

## Why I Voted 'No' on State Budget



[Watch Video Here](#)

In my final state budget as your state representative, I voted 'no' on the spending plan passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf. While the budget does some good things for the people of Pennsylvania, it spends entirely too much money and is not sustainable. Now is no time to raise the bar on state spending. **For a more detailed explanation, click the video box above.**

## Constitutional Amendments Receive First Approval

The Pennsylvania General Assembly approved several proposed constitutional amendments last week that could ultimately give you, the voters, a direct say in some important issues facing the Commonwealth.

***The proposals seek to amend the state Constitution to:***

- Require all voters to present valid identification each time they cast their ballot, regardless of whether they are voting by mail or in person.



- Allow a candidate for governor to select a running mate for lieutenant governor, similar to the way a presidential candidate selects his or her running mate. Currently, the state's lieutenant governors are elected independently.
- Require comprehensive auditing of elections by the state auditor general to check the administration of elections, certification of election machines, the accuracy of the list of registered voters, the administration of voter registration and election results.
- Restore the balance of power between the legislative and executive branches of state government by allowing the Legislature to reject proposed regulations without approval of the governor.
- Clarifies that the Pennsylvania Constitution does not grant the right to taxpayer-funded abortion or any other right relating to abortion.

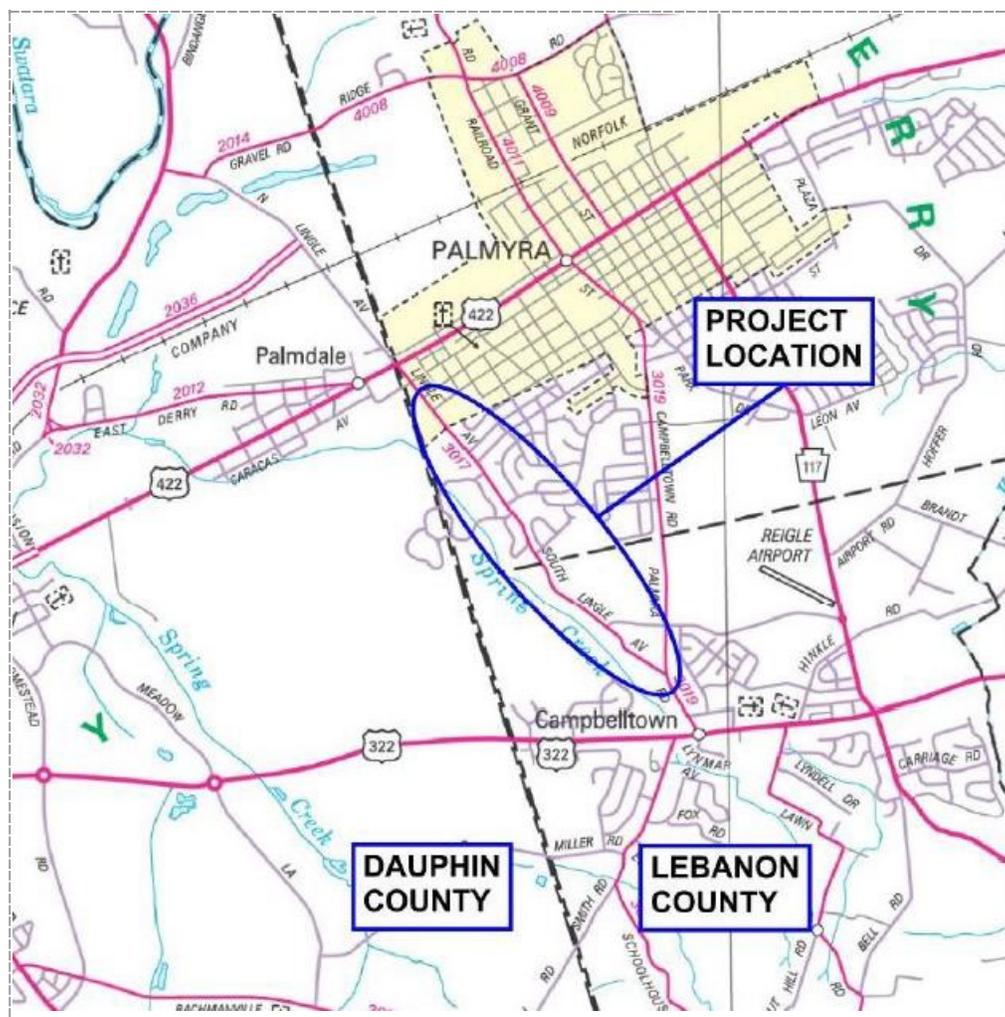
Constitutional amendments must pass by a majority vote during two consecutive sessions of the General Assembly. Once the identical language is passed by the House and Senate in two sessions, the amendments must be made public and advertised before going to the voters as part of a ballot referendum. This is the first time these initiatives were passed by the General Assembly.

