



State Representative

VALERIE GAYDOS

44th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

DELIVERING TAX RELIEF AND RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

Protecting taxpayers, lowering costs and ensuring government is accountable remain some of my top priorities. Every vote I cast is guided by the people I represent, and I will continue working to advance commonsense policies that strengthen our communities while promoting responsible economic growth.

I supported House Bill 2224, which would eliminate the nearly 6% Gross Receipts Tax on electric bills, providing an estimated \$1.7 billion in relief for Pennsylvania families, seniors and small businesses. We all need relief from the astronomical utility costs that continue to strain family budgets.

I also voted for three bills to address data center concerns. The first, House Bill 2496, which I also co-sponsored, would establish a 180-day pause on new data center applications, allowing municipalities time to review local impacts. House Bill 2650 would strengthen transparency, environmental safeguards, community engagement and protections against higher utility costs, while House Bill 2198 would repeal a costly tax exemption for data centers.

These bills passed the House and now await Senate consideration.

SUPPORTING PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS AND FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS

Supporting homeowners and ensuring strong funding for Pennsylvania's schools are key responsibilities of state government. As costs continue to rise, it is important that relief is targeted to those who need it most while maintaining support for our education system.

I voted in favor of House Bill 1678, legislation that would provide enhanced property tax rebates for Pennsylvania homeowners, with a focus on seniors and those on fixed incomes. The bill also ensures funding is distributed to all 500 school districts across the Commonwealth and updates provisions of the Tax Reform Code, including changes to the Gross Receipts Tax, to support the rebate program.

This legislation passed the House with bipartisan support and now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS, EXPANDING ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Across our communities, I consistently hear from parents, students and grandparents about the rising cost of higher education. For too many Pennsylvania families, the price of a college degree is becoming increasingly difficult to afford.

Pennsylvania remains one of the most expensive states for college tuition, and that reality is forcing students to rethink their future plans. I am a co-sponsor of the Pennsylvania Promise initiative and voted for House Bill 2084, which would provide scholarship assistance to eligible students attending community colleges, state universities and certain state-related institutions.

This legislation passed the House with bipartisan support and now moves to the Senate for consideration. If we want to keep talent in Pennsylvania and build a strong future workforce, we must make higher education more affordable and accessible for the next generation.

EXPANDING CAREER PATHWAYS FOR PENNSYLVANIA STUDENTS

Creating opportunities for the next generation and building a stronger workforce are essential to Pennsylvania's future. I am committed to advancing policies that equip students with the skills, experience and career pathways they need to succeed while helping employers meet the demands of today's economy.

I introduced House Bill 2481, legislation that would modernize Pennsylvania's Child Labor Act by aligning state law with federal standards and expanding access to apprenticeships and work-based learning opportunities. The legislation would remove outdated barriers to hands-on training while maintaining important labor protections and helping students transition directly into employment after graduation.

By connecting classroom learning with real-world experience, we can better prepare students for rewarding, family-sustaining careers while strengthening Pennsylvania's workforce and economy.

House Bill 2481 has been referred to the House Labor and Industry Committee for consideration.



LIMITING CLASSROOM CELL PHONE USE TO IMPROVE STUDENT FOCUS

Maintaining a focused learning environment in our classrooms is necessary to ensure students receive a strong and effective education. Classroom distractions continue to present real challenges for teachers and students, making it more difficult to meet our responsibility to provide a thorough and efficient system of public education.

I was a co-sponsor of legislation which would require public school entities to restrict student cell phone possession and use during the school day in school buildings. The House passed House Bill 1814 with bipartisan support, and the measure now moves to the Senate for consideration.

Limiting cell phone use can help improve academic performance, reduce disruptions, address cyberbullying and support student well-being. At the same time, I recognize concerns about local control, as school districts vary in size and needs, and many already have effective policies in place. I also understand the added responsibilities this may place on teachers and administrators.

I supported House Bill 1814 because keeping students focused on learning is essential to delivering a strong education for Pennsylvania students.



CLOSING A GAP IN MEGAN'S LAW TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY

Protecting our communities and supporting law enforcement are fundamental responsibilities of state government. Our laws should be effective and designed to strengthen public safety and accountability.

I introduced legislation to close a loophole in Pennsylvania's Megan's Law residency reporting requirements. Under current law, registered sex offenders must report an address only after residing there for 30 consecutive days.

My legislation would remove the word "consecutive," requiring offenders to report any address where they reside for a total of 30 or more days within a calendar year. This change would provide law enforcement and the public with more accurate residency information, better reflecting where offenders are spending significant time, and reinforcing the transparency and protections Megan's Law was designed to provide.

JOINING A BIPARTISAN EFFORT TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is a serious crime that demands coordinated action and strong enforcement across Pennsylvania. Lawmakers have a responsibility to work together to strengthen laws, support survivors and ensure traffickers are brought to justice.

I have joined the bipartisan, bicameral Pennsylvania Anti-Human Trafficking Caucus, which brings together members of the House and Senate to advance legislation and partner with organizations fighting trafficking statewide.

