Citizen Education Fund NONPARTISAN VOTERS GUIDE GENERAL ELECTION

NOVEMBER 5, 2024 Polls open 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.

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"A STEP AHEAD OF THE VOTE"

FOR ELECTION INFORMATION

Contact your county Board of Elections or visit www.VotesPA.com. The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Information Center also provides election information. Call 717-234-1576 with any questions or go to www.Vote411.org.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The material in this Guide was compiled by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund. This material may not be altered or reprinted without the permission of the League. Each candidate's reply has been printed as submitted. Candidates were invited to participate in the Vote411 online voters guide sponsored by the LWVPA-CEF and Patriot-News/PennLive via email. All reasonable efforts were made to encourage candidates to participate.

The candidates listed are those whose names appear on the ballot as of October 16, 2024. They are listed according to their party and then alphabetically.

Nothing in this guide should be construed as an endorsement or non-endorsement of any candidate, party, or initiative by the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund.

PURPOSE AND POLICY OF THE LEAGUE

The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania-Citizen Education Fund is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is nonpartisan: it neither supports nor opposes any political parties or candidates.

US PRESIDENT

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

DUTIES: The President is: the head of state of the United States of America; the Chief Executive Officer; and, the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are prescribed in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices, and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms. **Base Salary:** \$400,000 per year.

NOTE: All candidates who will appear on your state's ballot are listed below but only those that meet the following criteria were invited to respond to the League's questions in this guide.

1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for her/his Party's nomination for President; and, 2. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the Federal Elections Commission website.

3. The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes.

DEMOCRAT

KAMALA D. HARRIS, President TIM WALZ, Vice President WEBSITE: Kamalaharris.com FACEBOOK: Kamalaharris X: @Kamalaharris INSTAGRAM: Kamalaharris Candidate has not responded.

REPUBLICAN

DONALD J. TRUMP, President

JD VANCE, Vice President
WEBSITE: donaldtrump.com
FACEBOOK: DonaldTrump
X: @TrumpWarRoom
INSTAGRAM: realdonaldtrump

Candidate has not responded.

LIBERTARIAN

CHASE OLIVER, President MIKE TER MAAT, Vice President

Candidate has qualified for the Pennsylvania state ballot, but did not meet League of Women Voters criteria for inclusion in this Voters Guide.

GREEN

JILL STEIN, President RUDOLPH WARE, Vice President WEBSITE: jillstein2024.com FACEBOOK: drjillstein INSTAGRAM: drjillstein

What steps should be taken to address the high cost of living and depressed wages in America, including for families, people with disabilities, and people that are economically disadvantaged?

We need an economy that works for working people, not just the wealthy and powerful. To reverse surging inequality and insecurity, we need an Economic Bill of Rights establishing the rights to a living-wage job, guaranteed livable income, housing, healthcare, childcare, lifelong education, secure retirement, utilities, healthy food and clean water, so that all of us are guaranteed the basic security for a good life that can reach our highest potential. A Jill Stein administration will pass a \$25 minimum wage, eliminate the sub-minimum wage loophole, pass universal rent control, cancel student and medical debt, end wage discrimination based on race, gender and other factors, and mandate paid sick and family leave as well as parental leave.

What steps will you take to ensure all Americans have access to Quality and affordable health care, including reproductive care and prescription drug coverage? Healthcare is a human right. We need a universal healthcare system that is equitable,

comprehensive, free at point of service, and

accessible to every single person in the US. A Jill Stein administration will immediately implement National Improved Medicare for All as a precursor to establishing a UK-style National Healthcare Service which will replace private hospital, private medical practice, and private medical insurance with a publicly-owned, democratically controlled healthcare service that will guarantee healthcare as a human right to everyone in the United States. We will take the pharmaceutical industry into public ownership to provide medicines as a

public good. We will also codify Roe v. Wade and advance reproductive rights.

What steps will you take to curb gun violence and build safe and healthy communities for communities disproportionally impacted by gun violence in the United States?

We need to end the epidemic of gun violence with common-sense gun safety laws. A Jill Stein administration will ban the sale of assault rifles and establish a buyback program; establish mandatory waiting periods and background checks for firearm purchases; pass red flag laws for individuals who pose a danger to themselves and others; create standardized digital records of gun registrations and sales; close gun show loopholes; require firearm owners to own a high-quality gun safe to store their firearms; require firearm owners to purchase liability insurance of no less than \$1,000,000; and hold adult firearm owners criminally liable for minor children accessing and using firearms in the commission of any crime, accidental injury or death.

What are the most important steps you will take to improve US immigration policies, including creating an accessible path to citizenship?

Immigrants' rights are human rights. It's time to completely overhaul the broken and abusive immigration system, as well as the unjust policies driving people to leave their homes. We need a comprehensive immigration policy and properly funded institutions to ensure a timely, ethical,

transparent, and dignified path to citizenship for immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. Border policy should move away from detention and enforcement response toward humane and effective asylum processing. A Jill Stein administration will replace ICE with an Office of Citizenship, Refugees, and Immigration Services under the Department of Labor, grant amnesty to every undocumented person, and implement a path to citizenship with expediency.

What actions will you take to address the threats facing the United States due to climate change?

We all have a human right to a livable planet with a stable climate, healthy food, clean air and water, and living soil. We need a real Green New Deal to transition rapidly from an economic system that is destroying our only home to a sustainable society built around human needs and protecting life on Earth. Our Green New Deal will invest in renewable energy, a publicly-owned nationwide smart energy grid, clean transportation technology, energy efficiency and conservation to generate millions of good-paying jobs, rapidly phase out fossil fuels and achieve 100% clean renewable energy and zero-to-negative carbon emissions by no later than 2035. We need to act now so that our children and future generations can not only survive, but thrive.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The US Constitution prescribes that the Senate be composed of 100 members (two Senators from each state). One third of the total membership of the Senate is elected every two years. A Senator must be at least 30 years of age, a citizen of the United States for at least nine years and be a resident of the State from which s/he is chosen at the time of the election. Senators write and vote in favor of or against final bills and serve on various policy committees. The Senate has several exclusive powers not granted to the House including advice/consent on presidential nominations and treaties and conducting the trial of federal officials impeached by the House.

Term: 6 years Salary: \$174,000 Vote for ONE.

DEMOCRAT

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR. COUNTY: Lackawanna OCCUPATION: U.S. Senator

EDUCATION: B.A. College of the Holy Cross and J.D. Catholic University of America QUALIFICATIONS: Senator Bob Casey is one of Pennsylvania's two sitting senators and has a record of delivering for Pennsylvanians. He has helped create thousands of goodpaying jobs in the Commonwealth, lowered costs for families and seniors, secured our rights, and fought for Pennsylvania's most vulnerable.

WEBSITE: bobcasey.com
FACEBOOK: BobCaseyJr
X HANDLE: @Bob_Casey
INSTAGRAM URL: bobcaseyjr/

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing the country, and how would you address them?

I'm fighting for our rights, lower costs for working families, economic freedom for workers, and our country's children, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities. I see each of these fights as critical for our country. I've supported legislation to defend democracy, protect a woman's right to choose, and a worker's right to organize. I'm holding big corporations accountable for greedflation and raising prices on working people while they rake in record profits. I've helped pass legislation that will create tens of thousands of new jobs in Pennsylvania and saved pensions for tens of thousands of workers. I also helped pass the PACT to provide care to veterans who have suffered after being exposed to toxic burn pits.

What changes, if any, would you support that would help congress function more efficiently and effectively?

I support increasing ethical standards in Washington and reducing conflicts of interest to hold government officials to the high standards that Americans expect of them. I'm an original co-sponsor of the For the People Act, which would increase restrictions on coordination between Super PACs and candidates. I also co-sponsored and helped pass the Stock Act, which banned members of Congress from trading stocks based on non-public information and I back efforts to stop members from trading stocks

entirely. I believe all of these steps aimed at increasing transparency and accountability will help make our Congress work better for Americans. I will continue to fight for greater transparency in politics.

What legislation would you support to protect voting rights and safeguard access to free and fair elections?

I am working hard to protect the fundamental right to vote from extreme MAGA Republicans across the country who are trying to erect new barriers to voting. I co-sponsored the Freedom to Vote Act to ensure every American can access the ballot box on an equal basis, including by setting minimum standards for early and mail voting, modernizing voter registration, and ending partisan gerrymandering. I am also an original co-sponsor of the John Lewis Votings Rights Advancement Act, which would ensure that voters in states with a history of voting rights violations have equal access to voting as all other Americans. In addition, I sponsored the Accessible Voting Act of 2021 to make it easier for seniors and those living with a disability to vote

How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

I believe we must protect our interests abroad with diplomatic engagement, working with allies, and foreign assistance, coupled with our national security apparatus. Our Nation is currently facing immense national security challenges, including competing with China, combating climate change alongside global allies, fighting terrorism, countering Russia's aggression, supporting our ally in Israel and providing humanitarian aid in Gaza, and combating the threat of nuclear terrorism. I have worked to address these challenges as a member of the Select Committee on Intelligence, where I have pursued a national security strategy that protects our interests, promotes human rights throughout the world, and supports those who serve our country.

