

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CRAIG WILLIAMS

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE 160th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER

2026



PJM PASSES MORE COSTS TO RATEPAYERS, CONFIRMING THE NEED FOR MY PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRICITY RATEPAYER PROTECTION ACT

For close to a year, I have warned that Pennsylvania families and small businesses should not bear the cost of powering data centers. It is the biggest reason for our exorbitant electricity prices. Recently, PJM's Board of Managers added even more gravity to my concern.

Reminder that PJM is our regional transmission operator and includes 13 states and the District of Columbia. Being part of a regional grid means that we pay the price in Pennsylvania for bad decisions in places already building data centers, like Virginia. Unless we do something in law here at home.

Beginning June 1, 2027, PJM will subject new large-load customers, including data centers, to curtailment during periods when the electric grid cannot meet demand if they do not bring their own generation or otherwise secure adequate power. In plain English, PJM may reduce or shut off their electricity during a shortage. That is good news for the stability of our grid.

The unaddressed problem (which PJM called out in its letter): those large-load customers get financial compensation for being curtailed, and we ratepayers pay for it.

There is exactly one bill addressing these issues in Pennsylvania.

MINE.

I introduced the Pennsylvania Electricity Ratepayer Protection Act because Pennsylvania ratepayers should not bear the costs created by data centers – in any regard: consumption of our electricity, transmission infrastructure needs or curtailment compensation. None of it. My legislation requires data centers to bring their own electric generation, pay the full cost of their interconnection infrastructure and extends to Pennsylvania ratepayers the same long-term power pricing advantages currently available to large data companies.

Why is that necessary? Because Pennsylvania consumers continue paying the bill for someone else's growth. Because Pennsylvania is part of the 13-state PJM grid, electricity demand in other states affects what Pennsylvanians pay. Virginia's massive data center growth and Maryland's increasing reliance on Pennsylvania electricity because they have shut down fossil fuel generation drive regional demand. They increase our prices. We are subsidizing their decisions. We now reap absolutely zero consumer price benefit from being the No. 1 electricity exporter in the country. We can reverse those decisions with a law.

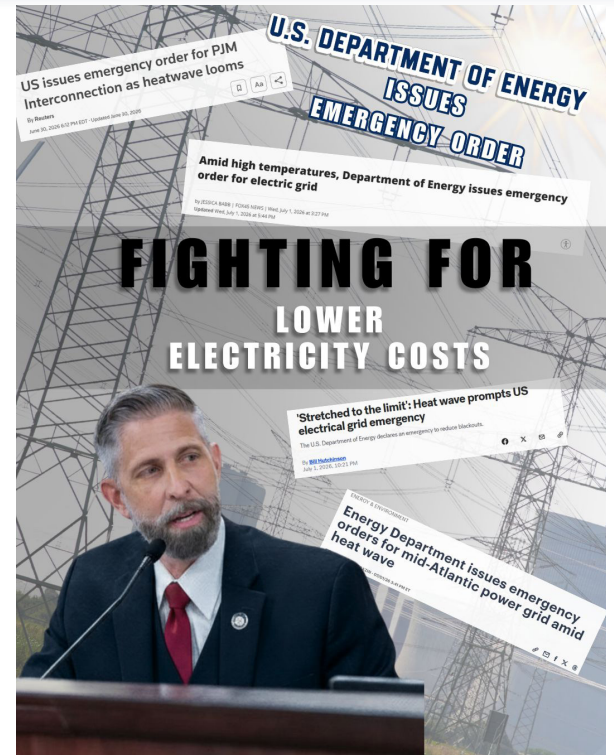
Momentum continues around the same principles. Governor Josh Shapiro and the governors of the PJM states signed the Statement of Principles Regarding PJM. Bring Your Own Generation. Pay Your Own Way. In July, President Donald J. Trump announced a major expansion of the Federal Ratepayer Protection Pledge, with more than 200 additional utilities, electric cooperatives, data center developers and states joining the pledge to the exact same principles in my bill. Neither has the force of law. We need a bill and then law. There has been only one offered. Mine.

The results are predictable and immutable.

During the recent extreme heat, the U.S. Department of Energy declared an emergency in PJM conditions to maintain grid reliability. The PJM Board's action does not solve the problem. It applies subtle regulatory pressure. PJM may curtail large-load customers during capacity shortages if they do not secure adequate power. PJM itself acknowledged the limits of its authority: "Because PJM does not have jurisdiction to allocate retail costs directly to individual data centers, state action will be essential."

