanians. Our natural environments which are public spaces should be enjoyed by all. I would support legislation to ban fracking statewide, transition to renewable energy, support just transition for workers, emissions from public transit and to provide incentives for higher education and employment in the green economy.

Q: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: Gun violence is impacting our cities from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia and this public health crisis is driven by access to guns within the compounding effects of abject poverty, unaddressed trauma, social inequality and under-funded services. I support comprehensive background checks for all firearms. Pennsylvania currently has not passed SB 88 and HB 235 leaving a critical loophole not requiring a background check for military-style assault rifles. Pennsylvania also has not passed red flag or extreme risk laws which saves lives by temporarily reducing access to firearms that could reduce domestic violence, suicide and mass shooting deaths. I support a requirement for gun owners to have gun safety training and to safely store their firearms.





LA'TASHA D. MAYES

of Science in Policy and Management (2005); University of

Pennsylvania, Executive Program for Social Impact Strategy (2019)

Qualifications: Founder, President & CEO, New Voices for Reproductive Justice (2004-2022): Commissioner, Governor's Advisory Commission on African American Affairs (2016-2021); Board of Directors, Groundswell Fund (2016-2019); Candidate, Pittsburgh City Council - District 7 (2015)

Campaign Website: www.latashaforpa.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/latashaforpa Twitter: twitter.com/latashaforpa Other websites: instagram.com/latashaforpa

#### **Questions:**

Party: Dem

**Education**:

ganizer

**Biographical Info:** 

**County:** Allegheny

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get

Marketing, Political Science, Women's Studies (2003); Carnegie Mellon University, Master

University

#### **Randall Taylor**

Party: Dem Biographical Info: County: Allegheny Occupation: Organizer Education: University of Pittsburgh B.A. Urban Studies, B.A. History Qualifications: 12 years on Pittsburgh Board of Education Campaign Website: www.facebook.com/RandallTaylorForStateRepresentative

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RandallTaylor-ForStateRepresentative Twitter: twitter.com/RandallforPA24

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Those of us who wish to live in cities, do so because we are attracted to the diversity and vibrancy of city life. If we are to maintain that diversity we must address our current lack of affordable housing units in the City of Pittsburgh. We need housing policies and strategies that ensure that all our people can afford to rent or buy homes in this City, if they desire. To remain a vibrant city also need a living wage, supported by strong unions, to be able to pay for housing and live in dignity. A diverse and vibrant Pittsburgh must be a welcoming place for all our citizens, regardless of age, race, gender, or orientation. We start with respect and communication. Disagreement is not the end of discussions, but a way to build common ground.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: The Vote should be considered sacred in our democracy. In order to protect it we must make registration and voting easy and accessible. We can do this through: (1) Legislating against any and all voter suppression, and prosecuting any and all voter intimidation tactics and activities. (2) Making Election Day an holiday or movie to Saturday. (3) Allow for no excuse mail-in voting. (4) Expand secure ballot drop boxes. (5) Portable registration, which means voters stay registered when they move within the State. (6) Allow for early voting.

**Q:** Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: We must acknowledge climate change is real and has begun. We can not selfishly pass the enormous costs of warming the planet to future generations. It is our actions in 2022 that will determine the fate of generations yet to be born. We must immediately begin wean ourselves off of fossil fuels. We must immediately begin serious investments in renewable energy, which includes training a new green energy workforce. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should support a policy that all new housing and buildings construction must incorporate renewable energy.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

**A:** We must first allow cities and counties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania home rule in determining our gun laws. Pittsburgh and Philadelphia should not be governed by the same gun laws as Elk and Potter Counties. I support universal

background checks for gun purchases. I support the banning of automatic weapons on our city streets. I oppose no excuse concealed carry policies. I support red flag laws. And we should be aggressively organizing gun buy back events.

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 27

TERM: 2 years

DEMOCRATIC

**Daniel J. Deasy** 

Party: Dem Biographical Info: County: Allegheny

**Questions:** No Response

### REPUBLICAN

**Tim Walker** 

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Allegheny

**Questions:** 

Candidate has not yet responded.

