



STATE SENATOR

MARIA COLLETT

Representing the 12th Senatorial District

Dear Neighbor,

Happy New Year!

2023 brought some exciting changes as our district lines shifted and we moved to our new Fort Washington office. Through it all, it has been my distinct honor to continue serving the people of the 12th District and fighting for you in Harrisburg.

If you'd like to share your thoughts on legislation, or if you need help with PennDOT, taxes, unemployment, Senior SEPTA Fare Cards, or any other state-related issue, my staff and I are always ready to assist you. If you're not sure where to go for help, you can always start by contacting my office!

Sincerely,

Maria Collett

State Senator • 12th Senatorial District

Inside

2024
WINTER

IN THE COMMUNITY HARRISBURG UPDATE SAVE THE DATE!

FOR THE 12TH DISTRICT



With the nonstop phone calls, mail, texts and emails we get these days, anyone – of any age – could fall victim to a scam. Unfortunately, scammers often target older adults in particular. To help residents avoid common scam attempts, Senator Bob Casey and I hosted a “Spooky” event with the PA Department of Banking & Securities on Halloween morning in Horsham. ■



SCARING OFF SCAMMERS

You can watch the full program at SenatorCollett.com/Video.

Have you been targeted by a scammer?

Be sure to report it to local law enforcement and the PA Attorney General's office at **800-441-2555**.

FREE

NOTARY SERVICES

Do you need something notarized?

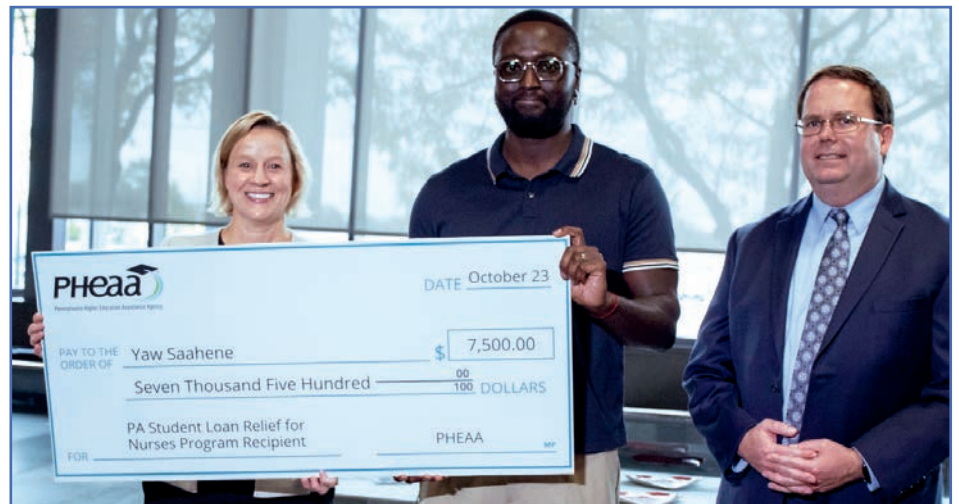
Three of my staff members are notaries public and we are happy to assist you!

Call us at 215-368-1429 to make an appointment or stop by during our regular office hours.



CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF MY STUDENT LOAN RELIEF FOR NURSES PROGRAM

I was proud to work with PHEAA, former Governor Wolf and Senator Vincent Hughes to develop the **\$55 million Student Loan Relief for Nurses (SLRN) program**. This fall, we celebrated the program's success by presenting a **\$7,500** ceremonial check to one of the thousands of relief recipients. While SLRN is currently closed to new applicants, I will keep fighting for the continuation and expansion of this vital program. ■



HARRISBURG UPDATE

Though the legislative process can be slow and frustrating, I continue to fight for the issues you care about the most and pass bipartisan bills to improve the lives of every Pennsylvanian.

LEGISLATIVE WINS!

No Pelvic Exams Without Consent

As a nurse, I know just how critical it is that practitioners can learn how to administer care on actual patients – but that training should never come at the expense of a patient's right to bodily autonomy. In November, Governor Shapiro signed **HB 507**, the companion bill to my and Senator Muth's **SB 549** into law as **Act 31 of 2023**. This law prohibits the archaic practice of nonconsensual pelvic, prostate or rectal exams on anesthetized patients for training purposes.



Preserving Access to Medication Assistance

■ **SB 607**, my legislation with Senator J. Ward, ensures that older Pennsylvanians do not lose access to the PACE/PACENET prescription assistance programs due to an increase in their Social Security payments. The Governor signed the bill into law as **Act 62** in December!

Protecting Victims of Human Trafficking

■ Also in December, the legislature sent **SB 44** to the Governor's desk where it became **Act 39 of 2023**. Part of a legislative package I introduced with Senators Dush and Phillips-Hill, this reform will ensure that victims of human trafficking no longer have to identify a perpetrator in order to access critical victim services.

Addressing Long Term Care Staffing Issues

■ Under **SB 668**, which passed unanimously through the Senate in November, the Certified Nursing Assistants who work closely with long term care residents can receive the training they need to safely administer medications, helping us address healthcare staffing gaps and boost career opportunities. I'm looking forward to the House considering this bill in the spring!

