

RESEARCH DOSSIER

KATIE MUTH

(PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATE: SD-44)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| TABLE OF CONTENTS | 2 |
| EXECUTIVE SYNOPSIS..... | 19 |
| DOSSIER NOTES..... | 19 |
| MAIN VULNERABILITIES | 19 |
| Liberal Political Leanings..... | 19 |
| Liberal Fiscal Agenda..... | 20 |
| Embrace Of The Left’s Covid Reaction And Government-Funded Healthcare | 20 |
| Social Agenda And Other Far-Left Views | 20 |
| TOP HITS..... | 22 |
| Political..... | 22 |
| Activism..... | 22 |
| ‘We The People’ Agenda..... | 22 |
| Campaign Finance | 23 |
| Additional Progressive Ties..... | 23 |
| Miscellaneous | 23 |
| Policy | 23 |
| Fiscal..... | 23 |
| Labor..... | 24 |
| Energy, Environment..... | 24 |
| Economic - Miscellaneous..... | 24 |
| Healthcare And Covid | 24 |
| Criminal Justice | 24 |
| Education | 25 |
| Miscellaneous | 25 |
| BACKGROUND INFORMATION..... | 26 |
| PERSONAL INFORMATION: KATIE MUTH..... | 26 |
| ELECTION RESULTS | 28 |
| 2018 General Election, Pennsylvania State Senate, District 44 | 28 |
| CAMPAIGN FINANCE | 28 |
| Be The Change PA (2022) | 28 |
| Notable Contributions..... | 28 |
| Be The Change PA (2018) | 29 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Notable Contributions..... | 29 |
| Individual Contributions..... | 30 |
| Federal Election Commission..... | 30 |
| Pennsylvania Department Of State..... | 31 |
| VOTING RECORDS | 31 |
| Montgomery County, PA | 31 |
| PUBLIC COMPENSATION..... | 32 |
| CRIMINAL RECORDS | 32 |
| Traffic Citation | 32 |
| POLICE RECORDS..... | 33 |
| REAL PROPERTY RECORDS..... | 33 |
| BANKRUPTCIES, JUDGMENTS, & LIENS RECORDS | 33 |
| LEGAL ISSUES..... | 34 |
| BUSINESS RECORDS..... | 34 |
| NON-PROFIT RECORDS | 34 |
| PROFESSIONAL & RECREATIONAL LICENSES | 34 |
| Athletic Trainer | 34 |
| Pennsylvania | 34 |
| FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | 35 |
| 2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, Pennsylvania State Senate | 35 |
| Occupation..... | 35 |
| Creditors | 35 |
| Income | 35 |
| Gifts | 36 |
| Office Or Directorships | 36 |
| Business Interests..... | 37 |
| MUTH’S LIBERAL POLITICAL LEANINGS | 38 |
| MUTH FOUNDED AND CHAIRED A LOCAL CHAPTER OF INDIVISIBLE | 38 |
| On Her Official Biography, Muth Claims To Have “[Formed] And Chaired Indivisible [Montgomery County]” | 38 |
| Indivisible Created A “Guide To Resist The Trump Agenda” And The “GOP Agenda” By Electing Candidates Who “Fight For Progressive Policies” | 38 |
| Indivisible Was “Founded In Response To Trump’s Election” | 39 |
| MUTH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO LEFT-WING CANDIDATES AND CAUSES | 39 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Muth Has Contributed \$456 To Candidates And Committees Who May Be Considered Far-Left | 39 |
| MUTH BEEN FUNDED BY PRO-ABORTION GROUPS..... | 39 |
| Since 2018, Muth Has Received \$5,500 From Pro-Abortion Groups..... | 39 |
| MUTH HAS BEEN FUNDED BY LIBERAL POLICY ORGANIZATIONS | 40 |
| Since 2018, Muth Has Received More Than \$200,000 From Liberal Policy Organizations..... | 40 |
| MUTH HAS BEEN FUNDED BY LIBERAL EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONS | 40 |
| Since 2018, Muth Has Received \$1,000 From Liberal Education Organizations..... | 40 |
| MUTH HAS BEEN FUNDED BY PUBLIC SECTION AND LABOR UNIONS..... | 40 |
| Since 2018, Muth Has Received More Than \$16,000 From Trade And Labor Unions..... | 40 |
| MUTH HAS BEEN FUNDED BY PENNSYLVANIA DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN COMMITTEES | 41 |
| Since 2018, Muth Has Received Nearly \$75,000 From Pennsylvania Democratic Campaign Committees..... | 41 |
| MUTH IS A STAUNCH PROGRESSIVE AND OFFERED HER FULL PRAISE AND SUPPORT OF THE 2018 ‘WE THE PEOPLE’ AGENDA - WHICH BACKED A LEFTIST WISH OF POLICY REFORMS..... | 41 |
| In 2018, Muth Was Among The Candidates To Endorse The “Progressive” Agenda Laid Out By We The People Pennsylvania Action, Which Called For Higher Wages And Implicitly Higher Taxes On High Earners..... | 41 |
| Muth: “As A Working-Class Person And As A Working-Class Candidate, There Are A Lot Of Things In This Platform That Reflect My Values...” | 42 |
| VIDEO: In September 2018, At A Rally Unveiling The We The People Agenda, Muth Is Recognized As Among The Candidates To Support The Agenda | 42 |
| We The People Called For A “Much Higher” State Minimum Wage (With An Increase To \$15 An Hour) And Indexing The State Minimum Wage To Inflation..... | 42 |
| We The People Called For Phasing Out The Tipped Minimum Wage – A Measure Known To Have Drawn Criticism From Restaurant And Food Service Businesses..... | 43 |
| We The People Called For Proactive Government Measures To Increase Wages, Such As Prevailing Wage Laws | 43 |
| We The People Called For Measures To Strengthen Unions And Make It Easier To Organize..... | 44 |
| We The People Called For More Accepting Treatment Of Ex-Convicts Seeking Employment, Including Ban The Box Measures To Prevent Employers From Asking About Criminal History . | 44 |
| We The People Calls For Free Tuition For Students Enrolled At The Public Colleges And Universities And Universal Pre-K | 45 |
| We The People Calls For Additional K-12 Educational Funding, Up To \$3.7 Billion Over Ten Years, By Adjustments To The Fair Funding Formula | 45 |

We The People Calls For A Protection And Expansion Of Several Welfare And Social Assistance Programs Such As SNAP, Cash Assistance/ TANF, And Affordable Housing.....46

We The People’s Calls For SNAP Protection And Expansion Includes Expanding Program Eligibility To 200 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Level.....46

We The People’s Calls For Welfare Protection And Expansion Includes Nearly Doubling TANF Cash Grants And The Protection Of The Controversial General Assistance Program47

We The People Calls For The Creation Of A Public Option For Health Insurance And The Expansion Of Medicaid48

We The People Calls For The Elimination Of Drug Induced Homicide Laws And The Establishment Of Syringe Exchange Programs48

We The People Calls For Alternative And Lighter Sentencing For Low-Level Drug Crimes49

We The People Calls For Additional Environmental Regulations And Transitions To Alternative Energy.....49

We The People’s Environmental Agenda Includes Opposition To Expanded Areas For Fracking, Additional Limitations On Oil And Gas Development, And The Passage Of A Severance Tax....49

We The People Calls For Raising The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards50

We The People Calls For Supporting Higher Gas And Motor Fuel Taxes At The Federal And State Level To Increase Infrastructure Spending.....50

We The People Calls For Higher Corporate And Individual Taxes (Such As A Carbon Tax) As A Means To Potentially Increase Infrastructure Spending.....51

We The People Encourages Passage Of \$5 Vehicle Registration Fees To Fund Infrastructure Needs51

We The People Calls For The Imposition Of Over \$3 Billion In Tax Increases, Including The Imposition Of A “Fair Share” Or Higher Wealth Tax And A Severance Tax On Oil And Gas Development- Along With Closing Certain Corporate Tax Loopholes52

We The People’s Proposed “Fair Share” Tax Would Raise Over \$2.2 Billion Alone And Would Impact Middle Class Households Earning Approximately \$100,000 Or Higher – And Some Families Making Less Than That Amount52

We The People Calls For Several Political Reforms, Including Making It Easier To Vote And Ending So-Called Over Incarceration.....53

We The People’s Proposed Electoral Reforms Include Same-Day Voter Registration, Pre-Registering Of 17-Year-Olds, Expanded Mail Voting, And Automatic Voter Registration.....54

We The People Acknowledges The Existence Of Systematic And Structural Racism In The U.S. Criminal Justice System54

We The People Calls For Criminal Justice Reform Measures, Such As The Reclassification Of Several So-Called Low Level Felonies To Misdemeanors And Reducing The Utilization Of The Life Without Parole Sentence55

We The People Calls For An End To Cash Bail And Sentencing Enhancements Based On Location Such As Drug Free School Zones.....55

| | |
|---|----|
| MUTH IS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH OTHER PROGRESSIVE GROUPS AND HAS BEEN LAUDED AND ENDORSED BY NATIONAL PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS | 56 |
| In 2018, Muth Participated In An Event Featuring Several Candidates Hosted By The Progressive Advocacy Organization People For The American Way | 56 |
| In 2018, Muth Is Known To Have Been Endorsed By Barack Obama..... | 56 |
| In June 2019, Muth’s Letter Reading Actions On The Floor Of The Pennsylvania Senate Over Republican Objections Was Heralded By Elizabeth Warren, Kamala Harris, And Other Liberals | 56 |
| “In The Video, Muth Stands At A Lectern Reading A Letter From A Former Homeless Man Pleading To Save A Cash-Assistance Program...” | 56 |
| Muth Promoted An Article Describing AOC As The “Future Of The Democratic Party” ... | 57 |
| MUTH CALLED FOR SUPPORT FOR PARTISAN ELECTORAL REFORMS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL..... | 57 |
| MUTH OPPOSED AN EFFORT TO EXPAND VOTER INFLUENCE BY ESTABLISHING JUDICIAL DISTRICTS | 58 |
| In 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill “Designed To Ensure That All Pennsylvanians Have A Voice In Selecting Judges For The Commonwealth’s Three Appellate Courts” | 58 |
| “Specifically, The Bill Proposes To Amend The Pennsylvania Constitution To Allow Voters To Elect Appellate Judges By Districts Rather Than Statewide Elections...” | 58 |
| MUTH OPPOSED A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF KOBE BRYANT FOLLOWING HIS UNTIMELY DEATH | 59 |
| MUTH’S LIBERAL FISCAL AGENDA | 60 |
| MUTH HAS SIGNALLED SUPPORT FOR RAISING CORPORATE AND INCOME TAXES | 60 |
| In 2018, Muth Suggested Raising Corporate And Income Taxes And Imposing A Severance Tax As A Means To Achieve Property Tax Relief | 60 |
| In June 2019, Muth Promoted Her Proposal For A Fair Share Tax Levying Higher Taxes On The Wealthy, Inclusive Of Additional Taxes On Wealth And Assets | 61 |
| MUTH OPPOSED BUDGETS THAT INCREASED EDUCATIONAL SPENDING ON SEEMINGLY IDEOLOGICAL GROUNDS..... | 62 |
| In June 2019, Muth Opposed Passage Of The 2019 Pennsylvania State Budget Despite Its Increase Of Education Funding, Investment In School Security, And Agricultural Supports | 62 |
| In 2021, Muth Was Critical Of The 2021 Bipartisan State Budget, Which Set Aside Billions In Federal COVID Relief Funds Into Savings, Bolstered Spending On Education And Provided Aid To Personal Care Homes..... | 62 |
| MUTH HAS SUPPORTED PROTECTION AND EXPANSION OF WELFARE PROGRAMS | 63 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Criticize The Elimination Of The General Assistance Program And To Call For The Creation Of An Emergency Cash Aid Program | 63 |
| Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Argue Vocally Against Elimination Of The General Assistance Program..... | 64 |
| In 2021, Muth Noted Her Intention To Introduce Legislation Amplifying TANF Benefits. | 64 |
| In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Express Opposition To The USDA’s Reform Of SNAP Eligibility Rules | 65 |
| MUTH SUPPORTED LEGISLATION THAT RAISES FEES ASSESSED ON FISHING AND BOATING | 66 |
| In 2020, Muth Supported Legislation That Authorizes The PA Fish And Boat Commission To Establish The Fees For Fishing And Boating Related Licenses And Permits | 66 |
| “While Enactment Of This Legislation Does Not Require The Commission To Increase Fees And Only Gives Them The Authority To Do So, According To The Commission, If This Legislation Is Enacted, It Will Seek Fee Increases Over Three Years...” | 66 |
| ACU: “Under Current Law, Fees Assessed On Fishing And Boating Are Set And Approved By Both Bodies Of The Legislature. This Bill Instead Empowers Unelected Bureaucrats Of The Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission To Establish And Increase Fees...” | 67 |
| The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Bill Designed To Empower Unelected Bureaucrats And Allow The Legislature To Avoid Taking Responsibility On Voting On Fee Hikes And Opposed This Bill” | 67 |
| MUTH PROPOSED A \$1 BILLION STUDENT DEBT RELIEF PROGRAM..... | 67 |
| In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Propose A \$1 Billion Program, Funded By Bonds, To Help Borrowers Pay Down Student Loan Debt | 67 |
| Muth: “PA Student HELP Calls For Refinancing High-Interest Student Debt Using Up To \$1 Billion In Bond Financing. Early Estimates Indicate That More Than 28,000 Students Would Benefit From It” | 68 |
| MUTH SUPPORTED AN EFFORT TO CONTINUE THE STATE’S SOCIALIZATION OF CERTAIN STUDENT LOANS | 68 |
| In 2020, Muth Supported An Amendment That “Would Extend A Program Which Socializes The Student Loan Debt Of Select Individuals Employed In The Medical Industry” | 68 |
| ACU: “Under The Original Version Of The Bill The ‘Pennsylvania Medical Education Loan Assistance Program’ Is Repealed, And This Amendment Keeps The Program, Thus Forcing Taxpayers To Continue To Cover Up To \$50,000 In Student Loan Debt For Select Physicians And Nurses” | 69 |
| The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Interference In The Marketplace And The Further Socialization Of Higher Education Costs For Select Individuals And Industries Favored By Government And Opposed This Amendment” | 69 |

MUTH HAS SUPPORTED THE EXPANSION OF ‘CRONYISM’ THROUGH PROVIDING SELECT TAXPAYER-FUNDED SUBSIDIES 70

 In 2019, Muth Supported Legislation That “Expands Cronyism And Interference In The Free Marketplace By Establishing The Dairy Investment Program To Benefit The Dairy Industry” 70

 In 2019, Muth Supported Legislation That “Expands Cronyism And Shifts Tax Burdens To Other Taxpayers Not Favored By Government By Establishing A New Tax Credit Program That Benefits ‘Beginning Farmers’” 70

MUTH OPPOSED A REFORM EFFORT TO “ENSURE TAXPAYER RESOURCES ARE BEST UTILIZED” IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM 71

 In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Makes Numerous Reforms To The Criminal Justice System In Order To Better Ensure Taxpayer Resources Are Best Utilized To Fight Crime And Improve Public Safety” 71

MUTH HAS SUPPORTED INCREASING WAGE MANDATES ON PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESSES..... 72

 In 2019, Speaking In Support Of Increased State Minimum Wage, Muth “Said She Has No Patience For Business Owners Who Claim Raising The Minimum Wage Would Put Them Out Of Business” And Claimed “If Your Business Relies On Paying People Crap Wages Then Yours Is Not A Moral Business” 72

 In 2019, Muth Supported Legislation That Would Increase The State Minimum Wage..... 72

 In 2020, Muth Voted Against A Resolution That “Protects Employers And Employees From New Overtime Mandates” 73

 ACU: “This Resolution Protects Employers And Employees From New Overtime Mandates Which May Reduce Job Opportunities. Specifically, This Resolution Formally Disapproves Of The Wolf Administration’s Attempt To Increase The Earnings Threshold For Mandatory Overtime Payments” 73

MUTH HAS SIDED WITH ORGANIZED LABOR REPORTEDLY OVER THE INTERESTS OF TAXPAYERS 73

 In 2020, Muth Supported Legislation That “Authorizes Unionization Of Waterways Conservation Officers, Thus Driving Up Taxpayer Costs And Making It Harder For The State To Dismiss Poorly Performing Employees” 73

MUTH HAS BEEN A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND CALLING FOR 100% OF PENNSYLVANIA ENERGY TO COME FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES BY 2050..... 74

 In 2018, Muth Noted She Supported Government Intervention In The Energy Industry And Called For Government Promotion Of The Clean Energy Sector..... 74

 In 2019, Muth Co-Sponsored Legislation Requiring Pennsylvania To Obtain 100 Percent Of Its Energy From Renewables By 2050 74

MUTH HAS BEEN AN OPPONENT OF OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT,
PARTICULARLY FRACKING 75

 Muth Has Been Outspoken In Her Opposition To The Fossil Fuel Industry 75

 In 2019, Muth Noted She Opposed Fracking 76

 In 2021, Muth Was Among The Democrats To Oppose Republican Efforts To Overturn A
Fracking Ban Imposed By The Delaware River Basin Commission 76

 In 2021, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Support A Series Of Additional
Restrictions And Regulations On Fracking 76

 In 2020, Muth Was Opposed To HB 1100, Which Provided Tax Credits To Businesses That
Used Natural Gas When Manufacturing Fertilizers 77

 Muth Is Known To Be Critical Of The Continued Development Of The Mariner East
Pipeline 78

 In 2019, Muth Introduced Legislation Imposing Additional Regulatory And Oversight
Requirements For Natural Gas Pipelines 79

 Muth Has Opposed Efforts To Reduce The Regulatory Burden On Oil And Gas Operators
..... 79

 In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Reduce Excessive Regulatory Barriers
Imposed On Conventional Oil And Gas Operations” 79

 “Under The Bill, A Regulatory Framework Would Be Established To Govern Conventional Oil
And Gas Wells Which Would Balance Environmental Protection, The Energy Needs Of
Consumers And The Uniqueness Of The Industry” 79

MUTH APPEARS SUPPORTIVE OF A CAP-AND-TRADE PROGRAM THAT MAY
DRIVE UP UTILITY COSTS..... 80

 In 2021, Muth Defended The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative And Called The
Measure’s Implicit Carbon Tax A “Pay To Pollute Fee” 80

 In 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Protects Pennsylvania Residents From
Skyrocketing Utility Costs By Preventing The Governor From Committing The State Into
The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Or Any Similar Initiative Without
Approval From The Legislature” 80

 “The RGGI Is A Cap-And-Trade Program Which Places Limits And Assesses Fees On The
Carbon Dioxide Emissions Of Electric Energy Producers, Which Costs Are Then Passed On
To Consumers Through Higher Utility Rates” 81

 The American Conservative Union “Opposes Driving Up The Utility Costs Of Millions Of
Pennsylvanians To Advance Leftist Initiatives And A Politicized Global Warming Agenda And
Supported This Bill” 81

