



PROTECTING Our Children: Warner Bills Target Child Abuse

We have seen truly horrific child abuse cases here in Fayette County recently, and we are all left wondering how we could have stopped the suffering and, in the case of Renesmay Eutsey, the tragic loss of a young life taken far too soon.

I am working to introduce legislation that would make needed reforms to our Children and Youth Services (CYS) system. Specifically, the bill would increase accountability and oversight of county CYS agencies; strengthen recordkeeping, case history and in-home oversight; improve caseworker support and workload management; enhance training and coordination among available services; and expand reporting and response requirements.

Our first and most important goal must always be protecting our children and stopping abuse before it even starts.

Our second goal is to make sure the evil people who abuse our children are caught and properly punished for their actions.

I have introduced legislation that would expand criminal penalties for extreme cases of child abuse and child sexual abuse, up to and including the death penalty. This measure would build on my proposal to establish the offense of child torture.

No punishment is too harsh for people who treat precious children as if they aren't even human beings. In the tragic cases when abuse occurs, we must give our law enforcement officers all the tools they need to ensure people are held accountable for their actions and justice is served for the victims.

If you know or suspect someone is a victim of child abuse, please call PA ChildLine at 1-800-932-0313.

TERROR-CONNECTED ILLEGAL ALIEN Found with PA CDL, REAL ID

In mid-November, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security arrested a man who is an illegal alien and accused terrorist in his home country of Uzbekistan. It so happens that this criminal with ties to terrorism was carrying a Pennsylvania-issued Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with a REAL ID designation at the time of his arrest.

I am absolutely disgusted and deeply concerned for the safety and security of our Commonwealth. How does an illegal alien with alleged terrorist ties obtain a license from our Commonwealth to drive large commercial vehicles AND do so with the heightened security requirements necessary to receive the REAL ID designation? Unbelievably, another illegal immigrant with a Pennsylvania-issued CDL was arrested in Indiana in February after causing a fatal accident that killed four people.

Beyond the borders of Pennsylvania, this raises serious national security concerns, as REAL ID allows people to gain access to air travel, military installations and other federal buildings. Additionally, due to the Commonwealth's automatic voter registration policies implemented by Gov. Josh Shapiro, the incident also raises questions about the security of the state's elections.

This is one more example of why we need to implement my legislative proposals related to illegal immigration. I am the prime sponsor of legislation that would prevent municipalities and counties across the Commonwealth from designating themselves as "sanctuaries" for illegal immigrants.

Proficiency in English being a requirement for legal immigration, I also sponsored an amendment that would require all CDL holders to speak English and am drafting legislation that would require all driver's tests to be administered only in English.

Finally, to ensure the sanctity of elections, I have also introduced legislation that would require proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote.

We cannot and will not tolerate our government putting our safety and security at risk.

BOOSTING Energy Production, Economic Growth

The Commonwealth is now officially free of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a carbon tax program that was already wreaking havoc on energy production and energy prices here in the Commonwealth.

Since participation in RGGI was first proposed by former Gov. Tom Wolf, I have battled to have our state removed from this misguided initiative, knowing it would cause only harm to consumers and our economy. In fact, as a result of the Wolf and Shapiro administrations' support for RGGI, our Commonwealth missed out on 22,000 direct energy-related jobs and nearly \$8 billion in economic development opportunities.

Now that we are withdrawn from RGGI, we will see more jobs and greater energy production. Higher production will lead to a more reliable electric grid and stabilized utility costs, which is vital as ongoing participation in RGGI was forecast to increase our utility bills by an average of 30% by 2030.



Taxpayers Beware of Another Bloated Budget

Just a few weeks after the very belated 2025-26 state budget was finalized, Gov. Josh Shapiro unveiled his plans for 2026-27. Sadly, it's more of the same.

For the fourth year in a row, the governor is proposing to spend more than we have. His \$53.26 billion plan increases spending by more than 5% over the current year, even though revenues are estimated to increase by less than 2%. Any family with a budget knows that doesn't work.

The governor plans to pay for his proposals by using more than half of our Rainy Day Fund – an account meant to help deal with emergencies or economic downturns – and new taxes.

This is both irresponsible and unsustainable. It is my hope we can come together and adopt a responsible budget that respects the taxpayers who foot the bill.

End the Inheritance Tax

When you lose a loved one, the last thing you should have to worry about is paying taxes on any money or property you inherit from them. After all, they've already paid taxes on that income and property – why should the government get to tax it again?

Unfortunately, that's exactly what happens here in Pennsylvania, as we are one of just five states that still assesses an inheritance tax. **I am co-sponsoring legislation to change that.**

Under current law, transfers to spouses are exempt but transfers to direct descendants, such as children and grandchildren, are taxed at 4.5%, and siblings at 12%. Other heirs can face a rate as high as 15%.

House Bill 1394 would eliminate any inheritance tax here in Pennsylvania. This change is long overdue to stop unfair double taxation and, more importantly, to respect the wishes of Pennsylvanians who wish to leave a legacy to their spouse, children or others without burdening them with more taxes. The bill is currently in the House Finance Committee.

