



State Senator **AMANDA CAPPELLETTI**

Serving the People



Spring 2023

OFFICES TO SERVE YOU

DISTRICT OFFICES
221 West Main Street
Norristown, PA 19401
(610) 768-4200

110 Ardmore Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003
(610) 896-2832

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Senate Box 203017
Harrisburg, PA 17117
(717) 787-5544

E-Mail
cappelletti@pasenate.com

WHAT YOU CAN FIND ON MY WEBSITE

PASenatorCappelletti.com

- Sign up for my e-newsletter for the latest updates from my office
- See grant opportunities for the district
- Request a citation
- Schedule a meeting with the Senator
- Check the "Videos" section for the latest activity

FOLLOW US ON

    @SenCappelletti

Dear Neighbor,

I'm excited to kick off another year serving as your State Senator. In Harrisburg, I'll be fighting for the things we all care about: making sure we have access to affordable, high-quality healthcare, raising the minimum wage, and ensuring more equitable funding for education. I also plan to introduce legislation that addresses rising housing costs, reduces senseless gun violence, and protects older or disabled tenants from being displaced from their homes. With changing dynamics in Harrisburg, I am hopeful that we will see real progress on the issues we all care so much about.

In the district, I plan to host my annual Kids Fair and Senior Fair, as well as other events throughout the year that constituents can attend to learn more about the services that my office provides and showcase other community services that are available.

Though you may have already heard, I'm excited to share some wonderful news! In early March, I made history as the first Pennsylvania State Senator to give birth while in office. My husband and I were thrilled to welcome a baby girl. While I take a few weeks off to care for my child, my staff is ready and available to assist you. I promise that while things might look a little different this Spring, my team and I are still fighting for this district and our shared values.

Sincerely,

State Senator, 17th Senatorial District

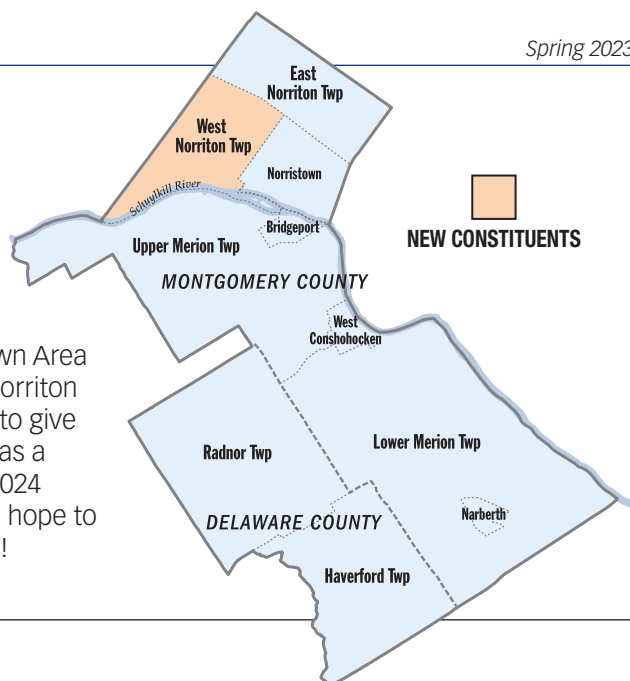
SERVICES WE PROVIDE

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| • SEPTA Senior Citizens Card Applications | • PACE/PACENET Applications |
| • Birth/Death Certificate Applications | • State Road Conditions Concerns |
| • Handicapped Plate and Placard Applications | • PennDOT Assistance |
| • Driver's License and Non-Driver Identification Applications | • Help with Unemployment |
| • Property Tax/Rent Rebate Applications | • Notary (state documents only) |
| | • State Agency Assistance |

INSIDE: Legislative Update | District Grants | Satellite Office Hours

■ Welcome to the New District 17!

On December 1, 2022, the 17th Senatorial district received a makeover. Following updated data from the 2020 Census, maps for the PA House and Senate were redrawn to reflect the growth in population. Under the new District 17, I said goodbye to Whitpain and Plymouth Townships, which were redrawn to the 12th Senatorial district under Senator Maria Collett's leadership. However, I welcomed West Norriton Township, which brought the entire Norristown Area School District under a single state Senate district. I welcomed West Norriton Township to the district by holding a town hall on Tuesday, February 7 to give new residents an overview of the services my office provides, as well as a legislative update on various policies I will be fighting for in the 2023-2024 legislative session. Your values and concerns are important to me, so I hope to hold more of these town halls in other parts of District 17 in the future!