REPUBLICAN

DAVE MCCORMICK

COUNTY: Allegheny
WEBSITE: davemccormickpa.com
FACEBOOK: DaveMcCormickPA

Candidate has not responded.

LIBERTARIAN

JOHN C. THOMAS

COUNTY: Armstrong
OCCUPATION: Educator
EDUCATION: Indiana University of

Pennsylvania

QUALIFICATIONS: Dedication to Liberty WEBSITE: linktr.ee/johnthomaspa FACEBOOK URL: facebook.com/profile.

php?id=100090842456490 **X:** @JohnThomasPA

Instagram URL:

www.instagram.com/johnthomaspa/

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing the country, and how would you address them?

The most pressing issue is the loss of liberty due to the ever increasing size of the federal government. We lose economic liberties when the government prints money, devaluing our currency. We lose civil liberties when the government works with tech companies to police speech. We lose personal liberties when the government spies on us. This process is accelerated by America's involvement in foreign wars.

We address these problems by getting back to the Constitution. The only wars America should be involved in are those posing a direct threat, declared by Congress. The only spending should be that directly authorized by Article 1 Section 8 of the Constitution. Every Amendment, especially those of the Bill of Rights, should be protected.

What changes, if any, would you support that would help Congress function more efficiently and effectively?

The United States Senate is a cartel of political elites, focused on extracting power and wealth from regular Americans and giving it to their cronies. I do not want them to be efficient or effective. We need Senators who are willing to slow the process. I will do all that I can to block the legislation elites use to make Washington more powerful at the expense of Pennsylvanians' liberty. As long as the Senate is controlled by elites of the two major political parties, we should work to make

them as inefficient as possible.

What legislation would you support to protect voting rights and Safeguard access to free and fair elections?

Elections are a state issue. I am running for a federal office. I would block any legislation that would strip states of their rights to determine how to run elections. I would prefer that Pennsylvania pass voter ID laws, so every legal vote counts, and no votes are offset by illegal votes. However, I am not running for the PA legislature, so that is just the personal opinion of a PA citizen.

How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

The US is too involved in internal affairs of foreign states. United States Senators should be focused on getting America to be less involved in international affairs. Pennsylvanians are going broke, as our resources are making foreign bureaucrats rich. I would work to keep resources here in PA, so that we can be peaceful and prosperous.

GREEN

LEILA HAZOU COUNTY: Pike

OCCUPATION: Business Owner

EDUCATION: MBA

QUALIFICATIONS: A concerned American that wants to see change for the good of the people.

WEBSITE: leilaforsenate.com FACEBOOK: facebook.com/profile. php?id=61558366941475

X: @LeilaForSenate
INSTAGRAM: leilaforsenate

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing the country, and how would you address them?

The economy - we need to stop funding wars across the globe and spend our money here at home.

Human rights - everyone deserves basic human rights and all people must have total control over their own bodies and their health.

The environment - we need to move away from fossil fuels and build clean energy infrastructure.

Healthcare and housing - every American should have healthcare and housing. If we stop spending \$800 billion per year in defense, we can easily guarantee this.

What changes, if any, would you support that would help Congress function more efficiently and effectively?

Remove money from our politics. Corporate and special interest lobby money shouldn't determine policy.

What legislation would you support to protect voting rights and Safeguard access to free and fair elections?

We need to pass the John Lewis Act to modernize and revitalize the Voting Rights Act bystrengthening legal protections against discriminatory voting policies.

We need to ensure that our technology and methods are secure so that voters have confidence in election outcomes.

How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

The US needs to be a model for peace, not for endless wars and regime change.

CONSTITUTION

MARTY SELKER
COUNTY: Clarion

OCCUPATION: Truck Driver
WEBSITE: martyselkerforsenate.com

FACEBOOK: bernardselker **X:** @Selkerforsenate

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing the country, and how would you address them?

The most pressing issues facing our country are the erosion of constitutional liberties, fiscal irresponsibility, and federal overreach. As your U.S. Senator, I will fight to restore our rights to free speech, religious freedom, and the Second Amendment, while cutting wasteful federal spending and balancing the budget. I'll work to return power to the states, allowing them to manage their own affairs without intrusive federal interference.

What changes, if any, would you support that would help Congress function more efficiently and effectively?

To make Congress function more efficiently and effectively, I would support several key

changes. First, implementing term limits for members of Congress would reduce career politicians' influence and encourage fresh perspectives. Second, I advocate for a return to a strict adherence to the Constitution, ensuring that legislation is within the federal government's enumerated powers. Third, reducing the size and scope of government by eliminating unnecessary agencies and programs would streamline congressional focus. Lastly, I would push for transparency and accountability, ensuring that bills are thoroughly reviewed and understood before being passed, allowing for informed decisionmaking and reducing wasteful legislation.

What legislation would you support to protect voting rights and Safeguard access to free and fair elections?

To protect voting rights and ensure free and fair elections, I would support legislation that upholds the integrity of the electoral process while safeguarding individual liberties. This includes implementing voter ID laws to prevent fraud, ensuring that all eligible voters have access to identification. Additionally, I advocate for measures that enhance transparency, such as requiring paper ballots or secure, verifiable electronic systems. I also support decentralizing election oversight, empowering states to manage their own processes without undue federal interference, thereby preserving the integrity of each state's election system.

How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

I believe the role of the U.S. in responding to international challenges should be grounded in a policy of non-interventionism and respect for national sovereignty. Our focus should be on maintaining a strong national defense to protect our own borders while avoiding entangling alliances and unnecessary foreign conflicts. The U.S. should prioritize diplomacy and trade over military intervention, seeking peaceful solutions that respect the rights of other nations to govern themselves. By leading through example, promoting liberty, and supporting free markets, we can positively influence the world without imposing our will through force.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The basic duties of the Attorney General, as outlined by the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, are to serve as the Commonwealth's chief law enforcement officer; collect all debts, taxes, and accounts due to the Commonwealth; represent the Commonwealth and all its agencies in any action brought by or against the Commonwealth; administer the provision relating to consumer protection laws; and represent the Commonwealth and its citizens in any action brought about for violation of the antitrust laws.

Term: 4 years **Salary:** \$197,748 Vote for ONE.

DEMOCRAT

EUGENE DEPASQUALE

COUNTY: Allegheny

OCCUPATION: Attorney / Adjunct

Professor

EDUCATION: BA from The College of Wooster (OH), an MPA from the University of Pittsburgh and a JD from Widener University School of Law.

QUALIFICATIONS: Eugene DePasquale is the former two-term Auditor General of Pennsylvania. Prior to his tenure as Auditor General, Mr. DePasquale was a three-term member of the state General Assembly representing the 95th District.

WEBSITE: depasqualeforag.com FACEBOOK: DePasqualePA X: @DePasqualePA

What are your top three priorities as Attorney General?

My top priorities are protecting our democracy, defending reproductive freedom, and protecting against corporate greed. Protecting our Democracy is the greatest task and potential crisis we face - which the Attorney General will be front and center on. Reproductive freedoms are under attack across the country. From when to choose not to have a family through abortion to when to choose to have a family through IVF treatments, I believe Pennsylvanians should have the freedom to make those decisions for themselves. As Attorney General, I will be your legal advocate against corporate greed. I will crack down on businesses and CEOs taking advantage of consumers and help defend workers from wage theft, stop price gouging, and close tax loopholes.

What specific challenges does the Pennsylvania judicial system face, and how would you address them?

As Attorney General, I will work with law enforcement to protect our communities by investing in prevention tactics and holding those who threaten our safety accountable. I will work to restore trust between residents and local law enforcement to ensure our police can best serve and protect the Commonwealth.

What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

There are so many places that we have challenges achieving equality under the law, including LGBTQ protections, the criminalization of addiction, and disparities in how the law treats people of different races and ethnicities. As Attorney General, I would enforce the law equally, but also advocate for changes in the law that gave Pennsylvanians greater protections from these inequalities.

REPUBLICAN

DAVE SUNDAY COUNTY: York

OCCUPATION: District Attorney EDUCATION: Finance Degree, Penn State, 2002 & Juris Doctorate, Widener Law, 2007 **QUALIFICATIONS:** Dave Sunday is the twice elected District Attorney of York County. He started as a line prosecutor & prior to his election rose to Chief Deputy Prosecutor of Litigation where he supervised Major Crime cases and the Felony Narcotics Unit. Under his watch crime & recidivism has dropped in York County.

WEBSITE: davesundayforag.com FACEBOOK: DaveSundayforDistrictAttorney X: @DaveSunday_

What are your top three priorities to address as Attorney General?

