

STATE REP. DANE WATRO

READY TO SERVE YOU

It remains an honor and a privilege to be your representative in Harrisburg and to serve you here at home.

You are reminded that I maintain two district offices, in Hazleton and Mahanoy City, with a veteran staff who can provide assistance on a variety of state-related matters. We can help with vehicle registrations; driver's license renewals and special tags; Property Tax and Rent Rebate applications; Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) applications; birth certificate and death record forms; and much more. Simply stop by or give us a call.

I hope you find this mailing to be informative. We send them every few months to help keep you up to date on news from the state Capitol and here in the 116th Legislative District.

Another great way to stay informed is to register for my weekly email updates at www.RepWatro.com, under the "Resources" tab.



Co-hosting gun law seminar.



Celebrating Cinco de Mayo.



Visiting longtime local business.



Discussing the issues during telephone town hall.



Attending local hearing on state's electric grid.

MY BILL TO HELP VETERANS SEEKING MEDICAL CAREERS ADVANCES

Legislation I am sponsoring that would streamline the professional licensing process for veterans seeking a civilian career as an emergency medical technician (EMT) or paramedic in Pennsylvania was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives in June.

House Bill 404 would enable our veterans who wish to continue their medic specialty after their military service is over to do so more easily. We want to prevent the duplication of education and training to help make their transition to civilian life as seamless as possible.

Current state law requires certain state agencies to strongly consider a veteran's military education, training and experience for the purpose of fulfilling requirements for professional credentials. Under my proposal, the Department of Health, which certifies EMTs and paramedics throughout the Commonwealth, would be added to the list.

The measure is now with the Senate.

FREE PRODUCE AVAILABLE TO SENIORS THROUGH VOUCHER PROGRAM

Eligible older residents in Luzerne and Schuylkill counties are encouraged to take advantage of a government program that provides vouchers to purchase locally grown fruits, herbs and vegetables at participating farmers markets and roadside stands. This year, applicants will receive five vouchers worth \$10 each.

To qualify for the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program, applicants must be 60 or older by Dec. 31, be a resident of either county, and meet income guidelines. Applicants must have a total household income, before taxes, of less than \$26,973 for a single person and \$36,482 for a couple.

Voucher applications are available through my district offices. Once the application is approved, all vouchers and pertinent information will be mailed to the participant. The program runs through Sept. 30. Vouchers can be used through Nov. 30.

2022 PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Eligible participants can receive a rebate of up to \$650 based on their rent or property taxes paid last year. The state program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians who are 65 years or older, widows and widowers 50 years or older, and those 18 years or older with disabilities.

The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded.

Copies of the applications, as well as assistance with filing them, are available at my district offices in Hazleton and Mahanoy City.

Applications are due by Dec. 31.

Check out my social media!



@RepWatroPA



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DANE WATRO

116TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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SUMMER 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

REPLACE YOUR HARD-TO-READ LICENSE PLATES AUG. 22

To help residents dealing with illegible license plates on their vehicles, I am joining with Sen. Dave Argall in co-hosting an event in partnership with the MahanoeY Township Police Department to make it easier to get those plates replaced.

Our license plate event will take place on Tuesday, Aug. 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the MahanoeY Township Municipal Building, 1010 W. Centre St. in MahanoeY City. To RSVP, call 877-327-4255.

State law requires PennDOT to replace license plates that are deemed illegible at no cost to the vehicle owner. A plate is deemed illegible when one or more numbers or letters cannot be recognized from 50 feet away, typically due to blistering, peeling, discoloration, loss of reflectivity or other damage.

A police officer will be on hand to inspect the plates and sign the form. Those who plan to participate should bring their unexpired Pennsylvania driver's license and current vehicle registration card.

SENIOR EXPO SET FOR SEPT. 21 AT LAUREL MALL

As a freshman legislator, I am looking forward to welcoming older residents to my first Senior Citizens Expo on Thursday, Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Laurel Mall at 106 Laurel Mall Drive in Hazle Township. I am excited to be co-hosting this free event with Rep. Mike Cabell and Sen. Dave Argall.

There are many programs and services available in our area to help seniors and their caregivers, but it can be difficult and time consuming to track down all the necessary information. Our expo makes it easier and more convenient by bringing everyone together in one place. We encourage seniors and their family members to come out and take advantage of this opportunity.

The expo will feature dozens of exhibitors from nonprofit agencies; local, state and federal governments; and area businesses who will provide information on benefits and services available to older residents on a wide range of topics, including health care, insurance, nutrition and exercise, fire safety, financial planning, fraud protection, government, personal safety, and more.

In addition, several health screenings will be offered, courtesy of area health care providers, including glucose, cholesterol, blood pressure and colon cancer. Please note that the blood work and glucose tests will be performed from 9-10 a.m. Participants are reminded to refrain from eating after midnight.

We hope to see you there!

Check out my social media!



RepWatro.com



Facebook.com/RepWatro