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State Senator **Joe**
Pittman

Spring/Summer 2026



UPDATE from
The General
Assembly

Supporting Career and Technical Educational Opportunities

I enjoyed visiting Northern Westmoreland Career & Technology Center (NWCTC) for a tour and conversation with teachers, students and administrators, about the 13 programs available to students. The educational opportunities NWCTC offers are quite impressive and relevant to the needs of the workforce in our region. Career and Technical Education Programs play a critical role in preparing students for high-demand careers by combining academic knowledge with practical hands-on experience, industry credentials, and real-world skills, which are so important for workforce readiness.



Helping Constituents Navigate State Government

Thank you to all who participated in my Town Hall meetings this spring. I greatly value hearing concerns and thoughts on various issues that are impacting our local communities and state government. The opportunity to have discussions like these offers important perspective as we work together to move Pennsylvania forward. Please know my team and I are committed to helping you navigate state government and access programs that are helpful to you and your family. This includes:



Senator Joe Pittman addressing constituents' concerns during a town hall meeting.

- Status reports on legislation.
- Help with problems you encounter dealing with state government and its agencies.
- Copies of bills in the state Senate and House of Representatives as well as state laws.
- Applications for birth and death certificates.
- Help processing PennDOT vehicle titles, registrations, driver's licenses, learner's permits and disability plates/placards.

For information on these and other services or to share your thoughts on any state government matter, contact me at SenatorPittman.com or call one of my district offices.



Thanking and Honoring Our Veterans

It was a great honor to pay tribute to several local Veterans at a ceremony held at Worthington American Legion Post 828. Through their selflessness and tireless efforts, these veterans have safeguarded our freedoms, protected our communities and inspired future generations to uphold the ideals of service and patriotism. The honorees included Veteran of the Year, USAF Major Anthony Shea; Lifetime Achievement, USMC Sergeant William Stokes; and Lifetime of Service, USMC Corporal Timothy Sims (posthumous). My thanks to the Veterans honored for their service, and to Armstrong County Veterans Affairs Executive Director Kathy Rashlich and County Commander Harold French for organizing the event.

Dear Neighbor,

As a lifelong resident of the 41st Senatorial District, it is my honor to serve our community. Every day that I have the privilege of representing you in the Senate, I remain committed to advancing legislative initiatives to expand access to family-sustaining jobs, implement infrastructure improvements, support law enforcement and limit government overreach. As hardworking families are faced with the pressures of inflation, we must do all we can to cut wasteful spending and limit bureaucracy within state government.

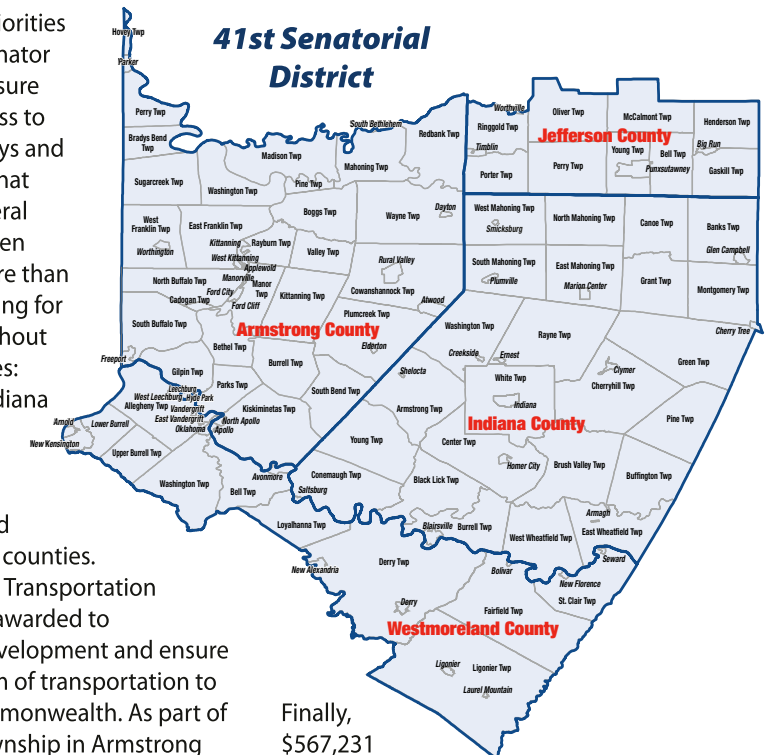
I hope this newsletter will help inform you of the important work we are doing to grow and strengthen our Commonwealth. If there is anything I can do to address your concerns, please contact my office. I look forward to hearing from you!

