



Senator **SHARIF STREET**

Representing the 3rd Senatorial District

Rebuilding Post COVID

SUMMER 2021

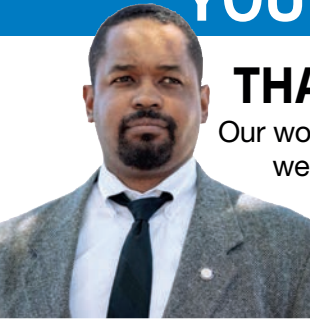


Reimagining Public Safety

Following the murder of George Floyd, Senator Street worked to pass police reform legislation including a Choke Hold Ban & Use of Force Standards that unanimously passed the Senate. He joined Governor Wolf in signing police reform policy in Harrisburg.

Inside: Your Health & Harrisburg | Get Vaccinated | American Rescue Plan
PUA Assistance | Reimagining Public Safety | Gun Violence | Protecting Your Vote

YOUR HEALTH & HARRISBURG DURING COVID



THANK YOU!

Our world has changed in an instant as we've been forced to navigate

COVID-19. I am honored to be re-elected for a second term in the Pennsylvania Senate. I am proud to represent the North

Philadelphia community where I was born and raised. We've faced many challenges from demands for social justice and police reform, an end to gun violence and protection from **COVID-19**. I continue to ensure we protect your health. ■

Visit www.senatorsharifstreet.com/covid-19



PRIORITIZING STUDENTS & TEACHERS

Along with the Philadelphia Senate Delegation, I met with Mayor Jim Kenney to ensure there would be a process for teachers to be vaccinated before returning to school. I then joined teachers and parents in a city-wide protest on February 8th, in support of their refusal to start in-person learning, where I demanded their prioritization for vaccination before returning to school buildings. I joined Congressman Evans and Philly Schools Superintendent, Dr. William Hite, to assess how we should spend almost **2 Billion** in American Rescue Plan funds and committed to ensuring Philadelphia Schools receive the allocated funds which must come through the PA Senate. But this is only the first step.

Teachers rightly fear that the ventilation systems in our city's aging schools will be insufficient to address the potential spread of the **COVID-19** virus. Governor Wolf's proposed budget would help the ailing infrastructure within our Commonwealth's school systems, which, due to decades of divestment by the General Assembly, has led to asbestos, lead and mold throughout Philadelphia school buildings. The budget not only proposes a billion dollars of additional money for the capital improvements that need to be made in Philadelphia schools but an additional **\$327 million** for Philadelphia schools on an operational basis. That means every year. It is crucial that we adequately and equally fund education while ensuring the health and safety of our kids as we move beyond the pandemic. ■



GET VACCINATED PHILLY!

I've joined colleagues at the federal and local level in working with FEMA and the PA Emergency Management Agency to open the Esperanza Community Vaccination Center, in Hunting Park, which has vaccinated more than 10,500 people. We've worked in Harrisburg to fund the Black Doctors Consortium, which continues to close the disparities in testing and vaccination in our communities. ■

To register for vaccination, visit www.phila.gov/vaccine or blackdoctorsconsortium.com



DRIVING HUNGER AWAY DURING COVID

There is a direct connection between health and food. Our immune systems are stronger the better fed we are. Hunger has deepened with the rise of unemployment during COVID. I've hosted weekly pop up pantries with Share Food Inc. and Allegheny West Foundation.

In 2019 I authored The Urban Agriculture Grant Program in Governor Wolf's Farm Bill and joined PA Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding to announce another **\$500,000** in Agriculture Grants for small and urban farming in 2021. This program has been a lifeline for community gardens and small farmers and funded twenty-eight projects in 2020, providing fresh local produce to communities during the pandemic. In May, I announced another **\$15,000** in Farm to School Grant Funds for the Zhang Sah Martial Arts school for a project to support a school garden and address food access for the student body and local community.

