

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

TOM MEHAFFIE

106TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

SUMMER
2024



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IMPORTANT UPDATES FROM HARRISBURG



Patient Safety Act

A whopping 22,000 people have signed petitions advocating for safe patient-to-nurse ratios in hospitals. Nurses tell me all the time how supportive they are of my legislation that promotes decreased burnout, greater retention and safer patient outcomes.

The good news is the Patient Safety Act passed the House in a bipartisan manner. The unfortunate news is that it is languishing in the Senate.

Call your senator to add your voice to the ones calling for swift passage of House Bill 106.

Small Games of Chance

It is past time the state updates its Small Games of Chance laws for fraternal, social and veterans' clubs. Rep. Robert Merski (D-Erie) and I partnered to draft legislation that would update the allowable types of traditional, paper-based games to include pick boards and progressive pull tabs. The bill would also authorize electronic pull-tabs that do not mimic any type of casino-style games.

A clearer, modernized law related to Small Games of Chance for these clubs would ease the administrative burdens for the people running our local clubs, which support the economy and provide quite a bit to charity.

Applied Behavior Analysts

I'm continuing to push for applied behavior analysts to be recognized with professional licensure in Pennsylvania. House Bill 19 would license behavior analysts, give them title protection and help patients know the provider purporting to be a behavior analyst has the appropriate training.

Applied behavior analysis is a type of therapy that helps people with a wide range of diagnosed conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder and autism. More than 30 other states license these providers.

Public Sector OSHA

It is merely common sense that we would extend OSHA protections to public sector employees. In Pennsylvania, legislation known as the **Jake Schwab Worker Safety Bill** would do just that.

Only 15% of public sector employers voluntarily participate in Labor & Industry's Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses. We need improved data collection and worker protections that aren't just for the private sector.

The Jake Schwab Worker Safety Bill has stalled in the Senate. We need senators to step up, do the right thing and pass this legislation.



Hershey's Kisses

The sweetest legislative initiative is one that combines locally made Hershey's Kisses and the civics education of Pennsylvania teenagers.

Four years ago, students from Bucks County practiced writing a bill that would make Hershey's Kisses the official state candy of Pennsylvania. They researched various candies, conducted a poll and argued for the merits of Kisses.

I met those students and introduced legislation to truly make Hershey's Kisses the state candy. The 70 million Kisses made each day in Derry Township not only are recognized worldwide, but they also serve as a lasting tribute to the innovation and charitable legacy established by Milton and Catherine Hershey.

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TOM MEHAFFIE

106th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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Mark Your Calendar for
UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday,
**JUNE
28**

10 AM - NOON

SCAM JAM & FRAUD BINGO

East Hanover Township Municipal Building
8848 Jonestown Road, Grantville

Learn how to protect yourself from common scams in this fun, interactive game with the Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Securities. To register for this event, call **717-534-1323**.

Tuesday,
**AUG.
06**

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Free events will be happening throughout the region to celebrate National Night Out, an annual event that builds relationships between first responders and the communities they serve.

*Sign up for my e-newsletter at **RepMehaffie.com/Email-Signup** for updates.*

Thursday,
**SEPT.
19**

10 AM - NOON

HOME TITLE PROTECTION SEMINAR

Middletown Volunteer Fire Hall
10 Adelia St., Middletown

This is a new, informational seminar about a free notification service that protects your property's deed. I will be hosting this event in partnership with the Dauphin County Recorder of Deeds Office. Registration is required. Please call **717-534-1323**.

Friday,
**NOV.
08**

8-10 AM

VETERANS BREAKFAST

Lower Swatara Fire Department
1350 Fulling Mill Road, Middletown

My annual veterans' appreciation breakfast is open to active-duty military personnel and veterans. Accommodations can be made for disabled attendees requiring assistance. Registration is required, so please call **717-534-1323**.



**Potential Changes Coming for
East Hanover Township Road**

Legislation to convert Bow Creek Road in East Hanover Township from a municipally owned and maintained road to a state-owned one cleared the House of Representatives unanimously.

House Bill 2055 was before the Senate at the time of this article being written.

My bill would affect Bow Creek Road from its intersection with Jonestown Road to Route 443/ Mountain Road. Maintenance responsibilities would transfer to the state.

Bow Creek Road is believed to be the only municipally

owned road that directly serves an Interstate 81 exit throughout the highway's entire route in Pennsylvania. It is important the state take ownership of this road and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation maintain it.

In exchange for the transfer, East Hanover and South Hanover townships would accept sections of Canal Road (State Route 2022) to maintain.

Act 203 of 1931 establishes the process for a municipal road to become a state road through the legislative process, culminating in a signature from the governor.