



State Representative
Rob Mercuri

28th Legislative District of Pennsylvania

**District 28 Progress Report
Year End Review 2021**



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Representative Rob Mercuri 2021 By the Numbers

3,651

**Constituent Cases
Handled**

93%

**Bi-Partisan Voting
Record**

363

**Unemployment
Cases Closed**

614

Votes Taken

8

Bills Introduced

93

Citations Given

65

Days in Session

64

Co-Sponsored Bills

3

Tele-Townhalls

34

Veterans Assisted

8

**Co-Sponsored
Resolutions**

100

**Votes Signed into
Law**

Legislative Progress in the Capitol



Rob is working in the Capitol to make progress across a number of legislative priorities by introducing legislation to increase the transparency and effectiveness of government, protect the privacy of consumer data, expand educational opportunities, reduce the cost of health care, develop programs to keep our communities safe, prioritize the upkeep of critical infrastructure and harness the potential of an advanced energy economy for the benefit of residents and the future of our economy.

Urging Congress to Oppose Invasive Changes to IRS Reporting (HR-150) | PASSED

House Resolution 150 urges Congress to oppose the Treasury Department's proposal to change the Internal Revenue Service reporting requirements. The proposal would require financial institutions to report the total dollar amount of incoming and outgoing transactions from each customer account that has inflows and outflows of a certain threshold in a tax year, a massive overreach.

Remote Mortgage Banking (HR-1558) | PASSED

House Bill 1588 will permit mortgage originators to work remotely and to originate mortgages in remote locations. With many Pennsylvanians' working virtually, among them were licensed mortgage brokers who are required to "work out of a licensed location." However, under the Governor's emergency orders, this requirement has been waived, so this new legislation would allow these workers to continue working as they are currently, whether remotely or in a licensed location, helping to modernize our economy.

Pennsylvania Opportunity Pathways Program (HB-2176) | PROPOSED

House Bill 2176 will establish the Pennsylvania Opportunity Pathways Program. The Opportunity Pathways Program will enable qualifying schools to apply for grants to fund mentorship programs that encourage students to pursue careers in public service, such as law enforcement, nursing, education and legal careers, enabling more students to pursue meaningful careers.

Consumer Data Privacy (HB-2202) | PROPOSED

House Bill 2202 will require larger companies and personal information aggregators to share more information with constituents about what data of theirs is gathered, tracked and sold. When constituents' information, such as their names, addresses, geolocation, Social Security number, driver's license number, biometric information or email address, is harvested, bought and sold, Rep. Mercuri believes that you have a right to understand that information and to access it and opt out of data collection if you so choose.

Making Pennsylvania Better for All

In 2021, the PA Legislature passed 100 bills that were signed into law.
Below are a few highlights:

Prescription Assistance Expansion

Rep. Mercuri voted in favor of PACE and PACENET Eligibility Expansion (House Bill 1260) which will allow there to be an expanded pool of senior citizens who can qualify for this prescription assistance program. This new law increases the income limits to \$33,500 for individuals and \$41,500 for married couples, both increasing by \$6,000. This new law will help thousands of people in PA to afford the medicines that they need.



Broadband Internet for All

Rep. Mercuri voted in favor of House Bill 2071 that creates the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority. This newly created authority will help to provide broadband internet access to unserved and underserved areas of our state. Many areas of PA, especially in rural areas, the infrastructure for broadband internet is lacking. By having access to broadband internet, these citizens would have a greater ability to connect with others to find job opportunities, access healthcare and communicate with emergency services.



COVID-19 Pandemic Relief

Rep. Mercuri co-sponsored House Bill 326 which allowed the Pennsylvania National Guard (PANG) to assist in both the distribution and administration of the COVID-19 vaccine in all 67 counties in the Commonwealth. This legislation helped accelerate the number of vaccinations administered across the Commonwealth and helped to begin Pennsylvania's return to normal.



Rep. Mercuri District Initiatives

Wexford Business Roundtable



Rep. Mercuri established and invited local businesses to join the Wexford Business Roundtable, which serves a vital role in helping to develop pro-small business policies. The Roundtable also provides a forum for local businesses to come together to help identify opportunities for building a healthier, stronger, and more innovative business climate.

This group has met six times over the past year to discuss a variety of different topics including the COVID-19 effect on the local economy, upcoming regional projects, looking into new technology expansion (like 5G), and digging deeper into problems that affect business like Unemployment Compensation fraud.