 Additionally, Muth Supported A Separate Bill That “Would Interfere In The Marketplace
And Drive Up Electricity Costs For All Ratepayers By Mandating That Electric Utility
Companies In The State Develop ‘Transportation Electrification Infrastructure
Development Plans’” 81

| | |
|---|----|
| MUTH HAS OPPOSED EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE COSTS OF CAR OWNERSHIP | 82 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Reduce Regulatory Burdens And Commuter Costs By Exempting Vehicles Made Eight Years Ago Or Less From The Requirement To Be Tested Under The State’s Vehicle Emissions Program” | 82 |
| The American Conservative Union “Supports Reducing Car Ownership Costs By Reducing Regulatory Burdens And Supported This Bill As A Step In The Right Direction” | 82 |
| MUTH HAS EARNED PRAISE FOR ENVIRONMENTALIST TENDENCIES | 83 |
| In 2020, Muth Earned A 100 Percent Rating On The Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard And Claimed Lawmakers Who Continued To Vote On Energy Matters Despite Accepting Contributions From Fossil Fuel Interests Were Undermining Democracy | 83 |
| MUTH HAS SUPPORTED THE GROWTH OF PENNSYLVANIA’S REGULATORY REGIME | 83 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Streamlines Government By Abolishing Eight Outdated Boards, Commissions And Committees, Many Of Which Have Not Convened In Years” | 83 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against A Bill “Designed To Improve Oversight Of The Regulatory Process And Strengthen A Crucial Check On Executive Branch Power” | 84 |
| In 2020, Muth Voted Against An Amendment That “Would Reform Outdated And Excessive Regulations To Allow The Operation Of Motorized Scooters...” | 84 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Reduce Excessive Regulations That Have Prevented Individuals From Utilizing Agricultural Buildings Such As Barns For Weddings And Other Special Events” | 85 |
| In 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Expands Consumer Access To Broadband And Other Telecommunication Services By Repealing Costly Regulations And Requiring Regular Review Of Regulatory Impact” | 86 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Make A Series Of Amendments To The State’s Price Gouging Act To Limit The Application Of The Law To Actual Disasters And Emergencies” | 86 |
| In 2019, Muth Supported Legislation That “Restricts Competition And Drives Up Pharmaceutical Costs By Imposing New Barriers For Pharmacy Technicians To Enter The Workforce” | 87 |
| MUTH HAS OPPOSED TORT REFORM..... | 87 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against A Resolution That “Urges The Pennsylvania Supreme Court To Uphold The Positive Reforms Implemented In 2002 To Reduce Lawsuit Abuse In Medical Malpractice Cases” | 87 |
| The American Conservative Union “Supports Reasonable Tort Reform To Reduce Frivolous Litigation And Lawsuit Abuse And Supported This Resolution” | 87 |
| MUTH OPPOSED RATIFICATION OF THE USMCA | 88 |

| | |
|--|----|
| In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Vote In Committee Against A Resolution Urging Passage Of The USMCA | 88 |
| MUTH’S EMBRACE OF THE LEFT’S COVID REACTION AND GOVERNMENT-FUNDED HEALTHCARE | 89 |
| MUTH BACKS MEDICARE FOR ALL..... | 89 |
| In 2019, Muth Noted She Supported Medicare For All | 89 |
| MUTH WAS A CHEERLEADER FOR COVID RESTRICTIONS, INCLUDING SCHOOL MASK MANDATES | 89 |
| In September 2021, Muth Defended The Imposition Of School Mask Mandates | 89 |
| In December 2020, Citing The Presence Of Her Desk Next To Republicans Who Did Not Wear Masks, Muth Relocated Herself To A Corner Of The Chamber In A Bid To Socially Distance Herself | 89 |
| MUTH INDICATED SUPPORT FOR EXPANDING GOVERNMENT RULE BY OPPOSING EFFORTS TO PROVIDE A CHECK ON THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC | 90 |
| In July 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Amend The State Constitution To Provide A Crucial Check On The Authority Of The Executive Branch To Impose Executive Orders During Emergencies Without Legislative Oversight Or Approval” | 90 |
| “The Bill Is In Response To Governor Wolf’s Sweeping Emergency Declaration Issued During ... COVID-19. Specifically, The Bill Would Require Approval From Both Legislative Bodies In Order To Impose Or Extend Emergency Declarations Longer Than 21 Days” | 91 |
| MUTH VOTED AGAINST EFFORTS TO REOPEN PENNSYLVANIA’S ECONOMY..... | 91 |
| In June 2021, Muth Criticized Republicans For Moving To Terminate The Pandemic Emergency Declarations..... | 91 |
| In May 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Helps To Reopen Pennsylvania’s Economy By Placing A Check On The Power Governor Wolf Has Seized Through The ... COVID-19 Pandemic”..... | 92 |
| In May 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Ensuring Car Dealerships, Barber Shops, Animal Groomers, Manufacturing Operations And Garden Centers Can Safely Reopen” .. | 92 |
| In May 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Ensuring The Real Estate Industry Can Safely Reopen” | 93 |
| Originally, Muth Called For A Statewide Shutdown Of Bars And Restaurants In March 2020 | 94 |
| MUTH OPPOSED EFFORTS TO REOPEN PENNSYLVANIA BARS AND RESTAURANTS | 95 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| In September 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Easing Excessive Regulations Which Have Burdened Restaurants And Bars As They Begin To Reopen”..... | 95 |
| MUTH INDICATED SUPPORT FOR A BILL THAT WOULD POTENTIALLY LEAVE PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESSES SUBJECT TO LAWSUIT ABUSE | 96 |
| In May 2020, Muth Supported An Amendment That “Would Subject Businesses To Lawsuit Abuse If They Take Any Retaliatory Action Against An Employee Who Refuses To Return To Work Due To COVID-19” | 96 |
| In November 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Ensures That Businesses And Schools Are Protected From Lawsuit Abuse Related To The Chinese Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak” | 97 |
| SOCIAL AGENDA AND OTHER FAR-LEFT VIEWS | 98 |
| MUTH ON ABORTION | 98 |
| In 2019, A Senate Committee Advanced Legislation Prohibiting Abortion Of A Fetus On The Grounds Of A Genetic Abnormality – A Bid Intended To Protect Persons Born With Down Syndrome | 99 |
| Muth Voted Against Advancing The Legislation As Well As Another Measure To “Provide Perinatal Hospice Care To Women Whose Fetuses Are Diagnosed With A ‘Life-Limiting Condition’ | 100 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Prohibits An Individual From Performing An Abortion If It Is Sought Because The Unborn Child Receives A Prenatal Diagnosis Of Down Syndrome” | 100 |
| In 2021, Muth Participated In A Rally In Support Of Abortion Rights And Was Among The Speakers To Criticize The Texas Heartbeat Abortion Law..... | 101 |
| In May 2022, Muth Held A Pro-Abortion Rights Rally..... | 102 |
| Muth, In May 2022: “Overturning Roe V. Wade Would Be A Dangerous Attack On Reproductive Freedoms That Would Put The Lives Of Women Across The Country At Risk” | 102 |
| Muth Is Associated With Pro-Abortion Advocacy Groups..... | 102 |
| MUTH ON LGBTQ ISSUES..... | 103 |
| In 2021, Muth Opposed Efforts To Bar Trans Girls From Participating In Women’s Sports | 103 |
| In March 2022, Muth Criticized Legislation To Exclude Transgender Athlete From Competing On Women’s Sports Teams | 103 |
| In 2022, Muth Was Among The Senators To Back A Proposed Reform To Remove Sex From Birth Certificates In Order To Better Accommodate Transgender Individuals..... | 104 |
| In 2022, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Call On The Legislature To Enact An LGBTQ Non-Discrimination Statute | 104 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| MUTH ON THE SECOND AMENDMENT | 105 |
| In 2018, Muth Noted Her Support For Additional Gun Control Measures, Including More Intensive Licensing And Oversight | 106 |
| In 2019, Muth Renewed Her Call For Additional Gun Control Measures, Noting “Efforts Such As Closing Gun Purchasing Loopholes, Universal Background Checks, And Banning Assault Style Weapons And High Capacity Magazines Have Wide Support From Many Lawmakers And Our Constituents” | 106 |
| In 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Provides A Crucial Check On ‘Emergency’ Powers By Prohibiting Any Governmental Entity Or Official From Infringing Second Amendment Rights Under The Guise Of An Emergency” | 107 |
| The American Conservative Union “Supports The Founders’ Belief In The Second Amendment And Supported The Bill” | 107 |
| MUTH PROMOTES NOTIONS OF SYSTEMIC RACISM AND PROMOTES CALLS FOR ANTI-RACISM AND CRITICAL RACE THEORY | 108 |
| Muth Promotes Notions Of Systemic And Structural Racism | 108 |
| Muth Supports The Black Lives Matter Movement | 109 |
| On Video, Muth Has Called On Her White Colleagues To Be “Anti-Racist” And Previously Acknowledged Notions Of White Privilege | 109 |
| Muth Opposed Attacks On Critical Race Theory Curriculum In Schools | 110 |
| MUTH PROMOTED A PIECE JUSTIFYING RIOTS AND LOOTING AMID RACIAL TENSIONS IN 2020..... | 111 |
| Muth Promoted An Interview With A Black Activist As “Important Words Should Be Read, Understood, Shared, And Used To Take Action”; The Activist Justified Rioting And Acts Of Violence, Such As Looting, In Response To George Floyd’s Murder In June 2020..... | 111 |
| MUTH HAS CALLED FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORMS | 113 |
| In 2019, Muth Introduced Legislation To End The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania..... | 113 |
| In July 2019, Muth Was Pictured Next To Hyper-Progressive Philadelphia D.A. Larry Krasner At A Press Conference Promoting Calls To Abolish The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania | 113 |
| In 2021, Muth Was Among The Legislators To Call For The Release Of Medically Vulnerable Prisoners | 114 |
| In 2022, Muth Noted That She Voted Against SB 913, Claiming Revoking A Person’s Probation Due To Failure To Pay Restitution Costs Amounted To Criminalizing Poverty..... | 115 |
| Muth Supports Legalization Of Marijuana And Related Reforms, Such As Expungement And Reparations To Individuals With Non-Violent Marijuana Crimes On Their Records | 116 |
| MUTH BACKS LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORMS AND APPEARS CRITICAL OF POLICE | 117 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Muth Has Called For “Restructuring Of Our Policing System And Ending Police Brutality, A Fair Court System, And Ending Poverty And All Forms Of Inequities” | 117 |
| On Video, Muth Calls For Demilitarizing The Police | 118 |
| Muth Donated To An Organization That Has Attacked And Criticized Law Enforcement | 118 |
| Muth Supports Ending No-Knock Warrants | 120 |
| In 2021, Muth Introduced Legislation To Ban No Knock Warrants | 120 |
| MUTH OPPOSES STRICT IMMIGRATION AND BORDER SECURITY POLICIES..... | 120 |
| Muth Has Opposed A Southern Border Wall And Trump’s Proposed Muslim Ban | 120 |
| Muth Supported The Closure Of A Local ICE Facility | 121 |
| MUTH HAS OPPOSED LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO EXPAND SCHOOL CHOICE | 122 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Provide More Students The Opportunity To Attend The School Of Their Choice By Expanding The State’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit” | 122 |
| Muth Has Opposed School Vouchers..... | 122 |
| MUTH HAS OPPOSED LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS | 123 |
| In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Improves School Security By Strengthening Last Year’s School Safety And Security Law And Clarifying Policy Regarding Armed Security” | 123 |
| MUTH SUPPORTED AN EFFORT TO GRANT SPECIAL STATUS IN THE CRIMINAL CODE TO MEMBERS OF THE “MEDIA” | 124 |
| In 2019, Muth Supported An Amendment That “Would Add ‘Media Professional’ As A Protected Class In The Event Of An Assault” | 124 |
| This Amendment “To A Bill Pertaining To Aggravated Assault Would Provide Prosecutors Further Inappropriate Authority To Enhance Charges Due To The Identity Of The Victim Rather Than The Facts Of The Crime” | 125 |
| MUTH HAS VOTED TO REPORTEDLY UNDERMINE CIVIL LIBERTIES..... | 125 |
| In 2019, Muth Supported Infringing Individual Liberties By Raising The Smoking Age From 18 To 21 | 125 |
| APPENDIX A: ISSUES OF NOTE (BY SUBJECT AREA) | 126 |
| FISCAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES | 126 |
| Taxes..... | 126 |
| Overall | 126 |
| Subsidies..... | 127 |
| Dairy Investment Program..... | 127 |
| “Beginning Farmers” Program | 128 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Fees | 128 |
| Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission | 128 |
| Budgets | 129 |
| 2019 State Budget..... | 129 |
| 2021 State Budget..... | 130 |
| Social Assistance/ Welfare | 131 |
| General Assistance..... | 131 |
| TANF | 132 |
| SNAP | 132 |
| Trade | 133 |
| USMCA | 133 |
| Labor..... | 133 |
| Minimum Wage | 133 |
| Overtime Mandates..... | 134 |
| Collective Bargaining | 135 |
| Miscellaneous | 135 |
| Pension Oversight..... | 135 |
| ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT | 136 |
| Alternative Energy..... | 136 |
| Oil And Gas | 136 |
| Overall | 136 |
| Fracking | 137 |
| Tax Credits..... | 139 |
| Mariner East..... | 139 |
| Regulations | 140 |
| Emissions..... | 141 |
| RGGI..... | 141 |
| Vehicle Emissions | 143 |
| Electric Vehicle Infrastructure..... | 143 |
| Environmentalist Associations (Representatives) | 144 |
| HEALTHCARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH..... | 144 |
| Medicare For All/ Single-Payer..... | 144 |
| COVID | 144 |
| Mask Mandates | 144 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Social Distancing | 145 |
| Emergency Declaration..... | 145 |
| Legislative Oversight Of Emergency Declarations | 145 |
| Shutdowns..... | 146 |
| Reopening Of Certain Businesses | 147 |
| Reopening Real Estate Industry..... | 148 |
| Reopening Lawsuit Abuse..... | 149 |
| Restaurant And Bar Regulations..... | 150 |
| Nursing Homes | 150 |
| Business Lawsuit Protections | 150 |
| EDUCATION..... | 151 |
| School Choice..... | 151 |
| School Safety | 152 |
| Higher Education..... | 153 |
| Student Debt | 153 |
| Medical Education Loan Assistance..... | 154 |
| IMMIGRATION | 155 |
| Overall | 155 |
| ICE..... | 155 |
| LAW AND ORDER..... | 156 |
| Criminal Justice Reform..... | 156 |
| Death Penalty..... | 156 |
| Early Release (COVID)..... | 157 |
| Probation (Restitution Costs)..... | 157 |
| Drugs – Marijuana | 158 |
| Law Enforcement | 160 |
| Reforms..... | 160 |
| Rhetoric..... | 161 |
| No Knock Warrants | 163 |
| Civil Unrest | 163 |
| Special Status For “Media” | 164 |
| Utilization Of Public Resources | 165 |
| SOCIAL ISSUES | 166 |
| Abortion And Reproductive Issues | 166 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Overall | 166 |
| Pro-Choice Associations (Representative) | 169 |
| LGBTQ..... | 169 |
| Transgender Issues..... | 169 |
| Discrimination | 171 |
| Race | 171 |
| Critical Race Theory/ Structural Racism/ Anti-Racism | 171 |
| White Privilege | 174 |
| Black Lives Matter..... | 175 |
| Second Amendment..... | 175 |
| Gun Control | 175 |
| Feminism | 178 |
| REGULATORY | 178 |
| Executive Authority..... | 178 |
| Outdated Bureaucracy | 179 |
| Agricultural Buildings | 179 |
| Motorized Scooters..... | 180 |
| Telecommunications..... | 180 |
| Price Controls | 180 |
| Licensure | 181 |
| Pharmacy Technicians | 181 |
| Judicial..... | 182 |
| Judges Elections..... | 182 |
| Tort Reform | 182 |
| Civil Liberties | 183 |
| Smoking Age | 183 |
| POLITICAL | 183 |
| Ideology | 183 |
| Progressive Associations – We The People And 2018/2019 Agenda | 183 |
| Progressive Associations – Additional | 195 |
| Electoral Reforms | 196 |
| Democratic Associations | 197 |
| Barack Obama..... | 197 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| AOC..... | 197 |
| Additional Associations..... | 197 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 198 |
| Trump And 2020 Election Aftermath..... | 198 |
| Kobe Bryant..... | 199 |

EXECUTIVE SYNOPSIS

DOSSIER NOTES

In preparing this background report, we undertook an examination of all readily available and relevant electronic and online records, several hundred Nexis and news articles, dozens of active and archived web pages, and several dozen public records from Nexis and the resources of various federal, state, and municipal government offices. The results of our analysis are contained below.

Typographical Note: There are a number of articles quoted in this report that contain typographical errors. These are from the original text of the article and have not been corrected when being quoted directly.

MAIN VULNERABILITIES

Liberal Political Leanings

Muth founded and chaired a local chapter of the left-leaning organization, Indivisible. In her personal biography, Muth stated she formed and chaired an Indivisible chapter in Montgomery County. In response to Trump's 2016 victory, Indivisible created a guide to "resist the Trump [and GOP] agenda]" and help elect candidates who "fight for progressive values." To that effect, Muth has supported far-left candidates and causes. Muth contributed towards Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign. Muth also endorsed Warren's campaign. Further, Muth contributed to far-left candidates Ro Khanna and Paula Jean Swearingin, as well as liberal and progressive groups including the Working Families Party and the Progressive Change Campaign Committee.

Similarly, Muth has received funding from liberal and progressive candidates and organizations. Muth has notably received thousands of dollars from pro-abortion groups such as Emily's List and Planned Parenthood. Further, Muth has received \$1,000 from the Pennsylvania Federation of Teachers. Likewise, Muth received tens of thousands of dollars from liberal policy organizations such as Flippable and RepresentUs; as well as thousands of dollars from public and labor unions, including Pennsylvania SEIU, Bricklayers and Allied Crafters Workers Local 1, and 32BJ SEIU. In 2018 alone, Muth received more than \$200,000 from Pennsylvania Democratic Campaign Committees.

Muth is a staunch progressive, who while candidate for state senate in 2018, offered her full support for the 'We The People' agenda (which supports a wish-list of leftist policies). Among dozens of measures, the 'We The People' agenda supports increasing taxes by billions of dollars, encouraging allegations of systemic and structural racism, and supports questionable criminal justice reform measures such as the elimination of cash bail.

Muth has several ties to prominent progressive politicians, including Barack Obama, Elizabeth Warren, and Kamala Harris.

Liberal Fiscal Agenda

Muth has suggested raising corporate and income taxes and imposing a severance tax as a means to achieve property tax relief. Muth has joined a slim minority in opposing multiple bipartisan state budgets that increase education funding in a fiscally responsible way. Muth has supported the protection and expansion of welfare programs and has proposed a \$1 billion student debt relief program.

Muth has called for an increase to the minimum wage and has labeled businesses that could not afford to do so as immoral. Muth has also indicated she supports increasing overtime mandates. In 2020, Muth supported legislation that “authorizes unionization of waterways conservation officers, thus driving up taxpayer costs and making it harder for the state to dismiss poorly performing employees.”

On energy matters, Muth has been a strong advocate for alternative energy and calling for 100% of Pennsylvania energy to come from renewable sources by 2050. Muth has been an opponent of oil and gas development, particularly fracking. Muth has been steadfast in her support for imposing additional regulations on the oil and industry and has earned praise from environmentalists for her anti-growth agenda.

In 2019, Muth’s voted against legislation that “streamlines government by abolishing eight outdated boards, commissions and committees...” Muth also voted against a bill to “reduce excessive regulations that have prevented individuals from utilizing agricultural buildings” and against a bill “that “expands consumer access to broadband and other telecommunication services by repealing costly regulations...”

Muth was opposed to the ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

Embrace Of The Left’s Covid Reaction And Government-Funded Healthcare

Muth is on record as a supporter of Medicare for All.

During the covid-19 pandemic, Muth appears to have been a loyal partisan as she supported onerous covid restrictions. Even through September 2021, Muth was a defender of the imposition of school mask mandates. Muth indicated support for big government rule by opposing efforts to provide a check on the executive branch during the covid-19 pandemic. Muth voted against efforts to reopen Pennsylvania’s economy and opposed efforts to fairly reopen Pennsylvania bars and restaurants.

Social Agenda And Other Far-Left Views

Muth is known to have opposed legislation that sought to prohibit abortion of a fetus on the grounds of a genetic abnormality – a bid intended to protect persons born with down syndrome. In 2021, Muth participated in a rally in support of abortion rights and was among the speakers to criticize the Texas heartbeat abortion law. Just recently, Muth held a pro-abortion rally to express her opposition to overturning Roe V. Wade.

Muth is opposed to efforts to ban transgender persons from participating in women's sports. Additionally, Muth was among the state Senators to back a proposed reform to remove sex from birth certificates in order to better accommodate transgender individuals.

Muth has expressed support for additional gun control measures and more intensive licensing and oversight.

Muth introduced legislation to end the death penalty in Pennsylvania. Muth was among the legislators to call for the release of medically vulnerable prisoners. Muth has claimed revoking a person's probation due to failure to pay restitution costs amounted to criminalizing poverty. Finally, Muth supports ending no-knock warrants.

On education, Muth has opposed legislative efforts to expand school choice and has opposed legislative efforts to improve safety in schools.

TOP HITS

Political

Activism

- Muth founded and chair a local chapter of Indivisible.
 - In her personal biography, Muth stated she formed and chaired an Indivisible chapter in Montgomery County.
 - In response to Trump’s 2016 victory, Indivisible created a guide to “resist the Trump [and GOP] agenda]” and help elect candidates who “fight for progressive values.”

‘We The People’ Agenda

- Muth is a staunch progressive and offered her full praise and support of the 2018 ‘We The People’ agenda - which backed a leftist wish of policy reforms:
 - Increased minimum wage, including proposals for \$15 an hour, as well as additional wage and labor measures, including making it easier to unionize.
 - Questionable criminal justice reform measures such as elimination of cash bail, elimination of drug-induced homicide laws, syringe exchange programs, sentencing reform, and banning the box.
 - Alleging systemic and structural racism, particularly in the criminal justice system.
 - Massive expansion of education programs such as free college and universal pre-K.
 - Expansion of several welfare programs, including food stamps, cash assistance, and affordable housing.
 - The creation of a public option and Medicaid expansion.
 - Additional environmental regulations and transitions to affordable energy.
 - Increased taxes and fees including but not limited to, increased federal and state gas/ motor vehicle use taxes, higher corporate and individual taxes, carbon taxes, and vehicle registration fees.
 - Among the other notable taxes called for in the agenda are a "fair share"/ wealth tax and a severance tax.
 - Total tax changes called for in the agenda, total \$3 billion in increased tax revenue.
 - Radical, politicized electoral reforms.

Campaign Finance

- Muth contributed towards Elizabeth Warren’s presidential campaigns.
 - Muth also endorsed Warren’s campaign.
- Muth contributed to Ro Khanna and Paula Jean Swearingin, as well as the Working Families Party and the Progressive Change Campaign Committee.
- Muth has notably received thousands of dollars from pro-abortion groups such as Emily’s List and Planned Parenthood.
- Muth has received contributions from liberal education groups like the Pennsylvania Federation of Teachers.
- Muth received tens of thousands of dollars from liberal policy organizations such as Flippable and RepresentUs; as well as thousands of dollars from public and labor unions, including Pennsylvania SEIU, Bricklayers and Allied Crafter Workers Local 1, and 32BJ SEIU.
- In 2018, Muth received more than \$200,000 from Pennsylvania Democratic Campaign Committees.

Additional Progressive Ties

- Muth is also associated with other progressive groups and has been lauded and endorsed by progressive national Democrats.

Miscellaneous

- Muth opposed an effort to expand voter influence by establishing judicial districts.
- Muth, opposed a resolution commemorating the life of Kobe Bryant following his untimely death.

