

Improvements to Public Safety

By Senator Rosemary Brown

Public safety is one of my top priorities, and the Senate has taken many important steps this year. We passed new laws closing a legal loophole to require sports officials and non-profit volunteers and employees convicted of sexual assault to register as sexual offenders, and improving the enforcement of Protection from Abuse petitions.

To boost fire protection, we enacted measures targeting Pennsylvania's volunteer firefighter shortage, fixing issues with emergency services funding and making it less cumbersome for firefighters to obtain their certification.

Legislation passed by the Senate and awaiting action in the House of Representatives

includes a bill prohibiting non-monetary bail for the most dangerous individuals and cracking down on thieves using new technology to steal vehicles by spoofing key fobs.

I'll keep working hard to make our communities safe. You can review other measures we passed to increase public safety and address other subjects here.



Da Vinci Science Center Awarded \$10,000 Semiquin Grant

By Tamara KrizekALLENTOWN, PA, August 20, 2025 – Da Vinci Science Center was awarded a \$10,000 grant from America250PA's second Semiquincentennial Grant Round for the Lehigh County Treasure Trail Markers project. This funding enables the Lehigh County Treasure Trail to invite residents and visitors to explore 17 of the region's most treasured historical, cultural, and recreational landmarks, including Da Vinci Science Center. Participants in Da Vinci Science Center's Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) initiative

will design and prototype the

weather resistant, removable,

and theft resistant markers.

Over five weeks, students

will learn how an industrial

designer goes from initial

concept to finished product

using software for 2D digital

design, compare manufactur-

ing processes, and assemble

the final projects, as well as become familiar with the selected sites in the Lehigh Valley! The result:

professional-quality trail markers that blend creativity, engineering, and storytelling.

"We are excited to contribute to Pennsylvania's celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing

of the Declaration of Independence—and to engage our neighbors in meaningful ways that reflect

our shared values while pointing toward a hopeful future," said Lin Erickson, Executive Director and

CEO of Da Vinci Science Center. "This is a fantastic way for us to have students and staff working on

a project in our Fab Lab for the benefit of the other sites on the Treasure Trail. We are so proud to be

a part of this project."

"It's thrilling to see so many Pennsylvania communities and organizations stepping up with mean-

ingful, engaging, and inspiring plans as we approach the Semiquincentennial," said Cassandra Cole-

man, Executive Director of America250PA. "These grants are giving Pennsylvanians the tools to come

together, remember where we've been, and imagine what comes next. America250PA is incredibly

proud to support this work, and grateful to Governor Shapiro and the General Assembly for making it

possible."

For more information about the Semiquincentennial Grants, please visit https://www.america250pa.org/Semiquin_Grants.



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