



# Senator **SHARIF STREET**

*Representing the 3rd Senatorial District*



**LET'S GROW PA**

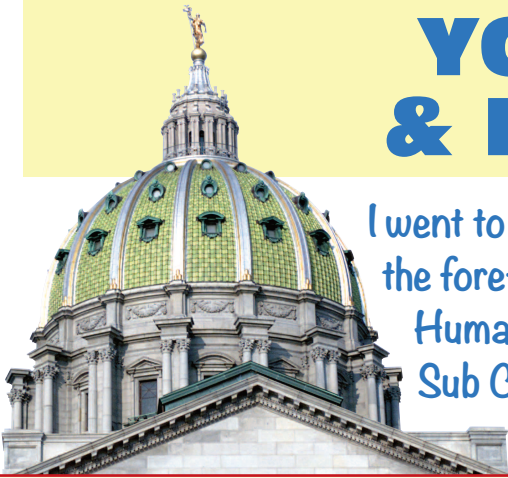
**WINTER 2020**



*Senator Street is joined by 800 Advocates in Harrisburg, calling for prison reform: ending cash bail and prison gerrymandering and reforming parole.*

**Inside:** Your Health & Harrisburg • First Term Accomplishments  
Growing Our Communities • Progressive Reforms • Early Voting





# YOUR HEALTH & HARRISBURG

I went to Harrisburg to represent you, bring your concerns to the forefront, no matter what it costs. As a member of the Health & Human Services Committee, and Chair of the Appropriations Sub Committee On Public Safety I've led the fight on the growing number of issues that affect your health.

## Pharmacy Transparency

I've reintroduced my bill to bring an end to the pharmacist gag rule and create more transparency concerning the cost of prescription drugs. We must do more to end predatory practices that target our citizens. No one should have to choose between food and medicine.

## Deemed Eligibility Get Care At Home

Too many families face uncertainty as seniors age in their homes and struggle with accessing in-home care. As a member of the Health and Human Services Committee, I've joined Senator Brooks in reintroducing our bill (SB277) to provide for medical assistance deemed eligibility program for home care, home health and older adult daily living center services.



*"Senator Street receives Legislative Champion Award" for working to ensure all in Pennsylvania can get care at home.*

Currently, seniors eligible for Medicaid in-home services endure a long application process that can take months, this forces some into nursing home facilities, putting their homes, dignity and proximity to loved ones at risk.



## \$1.2 BILLION for Toxic Schools

I WALKED through Peirce elementary firsthand and saw asbestos in the learning environment and called on the Philadelphia School District to remove our kids from the facility. I joined teachers and parents in McClure Elementary, also in my district, to mandate testing and to provide safe learning environments. I watched as asbestos forced a total of six closures, now including a second school, the Franklin Learning Center, in my district.

I joined Senator Hughes in cosponsoring Senate Bill 555, providing for the Public School Building Emergency Repair and Renovation Grant Program, and joined Governor Wolf in announcing a commitment of \$1.2 BILLION to clean up toxic schools and remediate lead and asbestos in Philly and across the Commonwealth.

We have built a coalition that will bring an end to the decades of indifference and deferred maintenance which have led to hazardous learning environments throughout Philadelphia and Pennsylvania.

The closures have displaced 3,600 in Philadelphia schools in the 2019-20 academic year. A safe and equally funded school is, at minimum, what we should provide for our kids. We will get it done.

# First Term Accomplishments

Partnered with the Thomas & Woods Foundation and Nicetown CDC to annually **raise over \$20K in private donations to purchase and distribute 2,500 Thanksgiving turkeys**

each year to families across the city.



**\$420 Million**  
in Grants and Other Funding



Partnered with The Share Food Program to **Provide Low Cost Healthy Groceries** to hundreds of constituents

Negotiated with the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association to force a change in their discriminatory policy banning the **wearing of religious head-wear during sporting events**



Introduced the **First LGBT Pride Resolution** in the Senate in more than a decade



Crafting a comprehensive package of bills to **Tackle Climate Change** through carbon capture

**Defeated SB383**  
(Guns in Schools)



Negotiated and Passed Legislation to **shut down**

**ILLEGAL**

**Stop & Gos**

Introduced SB350 to **Legalize the Adult Use of Cannabis** in Pennsylvania



Amended SB6 to **Prevent a Lifetime Ban** on public assistance for ex-offenders

## Tens of Millions for Career Technical Education

For years Senator Kitchen worked to fund Murell Dobbins, understanding the need to invest in Career Technical Education to have our graduates' career ready (*with certifications in barbering, food preparation and more*) upon graduation. I have been honored to continue to push for funding and was proud to finally join our students for a Ribbon Cutting celebrating over \$42 Million which includes State funds in renovations making Dobbins a state-of-the-art high school that centers both academics and career technical education. Much thanks to Principal Dr Toni Damon and her team, Dobbins Alumni Association and former principal Charles Whiting for completing the task! An investment in our youth is an investment in ourselves.