Policy

Fiscal

- Muth has signaled support for raising corporate and income taxes.
- Muth opposed budgets that increased educational spending.
- Muth has supported protection and expansion of welfare programs.
- Muth supported legislation that raises fees assessed on fishing and boating.
- Muth proposed a \$1 billion student debt relief program.
- Muth supported an effort to continue the state’s socialization of certain student loans.

- Muth has supported the expansion of ‘cronyism’ through providing select taxpayer-funded subsidies.
- Muth opposed a reform effort to “ensure taxpayer resources are best utilized” in the criminal justice system.

Labor

- Muth has supported increasing wage mandates on Pennsylvania businesses.
- Muth has sided with organized labor reportedly over the interests of taxpayers.

Energy, Environment

- Muth has been a strong advocate for alternative energy and calling for 100% of Pennsylvania energy to come from renewable sources by 2050.
- Muth has been an opponent of oil and gas development, particularly fracking.
- Muth appears supportive of a cap-and-trade program that will drive up utility costs.
- Muth has opposed efforts to reduce the costs of car ownership.
- Muth has earned praise for environmentalist tendencies.

Economic - Miscellaneous

- Muth has supported the growth of Pennsylvania’s regulatory regime.
- Muth has opposed tort reform.
- Muth opposed ratification of the USMCA.

Healthcare And Covid

- Muth backs ‘Medicare For All’.
- Muth supported Covid restrictions, including school mask mandates.
- Muth indicated support for expanding government rule by opposing efforts to provide a check on the executive branch during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Muth voted against efforts to reopen Pennsylvania’s economy.
- Muth opposed efforts to reopen Pennsylvania bars and restaurants.
- Muth indicated support for potential lawsuit abuse against Pennsylvania businesses amid the Covid-19 fallout.

Criminal Justice

- Muth has called for criminal justice reforms:

- Muth introduced legislation to end the death penalty in Pennsylvania.
- Muth was among the legislators to call for the release of medically vulnerable prisoners.
- Muth has claimed revoking a person's probation due to failure to pay restitution costs amounted to criminalizing poverty.
- Muth supports ending no-knock warrants.

Education

- Muth has opposed legislative efforts to expand school choice.
- Muth has opposed legislative efforts to improve safety in schools.

Miscellaneous

- Muth supported an effort to grant special status in the criminal code to members of the "media".
- Muth has voted to raise the smoking age.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION: KATIE MUTH

Full Name: Katie Jennifer Muth (née McIlnay)

DOB: September 20, 1983 (38)

Marital Status: Married

Spouse: Trevor Douglas Muth
DOB: July 22, 1988 (33)

Children: N/A

Voter Registration: Registered Democrat – Montgomery County, PA

Education: 2011 – 2013 M.S., Athletic Training, A.T. State University
2007 – 2011 B.S., Athletic Training, Pennsylvania State University

Employment: 2019 – Pres. Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate, SD-44
2016 – 2019 Chair, Indivisible Montgomery County
Unk. – 2019 Athletic Trainer and Adjunct Professor, Eastern University

Associations: Unk.

Business Interests: N/A

Military Service: N/A

Election Results: 2018 Pennsylvania State Senate, SD-44 (General, Won)

Web Sites: <https://www.katiemuthforpasenate.com/>
<https://www.senatormuth.com/>
<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/>
<https://ballotpedia.org/>
<https://justfacts.votesmart.org/>
<https://en.wikipedia.org/>

Social Media: [Facebook](#) (Personal)
[Facebook](#) (Campaign)
[Facebook](#) (Official)
[Twitter](#) (Personal, Private)
[Twitter](#) (Campaign)



[Twitter](#) (Official)
[Instagram](#) (Campaign)
[Instagram](#) (Official)

ELECTION RESULTS

Katie Muth has been serving as Pennsylvania State Senator for District 44 since winning her election in 2018.

2018 General Election, Pennsylvania State Senate, District 44

General Election Results (November 6, 2018)

| Candidate | Party | Vote Total |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Katie Muth | DEM | 27,500 |
| John Rafferty | REP | 23,758 |

(Official Election Results, [Pennsylvania Department Of State](#), 11/6/18)

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Katie Muth has not yet reported any campaign finance-related documents for her current campaign.

In 2018, Muth received an aggregate of \$1,298,345 for her initial campaign for the Pennsylvania State Senate. Muth received more than \$200,000 between the Democratic State Senate Campaign Committee of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Democratic Party. Muth received tens of thousands of dollars from liberal policy organizations such as Flippable and RepresentUs and has additionally received tens of thousands of dollars from unions such as the Pennsylvania SEIU, Bricklayers And Allied Crafter Workers Local 1, and 32BJ SEIU. Further, Muth received \$1,000 from the Pennsylvania Federation of Teachers, as well as \$5,500 from pro-abortion groups, including Emily's List and Planned Parenthood.

Individually, Muth has contributed an aggregate of \$13,090.32 to federal and statewide campaign committees. Federally, Muth has contributed \$633, giving over \$125 to Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign. Muth has additionally contributed to Ro Khanna and Paula Jean Swearingin, as well as liberal and progressive groups including the Working Families Party and the Progressive Change Campaign Committee. At the state level, Muth has contributed \$12,457.32 to campaign committees in the state of Pennsylvania; however, more than \$10,000 went towards her own campaign. Muth has additionally contributed to various Democratic candidates and committees throughout the state.

Be The Change PA (2022)

Notable Contributions

NOTE: *Muth has not yet reported any campaign finance-related documents for her current campaign.*

Be The Change PA (2018)

Notable Contributions

In 2018, Muth Received An Aggregate Of \$624,916 In Total Contributions For Her Campaign For The Pennsylvania State Senate. (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

- **In 2018, Muth Received \$144,473 From The Democratic State Senate Campaign Of Pennsylvania.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$59,210 From The Pennsylvania Democratic Party.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$32,500 From Flippable.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$25,000 From The Fairness PA PAC.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$15,850 From The PA Blue Victory Fund.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$14,000 From RepresentUs.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Contributed \$10,375 To Her Own Campaign.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$9,290 From The Pennsylvania SEIU.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$9,000 From Ascend PAC.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$4,500 From Emily's List.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$4,000 From The Bricklayers And Allied Crafter Workers Local 1.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$2,500 From 32BJ SEIU.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$2,000 From People For The American Way Fund.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$1,000 From Planned Parenthood For Pennsylvania.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$1,000 From The Philadelphia Federation Of Teachers.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

Individual Contributions

Federal Election Commission

According To The Federal Election Commission, Muth Has Contributed An Aggregate Of \$633 To Federal Campaign Committee. ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

- **Between 2021 And 2022, Muth Contributed \$563 To ActBlue.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **Between 2019 And 2020, Muth Earmarked \$126 To Warren For President.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2020, Muth Earmarked \$100 To Paula Jean For West Virginia.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2020, Muth Earmarked \$100 To The Pennsylvania Democratic Party.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **Between 2020 And 2022, Muth Earmarked \$85 To The Working Families Party National PAC.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **Between 2020 And 2022, Muth Earmarked \$45 To The Progressive Change Campaign Committee.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2018, Muth Earmarked \$40 To Democratic Jewish Outreach PA.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **Between 2020 And 2021, Muth Earmarked \$25 To Ro For Congress.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2020, Muth Earmarked \$20 To Vote Vets.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2018, Muth Earmarked \$5 To Elizabeth For MA.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2018, Muth Earmarked \$5 To Hiral For Congress.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2018, Muth Earmarked \$5 To Lamb For Congress.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2018, Muth Earmarked \$3 To Democrats Work For America.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2018, Muth Earmarked \$3 To Sharice For Congress.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
 - **In 2017, Muth Earmarked \$1 To Randy Bryce For Congress.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2020, Muth Contributed \$70 To Warren For President, Inc.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

Pennsylvania Department Of State

According To The Pennsylvania Department Of State, Muth Has Contributed An Aggregate Of \$12,457.32 To Campaign Committees In The Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania. (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

- **In 2018, Muth Contributed \$10,375 To Her Own Campaign.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **Between 2018 2021, Muth Contributed \$849 To The Montgomery County Democratic Committee.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2020, Muth Contributed \$258.32 To Friends Of Shanna Danielson.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Contributed \$200 To The Committee To Elect Kristin Seale.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **Between 2018 And 2021, Muth Contributed \$195 To The Chester County Democratic Committee.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2017, Muth Contributed \$180 To Eric Pritchard.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2019, Muth Contributed \$125 To The Montgomery County Democratic Women's Led Initiative.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Contributed \$100 To The Chester County Democratic Committee.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2021, Muth Contributed \$100 To Ricky's Pride.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2020, Muth Contributed \$75 To Friends Of Collegeville Democrats.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

VOTING RECORDS

According to the Pennsylvania Department of State, Katie Muth is currently an actively-registered Democratic Party voter in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Montgomery County, PA

According To The Pennsylvania Department Of State, Muth Is Currently An Actively-Registered Democratic Party Voter In Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. ([Pennsylvania Department Of State](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

| YOUR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS | | YOUR MAILING ADDRESS |
|---|------------|----------------------|
| 85 HANNAH CT | | |
| ROYERSFORD PA 19468 | | |
| Is your information up to date? | | |
| If you need to update your voter registration, please visit vote.pa.gov/Register and submit an online voter registration application. | | |
| VOTER RECORD DETAILS | | |
| Status: | ACTIVE | |
| Date of Birth: | 9/20/1983 | |
| Party: | DEMOCRATIC | |
| Are you an annual mail-in or absentee voter? | YES | |

([Pennsylvania Department Of State](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

***NOTE:** Researcher currently awaits potentially responsive records relating to Muth’s voter information from Montgomery County.*

PUBLIC COMPENSATION

***NOTE:** Researcher currently awaits responsive records relating to Katie Muth’s compensation while serving in the Pennsylvania State Senate.*

CRIMINAL RECORDS

Katie Muth has received at least one traffic citation for which she paid a \$154.50 fine.

Traffic Citation

In March 2022, Muth Received A Traffic Citation For Violating Turnpike Rules In Bedford County, Pennsylvania. (Case No. MJ-57301-TR-0000203-2022, Bedford County Clerk Of Court, Filed 3/6/22)

| CASE INFORMATION | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Judge Assigned:</u> | Magisterial District Judge Tonya M. Osman | <u>Issue Date:</u> | 03/06/2022 |
| <u>OTN:</u> | | <u>File Date:</u> | 03/06/2022 |
| <u>Arresting Agency:</u> | Everett PSP | <u>Arrest Date:</u> | |
| <u>Citation No.:</u> | T 9549643-5 | <u>Incident No.:</u> | PA 2022-280510 |
| <u>Disposition:</u> | Guilty Plea | <u>Disposition Date:</u> | 03/10/2022 |
| <u>County:</u> | Bedford | <u>Township:</u> | Juniata Township |
| <u>Case Status:</u> | Closed | | |
| STATUS INFORMATION | | | |
| <u>Case Status</u> | <u>Status Date</u> | <u>Processing Status</u> | |
| Closed | 03/11/2022 | Completed | |
| | 03/11/2022 | Case Balance Due | |
| | 03/10/2022 | Case Disposed/Penalty Imposed | |
| | 03/10/2022 | Awaiting Sentencing | |
| | 03/06/2022 | Awaiting Plea | |
| DEFENDANT INFORMATION | | | |
| <u>Name:</u> | Muth, Katie Jennifer | <u>Sex:</u> | Female |
| <u>Date of Birth:</u> | 09/20/1983 | <u>Race:</u> | Unknown/Unreported |
| <u>Address(es):</u> | | | |
| Home | | | |
| Royersford, PA 19468 | | | |
| CASE PARTICIPANTS | | | |
| <u>Participant Type</u> | <u>Participant Name</u> | | |
| Arresting Officer | Hoffman, Donald J. | | |
| Defendant | Muth, Katie Jennifer | | |
| CHARGES | | | |
| <u># Charge</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Offense Dt.</u> <u>Disposition</u> |
| 1 75 § 6110 §§ A | S | Viol Rules Pa Turnpike Comm | 03/06/2022 Guilty Plea |
| DISPOSITION / SENTENCING DETAILS | | | |
| <u>Case Disposition</u> | <u>Disposition Date</u> | <u>Was Defendant Present?</u> | |
| Guilty Plea | 03/10/2022 | No | |
| <u>Offense Seq./Description</u> | <u>Offense Disposition</u> | | |
| 1 Viol Rules Pa Turnpike Comm | Guilty Plea | | |

(Case No. MJ-57301-TR-0000203-2022, Bedford County Clerk Of Court, Filed 3/6/22)

- **Muth Paid A \$154.50 Fine For The Citation.** (Case No. MJ-57301-TR-0000203-2022, Bedford County Clerk Of Court, Filed 3/6/22)

POLICE RECORDS

NOTE: No immediately actionable information pertaining to Katie Muth could be gleaned from municipal police records.

REAL PROPERTY RECORDS

NOTE: Katie Muth does not own any real property.

BANKRUPTCIES, JUDGMENTS, & LIENS RECORDS

NOTE: No bankruptcies, judgments, or lien records could be found for Katie Muth.

LEGAL ISSUES

NOTE: No legal issues could be found for Katie Muth.

BUSINESS RECORDS

NOTE: No business records could be found for Katie Muth.

NON-PROFIT RECORDS

NOTE: No non-profit records could be found for Katie Muth.

PROFESSIONAL & RECREATIONAL LICENSES

Katie Muth became a licensed trainer in the state of Pennsylvania on September 1, 2015. Muth's license expired on December 31, 2018. No disciplinary actions could be found against Muth.

Athletic Trainer

Pennsylvania

Muth Became A Licensed Athletic Trainer In The State Of Pennsylvania On September 1, 2015. ([Pennsylvania Secretary Of State](#), Accessed 5/13/22)

License Information

KATIE J MCILNAY-MUTH

Royersford, Pennsylvania 19468

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Board/Commission: | Medicine ⓘ | Status Effective Date: | 1/1/2019 |
| LicenseType: | Athletic Trainer | Issue Date: | 9/1/2015 |
| Specialty Type: | | Expiration Date: | 12/31/2018 |
| License Number: | RT006289 | Last Renewal: | 12/29/2016 |
| Status: | Expired | | |

Disciplinary Action Details

No disciplinary actions were found for this license.

([Pennsylvania Secretary Of State](#), Accessed 5/13/22)

- **Muth's License Expired On December 31, 2018.** ([Pennsylvania Secretary Of State](#), Accessed 5/13/22)
- **No Disciplinary Actions Could Be Found Against Muth.** ([Pennsylvania Secretary Of State](#), Accessed 5/13/22)

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

On her 2021 Statement of Financial Interests, Katie Muth declared she was employed as a Pennsylvania State Senator and that she earned income from her position; Muth also earned income from Amazon. Muth declared two creditors, both of which appear to be student loans. Muth disclosed she held no office or directorships, had any business interests, or received any gifts.

2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, Pennsylvania State Senate

Occupation

In 2021, Muth Declared She Was A Pennsylvania State Senator. (2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

06 Occupation or Profession

Current Occupation State Senator
or Profession * (?)

(2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

Creditors

In 2021, Muth Declared Fed Loan Servicing As A Creditor. (2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

In 2021, Muth Declared American Education Services As A Creditor. (2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

| Creditors | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Name * (?) | Fedloan Servicing |
| <hr/> | |
| Name * (?) | American Education Services |
| Address (?) | PO BOX 61047 |
| City * | Harrisburg |
| State * | PA |
| Zip Code | 17106 |
| Interest Rate * | 6.7 |
| | Exclude the "%" symbol |

(2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

Income

In 2021, Muth Declared She Received Income From The Pennsylvania State Senate. (2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

In 2021, Muth Declared She Received Income From Amazon. (2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

| Source of Income | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Name * (?) | Senate of Pennsylvania | |
| Address * (?) | Street Address | |
| | Office of Chief Clerk | |
| | Address Line 2 | |
| | Room 104, North Office Building | |
| | City | State / Province / Region |
| | Harrisburg | PA |
| Postal / Zip Code | Country | |
| 19468 | | |
| <hr/> | | |
| Name * (?) | Amazon.com Inc. | |
| Address * (?) | Street Address | |
| | 410 Terry Ave. North | |
| | Address Line 2 | |
| | City | State / Province / Region |
| | Seattle | WA |
| | Postal / Zip Code | Country |
| 81226 | | |

(2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

Gifts

In 2021, Muth Declared She Did Not Receive Any Gifts. (2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

| 11 Gifts | |
|---|--|
| Have you received any reportable gifts? * (?) | |
| <hr/> | |
| No | |
| Gifts Disclaimer * | By selecting "No" above, you are indicating that you did not receive any reportable gift(s) during the calendar year for which you are filing this Statement of Financial Interests. By checking the "I Accept" checkbox below, you are acknowledging your understanding that if reportable gift(s) were received and are not included on this form you are subject to all applicable penalties. |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I Accept |

(2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

Office Or Directorships

In 2021, Muth Declared No Office Or Directorships In Any Business. (2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

13 Office, Directorship, or Employment in any Business

Did you hold any office, directorship, or employment in any business for the calendar year for which you are reporting? * (?)

No

(2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

Business Interests

In 2021, Muth Declared She Held No Business Interests. (2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

14 Financial Interest in any Legal Entity in Business for Profit

Do you have a reportable financial interest in any legal entity in business for profit? * (?)

No

(2021 Statement Of Financial Interests, [Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 3/9/22)

MUTH'S LIBERAL POLITICAL LEANINGS

Muth founded and chaired a local chapter of Indivisible. In her personal biography, Muth stated she formed and chaired an Indivisible chapter in Montgomery County. In response to Trump's 2016 victory, Indivisible created a guide to "resist the Trump [and GOP] agenda" and help elect candidates who "fight for progressive values."

Muth contributed towards Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign. Muth also endorsed Warren's campaign. Further, Muth has contributed to Ro Khanna and Paula Jean Swearingin, as well as liberal and progressive groups including the Working Families Party and the Progressive Change Campaign Committee.

Muth has notably received thousands of dollars from pro-abortion groups such as Emily's List and Planned Parenthood. Further, Muth has received \$1,000 from the Pennsylvania Federation of Teachers. Likewise, Muth received tens of thousands of dollars from liberal policy organizations such as Flippable and RepresentUs; as well as thousands of dollars from public and labor unions, including Pennsylvania SEIU, Bricklayers and Allied Crafter Workers Local 1, and 32BJ SEIU. In 2018 alone, Muth received more than \$200,000 from Pennsylvania Democratic Campaign Committees.