## Concealed Carry Event Coming Up Next Week



[Watch Video Here](#)

## PennDOT Announces Plans for Lebanon Co. Road Reconstruction and Stream Restoration



The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is inviting the public to see its plans for reconstruction of Route 3017 (Lingle Avenue), and its stream restoration project in South Londonderry Township, North Londonderry Township and Palmyra Borough. The project limits extend 1.68 miles from the intersection with Route 3019 (Palmyra Road) to just south of West Cherry Street. It aims to modernize the corridor and address the threat of flooding and standing water on Lingle Avenue. It includes reconstruction or resurfacing of Lingle Avenue between Palmyra Road and just south of West Cherry Street and East Caracas Avenue, and stabilizing Spring Creek to eliminate or minimize the recurring flooding between Northside Drive and the entrance to Lingle Avenue Elementary School. Additional drainage improvements, shoulders and sidewalks

will be constructed. Traffic in the area will be detoured during the project, which is expected to last four to six months beginning in 2025. A digital version of the project will be available for public viewing and comment through July 30 by visiting the link for [PennDOT District 8](#), then clicking on [Public Meetings](#) listed under the Resources heading, and choosing the [Lebanon County](#) box then the tile marked [Lingle Avenue](#).

## Court Decision Halts Wolf Administration Energy Tax

Commonwealth Court on Friday issued an injunction halting Gov. Tom Wolf's efforts to enroll Pennsylvania in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a multi-state initiative that would have created a carbon tax on the state's energy industry. Pennsylvania is the third-largest electricity producer in the country and the largest exporter of electricity. RGGI threatens that status. According to the Independent Fiscal Office, implementing a tax on energy producers would raise consumer electric bills by an estimated 30% and lead to thousands of job losses due to plant closures and suspension of new plant construction. While all 11 other states enrolled in RGGI are there as a result of a vote by their legislatures, Wolf has been circumventing the legislative process. The administration has said it will appeal the decision.



## Additional Help for Special Education Students

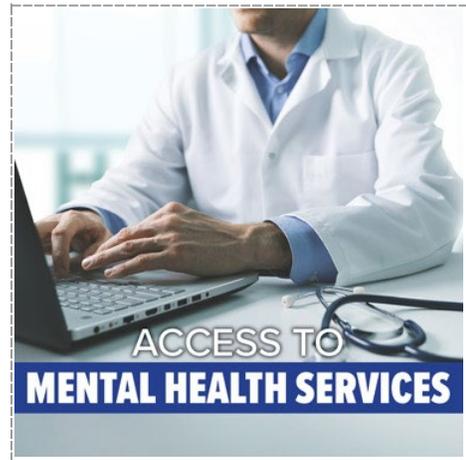
Special education students who reached the age of 21 during the 2021-22 school year or before the 2022-23 school year starts can now have an extra year of schooling under [Act 55 of 2022](#). For a student to exercise this opportunity, their parents or guardians must complete a form and submit it to the school entity by Aug. 1. Due to COVID-19, many special education students suffered immense learning loss. They typically age out



of the system at 21, but the new law will provide an opportunity to catch up. The new law applies to students who were enrolled in a school district, intermediate unit, area career and technical school, charter school, cyber charter school, regional charter school, approved private schools or charter schools for the education of the deaf and blind. More information and the form [are available here](#).

