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Reyna Waterman Student At Defranco Elementary School Wins Essay Contest "There Ought To Be A Law"



By Rep. Ann Flood

SLATE BELT - I was delighted to welcome Reyna Waterman to the Capitol in recognition of her winning essay in my "There Ought to Be a Law" contest. The contest encourages students to think about how laws are made and how they can help identify challenges in their communities and propose meaningful solutions.

Reyna, a fifth grade student at DeFranco Elementary School, was selected for her proposal that ***every child should receive a free lunch at school.*** During her visit, we met in the Governor's Reception Room and signed a commemorative piece of mock legislation inspired by her winning idea. Reyna's submission stood out for its kindness, thoughtfulness and focus on helping fellow students.

Reyna visited the Capitol with her mother, Lauren, and they were recognized as special guests in the House gallery during session. Watch their introduction here.

Congratulations, Reyna, and thank you for participating in this year's contest. It was wonderful to welcome you to the Capitol, and I wish you all the best in the future!



Bushkill Township Fire Company Dedicates New Pavilion

By Rep. Ann Flood

BUSHKILL TOWNSHIP - Community members came together this weekend for the Ride With the Blue event hosted by Bikers Against Cop Killers (B.A.C.K.) and Bushkill Township Volunteer Fire Company, which also included the dedication of the fire company's new pavilion. The event highlighted the strong support our region has for the firefighters, law enforcement officers and first responders who serve our communities every day.

The new pavilion will provide additional space for community gatherings and events while supporting the fire company's ongoing efforts to engage with residents. It was great to be part of this special day and celebrate an investment that will benefit both the fire company and the community for years to come.

Bill to Restrict 'Flock' Cameras Passes House

By Rep. Ann Flood

Amid growing concerns about the use of automated license plate reader (ALPR) technology, I joined a majority in the state House last week in voting to restrict its usage and help protect people's privacy.

House Bill 2771 would restrict government use of plate readers to specific law enforcement activities, including criminal investigations and some types of parking enforcement, as well as controlling access to secured areas. The bill would require data captured by the cameras to be deleted within 72 hours if not relevant to an investigation or enforcement issue.

The measure would also prohibit selling, trading or sharing data captured by ALPRs, which are commonly referred to as "Flock" cameras because it is the most common brand of reader used in the United States.

The measure now goes to the Senate for consideration.

New Law Cracks Down on Deceptive Telemarketing

By Rep. Ann Flood

A new law modernizing the Commonwealth's regulation of telemarketing took effect earlier this week with the goal of cracking down on spoofing, robocalls, scam texts and more.

Act 47 of 2026 prohibits telemarketing calls before 9 a.m. and after 7 p.m., and at any time on Sundays and legal holidays. It requires prior express written consent for most robocalls and telemarketing text messages for those on the Do-Not-Call List and prohibits deceptive or fraudulent practices used to obtain a consumer's consent.

The law also prohibits telemarketers from falsely identifying themselves or using deceptive caller ID information, including spoofed numbers. It allows consumers to opt out of telemarketing text messages by responding with commonly recognized terms such as "STOP," "QUIT," "END," "CANCEL" or "UNSUBSCRIBE." Finally, it requires telemarketers to stop their solicitation when a consumer asks them to do so.

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