MUTH FOUNDED AND CHAIRED A LOCAL CHAPTER OF INDIVISIBLE

On Her Official Biography, Muth Claims To Have "[Formed] And Chaired Indivisible [Montgomery County]"

On Her Official Biography, Muth Claims To Have "[Formed] And Chaired Indivisible [Montgomery County]." "Born and raised in western Pennsylvania, Senator Muth's background and experience instilled a fervor for citizen activism and service. She was educated at Penn State where she earned a bachelor's degree in Athletic Trainers, and obtained her master's degree at A.T. Still University of Health Sciences in Mesa, Arizona. While completing her master's thesis, she promoted health care for student athletes and studied concussion-related injuries at high schools in the Phoenix area. Senator Muth most recently served as an adjunct professor of kinesiology at a local university, while also practicing sports medicine. Senator Muth got her start in politics as a volunteer in political campaigns before moving on to form and chair Indivisible Mid Montco." (About, [Senator Muth](#), Accessed 5/13/22)

Indivisible Created A "Guide To Resist The Trump Agenda" And The "GOP Agenda" By Electing Candidates Who "Fight For Progressive Policies"

Indivisible Created A "Guide To Resist The Trump Agenda" And The "GOP Agenda" By Electing Candidates Who "Fight For Progressive Policies." "Action by action, day by day, group by group, Indivisibles are remaking our democracy. Brought together by a practical guide to resist the Trump agenda, Indivisible is a movement of thousands of group leaders and more than a million members taking regular, iterative, and increasingly complex actions to resist the GOPs agenda, elect local champions, and fight for progressive policies. They make calls. They

show up. They speak with their neighbors. They organize. And through that work, they've built hundreds of mini-movements in support of their local values. And now, after practice, training, and repetition, they've built lasting power on their home turf and a massive, collective political muscle ready to be exercised each and every day in every corner of the country.” (About, [Indivisible](#), Accessed 5/13/22)

Indivisible Was “Founded In Response To Trump’s Election”

Indivisible Was “Founded In Response To Trump’s Election.” “Indivisible was founded in response to Trump’s election - but we know that Trump is a symptom of a sick democracy, not its cause. We face two fundamental problems: first, our democracy was rigged from the start in favor of the white and wealthy. Second, in the last few decades, an alliance of white nationalists and the ultra-rich have been actively working to further undermine democracy and cement their hold on power permanently. That’s how we ended up with Trump.” (About, [Indivisible](#), Accessed 5/13/22)

MUTH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO LEFT-WING CANDIDATES AND CAUSES

Muth Has Contributed \$456 To Candidates And Committees Who May Be Considered Far-Left

Muth Has Contributed \$456 To Candidates And Committees Who May Be Considered Far-Left. ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

- **Between 2019 And 2020, Muth Earmarked \$196 To Warren For President.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2020, Muth Earmarked \$100 To Paula Jean For West Virginia.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
- **Between 2020 And 2022, Muth Earmarked \$85 To The Working Families Party National PAC.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
- **Between 2020 And 2022, Muth Earmarked \$45 To The Progressive Change Campaign Committee.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
- **Between 2020 And 2021, Muth Earmarked \$25 To Ro For Congress.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Earmarked \$5 To Elizabeth For MA.** ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

MUTH BEEN FUNDED BY PRO-ABORTION GROUPS

Since 2018, Muth Has Received \$5,500 From Pro-Abortion Groups

Since 2018, Muth Has Received \$5,500 From Pro-Abortion Groups. (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

- **In 2018, Muth Received \$4,500 From Emily’s List.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$1,000 From Planned Parenthood For Pennsylvania.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

MUTH HAS BEEN FUNDED BY LIBERAL POLICY ORGANIZATIONS

Since 2018, Muth Has Received More Than \$200,000 From Liberal Policy Organizations

Since 2018, Muth Has Received More Than \$200,000 From Liberal Policy Organizations. (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

- **In 2018, Muth Received \$32,500 From Flippable.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$25,000 From The Fairness PA PAC.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$15,850 From The PA Blue Victory Fund.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$14,000 From RepresentUs.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$9,000 From Ascend PAC.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$2,000 From People For The American Way Fund.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

MUTH HAS BEEN FUNDED BY LIBERAL EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONS

Since 2018, Muth Has Received \$1,000 From Liberal Education Organizations

Since 2018, Muth Has Received \$1,000 From Liberal Education Organizations. (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

- **In 2018, Muth Received \$1,000 From The Philadelphia Federation Of Teachers.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

MUTH HAS BEEN FUNDED BY PUBLIC SECTION AND LABOR UNIONS

Since 2018, Muth Has Received More Than \$16,000 From Trade And Labor Unions

Since 2018, Muth Has Received More Than \$16,000 From Trade And Labor Unions. (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

- **In 2018, Muth Received \$9,290 From The Pennsylvania SEIU.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$4,000 From The Bricklayers And Allied Crafter Workers Local 1.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$2,500 From 32BJ SEIU.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

MUTH HAS BEEN FUNDED BY PENNSYLVANIA DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN COMMITTEES

Since 2018, Muth Has Received Nearly \$75,000 From Pennsylvania Democratic Campaign Committees

Since 2018, Muth Has Received Nearly \$75,000 From Pennsylvania Democratic Campaign Committees. (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

- **In 2018, Muth Received \$144,473 From The Democratic State Senate Campaign Of Pennsylvania.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)
- **In 2018, Muth Received \$59,210 From The Pennsylvania Democratic Party.** (Pennsylvania Department Of State, Accessed 5/12/22)

MUTH IS A STAUNCH PROGRESSIVE AND OFFERED HER FULL PRAISE AND SUPPORT OF THE 2018 ‘WE THE PEOPLE’ AGENDA - WHICH BACKED A LEFTIST WISH OF POLICY REFORMS

In 2018, Muth Was Among The Candidates To Endorse The “Progressive” Agenda Laid Out By We The People Pennsylvania Action, Which Called For Higher Wages And Implicitly Higher Taxes On High Earners

In 2018, Muth Was Among The Candidates To Endorse The “Progressive” Agenda Laid Out By We The People Pennsylvania Action, Which Called For Higher Wages And Implicitly Higher Taxes On High Earners. “Organizations often endorse a candidate and his or her agenda. We the People-Pennsylvania Action, on the other hand, asks candidates to embrace its agenda. Three Democrats running for seats in the Pennsylvania General Assembly endorsed the group's progressive agenda Wednesday afternoon with podium speeches at Penn and Fifth streets in Reading. Michael Blicher Jr. of Kutztown, Doug Metcalfe of Robeson Township and Katie Muth of Royersford, Montgomery County, stood with the group on its six-point agenda: Raise wages and improve working conditions. Adequately and equitably fund education. Protect rights to the necessities of life, including health care and housing. Invest in infrastructure and safeguard the environment. Fix the rigged tax system. Secure democracy and make sure all have a voice in government. "We want to set a new direction for the state other than cut taxes and cut spending," said We the People State Director Marc Stier, who says the group is nonpartisan. "Republicans control the General Assembly, and they want to cut taxes on rich people and cut spending on the middle class and the poor.” (Reading Eagle, 10/11/18)

Muth: “As A Working-Class Person And As A Working-Class Candidate, There Are A Lot Of Things In This Platform That Reflect My Values...”

Muth: “As A Working-Class Person And As A Working-Class Candidate, There Are A Lot Of Things In This Platform That Reflect My Values, Especially Wage Equality, Not Just For Women And Non-White, Working-Class Males, But Wages Across The Board Have Not Gone Up.” “Muth wants to see workers earn higher wages. "The agenda is very people-focused," Muth said. "As a working-class person and as a working-class candidate, there are a lot of things in this platform that reflect my values, especially wage equality, not just for women and non-white, working-class males, but wages across the board have not gone up. We need to make a shift so people can earn a fair wage." Muth is challenging state Sen. John Rafferty, a Montgomery County Republican, in the 44th District.” (*Reading Eagle*, 10/11/18)

VIDEO: In September 2018, At A Rally Unveiling The We The People Agenda, Muth Is Recognized As Among The Candidates To Support The Agenda

VIDEO: In September 2018, At A Rally Unveiling The We The People Agenda, Muth Is Recognized As Among The Candidates To Support The Agenda. ([We The People Facebook Page](#), Posted 9/27/18; Minute 20:30)



([We The People Facebook Page](#), Posted 9/27/18; Minute 20:30)

We The People Called For A “Much Higher” State Minimum Wage (With An Increase To \$15 An Hour) And Indexing The State Minimum Wage To Inflation

We The People Called For A “Much Higher” State Minimum Wage (With An Increase To \$15 An Hour) And Indexing The State Minimum Wage To Inflation. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvania policy needs to restore balance in our economy rather than continuing to step on the scale on the side of employers and the rich:

- Raise and enforce labor-market standards that ensure basic fairness for
 - lower-wage workers through a much higher state minimum wage, elimination of the tipped minimum wage, and indexing of the minimum wage to inflation;

THE SOLUTION

We recommend that policymakers raise the minimum wage gradually with the aim of setting it at \$15 by 2024, thereafter making small annual adjustments to maintain the purchasing power of the minimum relative to the median wage.

The results of increasing the minimum wage will be good for workers, their families, and the economy.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Called For Phasing Out The Tipped Minimum Wage – A Measure Known To Have Drawn Criticism From Restaurant And Food Service Businesses

We The People Called For Phasing Out The Tipped Minimum Wage – A Measure Known To Have Drawn Criticism From Restaurant And Food Service Businesses. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

We recommend streamlining Pennsylvania's minimum wage law by phasing out the tipped minimum wage by 2025. The Economic Policy Institute estimates that raising the tipped minimum in Pennsylvania to \$5.25 immediately, while boosting the minimum wage to \$9, would increase the wages of 161,688 tipped workers. Two other subminimum wages that policymakers sometimes propose include subminimum wages for younger workers or subminimum wages for workers in small business. These provisions generally do more harm than good by giving employers an incentive to discriminate in hiring by age or by subsidizing inefficient firms.⁵

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Called For Proactive Government Measures To Increase Wages, Such As Prevailing Wage Laws

We The People Called For Proactive Government Measures To Increase Wages, Such As Prevailing Wage Laws. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

The state should systematically analyze how its funding and regulatory authority interact with wages throughout the economy—including in caregiving, health care, truck driving, manufacturing, and residential construction. The state should use its funding and regulatory authority to raise wages, especially where doing this would deliver multiple benefits—better jobs and other positive impacts, such as higher quality human services or fewer traffic fatalities in accidents involving trucks. One model for how to lift wages is the state's prevailing wage law in construction.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Called For Measures To Strengthen Unions And Make It Easier To Organize

We The People Called For Measures To Strengthen Unions And Make It Easier To Organize. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Public policy and elected officials that support unions need to help unions grow in both the public and private sectors.

- Unions in the public sector are a big part of today's labor movement. Helping them remain strong in the context of unprecedented attacks is vital.
- The private sector is most of the economy and where the next generation of unions is already being born.

Some specific ways lawmakers and other public officials can bolster unions:

- Make it easier for public sector workers to form a union. Replace the lengthy, bureaucratic process currently in place with a simple card check process that allows a majority of workers to form a union.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Called For More Accepting Treatment Of Ex-Convicts Seeking Employment, Including Ban The Box Measures To Prevent Employers From Asking About Criminal History

We The People Called For More Accepting Treatment Of Ex-Convicts Seeking Employment, Including Ban The Box Measures To Prevent Employers From Asking About Criminal History. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **Reduce barriers to good jobs and increase job opportunities for ex-offenders.**
 - o. Support a dignity-based approach for ex-offenders. People released from jail should not continue to be degraded and marginalized; they should be encouraged to contribute and integrate back into society. Compared to similar countries, the United States tends to continue to punish and stigmatize those with criminal records beyond their actual sentence. This has numerous collateral consequences for those getting out of jail.¹² Pennsylvania has taken steps towards a dignity-based model, including the passage of clean slate legislation (passed in the summer of 2018) which allows those with minor convictions to get their records sealed so that it does not serve as a barrier to employment or housing.
 - p. Support Ban the Box laws and other fair hiring policies: Ban the Box laws are policies that remove the check-box from job applications, indicating whether an applicant has ever been convicted of a crime. While there has been debate in the literature as to the impact of Ban the Box, multiple studies have shown that Ban the Box laws have been effective at getting more

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For Free Tuition For Students Enrolled At The Public Colleges And Universities And Universal Pre-K

We The People Calls For Free Tuition For Students Enrolled At The Public Colleges And Universities And Universal Pre-K. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

- Adequately and equitably fund K-12 education by substantially increasing state funding through the fair funding formula.
- Provide free college tuition for students at state system schools, state-related universities, and community colleges, and provide grants for job training/apprenticeship programs that are closely tied to jobs that pay good wages.
- Make pre-kindergarten and early childhood education available and affordable to all families.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For Additional K-12 Educational Funding, Up To \$3.7 Billion Over Ten Years, By Adjustments To The Fair Funding Formula

We The People Calls For Additional K-12 Educational Funding, Up To \$3.7 Billion Over Ten Years, By Adjustments To The Fair Funding Formula. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvania must:

- Increase basic education funding, run through the fair funding formula, by at least \$3.7 billion over a number of years. Increased state funding

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For A Protection And Expansion Of Several Welfare And Social Assistance Programs Such As SNAP, Cash Assistance/ TANF, And Affordable Housing

We The People Calls For A Protection And Expansion Of Several Welfare And Social Assistance Programs Such As SNAP, Cash Assistance/ TANF, And Affordable Housing.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvania should deepen and strengthen its safety net to ensure all residents of our state can afford the necessities of life.

- Enact a Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance (PFMLI) system in which everyone pays a small amount per month into the system and can then draw benefit from it when they need it.
- End hunger in Pennsylvania by protecting and expanding SNAP in Pennsylvania, passing the Pennsylvania Fresh Financing Initiative to reduce the number of food deserts in the state and expanding the number of children benefiting from free and reduced lunch, breakfast, and summer meals.
- Expand child care programs in Pennsylvania by increasing funds for child care services to ensure all low-income families with eligible children can get access to subsidized child care; increase reimbursement rates for child care providers so they can pay their workers a living wage and meet required safety guidelines.
- Protect and expand cash assistance programs by restoring the state's General Assistance program and improving TANF so it better serves low-income Pennsylvanians.
- Substantially increase the availability of affordable and safe housing in Pennsylvania by passing a state low-income housing tax credit; increase

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People's Calls For SNAP Protection And Expansion Includes Expanding Program Eligibility To 200 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Level

We The People's Calls For SNAP Protection And Expansion Includes Expanding Program Eligibility To 200 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Level. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **Protect and expand SNAP benefits.** In the face of mounting attacks on SNAP on both the federal and state level, the General Assembly must protect access to this important program, rejecting all efforts to impose work requirements that will kick people off the program because of administrative red tape and burdensome reporting requirements. The General Assembly should also take steps to increase SNAP participation from 90% to 98% by strengthening outreach for the program.⁵
- **The Department of Human Services should increase the SNAP income threshold to 200% of the federal poverty line.** By using the categorical eligibility rules for SNAP, states can choose to increase the gross income threshold. Nationally, it is set at 130% of the federal poverty line. Pennsylvania has increased eligibility to 200% of the federal poverty line for seniors and people with disabilities but only increased it to 160% for everyone else. Pennsylvania can, and should, go further and increase it to 200% for all families/individuals so that more people in need can get access to SNAP benefits.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People’s Calls For Welfare Protection And Expansion Includes Nearly Doubling TANF Cash Grants And The Protection Of The Controversial General Assistance Program

We The People’s Calls For Welfare Protection And Expansion Includes Nearly Doubling TANF Cash Grants And The Protection Of The Controversial General Assistance Program. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Pennsylvania should protect the General Assistance program which was reinstated in 2018 and improve the TANF program so that it better serves low-income Pennsylvanians. Cash benefits should be increased, and the earned income disregard should be increased, as well, to further strengthen the program. The following proposals will attain these goals.

- **Protect and Expand General Assistance:** General Assistance was eliminated in Pennsylvania by legislation in 2012. Due to a positive ruling by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the program has been restored. But as in 2012, it is vulnerable to attack by the General Assembly. We should protect the newly re-established General Assistance program and make sure outreach efforts are done effectively so those that need this support can access it. Moving forward, we should consider increasing the benefit from its 1990 grant level.
- **Raise the TANF Cash Grants:** TANF grants to Pennsylvania families have not increased since 1990. Had grants kept up with inflation, a grant for a family of three would be \$721/month instead of the current \$403/month. The state should increase its grant amounts and factor in a cost-of-living adjustment so that Pennsylvania’s poorest families

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For The Creation Of A Public Option For Health Insurance And The Expansion Of Medicaid

We The People Calls For The Creation Of A Public Option For Health Insurance And The Expansion Of Medicaid. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- Make quality, affordable health care accessible to all by creating a public health insurance option in the health care exchanges, enacting regulatory reform that reduces health insurance costs, protecting people's access to doctors as their insurance changes, and expanding coverage under Medicaid.
- Combat the opioid epidemic by making it easier for people to access medication-assisted treatment for substance abuse disorder, repealing counterproductive drug laws, making Naloxone more widely available and training people on its use, and protecting Medicaid and other social services that help people suffering from opioid abuse.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For The Elimination Of Drug Induced Homicide Laws And The Establishment Of Syringe Exchange Programs

We The People Calls For The Elimination Of Drug Induced Homicide Laws And The Establishment Of Syringe Exchange Programs. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Repeal Counterproductive Drug Laws

- Drug-induced homicide laws allow charges of murder or manslaughter to be brought against persons involved in the manufacturing, sale, distribution or delivery of a controlled substance resulting in death. Pennsylvania is leading the charge here—the Commonwealth ranked number one in the nation for the number of drug-induced homicide charges brought. For this same crime, people of color on average receive much higher sentences than that of white individuals.⁷ Though these laws are generally brought forward with good intentions, they are harmful, target some of our most vulnerable populations, and should be eliminated.
- Similarly, laws that discourage doctors from providing legitimate pain treatment that sometimes includes the use of opioids often have unintended victims—people who are suffering from severe pain that sometimes cannot be treated in other ways. These laws can drive some pain patients to seek out alternatives, increasing the demand for heroin or unregulated prescription drugs sold on the street. We should be educating doctors and patients about the risks of substance misuse yet trusting them to make the best decisions about their medical needs.⁸
- In order to set up syringe exchange programs and harm reduction centers, Pennsylvania needs to pass HB196 or a similar law that legalizes syringes and enables advocates and public health departments to set up syringe exchange services. Syringe service

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For Alternative And Lighter Sentencing For Low-Level Drug Crimes

We The People Calls For Alternative And Lighter Sentencing For Low-Level Drug Crimes. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- Reduce sentences and create alternatives to incarceration for low-level drug crimes. (See our “End Overincarceration” policy piece for more information.) Revise drugs laws to be consistent with understanding substance use disorder as a health issue not a criminal justice issue.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For Additional Environmental Regulations And Transitions To Alternative Energy

We The People Calls For Additional Environmental Regulations And Transitions To Alternative Energy. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- Protect our air and water by: updating and vigorously enforcing environmental laws to meet current challenges—especially for natural gas drilling; strengthen the public entities tasked with protecting our air and water; and pass legislation to address lead in drinking water.
- Rehabilitate blighted land and preserve open spaces.
- Transition rapidly to renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power. These energy sources are becoming more cost effective and are already proven job creators.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People’s Environmental Agenda Includes Opposition To Expanded Areas For Fracking, Additional Limitations On Oil And Gas Development, And The Passage Of A Severance Tax

We The People’s Environmental Agenda Includes Opposition To Expanded Areas For Fracking, Additional Limitations On Oil And Gas Development, And The Passage Of A Severance Tax. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Protect our land, water, air, and health by further regulating the oil and gas industry.

- Protect our public lands from fracking. Oil and gas companies continue to try to access our most pristine and protected land, including our state parks, state forests and other public lands, for natural gas extraction. The General Assembly should oppose any legislation to open these areas for drilling.
- Extend gas facility to structure/building set-back distances. Set-back distances should be increased to: 0.6 mile (3281 feet) from smaller shale gas facilities; 1 ¼ miles from gas processing plants or compressor complexes; and 1 ¼ miles for schools/daycares, hospitals, nursing homes, and other high-occupancy buildings.⁶
- Pass a severance tax. Pennsylvania is the only natural gas-rich state without a severance tax, which means that oil and gas drillers located here are pillaging our natural resources without paying their fair share to the state. For more information, see WTP policy paper on passing a severance tax.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For Raising The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards

We The People Calls For Raising The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvania's clean energy policies are weak compared to surrounding states. Pennsylvania must strengthen its energy policies² by doing the following things:

- **Raise our Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS):** These standards are low compared to surrounding states. Pennsylvania should commit to generating 15% of its electricity with solar energy by 2025.³
- **New regulations to limit methane pollution:** The Department of Environmental Protection should develop new regulations to limit methane pollution and air admissions from existing sources of oil and gas wells, pipelines, and other infrastructure.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For Supporting Higher Gas And Motor Fuel Taxes At The Federal And State Level To Increase Infrastructure Spending

We The People Calls For Supporting Higher Gas And Motor Fuel Taxes At The Federal And State Level To Increase Infrastructure Spending. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

To improve roads and bridges, Pennsylvania should⁶

- establish stable sources of transportation funding at the federal and state levels. On the federal side, Pennsylvania should advocate for more investment in the Highway Trust Fund and an increase in the federal gas tax which hasn't been updated since 1993. As Act 89 plateaus, Pennsylvania must come up with a funding plan internal to PA.
 - The Pennsylvania State Police should not get a disproportionate amount of appropriations from the Motor License Fee, which they currently do.⁷ The 2016 state fiscal code addressed this issue by capping the portion given to State Police, and then decreasing it over a 10-year period.
 - The motor fuels tax and, in the long term, a usage-based revenue system should remain a significant part of state funding for roads and bridges. As the number of electric cars increases, the gas tax will bring in less and less revenue. A usage-based funding system (based on mileage travelled) is undergoing a pilot test in Pennsylvania and other states. Greater reliance on usage fees needs to be coupled with protection for low-income, rural Pennsylvanians who drive long distances to work.⁸

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

We The People Calls For Higher Corporate And Individual Taxes (Such As A Carbon Tax) As A Means To Potentially Increase Infrastructure Spending

We The People Calls For Higher Corporate And Individual Taxes (Such As A Carbon Tax) As A Means To Potentially Increase Infrastructure Spending. [\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- Corporate taxes (e.g., closing corporate tax loopholes) and individual taxes that fall more heavily on upper-income taxpayers—such as the PBPC “fair share tax” described elsewhere and some carbon taxes—should also be explored as a source for road and bridge repair as well as mass transit funding, in part, because corporations and the affluent benefit disproportionately from the wealth and income generated by robust investment in infrastructure.

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

We The People Encourages Passage Of \$5 Vehicle Registration Fees To Fund Infrastructure Needs

We The People Encourages Passage Of \$5 Vehicle Registration Fees To Fund Infrastructure Needs. [\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- to stretch infrastructure dollars.
- encourage additional counties to impose an additional \$5 fee to vehicle registration fees to raise money for local road and bridge projects as one third of PA counties currently do.

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

We The People Calls For The Imposition Of Over \$3 Billion In Tax Increases, Including The Imposition Of A “Fair Share” Or Higher Wealth Tax And A Severance Tax On Oil And Gas Development- Along With Closing Certain Corporate Tax Loopholes

We The People Calls For The Imposition Of Over \$3 Billion In Tax Increases, Including The Imposition Of A “Fair Share” Or Higher Wealth Tax And A Severance Tax On Oil And Gas Development- Along With Closing Certain Corporate Tax Loopholes. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

The We The People campaign proposes three solutions to our unfair and inadequate tax system. Taken together, these proposals will raise \$3.2 billion in fiscal year 2018-19 and \$3.6 billion in fiscal year 2021-22 while reducing taxes for close to 60% of Pennsylvanians, for small businesses, and for Pennsylvania based corporations.

- **Our Fair Share Tax** increases the tax rate on income from wealth (e.g. dividends, capital gains, business profits, estates, royalties, and gambling

winnings) from 3.07% to 6.5% while lowering the tax on wages and interest from 3.07% to 2.8%. The Fair Share Tax would raise an addition \$2.32 billion in the next fiscal year (2019-20) while reducing income taxes for 59% of individuals and small business owners in Pennsylvania. By fiscal year 2021-22, the Fair Share Tax would bring in an additional \$2.63 billion.