What they mean is that their curtailment decision will be paid by you and me, the utility ratepayer.

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The bottom line is simple. Pennsylvania consumers continue paying higher electric bills while our state government is stagnant. The bills we have passed thus far nibble at the edges, while politicians try to keep their feet in both the ratepayer world and the pro-data center world. I am committed to protecting ratepayers.

PJM has acknowledged the problem. The White House has acknowledged the problem. Governors across the PJM region have acknowledged the problem. My Pennsylvania Electricity Ratepayer Protection Act provides the legislative solution. It is time for Pennsylvania to act.

FIGHTING TRAFFIC CONGESTION



My CONTINUED OPPOSITION to the Shoppes at Concord

The Shoppes at Concord at the intersection of Route 202 and Ridge Road has remained under consideration for quite some time, but the developer has changed the development plan significantly as residents continue voicing their opposition. The developer currently has two separate building plans pending. I oppose both. They have also submitted a new traffic plan to PennDOT, which is on a separate regulatory track.

Recently, Senator John Kane joined my letter to PennDOT expressing our objections to the developer's traffic plan. We were clear: we want an independent traffic study commissioned by PennDOT, not the developer; we do not want any additional shopping center traffic on Ridge Road or Springhill Drive, where we have residential properties and, on Ridge Road, a large Catholic church; we do not want yet another traffic light installed not even 100 yards from the Ridge Road/Springhill Drive light, and also close to two new lights installed recently by PennDOT on Route 202; and we want information about water runoff from the proposed parking lot and carwash onto residential properties behind and downhill of the proposed massive shopping center. Some of those residents are on well water, and we want to know their Pennsylvania constitutional rights to a clean environment are respected.

"The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment." *Pennsylvania Constitution, Article I, Section 27.*

The older developer plan includes a gas station adjacent to a massive supermarket. This plan also provided little physical separation between the large supermarket and a proposed fitness center. The Concord Township solicitor conducted a masterful cross-examination of the developer on this feature, which clearly violated township zoning ordinances. The applicant placed this building plan on hold, pausing action on the proposal. Concord Township and the Zoning Hearing Board have extended all reviews for this plan through November.

The newer plan, which excludes the gas station but adds an unwanted traffic light on Route 202, is currently moving through the review process. Concord Township's Planning Commission will review this plan at its next meeting on Monday, September 21, at 7 p.m. Township Council will review the plan later. Township Council will next hear the related conditional use application on September 8 at 7 p.m.

Concept School **AWARDED** **\$350,000** in State Grants for Renovations

The Concept School received a \$350,000 Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant, which I supported and advanced.

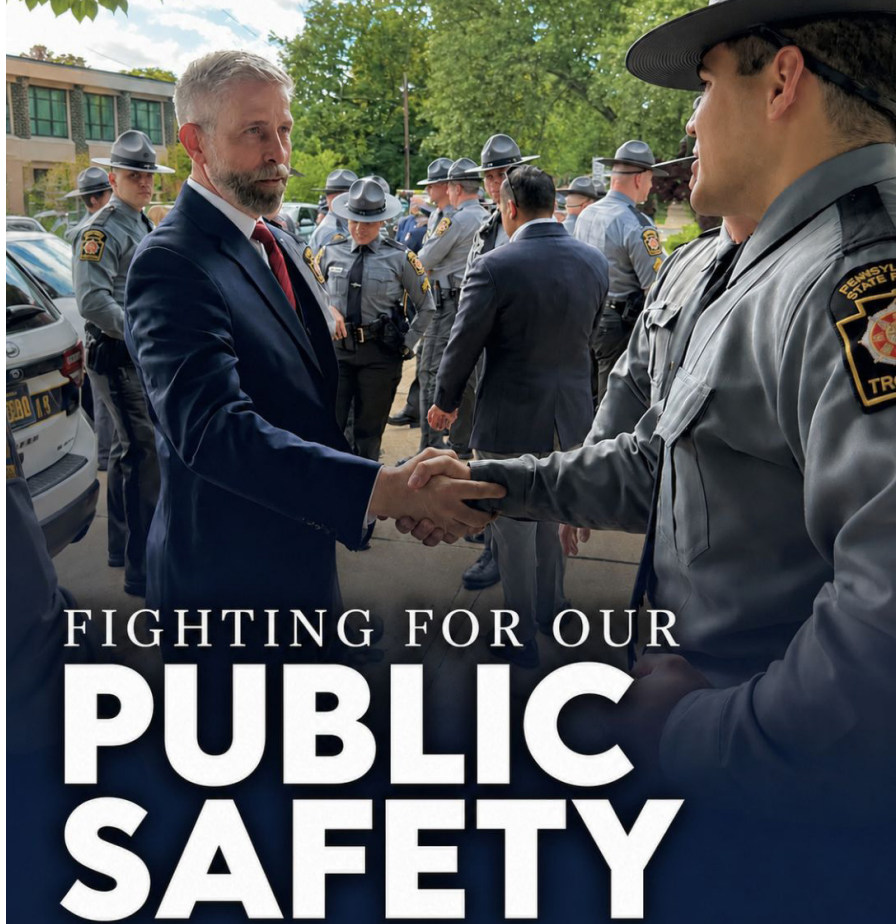
The funding will assist a comprehensive renovation of the Thornbury Township campus, including a new building façade and school entrance, parking lot improvements, a redesigned lobby, new classrooms and study spaces, a continuous library, expanded storage, new administrative offices, and an updated staff room.