Serving the 41st Senatorial District,

Sen. Joe Pittman

Unleashing the Promise of Pennsylvania

One of my top priorities as your state senator is to work to ensure our community has access to clean water, safe roadways and modern infrastructure. That is why over the past several months, my team has been thrilled to announce more than \$13 million in state funding for multiple projects throughout our district's four counties: Armstrong, Jefferson, Indiana and Westmoreland. This includes more than \$10.5 million for transportation, water and sewer projects in all four counties. Through the Multimodal Transportation Fund, grants have been awarded to encourage economic development and ensure a safe and reliable system of transportation to the residents of the Commonwealth. As part of this program, Manor Township in Armstrong County received \$1.8 million to rehabilitate and improve several streets in Lenape Heights.



Finally, \$567,231 in Local Share Account funding has been awarded to support projects throughout Westmoreland County. The funds were approved by the Commonwealth Financing Authority and funded through the Local Share Account – Category 4 Facilities Program, which uses money generated by casinos to support projects to improve quality of life for area residents. Hyde Park Borough was awarded \$75,220 from this program for construction, engineering and administrative costs related to the borough's School Street and Seventh Avenue reconstruction project. The project includes reconstructing both roadways from Railroad Street to Chestnut Street to repair the deteriorating pavement.

State investments in our local communities are a key part of strengthening the region.

The PA Small Water and Sewer Program assists with the construction, improvement, expansion, or repair of a water supply system, sanitary sewer system, storm sewer system or flood control projects. The City of Lower Burrell in Westmoreland County was awarded \$500,000 from this program for the Big Braeburn Force Main Project.

In addition, we announced more than \$2.1 million in Growing Greener Grant awards that have been approved for projects in Armstrong and Indiana counties. This program plays a significant role in supporting water and environmental issues, and I'm pleased these local projects are receiving funding. Indiana County Conservation District in Brush Valley Township was also awarded \$499,055 for the McNutt Heavy Use Area and Manure Storage Implementation Project.



Protecting Taxpayers & Controlling Growth of State Spending

In February, Gov. Shapiro presented his 2026-27 state budget proposal of \$53.3 billion which would increase spending by \$2.7 billion, a 5.4% increase over the current year. That rate of spending growth would ultimately take more money out of the pockets of taxpayers at a time when many Pennsylvania families are still dealing with the affordability crisis caused by Biden-era inflation. Gov. Shapiro's budget proposal spends too much money without protecting Pennsylvania's future fiscal stability. As we work toward a final budget agreement, be assured I will continue to fight for a more fiscally responsible spending plan that better positions our Commonwealth to grow and prosper, without placing unreasonable financial burdens on Pennsylvania families and taxpayers.

For more information on the state budget please visit our website: www.pasenategop.com/2026-27-state-budget

"I will continue to fight for a more fiscally responsible spending plan..."

