

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**JOANNA E. McCLINTON**

***SERVING THE COMMUNITY***

 /RepMcClinton •   @RepMcClinton  
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*Students from the Greater Hope Christian Academy toured the state Capitol in May. During their visit they were introduced at the beginning of the legislative session and joined Speaker McClinton in the House Chamber.*

**SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

# Dear Neighbor,

I'm happy to have connected with so many of you this summer at local events like my job fair at Community of Compassion CDC, Liberian Independence Day at City Hall, or one of my shred days in southwest Philadelphia or Yeadon.

If we haven't connected yet, there are still plenty of opportunities. Local events are a great way for me to learn about your top priorities and to share information about state resources available to you. To be the first to know about upcoming events and news from the community and Harrisburg, sign up for my weekly e-newsletter on my website: [www.RepMcClinton.com](http://www.RepMcClinton.com) or follow me on social media.

Inside this newsletter you'll find information about the state budget which includes record investments in our community and schools. I also provide an update on some groundbreaking legislation that needs your support to get it to Governor Shapiro's desk. And there

are also lots of photos from district events. You can always find photos on my Flickr site:



[www.flickr.com/photos/repmcclinton](https://www.flickr.com/photos/repmcclinton)  
(There are links from my website to Flickr and my other social media outlets. Scan the QR code to visit my website.)

Finally, I hope you found time to relax with friends and family and enjoyed many of the great events or spaces our community had to offer this summer, whether it was stopping by the Darby Rec Center, going for a walk in Bartram's Garden or visiting one of our locally owned businesses.



## NEW STATE INVESTMENTS IN WEST AND SOUTHWEST PHILLY

In July, I helped steer an ambitious state budget through the legislature and to the Governor for his signature. This budget delivers a record investment to our schools and transforms the way we drive funding to districts that have been underfunded in the past, like William Penn and Philadelphia. It also provides funding for public safety initiatives that help keep our neighborhoods safe. Finally, the budget helps us address our affordable housing challenges.

### Giving Students a Great Start

The most important tool we have to strengthen our community's future is to fairly fund our schools and students now. It is the right thing to do, and it is the law. I've been fighting for these investments in Harrisburg, and I'm proud that this year we made a downpayment on meeting our moral and constitutional obligation to adequately and equitably fund our schools.

Pennsylvania is sending more than \$10.5 billion to our 500 public school districts, and those that have been underfunded, like William Penn in Delco and Philadelphia city schools, will now receive an additional adequacy subsidy to help level the playing field with districts that have a more robust tax base.

District	Funding Increase Subsidy	New Adequacy	School Safety State Funding	Total 2024/25
Philadelphia	\$231.9 million	\$136.7 million	\$3.6 million	\$1.93 billion

Additionally, to help many of our aging school buildings, we doubled down on an investment from last year by providing \$100 million to repair and update school infrastructure around the state. By improving our school buildings, we make them safer for students, staff, and visitors, and also make them more efficient and less expensive to operate.

For the second year, every student is eligible for free breakfast at school. This keeps kids healthy and helps them learn throughout the school day. Plus, there is a new \$3 million investment to make menstrual products available in schools.

### Helping Keep Communities Safe

Everyone has the right to be safe in their communities. With investments in this year's state budget, neighborhoods across southeastern Pennsylvania will have more tools to help families and communities feel secure.

First, we are investing \$45 million in proven community-based programs to reduce violence, including a \$5 million increase for the Violence Intervention and Prevention grant program. This program is managed by the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency and offers grants to community-based organizations that are well-positioned to implement violence prevention programs that respond directly to the specific needs of the community. Learn about eligibility or how to apply at [www.pccd.pa.gov/](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/) under Gun Violence, or call my office.

There is also \$11 million for a new program, Building Opportunity through Out of School Time (BOOST), to provide more after-school learning opportunities to keep kids safe and reduce community violence.

Finally, the Philadelphia Crime Lab is set to receive \$5 million. In order to be most effective, law enforcement needs access to the right tools. Funding the crime lab will help solve crimes faster and keep our communities safer.