- -Addressing the Fentanyl epidemic by coordinating with our federal partners and local prosecutors and law enforcement to target the organizations that traffic it to our communities.
- -Ensuring our seniors and consumers are protected from fraud by using the tools at our disposal to target those who prey on Pennsylvanians.
- -Protecting our youth from exploitation.

What specific challenges does the Pennsylvania criminal justice system face, and how would you address them?

Our criminal justice system is in need of focus. For too long I believe Attorneys General in Pennsylvania have tried to expand the office and use it to wage political culture war fights which distracts from the core mission of the office. I want to refocus it on the things that it is empowered to do by targeting organized crime and the drug epidemic, protecting our seniors and youth from fraud and exploitation and protect our consumers. We must also bring our resources to bear in communities that are being hit particularly hard by crime. Using our concurrent jurisdiction and building partnerships with our local officials I believe this can be accomplished

What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law? Inequal application of the law is a major challenge. Prosecutors who put their own personal agendas and beliefs ahead of the written law create a situation where what is a punishable crime in one jurisdiction is not in a neighboring one. This sends the wrong message to offenders and the community. Our criminal justice system and our entire society is built on the idea of Equal Justice Under the Law. When that principle is broken faith in our institutions is shattered and chaos and lawlessness follow.

LIBERTARIAN

ROBERT COWBURN

COUNTY: Allegheny **OCCUPATION:** Attorney

EDUCATION: Juris Doctor: 2016 Suffolk University Law School; B.S., Sports, Arts and Entertainment Management: 2011 Point Park University; A.A.S., Manufacturer Automotive Technology: 2008 Community College of Allegheny County

WEBSITE: cowburnforag.com

Candidate has not responded.

GREEN

RICHARD L. WEISS **COUNTY:** Allegheny **OCCUPATION:** Lawyer

EDUCATION: B.A.(Pitt), J.D., LL.M., M.B.A.

QUALIFICATIONS: Admitted to PA

Attorney Bar

WEBSITE: www.gpofpa.org/donate FACEBOOK: richard.weiss.1485537 X: @RichardLWeiss

INSTAGRAM: richardlweiss

What are your top three priorities as **Attorney General?**

- 1. End slavery by requiring prison labor to be paid market wages. Prison labor benefits a few with cheap labor while the public pays for their incarceration.
- 2. Protect renters, the homeless and workers from unfair practices, like price-fixing, lack of affordable housing and shelter, discrimination
- 3. Pursue polluters for cleanup of over half a million uncapped wells in Pennsylvania, and drug makers for the consequences of the side effects of their products. Pursue politicians to return gifts and support a gift ban to make corruption illegal.

What specific challenges does the Pennsylvania criminal justice face, and how would you address them?

My campaign will challenge the state to pay market rates for prison labor. The Philacor program installed ten industry shops where laborers make pennies an hour. When there isn't a profit motive to keep prisoners incarcerated, then incarceration and the costs to the public will fall. I am also a proponent of the Disability Integration Act which will help patients with disabilities access in home and long term services prior to being institutionalized or incarcerated. Incarceration should be for dangerous actors only. Most can be directed to non-carceral programs. Restorative justice programs have shown less recidivism than incarceration. Treat drug abuse as a medical issue, not with incarceration. Decriminalize

What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

Pennsylvania has the fifth highest rate of discrimination cases of any state and some of the most proportionately disabled cities and counties in our country. People with disabilities often require reasonable accomodations. It will take an attorney general who holds workplaces and institutions accountable for their lack of accountability for addressing systemic discrimination in hiring and reasonable accommodation practices. Ending prison slave wages will remove the profit motive for incarceration, lowering prison population and reducing costs to the public. End cash bail: the judge should determine whether the actor is a danger to the public and must be held pending trial Those jailed must be prioritized for a speedy trial.

CONSTITUTION

JUSTIN L. MAGILL COUNTY: Erie **OCCUPATION:** Attorney **EDUCATION:** B.A. Criminal Justice -Edinboro University, M.A. Public Policy - Liberty University, J.D. - Roger Williams School of Law

What are your top three priorities as Attorney General?

1. Election Security – Elections officials must be held to the law when certifying elections. Voter registration roles MUST be cleaned up. 2. Parental Rights – Schools MUST recognize parental rights and provide transparent services that give parents full access and decision-making ability concerning their child's education, health, and wellbeing. 3. Government Accountability – Any accusation about inappropriate action by public functionaries must be looked at and

appropriate action taken. Public Trust must be restored. I will work to secure the individual rights of Pennsylvanians and ensure transparency in all areas of

ELECTION DAY PROBLEMS

Report an election issue by calling:

1-866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683) 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Español)

1-888-API-VOTE

(Asian multilingual assistance) 1-844-YALLA-US (Arabic)

governance. I will work to ensure all public functionaries are accountable to the people they serve.

What specific challenges does the Pennsylvania criminal justice face, and how would you address them?

Ingrained, wrongheaded thinking on how the criminal justice system is supposed to work has created an assembly line of criminality. The protection of juries against bad laws and bad government actors has been pushed aside in favor of plea deals and a high-speed assembly line that allows Pennsylvania residents to be abused by bad law. As Attorney General my office will, in our advisory role, work to educate Pennsylvania's public functionaries and the general public on how we can work towards correcting the system. The excellent attorneys of the Office of Attorney General will also assist with refocusing the goals for the future in protecting Pennsylvanians.

What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

Equality under the law is achieved by securing the individual rights of every human being. When governments move from securing those rights to violating those rights, we see inequality and abuse under the law. We see those abuses regularly in Pennsylvania as one group of human beings is allowed to terminate other human being. We saw businesses being closed and prevented from operating because they were deemed "unessential." We see homes taken away Pennsylvanians can't afford to give government enough of their money. Until government is returned to its limited role of securing our rights, there will be continued abuses of individuals and groups. I will work hard to educate our public functionaries on securing our rights.

FORWARD

ERIC L. SETTLE
COUNTY: Montgomery
OCCUPATION: Attorney

EDUCATION: George Washington University, J.D. with honors; Colgate University, B.A., cum laude; Harriton High School, Diploma

QUALIFICATIONS: Deputy General Counsel to Governor Ridge; Led the successful effort for the passage of Act 62, autism insurance coverage; Healthcare Transition Team, Governor Shapiro; Senior legal counsel for Aetna, United Health Group and AmeriHealth Caritas, President, Main Line Reform Temple; Trustee, Colgate U.

WEBSITE: ericsettle4ag.com FACEBOOK: facebook.com/profile. php?id=61554941858403

X: @ericsettle4AG INSTAGRAM: @elsettleag

What are your top three priorities as Attorney General?

KEEPING PENNSYLVANIANS SAFE. The AG has direct responsibility for prosecuting drug trafficking, child predators, organized crime and public corruption. As AG, I will work to reduce the number of illegal guns on the streets, often the direct cause of the violence that citizens are experiencing. PROTECTING DEMOCRACY. As an independent AG who is not beholden to either major party, I will ensure that election challenges are handled fairly, and that the proper winner of any election will be recognized as the elected official. PROTECTING HEALTHCARE ACCESS. I am concerned about non-profit hospitals being acquired by for- profit businesses. With my unique healthcare experience, I can hold them accountable and protect healthcare access.

What specific challenges does the Pennsylvania criminal justice face, and how would you address them?

The criminal justice system is challenged by the need to reduce crime in Pennsylvania and to address the historical unfairness in the justice system, particularly as it relates to people of color. We see this duality play out in cities like Philadelphia where progressive prosecutors are seen by many as being soft on crime as they prioritize redressing historical grievances. In the end, a prosecutor must put the effective administration of justice as a higher priority to support the efforts of law enforcement and to seek a safer environment in the community. At the same time, we must find the resources necessary to create impactful diversion and rehabilitation programs to reduce the number of offenders

who truly require incarceration.

What do you see as the primary challenges to achieving equality under the law?

I think that implicit bias plays a very large role in the inequity in the criminal justice system. We must recognize that law enforcement, prosecutors and judges need to recognize that this bias is real and often unconscious and try to avoid treating defendants differently based on factors like race. Greater diversity in the judiciary and in law enforcement will improve this but more work is necessary to make the justice system truly equal.

PENNSYLVANIA AUDITOR GENERAL

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The principal role of the Auditor General is to determine whether state funds are being used in accordance with the purpose and guidelines that govern each use of the Commonwealth's dollars. The Auditor General conducts financial and performance audits of individuals, state agencies, and organizations that receive state funds, including school districts, state liquor stores, and public employee pension funds. These audits are designed to measure how effectively government programs are using public money to meet their stated goals and objectives. The office performs more than 6,000 audits each year and is responsible for auditing all Pennsylvania state programs that are allocated federal funds.