- **A severance or shale tax on natural gas drilling** at the same 5% rate imposed by West Virginia would raise \$567 million in the next fiscal year and \$833 million by fiscal year 2021-22.
- **Combined reporting** should be instituted for the corporate net income tax to close the Delaware Loophole while reducing the corporate tax rate from 9.99% to 9.49% starting in 2020-21. This would bring in an additional \$332 million in revenue in the next fiscal year and \$254 billion in 2021-22.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People’s Proposed “Fair Share” Tax Would Raise Over \$2.2 Billion Alone And Would Impact Middle Class Households Earning Approximately \$100,000 Or Higher – And Some Families Making Less Than That Amount

We The People’s Proposed “Fair Share” Tax Would Raise Over \$2.2 Billion Alone And Would Impact Middle Class Households Earning Approximately \$100,000 Or Higher – And Some Families Making Less Than That Amount. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- The Fair Share Tax would raise \$2.22 billion in new revenue in the 2019-20 fiscal year and \$2.63 billion in 2021-22.
- Most of the new tax revenues would come from those at or close to the top of the income distribution with nearly 60% of the new revenue coming from the top 1%.
 - Fifty-nine percent would come from Pennsylvania households in the top 1% of incomes who have an income above \$569,000 and average income of \$1.5 million. Their taxes would increase by an average of \$24,119, only 1.6% of their average income.
 - Another 25% would come from Pennsylvania households with income in the 95th through 99th percentile with incomes between \$242,000 and \$669,000 and an average income of \$351,000. Their taxes would increase by an average of \$2,571 or 0.7% of their average income.
 - Another 12% would come from Pennsylvania households with incomes in the 80th through 94th percentile with incomes in the range of \$109,000 to \$242,000 and an average income of \$152,000. Their taxes would increase by an average of only \$330 or 0.2% of their average income.
 - Overall, 95% of the increased revenue paid under the Fair Share Tax would come from families in the top 20% of all incomes.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For Several Political Reforms, Including Making It Easier To Vote And Ending So-Called Over Incarceration

We The People Calls For Several Political Reforms, Including Making It Easier To Vote And Ending So-Called Over Incarceration. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvanians need to fight for and win a more responsive democracy. Nothing is more important. To do this, we need to

- make it easier, not harder, for people to vote;
- enact comprehensive campaign finance reform legislation to reduce the influence of money on electoral outcomes;
- end the gerrymandering of state and congressional legislative districts;
- eliminate barriers to participation in political and economic life based on race, gender, and/or sexual orientation;
- end the over incarceration of Pennsylvanians, which wastes money and lives;
- protect immigrants and welcome them into our communities; and
- ensure that our state and local police forces are well-equipped to protect Pennsylvanians and hold accountable the few who abuse their power.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People’s Proposed Electoral Reforms Include Same-Day Voter Registration, Pre-Registering Of 17-Year-Olds, Expanded Mail Voting, And Automatic Voter Registration

We The People’s Proposed Electoral Reforms Include Same-Day Voter Registration, Pre-Registering Of 17-Year-Olds, Expanded Mail Voting, And Automatic Voter Registration. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Institute automatic voter registration. Automatic voter registration would use information already on file with the state to identify individuals who are eligible to vote and add them to voter rolls or update voter information automatically when they are already registered. Voters who are automatically registered would have the option of removing themselves from the rolls if they choose.

Allow registration of unregistered voters on Election Day. Election Day and “same-day” registration (SDR) allows voters to register on the day of the election. As of early 2018, 16 states and Washington, D.C. had adopted SDR. To avoid manipulation of primary elections, SDR could be limited to unregistered voters with already registered voters being permitted to switch their party registration only until 30 days before a primary election. Research shows that same-day registration increases turnout by 5% to 7%. Over half of Americans support automatic voter registration (54%) and same-day registration (55%).¹

Pre-register eligible 16- and 17-year-olds and automatically add them to voter rolls when they turn 18. Pre-registering voters before they turn 18 is a good first step towards educating them on their civic responsibilities. Twelve states and Washington, D.C. pre-register 16-year-olds and another four pre-register 17-year-olds.

Encourage voting with no-fault absentee voting and voting by mail. A recent study found that Utah’s experimentation with all-mail voting increased turnout by nearly 5%-7%. Earlier research in Washington state found all-mail voting was associated with 2%-4% increases in turnout. Both studies found that the positive effects of all-mail voting were most pronounced among young voters and those who never or rarely voted.

Not only can the state make it easier for people to register to vote, it can encourage people directly and indirectly to vote.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Acknowledges The Existence Of Systematic And Structural Racism In The U.S. Criminal Justice System

We The People Acknowledges The Existence Of Systematic And Structural Racism In The U.S. Criminal Justice System. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Eighth, until the federal government ensures that basic data about police shootings and other forms of violence are collected from all police forces and also by means of population surveys, the state should take on this task. We will not be able to fully address the structural and systemic racism of the criminal justice system in America if we do not know its extent.

Ninth, state legislative committees should begin an investigation of the distribution of police resources not only by local community but by neighborhoods in our medium and large cities. The state should develop and enforce guidelines to ensure that police services are equally distributed in all neighborhoods.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For Criminal Justice Reform Measures, Such As The Reclassification Of Several So-Called Low Level Felonies To Misdemeanors And Reducing The Utilization Of The Life Without Parole Sentence

We The People Calls For Criminal Justice Reform Measures, Such As The Reclassification Of Several So-Called Low Level Felonies To Misdemeanors And Reducing The Utilization Of The Life Without Parole Sentence. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

To reduce the amount of time that people spend in prison we should do the following.

- Embrace sentencing reform. The General Assembly should change the criminal code in the state to reduce maximum sentences, especially for drug offenses.
 - Many lower-level offenses should be reclassified from felonies to misdemeanors.
 - The life without parole sentence is overused in Pennsylvania. It leads to many people who have not taken a life or who, after long years in prison, have repented for their crimes, staying in prison when that serves no useful purpose. Use of this sentence should be reformed and opportunities for parole should be made available to selected inmates.
 - Reduce revocations from supervision for minor parole violations. In 2016, 15% of the prison population was in prison because of a parole violation. The likelihood of recidivism is highest in the first year following incarceration, yet many of those leaving prison have long parole terms and probation sentences. Reforms should focus on capping how much jail time one can receive for minor parole offenses and/or diversionary treatment for those with drug usage or mental health issues.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

We The People Calls For An End To Cash Bail And Sentencing Enhancements Based On Location Such As Drug Free School Zones

We The People Calls For An End To Cash Bail And Sentencing Enhancements Based On Location Such As Drug Free School Zones. ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Efforts should also be made to reduce racial disparities and the criminalization of the poor. Reducing admissions and time served will decrease the overall prison population in Pennsylvania, but it will not solve the problem of racial disparities within the prison system. Addressing this racial disparity will take comprehensive reform at many levels. We can do several things to reform the criminal justice system and address these racial disparities and the criminalization of the poor.

- End cash bail. The current cash bail system in Pennsylvania keeps primarily poor individuals in jail, sometimes for significant periods of time, despite not yet being convicted of a crime. The

PA Supreme Court's Rules Committee has the authority to make this change.

- End over-policing in communities of color.
- End sentencing enhancements that are based on location like drug-free school zones.
- Shift funding from law enforcement/corrections to investment in job creation and training, strong public education, mental health and drug treatment, and other social and human services.¹⁴

The use of private prisons has, in some cases, created corrupt relationships between judges and the owners of prisons that led to horrible abuses, especially of juveniles. Prison privatization should be prohibited in this state.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

**MUTH IS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH OTHER PROGRESSIVE GROUPS
AND HAS BEEN LAUDED AND ENDORSED BY NATIONAL
PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS**

***In 2018, Muth Participated In An Event Featuring Several Candidates Hosted By The
Progressive Advocacy Organization People For The American Way***

In 2018, Muth Participated In An Event Featuring Several Candidates Hosted By The Progressive Advocacy Organization People For The American Way. “People for the American Way issued the following news release: Young progressive women running for office in battleground states joined People For the American Way's Next Up Victory Fund today for a National Press Club discussion about the impact of the #MeToo movement on the 2018 midterms, and the future of politics under a president with a record of harming women. Rachel Crooks, candidate for Ohio State House District 88 who was sexually assaulted by Donald Trump, joined Anna Eskamani, candidate for Florida State House District 47, Myya Jones, candidate for Michigan State House District 4, and Katie Muth, candidate for Pennsylvania State House District 44 for a discussion moderated by People for the American Way's Political Director Lizet Ocampo.” (Press Release, “Progressive Women Candidates Join Next Up Victory Fund To Call For Change, Discuss Impact of #MeToo Movement On Midterms,” PFAW, 7/24/18)

- **NOTE:** *In October 2018, Muth was among the candidates endorsed by PFAW.*

In 2018, Muth Is Known To Have Been Endorsed By Barack Obama

In 2018, Muth Is Known To Have Been Endorsed By Barack Obama. “Candidate: Chrissy Houlahan, Democrat Endorsements: Former President Barack Obama, End Citizens United, Realtor PAC Office: State senator, 44th district Candidate: Katie Muth, Democrat Endorsement: Former President Barack Obama...” (Reading Eagle, 10/9/18)

***In June 2019, Muth’s Letter Reading Actions On The Floor Of The Pennsylvania
Senate Over Republican Objections Was Heralded By Elizabeth Warren, Kamala
Harris, And Other Liberals***

**“In The Video, Muth Stands At A Lectern Reading A Letter From A Former Homeless
Man Pleading To Save A Cash-Assistance Program...”**

In June 2019, Muth’s Letter Reading Actions On The Floor Of The Pennsylvania Senate Over Republican Objections Was Heralded By Elizabeth Warren, Kamala Harris, And Other Liberals. “Democratic State Sen. Katie Muth was having dinner with her husband Sunday night when she saw the tweet. “Keep persisting, @Senator-Muth,” wrote Massachusetts senator and Democratic presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren. Warren, like thousands of others, had viewed and shared a video on social media of Muth on the Senate floor from last Wednesday. The video has exploded online, giving the freshman senator from Montgomery County instant internet fame. On Monday, it landed her an invitation to appear on MSNBC's Hardball With Chris Matthews and a shout-out from yet another Democratic presidential contender, California Sen. Kamala Harris. In the video, Muth stands at a lectern reading a letter

from a former homeless man pleading to save a cash-assistance program for the poorest Pennsylvanians that the Republican-controlled legislature was cutting in the state budget. For 3½ tense minutes, as Muth reads the letter, Republican Majority Leader Jake Corman - surrounded by male colleagues and staffers - angrily yells in an attempt to get her to stop. Under Senate rules, Corman has the right to interrupt another senator, and he and other Republicans were furious that Lt. Gov. John Fetterman, a Democrat, was refusing to recognize him.” (*The Philadelphia Daily News*, 7/2/19)

- **“In The Video, Muth Stands At A Lectern Reading A Letter From A Former Homeless Man Pleading To Save A Cash-Assistance Program For The Poorest Pennsylvanians That The Republican-Controlled Legislature Was Cutting In The State Budget.”** (*The Philadelphia Daily News*, 7/2/19)

Muth Promoted An Article Describing AOC As The “Future Of The Democratic Party”

In June 2018, Muth Promoted An Article Describing AOC As The “Future Of The Democratic Party.” ([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 6/26/18)



([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 6/26/18)

MUTH CALLED FOR SUPPORT FOR PARTISAN ELECTORAL REFORMS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

In March 2021, Muth Called For Support For Partisan Electoral Reforms At The National Level. ([Muth Facebook Page](#), Posted 3/9/21)



Senator Katie Muth
March 9, 2021

Today, I signed onto a letter urging Senator Pat Toomey and U.S. Senator Bob Casey to vote in favor of H.R. 1, which would strengthen voting rights protections and implement much needed changes to our campaign finance system.

Americans on both ends of the political spectrum agree that we need to rid our political process from the pay-to-play system that favors candidates who are propped up by wealthy donors and dark money.

This legislation is a step in the right direction to level the playing field and give the power back to the people.

March 9, 2021

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
193 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

Over the past four years, we've seen how fragile and subject to corruption our democracy is. With your help we can regain the trust of the American people and bring more security and transparency to the election process.

The recently introduced For the People Act (H.R./S.1) is a comprehensive package that would get big money out of politics and includes comprehensive voting rights reforms that would modernize and secure our elections. It would finally cut the cord between corporate special interests and Washington rentism.

While Americans turned out in record numbers to vote last year, millions had to jump through too many hoops just to exercise their right to vote. H.R./S.1 would address many of the challenges voters experienced in the 2020 election by ensuring that everyone can cast their ballot safely, conveniently, and securely in the future. The bill would eliminate unnecessary barriers to voter registration and boost participation, while setting standardized guidelines for absentee voting, requiring each state to have adequate periods of safe early voting, ensuring no voter faces discrimination, modernizing the voter registration process, and providing states the funding and equipment they need to administer and protect our elections.

Just as important as ballot access, this bill would help us finally end dark money and reduce the power of shady corporate influences in politics. Special interests have controlled Washington for far too long and it is time we sever the cord. This legislation would end the dominance of big money and put a stop to the pay-for-play politics by shining a light on dark money, empowering small donors, strengthening campaign finance oversight, fortifying ethics laws, and closing loopholes for lobbyists and foreign agents.

Your democracy is under attack, and we must do everything we can to protect the values of our Constitution.

134

26 Comments 7 Shares

(Muth Facebook Page, Posted 3/9/21)

MUTH OPPOSED AN EFFORT TO EXPAND VOTER INFLUENCE BY ESTABLISHING JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

In 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill “Designed To Ensure That All Pennsylvanians Have A Voice In Selecting Judges For The Commonwealth’s Three Appellate Courts”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 196, A Joint Resolution Proposing Integrated Amendments To The Constitution Of The Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania, Organizing The Judiciary Into Representative Districts And Further Providing For Residency Requirements. (HB 196, Bill Passed - Senate (26-24), Pennsylvania State Senate, 7/15/20, Muth Voted Nay)

“Specifically, The Bill Proposes To Amend The Pennsylvania Constitution To Allow Voters To Elect Appellate Judges By Districts Rather Than Statewide Elections...”

ACU: “This Bill Is Designed To Ensure That All Pennsylvanians Have A Voice In Selecting Judges For The Commonwealth’s Three Appellate Courts.” “This bill is designed to ensure

that all Pennsylvanians have a voice in selecting judges for the commonwealth’s three appellate courts: The Commonwealth Court, Superior Court, and the Supreme Court. Specifically, the bill proposes to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to allow voters to elect appellate judges by districts rather than statewide elections. Under the bill, the state would be divided into nine Commonwealth Court districts, 15 Superior Court districts and seven Supreme Court districts. As a result, voters would be able to elect a judge who resides in the district to serve on the respective statewide court. ACU recognizes that under the current system, 60% of appellate court judges reside in two of the most liberal counties while the other 65 counties have 80% of the state’s population but only 40% representation on the courts. ACU supports this measure to help achieve more equal representation on the courts, supports efforts to ensure strict constructionists dedicated to the U.S. Constitution have a voice on the courts and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

- **“Specifically, The Bill Proposes To Amend The Pennsylvania Constitution To Allow Voters To Elect Appellate Judges By Districts Rather Than Statewide Elections. Under The Bill, The State Would Be Divided Into Nine Commonwealth Court Districts, 15 Superior Court Districts And Seven Supreme Court Districts.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union Supports This Measure To Help Achieve More Equal Representation On The Courts, Supports Efforts To Ensure Strict Constructionists Dedicated To The U.S. Constitution Have A Voice On The Courts And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH OPPOSED A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF KOBE BRYANT FOLLOWING HIS UNTIMELY DEATH

In 2020, “Sen. Katie Muth (D-Montgomery) Objected To A Resolution Honoring Pennsylvania Native Kobe Bryant, The Basketball Star Who Died In A Helicopter Crash On Jan. 26.” “The episode marks the second time in two weeks that resolutions have caused a stir in Pennsylvania’s State Senate. Last week, Sen. Katie Muth (D-Montgomery) objected to a resolution honoring Pennsylvania native Kobe Bryant, the basketball star who died in a helicopter crash on Jan. 26. Bryant was charged with rape in 2003 and privately settled a lawsuit with his accuser in 2004. The resolution was introduced by Sen. Daylin Leach (D-Montgomery) who has been accused of workplace harassment and sexual assault himself. After Muth lodged her objection, the resolution was sent to the Senate Rules Committee, where it now awaits a vote. Kocher said the Bryant controversy led Republican leaders to declare an end to unanimous consent resolutions in the Senate. She said all resolutions, regardless of their message, will now be routed through committees for votes — the same procedure the House follows.” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 2/6/20)

MUTH'S LIBERAL FISCAL AGENDA

Muth has suggested raising corporate and income taxes and imposing a severance tax as a means to achieve property tax relief. Muth has joined a slim minority in opposing multiple bipartisan state budgets that increase education funding in a fiscally responsible way. Muth has supported the protection and expansion of welfare programs and has proposed a \$1 billion student debt relief program.

Muth has called for an increase to the minimum wage and has labeled businesses that could not afford to do so as immoral. Muth has also indicated she supports increasing overtime mandates. Muth has sided with organized labor over the interests of taxpayers. In 2020, Muth supported legislation that “authorizes unionization of waterways conservation officers, thus driving up taxpayer costs and making it harder for the state to dismiss poorly performing employees.”

On energy matters, Muth has been a strong advocate for alternative energy and calling for 100% of Pennsylvania energy to come from renewable sources by 2050. Muth has been an opponent of oil and gas development, particularly fracking. Muth has been steadfast in her support for imposing additional regulations on the oil and industry and has earned praise from environmentalists for her anti-growth agenda.

In 2019, Muth voted against legislation that “streamlines government by abolishing eight outdated boards, commissions and committees...” Muth also voted against a bill to “reduce excessive regulations that have prevented individuals from utilizing agricultural buildings” and against a bill “that “expands consumer access to broadband and other telecommunication services by repealing costly regulations...”

Muth was opposed to the ratification of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement.


MUTH HAS SIGNALLED SUPPORT FOR RAISING CORPORATE AND INCOME TAXES

In 2018, Muth Suggested Raising Corporate And Income Taxes And Imposing A Severance Tax As A Means To Achieve Property Tax Relief

In 2018, Muth Suggested Raising Corporate And Income Taxes And Imposing A Severance Tax As A Means To Achieve Property Tax Relief. “In response to a question about supporting the abolition of the property tax and how it could be accomplished, Muth suggested two approaches including “taxing wealthy corporations and closing the Delaware loophole, in order to make sure that they pay their fair share,” and “to charge a severance tax on the oil and gas industry.” Rafferty responded, “By driving dollars from increases in state budget revenue, fair funding formula and monies from having enacted a severance tax.” Both candidates expressed support for the levying of a severance tax on natural gas drillers in Pennsylvania. In response to a question about support of the Pennsylvania Fair Funding Formula for Education, Rafferty stated that he supports the formula and that he believes it is being funded adequately. Muth, however, says she supports the formula, but that it is not being funded adequately.” (*The Daily American*, 10/30/18)

In June 2019, Muth Promoted Her Proposal For A Fair Share Tax Levying Higher Taxes On The Wealthy, Inclusive Of Additional Taxes On Wealth And Assets

VIDEO: In June 2019, Muth Promoted Her Proposal For A Fair Share Tax Levying Higher Taxes On The Wealthy, Inclusive Of Additional Taxes On Wealth And Assets. ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/13/19)

 **Senator Katie Muth** June 13, 2019 · 🌐

Our tax policies must be fair to everyone. Pennsylvania's tax system is unfair, putting a greater burden on hardworking people and families. Everyone needs to pay their fair share of taxes and our current tax laws have been designed to unfairly benefit the wealthy few and special interests. The richest individuals and largest companies, in Pennsylvania and across the nation, do not pay anywhere near their fair share in taxes. Pennsylvania's tax system is upside down- the bottom and middle-income earners pay far higher rates than those at the top. Not only is this unfair, but this rigged system results in a major barrier to raising revenues that our Commonwealth desperately needs to close the public investment deficit.

The Fair Share Tax Plan would fix PA's rigged tax system by replacing our personal income tax (PIT) with two separate taxes. The first would be a tax on wages and interest set at 2.8%, which is lower than the current PIT rate of 3.07%. The second would be on a tax on income from wealth- dividends, capital gains, business profits, estates, royalties, and gambling winnings- which would be set at 6.5%. Most of the new tax revenues would come from those at the top of the income distribution with nearly 69% of new revenue coming from the top 1% and would reduce taxes for low- and moderate-income earners. The plan would reduce taxes for 60% of Pennsylvanians, including small businesses, and would not raise taxes on seniors whose retirement incomes will continue to be exempt from PIT. The Fair Share Tax Plan would ensure everyone is paying their fair share and allow for greater investment in our Commonwealth.

For more information on this plan: https://www.pennbpc.org/.../A_Fair_Share_Tax-Updated_for...