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 28

**TERM:** 2 years

**SALARY:** \$90,300

SALARY: \$90,300

### REPUBLICAN

**Rob Mercuri** 

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

### DEMOCRATIC

#### **Arvind Venkat**

Party: Dem

**Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny **Occupation:** Physician **Education:** A.B. and A.M., Harvard University, 1996, M.D., Yale University, 2000

Qualifications: Attending Physician and Core Faculty, Department of Emergency Medicine, and System Chair of Clinical

Ethics, Allegheny Health Network, and Professor of Emergency Medicine, Drexel University College of Medicine

Campaign Website: www.VenkatforPA.com

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/VenkatforPA **Twitter:** twitter.com/VenkatforPA **Other websites:** @VenkatforPA

#### **Questions:**

 $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}$ : What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: First, we need to make healthcare more affordable and accessible by reducing patient costs, increasing Medicaid resources to allow aging at home, and developing programs to incentivize nurses and other health care professionals to remain in the acute care settings—ERs, hospitals -that we all depend upon. Second, the infrastructure in my district-roads, sewer systems, bridges, among others-have not kept up with population growth. I will fight to bring resources from the recent infrastructure bill to my district. Finally, the pandemic showed how we have under-resourced our vital public services—schools, police, EMS, and fire. I will work to increase resources for these services so they can be there for all of us in our time of need.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: We should make voting easy and secure as democracy works best when all voters participate. I am in favor of enacting same day voter registration, pre-registering 16-17 year-olds so that they are on voter rolls at age 18, and preserving no-excuse mail-in voting that worked well in recent elections. I also believe we should enact in-person voting days prior to election day to maximize participation in our electoral process and allow pre-processing of mail-in ballots by county election offices to allow efficient and rapid reporting of results.

**Q:** Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: I believe we must preserve and advance our environmental quality as it is fundamental to public health. If elected, I would be the only physician in the General Assembly and will bring that perspective to this issue. I would emphasize looking at the scientific and medical data for assessing the need for environmental interventions while recognizing that all regulations and government actions have a cost - intended and unintended. My hope is that my healthcare and scientific background will help finding the right balance in meeting the constitutional mandate to ensure clean air, pure water, and a preserved high-quality environment for the residents of the 30th District and all Pennsylvanians.

 $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}$ : There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I look at gun legislation through the lens of public health of preventing gun violence, not prohibiting gun ownership - which does have a constitutional basis. I believe there is an individual right to own a gun under the Second Amendment. No right, however, is absolute—one cannot scream 'fire' in a theatre, for example. I am therefore in favor of legislation that would mandate background checks, red flag laws with rigorous due process protections, and robust firearm safety training. None of these would prevent law-abiding citizens from owning guns while also mitigating intentional and accidental gun violence.



**ARVIND VENKAT** 





# REPUBLICAN

#### **Cindy Kirk**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### **Tom Fodi**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 32**

TERM: 2 years

SALARY: \$90,300

**SALARY:** \$90,300

TRISTAN

MCCLELLAND

### DEMOCRATIC

**Tony Deluca** 

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

**Questions:** 

Candidate has not yet responded.

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 33**

TERM: 2 years

# DEMOCRATIC

**Tristan McClelland** 

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny **Occupation:** City Council Aide Education: University of Pittsburgh Campaign Website: TristanMc-Clelland.com

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: My top issue is jobs and economy. Too many Pennsylvanians live paycheck to paycheck and don't have adequate access to services like healthcare. As a State Representative, I want to work toward investments in infrastructure that promote the growth of small businesses. I want to protect the high-wage, union jobs we have in our community. Importantly, I

**VOTERS GUIDE 2022** 

want to make sure every worker has a right to organize and collectively bargain for their own empowerment. I will pursue legislation at the state level that makes organizing and forming a union easier and I will vehemently oppose policies like right to work for less and paycheck deception which weaken unions and allow companies to pay workers less.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: Democracy must be available to everyone and democracy only works when everyone participates. In order to accomplish this, the first major issue we must address is poll staffing. Especially in poor and rural communities, there is often one election worker running a polling place. The state needs to direct funding and training toward new election staff that help process voters at polling places faster, thereby reducing waiting times and lines at polling places. Additionally, I believe election day should be a holiday so that working people don't have to make the choice between missing a day's pay or participating in democracy. Once we achieve these, I think we can pursue more expansionary voting policies, like same-day registration.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: The 33rd District encompasses communities which are deeply impacted by environmental degradation. Two sources of the environmental problems we face are the Parks Township nuclear waste site and the Plum injection site. In the Parks Township site, over 4,000 tons of fissile U-235 waste pollutes our air with radiation and seeps waste into our water supply. More, the cleanup effort of the site has stalled and may not be complete for decades. Additionally, the Plum injection site, which violates DEP regulations, threatens to spill fracking waste-water and toxic chemicals into our rivers and drinking supply. Local issues like these are the most environmental issues we face. As a State Representative, I will fight to address them.