Term: 4 years Salary: \$197,748 *Vote for ONE.*

DEMOCRAT

MALCOLM KENYATTA

COUNTY: Philadelphia
OCCUPATION: State Representative
EDUCATION: B.A. in Public

Communications and a minor in Political Science from Temple University, M.S. in Strategic and Digital Communications from Drexel University, and completed the Harvard Kennedy School's Executives in State and Local Government program

QUALIFICATIONS: He is a member of State Government Committee with oversight of state agencies and elections, where he chairs the Subcommittee on Government Operations; Chair of Automation and Technology in the Commerce Committee; and as a member of the Finance and Judiciary committees

WEBSITE: malcolmkenyatta.com FACEBOOK: malcolmforpa X: @malcolmkenyatta INSTAGRAM: malcolmkenyatta

What improvements, if any, would you make to the Auditor General's office?

As Auditor General, I will rebuild the bureau of school audits, restart the annual compliance audits ended by the current Auditor General, and demand accountability from all our schools — including cyber charter schools. I will stand up for our workers by creating the first ever Bureau of Labor and Worker Protections and use the power of the office to take on wage theft, employee misclassification, and union busting. I will use the office to measure and support efforts to make communities healthier and safer. We need transparency on how huge hospital nonprofits and long-term care providers use state dollars.

How can you make the work of the Auditor General's office more transparent?

I'm running for Auditor General because it's time for the underdog to be a watchdog for Pennsylvania's working families. To ask the tough questions, to help reimagine and streamline government, and to help build the coalitions to fix what's wrong. It's what I've done as a State Representative for nearly five years, working to protect workers' rights, enact common-sense gun safety policies, and root out government corruption and waste. We deserve a government that works for working families. That starts with being serious about fixing what's broken. And it means having an Auditor General who isn't afraid to stand up for those too often forgotten by our government.

REPUBLICAN

TIM DEFOOR COUNTY: Dauphin

OCCUPATION: Auditor General EDUCATION: Associate degree in paralegal studies from Harrisburg Area Community College. University of Pittsburgh- Bachelor's degree in psychology and earned a second Bachelor's degree in sociology and history. Master's in project management from Harrisburg University of Science and Technology.

QUALIFICATIONS: Dauphin County Controller from 2016 to 2020. Elected Pennsylvania Auditor General in 2020. Over 30 years of experience as a Special Investigator with Pennsylvania's Office of Inspector General, as a Special Agent with Pennsylvania's Attorney General and in the private sector and federal government.

WEBSITE: defoor4pa.com **FACEBOOK:** DeFoor4PA

What improvements, if any, would you make to the Auditor General's office?

Under Tim's leadership, the Auditor General's office has focused on transforming the office in various ways, which include: how the Department recruits and retains employees; how it audits, making the work more efficient and effective for the taxpayers; and how it is building the next generation, focusing on the need for financial literacy education to be taught across the entire Commonwealth through the 'Be Money Smart' initiative.

How can you make the work of the Auditor General's office more transparent?

Tim has transformed and improved how the Auditor General's office conducts public and charter school audits to ensure that administrators and school boards are accountable and transparent with taxpayer dollars.

LIBERTARIAN

REECE SMITH

COUNTY: Allegheny

OCCUPATION: Financial Services **EDUCATION:** Bachelors Degree in

Economics

QUALIFICATIONS: I have spent years holding local government accountable by attending meetings, asking questions, and informing my neighbors of things happening.

WEBSITE: votereece.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/profile. php?id=61560890259324

X: @vote_reece

INSTAGRAM: vote_reece/

What improvements, if any, would you like to make to the Auditor General's office?

First, I would actually audit the State Government. In the past four years the Auditor General's Office has conducted about 20 audits of State departments, agencies, and funds. In that same time span they conducted over 12,000 audits in total. That means only 0.17% of their audits look at the State government. As well, I want to Audit the Governor's office and the offices of the leaders in the legislature, as personal offices are some of the most high risk places for corruption, especially for the most powerful. Additionally, I want to have regular press conferences reviewing audit results and letting people know exactly what their money was spent on. When was the last time you heard about the results of an audit?

How can you make the work of the Auditor General's office more transparent to the public?

I want to make the Auditor's General office more transparent by holding regular press conferences reviewing audit results and letting people know exactly what their money was spent on.

AMERICAN SOLIDARITY

ERIC K. ANTON
COUNTY: Dauphin
OCCUPATION: None

EDUCATION: MA in Public Administration

and Policy

Candidate has not responded.

CONSTITUTION

BOB GOODRICH

COUNTY: Tioga

OCCUPATION: Retired U.S. Army, Christian school principal

EDUCATION: BS Civil Engineering, USMA West Point, NY; MA Organiztional Leadership, Chapman U., Orange, CA

QUALIFICATIONS: Husband, father, Christian

What improvements, if any, would you like to make to the Auditor General's office? Focus on being honest, efficient, and helpful.

How can you make the work of the Auditor General's office more transparent to the public?

Welcome public inquiries and provide timely responses to questions.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE TREASURER

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The duty of the Pennsylvania Treasurer is to safeguard the Commonwealth's financial assets, which total more than \$160 billion in public monies. The office manages several programs in order to better serve the financial needs of Pennsylvanians. The Treasury Department is also responsible for reuniting unclaimed property with its rightful owner; investigating loss, theft, and fraud involving Commonwealth checks; reviewing real estate leases and contracts entered into by Commonwealth agencies; and maintaining the Pennsylvania contracts electronic library. The Treasurer has specific duties in addition to the oversight of the Department: serving as chair of the Board of Finance and Revenue, which selects banks to serve as depositories for state money; setting interest rates paid on Commonwealth deposits; and hearing and deciding state tax appeals.

Term: 4 years Salary: \$197,748 Vote for ONE.

DEMOCRAT

ERIN MCCLELLAND

COUNTY: Allegheny

OCCUPATION: Process Improvement

EDUCATION: BS Psychology & Economics, MS Psychology

QUALIFICATIONS: Founded and ran a small business, Spent a year training on process improvement and organizational problem solving under former US Treasury Secretary O'Neill, 9 years doing process improvement for government systems in Allegheny County

WEBSITE: erinmcclelland.com **FACEBOOK:** ErinforPA

What improvements, if any, would you make to the State Treasurer's office?

I would expand the information you could see in the database of state contracts, including searching vendors by union/non-union as well as women and minority-owned businesses. I will provide a recommended vendor list that complies with US trade policies for fulfilling state purchases such as ensuring we are not purchasing from companies that use slave labor, child labor, or conflict-mined materials. I would not invest in foreign holdings and would reinstate the pension investment standards that existed before pension de-regulation in 2003.

How can you make the work of the State Treasurer's office more transparent?

Transparency is a word that is thrown around loosely in politics. However, it is only truly achieved if it is demonstrated at times when it is inconvenient and when we make mistakes. Elected officials identifying errors in the interest of improving performance rarely happens. That must change. The current Treasurer's Asset report only states what is going well. It does not identify opportunities for improvement. I would let the taxpayers know where I think we could improve or mistakes we may have made, the cause of the mistake and the correction. I also hope to move toward incorporating ESG (environmental, sustainability, governance) ratings into investment standards if that rating should be established as a viable measure.

REPUBLICAN

STACY GARRITY COUNTY: Bradford

OCCUPATION: Pennsylvania State

Treasurer
EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in
Finance/ Minor in Economics Bloomsburg
University | Certificate Cornell University
Business Management Institute

QUALIFICATIONS: Thirty-year decorated member of the U.S. Army Reserve with three deployments to the Middle East including a Battalion command | 34 years in private sector manufacturing, retiring as one of the first female vice presidents of Global

Tungsten & Powders, an international refractory metals co.

WEBSITE: garrityforpa.com FACEBOOK: GarrityForPA

X: garrityforPA INSTAGRAM: stacyforpa

What improvements, if any, would you make to the State Treasurer's office?

I will build on the progress made during my time in office. Since January 2021, I've worked with my bipartisan team at the Treasurer's office to set a new record for returning unclaimed property (more than \$274 million in a single year, and more than \$600 million altogether), to earn the first-ever Gold Rating from Morningstar for our PA 529 College & Career Program (making it one of the top two programs in the nation), and to nearly triple the assets in the PA ABLE savings program for people with disabilities (to over \$115 million). I will continue cutting fees for both of Treasury's savings programs: PA 529 (so far, I've saved account owners more than \$11 million) and PA ABLE (so far, I've cut fees three times).

How can you make the work of the State Treasurer's office more transparent?

Transparency is a core principal under my watch. Every dollar that comes to Treasury, and every dollar paid out, belongs to the taxpayers. They deserve to see exactly what's happening with their money. Before I took office, the Pennsylvania Treasury Department received a "C" rating for transparency. That's unacceptable, so I immediately went to work improving transparency at all levels. I added many new features to the Transparency Portal on Treasury's website, making it easier for people to see our state's expenditures, revenue, and budget. I added county-level data for all of Treasury's programs, and I revamped the Fiscal Health Scorecard which allows people to easily compare Pennsylvania's fiscal performance to other states.

