

Legislation to Protect Firefighters' Income Passes House

By State Rep. Ann Flood

I recently joined in the unanimous support of a bill to exempt length-of-service awards for volunteer firefighters from state income taxes.

At a time when fire companies are struggling to meet personnel needs, length-of-service awards are a valuable recruitment and retention tool. The hardworking men and women who put their lives on the line to protect public safety in communities across the Commonwealth should not have to give up a portion of that award to state government.

House Bill 1306 would exclude distributions from a length-of-service award program from the definition of income for purposes of the Pennsylvania Personal Income Tax.

More than 90% of Pennsylvania's 2,400 fire companies are volunteer based. We owe a debt of gratitude to these dedicated men and women who sacrifice their time and personal safety to protect us.

The bill now goes to the Senate for its consideration.

Burdensome Child Care Regulations are Failing Families, Businesses

By State Rep. Ann Flood

The availability of affordable, quality child care is a significant challenge facing many families across the Commonwealth. Overregulation of the industry is a big reason why.

The House Republican Policy Committee recently held a hearing about the issue, taking testimony from Aaron Riggelman of the PA Chamber of Business and Industry, Jen Segelken of the YMCA of Greater Philadelphia, and Ambria Salavantis of Small Wonders and Wilkes-Barre Academy.

All agree Pennsylvania's child care regulations are not only excessive, but they also lack flexibility and common sense. As a result, child care providers are being driven out of business. At the same time, the child care crisis is taking an immense toll on parents – especially working moms and dads – who are desperate for safe, reliable child care but are met with waitlists and closures.

Fun for All Ages Awaits at PA Fairs

By State Rep. Ann Flood

Summer is in full swing, and so is Pennsylvania fair season. Communities across the commonwealth are hosting dozens of fairs featuring food, fun and entertainment, as well as competitive exhibits highlighting animals, produce, crops, crafts, baking and more.

Here are a few local events to watch for:

- **Plainfield Farmers Fair, July 22-26**
plainfieldfarmersfair.com
- **Blue Valley Farm Show, Aug. 12-16**
bluevalleyfarmshowinc.com

Stay tuned for more updates and event details.

Check out the 2025 PA Fair Guide here <https://links.pahousenews.com/q/wTcWWCQjjR0XBbsgsXvE7iYMrDXTRuEyYakZcOJYnZ0aW1lc0ByY24uY29tw4glD57x1mZfKh6Lv1SH3gzEM5l6fA>.

Join Me for My Scam Jam!

By State Rep. Ann Flood

Fraud and scams are becoming more sophisticated every day. That's why I'm inviting you to my Scam Jam seminar, a free, fun and informative event to help you protect yourself and your loved ones from becoming victims.

The event will be held Thursday, Aug. 7, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Lookout Fire Company Social Hall, 123 S. Main St., Pen Argyl.

You'll hear from experts, learn how to recognize red flags and leave with the tools you need to stay a step ahead of scammers.

Space is limited. To RSVP, please call my office at 610-746-2100.

