

FRANCIS X. RYAN, MEMBER
101ST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

Harrisburg Office:
P.O. Box 202101
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2101
(717) 783-1815

www.RepFrankRyan.com



District Office:
1044 E. Main Street
Palmyra, PA 17078
(717) 838-3823

Email: fryan@pahousegop.com

House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

November 21, 2017

Honorable Members of the Pennsylvania Delegation to the U. S. Senate & Congress:

Senators: Robert Casey Jr, Patrick Toomey

Congressmen: Robert Brady, Dwight Evans, Mike Kelly, Scott Perry, Glenn Thompson, Ryan Costello, Patrick Meehan, Brian Fitzpatrick, Bill Shuster, Tom Marino, Lou Barletta, Keith Rothfus, Brendan Boyle, Michael Doyle Jr, Charles Dent, Lloyd Smucker, Matthew Cartwright, Tim Murphy

Dear Senators/Congressmen,

Our children with disabilities, as with all our children, deserve our undivided attention and our help. The inconsistency of programs for our children in our schools and the almost impossible budgeting difficulties for our schools and communities has led to substantial problems throughout our Commonwealth.

With the passage of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the methodology for funding for special education needs was codified with a maximum amount of funding from the Federal Government set at 40%. The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) administers three formula grant programs authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). These formula grants are awarded to states annually to support early-intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families, preschool children ages three through five, and special education for children and youth with disabilities.

➤ **Part B Formula Grants**

- Assist states in providing a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment for children with disabilities, ages three through 21.
 - **Grants to States program.** Authorized by Part B, Section 611 for children ages three through 21.
 - **Preschool Grants program.** Authorized by Part B, Section 619 for children ages three through five.

➤ **Part C Formula Grants**

- Support early intervention services for infants and toddlers.
 - **Grants for Infants and Families program.** Authorized by Part C for infants and toddlers, ages birth through two, and their families.

Citation: 20 USC CHAPTER 33, SUBCHAPTER I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

In order to provide for these children and families, we, the undersigned of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives are asking the Federal Government to fund the currently unfunded mandates up to the maximum amount of 40% allowed for in the statute. The current funding methodology is hurting our children in need, our citizens and our Commonwealth.

The unfunded mandates of the IDEA Act in the area of education have saddled schools, local communities, and taxpayers with burdens of unparalleled proportions.

For education costs in Pennsylvania, schools rely on state and property taxes to fund these unfunded mandates as well as any locally desired programs. Due to the more realistic treatment protocols identifying children with disabilities, schools have frequently, due to funding limitations, cut back on educational opportunities for children without disabilities making educational alternatives problematic for all children and thereby creating a tremendous disparity in educational opportunities for all.

Unfortunately, the federal government's prescription for helping children with disabilities and for their families, has been to leave it to be shared by the local community and school district to deal with the after effects which leaves these children and their families very vulnerable.

This unsatisfactory funding approach puts parents of children with disabilities in the unfortunate position of searching for school districts that have programs that meet the diverse needs of their children. Parents of children unable to move for economic reasons or children with no realistic advocate are left to fend for themselves.

Equally problematic, the school district finds that its ability to budget is significantly impacted by the unknown costs associated with such a varying degree of disabilities. The needs of our children with disabilities is diverse and critically important to provide but those needs are frequently beyond what schools are realistically able to provide without uniform assistance from the Federal Government.

Unfunded Federal special education mandates are responsible for an average of 12% to 17% of a school district's budget in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania being allocated to help children with disabilities with limited funding assistance from the Federal Government

Our children with disabilities and their families deserve our utmost respect and admiration. Additionally our homeowners deserve to be insulated as well. It is a very challenging problem which can be solved if we all work together.