LIBERTARIAN

NICKOLAS CIESIELSKI

COUNTY: Westmoreland
OCCUPATION: Engineer
EDUCATION: B.S. in Mechanical

Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University **QUALIFICATIONS:** Ability to solve complex issues, leadership positions professionally and within the Libertarian Party, strong foundation in the Austrian

school of economics.

WEBSITE: nickcforpa.com
FACEBOOK: nickcforpa
X: @nickciesielski

INSTAGRAM: nickcforpa

What improvements, if any, would you like

to make to the Treasurer's office? The biggest issue to me is state debt. The legislature should not be spending future generations of Pennsylvanians into debt. The federal debt is over \$35 trillion, with a debt per citizen of over \$104,000. The Treasury dashboard reports a debt per capita of almost another \$4,000. I will refuse to issue any bonds that would further grow the state debt. Additionally, I will push to eliminate state pensions and convert all government employees to a 457 retirement plan to prevent taxpayers from running the risk of needing to bail out the pension fund, which is currently 64% funded. I will also include a significant Bitcoin allocation in state investment funds, including the pension fund.

How can you make the work of the Treasurer's office more transparent to the public?

The transparency portal does not provide an easy breakdown of what the investment pools are actually invested in. The public deserves to know where their money is being invested and determine if those investments align with their values. Additionally, I will make all records public and implement a system to crowdsource auditing the state treasury, allowing average citizens to earn small rewards while helping to hold their government accountable

CONSTITUTION

TROY BOWMAN

COUNTY: Lancaster

OCCUPATION: Information Technology/ Network Administrator

Network Administrator

EDUCATION: Associate of Science degree from Grantham University

Candidate has not responded.

FORWARD

CHRIS FOSTER

COUNTY: Allegheny

OCCUPATION: Real Estate Sales Associate **EDUCATION:** Bachelor of Arts

WEBSITE: chrisfosterforpatreasurer.com **FACEBOOK:** chrisfoster553

What improvements, if any, would you like to make to the Treasurer's office?

As an Independent State Treasurer, I will ensure the office serves all Pennsylvanians, regardless of Party interest. Aligned with the Forward Party's sensible, independent approach, I'll enhance transparency and accessibility, empowering citizens to understand how their tax dollars are managed. We're building a movement from the ground up, focused on fiscal responsibility and collaboration, ensuring a secure and prosperous financial future for everyone.

How can you make the work of the Treasurer's office more transparent to the public?

As State Treasurer, I'll implement userfriendly tools that empower citizens to track spending and investments, ensuring accountability. My focus will be on creating an open, clear, and responsive government, making sure everyone understands how their money is used.

8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The US Constitution requires that the House of Representatives be composed of Representatives from each state, elected in proportion to population. There are 435 members of the House of Representatives, with 17 Representatives allotted to Pennsylvania after the 2020 census. A US Representative must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen of the United States for the past seven years, and be a resident of the state they seek to represent at the time of the election (though not necessarily the same district). The House of Representatives is responsible for introducing and voting on bills, resolutions and amendments, and for approving the budget. Representatives also serve on various policy committees. The House may send Articles of Impeachment of elected officials to the Senate and elects the President if there is a tie in the Electoral College.

Term: 2 years Salary: \$174,000 Vote for ONE.

DEMOCRAT

MATT CARTWRIGHT

COUNTY: Lackawanna

OCCUPATION: US Representative for Pennsylvania's 8th District; formerly a trial lawyer for 25 years

EDUCATION: University of Pennsylvania Law School (JD), Hamilton College (BA) WEBSITE: cartwrightcongress.com

FACEBOOK: cartwrightpa **X:** CartwrightPA

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing the country and how do you propose addressing them?

As our economy continues to grow, too many people are being left behind and life remains too expensive for the working people who make our country run. I have been honored to fight in Congress against the big corporations who continue to raise prices at all of our expense, including taking on Big Pharma to bring down the cost of prescription drugs and cap the cost of insulin for seniors. Northeastern PA's economy in particular has been badly hurt as our country continues to lose jobs overseas. That's why I fight so hard in Congress to bring our fair share of federal dollars back to PA-08 and to deliver on promises like reestablishing passenger rail in our area, which will bring with it an additional \$84M of economic activity every

What legislation, if any, would you support that would help Congress function more efficiently and effectively?

Congress needs to get its financial house in order. As of this writing, we're more than five months into the 2024 fiscal year and yet we haven't actually figured out how much Congress is going to spend this year. I was proud when we passed the Inflation Reduction Act and the CHIPS and Science Act to bring semiconductor manufacturing

back to America last year that neither added to the deficit. Unfortunately, this year, Congress can't seem to function at all, but I'm working with both parties to bring common sense back to how Congress spends money.

What legislation would you support to protect voting rights and safeguard access to free and fair elections?

I wrote the Time Off to Vote Act, and I am a strong supporter of several additional pieces of legislation - including the Freedom to Vote Act and the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act - that all have the same goal in mind: to make sure that all Americans who have the right to vote can do so and that every American can trust that their election is secure.

How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

America is the greatest country in the world because we stand up for freedom every chance we get. That includes defending and expanding upon the freedoms enjoyed in this country by every one of our citizens, and it includes standing up for freedom around the globe against authoritarians. As the strongest country in the world, we have kept Americans and the world more safe by leading this fight for freedom. But now, China seeks to displace us as the global superpower. China has grown by taking our jobs, forcing minorities into inhumane work camps, and trampling over its citizens' god-given freedoms. A world with China at the top is a world where our freedoms are at risk, and we must do everything we can to win this race against China.

REPUBLICAN

ROB BRESNAHAN, JR. COUNTY: Luzerne WEBSITE: robforpa.com FACEBOOK: RobforPA

Candidate has not responded.

9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The US Constitution requires that the House of Representatives be composed of Representatives from each state, elected in proportion to population. There are 435 members of the House of Representatives, with 17 Representatives allotted to Pennsylvania after the 2020 census. A US Representative must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen of the United States for the past seven years, and be a resident of the state they seek to represent at the time of the election (though not necessarily the same district). The House of Representatives is responsible for introducing and voting on bills, resolutions and amendments, and for approving the budget. Representatives also serve on various policy committees. The House may send Articles of Impeachment of elected officials to the Senate and elects the President if there is a tie in the Electoral College.

Term: 2 years Salary: \$174,000 *Vote for ONE.*

DEMOCRAT

AMANDA WALDMAN COUNTY: Lycoming

OCCUPATION: Medicare Appeals

Representative

EDUCATION: BA English, Bloomsburg

University

QUALIFICATIONS: My background is in public service and policy. I'm just a regular person - a single mom - who knows first-hand the struggles the hard-working people across the 9th district face everyday.

WEBSITE: waldman4pa.com

FACEBOOK: Amanda.Waldman4Congress

X: Waldman4PA

INSTAGRAM: waldman4pa

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing the country, and how would you address them?

The number one issue is how divided our country has become. The responsibility of our elected officials is to govern for ALL, to be responsive to ALL, and OUR job as voters is to hold them accountable. NONE of this is happening at any level. This divisiveness affects all other major issues we face - the economy, job creation, healthcare, the environment, the "brain drain" of our rural areas, affordable housing, homelessness -

literally everything. Our country doesn't function properly with only one political ideology; our best ideas and policies come from cooperation and compromise.

That's exactly what I will do if the constituents entrust their votes and their voices to me in November - be a responsive and accessible representative for ALL

What changes, if any, would you support that would help Congress function more efficiently and effectively?

I would work to change the rules of congressional committees so that legislation that would benefit the majority of Pennsylvanians cannot be blocked by a very few politicians.

I would also push for term limits for elected officials at every level. These positions were never meant to be lifetime positions.

What legislation would you support to protect voting rights and Safeguard access to free and fair elections?

I support the John R Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act which strengthens voting rights by enabling the government to enforce anti-discrimination laws.

How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

To prevent conflict and promote stability, while acting in the best interests of all countries involved in a specific issue.

REPUBLICAN

DAN MEUSER

COUNTY: Luzerne

OCCUPATION: Congressman PA-09 EDUCATION: New York Maritime

University, Cornell University

QUALIFICATIONS: Former PA Secretary of Revenue, Businessman with 20+ years of experience

WEBSITE: meuserforcongress.com FACEBOOK: MeuserforCongress X: @meuser4congress

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing the country, and how would you address them?

As a conservative Congressman, I see the southern border crisis, inflation, rising crime, and ongoing wars as top concerns. My solutions: secure the border, rein in spending to curb inflation, support law enforcement, and restoring leadership to the White House. That is why I am supporting President Donald Trump for President.

What changes, if any, would you support that would help Congress function more efficiently and effectively?

