

Wolf Signs Bill Strengthening Pennsylvania CPA Law



Gov. Tom Wolf signed into law legislation I co-sponsored to update Pennsylvania law governing certified public accountants (CPA). [House Bill 1328](#), now **Act 110 of 2022**, directs the State Board of Accountancy to adopt a nationally recognized code of professional conduct. It also permits an applicant for licensure to sit for the CPA exam upon completion of 120 semester credits, but prior to completing the 150 credits required for graduation. The new law expands the scope of classes students can take toward earning an accounting degree to include economics and technology. Act 110 also provides necessary updates to peer review standards for CPAs.

We're Moving!

As you know, I will be retiring when my current term expires on Nov. 30. Due to shifting legislative district borders resulting from redistricting, the 101st Legislative District office will be closing on Nov. 21, while my staff prepares to move to the new office located at the Lebanon Valley Mall. The new district office is expected to open on Dec. 1. In the meantime, any correspondence may be directed to Jamie Miller at jmiller@pahousegop.com or leave a voicemail at 717-838-3823 and we will get back to you as soon as possible. On behalf of my staff and myself, THANK YOU for the privilege of serving you!



House Votes to Impeach Philly DA

Citing his role in the skyrocketing crime rates in Philadelphia, the state House voted this week to impeach Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner. The vote followed a lengthy investigation into the city's crime and violence problems that are largely blamed on Krasner's mismanagement of the district attorney's office and his soft-on-crime policies. Impeachment is not an action we take lightly; however, Krasner's actions and inaction constitute a dereliction of his obligations to the people of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth. Krasner is also cited for his repeated defiance of the



Select Committee on Restoring Law and Order, which was created to investigate the causes of and possible solutions to the crisis of crime and violence in the state's largest city. Under Krasner's term as DA, violent crime, property crime and shootings have all increased. In fact, nearly half the state's criminal activity occurs in Philadelphia. Convictions have decreased significantly, and more repeat offenders are being set free. Some national chain employers are pulling out of Philadelphia due to retail theft and other security and safety concerns. With passage of [House Resolution 240](#), which I co-sponsored, the process to impeach Krasner now moves to the state Senate, which must conduct a trial. Conviction requires a two-thirds vote by that chamber. More details about the public safety

crisis in Philadelphia [are available here](#).

Aiding the Fight Against Child Abuse, Neglect

To help protect children, Pennsylvanians will soon have the opportunity to make a \$5 charitable donation to the Children's Trust Fund (CTF) when renewing their driver's license or state identification card. Established by law in 1988, the CTF's mission is to fund three-year grants to community-based programs that help prevent child abuse and neglect. Since its inception, the CTF has invested more than \$40 million in grants. Child abuse and neglect continues to be a major problem in Pennsylvania and throughout the United States.

Over 3 million children are abused or neglected each year in the U.S., and more than 40,000 cases are reported annually in Pennsylvania. One in every 1,000 children in Pennsylvania are abused or neglected, according to the National Center for Biotechnology Information, U.S. National Library of Medicine. Funds for the CTF traditionally are generated from a \$10 surcharge on all applications for marriage licenses and divorce complaints; however, those funds have been in decline for the last 10 years. The new donation opportunity will help generate funds for the CTF and raise awareness of its mission. [Learn more here](#).



Improving Health Care Delivery

A new law adopted by the General Assembly earlier this fall will help improve the timely delivery of health care services by revising the process for prior authorization. [Act 146 of 2022](#) simplifies the process, requiring insurers to establish an electronic communications network to permit prior authorization requests to be submitted and returned electronically. It also gives the Pennsylvania Insurance Department authority over external reviews of benefit determinations under the Affordable Care Act. The Commonwealth is joining 44 other states that already have external review authority. The major provisions of the law take effect in January 2024.



Deadline Nears for Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

Older adults and Pennsylvanians with disabilities have until Dec. 31 to apply for the state's 2021 Property Tax/Rent Rebate program. Remember, assistance through my office is always FREE. You need not pay a private firm for assistance. The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The annual income limit is \$35,000 for homeowners and \$15,000 for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded. For additional information and applications, [click here](#).



Supporting Small Businesses

When you are shopping for gifts this holiday season, please consider visiting the many small businesses in our community and remember, Small Business Saturday is coming up on Saturday, Nov. 26. Launched by American Express in 2010, this day is celebrated annually on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, to encourage people to support the small businesses that help drive the economies of our communities. [Learn more about Small Business Saturday here.](#)



Hunters Help to Feed the Hungry

The state Department of Agriculture and Pennsylvania Game Commission are again encouraging hunters to consider sharing their deer harvest to provide venison to people in need. Hunters Sharing the Harvest (HSH) is Pennsylvania's venison donation program for hunters who share their extra venison via a statewide network of participating butchers to food pantries and community assistance centers across the Commonwealth. Inflation is making the problem of food insecurity particularly dire for some families. One deer provides about 200 servings of high-protein, low-fat venison.



Thanks to the program's generous supporters, hunters pay nothing to ensure their venison helps to provide a warm meal to someone in need in their community. The program reported near record participation last year with 187,426 pounds of venison donated in the 2021-22 deer seasons. HSH has distributed more than 2 million pounds of donated venison since 1991. More information about the program and how to participate is available at sharedeer.org. For information on this hunting season, visit the Pennsylvania Game Commission website at pgc.pa.gov.