

State Senator **AMANDA CAPPELLETTI**

Serving the People

Winter 2025



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

HARRISBURG OFFICE
SENATE BOX 203017
HARRISBURG, PA 17117
(717) 787-5544

E-MAIL
CAPPELLETTI@PASENATE.COM

WHAT YOU CAN FIND ON MY WEBSITE

[PASenatorCappelletti.com](https://www.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 ME ON

    @SenCappelletti

Dear Neighbor,

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to have served as your state Senator during my first term and honored to have been re-elected for a second. It is a privilege to continue representing our community. I learned many lessons over the past four years and am eager to apply them to advancing the policies and values that matter most to us all.

At the core of my work is the belief that every Pennsylvanian deserves to live in a safe, healthy, and affordable community. By championing initiatives like raising the minimum wage, preserving our outdoor spaces, and expanding access to affordable healthcare, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of those who call Pennsylvania home.

Remember, my office is here to serve you! We are ready to assist with a wide range of state government-related matters, from helping with SEPTA Senior ID cards and Property Tax and Rent Rebate applications to addressing any other concerns you may have. Don't hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance!

Sincerely,

Senator Amanda M. Cappelletti
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 | • Unclaimed Property Searches |
| | • State Agency Assistance |

INSIDE: Legislative Update | District Grants | Community Connections

■ Swearing-In Ceremony

On January 7, 2025, I was sworn in for my second full term representing Pennsylvania's Seventeenth Senatorial District. I'm honored to represent my community in Harrisburg, and I'm ready to go into this term fighting for the futures that our families and loved ones deserve. Every Pennsylvanian deserves the opportunity to thrive in our Commonwealth.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT DO I NEED A REAL ID FOR?

Starting on **May 7, 2025**, a REAL ID license or ID card **WILL BE REQUIRED** for Pennsylvanians who do not already have another form of federally-acceptable ID to:

- Board domestic flights
- Enter a federal building or other locations that require ID upon entry
- Enter a military base

Real ID will be enforced starting on May 7, 2025. While a Real ID is NOT required for activities like driving and voting, having a Real ID may make domestic travel easier for you and your family. If you need assistance applying for a Real ID or have questions, please call my office.



GRANTS AWARDED *to District 17*

Since my last newsletter, District 17 has received significant grant funding that will assist in improving our communities. This funding has gone to enhancing our outdoor spaces, creating community centers, and ensuring our schools are safe and healthy. I'm proud to assist in securing critical funding for our community and help improve the daily lives of people in District 17. See more information on grants awarded to District 17 at PASenatorCappelletti.com/news.

- **Norristown Municipal Waste Authority:** Awarded \$352,766 to renovate a sanitary sewer collection system in Norristown Borough.
- **Lower Merion Township:** Department of Parks & Recreation was awarded \$1,000,000 to go towards the Ardmore Community Center-PALM Senior Center Replacement Renovation II project.
- **Upper Merion Township:** Awarded \$600,000 for design and engineering efforts for the proposed Moore Road Multimodal Trail and Linear Park.
- **West Conshohocken Borough:** Awarded \$500,000 for park improvements to MacKenzie Park located in West Conshohocken Borough, Montgomery County.
- **Radnor Township School District:** Awarded \$2,550,000 for Radnor High School to replace the HVAC system with a new reliable energy efficient system.
- **Haverford Township:** Awarded \$850,000 for the construction of Brookline Park.
- **West Norriton Township:** Awarded \$200,000 for park improvements to Centennial Park located in West Norriton Township.
- **East Norriton Township:** Awarded \$340,000 on behalf of Norriton Fire Engine Company, for the purchase of a special service support vehicle.
- **Penn Wynne Library:** Awarded \$141,300 for construction of a Community Reading Garden.

You can read more about the grants awarded in our district on my website at pasenatorcappelletti.com

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE *What I've Introduced this Session*

This January kicked off a brand new legislative session. This means we can reintroduce bills that did not move forward last session and introduce new policies for the Senate to consider. I am looking forward to reintroducing these policies that will help every Pennsylvanian if signed into law.

■ Healthcare Access and Affordability

Every Pennsylvanian deserves access to affordable healthcare. I'm reintroducing and supporting policies that will make that a reality for every Pennsylvanian.