Time to Abolish ALL Property Taxes!

No one likes to pay taxes, but no tax is more egregious than the property tax in its level of unfairness and potential to do harm to our citizens.

In fact, property taxes are akin to paying rent to the government, and a failure to pay can result in the government taking your home or property away. As long as property taxes are assessed in Pennsylvania, people can never fully "own" their property.

With seniors on fixed incomes at risk of losing their homes and aspiring first-time homebuyers being kept out of the market due to high property taxes, it's time to make a change.

While many property tax elimination plans have focused only on school taxes, I have signed on to co-sponsor House Bill 900, a measure that seeks to eliminate ALL property taxes in the Commonwealth while also tasking the General Assembly with devising different methods of funding our schools, counties and municipalities.

I am also working on similar legislation that would eliminate all property taxes for people age 65 and over. While the ultimate goal is elimination for everyone, at the very minimum we should end this burden on our senior citizens.



New Law Protects Senior Citizens' Prescription Coverage

Medications play a vital role in preserving health and improving quality of life, but they can be costly, especially for our senior citizens. That's why I was pleased to support a new law that will protect thousands of Pennsylvania seniors from losing access to affordable prescription drug coverage.

Act 49 of 2025 extends the current Social Security cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) moratorium for the PACE and PACENET programs through Dec. 31, 2027. Without this extension, more than 22,000 older Pennsylvanians would have faced disruptions in their benefits due to modest increases in Social Security income.

The PACE and PACENET programs serve over 250,000 Pennsylvanians age 65 and older. To learn more about the programs, who qualifies and how to apply, visit www.pa.gov/agencies/aging.

Chairing House Tourism Committee

I am honored to have been appointed Republican chairman of the House Tourism, Recreation and Economic Development Committee for the remainder of the 2025-26 Legislative Session.

Here in Fayette County, tourism is not just a point of pride, but an important economic driver that supports local jobs, small businesses and community growth. We are blessed with outstanding tourism and recreation activities such as Ohiopyle State Park, Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob, just to name a few.

Beyond Fayette County's borders, our Commonwealth has so much to offer as well, and I look forward to advancing policies that help us realize the full economic potential of our tourism industry.

Tourism is currently the state's second largest industry behind agriculture. In 2024, it generated a total economic impact of \$83.9 billion for the Commonwealth, welcomed 201.6 million visitors and supported more than 514,000 jobs, according to the Department of Community and Economic Development.

The House Tourism, Recreation and Economic Development Committee considers issues including travel and tourism promotion; the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; scenic roadways; snowmobile and trail-related initiatives; amusement parks, fairs, carnivals and folk festivals; agritourism; hotel and lodging issues; recreational use of land and water; and many others.



*Dawson Grange Community Fair
ATV races with my son, Ben.*



*Supervisor Chris Ohler stopped by our booth
at the Bullskin Township Community Fair.*



*One of our great poster contest winners
at the Farmer Breakfast.*



*Area nursing students conducted screenings
during our recent Senior Expo.*



*Rep. Eric Davanzo and I caught up
with Treasurer Stacy Garrity at the
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business
and Industry annual dinner.*



*I met up with Attorney General Dave Sunday
at the Pennsylvania State Association of
Township Supervisors convention in Hershey.*



*Recognizing the outstanding achievements of the Connellsville
Falcons, who captured first place overall in the Sporting Clays
competition at the 2025 USA High School Clay Target League
National Championship, as well as first place in Skeet and
Five Stand at the Pennsylvania State Championship.*



*Celebrating the opening of Alternatives,
Yes Ministries' new office in Dunbar.*

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RYAN WARNER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE | 52ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



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PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE ASSISTANCE EVENTS

Stop by one of our upcoming Property Tax/Rent Rebate assistance events for FREE help filing for your rebate.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program benefits eligible residents 65 years and older; widows and widowers 50 years and older; and people with disabilities 18 years and older. The income limit increased again this year to \$48,110 for both homeowners and renters.

Remember to exclude 50% of Social Security when calculating income. The maximum rebate is \$1,000.

The schedule is as follows; no appointment is necessary.

Brownsville Borough Office

200 Second St., Brownsville
Tuesday, April 7
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Bullskin Township Senior Center

52 Medsger Road, Connellsville
Thursday, April 16
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Center on the Hill

100 Summit Road, Belle Vernon
Thursday, April 23
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Connellsville Senior Center

100 E. Fayette St., Connellsville
Tuesday, April 28
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Everson Volunteer Fire Company

114 Jones St., Everson
Thursday, April 9
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Ohiopyle-Stewart Volunteer Fire Department

17 Sherman St., Ohiopyle
Tuesday, April 14
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Springfield Township Volunteer Hose Company

755 Mill Run Road, Mill Run
Thursday, April 2
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DISTRICT OFFICE LOCATIONS AND HOURS

CONNELLSVILLE OFFICE

215 N. Pittsburgh St., Suite A, Connellsville, PA 15425
Phone: 724-437-1105
Open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PERRYOPOLIS OFFICE

312 E. Independence St., Perryopolis, PA 15473 (No mail, please)
Phone: 724-736-2290
Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.