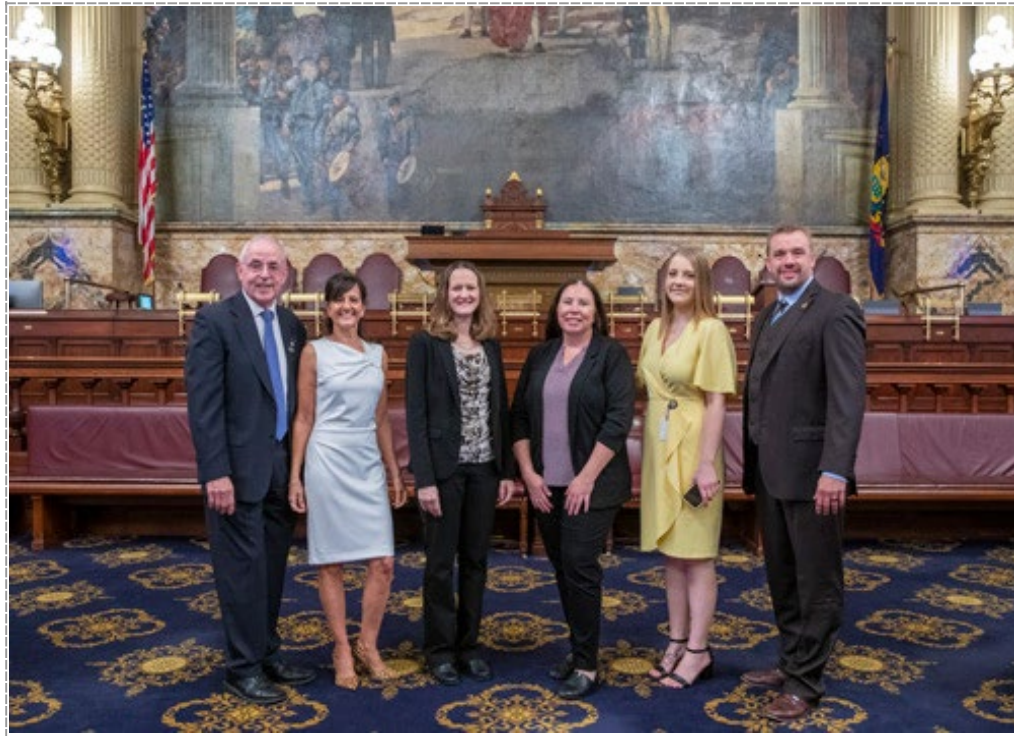
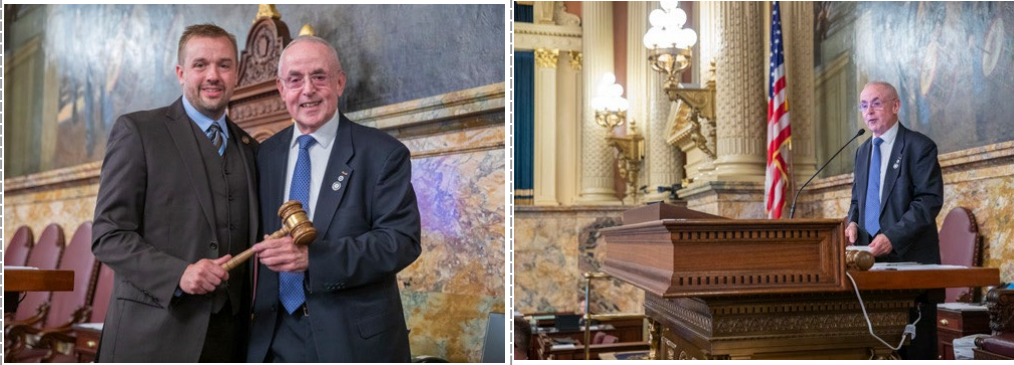


As Session Draws to a Close, I Am Grateful for the Privilege to Serve



When a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives is retiring or otherwise departing the House, it is customary to give a farewell speech in the House chamber. This is our opportunity to tell a few stories and thank our colleagues and staff for their hard work, support and friendship over the years. As I will be retiring at the end of this legislative session, Wednesday was my day to speak. It was a bittersweet day, but I have been blessed to be surrounded by good people on both sides of the aisle who are intent on making Pennsylvania a better place for all of us. I was especially thankful that my wife, Sherrie, and my staff, Jamie Miller, Nancie Coover and Lily Guthrie, were able to be here today. Also

pictured: House Speaker Bryan Cutler. There are still several weeks left in this legislative session. As always, THANK YOU for the privilege of serving you!