Therefore, the undersigned are urging the Congress of the United States to provide corresponding funding for Federal mandates with respect to special education in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Kindest personal regards,



Francis X. Ryan
PA State Representative
101st Legislative District



Alexander Charlton
PA State Representative
165th Legislative District



Gary Day
PA State Representative
187th Legislative District



Jared Solomon
PA State Representative
202nd Legislative District



Craig Staats
PA State Representative
145th Legislative District



Sue Helm
PA State Representative
104th Legislative District



Russ Diamond
PA State Representative
102nd Legislative District



Thomas R. Sankey III
PA State Representative
73rd Legislative District



Kathy Rapp
PA State Representative
65th Legislative District



Judith Ward
PA State Representative
80th Legislative District



Bud Cook
PA State Representative
49th Legislative District



Brad Roae
PA State Representative
6th Legislative District



Jack Rader
PA State Representative
176th Legislative District



Michael Corr
PA State Representative
150th Legislative District



Thomas Murt
PA State Representative
152nd Legislative District



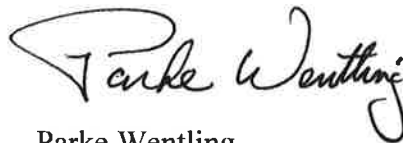
Kristen Phillips Hill
PA State Representative
93rd Legislative District



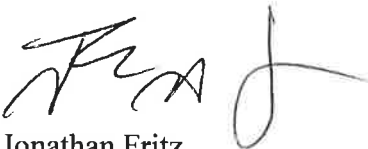
Dawn Keefer
PA State Representative
92nd Legislative District



Seth Grove
PA State Representative
196th Legislative District



Parke Wentling
PA State Representative
17th Legislative District



Jonathan Fritz
PA State Representative
111th Legislative District



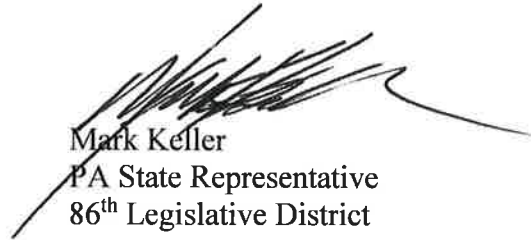
Katharine Watson
Children & Youth Committee, Chairwoman
PA State Representative
144th Legislative District



Curt Sonney
PA State Representative
4th Legislative District



Christopher Quinn
PA State Representative
168th Legislative District



Mark Keller
PA State Representative
86th Legislative District



Mark Gillen
PA State Representative
128th Legislative District



Zachary Mako
PA State Representative
183rd Legislative District



Eric Roe
PA State Representative
158th Legislative District



Sheryl DeLozier
PA State Representative
88th Legislative District



Thomas Mehaffie
PA State Representative
106th Legislative District



Matt Gabler
PA State Representative
75th Legislative District




Greg Rothman
PA State Representative
87th Legislative District





Brett Miller
PA State Representative
41st Legislative District




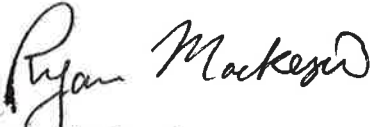
Stephen Bloom
PA State Representative
199th Legislative District