- **Abortion Protections Package:** This legislative package will ensure patients and providers can safely receive and practice the healthcare they need and deserve.
- Expanding Pennsylvania's **Newborn Child Screening** Program: This legislation will add Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) to Pennsylvania's newborn screening panel. Early detection of DMD is vital, as significant, and irreversible muscle damage occurs by the time most children receive a diagnosis, around age five.
- **For-Profit Healthcare Reforms:** This legislative package is a direct response to the for-profit financial abuse of hospital and health systems in Pennsylvania thanks to one-sided private equity deals. It's aimed at strengthening safeguards against predatory practices and ensuring the sustainability of critical healthcare institutions in Pennsylvania.

■ Creating Safe, Affordable, Healthy Communities

- **Raising the minimum wage** is essential to Pennsylvania's economic success. I've been fighting for a raise in our minimum wage since my first day in office. I'll continue to sponsor legislation to raise our minimum wage and make Pennsylvania more competitive with our neighboring states.
- Providing **paid leave:** As a co-sponsor on the Family Care Act, I am working to advance policies that will make paid leave the norm in Pennsylvania. This bill specifically aims to make providing paid leave a reality for **small business owners**.
- Ensuring a healthy environment is crucial to protecting our public health and creating healthy communities. I will continue to support policies that build a sustainable future for every Pennsylvanian, for generations to come.

■ New Committee Assignments for the 2025-2026 Legislative Session

I am proud to announce I will be serving as the Democratic Chair of the **Senate Judiciary Committee** for the 2025-2026 legislative session. The Judiciary Committee deals with some of the Commonwealth's most important business, working on issues related to criminal justice, public safety, and much more. In addition, I will be serving as a member on the **Senate Appropriations Committee**, along with the **Communications & Technology, Health & Human Services, and Intergovernmental Operations Committees**. As a member of these committees, I will have the chance to fight for policies that reflects our community's values and work towards more accessible and affordable healthcare for every Pennsylvanian.

■ Gun Violence Prevention Policies

I'm proud to support proven policies that make our communities safer and prevent gun violence. Our loved ones deserve to be safe from the threat of gun violence. In addition to supporting programs and investments that tackle the root cause of violence, this session, I'll be reintroducing:

- **Safe Storage Laws:** Millions of children live in homes with easily accessible firearms. In fact, most children know where their parents keep their guns — even if their parents think otherwise. For the third session in a row, I plan to introduce a legislative package that will:
 - Require gun owners to safely store firearms if a person who cannot legally possess a firearm lives in the owner's residence.
 - Require gun owners to safely store firearms when they are not under the direct control of the owner.
- **72-Hour Waiting Periods:** One important element of a comprehensive approach to firearm violence prevention is a waiting period for firearm transfers. I will soon introduce legislation establishing a 72-hour waiting period for all firearm transfers in the Commonwealth.



Things We Passed in 2024

I was proud to co-sponsor **19 bills** that became law this year. Here are some of the highlights:

■ Act No. 5

This Act **adds “severe maternal morbidity” to the list of reportable events** within the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Severe maternal morbidity is a category of health conditions that complicate pregnancy, including unexpected outcomes of labor delivery that result in significant short- or long-term consequences to a woman’s health. In 2014, maternal morbidity affected 50,000 women in the United States and has been steadily increasing since that time. This act categorizes maternal deaths and severe maternal morbidity complications as reportable events. Accurate and regular tracking of data is essential for the comprehensive research on maternal mortality in the Commonwealth.

■ Act No. 121

This Act changes the standard that a first responder must meet in order to establish a workers’ compensation claim for a post-

traumatic stress injury (PTSI). Under this Act, firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians and paramedics will be entitled to benefits under the Pennsylvania Workers’ Compensation law for psychological traumas arising from individual traumatic events or cumulative highly stressful experiences resulting from their employment, regardless of whether the trauma is accompanied by physical injuries requiring medical treatment. This Act sets reasonable standards to establish a workers’ compensation PTSI claim so that **our first responders can receive the treatment that they need and deserve.**

■ Act No. 22

This Act **creates the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) State Advisory Board**, comprised of regional WIC agencies, agency partners, advocates, grocers, health care providers and participants. The Board will be tasked to advise



the Department of Health on its operation of programs to increase enrollment and utilization, such as proper implementation of federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for technology and data advancement, thus improving the access and availability of the program and its resources to those it serves.

