

TORREN ECKER**193RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT****Dear Friends and Neighbors,**

I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones well. With cooler days ahead, many of us are shifting gears and getting ready for the next season with renewed focus and energy. I hope you've had the chance to enjoy the warm weather and spend quality time with family and friends.

Even while serving in a single-seat minority, I have stood strong in Harrisburg to make sure your voice was heard. My colleagues and I have pushed back against proposals that would increase costs for hardworking Pennsylvanians and have advanced bipartisan legislation that delivers real, positive results for families across our district and the Commonwealth. You'll find more details about those efforts in the pages ahead.

My commitment remains clear to serve you with integrity and to work every day for a brighter future for your family, our community, and the next generation of Pennsylvanians. If you ever need assistance with any state-related matter, please don't hesitate to contact my office. We're here to help.

State Rep. Torren Ecker, 193rd Legislative District

**Bill to Keep Estate Proceeds Local Advances**

With bipartisan support, the House Judiciary Committee unanimously advanced my legislation to direct estates of deceased residents who didn't have a will or heirs to local nonprofits instead of the funds going to Pennsylvania's General Fund.

While rare, there are cases where Pennsylvanians pass away without a will or family. Currently, proceeds from their estates are sent to Harrisburg and absorbed into the state budget. I believe those funds should stay in the communities where these individuals lived, supporting local nonprofits.

HOUSE BILL 1091 would distribute the deceased's estate to nonprofit organizations in the county in which he or she resided. This issue was brought to my attention by Ralph Serpe, president and CEO of the Adams County Community Foundation.

This locally driven proposal honors the legacy of deceased individuals by allowing them to continue making a positive impact on the community they once called home.

The bill now goes to the full House for consideration.

Helping Local Fire Companies

Since taking office, I have been approached by local fire companies that lost out on untold amounts of money because they were forced to adhere to more stringent requirements because they hired a third-party professional fundraiser. I have been working toward a solution and introduced bills to fix this problem. With bipartisan support, my solution was amended into **House Bill 1084**.

Current law states charitable organizations soliciting contributions must annually register with the Department of State's Bureau of Charitable Organizations. Using a third-party fundraiser for something as simple as preparing mailers automatically triggers the requirement for an independent audit or review of financial statements.

Pennsylvania already allows for an exemption from registering if fundraising activities are carried out by members or volunteers of the charitable organization.

My amendment extends the exemption to fire companies, whether they hire a third party, or have a volunteer or member do fundraising efforts. Residents' donations are already protected by existing audits that fire companies must perform.

House Bill 1084, to exempt volunteer fire companies from paying \$125 in fees to file articles of incorporation with the state, was unanimously approved by the House and is awaiting consideration in the Senate.

State Representative
TORREN ECKER
193rd LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



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Sights from Around the District



Congratulations to Mina Gladson and Ellie Diehl, sophomores at New Oxford High School, on their winning design for the ninth annual Adams County "No Excuses" Youth Traffic Safety Billboard Design Contest. You have probably seen their work on billboards in the area.



My family and I had the pleasure of attending the Gettysburg Memorial Day parade to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom we are fortunate to enjoy.



It was a beautiful day for the New Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce's annual Market on the Square.



There was a great turnout for my Eggs with Ecker event at New Horizon Café in Hampton, where we chatted about issues important to residents.



My family, staff and I made a big splash at the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta at Cross Keys Village. This is always a great event for participants and onlookers.



To get your new plate, go to pa.gov/licenseplate

Calling All Seniors



I will once again host my Senior Expo at the Nicarry Meetinghouse of Cross Keys Village, located at 2990 Carlisle Pike, New Oxford, on Friday, Oct. 3, from 9-11 a.m.

Attendees will receive a wealth of information about medical equipment, transportation, health programs and legal services aimed at senior residents, and will learn about state legislative efforts. There will also be free giveaways and raffle prizes.