**Q**: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures

A: Universal background checks are a sensible and proven reform we can implement to minimize gun-related violence and protect our communities. Every law-abiding American has a right to own a firearm and every American has just as much a right to feel safe and be free from gun violence. As a gun-owner and avid hunter, I believe we should have universal background checks and red flag laws. Firearm safety training should be free and available to everyone in our Commonwealth. We can strike a sensible balance between preserving the rights of gun owners and keeping our communities safe and I believe that balance can be achieved with universal background checks.

#### **Mandy Steele**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny Occupation: Nonprofit Management Education: University of Pittsburgh - B.A. in Anthropology Qualifications: Fox Chapel Borough Councilperson Website: Campaign WWW.



MANDY STEELE

steeleforpa.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/SteeleforPA

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Pennsylvania has a massive opportunity ahead of it with the infrastructure money that will be pumped into our state. I'm running because we need a representative in Harrisburg who has the experience and work ethic it will take to drive money and investment to our communities. We can rebuild our once vibrant economy through union clean energy jobs and green infrastructure projects. Putting working families at the center of this transition is essential to success. There is tremendous opportunity right now to make environmental and economic gains. This is our chance and I am ready to get it done.

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I will support automatic voter registration or pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds and same day registrations, dropping Pennsylvania's current registration deadlines. I will support expanded early voting opportunities and adamantly oppose any forms of voter suppression, such as voter ID requirements, when any such efforts are brought forth.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: This is an important topic that lies at the heart of my work as an elected official and community organizer. In 2020, I led my community to be the first in the state to ban application of a tier 1A human carcinogen and component of our air and water pollution using Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution. I went on to lead 20 other SWPA communities to take similar action, yielding significant potential improvements in the quality of our air and water. I believe many protections for our communities can be achieved at both the local and state level when we use the PA constitution. I will continue to pursue this course of action and ensure this vital constitutional right is preserved.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: Gun ownership is a right of every American. Hunters are an important part of a healthy ecosystem. I am raising my own children to connect to our natural systems through hunting and fishing. I will advocate for responsible gun owners-supporting sensible gun safety laws like background checks, red flag laws, wait periods, and firearm safety training.

### REPUBLICAN

#### **Ted Tomson**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny **Occupation:** Self Employed Education: Master of Science in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University, Bachelor of Science in Finance from Penn State University Qualifications: 20+ years of management experience in the

private sector. Academic study of public policy.



**TED TOMSON** 

Campaign Website: www.tedforpa.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/tedforpa

#### **Questions:**

**Q:** What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Economy—We need to have our commercial centers thrive again. By rebuilding infrastructure through government and private industry improvements that support high paying jobs and assist small businesses, we can restore the economic benefits and influence our district once enjoyed.

First Responders—A solution to having a strong and thriving community, is by supporting those that protect and serve that community. It is imperative that our police, fire rescue, and EMS have the resources to do their jobs.

Opioid Crisis—The opioid crisis is still affecting many families. A lot of politicians seemed to have moved on from this issue, but it is still present and it is still wreaking havoc on all of us.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: Act 77, from my understanding, is in violation of the PA Constitution, so that would have to be repealed and the Constitution amended first. That being said, I do like how ACT 77 eliminated someone from choosing one box to vote for everyone from one party. Moving forward, I support the maintaining of the integrity of the election process and that we need to discuss appropriate and fair ways that we can uphold a standard where everyone feels confident in its results. Losing faith in our election process is one of the biggest detriments democracy could suffer.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: Pennsylvania is rich with natural resources. The ability to realize the huge potential gains from extracting them can lead to economic and social development in many of our disenfranchised communities. That being said, I feel that with a good working communicative relationship between government and the oil and gas industry, we won't compromise Article 1, Section 27 of the PA Constitution. In fact, I believe with a good working relationship, we can do more to protect those rights, than when government and industry are adversarial.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: Comprehensive background checks can help protect our citizens without jeopardizing anybody's right to own a gun.

