

Pennsylvania State Government:
Budget, Policy and Politics
June 11, 2024



Where We Started

February 6, 2024

“Seniors... mothers... children – it’s up to us to protect the most vulnerable among us.

That includes Pennsylvanians with intellectual disabilities and autism. I’ve talked to so many parents who are desperate to get their kids the care they need. You can see it in their eyes, the sheer exhaustion of working a full-time job and having to care for their loved ones. They come home after a long day of work and then spend hours ensuring their kids get the attention and care they need. They can’t sleep. They can’t rest. But they do it all out of unconditional love. So many parents need help and they’re doing everything right – they’ve done the research, they found the program that will help their child live a full and productive life – but then they’re told to wait because the government hasn’t funded this enough. That’s devastating. My budget will open up 850 new spots for Pennsylvanians with disabilities, giving hundreds of families much-needed relief. That’s hundreds of families that will be able to go to bed without this kind of stress and worry.”

- Governor Josh Shapiro

Where We're Planning To Go

- A long overdue rate increase to help retain DSPS
- \$266 million in federal funding and \$217 million in state funding to increase resources for providers of home and community-based services
- \$34.2 million in Community Waiver and \$1.85 million in the Community Base Program, which will allow DHS to expand the number of individuals participating in home and community-based service programs
- \$934,000 to add American Sign Language and English interpreter services to programs serving those with ID/A to ensure equality in communication services
- Move an additional 1,500 people off the emergency wait list and receive needed services

Other Priority Areas

Proposed \$48.3 billion budget for FY2024-25 with \$3 billion in new spending

- Basic Education
- Higher Education
- Mass Transit
- Energy
- Health Insurance
- Marijuana
- Minimum Wage
- Skill Games
- Electric Vehicle Fee

Where We Are Now

- Budget statutory deadline June 30, 2024
- Anticipating the budget not being done on time
- Status of budget negotiations

How Can You Help?

- 1) Outreach to your state legislators
- 2) Call, email or snail mail your State Representative or State Senator to let them know:

The ID/A community needs your support! Please keep the proposed investment of \$483 million in the 2024-2025 budget. This critical investment will provide more services, retain more DSPs, move more people off the emergency waitlist and keep families in your legislative district together. Thank you!

PA General Assembly Leadership

- **Divided Government:**

Democrats (barely) control the House and Republicans control the Senate;
Democratic Governor (his second budget as Governor)

- **Majority Caucuses:**

- Senate Republicans:

President Pro Tempore Kim Ward (Westmoreland)

Leader Joe Pittman (Armstrong, Indiana, Jefferson & Westmoreland)

Appropriations Chairman Scott Martin (Berks & Lancaster)

- House Democrats:

Speaker Joanna McClinton (Philly & Delaware)

Leader Matt Bradford (Montgomery)

Appropriations Chairman Jordan Harris (Philly)

PA General Assembly Leadership (continued)

- **Minority Caucuses:**

- Senate Democrats:

- Leader Jay Costa (Allegheny)

- Appropriations Chairman Vincent Hughes (Philly)

- House Republicans:

- Leader Bryan Cutler (Lancaster)

- Appropriations Chairman Seth Grove (York)

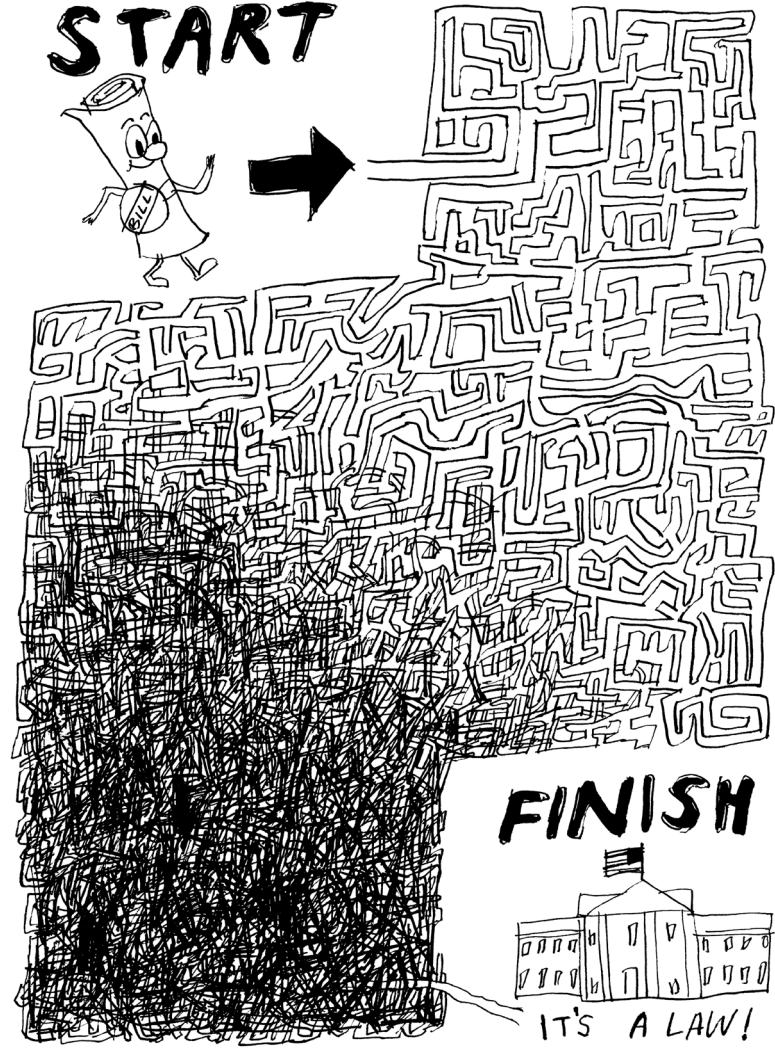
PA General Assembly Human Services Committee Chairs