Stephen Barrar
PA State Representative
71st Legislative District

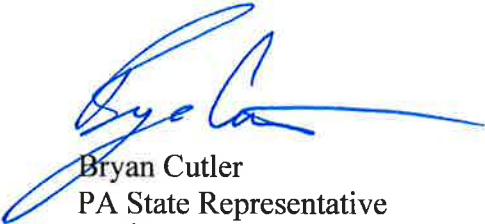

Mark Mustio
PA State Representative
44th Legislative District


Rich Irvin
PA State Representative
81st Legislative District



Christopher Rabb
PA State Representative
200th Legislative District



Ryan Mackenzie
PA State Representative
134th Legislative District

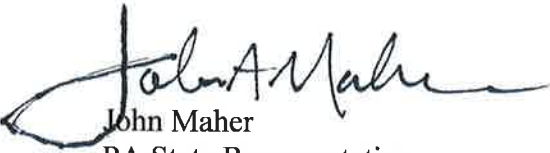

Anita Astorino Kulik
PA State Representative
45th Legislative District



Bryan Cutler
PA State Representative
100th Legislative District


John Lawrence
PA State Representative
13th Legislative District


Kerry Benninghoff
PA State Representative
171st Legislative District

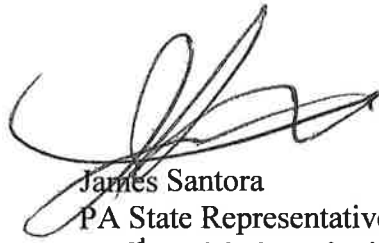

Jeff Pyle
PA State Representative
60th Legislative District


John Maher
PA State Representative
40th Legislative District


Nick Miccarelli
PA State Representative
162nd Legislative District



Cris Dush
PA State Representative
66th Legislative District



James Santora
PA State Representative
163rd Legislative District



Rosemary Brown
PA State Representative
189th Legislative District



R. Lee James
PA State Representative
64th Legislative District



David Millard
PA State Representative
109th Legislative District



Martina White
PA State Representative
170th Legislative District



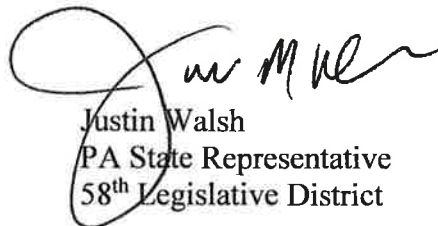
Lynda Schlegel Culver
PA State Representative
108th Legislative District



Eli Evankovich
PA State Representative
54th Legislative District



Judy Ward
PA State Representative
80th Legislative District



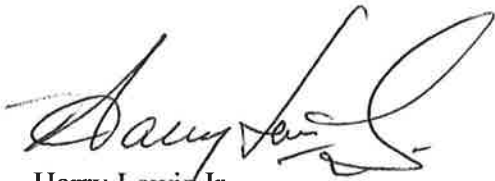
Justin Walsh
PA State Representative
58th Legislative District



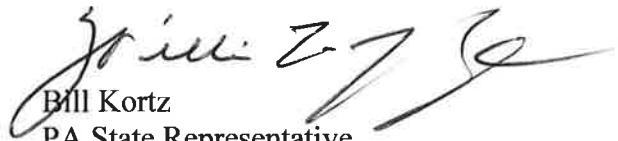
Gene Digirolamo
PA State Representative
18th Legislative District



Barry Jozwiak
PA State Representative
5th Legislative District



Harry Lewis Jr.
PA State Representative
74th Legislative District



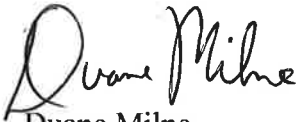
Bill Kortz
PA State Representative
38th Legislative District



Marcy Toepel
PA State Representative
147th Legislative District



Harry Readshaw
PA State Representative
36th Legislative District



Duane Milne
PA State Representative
167th Legislative District



Rick Saccone
PA State Representative
39th Legislative District



Frank Farry
PA State Representative
142nd Legislative District



Matthew Baker
PA State Representative
68th Legislative District



H. Scott Conklin
PA State Representative
77th Legislative District



Karen Boback
PA State Representative
117th Legislative District



Ed Neilson
PA State Representative
174th Legislative District



Jerry Knowles
PA State Representative
124th Legislative District



Scott Petri
PA State Representative
178th Legislative District



Robert Godshall
PA State Representative
53rd Legislative District



Joseph Petrarca
PA State Representative
55th Legislative District



Rob Kauffman
PA State Representative
89th Legislative District



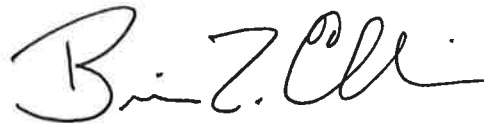
Steven Mentzer
PA State Representative
97th Legislative District



Ron Marsico
PA State Representative
105th Legislative District



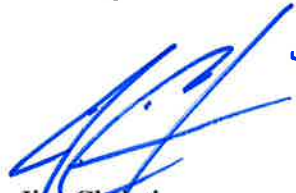
Dan Moul
PA State Representative
91st Legislative District



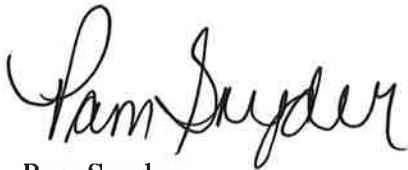
Brian Ellis
PA State Representative
11th Legislative District



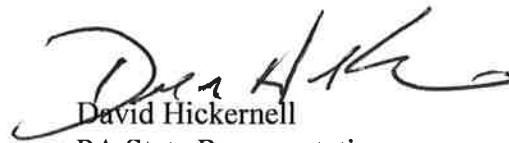
Patty Kim
PA State Representative
103rd Legislative District