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/13/19)

MUTH OPPOSED BUDGETS THAT INCREASED EDUCATIONAL SPENDING ON SEEMINGLY IDEOLOGICAL GROUNDS

In June 2019, Muth Opposed Passage Of The 2019 Pennsylvania State Budget Despite Its Increase Of Education Funding, Investment In School Security, And Agricultural Supports

In June 2019, Muth Opposed Passage Of The 2019 Pennsylvania State Budget Despite Its Increase Of Education Funding, Investment In School Security, And Agricultural Supports. “With Gov. Tom Wolf’s signature, Pennsylvania will have a \$34 billion budget bill. The state Senate approved a budget bill Thursday that provides hundreds of millions more for schools, makes another investment in school security and provides help to the state’s sputtering agricultural industry, all without a tax increase. The Senate voted 42-8 to approve the spending bill; the House passed it by a 140-62 vote Tuesday. The spending package does not include an increase in the state’s minimum wage, a key goal for Democrats. The budget increases spending by nearly 4%, or just under \$1.3 billion, over the current year’s budget of about \$32.7 billion, and by just 1.8% when the governor’s overspending is taken into account. Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Pat Browne, R-Lehigh County, urged support for the budget. He called it a relief to consider a state budget that makes increases in important programs and services after a decade of financial turbulence. While Browne warned that the state’s fiscal situation remains tenuous, he said this budget “ensures increased confidence to weather the next storm on the horizon.” Senate Democratic Appropriations Committee Chairman Vince Hughes, D-Philadelphia, said he could support the budget despite what he considered missed opportunities. He cited the failure to raise the state’s \$7.25 hourly minimum wage. He also disliked the General Assembly’s passage of a bill to cut off cash assistance to the state’s poorest citizens, a debate that touched off a firestorm in the chamber Wednesday. Senate Majority Chairman Jake Corman, R-Centre County, said, “By and large on this particular budget, I think there’s a lot to like because I think what we tried to do is fund what works.” Sen. Katie Muth, D-Montgomery County, was among the Democratic senators who opposed the budget. She said, “This budget is not people-centered. This budget does not help enough people.” (*Patriot News*, 6/28/19)

In 2021, Muth Was Critical Of The 2021 Bipartisan State Budget, Which Set Aside Billions In Federal COVID Relief Funds Into Savings, Bolstered Spending On Education And Provided Aid To Personal Care Homes

In June 2021, Muth Was Critical Of The 2021 Bipartisan State Budget, Which Set Aside Billions In Federal COVID Relief Funds Into Savings, Bolstered Spending On Education And Provided Aid To Personal Care Homes. ‘The Pennsylvania General Assembly passed a \$40.8 billion state budget Friday that sets aside billions in federal coronavirus relief funds into savings, bolsters spending on education and provides aid to personal care homes. Gov. Tom Wolf’s office said he plans to sign it this week. The budget passed the House by a 140-61 vote, and the Senate approved it by a 43-7 vote. The budget calls for no increase in personal or business taxes. Members of the General Assembly who represent Berks County shared their views with the Reading Eagle on the spending plan: Sen. David Argall, a Schuylkill County Republican “The Senate, on a strong bipartisan vote, made it abundantly clear that our focus

should be on funding public and private education, broadband and transportation needs — and that's exactly what we did. "We allocated money to provide additional support for schools, nursing homes, roads and bridges. The best part: We did not need to incorporate a massive tax hike as the governor originally suggested. We even have a sizable revenue surplus which we stowed away in our Rainy Day Fund to prevent future tax hikes. "Not everything in this budget was 100% perfect, but I think we can all be proud of this bipartisan budget which will help Pennsylvanians get back on their feet without weighing them down with more taxes." Sen. Bob Mensch, a Montgomery County Republican "It's a very good budget. We've increased education to record highs, we've restored Wolf's cuts to agriculture and health care, we've provided additional funds for infrastructure, we've eliminated the possibility of tax increases. So I'm not sure there is a bad aspect of this budget. "A budget is always about compromise. If I had my way I would have liked to see more done to help spur job creation. We did have some tax ideas for businesses that, unfortunately, did not make it into the plan. But that's a battle for another day. As for the amount of money we were able to put into the Rainy Day Fund, we have prepared ourselves very well for the continuing economic issues. There's no doubt that once all these federal dollars disappear that we will be left back to our own devices, so having a couple billion dollars set aside to offset that is going to bring a lot of relief for taxpayers." Sen. Katie Muth, a Montgomery County Democrat "While there are some high points and key investments in this year's budget, overall the plan falls far short and fails to invest in our state and the people of the commonwealth. This budget is sadly another example of an opportunity missed. "The people of the commonwealth are begging for us to invest in them and their future. We need to act with courage and be bold with big ideas to rejuvenate Pennsylvania as we emerge from the pandemic. There are simply too many people relying on us." (*Reading Eagle*, 6/28/21)

- **Muth Voted Against The 2021 Budget Calling It “Another Example Of An Opportunity Missed.”** “State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th Dist., voted no and told The Eagle, "Overall the plan falls far short and fails to invest in our state and the people of the commonwealth. This budget is sadly another example of an opportunity missed," she said. "The people of the commonwealth are begging for us to invest in them and their future. We need to act with courage and be bold with big ideas to rejuvenate Pennsylvania as we emerge from the pandemic," said Muth. State Rep. Joe Ciresi, D-146th Dist., also voted no.” (*Daily Local News*, 7/1/21)

MUTH HAS SUPPORTED PROTECTION AND EXPANSION OF WELFARE PROGRAMS

In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Criticize The Elimination Of The General Assistance Program And To Call For The Creation Of An Emergency Cash Aid Program

In July 2019, Williams And Muth Were Among The Democratic Legislators To Criticize The Elimination Of The General Assistance Program And To Call For The Creation Of An Emergency Cash Aid Program. “The Pennsylvania Senate Democrats issued the following news release: Following the elimination of General Assistance, several members of the Pennsylvania Senate Democratic Caucus circulated a cosponsorship memo to create an

emergency relief program that would serve the population now without cash assistance. Senators Katie Muth, Lindsey Williams, Maria Collett and Pam Iovino circulated the memo with their Senate colleagues late Monday, asking for others to join in sponsoring the legislation. "We have to find a way to provide this relief, we have a duty to protect the most vulnerable citizens of this commonwealth and if we aren't doing that, then we are failing miserably," said Senator Katie Muth. "If we don't get this right, the most vulnerable people of our commonwealth will be left out to dry with no means to the very basic necessities of life, which every human should have access to." "As the wife of a chronic cancer sufferer, I am acutely aware that my family is never more than one emergency away from being unable to pay for the medicine that keeps my husband alive," said Senator Maria Collett. "This program will be a lifeline for people with disabilities, domestic violence survivors and others in crisis." (Press Release, "Pennsylvania Senate Democrats: Democratic Senators To Introduce Emergency Relief Program Legislation," PA Senate Democrats, 7/2/19)

Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Argue Vocally Against Elimination Of The General Assistance Program

In June 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Argue Vocally Against Elimination Of The General Assistance Program. "Pennsylvania's \$40 million General Assistance program is small compared to the scale of other parts of the state's safety net for the needy. But its advocates say the \$200 monthly cash stipends for adults, many of them disabled, helps them pay for transportation and basic living necessities not covered by other social programs. For a few brief moments, Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati (R., Jefferson) took over the rostrum in the chamber, where Lt. Gov. John Fetterman normally presides. Fetterman, a Democrat, had briefly walked down to the floor, where senators were shouting, in an effort to broker peace; in his absence, Scarnati picked up the gavel and, with a procedural vote, shut down any possibility of altering the bill. "He started throwing a fit and came up to the rostrum," Fetterman said of Scarnati, adding that Republicans "invoked the nuclear option." Democratic senators promptly walked off the floor, and when they returned, Republicans voted in near-lockstep to eliminate the program. That again set off a screaming match, with Democratic Sen. Katie Muth of Montgomery County trying to argue against the bill as multiple Republican senators shouted at Fetterman to stop her." (Philly.com, 6/26/19)

In 2021, Muth Noted Her Intention To Introduce Legislation Amplifying TANF Benefits

In August 2021, Muth Noted Her Intention To Introduce Legislation Amplifying TANF Benefits. "Advocates also highlighted the racial gaps, noting that more than half of TANF recipients are Black, as compared to 12% of the overall Pennsylvania population. With poverty disproportionately affecting Black and Latino youth, any changes to TANF also have the potential to help these children, argued the report's authors. To change the way the state administers cash assistance requires legislation, something that has not happened in decades. "I think one of the reasons the benefit hasn't changed in 30 years is because the legislature doesn't vote on it every year," said Pulzetti. "I don't think they even see it." That could change in 2021. Democratic State Sen. Katie Muth and Democratic State Rep. Malcom Kenyatta have both released memorandums saying they plan to introduce legislation to update TANF "in order to meet basic and essential needs" of recipients." (The Philadelphia Tribune, 8/22/21)

In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Express Opposition To The USDA's Reform Of SNAP Eligibility Rules

In July 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Express Opposition To The USDA's Reform Of SNAP Eligibility Rules. "As you may be aware, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently opened the public comment period for proposed changes to Section 5(a) of the SNAP program. These provisions allow individuals who are eligible for or receiving benefits from other assistance programs to qualify for SNAP without having to go through a separate financial eligibility review. Pennsylvania is one of a number of states that uses this provision to make it easier for those who are seeking necessary assistance to ensure they are receiving all the benefits they are entitled to. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, approximately 200,000 individuals and 120,000 households in the Commonwealth will lose benefits if the "categorically" eligible rules are changed. Of those 120,000 households, more than 36% are households with children. Feeding America estimates that more than 1.5 million Pennsylvanians are food insecure. Worse, 1 in 6 of Pennsylvania's children struggles with hunger. These numbers are staggering enough without the addition of 200,000 more who could soon be without SNAP. The current rules allow those food insecure individuals who are single parents, disabled veterans, victims of domestic violence and individuals with a disability to receive vital benefits that allow them to put a healthy, fresh meal on their table. More alarming is the effect this rule change could have on free or reduced food programs for K through 12 schools. Across the nation, 29.7 million children receive a free or reduced meal at school. In Pennsylvania more than 167 million free or reduced lunches were provided during the last school year. These meals ensure that a child, who may not get a fresh meal at home, is able to eat at least one - but often two - meals a day. SNAP is an economic support for our already struggling food and supermarket retailers, especially those in brick and mortar locations, whose businesses operate on a very thin margin, and are further challenged by the growing on-line food delivery business. This proposal on SNAP eligibility is heartless, callous, and Pennsylvanians cannot afford it. Pennsylvanians living at or near poverty recently lost the state's General Assistance program; and it has been a decade since Pennsylvania has seen a minimum wage increase. Now, the federal government is threatening to cut food assistance. We cannot continue to eliminate safety nets and the programs that move people toward self sufficiency after they have fallen on difficult times. Societies are judged by how they treat their most vulnerable; if we let this change to SNAP go unchallenged, we will fail that judgement. Our caucus will oppose the rule change in every way that we are able, and we ask that our federal representatives join us. We, and our constituents, thank you for the advocacy you have already undertaken. We look forward to fighting with you, on behalf of those who need it most." (Press Release, "PA Senate Democratic Caucus Decries Changes To Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Program, Urges PA Congressional Delegation to Oppose," PA Senate Democrats, 7/29/19)

- **NOTE:** *Muth was among the signatories of the letter criticizing SNAP eligibility changes.*

MUTH SUPPORTED LEGISLATION THAT RAISES FEES ASSESSED ON FISHING AND BOATING

In 2020, Muth Supported Legislation That Authorizes The PA Fish And Boat Commission To Establish The Fees For Fishing And Boating Related Licenses And Permits

Muth Voted Yea On HB 808, Which “Amends Title 30 (Fish And Boat Code) To Authorize The PA Fish And Boat Commission (PFBC) To Establish The Fees For Fishing And Boating Related Licenses And Permits By Regulatory Action.” ([HB 808](#), Bill Passed - Senate (44-5), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/23/20, Muth Voted Yea)

“While Enactment Of This Legislation Does Not Require The Commission To Increase Fees And Only Gives Them The Authority To Do So, According To The Commission, If This Legislation Is Enacted, It Will Seek Fee Increases Over Three Years...”

Analysis: “While Enactment Of This Legislation Does Not Require The Commission To Increase Fees And Only Gives Them The Authority To Do So, According To The Commission, If This Legislation Is Enacted, It Will Seek Fee Increases Over Three Years...” ([HB 808](#))

FISCAL IMPACT:

While enactment of this legislation does not require the commission to increase fees and only gives them the authority to do so, according to the commission, if this legislation is enacted, it will seek fee increases over three years for amounts no higher than what is illustrated in the chart below.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission estimates additional revenues of \$1.46 million in FY 2021-22, \$2.23 million in FY 2022-23, \$2.98 million in FY 2023-24 and \$3.71 million in FY 2024-25 if all the proposed increases are implemented. The actual revenue impact may vary from estimate since commission revenues have decreased 7.6 percent to 9.6 percent in years when fees are increased.

| Proposed Fee Schedule - Fishing Licenses and Permits | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| License Category | Current Fee | Proposed Fee | | | |
| | | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Resident Annual | \$ 21.00 | \$ 24.00 | \$ 25.00 | \$ 26.00 | \$ 27.00 |
| Non-resident Annual | \$ 51.00 | \$ 55.00 | \$ 56.00 | \$ 57.00 | \$ 58.00 |
| Senior Resident Annual | \$ 10.00 | \$ 12.00 | \$ 12.50 | \$ 13.00 | \$ 13.50 |
| Senior Resident Lifetime | \$ 50.00 | \$ 60.00 | \$ 62.50 | \$ 65.00 | \$ 67.50 |
| 3-Day Tourist | \$ 25.00 | \$ 28.00 | \$ 29.00 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 31.00 |
| 7-Day Tourist | \$ 33.00 | \$ 37.00 | \$ 38.00 | \$ 39.00 | \$ 40.00 |
| 1-Day Resident | \$ 10.00 | \$ 11.00 | \$ 12.00 | \$ 13.00 | \$ 14.00 |
| 1-Day Tourist | \$ 25.00 | \$ 27.00 | \$ 28.00 | \$ 29.00 | \$ 30.00 |
| Trout/Salmon Permit | \$ 8.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 10.50 | \$ 11.00 | \$ 11.50 |
| Combination Trout/Salmon and Lake Erie Permit | \$ 14.00 | \$ 16.00 | \$ 16.50 | \$ 17.00 | \$ 17.50 |

([HB 808](#))

ACU: “Under Current Law, Fees Assessed On Fishing And Boating Are Set And Approved By Both Bodies Of The Legislature. This Bill Instead Empowers Unelected Bureaucrats Of The Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission To Establish And Increase Fees...”

ACU: “Under Current Law, Fees Assessed On Fishing And Boating Are Set And Approved By Both Bodies Of The Legislature. This Bill Instead Empowers Unelected Bureaucrats Of The Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission To Establish And Increase Fees...” “Under current law, fees assessed on fishing and boating are set and approved by both bodies of the legislature. This bill instead empowers unelected bureaucrats of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to establish and increase fees and only allows the legislature to disapprove of fee increases through a concurrent resolution. ACU opposes this bill designed to empower unelected bureaucrats and allow the legislature to avoid taking responsibility on voting on fee hikes and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Bill Designed To Empower Unelected Bureaucrats And Allow The Legislature To Avoid Taking Responsibility On Voting On Fee Hikes And Opposed This Bill”

The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Bill Designed To Empower Unelected Bureaucrats And Allow The Legislature To Avoid Taking Responsibility On Voting On Fee Hikes And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH PROPOSED A \$1 BILLION STUDENT DEBT RELIEF PROGRAM

In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Propose A \$1 Billion Program, Funded By Bonds, To Help Borrowers Pay Down Student Loan Debt

In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Propose A \$1 Billion Program, Funded By Bonds, To Help Borrowers Pay Down Student Loan Debt. “The following information was released by the Pennsylvania State Senator Vincent J. Hughes: A bold and innovative plan to help students and their families save thousands of dollars, pay down crushing student loan debt and better deal with the high cost of borrowing was unveiled by Sens. Vincent J. Hughes (D-Philadelphia/Montgomery), Katie Muth (D-Montgomery/Chester) and Lindsey Williams (D-Allegheny) today. The plan, called the PA Student HELP (Higher Education Lending Protection) Act, is a multi-pronged effort which allows students to refinance high-interest debt and provide tax credits for those who have outstanding student loans. The plan also includes incentives for employers to help pay down student loan debt of their employees. The refinancing program aimed at curbing excessive student debt would be funded by up to \$1 billion in bond financing. "It's plain and simple: students face crushing loan obligations once they complete years of higher education," Hughes said. "Not only is the expense of postsecondary education sky high, but the cost of borrowing to meet tuition and living expenses financially cripples graduates for years.” (Press Release, “Senate Democrats Present Bold Plan To Tackle Crushing Student Loan Debt,” PA Senate Democrats, 3/20/19)

Muth: “PA Student HELP Calls For Refinancing High-Interest Student Debt Using Up To \$1 Billion In Bond Financing. Early Estimates Indicate That More Than 28,000 Students Would Benefit From It”

Williams And Muth: “PA Student HELP Calls For Refinancing High-Interest Student Debt Using Up To \$1 Billion In Bond Financing. Early Estimates Indicate That More Than 28,000 Students Would Benefit From It.” “PA Student HELP calls for refinancing high-interest student debt using up to \$1 billion in bond financing. Early estimates indicate that more than 28,000 students would benefit from it. In Pennsylvania today, there is \$68 billion in outstanding student loan debt — the highest student loan debt per capita in the United States. Nearly 2 million Pennsylvanians carry student loan debt. The average college student in Pennsylvania carries \$36,000 in debt. Under PA Student HELP, a student could refinance his or her debt and save \$10,000 over a 20-year loan repayment. This would be achieved by slicing more than 2% off the blended federal loan repayment rate of 6.25%. The savings would be more pronounced for students who financed their education through private lenders. These students, who carry an average of \$50,000 in debt and a 10% interest rate (the current average private lending rate), would save more than \$43,000 from refinancing under the bill. There are other features. The plan includes a potential \$500 per year tax credit against personal income tax liability. The program would make up to \$10 million in tax credits available. Employers also have a role to play. To retain valuable, educated staff, employers could make contributions into a 529 account and have these contributions credited toward reducing student debt. The program would also open the possibility for employees to deploy the cash equivalent of unused carryover days to retire student debt. A final feature would boost transparency and open additional tracts of financial data to students to better understand the cost of higher education. The plan would mandate that colleges provide students with an upfront estimated cost of a four-year degree. It also would require that an ombudsman be appointed to guide students and parents through the loan application process.” (Lindsey Williams, Katie Muth, et. al., Op-Ed, “Pa. Bill Would Help Students With Crushing Debt Burden,” *Eastern Express Times*, 6/20/19)

**MUTH SUPPORTED AN EFFORT TO CONTINUE THE STATE’S
SOCIALIZATION OF CERTAIN STUDENT LOANS**

In 2020, Muth Supported An Amendment That “Would Extend A Program Which Socializes The Student Loan Debt Of Select Individuals Employed In The Medical Industry”

Muth Voted Yea On Amdt. A-4837 To SB 462, Which Sought To Remove Repeal Of Provisions Relating To The Medical Education Loan Assistance. ([Amdt. A-4837 To SB 462](#), Amendment Failed - Senate (22-28), Pennsylvania State Senate, 4/20/20, Muth Voted Yea)

1 Amend Bill, page 2, lines 13 and 14, by striking out
2 "repealing provisions relating to medical education loan
3 assistance;"
4 Amend Bill, page 2, line 30, by striking out the comma after
5 "XV-B" and inserting
6 and
7 Amend Bill, page 2, line 30, by striking out "AND" and
8 inserting a comma
9 Amend Bill, page 2, line 31, by striking out ", ARTICLE XXII-
10 A AND SECTION" and inserting
11 and
12 Amend Bill, page 23, lines 8 through 30; pages 24 through 32,
13 lines 1 through 30; page 33, lines 1 through 11; by striking out
14 all of said lines on said pages

[\(Amdt. A-4837 To SB 462\)](#)

ACU: “Under The Original Version Of The Bill The ‘Pennsylvania Medical Education Loan Assistance Program’ Is Repealed, And This Amendment Keeps The Program, Thus Forcing Taxpayers To Continue To Cover Up To \$50,000 In Student Loan Debt For Select Physicians And Nurses”

The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Interference In The Marketplace And The Further Socialization Of Higher Education Costs For Select Individuals And Industries Favored By Government And Opposed This Amendment”

ACU: This Amendment “Would Extend A Program Which Socializes The Student Loan Debt Of Select Individuals Employed In The Medical Industry.” “The Williams (ACUF Lifetime 16%) amendment #4837 to an education bill would extend a program which socializes the student loan debt of select individuals employed in the medical industry. Under the original version of the bill the “Pennsylvania Medical Education Loan Assistance Program” is repealed, and this amendment keeps the program, thus forcing taxpayers to continue to cover up to \$50,000 in student loan debt for select physicians and nurses. ACU opposes this interference in the marketplace and the further socialization of higher education costs for select individuals and industries favored by government and opposed this amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

- **“Under The Original Version Of The Bill The ‘Pennsylvania Medical Education Loan Assistance Program’ Is Repealed, And This Amendment Keeps The Program, Thus Forcing Taxpayers To Continue To Cover Up To \$50,000 In Student Loan Debt For Select Physicians And Nurses.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Interference In The Marketplace And The Further Socialization Of Higher Education Costs For Select Individuals And Industries Favored By Government And Opposed This Amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH HAS SUPPORTED THE EXPANSION OF ‘CRONYISM’ THROUGH PROVIDING SELECT TAXPAYER-FUNDED SUBSIDIES

In 2019, Muth Supported Legislation That “Expands Cronyism And Interference In The Free Marketplace By Establishing The Dairy Investment Program To Benefit The Dairy Industry”