## Event Calendar

### March

**March 12** • Town Hall

**March 19** • Recovery Tour Spring

**March 26** • Pittsburgh Community Forum on Cannabis & Intergenerational Financial Planning Workshop

**March 1-31** • Find Your Pot of Gold

### April

**April – 28 Primary**

**April 9** • Senior Financial Literacy Session 1.3

**April 16** • Breast Cancer Screening with Fox Chase Cancer Center

**April 23** • Scam Jam

**(April 3, 10, 17, 24)** • Weekly Constituent Appreciation Activities



# GROWING OUR COMMUNITIES

## Expanding Healthcare in Philadelphia & Pennsylvania

As Democratic Chair of the Senate Banking & Insurance Committee I worked closely with the Wolf Administration, the Insurance Department, and key stakeholders who joined to sign historic legislation which creates a Pennsylvania based health insurance exchange for individual market plans.



The bill would create a state-based health insurance exchange for Affordable Care Act individual market plans. Having a market place controlled by the state of Pennsylvania rather than the federal government will allow for greater consumer protections and will allow for people to shop

for the most cost-effective plans within the state that provide the healthcare coverage that they and their family need. The bill will also ensure that premiums on the market place are reduced by as much as 10%, making healthcare in Pennsylvania more affordable.

*“Access to quality healthcare is a civil right. It was a pleasure to work in a bipartisan fashion in both the House and Senate to improve the quality of healthcare for so many Pennsylvanians.”*

## Community Garden Grants



With the passage of the 2019-2020 State Budget, Pennsylvania has enacted its first comprehensive farm bill package to invest in agriculture across the Commonwealth which included my bill (Act 14) to produce the first ever Urban Agriculture Grant Fund. These grants finally provide state support for urban community gardens by encouraging entities to work together, overcoming food deserts, and opening opportunities for people to become social entrepreneurs. I am honored to join PA Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding to invest in urban farms and community gardens in our community and across this Commonwealth.

### Two types of grants will be awarded.

1. **“Microgrants”** for one-time projects or a single entity applicant. Maximum grant amount for these applications is \$2,500,
2. **“Collaboration”** grants include several partners in a project, and have a maximum grant amount of \$50,000.

To Apply: contact Scott Sheely at [ScSheely@pa.gov](mailto:ScSheely@pa.gov) or 717.346.0426

## Working to Raise the Wage

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. We finally passed a bill in the Senate increasing Pennsylvania’s minimum wage to \$9.50 by January 2022. I am hopeful the House will pass this important measure. While this falls short on many levels, it is a vital first step to ensuring every Pennsylvanian earns a living wage. Many thanks to Senator Christine Tartaglione and Senator Haywood for leading the charge to get this done. We have much work to do to ensure no one need work multiple jobs to make ends meet and that every person, regardless of what type of work you do, finds dignity, prosperity and stability in earning a living wage.



# PROGRESSIVE REFORMS

“Common sense gun reform and divesting from prisons and investing in people are among the civil rights struggles of our time.”

## Gun Violence & Criminal Justice Reform

Violence and mourning have seemingly become a way of life for too many in our communities. Anti-Violence, a core tenet of MLK's legacy, was the central theme of our community meeting following the largest mass shooting of Philadelphia law enforcement in recent history. We've seen reports of gun violence throughout our city and Pennsylvania.

Routine thoughts and prayers have become empty rhetoric and will continue to ring hollow unless substantive changes are made around the proliferation of these weapons in our communities. While I have offered legislation to restrict the sale and purchase of military grade weapons and accessories, we need a multi-pronged set of solutions requiring bi-partisanship and community participation.

In April we hosted hundreds of community members at the The Met located at 858 N. Broad Street in North Philadelphia, several community leaders, state officials, and hundreds of citizens from different neighborhoods of Philadelphia joined together to formulate solutions.

Key community members presented on what they believe needed to be addressed and we are working to implement resources, funding and grass root initiatives to save our communities.

