

## Back-to-School Tax Break Proposed

By State Rep. Ann Flood

I recently introduced legislation to create an annual back-to-school sales tax holiday, helping families and educators save during one of the most expensive times of the year.

The three-week holiday would begin the first Saturday in August and cover school supplies under \$50 and tech items like laptops and tablets under \$1,500.

This is a practical way to ease the burden of inflation and make sure students are better prepared to succeed in the classroom. I appreciate Rep. Bob Freeman's support as co-prime sponsor of the legislation.



## Preserving Agriculture in Our Community

By State Rep. Ann Flood

I am pleased to share another Northampton County farm has been permanently protected through the state's Farmland Preservation Program.

The 26-acre crop farm owned by Joseph and Barbara Lobb in Washington Township, located in the heart of the 138th District, will remain dedicated to agriculture and safeguarded from future development.

Protecting farmland helps preserve our agricultural heritage, supports local food production and maintains the character of our rural communities. I'm proud to support efforts that keep Pennsylvania farming strong.



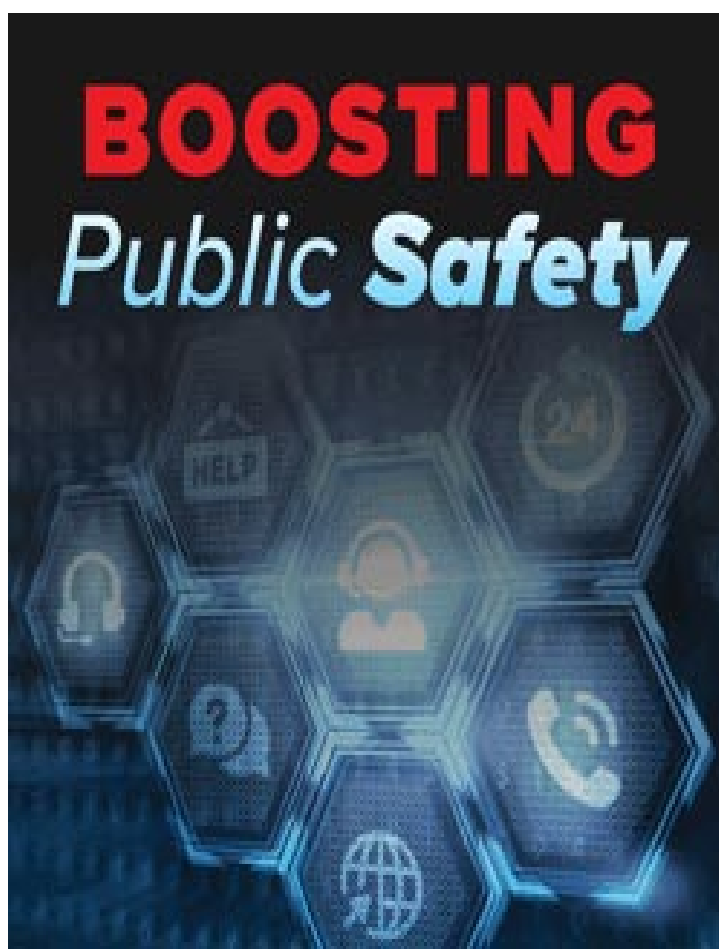
## House OKs Bill to Boost Public Safety

By State Rep. Ann Flood

To support law enforcement agencies in their efforts to solve crimes and keep their communities safe, I recently voted in favor of legislation known as the Violent Incident Clearance and Technological Investigative Methods (VICTIM) Act.

The measure would provide grant funding to police departments to help hire additional investigators, submit evidence for forensic testing, upgrade management systems and take other steps to help make arrests for homicide and other violent crimes. It would require at least 10% of grants to go to rural departments.

The program is needed as advances in forensic science, data analysis and digital evidence tools are transforming how police solve crimes, but not all departments can afford the necessary tools to bring perpetrators to justice. House Bill 1511 goes to the Senate for consideration.



## Meeting with Lehigh Valley Disability Advocates

By State Rep. Ann Flood

Rep. Zach Mako and I met with representatives from the Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living (LVCIL) during their advocacy day at the Capitol. We discussed the challenges facing the disability community and the vital state funding LVCIL relies on to continue providing services and support.

LVCIL serves individuals with disabilities in Lehigh and Northampton counties. I appreciated the opportunity to hear directly from those they serve and remain committed to supporting their mission.