Jim Christiana
PA State Representative
15th Legislative District



Pam Snyder
PA State Representative
50th Legislative District



David Hickernell
PA State Representative
98th Legislative District



John Taylor
PA State Representative
177th Legislative District



Adam Harris
PA State Representative
82nd Legislative District



Bernie O'Neill
PA State Representative
29th Legislative District



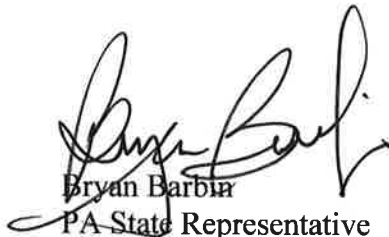
Carolyn Comitta
PA State Representative
156th Legislative District



Adam Ravenstahl
PA State Representative
20th Legislative District



Marcia Hahn
PA State Representative
138th Legislative District



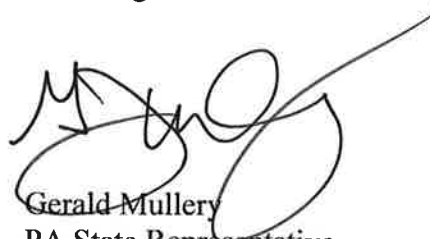
Bryan Barbier
PA State Representative
71st Legislative District



Kurt Masser
PA State Representative
107th Legislative District



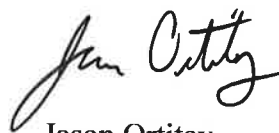
Emilio Vazquez
PA State Representative
197th Legislative District



Gerald Mullery
PA State Representative
119th Legislative District



Will Tallman
PA State Representative
193rd Legislative District



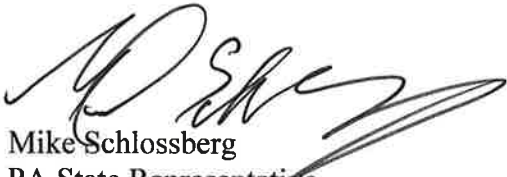
Jason Ortitay
PA State Representative
46th Legislative District



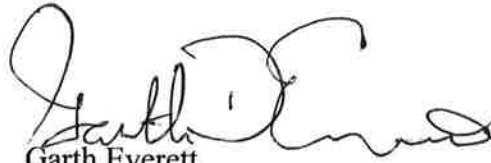
Katie Klunk
PA State Representative
169th Legislative District



Chris Sainato
PA State Representative
9th Legislative District



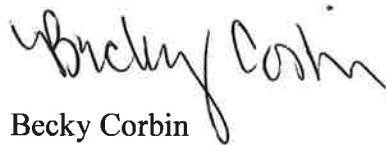
Mike Schlossberg
PA State Representative
132nd Legislative District



Garth Everett
PA State Representative
84th Legislative District



Aaron Bernstine
PA State Representative
10th Legislative District




Becky Corbin
PA State Representative
155th Legislative District



Mindy Fee
PA State Representative
37th Legislative District



Kate Harper
PA State Representative
61st Legislative District



Justin Simmons
PA State Representative
131st Legislative District



James Roebuck
PA State Representative
188th Legislative District



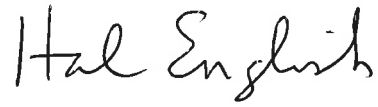
Tina Davis
PA State Representative
141st Legislative District



Thomas Caltagirone
PA State Representative
127th Legislative District



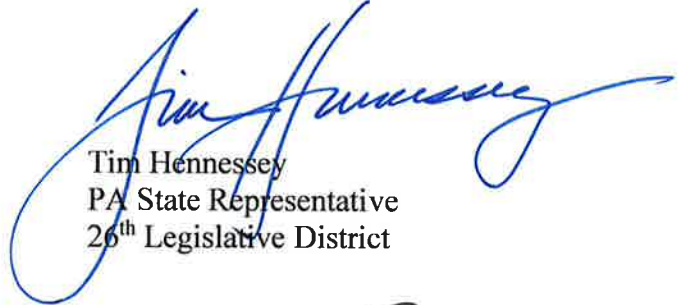
Stan Saylor
PA State Representative
94th Legislative District