A problem with red flag laws is that the burden of proof is generally low. This sets up a lot of instances of abuse that can unjustly affect law abiding citizens

I don't feel firearm safety training should be a requirement to own a gun. I do, however, feel that PA should vigorously promote firearm safety training so that those with less exposure to firearms have the opportunity to learn handling, storage, and cleaning safety.

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 34**

**TERM:** 2 years

**SALARY:** \$90,300

DEMOCRATIC

#### **Abigail Salisbury**

Party: Dem

**Biographical Info:** 

County: Allegheny

**Occupation:** Attorney

Education: MPPM, University of Pittsburgh; JD, Questions: University of Pittsburgh; BA, Case Western Reserve University

Qualifications: Attorney, 5 years as Swissvale Borough Council member, 2 years as Council President, small business owner

Campaign Website: www.salisburvforpa.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/SalisburyforPA Twitter: twitter.com/SalisburyforPA

#### **Questions:**

**Q**: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: I would prioritize rebuilding our district's infrastructure. We have had multiple collapses and landslides in recent years, and while no lives have been lost, we will not always be so lucky. Our combined sewer systems have likewise gone without appropriate maintenance, allowing sewage to be dumped into our waterways. I would work with others by emphasizing shared priorities rather than differences. As a lawyer, it is my job to listen to my clients and advocate for their interests, often having to work toward a settlement/compromise. I view representative government much the same way.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I would like to ensure the ongoing viability of mail-in ballots and maintain/improve ease of voting for all.

**Q**: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: I would encourage adoption of fuel sources other than fossil fuels, encourage/facilitate composting programs in the district, and explore alternatives to the currently ineffective plastics recycling program. **Q**: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I am very concerned that we prohibit concealed carry permit owners from using medical marijuana, but allow all the opioids one can get prescribed.

#### **Summer Lee**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny

Questions:

Candidate has not yet responded.

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 35**

**TERM:** 2 years

**SALARY:** \$90,300

# DEMOCRATIC

#### **Austin Davis**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

Candidate has not yet responded.

### REPUBLICAN

**Don Nevills** 

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny

#### **Questions:**

Candidate has not yet responded.

### **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 36**

#### TERM: 2 years

#### SALARY: \$90,300

# DEMOCRATIC

Jessica Benham

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** 

**County:** Allegheny Occupation: State Representa-

tive

Education: University of Pittsburgh

Qualifications: Previously Director of Development at the Pittsburgh Center for Autistic Advocacy. Currently serves on the House Health. Human Ser-

vices, and Aging Committees

Campaign Website: www.benhamforpa.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/benhamforpa Twitter: twitter.com/jessicalbenham

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: I would prioritize decreasing cost of living, and increasing access to healthcare, funding for public education, and community safety. As a member of the minority party, I have to work across the aisle as no bills authored by House Democrats have been enacted in the current session. I have been able to get my ideas into legislation by introducing amendments to Republican bills and by providing suggestions to Republican legislators on ideas to include in their bills. If Democrats take the majority, passing legislation will become easier for members of my party, though working together to create good legislation that addresses issues facing Pennsylvanians across the state will always be necessary.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I will continue to fight for election day voter registration, automatic voter registration, and more opportunities for early voting. When it comes to other democracy reforms, I support a ban on gifts to elected officials, limits on contributions to political can-



didates, and full disclosure of all spending meant to influence the outcome of elections. I support a redistricting commission to draw fair lines for Congressional, State House, and State Senate districts.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: In Harrisburg, I have stood up to protect the Department of Environmental Protection from attacks that would have weakened its ability to enforce environmental regulations. I believe the state needs to pass laws to address stormwater management. fossil fuel pollution, and corporate disregard for our environment. We can address environmental pollution while also investing in family-sustaining, union iobs

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I support commonsense gun legislation, including comprehensive background checks, extreme risk protection orders, firearm safety training, and safe storage laws.