This builds on prior work, including Act 45 of 2021, to strengthen offender treatment requirements and improve public safety.



BUILDING PENNSYLVANIA'S LEADERSHIP IN THE AI ECONOMY

Strengthening Pennsylvania's position in the growing AI economy requires collaboration between government, industry and research institutions. As chair of the Pennsylvania House Artificial Intelligence Opportunity Task Force and ranking member of the House Communications and Technology Committee, I participated in a panel discussion hosted by Hogan Lovells in Washington, D.C., focused on the future of artificial intelligence.

The conversation highlighted opportunities in data center development, semiconductor manufacturing and energy infrastructure. Pennsylvania is well-positioned to lead, with

world-class universities, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, a strong manufacturing base, robotics expertise and abundant energy resources.

As we pursue this growth, it is essential development remains responsible – protecting consumers, safeguarding natural resources, ensuring grid reliability, strengthening cybersecurity and preventing costs from being shifted onto Pennsylvania families and businesses.



HONORING THE HEROES OF D-DAY

I am honored to share my resolution commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day passed the House unanimously.

House Resolution 242 recognizes June 6, 1944, when Allied forces launched one of the most consequential military operations in history on the beaches of Normandy. The courage, sacrifice, and resolve of those American and Allied servicemembers changed the course of World War II and secured the freedoms we continue to defend and enjoy today.

This resolution is also personal to me. I shared the story of my uncle, Col. Theodore Gaydos, who witnessed the events of D-Day from Omaha Beach, reminding us these sacrifices were real, human and unforgettable.

I am grateful for the unanimous support by my House colleagues and proud to ensure their legacy is formally honored in Pennsylvania.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



I was proud to present Union Pacific Chief Engineer Ed Dickens with a House of Representatives citation recognizing the historic visit of Big Boy No. 4014 to Leetsdale. Thank you for helping bring this piece of living history to our community.



It was an honor to present Moon Township with a special America 250 recognition as we celebrated Independence Day and the values that unite our community and nation.



I was proud to partner with UPMC for You and Miracle Dental Associates to provide a free dental clinic for our community. Expanding access to preventive dental care strengthens our communities and remains a top priority.



It was a pleasure to co-host a Senior Resource Session with Sen. Devlin Robinson, connecting residents with valuable state resources and services. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the event a success, including returning more than \$20,000 in unclaimed property to constituents.



It was an honor to attend a special VFW event at Coraopolis VFW Post 402 for the residents of the Southwest Veterans Center. Thank you to the VFW for its continued commitment to honoring and supporting those who have served our nation.



It was great to join my fellow America250PA commissioners at the Commonwealth Concert in Pittsburgh as we celebrated America's 250th. Thank you to Executive Director Cassandra Coleman and the America250PA team for a fantastic event.



It was great to take part in the third annual Aerospace and Aviation Day at the Capitol, showcasing Pennsylvania's leadership in aerospace and aviation. I also enjoyed welcoming NASA astronaut and fellow Sewickley Academy classmate Col. Mike Fincke for this special event.



DISTRICT OFFICE LOCATIONS

MOON TOWNSHIP:

1005 Beaver Grade Road,
Suite 106
Moon Township, PA 15108
412-262-3780
FAX: 412-262-3783

CAPITOL:

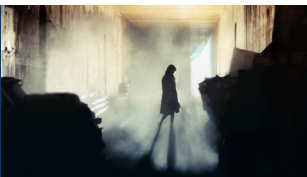
Room 107, Ryan Building
PO Box 202044
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2044
717-787-6651
FAX: 717-782-2889

WE'RE HERE TO SERVE YOU... NOW ON THE ROAD!

Our district office is holding remote office hours each month to better serve you:

- ★ **Sewickley Borough Building**
601 Thorn St., Sewickley
Third Thursday of the Month
10 a.m. to Noon
- ★ **Western Allegheny Community Library**
181 Bateman Road, Oakdale
Second Tuesday of the Month
2–4 p.m.
- ★ **Leetsdale Borough Community Room**
373 Beaver St., Leetsdale
Third Thursday of the Month
2–4 p.m.
- ★ **Main Office (Moon Township)**
1005 Beaver Grade Road, Moon Township
Open Weekdays 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS!



Help End Human Trafficking | Tuesday, Sept. 1, beginning at 6 p.m.

Sewickley Hills Borough Building, 349 Magee Road, Sewickley

Attend this community awareness event to better understand human trafficking, recognize warning signs and learn practical ways to help prevent exploitation.



Day Care Policy Discussion | Thursday, Sept. 17, at 4:30 p.m.

Sewickley Valley YMCA, 625 Blackburn Road, Sewickley

Take part in a community discussion on daycare policies and safety while helping shape stronger support for local children and families.



Shredding Event | Saturday, Oct. 3, from 9-11 a.m.

Edgeworth Elementary School, 200 Meadow Lane, Edgeworth

Protect your identity by securely shredding documents containing personal information, including Social Security numbers, bank account details and medical records at no cost.