

# STATE REPRESENTATIVE MARTIN CAUSER



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## Fighting for PA's Energy Future

Pennsylvania's energy industry provides thousands of good-paying, family-sustaining jobs.

It powers our vehicles, heats and lights our homes, and fuels the transport of goods across our state and country. As Republican chairman of the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, I recently joined fellow lawmakers and labor leaders in opposing Gov. Josh Shapiro's ongoing efforts to have the Commonwealth join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) or implement a state-level version of it. We must instead advance policies that allow us to maximize the Commonwealth's energy resources to help lower costs, stabilize the electric grid, and grow our state and regional economies.



Two long-serving local leaders received special recognition for their service at a McWaPEC Boroughs Association meeting. George Hulst of Coudersport was honored for his 30 years of service as a member of the Coudersport Borough Council, while Irv Swartz of Lewis Run was honored for his nearly 20 years of service as a member of the Lewis Run Borough Council. We were joined by George's wife, Eunice, and Don "Stretch" Reed, borough manager in Emporium and president of the PA Association of Boroughs.

## Grants to Support EMS Agencies

In rural areas like ours where the nearest hospital can still be pretty far away, emergency medical services are vital and can mean the difference between life and death.



With many of our EMS providers struggling to keep their doors open, I recently secured a \$750,000 grant from the Commonwealth to be split among the more than one dozen ambulance services in Cameron, McKean and Potter counties.

The grant program, to be administered by EMS West, will provide up to \$50,000 in funding for each nonprofit, municipal and fire department-based transporting emergency medical services (EMS) agency currently operating here. The funds may be spent on new, used or refurbished equipment and vehicles, or repair of existing equipment or vehicles. The companies each determine where their greatest needs lie.

These grants come in addition to the annual Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services grants, and on the heels of a much-needed increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates.

I am committed to doing all I can to ensure our EMS agencies have the resources they need to continue saving lives in our communities.



Thank you to Kane Volunteer Fire Department for hosting a meeting to discuss the many issues and challenges facing volunteer fire departments here and across the state. State Fire Commissioner Thomas Cook was on hand, along with fire department leaders from McKean, Elk and Warren counties, as well as state and county officials.

## It's Time to Act on



## Constitutional Amendment

With a voter identification constitutional amendment having languished in committee for nearly a year, despite bipartisan

support for the concept among both the public and lawmakers, I recently signed a discharge petition in an attempt to advance the measure.

Under the rules of the House, discharge petitions require the signatures of at least 25 Democrats and 25 Republicans to be successful. With 22 House Democrats previously having supported voter ID, I was hopeful we

could finally put this question to the voters so they can have the final say. Unfortunately, few Democrats have supported the petition.

Requiring ID each time a person casts a ballot would help restore confidence in elections and prevent election fraud, including voting under a fictitious registration, voting multiple times by registered voters in multiple states, impersonating another voter and illegal immigrant voting. There is broad support for expanded voter ID requirements, with a 2021 poll by Franklin & Marshall College showing 74% of Pennsylvanians in favor.

I will keep fighting for this critical election integrity measure.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
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*Congratulations to Derrick City firefighter/EMT Samantha Soyke, who was recognized as Firefighter of the Year at the department's annual appreciation dinner. We are joined by Marissa Buccolini, department president, and Stephanie Scrivo, fire chief.*



*Congratulations to Chief Barry Fritzinger upon being recognized for 38 years of service to Kettle Creek Hose Company in Cross Fork, Potter County.*

**Save the Dates!**

Our annual **Senior Citizens Expos** are just around the corner. Be sure to mark your calendar and watch for further details.

**Friday**  
**Aug. 2**

**University of Pittsburgh  
at Bradford**

**Friday**  
**Sept. 13**

**Kane Community  
Center**

**Friday**  
**Oct. 11**

**Roulette Fire Hall**



The first ever Emporium Senior Expo was hosted by the Emporium Senior Center. It was such a great event! I'm pictured with, from left, Marsha Hendrickson, Senior Center Director Jennifer Kane and Senior Center President Don Perry.