Candidate has not responded.

What legislation would you support to protect voting rights and safeguard access to free and fair elections?

It's crucial to uphold constitutional principles and ensure the sanctity of our electoral process. Too often, we have seen individual interpretations by state officials and bureaucrats undermining the security of the electoral process, which results in growing distrust in the process. All election officials must adhere to established laws to safeguard the ballot, and operate with full transparency with the public.

How do you view the role of the US in responding to challenges facing the international community?

The U.S. must lead from the front as a world leader, ensuring security domestically first. By prioritizing the safety of the American people, we can effectively protect our allies and respond to global challenges with strength and resolve. Unfortunately, from the botched and deadly withdraw from Afghanistan to the late response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Biden administration has been wrong or absent time and time again on the world stage.

27TH PA SENATORIAL DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The PA Senate consists of 50 members, representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. Senators must be at least 25 years old, have been a

citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The Senate develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the House of Representatives). In addition, the Senate tries officials impeached by the House and authorizes executive appointments. Senators serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation. There are no term limits to this office.

Term: 4 years Salary: \$106,422 *Vote for ONE.*

DEMOCRAT

PATRICIA LAWTON COUNTY: Columbia

OCCUPATION: Assistant Professor of

Speech-Language Pathology

EDUCATION: Ph.D. in Administration and Leadership Studies; Master's in Speech-Language Pathology

QUALIFICATIONS: Community leader,

advocate, and educator.

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/profile. php?id=100088406989519 X: @PLLawton69

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians, and how do you address them?

We need to fully fund our educational system to improve the quality of education for residents. We need to improve internet access to rural residents to provide for opportunities in education, employment, and healthcare. We must bring jobs to Pennsylvania so that our young people can stay and increase access to affordable housing. We also must protect the right for women in Pennsylvania to have access to reproductive healthcare. We need to develop ways to support our veterans, increase access to mental healthcare, and create initiatives that help to protect our children from the dangers of technology.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

Pennsylvania has secure elections. We should do whatever we can to ensure that people have easy access to voting including drop boxes, mail-in ballots, and the appropriate number of polling places especially in urban areas. The necessary supports, including funding, must be given to local election officials.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school finding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

I would support to fully fund Fair Funding so that our educational system receives the appropriate amount of resources per student that all districts require. Quality education is the foundation upon which all else is built in our commonwealth. I would also support fully funding the special education system so that all children have access to the supports they need to be successful in school.

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws? I would vote to protect women's unrestricted access to reproductive healthcare here in Pennsylvania.

REPUBLICAN

LYNDA J. SCHLEGEL CULVER COUNTY: Northumberland FACEBOOK: Culver27

Candidate has not responded.

29TH PA SENATORIAL DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The PA Senate consists of 50 members, representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. Senators must be at least 25 years old, have been a citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall

reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The Senate develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the House of Representatives). In addition, the Senate tries officials impeached by the House and authorizes executive appointments. Senators serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation. There are no term limits to this office.

Term: 4 years Salary: \$106,422 *Vote for ONE.*

DEMOCRAT

JOHN ZUGAREK
COUNTY: Luzerne
OCCUPATION: Educator
EDUCATION: BA-Wilkes University;

MA-East Stroudsburg University

QUALIFICATIONS: 5 and 1/2 Years member of White Haven Borough Council (Police Public Safety Committee, Anti-Tolling Committee, Bicentennial Committee, etc.) WEBSITE: jz4pa.com

FACEBOOK: JohnZugarek4PA X: @JohnZugarek4pa INSTAGRAM: johnzugarek4pa/

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians and how would you address them?

Pennsylvania has long been a reactive state - we wait until there is a problem & then spend years trying to fix it. As a borough councilperson, I see firsthand how difficult it is to maintain services in your municipality. The rapidly increasing cost of Fire, Police, & Ambulances has seen many good departments close their doors. Right now, PA's legislature is one of the most expensive & least productive in the country. We need to move forward & ensure that the government starts working on providing these basic services, as well as school & infrastructure, to provide our communities with safe environments that they can grow & succeed in. I believe a start would be reforming the grant process to one that rotates awards based on needs.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

Elections need to be safe, secure, and accessible. The state legislature needs to ensure that everyone who can vote has access to voting and that we can all be confident in the results of the election. I believe this needs to be a bipartisan approach that looks at options such as early in-person voting, automatic voter registration, and free and available voter verification.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

Funding for education has been a long running issue in the state. It's time that we step up and make sure that we adequately fund our schools, but also use this as an opportunity to help reduce or eliminate property taxes. I believe that zip code should not determine success, and that our public school system needs to work for all students. I believe that a variety of funding sources could be used to help fund our schools in a more equitable way and take the pressure of overtaxed property owners, especially seniors.

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws? Reproductive freedom is one of the most important and personal issues that we face in recent times. Many women face very difficult decisions when it comes to their health and well-being and we should strive to make sure those decisions are between them and their healthcare providers.

REPUBLICAN

DAVE ARGALL

COUNTY: Schuylkill
OCCUPATION: State Senator & Adjunct

Professor

EDUCATION: Tamaqua Area High School, 1976. Lycoming College, B.A., Political Science and International Studies, 1980. Penn State, M.A., American Studies, 1993. Penn State, Ph.D, Public Administration, 2006 QUALIFICATIONS: Former Member, Pennsylvania House of Representatives, 124th Legislative District (1985-2009). Current

Member, Pennsylvania State Senate, 29th

Senatorial District (2009-present)
WEBSITE/FACEBOOK: DaveArgall
X: @SenatorArgall

INSTAGRAM: senatorargall

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians and how would you address them?

For me, fighting blight and revitalizing our downtowns and older industrial neighborhoods in Carbon, Luzerne, and Schuylkill counties is a high priority, as is finding a fairer way to fund our public schools. My goal is to further improve the education of all Pennsylvania students, from pre-school to graduate school, in our smallest towns and villages to our largest cities, for generations to come.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

Ensuring our elections are accessible and secure is vital. I would support any measure that boosts election security and supports our county and local election boards. Voter ID is a high priority for the people I represent.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

The Commonwealth Court has spoken, and I agree that we must find a fairer way to fund our public schools. The key here is developing legislation that allows us to invest in our most valuable resource, our students, but also avoids massive tax burdens on Pennsylvanians.

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws? Pennsylvania's voters should be the ones deciding whether taxpayers should be required to pay for abortions—not the courts, not the governor, not the legislature.

LIBERTARIAN

TIMOTHY HENNING COUNTY: Schuylkill

OCCUPATION: Retired U.S. Army (2001-2019)

EDUCATION: Lehighton Area High School (2000). US Army Infantry School, Ft Benning, GA (2001). Senior Leader Course, Fort Benning, GA (2012). Infantry Advanced Leader Course, Ft Benning, GA (2011). Military Police School, Fort Hunter Liggett, CA (2014). Studied Criminal Justice, University of Maryland & Phoenix QUALIFICATIONS: VFW Commander

Post 9224, Vilseck Germany (2010-2013). Combat Operations, Iraq (2004-2005, 2007-2009). Detainee Operations, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (2014-2015). Peace keeping operations, Kosovo (2002-2003).

WEBSITE: www.henningforpa.com **FACEBOOK:** facebook.com/profile. php?id=61558423747833

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians, and how would you address them?

I believe that the most important issue facing everyone today is safety/security. Every community in the state of Pennsylvania has never been more at risk than it is today. I have seen the worst of humanity with my own eyes. This is something that I refuse to let happen in our communities. Our children deserve to grow up in a safe and secure environment, just as we had the opportunity to grow up in. We are currently living in extremely dangerous times. Because of an open and unsecure border, we have never been more at risk of criminal activity or a terrorist attack. I believe that strength through unity and strong communities will be needed to combat this rising threat to our homes, families, and our way of life.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

I believe that we must ensure that our voting system is protected and that this nonnegotiable. We dishonor the men and woman that fought for everyone's right to a secure voting system. Voting should be in-person with a valid form of Identification. Mail-in ballots should be used by registered voters who are living abroad outside the United States and our Military. This shouldn't even be a topic for discussion. We as a nation are facing severe problems that need immediate action.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

I believe that all children are entitled to having a great education and we owe it to our children to ensure that they receive it. We have lost our values and core principles in our education system. Our children are not being properly prepared to meet the challenges in today's world. We are currently setting them all up for failure. This is shameful!!

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws? I believe that the decision leading to having an abortion should be between the family and the medical professional. I personally cannot think or speak for someone who is put in that situation. Nor should anyone else who isn't involved. Having an abortion should not be used as a form of birth control. It's called taking personal responsibility for your own actions!

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 116

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE

The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The PA House of Representatives consists of 203 members representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. Representatives must be at least 21 years old, have been a citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The House develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the Senate). The House also has the exclusive authority to impeach public officials. Representatives also serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation.

