



# NORTHWEST DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

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Rep. Patrick J. Harkins, Secretary

**Kari Orchard**  
Regional Caucus Director

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Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

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January 16, 2019

Ms. Theresa D. Miller, Secretary  
Department of Human Services  
333 Health and Welfare Building  
Harrisburg, Pa. 17110

Dear Secretary Miller:

We are writing to express significant concerns with the forthcoming changes to the administration of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) as required under Act 40 of 2018.

As you know, Act 40 requires the department to amend our State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide nonemergency medical transportation services to Medical Assistance recipients using a statewide or regional full-risk brokerage model. This consolidation of service represents a monumental shift in the current MATP system, which operates at a local level and accounts for unique geographic needs.

We echo the concerns of the Pennsylvania Public Transportation Association and many of our local transit agencies who fear a change to a statewide or regional broker model will cause a disruption in services and confusion for users. Public transportation riders must already navigate fixed-route bus schedules and shared ride options provided by transit agencies. Layering a new provider for a limited segment of riders adds an unnecessary level of complexity for users.

Furthermore, if transit agencies lose the ability to provide MATP services, it could have a devastating impact on their budget and their ability to serve their counties. This, in turn, could lead to cutbacks in geographic service areas and hours of service as well as steep fare hikes and funding requests from the Commonwealth.

We understand that the department was required to issue a Request for Proposals last month under Act 40. However, given the substantial drawbacks, we question whether this is ultimately the best course for Pennsylvania.

We request that the department consider suspending its RFP or, at minimum, take its time in thoroughly evaluating bids for full-risk brokers. We strongly believe the Commonwealth's transit systems – who ably provide MATP services now – deserve a seat at the table during this evaluation and negotiation process so that they can remain part of Medical Assistance transportation in the future.

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## MEMBERS

**H. Scott Conklin**  
Centre

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Mercer

**Joseph A. Petrarca**  
Armstrong, Indiana, Westmoreland

**Christopher Sainato**  
Lawrence

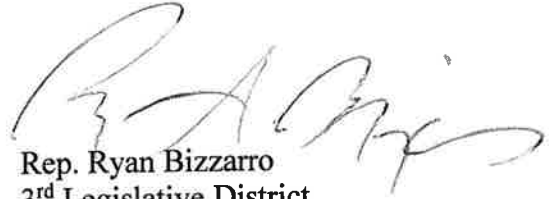
# NORTHWEST DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sincerely,



Rep. Frank Burns  
72<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District



Rep. Ryan Bizzarro  
3<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District



Rep. Patrick Harkins  
1<sup>st</sup> Legislative District



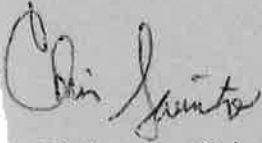
Rep. Scott Conklin  
77<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Rep. Mark Longietti  
7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



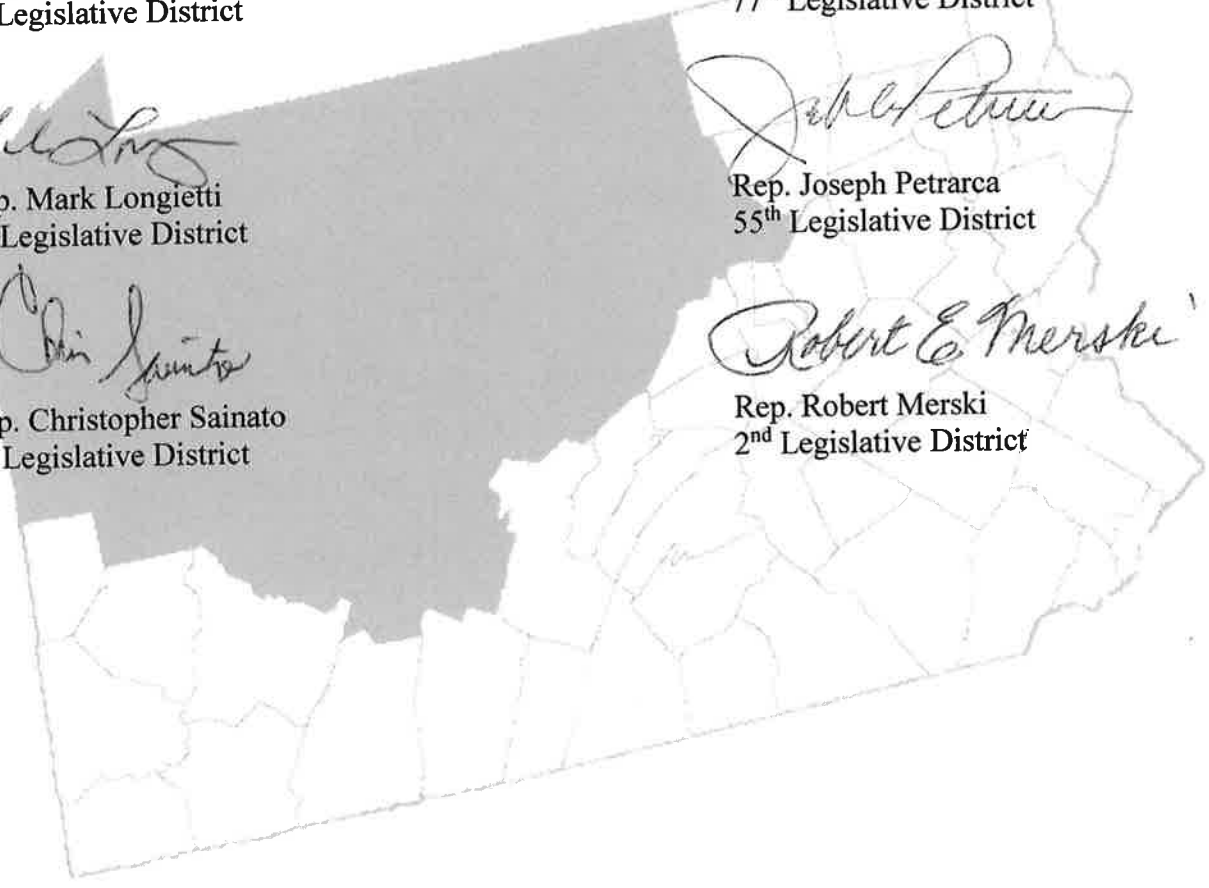
Rep. Joseph Petrarca  
55<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Rep. Christopher Sainato  
9<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Rep. Robert Merski  
2<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District



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