Hal English
PA State Representative
30th Legislative District



Ryan Bizzarro
PA State Representative
3rd Legislative District



Tim Hennessey
PA State Representative
26th Legislative District



Mark Longietti
PA State Representative
84th Legislative District



Sid Michaels Kavulich
PA State Representative
114th Legislative District



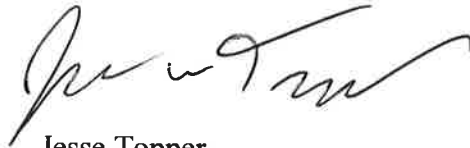
Martin Causer
PA State Representative
67th Legislative District



Mike Tobash
PA State Representative
125th Legislative District



Keith Gillespie
PA State Representative
47th Legislative District



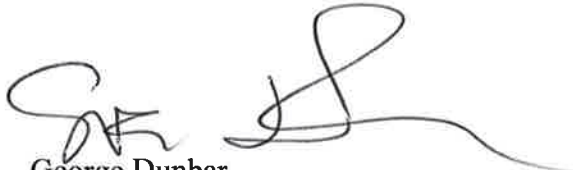
Jesse Topper
PA State Representative
78th Legislative District



Donna Oberlander
PA State Representative
63rd Legislative District



Joe Emrick
PA State Representative
137th Legislative District



George Dunbar
PA State Representative
56th Legislative District



Warren Kampf
PA State Representative
157th Legislative District



Michael O'Brien
PA State Representative
175th Legislative District



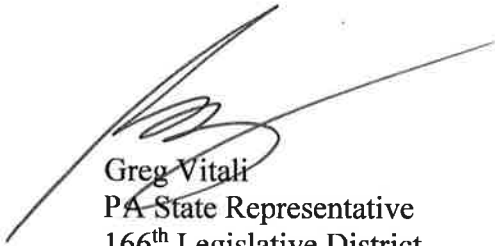
Mike Reese
PA State Representative
59th Legislative District



Patrick Harkins
PA State Representative
1st Legislative District



Todd Stephens
PA State Representative
151st Legislative District



Greg Vitali
PA State Representative
166th Legislative District



David Zimmerman
PA State Representative
99th Legislative District



Jordan Harris
PA State Representative
186th Legislative District



Ryan Warner
PA State Representative
52nd Legislative District



Steve McCarter
PA State Representative
154th Legislative District



Dom Costa
PA State Representative
21st Legislative District



Perry Warren
PA State Representative
31st Legislative District



Ted Nesbit
PA State Representative
8th Legislative District



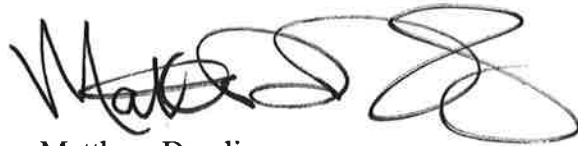
Doyle Heffley
PA State Representative
122nd Legislative District



Michael Peifer
PA State Representative
139th Legislative District



Paul Costa
PA State Representative
34th Legislative District



Matthew Dowling
PA State Representative
51st Legislative District



Pamela DeLissio
PA State Representative
194th Legislative District



Jeff Wheeland
PA State Representative
83rd Legislative District



Morgan Cephas
PA State Representative
192nd Legislative District



Jim Cox
PA State Representative
129th Legislative District



Michael Driscoll
PA State Representative
173rd Legislative District



Aaron Kaufer
PA State Representative
120th Legislative District



Kevin Boyle
PA State Representative
172nd Legislative District



Joanna McClinton
PA State Representative
191st Legislative District




Tarah Toohil
PA State Representative
116th Legislative District



Jason Dawkins
PA State Representative
179th Legislative District



Neal Goodman
PA State Representative
123rd Legislative District



Marguerite Quinn
PA State Representative
143rd Legislative District



Frank Burns
PA State Representative
72nd Legislative District



Robert Matzie
PA State Representative
16th Legislative District



Mark Rozzi
PA State Representative
126th Legislative District



Rosita Youngblood
PA State Representative
198th Legislative District



Dave Reed
Republican Majority Leader
PA State Representative
62nd Legislative District



Eddie Day Pashinski
PA State Representative
121st Legislative District



Mike Turzai
Speaker of the House
PA State Representative
28th Legislative District



Brandon Neuman
PA State Representative
48th Legislative District



Thomas Quigley
PA State Representative
146th Legislative District



Mary Jo Daley
PA State Representative
148th Legislative District



Dan Frankel
PA State Representative
23rd Legislative District