Term: 2 years Salary: \$106,422 Vote for ONE.

DEMOCRAT

DEBORAH ADOFF

MUNICIPALITY: East Union Township QUALIFICATIONS: I worked as a court stenographer for 42 years. While raising three boys I was very involved in the community, the school system and the PTA. More recently I was the president of the HOA and headed several committees in our large community.

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians, and how would you address them?

I would support legislation to protect a woman's right to choose, voters' rights, veterans' rights, LGBTQ rights, and workers' right to unionize. I would support legislation providing a living wage, affordable housing, affordable healthcare and childcare. I would support legislation protecting the environment and raise the minimum wage to a minimum of \$15 an hour. I would also support sensible gun legislation, including background checks and an assault weapons ban.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

I believe Election Day should be a national holiday. I believe every eligible voter should have easy access to voting and not have to wait in excessive lines. I believe every vote should be counted and that your vote is private and should remain so. Counting of the votes should be bipartisan and completely transparent. The final votes should then be accepted and honored by all, with the loser accepting defeat. This is the root of our democracy.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

I believe every child deserves a quality education regardless of their zip code or social standing. I agree with the Court's ruling and look forward to seeing more equitable distribution of school funding.

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws? I believe every woman has a right to make their own health choices, including whether to have a child. On average it costs \$250,000 to raise a child to age 18. These are hard choices no one should make for you. I would support legislation to codify a woman's right to choose in Pennsylvania.

REPUBLICAN

DANE WATRO
COUNTY: Schuylkill
WEBSITE: imforwatro.com
FACEBOOK: danewatro
Candidate has not responded.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 117

REPUBLICAN

JAMIE WALSH

MUNICIPALITY: Ross Twp.

QUALIFICATIONS: Jamie is a small business owner, and he is an advocate for parental rights and election integrity. He is the co-founder of Citizens Advisory of Pennsylvania, a parents rights organization and he testified in Washington DC on behalf of Luzerne County voters that ran out of paper in the 2022 election.

PRIORITIES: My priorities in Harrisburg will be to find win-win solutions for the taxpayers. I will be a strong advocate of the second amendment, fight for property and school tax reform so senior citizens can stay in their homes, advocate for election integrity so people can be confident in the voting process, introduce legislation to support parental rights and ensure medical freedom and privacy.

COUNTY: Luzerne WEBSITE: walshforpa.com FACEBOOK: facebook.com/profile. php?id=61552481893430

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 118

DEMOCRAT

JIM HADDOCK

COUNTY: Luzerne
OCCUPATION: State Representative
EDUCATION: PBA Advanced School of

Banking

QUALIFICATIONS: Current State Representative, small business owner, worked in banking & insurance industry, former Mayor of Avoca and former Pittston Area School Director

WEBSITE: jimhaddock.com **FACEBOOK:** jimhaddockforstaterep

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians and how would you address them?

Properly funding public education, protecting our democracy including important issues like voting rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and women's rights. I have a proven record in Harrisburg in supporting these issues.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

We must continue to not only protect but to expand voting rights in the state. The state must continue to help fund elections on the state and county level and also support the process. We should modernize election laws to expand voting opportunities by allowing early in person and mail voting along with allowing opening primary elections to third party voters like independents. Our right to vote makes America great.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

Last year I voted for an historic investment of the most dollars for public education in the history of the state. I strongly support Governor Shapiro's 1.1 billion dollar investment in this years budget for education. The court's ruling has said we have failed (before I was elected) in the states constitutional obligation to property fund education. I support the state property funding education and tie the states money

to making sure the local school boards lower property taxes for our home owners.

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws? A woman's reproductive health care is a conversation between her and her doctor. I support a woman's right to choose.

REPUBLICAN

MCKAYLA KATHIO

COUNTY: Luzerne

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/profile. php?id=61556530846637

Candidate has not responded.

PENNSYLVANIA RESPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 119

DEMOCRAT

MEGAN KOCHER COUNTY: Luzerne

OCCUPATION: Community Organizing,

Political Advocacy

EDUCATION: I have a Bachelor of Arts degree with a double major in political science and history and minored in women and gender studies at Wilkes University, where I graduated Magna Cum Laude and maintained a spot in the honors program. I am currently pursuing a Master of Science degree in criminal justice.

QUALIFICATIONS: Over 6 years of professional experience working within the Pennsylvania political system, which includes working on campaigns, community organizing, grassroots lobbying, fighting for working-class families, and management. I also regularly volunteer at a food bank serving local residents in need.

WEBSITE: megankforpa.com FACEBOOK: MeganKforPA X: @MeganKforPA

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians and how would you address them?

While Pennsylvanians currently face many issues, including healthcare access, reproductive care, gun violence, and issues relating to inflation, I believe that the most critical issue today is environmental injustice. If elected, I will support legislation that addresses each of these issues, from increasing healthcare access and affordability to requiring thorough background checks and secure storage requirements for gun ownership. A key focus of mine would be making the shift to clean energy, increasing our energy independence and creating wellpaying jobs, in addition to making clean energy more widely available for working class families.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

Voting is how our citizens engage directly with government and is essential to maintaining our democratic system. I will always protect and expand voting access by supporting automatic voter registration, no excuse mail in voting, and widely available and accessible ballot drop boxes, because we need to make voting easier - not harder. In order to protect our election security, Pennsylvanian Counties need Federal and State funding to upgrade our voting systems, including upgrading from outdated DREs, which may be vulnerable to cyber-attacks. Finally, in order to protect the integrity of our elections, we must fully fund election boards, giving local election officials the tools and funds that they need to properly do their jobs.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

As found by the Commonwealth court, our state constitution guarantees a thorough and efficient public school system and the Pennsylvania Legislator is not currently meeting that standard. I support a budget that makes significant gains in closing school funding adequacy gaps, increasing the amount of state funding per student and relieving the burden on homeowners paying property taxes. Additionally, I support legislation that would cap costs of cyber charter schools at the cost that public schools pay to educate those same students, relieving pressure on public school funding. I believe that we need to hold charter schools receiving

state funds accountable, to make sure that they educate students to the same standards as public schools.

REPUBLICAN

ALEC J. RYNCAVAGE

MUNICIPALITY: Plymouth Borough OCCUPATION: State Representative EDUCATION: Graduate of Wyoming Valley West HS. Self-taught software engineer. QUALIFICATIONS: I've proven to listen and be present. I have hosted over 173 outreach events, monthly coffee conversations, and telephone town halls while maintaining daily office hours. I was raised in a paycheck-to-paycheck household and grew to become a homeowner, business owner, and former Borough Councilman. My constituents know me personally.

PRIORITIES IF ELECTED: Continue the job delivering results for families living paycheck-to-paycheck, our businesses, seniors, and veterans. Add to the \$10 million in grants received and continue to put people over politics. Whether it be fighting utility companies from rate hikes or listening at your most vulnerable time, that personal representation will continue.

WEBSITE: alecforpa.com FACEBOOK: citizensforalec

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 120

DEMOCRAT

FERN LEARD
COUNTY: Luzerne

OCCUPATION: Advocate

EDUCATION: Nurse Aide Certification at

Marywood University

QUALIFICATIONS: Fern Leard is a NEPA native, mother, and healthcare advocate. Her political advocacy earned her a 10+ year education on how state and federal governments operate. She currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Luzerne County Democratic Party and the 5th District

Democrats of Luzerne County. **WEBSITE:** votefern4pa.com **FACEBOOK:** VoteFern4PA

X: @votefern4pa

INSTAGRAM: votefern4pa/

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians and how would you address them?

Many Pennsylvanians are struggling to make ends meet while everything but our wages go up. Our minimum wage needs to be a family sustaining wage. We are losing a lot of tax revenue by allowing companies operating in PA, that have incorporated their business outof-state, avoid paying state taxes while leaving small and local businesses to shoulder that bill, we must close that loophole. We need to prioritize holding companies accountable for price gouging us by amending the Price Gouging Act of 2006 to impose stronger penalties that can't be brushed off as "the cost of doing business" and make sure that the Bureau of Consumer Protections has what it needs to make sure Pennsylvanians aren't being taken advantage of by greedy corporations.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

The burden we place on our election workers by not allowing them to open the envelopes of mailed in votes until election day is unnecessary. Tallying the votes would be more efficient and drastically increase the likelihood of projecting the winner of an election, on election night, if they weren't subject to start until the polls open on election day. Separately, the many changes to our voting process over the last 5 years has caused a lot of voter confusion, which has unfortunately resulted in legally registered voters having their votes thrown out. We have a responsibility to provide better access to voter education when we make changes to prevent that from happening.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

Pennsylvania currently ranks #36 in the nation for public education and we have a lot of work to do to change that. A quality public education requires adequate funding and we have failed to offer that to many of our school

districts. I fully support revising the cyber charter school funding formula to reflect the actual cost of educating our students. The formula we currently use is outdated and results in our school districts overpaying tuition that could be used elsewhere in our educational system. We need a funding formula that will equitably provide a quality public education to set up all our students for success.