The Act will also **streamline the eligibility screening process** by allowing WIC participants the opportunity to submit eligibility documentation online and will establish a WIC Modernization Fund to **help improve accessibility** to young mothers and their children.



Since 1790, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Constitution, on the first Tuesday of January **every odd-numbered year**, the General Assembly of Pennsylvania begins a new legislative session.

Opening Day is the first day of a new legislative session. On Opening Day, Senators-elect are sworn in, the body elects its Officers, such as the President Pro Tempore, Secretary-Parliamentarian and Chief Clerk, and the Senate organizes itself as a body ready to conduct the business at hand by passing rules to abide by for the length of the legislative session.

A session of the Pennsylvania General Assembly is a two-year period during which Senators and Representatives serve their constituents and conduct legislative business. At the end of this period, all legislation not finally acted upon dies.



Senator Cappelletti volunteers with Mitzvah Circle to distribute period products to local organizations that serve people in need throughout Montgomery County.



COMMUNITYCONNECTIONS

GETTING OUR NEIGHBORS THE RESOURCES THEY DESERVE!

Every year, my office hosts a variety of events in the community, a few of the highlights includes a Kids' Fair in the Seventeenth, a Senior Resource Fair with a vaccine clinic, and this year, a Clean Energy and Electric Vehicle Expo.

KIDS FAIR

Rain jackets were a must at this year's Kids' Fair in the Seventeenth! I'm glad the rain didn't stop the community from showing up to enjoy this fun annual event my office hosts at Elmwood Park Zoo. We made the most of the evening, which included facepainting, dance and cheer performances, snacks, swag, and more. We can't wait to see you again next year!



SENIOR FAIR

I had a blast hosting the annual Senior Fair in District 17! Our vaccine clinic gave out over 140 COVID vaccines and more than 120 Flu shots to seniors in the district, ensuring we were ready to go into the fall season. Community members were able to learn more about our area's senior centers and other resources they are eligible for through county, state, and federal programs. These kinds of resource fairs are a great way to engage with many offices and organizations at once. I hope to see you at our next one!



CLEAN ENERGY AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE EXPO

This year, my office partnered with Congresswoman Dean and PennEnvironment to host a Clean Energy and Electric Vehicle (EV) Expo in East Norriton. We had over a dozen EV owners there to show off their vehicles and talk about how switching to an EV has impacted their lifestyle. We also hosted a variety of vendors in the clean energy and climate advocacy space to spread the word about how we as individuals can make changes that make a big impact for our environment.





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Harrisburg, PA 17120-3017

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SATELLITE OFFICE HOURS

WAYNE SENIOR CENTER

First Thursday of Every Month • 11AM - 1PM
108 Station Road • Wayne, PA 19087

LUDINGTON LIBRARY

First Tuesday of Every Month • 9:30AM – 12PM
5 S Bryn Mawr Avenue • Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

HAVERTOWN YMCA

Second Tuesday of Every Month • 9:30AM – 12PM
891 N Eagle Road • Havertown, PA 19083

MONTCO SAAC

Second Thursday of Every Other Month • 11AM – 1PM
(January • March • May • July • September • November)
536 George Street • Norristown, PA 19401

WEST CONSHOHOCKEN

Second Thursday of the Month **Quarterly** • 9AM – 11AM
(April • July • October.)
112 Ford Street • Conshohocken, PA 19428

ACLAMO

Third Wednesday of Every Month • 9:30AM – 12PM
512 W Marshall Street • Norristown, PA 19401

NEW HORIZONS

Third Thursday of Every Month • 9AM – 11AM
100 Conway Avenue • Narberth, PA 19072



Do you have an idea for
a place that we should
feature next? Email or call
my office to let us know!

Have you seen my video series
that spotlights small businesses,
organizations, and stories that make
our district special? Spotlight in
the 17th has highlighted small
businesses like Crazy Aaron's
Thinking Putty and Five Saints
Distillery in Norristown and
Sweet Mable Art and Craft
in Narberth. I've been
able to highlight great
organizations in the
district like Mainline
Arts Center as well!

Check out the videos
on my website at

pasenatorcappelletti.com/spotlight