Improving Access to Dental Screenings in PA Schools

■ The Governor also signed into law **Act 55**, which was the House version of a bill I introduced with Sen. Brown that will allow Dental Hygienists to conduct school dental screenings. Oral health is vital to our overall health – especially for kids – and this change will make a huge difference for schools that aren't able to secure a partnership with a dentist to meet existing state requirements.



PATIENT SAFETY ACT

We know that short staffing leads to burnout for nurses and can lead to adverse health outcomes for patients. That's why I've introduced the **Patient Safety Act**, which would set safe nurse-to-patient ratios, each session. The House passed the **Patient Safety Act** in June, and now it is time for the Senate to act. ■



ROOM FOR PROGRESS


Improving Sexual Harassment Policies in State Government

■ There can be no tolerance for sexual harassment in any workplace – especially one that serves the people of our Commonwealth. Our government agencies and public servants should be held to the highest standards, and when misconduct occurs, there must be a clear path to accountability and justice. I introduced bipartisan legislation to do just that by helping to strengthen workplace protections and improve transparency.

Want to share your legislative thoughts or ideas?

Reach out to my Harrisburg office at 717-787-6599 or email me at senatorcollett@pasenate.com.

2023 was an eventful year serving the 12th District! I'm so proud of what my team and I were able to accomplish for our constituents, and we're looking forward to continuing that work in 2024.



12 Senator Maria Collett
12th District

2023

BY THE NUMBERS

9,612
Legislative Conversations With Constituents

2,749
Constituent Cases Handled

10
Town Halls & Events Hosted

\$32 Million
Grant Funding For Our Communities

64
Bills Introduced

151
Community Events Attended

317
Bills Co-Sponsored

SAVE THE DATE!



My staff and I will be hosting and participating in a number of community events this year, including:

- **EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC with REP. NANCY GUENST & LEGAL AID OF SOUTHEASTERN PA**
Tuesday • March 12 • 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Upper Moreland Free Public Library, 109 Park Avenue, Willow Grove, PA 19090
Call Sen. Collett's office at 215-368-1429 to make an appointment to clean up your record!
- **LICENSE PLATE RESTORATION EVENT with REP. LIZ HANBIDGE & LOWER GWYNEDD POLICE**
Saturday • March 16 • 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Lower Gwynedd Police Station, 1130 N Bethlehem Pike, Spring House, PA 19477
An opportunity to replace your illegible license plate! Call us at 215-368-1429 and we will send you the PennDOT form you need to bring to the event for evaluation.
- **FREE PAPER SHREDDING with REP. GREG SCOTT & COLLECTION DRIVE**
Saturday • April 20 • 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Greater Plymouth Community Center, 2910 Jolly Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
Spring cleaning time! Safely dispose of sensitive documents and bring a toiletry donation for Hedwig House!
- **SENIOR EXPO**
Friday • May 17 • 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Montgomery Township Community and Recreation Center
1030 Horsham Road, Montgomeryville, PA 18936
Join us for an informative vendor fair featuring a wide array of free resources for older adults and their families.

Be sure to sign up for my e-newsletter at SenatorCollett.com/Subscribe
Follow me on social media @SenatorCollett
for additional details about these and other upcoming events.

MOBILE OFFICE HOURS

My staff and I want to make it as convenient as possible for you to reach us. In addition to 16 regular mobile offices at senior living communities, we host public mobile office hours across the 12th District:

INDIAN VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
1st Friday of Every Month

UPPER MORELAND LIBRARY
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
2nd Monday of Every Month

GREATER PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CENTER
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
3rd Tuesday of Every Month

HATFIELD TOWNSHIP BUILDING
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
3rd Wednesday of Every Other Month
(Starting February 21, 2024; no mobile office June 19, 2024 due to holiday)

VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE

Senator Maria Collett
is honored to host

VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE HOURS

EVERY FOURTH THURSDAY
10AM-1PM

January 25, 2024
February 22, 2024
March 28, 2024
April 25, 2024
May 23, 2024
June 27, 2024



Senator Collett is partnering with the American Legion Dept. of Pennsylvania to offer assistance to veterans and their families. A Veterans Service Officer will be available by appointment to help with benefits and answer your questions.

Please call Senator Collett's office at 215-368-1429 or email senatorcollett@pasenate.com to schedule a one-hour appointment.

1035 Virginia Drive, Suite 201
Fort Washington, PA 19034

[SENATORCOLLETT.COM](https://SenatorCollett.com)





BUILDING A STRONG COMMUNITY



▲ Philly Cricket Festival

The 2023 Philly Cricket Festival took place in Hatfield Township's Clemens Park. I was excited to attend a game and learn more about this global sport!



▲ Angel Flight East

My son August and I took to the skies at Angel Flight East's Wings N' Wheels event in Whippany Township! Angel Flight East is a nonprofit that provides free flights for patients in need of medical treatment far from home.



◀ Telford Night Market

My staff and I were pleased to return to the Telford Night Market in August, chatting with neighbors and visiting small business vendors.