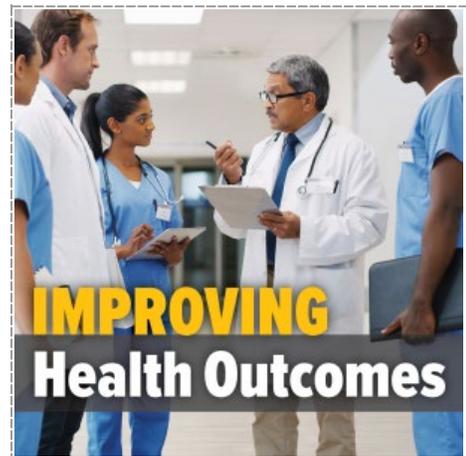
## Mental Health Assistance at 988

Starting this Saturday, people may simply dial 988 to immediately connect with mental health or behavioral health services for themselves or a loved one experiencing a mental health crisis. People who call, text, or chat with 988 will be directly connected to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The existing Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will remain available. Callers can also connect with the Veterans Crisis Line or assistance in Spanish. Callers will receive phone-based support and connections to local resources based on their specific needs. For more information, [click here](#).



## Bills to Improve Overall Health Outcomes Now Law

Responding to ongoing health challenges across the Commonwealth, the General Assembly has approved two new laws that aim to improve health care providers' abilities to treat the overall health of patients. [Acts 32](#) and [33 of 2022](#) amend the Mental Health Procedures Act and the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Act to allow for sharing of patient information among providers, facilities and insurers. The changes would also meet existing Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements to ensure patient confidentiality. Under prior law, mental health and physical



health information could not be fully shared among providers in Pennsylvania. The changes will bring Pennsylvania in line with the majority of states that already share this information and are experiencing improved patient outcomes.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2022**

Hosted by Senator Chris Gebhard and  
Representatives Frank Ryan and Russ Diamond

# REAL ID Seminar

Presented by PennDOT 

You are invited to join Senator Chris Gebhard and  
Representatives Frank Ryan and Russ Diamond  
and PennDOT representatives as they explain Pennsylvania's REAL ID  
requirements, including where you can apply, what documentation  
you need, and whether a REAL ID is right for you.  
*REAL IDs will not be issued at this event.*



Rep. Ryan  
101st District

Rep. Diamond  
102nd District

Senator Gebhard  
48th District



Registration is  
suggested.

Register online at  
[www.repfrankryan.com/events](http://www.repfrankryan.com/events)  
or by calling 717-274-6735.

Remember: May 3, 2023, you will need a Real ID  
to fly and enter a federal building or military base.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2022**

**LEBANON EXPO CENTER**  
80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA 17042

**5 to 7 PM**

## Antlerless Deer Licenses Now on Sale

Antlerless deer licenses are now on sale for Pennsylvania residents only. Nonresidents may apply beginning Monday, July 18. Hunters must first purchase a general license and pass a hunter-trapper education course in order to apply for an antlerless deer license. To either find an in-person course near you or take an online class, [please follow this link](#). The Pennsylvania Game Commission has approved 948,000 antlerless (doe) tags for purchase, which is 23,000 more than last year. You can monitor the sales and availability of licenses, as well as how many licenses have been allotted to each of [Pennsylvania's Wildlife Management Units \(WMUs\), here](#).



## PGC Seeks Help Counting Turkeys

The Pennsylvania Game Commission again is seeking input from the public in surveying wild turkeys this summer. The Pennsylvania Wild Turkey Sighting Survey is open now through Aug. 31. Participation is important for turkey population management. The data allows the agency to determine total wild turkey productivity and compare long-term reproductive success within Pennsylvania and across states, as this is a standard methodology used across the country. It is also used to track turkey population trends. Turkey sightings can be reported through the [Game Commission's website](#). The mobile app is no longer available. Participants are asked to record the number of wild turkeys they see, the location, date, and the participant's contact information in case agency biologists have any questions.