The Concept School has served our community for more than 50 years by providing students in grades 6 through 12 an educational environment designed to meet their individual needs.

These improvements will give The Concept School the space and resources needed to continue serving families throughout our region. It brings me great pride to serve this school and its students, families and teachers.



FIGHTING FOR EDUCATION FUNDING



FIGHTING FOR OUR PUBLIC SAFETY

My Project Safe Neighborhoods Program **RECEIVES ANOTHER \$3 MILLION** to Fight Violent Crime

I secured another \$3 million in this year's state budget for Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), bringing Pennsylvania's total investment in the program to more than \$16 million.

The initiative funds assistant district attorneys in Delaware and Philadelphia counties who also serve as Special Assistant United States Attorneys, expanding federal prosecution of illegal gun possession cases involving previously convicted felons. It is both a federal and a state crime for a previously convicted felon to possess a firearm.

I saw firsthand the success of the federal PSN program when I used those tools as a federal prosecutor in Philadelphia and Denver. PSN prosecutes felon-in-possession of guns cases in federal court, where sentences are substantially longer and parole is not available. My initiative brings local district attorney's offices in Delaware County and Philadelphia to the fight by way of hiring more prosecutors who actually work in the United States Attorney's Office prosecuting these cases in federal court.

An overwhelming percentage of violent crime is committed by repeat offenders, many of whom illegally possess firearms. Because the federal sentences use a guideline system which punished seriously repeat violent offenders, the deterrent impact is truly measurable.

The results speak for themselves. State funding has supported 10 additional Special Assistant United States Attorneys dedicated to prosecuting local gun crimes.

Their work has produced:

- 254 gun arrests referred for federal prosecution.
- 156 federal indictments.
- Prison sentences of up to 252 months.
- The seizure of 596 firearms, machine-gun conversion devices and firearm silencers from violent offenders.

I will continue fighting to keep our community safe.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CRAIG WILLIAMS

1 Beaver Valley Road
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
Phone: 610-358-5925



RepCraigWilliams.com



@RepCraigWilliams



@RepCraigWilliams



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District Office Services

My staff and I are here to serve you!

SERVICES WE PROVIDE INCLUDE:

- Driver's license and vehicle registration applications and renewals
- Assistance with PennDOT paperwork (lost cards, changes, corrections, special registration plates, vanity plates, and handicapped placards for persons with disabilities)
- PACE and PACENET applications for seniors
- Property Tax and Rent Rebate applications
- Voter registration forms and mail-in ballot applications
- State tax forms
- Senior and veteran services information
- Notary by appointment
- Copies of legislation
- Unclaimed property
- Referrals to agencies to resolve state-related matters



SAVE THE DATES

FALL SHREDDING EVENT

Saturday, September 19, 9 a.m. to Noon, Garnet Valley Middle School Parking Lot, 601 Smithbridge Road, Glen Mills

SENIOR SCAM SEMINAR

Thursday, October 8, 2 p.m., at Rachel Kohl Library

VETERANS RECOGNITION BREAKFAST

Friday, November 6, 9 a.m., at Covenant Fellowship Church, 1 Fellowship Drive, Glen Mills. RSVP required.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER BY APPOINTMENT

SENIOR SEPTA KEY CARDS — NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

PROPERTY TAX AND RENT REBATE FILINGS

Appointment required, call for more information