#### **Stephanie Fox**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

> **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 38**

**TERM:** 2 years

# **SALARY:** \$90,300

### DEMOCRATIC

#### **Nick Pisciottano**

Party: Dem **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 39**

**TERM:** 2 years

SALARY: \$90,300

# REPUBLICAN

**Mike Puskaric** 

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded. Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

#### **Questions:**

**Q**: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law? A: Candidate has not yet responded

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 40**

TERM: 2 years

### REPUBLICAN

#### **Steve Renz**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info: County:** Pennsylvania Occupation: Account Manager Education: High School and Vo-Tech **Qualifications:** Life Experience Campaign Website: friendsof-

renz.com/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/ FriendsofRenz/

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Election Integrity: The only power "We the People" have in our government is our vote. It must be our most protected and defended right. Every time a fraudulent vote is cast, a legal voter is disenfranchised. Every legal citizen has the right, even the responsibility to vote, but we must ensure that only legal votes are counted.

Medical Freedom: No one should lose their job for declining to take an experimental injection. I support HB2013 and would advocate for it.

**Q:** What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: No Excuse mail-in ballots are unconstitutional and highly susceptible to fraud. We must end mailin ballots, drop boxes, ballot harvesting, and require voter ID as Mexico does. We also need secure voter rolls and voting machines.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: We are already one of the cleanest developed countries in the world. China and India are producing more pollution right now than we will ever produce. We are reaching the point of diminishing returns. Joining an initiative like the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative would cause great harm to our economy and standard of living while doing very little to affect our environment. I love the outdoors and fishing in clear streams and we will continue to protect them, but we have to be realistic about our environmental policy.

**Q:** There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is



**Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny **Occupation:** Legislator Education: BA in History, BS in Secondary Education, JD Qualifications: Four years as Mt. Lebanon Commissioner, 5 terms as State Rep, Current Minority Caucus Chair, former Mt.



DAN MILLER

term in AmeriCorps, and former Allegheny County public defender and county solicitor Campaign Website: VoteDanMiller.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/VoteDanMiller/ Twitter: twitter.com/votedanmiller

#### **Questions:**

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: I spend a lot of time working on disability and mental health issues. By their nature they are nonpartisan, so I try to work across the aisle as much as possible to create more opportunity and to end stigma. I host a Disability & Mental Health Summit every year to raise awareness and provide information on resources and prospective bills. It is always a bipartisan event.

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws?

A: I think we need to prioritize the recommendations from county officials about how we can help them run a smoother election. Making it easier to administer, making it easier to register and vote, and providing greater state resources would be key. Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: One of the main things we can do is to actually fund our DEP. Unfortunately over the last two decades the DEP has been decimated by cuts and

your position on these measures? A: We already have comprehensive background checks, Red Flag laws seize property without due process, and you can get free gun safety training from any sportsman's club or NRA group. It is unconstitutional to put undue burdens on law-abiding citizens who are trying to exercise their rights under both the PA and Federal constitutions.

### **Natalie Mihalek**

Party: Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Washington

**Questions:** SALARY: \$90,300 Candidate has not yet responded.

# **PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 42**

**TERM:** 2 years

SALARY: \$90,300

# DEMOCRATIC

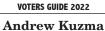
### **Dan Miller**

**STEVE RENZ** 

Party: Dem

Lebanon volunteer fire fighter, a





hampered by indifference. The DEP needs to be re-energized to fulfill its mission in a timely fashion. **Q**: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

**A:** I have voted for more expansive background checks and for a bipartisan red flag bill. I am always for safety training but I can't recall a bill in particular.

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 45

**VOTERS GUIDE 2022** 

TERM: 2 years

SALARY: \$90,300 TERM: 2 years

REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 46

SALARY: \$90,300

# DEMOCRATIC Anita Astorino Kulik

Party: Dem Biographical Info: County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

#### Joo Intern 2 years

REPUBLICAN

**Jason Ortitay** 

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE** 

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Washington

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 44

REPUBLICAN

**Valerie Gaydos** 

TERM: 2 years

**SALARY:** \$90,300

# REPUBLICAN

**Michael Pendel** 

Party: Rep Biographical Info: County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded. **Party:** Rep **Biographical Info:** County: Allegheny

**Questions:** Candidate has not yet responded.



Voters Guide Primary Election May 17, 2022

#### **NEW PITTSBURGH COURIER**