Muth Voted Yea On HB 1590, Which Establishes The Dairy Investment Program And Dairy Investment Program Account. ([HB 1590](#), Bill Passed - Senate (50-0), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/26/19, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Expands Cronyism And Interference In The Free Marketplace By Establishing The Dairy Investment Program To Benefit The Dairy Industry.” “This bill expands cronyism and interference in the free marketplace by establishing the Dairy Investment Program to benefit the dairy industry. Under the program, grants up to \$100,000 are awarded to companies that promote the interests of the milk and dairy industry through marketing, industry management techniques and identifying new uses for milk and dairy products.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “...Opposes This Interference In The Free Marketplace Which Shifts Tax Burdens To Those Not Favored By The Government And Provides Competitive Advantages To Select Industries And Companies And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In 2019, Muth Supported Legislation That “Expands Cronyism And Shifts Tax Burdens To Other Taxpayers Not Favored By Government By Establishing A New Tax Credit Program That Benefits ‘Beginning Farmers’”

Muth Voted Yea On SB 478, Which Amends The Tax Reform Code Providing For Tax Credits Relating To Beginning Farmers. ([SB 478](#), Bill Passed - Senate (50-0), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/26/19, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Expands Cronyism And Shifts Tax Burdens To Other Taxpayers Not Favored By Government By Establishing A New Tax Credit Program That Benefits ‘Beginning Farmers.’” “This bill expands cronyism and shifts tax burdens to other taxpayers not favored by government by establishing a new tax credit program that benefits “beginning farmers.” Under the bill, landowners are provided a personal income tax credit for the sale or multi-year lease of their property to a beginning farmer who intends to engage in agricultural production. The tax credits, which are worth as much as \$32,000 or 5% of the value of the property, are to be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis, with the state issuing a total of \$6 million annually by 2021.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union Contends This Legislation “Provides Competitive Advantages To Select Landowners And Farmers And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

MUTH OPPOSED A REFORM EFFORT TO “ENSURE TAXPAYER RESOURCES ARE BEST UTILIZED” IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Makes Numerous Reforms To The Criminal Justice System In Order To Better Ensure Taxpayer Resources Are Best Utilized To Fight Crime And Improve Public Safety”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 501, Which Amends Title 42 (Judiciary And Judicial Procedure) And Title 61 (Prisons And Parole). ([SB 501](#), Bill Passed - Senate (38-11), Pennsylvania State Senate, 12/18/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Makes Numerous Reforms To The Criminal Justice System In Order To Better Ensure Taxpayer Resources Are Best Utilized To Fight Crime And Improve Public Safety.” “This bill makes numerous reforms to the criminal justice system in order to better ensure taxpayer resources are best utilized to fight crime and improve public safety. Under the bill, numerous reforms are made to the probation and parole system and the Sentencing Commission is provided greater ability to make risk related adjustments to sentencing guidelines. Furthermore, the bill seeks to reduce recidivism by strengthening the state’s drug treatment program.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“Under The Bill, Numerous Reforms Are Made To The Probation And Parole System And The Sentencing Commission Is Provided Greater Ability To Make Risk Related Adjustments To Sentencing Guidelines.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)
- **“Furthermore, The Bill Seeks To Reduce Recidivism By Strengthening The State’s Drug Treatment Program.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports This Measure To Reduce Unnecessary Incarceration And Instead Redirect Scarce Taxpayer Resources To Initiatives That Reduce Recidivism And Improve Public Safety And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

MUTH HAS SUPPORTED INCREASING WAGE MANDATES ON PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESSES

In 2019, Speaking In Support Of Increased State Minimum Wage, Muth “Said She Has No Patience For Business Owners Who Claim Raising The Minimum Wage Would Put Them Out Of Business” And Claimed “If Your Business Relies On Paying People Crap Wages Then Yours Is Not A Moral Business”

In 2019, Speaking In Support Of Increased State Minimum Wage, Muth “Said She Has No Patience For Business Owners Who Claim Raising The Minimum Wage Would Put Them Out Of Business” And Claimed “If Your Business Relies On Paying People Crap Wages Then Yours Is Not A Moral Business.” “Kadida Kenner, campaign organizer for We the People-PA, emceed the forum and talked about the group's legislative agenda, which includes improving access to health care, quality education and making the wealthiest pay their fair share of income and corporate taxes. The group also advocates raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour across Pennsylvania. Schwank said she believes raising the minimum wage will benefit the entire community because all employers would have to pay the wage, and the added income would pump vital dollars into local economies. Muth said some of her fellow legislators have never had to rely on a minimum wage job and don't understand that paying even \$9.50 or \$12 an hour is still a poverty wage. She said she has no patience for business owners who claim raising the minimum wage would put them out of business. "If your business relies on paying people crap wages then yours is not a moral business," she said.” (*Reading Eagle*, 4/19/19)

In 2019, Muth Supported Legislation That Would Increase The State Minimum Wage

Muth Voted Yea On SB 79, Which Amends The Minimum Wage Act Of 1968 To Provide For An Increase To The Minimum Wage And To Make Changes To The Exemptions To The Minimum Wage And Overtime Provisions. ([SB 79](#), Bill Passed - Senate (42-7), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/20/19, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Would Reduce Employment Opportunities For Inexperienced Workers By Raising The Minimum Wage...” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Increases In The Minimum Wage Which Harm Those Who Need Employment Experience, Such As Students And Inexperienced Workers, Supports The Ability Of Employees To Negotiate Their Own Benefits And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In 2020, Muth Voted Against A Resolution That “Protects Employers And Employees From New Overtime Mandates”

ACU: “This Resolution Protects Employers And Employees From New Overtime Mandates Which May Reduce Job Opportunities. Specifically, This Resolution Formally Disapproves Of The Wolf Administration’s Attempt To Increase The Earnings Threshold For Mandatory Overtime Payments”

Muth Voted Nay On HCRRR 1. (HCRRR 1, Resolution Passed - Senate (29-21), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/27/20, Williams Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Resolution Protects Employers And Employees From New Overtime Mandates Which May Reduce Job Opportunities. Specifically, This Resolution Formally Disapproves Of The Wolf Administration’s Attempt To Increase The Earnings Threshold For Mandatory Overtime Payments.” “This resolution protects employers and employees from new overtime mandates which may reduce job opportunities. Specifically, this resolution formally disapproves of the Wolf administration’s attempt to increase the earnings threshold for mandatory overtime payments. Under federal law, weekly salaries above \$684 are exempt from overtime mandates. The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry regulation (#12-106) raises the threshold to \$875 starting in 2022, which this resolution would block. Only California and New York currently impose overtime thresholds on employers higher than the federal amount. ACU supports the right of employees and employers to freely negotiate the terms of a contract, opposes this expanded government interference in the right to contract which may reduce employment opportunities and supported this resolution.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports The Right Of Employees And Employers To Freely Negotiate The Terms Of A Contract, Opposes This Expanded Government Interference In The Right To Contract Which May Reduce Employment Opportunities And Supported This Resolution.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH HAS SIDED WITH ORGANIZED LABOR REPORTEDLY OVER THE INTERESTS OF TAXPAYERS

In 2020, Muth Supported Legislation That “Authorizes Unionization Of Waterways Conservation Officers, Thus Driving Up Taxpayer Costs And Making It Harder For The State To Dismiss Poorly Performing Employees”

Muth Voted Yea On HB 1584, Which “Amends Title 30 (Fish And Boat Code) To Remove Language That Bars Waterways Conservation Officers (Wcos) Of The Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission (Commission) From Being Included In Act 111 Of 1968 For The Purpose Of Seeking Collective Bargaining.” ([HB 1584](#), Bill Passed - Senate (48-1), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/19/20, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Authorizes Unionization Of Waterways Conservation Officers, Thus Driving Up Taxpayer Costs And Making It Harder For The State To Dismiss Poorly

Performing Employees.” “This bill authorizes unionization of Waterways Conservation Officers, thus driving up taxpayer costs and making it harder for the state to dismiss poorly performing employees. Under existing law, only certain government employees have authority to collectively bargain. ACU opposes this measure designed to enrich greedy union bosses while unnecessarily increasing taxpayer costs and weakening government integrity and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Measure Designed To Enrich Greedy Union Bosses While Unnecessarily Increasing Taxpayer Costs And Weakening Government Integrity And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH HAS BEEN A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND CALLING FOR 100% OF PENNSYLVANIA ENERGY TO COME FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES BY 2050

In 2018, Muth Noted She Supported Government Intervention In The Energy Industry And Called For Government Promotion Of The Clean Energy Sector

In 2018, Muth Noted She Supported Government Intervention In The Energy Industry And Called For Government Promotion Of The Clean Energy Sector. “2. Do you believe state government can help spur job creation? If so, what changes would you make in state law to encourage job growth? Rafferty: Yes, the state Legislature can help drive job creation through tax incentives for business and economic development for public works projects. For example, I was the prime sponsor of Act 89, which passed in 2013 and has created thousands of public sector jobs since its implementation. Muth: There are a number of things that we can do to spur job growth. I am passionate about clean and renewable energy jobs that pay more on average than the national median. The Pennsylvania Legislature should back policies that grow our clean energy sector, which can help reduce unemployment, lower power plant emissions and improve public health.” (*Reading Eagle*, 9/17/18)

In 2019, Muth Co-Sponsored Legislation Requiring Pennsylvania To Obtain 100 Percent Of Its Energy From Renewables By 2050

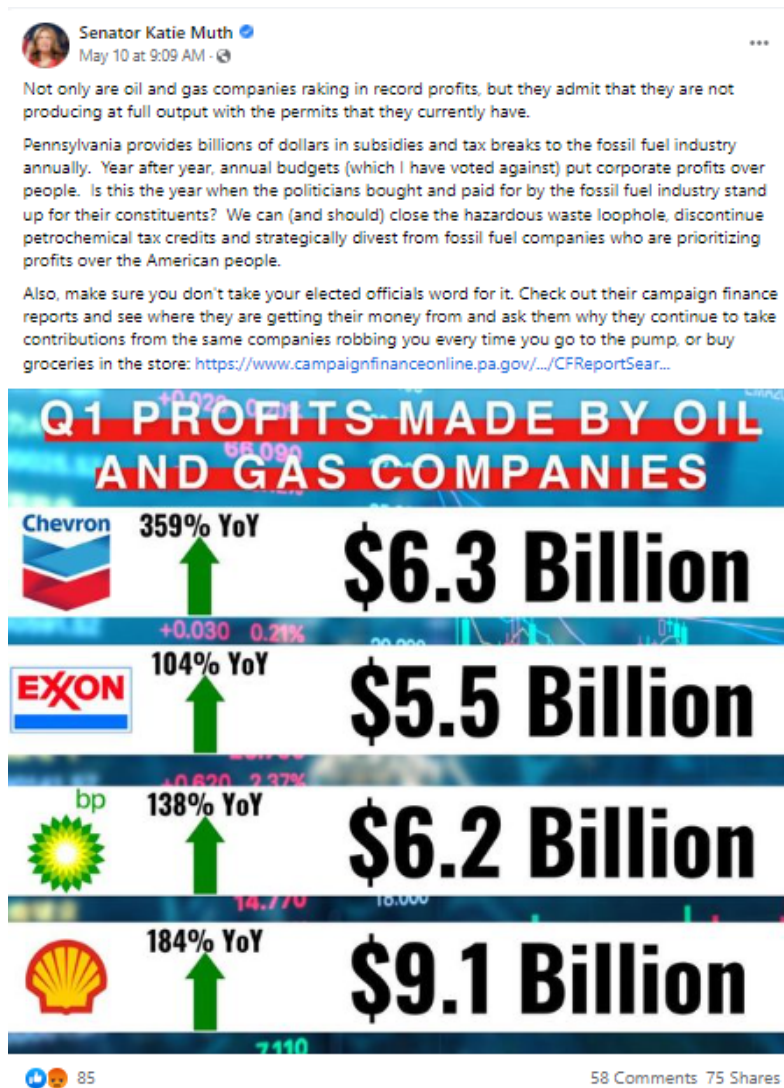
In May 2019, Muth Co-Sponsored Legislation Requiring Pennsylvania To Obtain 100 Percent Of Its Energy From Renewables By 2050. “A bipartisan group of 88 Republican and Democratic Pennsylvania state legislators yesterday announced the re-introduction of legislation in the General Assembly that would require Pennsylvania to get 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources by 2050. State Rep. Chris Rabb (Philadelphia) introduced the House bill (HB 1425), which was also proposed in last year's session. The Senate version of this legislation (SB630), sponsored by State Sen. Tom Killion (Chester & Delaware County), was first introduced last year by now-retired Republican senator Charles McIlhinney (Bucks County). This effort is the first 100 percent renewable energy legislation in the nation where the lead sponsors have been Republicans. "The vast majority of scientists agree that climate change is real," said Rabb. "And you don't have to be a scientist to notice its effects, which have been caused by human activity. By resorting to 100 percent renewable energy in the commonwealth,

we can help to slow this change or face the on-going irreparable damage and its detrimental consequences." Many Chester County legislators are co-sponsors of the legislation, including: Senators Andrew Dinniman (SD 19), Tim Kearney (SD 26), and Katie Muth (SD 44), as well as Representatives Dan Williams (HD 74), Danielle Friel Otten (HD 155), Carolyn Comitta (HD 156), Melissa Shusterman (HD 157), Christina Sappey (HD 158), Stephen Barrar (HD 160), and Kristine Howard (HD 167)." (*The Daily American*, 5/8/19)

MUTH HAS BEEN AN OPPONENT OF OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY FRACKING

Muth Has Been Outspoken In Her Opposition To The Fossil Fuel Industry

Muth: “We Can (And Should) Close The Hazardous Waste Loophole, Discontinue Petrochemical Tax Credits And Strategically Divest From Fossil Fuel Companies Who Are Prioritizing Profits Over The American People.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 5/10/22)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 5/10/22)

In 2019, Muth Noted She Opposed Fracking

In 2019, Muth Noted She Opposed Fracking. “Muth said some of her fellow legislators have never had to rely on a minimum wage job and don't understand that paying even \$9.50 or \$12 an hour is still a poverty wage. She said she has no patience for business owners who claim raising the minimum wage would put them out of business. "If your business relies on paying people crap wages then yours is not a moral business," she said. Both senators opposed fracking and favored using less fossil fuel energy, and favored expanded Medicare for all Pennsylvanians, access to better education, and early and other forms of expanded voting.” (*Reading Eagle*, 4/19/19)

In 2021, Muth Was Among The Democrats To Oppose Republican Efforts To Overturn A Fracking Ban Imposed By The Delaware River Basin Commission

In 2021, Muth Was Among The Democrats To Oppose Republican Efforts To Overturn A Fracking Ban Imposed By The Delaware River Basin Commission. “According to Miano, the Caucus argues in its suit that the Republican Senators do not have standing under the Constitution to bring the claims. "They claim, as individual senators, they have rights to make these claims, but case law and statutes are very clear that they don't have standing to bring the case. The same group tried to intervene in another case about fracking and there the district court ruled that they did not have standing. On appeal, the senators withdrew their case.

"Substantively, we don't believe the Republican Senators or Damascus Township have any claims of taking," added Miano. "The way the law looks at taking is very individualized and has to be facts dependent. What the Republican Senators are asking the courts to do is declare the whole rubric is a taking. In order to win on a takings case you have to show you've been impaired in a very specific way. We don't believe they have any ability to show that. "Finally they claim that somehow they DRBC is usurping their power to legislate in Pennsylvania, taking away the sovereignty of the state. That does not make sense as an argument," said Miano. "All the states, as part of the compact, voted for the fracking ban so we're not quite sure how the DRBC is usurping the power of the states." Five million Pennsylvanians across 17 counties reside in the Basin, which includes Bucks, Delaware, Montgomery, Chester and Philadelphia counties. The Delaware River Basin spans 6,471 square miles in the Commonwealth, across 522 municipalities. The Democratic Caucus members who have signed onto the lawsuit are Senators Steve Santarsiero (D-Bucks), Carolyn Comitta (D-Chester), Amanda Cappelletti (D-Montgomery, Delaware), Maria Collett (D-Montgomery, Bucks), Wayne Fontana (D-Allegheny), Art Haywood (D-Montgomery, Philadelphia), Vince Hughes (D-Philadelphia), John Kane (D-Chester, Delaware), Tim Kearney (D-Delaware), Katie Muth (D-Berks, Chester, Montgomery), John Sabatina (D-Philadelphia), Nikil Saval (D-Philadelphia), Judy Schwank (D-Berks), Sharif Street (D-Philadelphia), Tina Tartaglione (D-Philadelphia) and Anthony Williams (D-Philadelphia).” (*The Daily American*, 3/13/21)

In 2021, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Support A Series Of Additional Restrictions And Regulations On Fracking

In May 2021, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Support A Series Of Additional Restrictions And Regulations On Fracking. “Pennsylvania Senate Democrats on

Tuesday introduced eight bills designed to increase restrictions on natural gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing in the commonwealth, taking up most of the recommendations of last year's investigating grand jury. The grand jury led to criminal complaints against a handful of natural gas producers, but in bringing the report to light last fall, Attorney General Josh Shapiro highlighted the steps that the Legislature should take to bring Pennsylvania's environmental laws up to the grand jury's recommendations. While the grand jury's report had little impact in the GOP-controlled Legislature, Tuesday's news conference and the bills themselves sought to put limits onto natural gas industry onto the agenda in Harrisburg. The bills would • increase the setbacks from natural gas well sites from 500 feet now to 2,500 feet normally and 5,000 feet from schools, hospitals and reservoirs • encompass all air pollution when determining air quality at a drilling site • give the Office of Attorney General the ability to directly prosecute environmental crimes, something it doesn't have at the moment • more strictly regulate the transportation of hydraulic fracturing waste • prohibit Department of Environmental Protection officials from leaving the DEP and going to the private sector immediately • Studying the health of people who live near natural gas drilling sites • Require the disclosure of chemicals used for drilling and hydraulic fracturing State Sen. Steven J. Santarsiero, D-Bucks, said during a news conference Tuesday that the proposed legislation would work to address the grand jury's issues as well as the fallout from Act 13, a sweeping law for the natural gas industry that was passed in 2012. "Many of us saw that as an overreach on the part of the industry and not something that actually protected the public and protected the environment," Santarsiero said. Shapiro said the legislation would help ensure Pennsylvanians' rights to clean air and water; he said there was a gap between the 50-year-old law and reality when it came to natural gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing. "For far too long, fracking companies and regulators turned a blind eye to the health and safety impact of this industry," Shapiro said. Another co-sponsor, state Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks, said that more attention and regulations needed to be taken when it came to the transportation of hydraulic fracturing waste, including more labeling. "Currently, you could be driving around the highway and be next to something that is full of radioactive waste and not have a clue," Muth said." (*Pittsburgh Business Times*, 5/25/21)

In 2020, Muth Was Opposed To HB 1100, Which Provided Tax Credits To Businesses That Used Natural Gas When Manufacturing Fertilizers

In March 2020, Muth Was Opposed To HB 1100, Which Provided Tax Credits To Businesses That Used Natural Gas When Manufacturing Fertilizers. "House Bill 1100 passed both chambers last month and will land on Wolf's desk when lawmakers return to session next week. The proposal gives tax credits to businesses that use natural gas when manufacturing fertilizers. Businesses must spend at least \$450 million building a new facility that will create at least 800 jobs to qualify for the 30-year program. The governor said, however, he will veto the plan because he thinks tax breaks should be provided to economic development projects on a case-by-case basis. "We've taken too many hits and if you're going to veto this one, we are going to work like you've never seen us work before to gather up the votes to override that veto," Rep. Gerald Mullery, D-Luzerne, said during a rally for the bill in Harrisburg on Monday. "Because we need those jobs." The House voted 157-35 in favor of the plan on Feb. 4, just hours after the Senate approved the bill 39-11. "Keep this in mind," House Speaker Mike Turzai, R-Allegheny,

said. "These are veto proof numbers." Legislators must whip up two-thirds of each chamber – 136 votes in the House and 34 in the Senate – in order to successfully override the governor's expected veto. For some Democrats, however, the natural gas industry's impact on the environment trumps HB 1100's purported economic benefits. "I'm eager to work on a bill that actually prioritizes the economic sustainability and health and well-being of both the public workers and the environment and House Bill 1100 is not that bill," said Rep. Katie Muth, D-Montgomery, at a competing rally protesting the plan. "We can have jobs we can have economic security without sacrificing our land, our water and our health."” (*The Daily American*, 3/10/20)

Muth Is Known To Be Critical Of The Continued Development Of The Mariner East Pipeline

Muth Is Known To Be Critical Of The Continued Development Of The Mariner East Pipeline. ‘State Sen. Katie Muth, a Democrat who represents parts of Chester and Montgomery counties, said she's "infuriated" by the new permits allowing construction at Marsh Creek. "I think it should be completely stopped until they have actually tested the public and private water supplies all along [the pipeline route]," she said. "No one has done that. This project was flawed from the beginning." Muth said she's already received calls from constituents worried about how the current construction could affect groundwater and drinking water supplies, and whether neighboring backyards will once again be flooded. Residents worry that because Energy Transfer has to renew all its original permits in February, the company will rush this last section. "They are pushing forward really fast," said Christina "PK" DiGiulio, who lives by Marsh Creek and uses drones to document construction. "It's been a reckless process. This is the DEP enabling a criminal entity to push their pipe through without doing proper groundwater impact studies and protecting the health and safety of the people." Muth said that while there are no statutes that prevent companies facing criminal charges from continuing construction, the Department of Environmental Protection can pull permits. "DEP does have the legal authority to revoke or deny any permit for any operator that has a history of repeat violations," said Muth. "So [DEP] doesn't use its authority. You can't say they're underfunded forever, and that the laws aren't strong enough, when they hold the authority to revoke or deny, and they've never done it.”” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 12/27/21)