GRANTS AWARDED to District Seventeen

Here's a look at the grants awarded in our area:

- **Norristown Hospitality Center: \$100,000** for the expansion of their case management services, community and street outreach programs, and basic facility resources.
- **Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania: \$250,000** to continue their mission of aiding underserved communities at their Norristown Health Center by providing healthcare services such as family planning and contraceptive services, as well as STI and cancer screenings.
- **The Salvation Army: \$100,000** to continue providing services that support families and individuals struggling financially in Norristown and the surrounding area.
- **Kaiserman Jewish Community Center: \$500,000** in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) funding for facility upgrades and renovations, such as roof repairs, gymnasium renovations, lighting upgrades, and preschool renovations.
- **Albert Einstein Healthcare Network: \$500,000** in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) funding to renovate the Braemer Medical Arts Building which will improve technology and level of care.



Senator Cappelletti presents a \$100,000 state grant to the dedicated staff of Norristown Hospitality Center.



Senator Cappelletti presents a \$250,000 state grant for Planned Parenthood Norristown Health Center with Dayle Steinberg, CEO of Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

What I'm Introducing This Session

This legislative session, I'm focused on introducing and supporting legislation that will increase access to affordable housing, will reduce senseless firearm violence, and will make the Commonwealth a better place for all Pennsylvanians.

■ Ending Firearm Violence

For the second legislative session in a row, the first set of policies I have introduced were safe storage laws. These laws are proven ways to reduce firearm violence and ensure our loved ones are safe when there are guns stored at home. This package is made up of two bills, the first bill would require gun owners to safely store firearms if a person who cannot legally possess a firearm lives in the owner's residence. The second bill would require gun owners to safely store firearms when not under direct control of the owner.

I also have signed on to support multiple proposals from my Democratic colleagues that aim to reduce gun violence in our Commonwealth:

- **Requiring the reporting of lost and stolen guns**
- **Universal Background Checks**
- **Extreme Risk Protection Orders**
- **Assault Weapons Ban**

These pieces of legislation are all proven policies to reduce gun violence that have worked in other states. We must pass them if we want to see a real difference in the impact that gun violence has on our loved ones.

■ Fighting For Our Environment

As always, I will be fighting for the environment. I'll be reintroducing three pieces of legislation that are geared at combatting climate change and creating more sustainable ways of living in the Commonwealth. I'll be reintroducing Go100PA: A framework to take Pennsylvania to 100% renewable energy. This bill would bring all stakeholders to the table, including labor, community members, the environmental justice community, employers, and more, to chart the path forward for Pennsylvania's renewable energy future.

I have also worked with Senator Tracy Pennycuik and Senator Steve Santarsiero to introduce bipartisan legislation that will aid counties in the proper disposal of hazardous household waste (HHW). Most Pennsylvanians do not have the ability to safely dispose of their household's hazardous waste, so they rely on their county to host free collection events. HHW includes unused household products that may explode, catch fire, or be generally harmful to the environment if not properly disposed. Our bipartisan legislation would increase the funding counties can access to provide these events to residents.

Lastly, I'll be reintroducing a comprehensive bill that would overhaul current law and establish an electronic waste recycling program for Pennsylvania counties. Through a collaborative, self-sustaining system comprised of the manufacturing, recycling and retail industries, as well as local government and the PA Department of Environmental Protection, my bill would allow all counties within the state to participate in an e-waste recycling collection program. Should this legislation be enacted into law, Pennsylvanians will be able to safely dispose of their old electronic devices without putting a dent in their wallets.

■ Housing Solutions

This session, I'm introducing two pieces of legislation that will help make housing more accessible and affordable. First, I'm reintroducing Protections for Older and Disabled Tenants. This legislation will allow a tenant who is older or disabled to break their lease without penalty when they are unable to safely remain in their home.

Second, I'm introducing Statewide Rental Rate Protections. This legislation that would enforce rental rate protection measures to help combat unfair and predatory rental increases. It is important to note that this legislation exempts small landlords with less than 15 units. With Pennsylvania's minimum wage remaining at \$7.25, and rapidly increasing rent prices, we must act to protect all tenants from predatory situations that could force them out of their homes and away from their families, places of work, education, and healthcare.



Senator Cappelletti chats with a reproductive rights advocate prior to a press conference on the Pennsylvania Capitol Steps.