For Thanksgiving I partnered with Nicetown CDC to increase our Turkey distribution to over 5,000 Turkeys for more than 225 organizations throughout Philadelphia and Pennsylvania and teamed up with Philabundance and ShopRite to deliver 6,000 meals for a month-long food drive during Ramadan from April 13 – May 12. ■





Senator Street & Dr. Hite discuss \$2B in Philly school funding.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

Supporting Main Street

KEEPING YOU IN YOUR HOME

In February, the PA Senate worked with the PA House to send Gov. Wolf Senate Bill 109, delivering more than half a billion dollars in **COVID-19** relief funds to the Department of Human Services for the Rental and Utility Assistance Grant Program. I previously worked with Senator Haywood to ensure **\$175 million** would be sent to Philly in rental and mortgage assistance to keep you in your home. The American Rescue Plan will provide **\$671 million** of additional rental aid and **\$350 million** in mortgage assistance. These funds will be moved through the PA House and Senate into programs to assist you. Philadelphia Sheriff Rochelle Bilal has also postponed sheriff sales citing incoming funds from the American Rescue Plan. ■

Contact my office at 215-227-6161 for updates on housing/rental support programs.

Paycheck Protection Loans

While the first round of PPP Loans has ended (March 2021), some businesses that received a PPP Loan may be eligible for a second round of funding. Funds can be used to pay rent, utilities, insurance, and cover looting, vandalism and more. Second Draw PPP loans made to eligible borrowers qualify for full loan forgiveness if:

- *Made during the 8 to 24 week covered period following loan disbursement*
- *Employee and compensation levels are maintained in the same manner as required for the First Draw PPP loan*
- *as required for the First Draw PPP loan*
- *The loan proceeds are spent on payroll costs and other eligible expenses; and*
- *At least 60% of the proceeds are spent on payroll costs*

Economic Injury Disaster Loans

These loans are intended to meet financial obligations and operating expenses that could have been met had the disaster not occurred.

Eligible applicants may apply directly to the Small Business Association at [sba.gov/CoronavirusRelief](https://www.sba.gov/CoronavirusRelief). Applications will be accepted until the deadline of December 31, 2021.

Eligibility: small business owners (500 or fewer employees), cooperatives (500 employees or fewer), most private non-profits, faith based organizations, sole proprietorships and independent contractors, and qualified agricultural businesses (500 or fewer employees) in all U.S. states and territories are currently eligible to apply for a low interest loan due to **COVID 19**. ■

Restaurant Revitalization Fund

The American Rescue Plan also includes a **\$2.86 billion** grant program by the U.S. Small Business Administration, which offers financial assistance to restaurants and other food and drinking establishments. We will ensure that hundreds of millions in small business support once again come through Community Development Financial Institutions and get to our community.

INVESTING \$13 MILLION IN OUR COMMUNITY

This session I've been excited to announce more than \$13 Million in multiple state grants for different projects around the district. The grant funding is an investment in schools, green and play spaces, shopping centers and more. I'm committed to ensuring we build back better than before.

- Philadelphia Water Department, Office of Watersheds Yorktown Complete & Green Street Project Philadelphia
- Philadelphia Water Department Lower Germantown Complete and Green Streets Project Philadelphia
- Nueva Esperanza North 5th Street Commercial Corridor Streetscape Improvements Philadelphia
- North Station District, LLC North Broad Street Amtrak Station Philadelphia
- 3701 N Broad LLC 3701-25 N. Broad Street Philadelphia (Buery Building)
- Sharswood Partners, LLC Sharswood - Ridge Avenue
- Redevelopment Philadelphia
- Sharswood 1, LLC Sharswood Shopping Center Philadelphia
- Einstein Healthcare Network
- Girard College
- North 10 Philadelphia
- ABEER LLP
- Philadelphia Technical Training Institute
- Boys and Girls Club of Philadelphia
- Temple University – PASSHE



- Temple University Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Mosaic Development Partners, LLC
- St. Joseph's Prep
- Uptown Entertainment Dev. Corp
- City of Philadelphia – Rebuild
- Smith Memorial Playground

PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

President Biden's American Rescue Plan has extended unemployment benefits.

My office has been assisting in applying for PUA Claims and will continue to do so. Contact me at 215-227-6161.

The Labor and Industry Department will upgrade the online system for unemployment claims and compensation.