The tone of the meeting was set by members of the clergy who opened the program. Darryl Shuler of Put It Down, lead a discussion of Community Voices, where key community members from all walks of life presented 32 community solutions.

### WHAT WE'RE DOING

- **Reinvesting in Focused Deterrence:** Researchers from Temple University found that compared with the two years before the pilot, there was a 35 percent reduction in shootings in South Philadelphia in 2013.
- **Focused Deterrence** identifies those most at risk, threatens collective enforcement if violence continues, and also offers social services and jobs.
- **Youth Employment:** \$1 Million State Grant that will create jobs for Philadelphia teens (14-21) year round through the Urban Affairs Coalition and the Philadelphia Youth Network.
- **Mentoring with ManUpPHL:** our office offers mentoring and other resources for at least 1 hour per week via ManUpPHL.

learn more at [SenatorSharifStreet.com/gunreform](http://SenatorSharifStreet.com/gunreform)

## Divesting From Prisons, Investing In People

For 20 years I've spent the weekend prior to MLK Day visiting all the local prisons with clergy, talking to men, women and youth on the power of redemption and self-elevation even in our darkest hour. We all have proximity to the criminal justice system, as taxpayers, victims, family of the incarcerated and sometimes those who have made a mistake but are worthy of redemption. I will continue to fight for these reforms:

1. **Auto Expungement:** Those who receive a Pardon or are found not guilty must still pay to expunge records, keeping them from education loans, employment and housing.

2. **Reforming Life without Parole:** In PA hundreds are sentenced to life without having killed anyone, we also incarcerate thousands of aging prisoners with mounting medical costs that pose no public risk.
3. **Ending cash bail:** Bail should center on public risk, not ability to pay, which imprisons people for lengthy periods of time without a conviction.
4. **Decriminalizing cannabis in PA:** Expunging records and ending the cycle of incarceration of people for low level drug offenses, which balloons our prison population.
5. **Repealing the death penalty,** which MLK called “against the better judgment of modern criminology”
6. **Ending incarceration of those unable to pay fines or restitution** and creating legal representation in forfeiture proceedings.

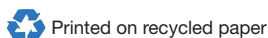




## STATE SENATOR SHARIF STREET

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Philadelphia, PA 19121

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### \*\*\* **ATTENTION** \*\*\*

Due to changes made to the election code, there are a number of changes to the way you can vote.  
Below are a few important things to know when you vote this year.

#### **EARLY VOTING**

Beginning 50 days before each election, you are now able to go to the Board of Elections and vote in-person, regardless of where you live in Philadelphia. That means, for the Primary Election on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, you can start voting as early as March 9. For more information about where and how to "Early Vote," check out our website at [www.senatorsharifstreet.com/how-to-vote](http://www.senatorsharifstreet.com/how-to-vote)

#### **MAIL-IN VOTING**

You may now vote by mail-in ballot. To do so, simply apply for a mail-in ballot by 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before the election. You do not need to provide a reason or excuse if you want to use a mail-in ballot. You can return your voted mail-in ballot by mailing it to the Board of Elections using the envelope provided, or you can drop it off in person at the Board of Elections' office. Whichever way you choose, the Board of Elections must receive your voted ballot by 8 p.m. on election day in order for it to be counted.

You may also ask to be placed on a permanent mail-in voter list. If you are on this list, you will have a mail-in ballot

application mailed to you by the first Monday in February each year. If you complete and return the application, the county will send you ballots in the mail for all the elections that take place that year.

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

The deadline to register to vote is now 15 days before an election, rather than 30 days. If your voter registration application is denied, the deadlines to appeal the decision have also changed.

#### **NO STRAIGHT-PARTY VOTING**

You no longer have the option to press a single button to vote for all candidates of one party. However, this change does not prevent you from selecting only candidates from one party. It simply removes the shortcut button option. If you want to vote for all candidates of one party, you will have to select each candidate one at a time.



### **OFFICES TO SERVE YOU**

#### ***District Office***

1621 W. Jefferson Street • Philadelphia, PA 19121 • (215) 227-6161 • Fax: (215) 560-1316

#### ***Northwest District Office***

4458 A Germantown Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19140 • (215) 457-5200 • Fax: (215) 457-5206

#### ***Harrisburg Office***

Senate Box 203003 • Harrisburg, PA 17120-3003 • (717) 787-6735 • Fax: (717) 772-0581



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