■ Protecting the Right to Read

Reading is an activity that can pose many positive benefits, such as vocabulary expansion, expanding creative and critical thinking, and even stress reduction. Reading complex topics can help with honing these skills, but some lawmakers in Harrisburg strive to restrict or prevent students from reading complex pieces of literature altogether. Last session, we saw several pieces of legislation introduced to restrict or overall ban certain books from being accessed or even taught in schools. This legislative session is no different. Banning books that include topics on race, gender, or sexuality not only limits our younger generation's way of thinking, it also makes marginalized groups feel as if their history and existence doesn't matter. I will continue to fight for our children's right to read the books they want to read.



Senator Cappelletti attends the 100th Birthday of His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj, Spiritual Leader of B.A.P.S. in Harrisburg with State Rep. Steve Malagari.

■ School Funding

This February, Commonwealth Court Judge Renée Cohn Jubelirer ruled in William Penn School District et al. v. Pennsylvania Department of Education et al. that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed. This decision means that Pennsylvania can finally move towards a more equitable, fairer funding system to ensure that every student in Pennsylvania has the right resources they need to receive a quality education, no matter where in the Commonwealth they live. This budget season, I'll be continuing to advocate for a fair funding system that sets Pennsylvania up for success.



SATELLITE OFFICE HOURS

WAYNE SENIOR CENTER

108 Station Road
Wayne, PA 19087
1st Thursdays
11 AM - 1 PM

HAVERTOWN YMCA

891 North Eagle Road
Havertown, PA 19083
2nd Tuesdays
9 AM - 12:30 PM

RADNOR TOWNSHIP BUILDING

301 Iven Avenue
Wayne, PA 19087
2nd Tuesdays
1 PM - 4 PM

WEST CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH HALL

112 Ford Street
West Conshohocken, PA 19428
2nd Thursdays
9 AM - 12:30 PM

MONTCO SAAC

536 George Street
Norristown, PA 19401
2nd Thursdays
11 AM - 1 PM

ACLAMO

801 W. Marshall Street
Norristown, PA 19401
3rd Wednesday
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

NARBERTH TOWNSHIP BUILDING

100 Conway Avenue
Narberth, PA 19072
3rd Thursdays
9 AM - 12:30 PM

■ Committee Assignments



Senator Cappelletti expresses her opposition to Senate Bills 1 and 130 in the inaugural meeting of the Senate State Government committee on Monday, January 9, 2023.

Health & Human Services and to join the Environmental Resources & Energy and Communications and Technology Committees. I'm excited to get back to work and continue fighting for our values in Harrisburg!

A new legislative session means new committee assignments! I remain committed in the fight to protect and expand reproductive rights, protecting the environment, and fairly funding our public schools. For the 2023-2024 legislative session, I am excited to be the Democratic Chair for the State Government committee. Protecting our elections and expanding voting rights is pivotal to a thriving democracy. I am also excited to return to Judiciary and

■ Women's Health Caucus

I'm thrilled to Co-Chair the Pennsylvania Women's Health Caucus for another legislative session. Through this caucus, legislators and advocates work together to advance legislation and policies that promote equity and protect the health and wellbeing of women, gender expansive people, and families in Pennsylvania. This session, we have joined with the Pennsylvania Black Legislative Caucus to create a Subcommittee on Women and Girls of Color that advances the work of both caucuses.



Senator Cappelletti, co-chair of the Women's Health Caucus, speaks at a press conference to reaffirm the caucus's commitment to protect and expand reproductive healthcare.



Have you kept up with my Spotlight in the 17th series? I'm getting out and about in the district to learn more about businesses and organizations that make our district so unique! Recently, I visited Aux Petits Delices in Wayne, Narberth Bookshop in Narberth, and Bryn Mawr Film Institute in Bryn Mawr. Stay tuned at pasenatorcappelletti.com/spotlight for more to come!



Senator Cappelletti joins Marqessa Gesualdi, owner and pastry chef of Aux Petits Delices in Wayne.



Senator Cappelletti and Ellen Trachtenberg, owner of Narberth Bookshop, browse a selection of novels.



■ Senior Fair 2022

On Monday, October 17, I hosted my second annual Senior Fair at the Havertown YMCA! It was a successful event with over 150 Senior citizens in attendance, 35 vendors, and a vaccine clinic provided by Eric's Rx Shoppe. I always value hearing how much the community enjoys and benefits from these events. I'm excited to host this for the community next fall and I hope to see you there!



Senator Cappelletti chats with a constituent at the Senior Fair.

Senior constituents browse a variety of vendors at the Senior Fair.



Senator Cappelletti interviews Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding at the 107th Farm Show.



Senator Cappelletti participates in the Celebrity Honey Extraction Competition at the 107th Farm Show.