Urging Approval of Key-Con Consent Decree to Protect Jobs and Grid Reliability

Pennsylvanians need electricity which is affordable and reliable. That's why I joined legislative colleagues in urging action to preserve critical baseload power generation by preventing the premature shutdown of two Commonwealth power plants. I am pleased to report the Trump administration has reached agreement with the state Department of Environmental Protection and the operator of the Keystone and Conemaugh Generating Stations in Indiana and Armstrong counties to allow continued operation of both plants. The agreement ensures continued, environmentally compliant generation of 3,400 megawatts of electricity for the regional grid and preserves the livelihood of more than 1,000 workers. I applaud the parties for working to find common ground and will continue working to expand Pennsylvania energy production to provide our residents with a true "all of the above" energy strategy.



Strengthening Community Safety and Support

Efforts to boost community safety across Pennsylvania are at the forefront of policy discussions in the Senate. I was very pleased to join state and local leaders at the Indiana County Courthouse to highlight Indiana County's expansion of the Law Enforcement Treatment Initiative (LETI). Originally launched here in 2023 to support individuals battling substance use disorders, LETI now extends to broader mental health needs as well. District Attorney Robert Manzi and Pennsylvania Attorney General Dave Sunday announced the update, emphasizing treatment over criminalization and reinforcing partnerships between law enforcement and local support services.



Future Leaders of Agriculture

I enjoyed meeting with Future Farmers of America (FFA) students and advisors from Derry Area School District and Penns Manor Area School District during their time at the State Capitol. FFA students from across the Commonwealth learned about the legislative process at the Pennsylvania FFA Annual State Legislative Leadership Conference in Harrisburg. These young leaders are engaged in a wide range of agricultural activities and help advocate for the agriculture industry within their communities and statewide. It is wonderful to see such passion and commitment for the future of our state's top industry.



Restoring Fairness in Women's Sports

In April, for the second time this session, the Pennsylvania Senate approved bipartisan legislation to protect the safety and opportunities of female athletes by requiring scholastic sports teams to be designated based on biological sex.

Senate Bill 1293 would require public schools and colleges to label sports teams as male, female or coed. The legislation states only biological females can join teams designated for women. The bill would also allow students to take legal action if they are harmed by violations of this rule. The legislation is similar to Senate Bill 9, which was passed by the Senate in May 2025 with bipartisan support. Since then, it has been delayed by procedural maneuvers from Democrat leaders in the House of Representatives, leaving young female athletes at risk. I urge the House to act on this legislation and restore fairness to athletic competition in our commonwealth.



Republican Senators (L-R): Lisa Baker, Rosemary Brown, Kristin Phillips-Hill, Elder Vogel Jr., Joe Pittman, Cris Dush, Camera Bartolotta, Pat Stefano, Scott Hutchinson, Michele Brooks, Dawn Keefer, Scott Martin and Judy Ward.

5th Annual Student Government Seminar

We had a record turnout of 200 students from 17 high schools across the 41st Senatorial District take part in my 5th Annual Student Government Seminar in April! This "Senator for a Day" event was held at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The seminar was an opportunity for students to gain a glimpse of how government functions and how it reacts to public policy issues. An opening presentation was held, along with two sessions during the day, which allowed students to interact with each other, as well as with members of the General Assembly, legislative staff, organization advocates and the media. Students took on the roles of lawmakers, discussing bills, advocating for or against legislation and drafting laws which they then considered as a legislative body.



Recognizing Arrow of Light Award Recipients

It was my honor to participate in this year's Cub Scouts Pack 245 Blue and Gold banquet to recognize a group of fine young leaders for their achievements. A total of seven cub scouts received the prestigious 'Arrow of Light Award', the highest rank that can be earned as a Cub Scout. It focuses on building skills, character, outdoorsmanship and completion of four core and four elective adventures, plus a Troop visit.



Here to serve you.

For information about any services or to provide input on pending legislation, please contact me at SenatorPittman.com/contact-me or call one of my district offices.



SENATOR JOE PITTMAN
41ST DISTRICT



Sign up for my E-NEWSLETTER

To receive the latest news, sign up for my weekly e-newsletter. Just go to SenatorPittman.com and look for "Sign Up for E-Newsletters." You can also contact me through the contact form at SenatorPittman.com.

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