▶ Planting Trees in Upper Dublin

In November, I joined the Upper Dublin Tree Tenders to plant trees at Fort Washington Elementary School, helping to restore what was lost during the 2021 tornado.



▲ North Penn Mosque Community Day

I caught up with neighbors during the North Penn Mosque's annual Community Day, a special celebration of connection across our diverse communities each September.



▲ Meadowood/Variety Mobile Café

This fall, we cut the ribbon on the Meadowood Mobile Café, created in partnership with Variety - the Children's Charity to provide paid job training opportunities for young adults with disabilities.



▶ Code Blue Shelter in Plymouth

The Colonial Area Anti-Racism and Social Equity Alliance launched a new Code Blue Shelter at the Church on the Mall in Plymouth Township to provide much-needed shelter during the cold winter months.



◀ Family Health Fair

At my December Family Health Fair, I welcomed 40+ health and wellness vendors to the Ambler YMCA, connecting 100+ community members to the resources they needed to stay safe and healthy all year.



STATE SENATOR
MARIA COLLETT

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12TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

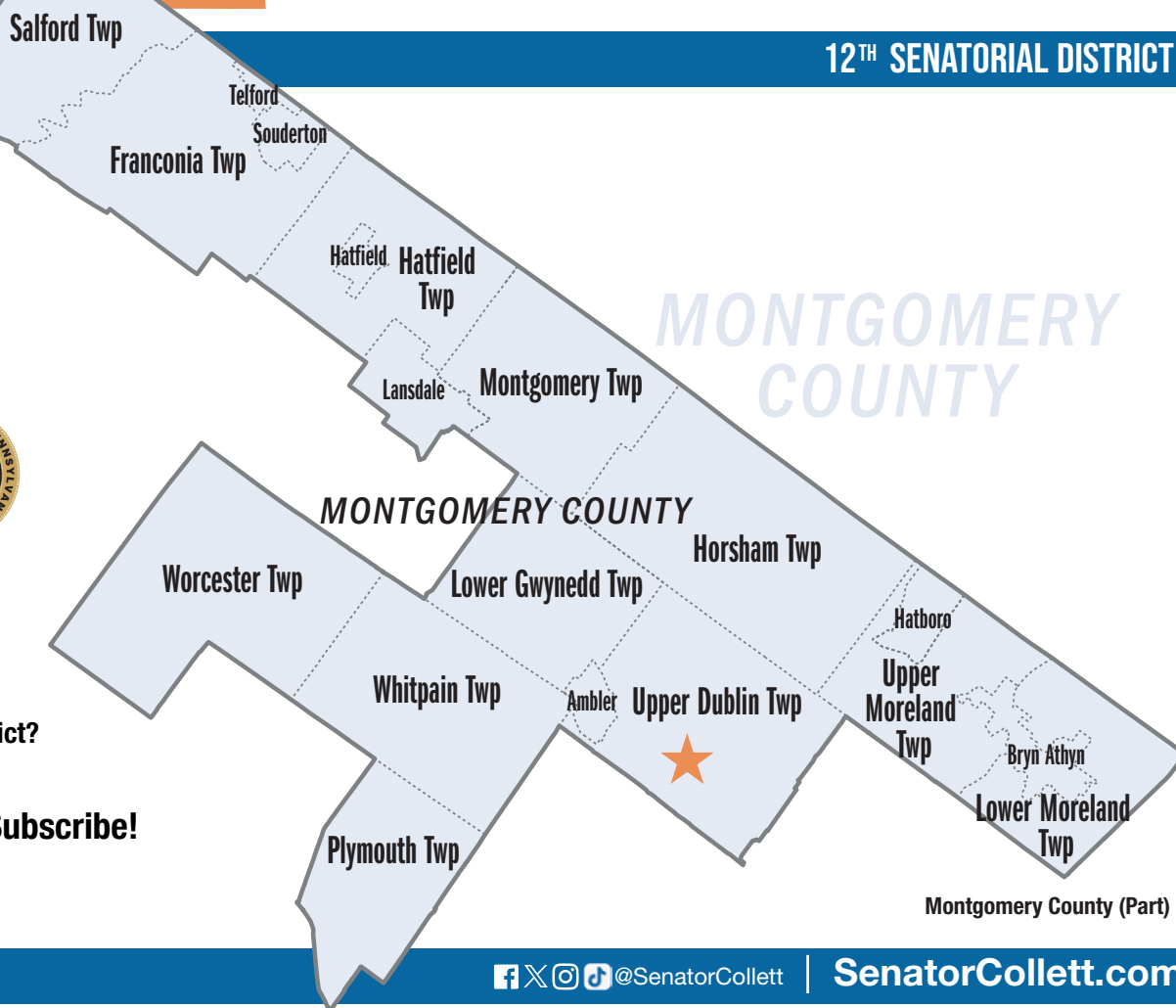


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Want to **STAY UP TO DATE**
with what's happening in
Harrisburg and in our district?

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★ DISTRICT OFFICE LOCATION



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