## Helping Families Find Affordable Housing

Too many families are struggling to find affordable housing. It is a challenge in our community and around the country. To help, this year we raised the cap on PHARE funding to \$100 million per year by 2026. PHARE is a special fund that helps communities create, rehab and support affordable housing options across Pennsylvania. This year's investment is almost twice as much as last year.

The budget also sends nearly \$24 million - a \$5 million increase - to support rental assistance, bridge housing, emergency shelter, and eviction prevention. Plus, there is a new \$2.5 million investment to help families access legal counsel when they are engaged in eviction proceedings.

## Women Making History

On Juneteenth, I was honored to join former Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms and host Soledad O'Brien for a lively discussion at the African American Museum of Philadelphia called "Shattering the Glass Ceiling: African American Women in Politics."

Black women have been leading their communities for generations, and we continue to make history every day with leaders like Mayor Cherrille Parker, Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, and Vice President Kamala Harris! The discussion was an opportunity to share some of the challenges we've faced and, more importantly, how we've overcome them.



## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE CROWN ACT!

More than two dozen states have passed the CROWN Act which bans discrimination based on hair type, hair texture or hair style in employment, schools, and other public settings, but Pennsylvania is not one of them... yet.

I've been introducing the CROWN Act in the legislature since 2020, and in 2023 the state House finally passed it by an overwhelming 182-21! But for the last year the Senate has not acted on the bill. It is time for Pennsylvania to join the movement to finally end this discrimination. If states like Texas, Tennessee and Louisiana can pass the CROWN Act, so can we.

You can voice your support for this legislation by visiting my website ([www.RepMcClinton.com](http://www.RepMcClinton.com) under "Policy Topics") to join the CROWN Coalition and send a message to the state Senate calling on them to pass the bill.



*In June, I joined other lawmakers, advocacy groups and businesses at a Capitol rally to recognize the widespread support for the CROWN Act and call on the Senate to pass it. I was joined by Rep. Regina Young, D-Phila./Delaware, Rep. La'Tasha Mayes, D-Allegheny, and Rep. Gina Curry, D-Delaware.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FALL EVENTS!

**OCT. 31**

**3 - 6 P.M.  
HARVEST FESTIVAL**

The Commonplace  
5736 Chester Ave., Philadelphia  
(Enter on 58th St.)

**NOV. 8**

**NOON - 2 P.M.  
HONORING OUR VETERANS**

PAL Center  
5900 Elmwood Ave., Philadelphia

# Around the Community



**Celebrating Read Across America** with my youngest neighbors at Add B. Anderson, Bell Avenue, and W.B. Evans elementary schools and Greater Hope Christian Academy.

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO APPLY FOR A PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE!

The newly expanded Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program has already returned \$266 million to eligible Pennsylvanians this year. If you haven't applied yet, it isn't too late. You have until Dec. 31, 2024.

You may be eligible for a rebate of up to \$1000, if you are:

- A senior 65 or older,
- A widowed person 50 or older, or

- A person with a disability 18 or older, and
- Have an annual household income of \$45,000 or less.

In 2023, I was proud to support the legislation that expanded program eligibility and increased rebates for the first time in nearly 20 years.

My office can answer questions and even help you apply.



### Property Tax / Rent Rebate 2024 Program Expansion

**MORE** people eligible, **MORE** money back!

Homeowner & Renter Income	Max Rebate
Up to \$8K	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$460
Up to \$45K	\$380

Questions? Contact my office for help receiving your refund!

# Around the Community



**Capitol Visit** from NSA Multi Cultural Academy.



**Job Fair**  
at Community of  
Compassion CDC.



**EmpowHER Women's Health Fair**  
at the Darby Rec Center.



**Philly Eid Festival in the Park.**



State Representative • 191st Legislative District

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## 2024 GENERAL ELECTION IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

**OCT 21**

Last day to register to vote in the general election  
[vote.pa.gov/Register](https://vote.pa.gov/Register)

**OCT 29  
8 pm**

The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot or mail-in ballot  
[vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot](https://vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot)

**NOV 5  
8 pm**

**Election Day**  
County election offices must receive your completed ballot



**vote.pa.gov**

*Your vote is your voice,  
don't forget to be heard  
in this year's election.*

# Check inside

for information about upcoming events,  
a reminder to apply for a Property  
Tax/Rent Rebate, and photos.