March For Life Rally in Harrisburg



On Monday, I joined several of my House colleagues and thousands of other citizens from across the Commonwealth at a “March for Life” rally at the state Capitol.

Limiting the Size, Scope of Government Through Regulatory Reform

This week, House Republican leaders and committee chairs held a news conference detailing their successful regulatory reforms this session to ensure government is done right. That work continued over the last two weeks with a number of standing committees approving letters to trigger an expedited review by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission. The review aims to determine whether regulations on the books for three or more years continue to be in the public interest. Removing unneeded and outdated regulations, gets government out of the way so businesses

can expand and grow, creating opportunities for Pennsylvania citizens. For my remarks on this issue, click video box above. [Watch the full press conference](#)



[here.](#)

Lawmakers, Families Rally for Parental Bill of Rights



Advocating for the rights of parents when it comes to the education of their children, several lawmakers, families, students and religious leaders gathered at the state Capitol this week to support passage of the Parental Bill of Rights. The push for the legislation has intensified in the wake of the Pennsylvania Department of Education's "Gender Identity" website, which, among other things, defines "binary gender as "the faulty concept that there are only two genders: male and female." The site also includes instructions to host a "gender-neutral day" for classrooms in grades 3-12. Additionally, parents are increasingly objecting to certain images found in school textbooks. [House Bill 2813](#), which I co-sponsored, would require all classroom instruction to be age appropriate; prohibit classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity in kindergarten through fifth grade; and require public schools to adopt procedures for notifying parents if there is a change in services regarding a child's mental, emotional or physical health or well-being. The bill is pending consideration by the House Education Committee.

Free Admission to PA History Sites, Museums Saturday

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) is inviting people across the Commonwealth to explore state-owned historic sites along the [Pennsylvania Trails of History](#) for free this Saturday, Sept. 24. The Pennsylvania Trails of History comprises museums and historic sites organized along four theme-based “trails” crossing the Commonwealth. In our area, visit the [Cornwall Iron Furnace](#). You may also plan to visit The State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg for a wide variety of Pennsylvania history under one roof. For more information and a list of participating historic sites and museums, [click here](#).



Plan for Child’s Higher Education with PA 529

September is College Savings Month, the perfect time for families looking to save for their child’s future education to visit [pa529.com](#) and learn about the various plan options and tax advantages. In fact, the website for the PA 529 College and Career Savings Program has been completely redesigned. The new site makes finding information about PA 529 accounts easier than ever with a streamlined look. Whether you want to save for college, technical school, a qualified apprenticeship or even K-12 expenses, the PA 529 program can help by offering great savings options and tremendous tax benefits. The updated website was designed to improve user experience by making better use of the homepage, simplifying navigation and content, and integrating the Keystone Scholars program. Treasurer Stacy Garrity has made multiple improvements to the program to make it more accessible to every family, including:



- Allowing accounts to be opened with no minimum deposit.
- Reducing the minimum contribution to just \$1.
- Cutting fees for all PA 529 Investment Plan account owners.
- Waiving asset-based fees for PA 529 Guaranteed Savings Plan account owners through June 2023.
- Bolstering savings in PA 529 GSP accounts with \$100 deposits.

Keeping Kids Safe in the Car

As National Child Passenger Safety Week draws to a close, parents and caregivers are being reminded of the importance of properly restraining children in vehicles. The Commonwealth's primary seat belt law requires:

- All vehicle occupants younger than 18 to wear a seat belt.
- Children under the age of 2 to be secured in a rear-facing car seat
- Children under the age of 4 must be restrained in an approved child safety seat.
- Children ride in a booster seat until their eighth birthday.



Parents are also reminded that due to potential dangers associated with air bag deployment, children 12 and younger should always ride buckled in a vehicle's back seat. Some important tips to keep in mind to keep kids safe:

- Select a car seat that is right for the child's age and size.
- Fill out and return your car seat registration card to be informed about safety recalls.
- Carefully follow car seat installation instructions.
- Use the car's seat belt or the LATCH system when installing the car seat.
- Make sure the car seat's harness is correctly adjusted and fits snugly.
- Use a tether strap when installing a forward-facing car seat, following manufacturer's instructions.

For more information on child passenger safety, visit [PennDOT's Safety Page](#).