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws? I am a strong advocate for reproductive freedoms and there is much I would support changing in Pennsylvania's abortion laws. Including, but not limited to, changing informed consent to mean discussing the procedure and its risks as you would any other medical procedure, offering optional counseling without a 24hr waiting period, striking out the spousal notice provision, and expanding access by permitting advanced practice providers to perform the procedure. Abortion is healthcare.

REPUBLICAN

BRENDA PUGH COUNTY: Luzerne WEBSITE: brendaforpa.com

FACEBOOK: brendaforpa

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians, and how would you address them?

Inflation is affecting all Pennsylvanian's, I do not support raising taxes, and instead we should be looking to lower property taxes with tax shifts and give money back to the working-class people who are struggling to pay their bills and cannot get ahead. With so many people living paycheck to paycheck, we need to attack inflation, rising property taxes and utility rates, and get more money back into people's pockets. Public safety is also a passion of mine because there is nothing more important than keeping our families and communities safe. That's why I strongly support our police and first responders.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

Right, wrong, or indifferent, there are a lot of questions that have been brought forward about the integrity of our elections. The best way to restore confidence in our election process is to enact Voter ID legislation for Election Day and mail-in ballot voting. As for drop boxes, there is nothing in our election

law about drop boxes. While I believe voters should be able to drop off their ballots at the Election Bureau, there are not enough resources to properly monitor drop boxes.

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

Our education system is too reliant on property taxes and needs a better way to equitably fund our schools. Every year, the legislature has increased the state's share of funding, but school boards continually raise taxes because of unfunded mandates and a failure to live within their means. We need to consider more equitable programs that include broadening the tax base through sales and income taxes while eliminating property taxes. I will not support any effort to tax retirement income, which makes no sense for our seniors and working families. On top of this, we should do more for school choice like the Lifeline Scholarship initiative that would give parents a choice for their children.

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws? The Abortion Control Act, which was signed into law by Democrat Robert Casey, allows elective abortions up to 24 weeks with exceptions beyond that for rape, incest, and the health of the mother. With current medical technology, babies can live outside the womb around 21 weeks. I support a viability standard that protects life capable of living outside the womb. This is where science meets common sense. On top of this, taxpayer dollars should not be used to pay for abortions.

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 121

DEMOCRAT

EDDIE DAY PASHINSKI

COUNTY: Luzerne
OCCUPATION: State Rep

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education and has a Master's equivalency

QUALIFICATIONS: 38 years of experience as a former music teacher and choral director at the Greater Nanticoke Area School District to push back against irresponsible and drastic state education funding cuts that adversely affect local property taxpayers and threaten the quality of public education. As an educator,

WEBSITE: eddiedaypashinski.com FACEBOOK: eddie.pashinski

What do you see as the most pressing issues facing Pennsylvanians, and how would you address them?

Full Funding for Public Schools Holding your private/virtual charter schools accountable for their operating cost and abiding by the same rules PA public schools must follow as well.

Healthcare Reform / Cost of healthcare is prohibitive for most people and evidence has demonstrated that foreign countries charge far less for prescription drugs than the U.S. Minimum Wage / PA must increase it's min wage to at least be competitive with the surrounding states.

Veteran Affairs must prevent homelessness and suicide a transition program is desperately needed. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.

What changes would you support making to Pennsylvania's voting laws to expand access, ensure security, and support local election officials and processes?

Pre-canvassing should be approved when reaching certain voter thresholds. Altering equipment, timeframes, storage and a host of other related voting transactions that must be adapted to the ever changing conditions in each county

What legislation would you support to comply with the Commonwealth Court's ruling that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed?

The court decision made it clear the that our public schools are severely under funded and its our constitutional responsibility to make the changes necessary to provide a quality education to all PA children, this position has also been supported and verified by the Pennsylvania Public School Commission

What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's abortion laws?

Go back to Roe v Wade and continue working from there

REPUBLICAN

DINO DISLER COUNTY: Luzerne WEBSITE: dinoforpa.com FACEBOOK: dinoforpa

Candidate has not responded.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE WILKES-BARRE AREA

P.O. Box 1480 | Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-1480 | 570-675-3429 | lwvwba.org

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The League of Women Voters of the Wilkes-Barre Area is a nonpartisan organization which has as its purpose the promotion of political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. Membership is open to any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League. While the League of Women Voters has made every effort to ensure that the information provided to us by the candidate is typed properly in this guide and it will not be liable for damages arising out of error, deletion or omission.

Editors: Lalaine Little and Kathryn O'Neill | Design & Layout: Rachele Smith, Blasi Printing Corp. **Prepared by:** The League of Women Voters of The Wilkes-Barre Area and The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania.

Special Thanks to the Times Leader for publishing the Voters Guide. The Voters Guide is a member-supported publication.

Online Voters Guide:

The Vote411 Online Voters Guide is available at www.vote411.org. Useful information for voters can be found on the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania homepage: www.palwv.org. This Voters Guide is available on the League of Women Voters of the Wilkes-Barre Area homepage: lwvwba.org.

PENNSYLVANIA VOTER SUPPORT

ACCESSIBLE VOTING

ALTERNATIVE BALLOT

An alternative ballot is a paper ballot you get in the mail and return to your county election office.

The federal Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984 requires the Commonwealth to offer alternative ballots.

There are 3 options to return your completed ballot:

- in person to your county election office or other officially designated location
- by designating someone in writing to return it for you
- through the U.S. mail

Can I vote by alternative ballot?

If you meet the qualifications to vote by alternative ballot, you have the right to do so even if you are able to appear to vote at your polling place. You have the right to vote with an alternative ballot if you are:

- A registered voter, AND
- Were assigned to a polling place that your county board of elections says is not accessible

AND you

- Have a disability, or
- Are age 65 or older, whether you have a disability or not.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR AN ALTERNATIVE BALLOT?

- 1. Fill in the paper alternative ballot application and send it to your county election office.
- 2. If accepted, you will receive an alternative ballot with instructions via U.S. mail from your county election office.

You must submit your alternative ballot application to your county election office no later than 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before Election Day.

HOW AND WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR AN EMERGENCY ALTERNATIVE BALLOT?

In case you experience an emergency in the last week leading up to Election Day, you can submit an application for an emergency alternative ballot. You must submit this completed application to the county election office no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day.

ACCESSIBLE REMOTE BALLOT

Voters may request an accessible remote ballot by following the instructions below. These ballots will allow voters who use screen readers and assistive devices to vote a mail ballot privately and independently.

To obtain an accessible remote ballot, an individual must:

- Be a registered Pennsylvania voter.
- Apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot by the deadline.
- Submit a request for an accessible remote ballot via one of these methods:
 - 1. Accessible web-based request form for the remote ballot.
 - 2. Accessible PDF application that can be mailed it to your county board of elections or emailed to ra-awib@pa.gov.

Before you apply for an accessible remote ballot, you must first apply for a mail ballot. To avoid delays in processing your request, please submit your request within 24 hours of applying for your mail-in or absentee ballot.

After your county election office processes your request, staff will:

- Mail you a packet of accessible voting materials. This packet will contain a return envelope and a secrecy envelope.
- Send you an email with instructions for how to access the ballot.

Follow ALL of the instructions in the email or your ballot may not be counted. When you access the ballot, you will also find instructions for completing and returning the ballot.

Return your ballot as early as possible. Your completed ballot must be received by your county election office by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

MAIL-IN AND ABSENTEE BALLOT

In Pennsylvania, registered voters can request either a no-excuse mail-in ballot or an absentee ballot.

- Mail-in ballot: Any registered voter may apply to vote by mail in the next election. You do not have to provide a reason for why you want to vote by mail ballot.
- **Absentee ballot:** If you will be out of your municipality on Election Day or if you have a disability or illness that prevents you from going to your polling place on Election Day, you can request this ballot type, which requires you to provide a reason for why you want to vote by mail ballot.

Before you apply, be sure to check your voter registration status to ensure you are registered to vote and your information is up to date.

DEADLINES FOR THE NOV. 5, 2024, GENERAL ELECTION

5 p.m. Oct. 29: Your APPLICATION for a mail-in or absentee ballot must be received by your county election office.

8 p.m. Nov. 5: Your county election office must RECEIVE your completed mail ballot by this time. A postmark by 8 p.m. Nov. 5 is not sufficient.

Missed the deadline to apply for your mail ballot? If you have an emergency--such as an unexpected illness or disability or last-minute absence from your municipality--you can request an emergency absentee ballot after the Oct. 29 deadline. The deadline to submit your emergency absentee ballot application to your county election office is 8 pm on Election Day.

Source: www.pa.gov/en/agencies/vote/voter-support