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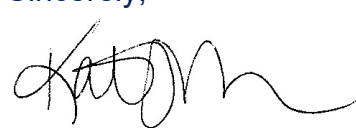
Dear Residents of SD-44:

In this newsletter you will find the latest updates on legislation in Harrisburg, hazard pay for workers, updated COVID restrictions, RSVP information for a zero-waste event this week, and more!

My district office is now open Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm by appointment only. Masks are required and hand sanitizer will be made available upon entry. If you cannot make it during normal operating hours and need to meet with us in person, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your schedule.

My staff and I are always available by phone at 610-792-2137 and by email at senatormuth@pasenate.com to help answer your questions and provide you with the resources that you need. We will also continue to share new information through E-blasts, social media and on [website](#) as we receive it to ensure you, your family, schools, and small businesses have the most up-to-date information.

Sincerely,



Senator Katie Muth

IN HARRISBURG

HB 732

Last week I [spoke](#) on the Senate floor against [HB732](#) as amended, which provides a massive subsidy to the petrochemical industry at the cost of \$650 million over the next 25 years. To put that in perspective, the latest CARES grant for small businesses was less than half that amount with over 32,000 applications.

Let me be clear: this bill would result in a massive net expenditure to Pennsylvania taxpayers. The financial impact that COVID-19 has had on Pennsylvania is significant and it is shameful that my colleagues in the Majority who control the Senate calendar chose to put this bill up for a vote when we are grappling with massive deficits to our Pennsylvania public school system, and much needed funding for infrastructure, workforce development, and public health.

We should be investing in a future that prioritizes our children, our planet, and our health as Pennsylvania citizens.



(Click picture to see my full speech)

Speaking in Opposition to Gerrymandering Our Judicial System

The people of Pennsylvania want legislators who represent their constituents, not special interests. Similarly, people across the Commonwealth want legislative districts drawn in a manner that are fair, non-partisan, and not gerrymandered to minimize and limit their collective voices.

Last week, not only did the Senate majority party block a vote for an independent redistricting commission that a majority of Pennsylvanians have asked for, but they voted to push [HB196](#) which allows for the gerrymandering of appellate courts.

[The people of Pennsylvania deserve clarity, truth, and honest leadership.](#) The general assembly should not be focusing on issues that continue to limit the voice of the hardworking people across the Commonwealth.



(Click picture to see my full speech)

IN THE DISTRICT

Blood Drive with the American Red Cross

Due to the pandemic, blood donations have significantly decreased, but the need has increased. Blood drives are safe and all employees adhere to CDC guidelines. Thank you to everyone who came out to donate blood and save a life! Thank you to First United Church and the American Red Cross for your work.



IN OTHER NEWS/EVENTS

Hazard Pay for PA workers

Late last week the Governor announced that as part of Act 2A of 2020, \$50,000,000 was appropriated from CARES Act funding to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to provide Hazard Pay for frontline workers.

[Applications will be open for a two-week window beginning on July 16, 2020 and closing on July 31, 2020.](#)

☐ Eligible applicants will apply on behalf of the frontline workers in eligible industries.

The program will not be first come, first served.

APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW THROUGH JULY 31 FOR

COVID-19 PA Hazard Pay Grant

to help employers provide hazard pay to employees in life-sustaining occupations during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
Businesses in these industries are eligible to apply:

- Healthcare & Social Assistance
- Food Manufacturing
- Food Retail Facilities
- Transit & Ground Passenger Transportation
- Security Services
- Janitorial Services to Buildings & Dwellings

The hazard pay of up to \$1200 per eligible, full-time equivalent (FTE) employee must be paid over the 10-week period of August 16, 2020 through October 24, 2020 as a \$3/hour hazard pay increase to their regular pay rate.

Learn more: dcled.pa.gov/programs/covid-19-pa-hazard-pay-grant

Updated COVID-19 Restrictions

The Governor [announced](#) targeted statewide restrictions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 due to the rise in cases. These restrictions have been updated beyond simply wearing a mask when you leave the house.

The updated order requires:

Bars and restaurants are to limit their indoor occupancy to 25%

Bars are also not permitted to serve alcohol unless a patron is ordering food as well

Indoor gatherings should be limited to 25 people

☐ Outdoor gatherings should be limited to 250 people (Events, like weddings, held in tents are considered as outdoor events)

If you are able to work remotely, you must

No music or dance clubs are permitted to be open

This does not impact outdoor dining or takeout food or alcohol. Gyms, hair salons, dentists, casinos are not included in the order either.

Updated COVID Restrictions

Bars and restaurants are to limit their indoor occupancy to 25%
There will be no alcohol service without food

Indoor gatherings should be limited to 25 people, and outdoor gatherings limited to 250

If you are able to work remotely, you must

No music or dance clubs are permitted to be open

Continue to wear a mask when you leave your home

July 15, 2020

Fresh Food Financing Initiative

Senate District 44 is home to farms and businesses that help contribute to better health outcomes by improving access to fresh foods.

The Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative (FFFI) provides one-time grants to eligible food retailers in order to increase access to healthy, affordable grocery food options and to improve economic opportunities for underserved communities in urban, rural and suburban areas across the state.

Learn about eligibility requirements and how you can [apply here](#).



The banner features a dark blue background. On the left, there is a white outline of the state of Pennsylvania with a shopping cart icon inside, containing a red heart. To the right of the map, the text "Fresh Food Financing Initiative" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below this, the text "Available to" is in a white script font, followed by "for-profit, nonprofit, or cooperative entities impacted by COVID-19, including grocery stores, corner stores, convenience stores, neighborhood markets, bodegas, food hubs, mobile markets, farmers markets, on-farm markets, urban farms, and food aggregation centers with a direct connection to direct-to-consumer retail outlets." in a white sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a photograph of fresh green vegetables (spinach, arugula, and fennel) with a dark blue banner overlaid that reads "\$10 MILLION AVAILABLE" in white capital letters.

Path to Zero Waste: A Recycling Panel with state Senator Katie Muth Hosted by PennEnvironment

[Join PennEnvironment](#) and State Senator Katie Muth on Thursday, July 23rd to learn about the crisis facing our recycling systems and the solutions that exist for moving us to a zero-waste society.

PennEnvironment will join recycling and waste management experts from the region in a panel discussion, moderated by Senator Muth. The panelists will discuss how we can respond - as governments and as individuals - to changes in the recycling landscape, and to the flood of single-use plastics we're facing every day.

The panel discussion will take place virtually over Zoom. [RSVP here](#).



The banner has a dark blue background. At the top, the title "The Path to Zero Waste" is in large white font. Below it, in smaller white capital letters, is "A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH STATE SENATOR KATIE MUTH". On the left is a portrait of Senator Katie Muth. To her right are illustrations of recycling items: a plastic bottle, a mesh produce bag, a brown paper bag with a recycling symbol, a green recycling symbol, a reusable water bottle, and a set of reusable utensils. Below the portrait, the text "Thursday, July 23rd | 6:30 PM" and "Register for Zoom login information" is written in white. In the bottom right corner is the PennEnvironment logo, which includes a stylized landscape and the text "PennEnvironment".

Joint Policy Hearing on Worker Protection

Join us on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. for a Joint Senate & House Democratic Policy Committee hearing co-chaired by Senator Lindsey Williams, Rep. Elizabeth Fiedler, Rep. Patrick Harkins, and me.



The banner has a dark blue background. At the top, the title "Joint Virtual Policy Hearing" is in white. Below it are four portraits of the participants: State Senator Katie Muth, State Senator Lindsey M. Williams, State Rep. Elizabeth Fiedler, and State Rep. Patrick J. Harkins. Each portrait is accompanied by their name and title in white text. Below the portraits, the text "will be holding a" is in a small white font, followed by "JOINT SENATE & HOUSE DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE" in large white capital letters, and "on" in a small white font. At the bottom, the text "WORKER PROTECTION" is in very large white capital letters. Below this, the text "Wednesday • July 22 @ 11 a.m." is in white, followed by "Livestream available @ SenatorBoscola.com/Policy" in a smaller white font, and a red button with the text "#SenDemPolicy" in white.

The purpose of this hearing is to learn how we can best address worker protections as many individuals are risking exposure to COVID-19 by entering back into the workplace. Feel free to view on my Facebook or website.

How to Stay Informed

Below is an extensive list of information, statistics, and resources to ensure you stay up-to-date with any changes happening due to COVID-19.

Check out [my website](#) for a comprehensive list of resources or one of the helpful site below.

Pennsylvania Department of Health

- The PA DoH [Daily COVID-19 report](#). Updated regularly throughout the day.
- Follow the PA Health Department on [Twitter](#).
- Follow them on [Facebook](#).

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Track confirmed cases in the US](#). (This site is updated weekdays at noon and shows numbers that were current as of 4 p.m. the previous day.)
- CDC provided information regarding "[What you should know about COVID-19](#)"
- Follow the CDC on [Twitter](#).
- Follow the CDC on [Facebook](#).
- Learn how best to [prevent "community transition"](#) with specific details on what to do before, during, and after outbreaks.

World Health Organization

- Learn what’s happening Worldwide with the [WHO’s Daily report](#). The most recent report is located at the top of the page. It includes confirmed case and death tallies.
- Additional COVID-19 information is provided on their [website](#).
- Stay informed on [Twitter](#).
- Follow their [Facebook](#) page.

Be sure to check out the complete list of information, data, and resources available to those in:

[Berks County](#)

[Chester County](#)

[Montgomery County](#)





SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS

from

KATIE MUTH

PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATOR

Submit your mobile number to stay up-to-date with the latest events and happenings from Senator Katie Muth sent right to your phone.

Submit



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