North Hills Mental Health & Substance Use Task Force

To raise awareness and find solutions to issues plaguing the Commonwealth, Rep. Mercuri created the North Hills Mental Health & Substance Use Task Force. It is comprised of local and regional health and human services experts.

In the midst of the global pandemic, we've seen the number of overdoses and cases of mental illness rise dramatically. Not to mention, Pennsylvania falls within the top 10 states with the highest number of overdoses, so there's certainly great needs to be addressed. The Task Force met five times over the course of the year and held their own Town Hall in October. From these the group discussed important topics that are affecting people in our community today. A few of these topics include, best practices to help the group be most effective, vaping and marijuana uses and trends.



District Initiatives in Action

Vicious Vapors Town Hall

On Oct. 12, the North Hills Mental Health and Substance Use Task Force hosted a town hall at the A.W. Beattie Career Center in the Town of McCandless to educate our young people, concerned parents and friends on vaping and marijuana use. By working together to create awareness about the adverse effects of using these substances, we can reverse this trend and promote a healthier community.

Rep. Mercuri would like to thank guest speakers Amanda Fedunok, patrol officer for the Franklin Park Borough Police Department, and Dr. Gina Goszinski, addiction psychiatrist at Jade Wellness, for their tremendous insight and participation in leading this important discussion.



Rep. Mercuri with Town Hall guest speakers, Dr. Gina Goszinski and patrol officer Amanda Fedunok.

Meeting with Local Business

Rep. Mercuri established and invited local businesses to join the Wexford Business Roundtable, which will serve a vital role in helping to develop pro-small business policies. As local businesses are the backbone of a thriving economy, we must continue to create, and build on, policies that will help businesses grow and attract future employees. These meetings help to establish an open line of communication and allow for discussions to help develop policy that will create a more business-friendly environment in the Commonwealth. As these meetings continue, Rep. Mercuri looks forward to continuing these important discussions on how he can best represent you.



Rep. Mercuri with Wexford native, Larry Caracciolo, touring his business, Lux Iron Works in Swissvale.

Rep. Mercuri Around the Community



Paper Shredding Event

On August 28th, Rep. Mercuri held a paper shredding event at North Allegheny High School that allowed constituents to utilize an industrial paper shredder to destroy any old documents. By permitting up to 5 packing boxes to shred, the many participants of the event help to protect themselves from potential identity theft based off these old documents left not shredded.

Senior Health Fair

On October 13th, Rep. Mercuri's office held a Senior Health Fair and flu shot clinic at the Baierl YMCA in Franklin Park Borough. There were over 125 attendees that were able to enjoy refreshments and visit the 20+ vendors at the event that were there to distribute informational resources for all that participated.



A.W. Beattie Team Awarded with National Title



In October, Rep. Mercuri proudly congratulated the A.W. Beattie Career Center's Carpentry and Building Construction team members: Graydon Sherron of Pine Richland, Marc Sostmann and Shane O'Neil of North Allegheny and Ryan Geeting of Northgate, who took home the national title at this year's Residential Construction Management Competition (RCMC) virtual competition. The team is under the direction of John Brown, building construction instructor at A.W. Beattie.

Here to Serve You!

Rep. Rob Mercuri is offering

Veteran Outreach Hours

Need help with Veteran services?

Call our office to make an appointment during our Veteran Outreach Hours. First Tuesday of each month, 10am-2:30pm.

As Your Representative I Can:

- Obtain **COPIES** of Birth and Death certificates.
- Distribute applications for **HIGHER EDUCATION** grants.
- Secure applications for **CIVIL SERVICE** jobs.
- Obtain copies of House and Senate **LEGISLATION**.
- Arrange **TOURS** of the Capitol Building and **MEETINGS** with state officials.
- Aid with **PennDOT** Forms.
- Assist in arranging **COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT** programs through state assistance.
- Provide information to **SENIOR CITIZENS** regarding benefits & services available.
- Help to cut **RED TAPE** in all state programs.

*Together we can make state
government work for you.*





State Representative
Rob Mercuri

28th Legislative District of Pennsylvania

Office Locations

Capitol:

Room 162B East Wing
House Box 202028
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2028
717-772-9943
FAX: 717-782-2932

District Office:

5500 Brooktree Road
Suite 100
Wexford, PA 15090
412-369-2230



Website:

www.reprobmercuri.com



Facebook:

www.facebook.com/reprobmercuri



Twitter:

@RepRobMercuri