HERES WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) extends through September 6, 2021

- Extends the federal supplemental unemployment benefit (FPUC – \$300/week added to state and federal benefits) and the additional mixed earner supplement (MEUC \$100/week for workers with both wage and self employment \$5,000 requirement income) through September 6, 2021. Federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (FPEUC)
- Extends the additional benefits (for workers exhausting regular state unemployment benefits) to September 6, 2021.

Representatives are available at the UC service center (888-313-7284)
Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY

Gun Violence & Police Reform

In the year 2020, we saw the murder of George Floyd, pinned under the knee of Derek Chauvin for 9 minutes. We also saw the tragic death of Walter Wallace Jr. who was killed by police while suffering a mental health emergency. These tragedies lead to historic marches for social justice reform and police accountability. People from all walks of life converged on American cities to declare simply **"Black Lives Matter"**.

A measure of justice was served, with a guilty verdict on all three counts in convicting Chauvin of the murder of George Floyd. Law enforcement officials having testified against him were crucial to convicting him and were an important step in rebuilding police and community relations. But George Floyd is still gone, and this verdict doesn't change that. We still have work to do to reform our criminal justice system and achieve substantive and measurable change. We have made progress with the passage of legislation for a police misconduct database that tracks hiring and providing PTSD screening for officers. I have offered legislation banning chokeholds and mandating standardized publicly accessible use of force

policy. This bill passed the Senate unanimously before being held up in the PA House. We are committed to change and have re-introduced it as Senate Bill 142, which is supported by law enforcement, the Attorney General and District Attorney's Association. We must reimagine public safety and invest in the diverse needs of our communities while holding bad actors in law enforcement accountable to the people they serve.

2020 saw almost 500 gun deaths in Philadelphia, consistent with national trends that show a major increase in firearm homicides across America. We've had many mass shootings, including multiple people, from a 7 year-old to a senior aged 70, shot in broad daylight in my district at Olney Station.



Major factors drive gun violence but the gun laws that exist are not enough.

Straw purchasers, ghost guns and guns that get *"lost and stolen"* with no mandate to report are all purchased legally and then feed the overflow of weapons into our communities that overwhelm all other measures of addressing gun violence. Safe storage laws and universal background checks are needed, all bills I have cosponsored that go ignored by Republican leaders in Harrisburg, including my bill to ban weapons of war. But dedicated investment in our communities to address the social determinants of violence are our new mandates.

We're working with law enforcement, Governor Wolf, Senators Williams, Hughes and Haywood, Mayor Kenney, DA Krasner and AG Shapiro to target the social determinants, deepened by the pandemic, that drive violence: joblessness, lack of investment and opportunities. We are committed to funding Philly Truce and other groups doing the important work of violence intervention. To learn more, visit www.phillytruce.com and www.senatorsharifstreet.com/reimagining-public-safety.

Covid-19 revealed many of our disparities especially for those with proximity to the Criminal justice system.

PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE:

I will continue to fight for these reforms

1. **Reprieve and Medical Parole:** Those who has served decades in jail and are advanced in age are not public risks and are more susceptible to dying due to COVID. We worked to offer legislation to parole or offer reprieve to the sick and elderly behind bars.
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:** Protecting the presumption of innocence is core to my belief. Almost half of all the incarcerated have been convicted of no crime but are too poor to post bail. Bail should center public safety but instead criminalizes poverty.
4. **Legalizing cannabis in PA:** I'm proud to be the prime sponsor of the first bipartisan bill in PA to legalize cannabis, end the war on people and expunge records for low level cannabis offenses.
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

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PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE



In 2020 I sued in the U.S Supreme Court to protect vote-by-mail and your right to vote freely, fairly and without barriers in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania elections. We won, but the challenges to your ability to vote will not end. As Democratic Chair of the Special Committee on Elections I'll work to ensure your right to vote is not undermined.

As Democratic Chair of the State Government committee, I will take a leading role in redrawing congressional districts as part of the redistricting process underway this year. My priority will be to make sure the map represents the people of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, not partisan interests. We will also move the Fair Districts Bill out of committee. The bill calls for a fair and transparent process in redrawing district lines. The legislation is supported by Fair Districts PA, a non-partisan organization that supports redistricting that is transparent, accountable and includes robust public input. November elections are near. Make a plan to vote in person, by mail or drop-box.



Visit www.senatorsharifstreet.com/how-to-vote

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