- Majority Chair, Rep. Stephen Kinsey, House Human Services (D, Philly)
- Minority Chair, Rep. Doyle Heffley, House Human Services (R, Carbon)
- Majority Chair, Sen. Michele Brooks, Senate Health & Human Services (R, Crawford & Mercer)
- Minority Chair, Sen. Art Haywood, Senate Health & Human Services (D, Montgomery & Philly)



HELP THE BILL FIND ITS WAY TO BECOMING A LAW

START



FINISH



IT'S A LAW!

STEED

The Arc of PA's Legislative Priorities

HB 2124 – Rep. Watro (R, Schuylkill & Luzerne)

Roman's Law: Allowing delayed school enrollment for children with autism, developmental delays or intellectual disabilities

Status: Senate Education Senate Companion: SB 1157 – Sen. Argall (R, Carbon, Luzerne & Schuylkill)

HB 1836 – Rep. Kahn (D, Philly)

Michael's Law: Admission fairness for persons with care attendants in the PA Human Relations Commission Act

Status: House Tourism & Economic & Recreational Development

HB 1834 – Rep. Dan Miller (D, Allegheny)

Creates an office of the Executive Director within the Employment First Oversight Commission who would then serve as executive officer of the Commission

Status: Senate Labor & Industry

The Arc of PA's Legislative Priorities (continued)

HB 1417 – Rep. Curry (D, Delaware)

Restoring dental coverage for Medical Assistance recipients
Status: Senate Health & Human Services

HB 183 – Rep. D. Miller (D, Allegheny)

Insurance Coverage for Wheelchair Maintenance
Status: House Human Services
Senate Companion: SB 511 Sen. Tartaglione (D, Philly)

HB 1119 – Rep. Howard (D, Chester)

Considers adding “intellectual or physical disability” to the list of elements that prosecutors can consider when contemplating hate crimes
Status: House Judiciary

HB 28 – Rep. Struzzi (R, Indiana)

Cody's Law: Would amend the crimes code to provide that any individual that intentionally causes bodily injury to a person with intellectual disability or autism spectrum disorder is guilty of aggravated assault, a felony of the second degree
Status: House Judiciary

Statewide Races to Watch

- **Attorney General**
Democrat Candidate: Eugene DePasquale
Republican Candidate: Dave Sunday
- **State Treasurer**
Democrat Candidate: Erin McClelland
Unopposed Republican Incumbent: Stacy Garrity*
- **Auditor General**
Democrat Candidate: Malcolm Kenyatta
Unopposed Republican Incumbent: Tim DeFoor*

PA State Senate Races to Watch

Senate District 15 (Dauphin)

Democrat Candidate: Patty Kim

Republican Candidate: Nick DiFrancesco

Senate District 37 (Allegheny)

Democrat Candidate: Nicole Ruscitto

Republican Incumbent Candidate: Devlin Robinson*

Senate District 45 (Allegheny)

Democrat Candidate: Nick Pisciotano

Republican Candidate: Jen Dintini

Senate District 49 (Erie)

Democrat Candidate: Jim Wertz

Republican Incumbent Candidate: Dan Laughlin*

PA House Races to Watch

House District 33 (Allegheny)

Democrat Candidate: Mandy Steel*

Republican Candidate: Gary Lotz

House District 118 (Lackawanna)

Democrat Candidate: Jim Haddock*

Republican Candidate: James May

House District 144 (Lackawanna)

Democrat Candidate: Brian Munroe*

Republican Candidate: Todd Polinchock

House District 82 (Centre)

Democrat Candidate: Paul Takac*

Republican Candidate: Justin Behrens

House District 16 (Beaver)

Democrat Candidate: Rob Matzie*

Republican Candidate: Michael Perich

House District 121 (Luzerne)

Democrat Candidate: Eddie Day Pashinski*

Republican Candidate: Eryn Harvey

House District 137 (Northampton)

Democrat Candidate: Anna Thomas

Republican Candidate: Joe Emerick

House District 142 (Bucks)

Democrat Candidate: Mark Moffa

Republican Candidate: Joe Hogan*

PA House Races to Watch (continued)

House District 88 (Cumberland)

Democrat Candidate: Sara Agerton

Republican Candidate: Sheryl Delozier*

House District 44 (Allegheny)

Democrat Candidate: Hadley Haas

Republican Candidate: Valarie Gaydos*

House District 13 (Chester)

Democrat Candidate: Christine Luna

Republican Candidate: John Lawrence*

House District 28 (Allegheny)

Democrat Candidate: William Petulla

Republican Candidate: Jeremy Shaffer

House District 18 (Bucks)

Democrat Candidate: Anand Patel

Republican Candidate: KC Tomlinson*

House District 160 (Chester & Delaware)

Democrat Candidate: Elizabeth Moro

Republican Candidate: Craig Williams*

House District 38 (Allegheny)

Democrat Candidate: John Inglis

Republican Candidate: Stone Sobieralski

Budget, Policy, Politics: the Great Unknown

Q & A discussion