- **In January 2022, “State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th, Of Royersford, State Rep. Dianne Herrin, D-156th, Of West Chester, And State Rep. Danielle Friel-Otten, D-155th, Of Uwchlan, Say That Shapiro Has The Clear Authority Under The Clean Streams Law To File An Emergency Injunction To Halt Pipeline Construction For The Mariner East Pipeline And He Should Do So Immediately.”** “Three area elected officials have called upon Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro to halt construction of the Mariner East Pipeline. State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th, of Royersford, State Rep. Dianne Herrin, D-156th, of West Chester, and State Rep. Danielle Friel-Otten, D-155th, of Uwchlan, say that Shapiro has the clear authority under the Clean Streams Law to file an emergency injunction to halt pipeline construction for the Mariner East Pipeline and he should do so immediately. The elected officials are also asking the attorney general, a Democratic candidate for governor, to file a nuisance lawsuit on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its citizens (also under the Clean

Streams Law) to help abate what the three public officials say are ongoing violations by pipeline builder Energy Transfer.” (*Daily Local News*, 1/10/22)

In 2019, Muth Introduced Legislation Imposing Additional Regulatory And Oversight Requirements For Natural Gas Pipelines

In 2019, Muth Introduced Legislation Imposing Additional Regulatory And Oversight Requirements For Natural Gas Pipelines. “The Pennsylvania Senate Democrats issued the following news release on behalf of Pennsylvania State Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks/Chester/Montgomery, who announced that she will be introducing two pieces of legislation that would mandate specific safety and public awareness standards for pipeline construction and operation: "While pipelines may be considered the safest way to transport volatile liquids and natural gases, Pennsylvania has garnered a lengthy history of gas-related accidents, leaks, and disasters," Muth said. "My legislation ensures that residents are adequately informed of, and involved in, safety procedures that are necessary to make sure their communities are not being harmed or damaged by pipeline activity." The first bill would require early collaborative creation and approval of comprehensive risk assessments for each individual pipeline proposal. The assessments would be used to create an Integrity Management Program (IMP) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP). The second bill seeks to create an exception to Act 156 of 2006 that would allow agencies and a qualified Independent Third Party (ITP) to conduct the evaluations required by the first bill.” (Press Release, “Sen. Muth To Introduce Pipeline Safety Legislation,” PA Senate Democrats, 3/19/19)

Muth Has Opposed Efforts To Reduce The Regulatory Burden On Oil And Gas Operators

In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Reduce Excessive Regulatory Barriers Imposed On Conventional Oil And Gas Operations”

Williams Voted Nay On SB 790, Which Establishes The Conventional Oil And Gas Wells Act. ([SB 790](#), Bill Passed - Senate (26-23), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/21/19, Williams Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “This bill establishes the Conventional Oil and Gas Wells Act, specifically to restore regulatory provisions of the Oil and Gas Act of 1984 and provide a framework specific to conventional wells and well sites. The reason for this is because both unconventional and conventional wells are currently permitted activities with the same regulatory requirements under Act 13 of 2012.” ([SB 790](#))

“Under The Bill, A Regulatory Framework Would Be Established To Govern Conventional Oil And Gas Wells Which Would Balance Environmental Protection, The Energy Needs Of Consumers And The Uniqueness Of The Industry”

ACU: “This Bill Would Reduce Excessive Regulatory Barriers Imposed On Conventional Oil And Gas Operations.” “This bill would reduce excessive regulatory barriers imposed on conventional oil and gas operations. Under the bill, a regulatory framework would be established to govern conventional oil and gas wells which would balance environmental protection, the energy needs of consumers and the uniqueness of the industry. The bill is in response to

regulations passed in 2012 designed to address the Marcellus Shale boom and the unconventional oil and gas industry (i.e., hydraulic fracturing), but have placed significant burdens on smaller conventional producers and brought the industry to near collapse. ACU supports all sources of energy, believes government should not favor one source of energy over another, supports this measure to expand energy production and strengthen property rights and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“Under The Bill, A Regulatory Framework Would Be Established To Govern Conventional Oil And Gas Wells Which Would Balance Environmental Protection, The Energy Needs Of Consumers And The Uniqueness Of The Industry.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports All Sources Of Energy, Believes Government Should Not Favor One Source Of Energy Over Another, Supports This Measure To Expand Energy Production And Strengthen Property Rights And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

MUTH APPEARS SUPPORTIVE OF A CAP-AND-TRADE PROGRAM THAT MAY DRIVE UP UTILITY COSTS

In 2021, Muth Defended The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative And Called The Measure’s Implicit Carbon Tax A “Pay To Pollute Fee”

In August 2021, Muth Defended The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative And Called The Measure’s Implicit Carbon Tax A “Pay To Pollute Fee.” “Sen. Joe Pittman, R-Indiana, blasted RGGI, and called it a carbon tax on emissions that could affect 'thousands of families' that rely on the production of carbon-emitting electricity 'for their livelihoods.' 'There's no other way around it,' Pittman added. Sen. Scott Martin, R-Lancaster, said he worries participation in the agreement will lead to a rise in utility rates among low-income families and individuals. 'These things have real impacts. Energy plays such a critical role in life, keeping people warm, powering things that keep us alive,' Martin said, adding that an 'increase in energy costs has an increase in cost to everything down the line.' Sen. Katie Muth, D-Montgomery, clarified that the initiative is not a tax — it's a 'pay-to-pollute fee.' 'It requires coal and gas power plants to pay for their carbon pollution, so they're being held accountable in a financial manner so that we can limit carbon emissions,' Muth said. 'Companies are going to pay based on how much they pollute, and right now, they don't do that.’” (*Pennsylvania Capital-Star*, 8/18/21)

In 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Protects Pennsylvania Residents From Skyrocketing Utility Costs By Preventing The Governor From Committing The State Into The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Or Any Similar Initiative Without Approval From The Legislature”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 2025, Which Enacts The Pennsylvania Carbon Dioxide Cap And Trade Authorization Act. ([HB 2025](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 9/9/20, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “This bill clarifies that the Department of Environmental Protection (department) does not have the authority to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) or similar state or regional greenhouse gas cap-and-trade programs unless authorized by the General Assembly.” ([HB 2025](#))

“The RGGI Is A Cap-And-Trade Program Which Places Limits And Assesses Fees On The Carbon Dioxide Emissions Of Electric Energy Producers, Which Costs Are Then Passed On To Consumers Through Higher Utility Rates”

ACU: “This Bill Protects Pennsylvania Residents From Skyrocketing Utility Costs By Preventing The Governor From Committing The State Into The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Or Any Similar Initiative Without Approval From The Legislature.”

“This bill protects Pennsylvania residents from skyrocketing utility costs by preventing the governor from committing the state into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) or any similar initiative without approval from the legislature. The RGGI is a cap-and-trade program which places limits and assesses fees on the carbon dioxide emissions of electric energy producers, which costs are then passed on to consumers through higher utility rates. The revenue collected through this scheme is oftentimes directed to Leftist initiatives relating to climate change and energy efficiency. ACU opposes driving up the utility costs of millions of Pennsylvanians to advance Leftist initiatives and a politicized global warming agenda and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

“The RGGI Is A Cap-And-Trade Program Which Places Limits And Assesses Fees On The Carbon Dioxide Emissions Of Electric Energy Producers, Which Costs Are Then Passed On To Consumers Through Higher Utility Rates.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Driving Up The Utility Costs Of Millions Of Pennsylvanians To Advance Leftist Initiatives And A Politicized Global Warming Agenda And Supported This Bill”

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Driving Up The Utility Costs Of Millions Of Pennsylvanians To Advance Leftist Initiatives And A Politicized Global Warming Agenda And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Additionally, Muth Supported A Separate Bill That “Would Interfere In The Marketplace And Drive Up Electricity Costs For All Ratepayers By Mandating That Electric Utility Companies In The State Develop ‘Transportation Electrification Infrastructure Development Plans’”

Muth Voted Yea On SB 596, To Provide For Transportation Fueling Infrastructure Development. ([SB 596](#), Bill Passed - Senate (43-6), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/19/19, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Would Interfere In The Marketplace And Drive Up Electricity Costs For All Ratepayers By Mandating That Electric Utility Companies In The State Develop ‘Transportation Electrification Infrastructure Development Plans.’” “This bill would interfere in the marketplace and drive up electricity costs for all ratepayers by mandating that

electric utility companies in the state develop “transportation electrification infrastructure development plans.” Under the bill, the plans would be filed with the Public Utility Commission (PUC) and the agency would be directed to develop a statewide plan to expand transportation electrification by 50% by 2030. The plans that utility companies submit would be required to be developed with independent transportation planning experts and detail how the utility plans to develop and install electric charging infrastructure. Furthermore, the bill would authorize utilities to increase all of their customers’ electricity bills—regardless if the customer uses the charging infrastructure—by 0.25% to recover the costs of the plan. ACU supports all sources of energy and believes government should not favor one source of energy over another.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Socializing Infrastructure Costs In Order To Benefit Select (Primarily Wealthy) Vehicle Owners And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

MUTH HAS OPPOSED EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE COSTS OF CAR OWNERSHIP

In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Reduce Regulatory Burdens And Commuter Costs By Exempting Vehicles Made Eight Years Ago Or Less From The Requirement To Be Tested Under The State’s Vehicle Emissions Program”

The American Conservative Union “Supports Reducing Car Ownership Costs By Reducing Regulatory Burdens And Supported This Bill As A Step In The Right Direction”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 742, Which Establishes The New Vehicle Emissions Modeling Act. ([SB 742](#), Bill Passed - Senate (26-24), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/25/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “This legislation establishes the New Vehicle Emissions Modeling Act. The legislation requires the PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT), in consultation with the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), to conduct vehicle emissions modeling to determine an exemption period that is in compliance with performance standards under the Clean Air Act and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Inspection/Maintenance Program regulations. The modeling must include scenarios up to and including the newest eight vehicle model years. The purpose is to determine the impacts of exempting newer model year vehicles from the program.” ([SB 742](#))

ACU: “This Bill Would Reduce Regulatory Burdens And Commuter Costs By Exempting Vehicles Made Eight Years Ago Or Less From The Requirement To Be Tested Under The State’s Vehicle Emissions Program.” “This bill would reduce regulatory burdens and commuter costs by exempting vehicles made eight years ago or less from the requirement to be tested under the state’s vehicle emissions program. ACU supports reducing car ownership costs by reducing regulatory burdens and supported this bill as a step in the right direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Reducing Car Ownership Costs By Reducing Regulatory Burdens And Supported This Bill As A Step In The Right Direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

MUTH HAS EARNED PRAISE FOR ENVIRONMENTALIST TENDENCIES

In 2020, Muth Earned A 100 Percent Rating On The Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard And Claimed Lawmakers Who Continued To Vote On Energy Matters Despite Accepting Contributions From Fossil Fuel Interests Were Undermining Democracy

In August 2020, Muth Earned A 100 Percent Rating On The Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard And Claimed Lawmakers Who Continued To Vote On Energy Matters Despite Accepting Contributions From Fossil Fuel Interests Were Undermining Democracy. “Said Sen. Katie Muth (SD-44): “Elected officials and those in positions of power who take money from fossil fuel companies should not be drafting or voting on environmental legislation. Too many members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly remain loyal to special interests, resulting in a direct attack on our democracy, our environment and our public health.” The 2019-2020 Environmental Scorecard reflects a denial of science among legislative leaders that risks the health and safety of Pennsylvania's residents for generations to come. This session, 116 legislators scored zero percent, marking a 500 percent increase in bad voting records on environmental issues since the last environmental scorecard in 2017-2018. However, Chester County was one of the few regions which saw an increase in legislators scoring 100 percent. “We all know the urgency of the climate crisis and the importance of preserving and protecting our environment for future generations,” said Rep. Carolyn Comitta (HD-156). “I am proud to stand with my colleagues to ensure that our communities have environmental champions that are dedicated to passing legislation that will safeguard our constitutional right to clean air and water.” Environmental scores: State Sen. Andrew Dinniman (SD-19): 67 percent, State Sen. Tim Kearney (SD-26): 100 percent, State Sen. Thomas Killion (SD-9): 50 percent, and State Sen. Katie Muth (SD-44): 100 percent.” (*The Daily American*, 8/31/20)

MUTH HAS SUPPORTED THE GROWTH OF PENNSYLVANIA’S REGULATORY REGIME

In 2019, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Streamlines Government By Abolishing Eight Outdated Boards, Commissions And Committees, Many Of Which Have Not Convened In Years”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 57, “An Act Abolishing Numerous State Authorities, Boards, Commissions, Committees, Councils And Representatives; And Making Related Repeals.” ([HB 57](#), Bill Passed - Senate (46-3), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/19/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Streamlines Government By Abolishing Eight Outdated Boards, Commissions And Committees, Many Of Which Have Not Convened In Years.” “This bill streamlines government by abolishing eight outdated boards, commissions and committees,

many of which have not convened in years. Some of these entities include the Public Television Broadcasting Advisory Council, the Public Television Network Commission and the Pennsylvania Quality Leadership Awards Council. ACU supports efforts to streamline government and eliminate entities that, in many cases, should not have been a function of government in the first place and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Efforts To Streamline Government And Eliminate Entities That, In Many Cases, Should Not Have Been A Function Of Government In The First Place And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In 2019, Muth Voted Against A Bill “Designed To Improve Oversight Of The Regulatory Process And Strengthen A Crucial Check On Executive Branch Power”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 398, Which Amends The Regulatory Review Act. ([SB 398](#), Bill Passed - Senate (27-22), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/22/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “An Act amending the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the Regulatory Review Act, further providing for definitions, for proposed regulations and procedures for review, for final-form regulations and final-omitted regulations and procedures for review and for procedures for subsequent review of disapproved final-form or final-omitted regulations.” ([SB 398](#))

ACU: “This Bill Is Designed To Improve Oversight Of The Regulatory Process And Strengthen A Crucial Check On Executive Branch Power.” “This bill is designed to improve oversight of the regulatory process and strengthen a crucial check on executive branch power. Firstly, the bill would ensure that lawmakers and the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) have adequate time to review regulations proposed by state agencies, thus limiting a scheme in which state agencies propose regulations when the legislature is in recess and prevent lawmakers from having time to review the policies. Secondly, the bill would improve oversight by ensuring committee chairs within the General Assembly are able to properly review proposed legislation, hold hearings and submit comments. Finally, the bill would eliminate the requirement that “statements of purpose” (SOPs) drafted by agencies be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, a weekly journal produced by the state detailing agency rules and regulations.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Strengthening Oversight And Transparency Over The Regulatory Process, Supports Strengthening Checks And Balanced To Curb Any Inappropriate Power Of Unelected Bureaucrats Within The Executive Branch And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In 2020, Muth Voted Against An Amendment That “Would Reform Outdated And Excessive Regulations To Allow The Operation Of Motorized Scooters...”

Muth Voted Nay On Amdt. A-6509 To HB 632, Which Amends Regulations Concerning Motorized Scooters. ([Amdt. A-6509 To HB 632](#), Amendment Failed - Senate (20-30), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/30/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: This Amendment “Would Reform Outdated And Excessive Regulations To Allow The Operation Of Motorized Scooters...” “The Laughlin (ACUF Lifetime 71%) amendment #6509 to the vehicle titling bill would reform outdated and excessive regulations to allow the operation of motorized scooters from companies such as Bird and Lime. Under existing law, all motorized devices on the road must be registered and certified like cars and motorcycles. This amendment exempts motorized scooters from this mandate, and instead lays a basic framework to allow scooter use with oversight from local governments. ACU opposes excessive statewide mandates which prohibits environmentally friendly travel and limit mobility options for commuters, tourists and families and supported this amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Excessive Statewide Mandates Which Prohibits Environmentally Friendly Travel And Limit Mobility Options For Commuters, Tourists And Families And Supported This Amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Reduce Excessive Regulations That Have Prevented Individuals From Utilizing Agricultural Buildings Such As Barns For Weddings And Other Special Events”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 453, Which Reduces Regulations Surrounding The Use Of Agricultural Buildings For Events. ([SB 453](#), Bill Passed - Senate (27-20), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/7/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Would Reduce Excessive Regulations That Have Prevented Individuals From Utilizing Agricultural Buildings Such As Barns For Weddings And Other Special Events.” “This bill would reduce excessive regulations that have prevented individuals from utilizing agricultural buildings such as barns for weddings and other special events. Specifically, the bill would exempt certain agricultural buildings used for special events from stringent requirements under the Uniform Construction Code (UCC). For example, agricultural buildings would be required to meet basic safety standards such as smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and proper egress (i.e., exit), but would not have to meet other stringent regulations designed for new commercial buildings. ACU supports strengthening individual liberties and property rights by reducing excessive regulations and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“Specifically, The Bill Would Exempt Certain Agricultural Buildings Used For Special Events From Stringent Requirements Under The Uniform Construction Code (UCC).”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Strengthening Individual Liberties And Property Rights By Reducing Excessive Regulations And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Expands Consumer Access To Broadband And Other Telecommunication Services By Repealing Costly Regulations And Requiring Regular Review Of Regulatory Impact”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 1112, Which “Amends Title 66 (Public Utilities) To Provide For Telecommunication Carrier Regulatory Relief.” ([SB 1112](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-16), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/21/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Expands Consumer Access To Broadband And Other Telecommunication Services By Repealing Costly Regulations And Requiring Regular Review Of Regulatory Impact.” “This bill expands consumer access to broadband and other telecommunication services by repealing costly regulations and requiring regular review of regulatory impact. Specifically, this bill requires the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to waive several regulations that are outdated, costly, or unnecessary and may stifle broadband expansion. The bill also requires the PUC to undertake a review of all regulations applicable to telecommunications every three years. ACU supports expanding consumer access and reducing costs by limiting excessive regulations and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Expanding Consumer Access And Reducing Costs By Limiting Excessive Regulations And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Make A Series Of Amendments To The State’s Price Gouging Act To Limit The Application Of The Law To Actual Disasters And Emergencies”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 139, Which Amends The Price Gouging Act Definitions And Prohibitions In The Case Of A Declaration Of A State Of Disaster Emergency. ([SB 139](#), Bill Passed - Senate (31-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/4/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Would Make A Series Of Amendments To The State’s Price Gouging Act To Limit The Application Of The Law To Actual Disasters And Emergencies.” “This bill would make a series of amendments to the state’s Price Gouging Act to limit the application of the law to actual disasters and emergencies. Under current law, any time the governor declares a state of emergency (including non-disaster declarations), price restrictions are automatically imposed for 30 days with extensions up to 90 days. This bill would provide the governor with flexibility to determine in which disasters to impose price restrictions. Additionally, the bill would limit the duration of the restrictions to 15 days with extensions up to 60 days. The bill does, however, contain one negative provision that would prevent prices from rising greater than 10% during an emergency (previously 20%). ACU opposes price controls that aggravate disasters by preventing the market from allocating scarce resources and incentivizing the flow of additional goods and supported this bill as a step in the right direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Price Controls That Aggravate Disasters By Preventing The Market From Allocating Scarce Resources And Incentivizing The Flow Of

Additional Goods And Supported This Bill As A Step In The Right Direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In 2019, Muth Supported Legislation That “Restricts Competition And Drives Up Pharmaceutical Costs By Imposing New Barriers For Pharmacy Technicians To Enter The Workforce”

Muth Voted Yea On HB 770, Amends The Pharmacy Act To Provide For Pharmacy Technicians And Pharmacy Technician Trainees. ([HB 770](#), Bill Passed - Senate (31-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/4/19, Muth Voted Yea)

- NOTE: “The legislation requires a pharmacy technician to register with the Board of Pharmacy (board) biennially and pay a registration fee, possess an unrestricted registration from the board to practice, and be responsible to and under the direct and immediate personal supervision of a board-licensed pharmacist.” ([HB 770](#))

ACU: “This Bill Restricts Competition And Drives Up Pharmaceutical Costs By Imposing New Barriers For Pharmacy Technicians To Enter The Workforce.” “This bill restricts competition and drives up pharmaceutical costs by imposing new barriers for pharmacy technicians to enter the workforce. Under the bill, no individual may be employed as a pharmacy technician unless they are certified by the State Board of Pharmacy, satisfy a near endless number of requirements, and pay various fees. ACU recognizes that pharmacy technicians work under the supervision of pharmacists who are already licensed, opposes the proliferation of licensing regimes which drive up consumer costs and are primarily designed to restrict competition and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes The Proliferation Of Licensing Regimes Which Drive Up Consumer Costs And Are Primarily Designed To Restrict Competition And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH HAS OPPOSED TORT REFORM

In 2019, Muth Voted Against A Resolution That “Urges The Pennsylvania Supreme Court To Uphold The Positive Reforms Implemented In 2002 To Reduce Lawsuit Abuse In Medical Malpractice Cases”

The American Conservative Union “Supports Reasonable Tort Reform To Reduce Frivolous Litigation And Lawsuit Abuse And Supported This Resolution”

Muth Voted Nay On SR 20, A Resolution Concerning The Impact Of Venue For Medical Professional Liability Actions On Access To Medical Care And Maintenance Of Health Care Systems. ([SR 20](#), Resolution Passed 32-17, 2/5/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of the impact of venue for medical professional liability actions on access to medical care and maintenance of health care systems in this Commonwealth and

requesting that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court delay action on the proposed amendment to Pa.R.C.P. No. 1006.” ([SR 20](#))

ACU: “This Resolution Urges The Pennsylvania Supreme Court To Uphold The Positive Reforms Implemented In 2002 To Reduce Lawsuit Abuse In Medical Malpractice Cases.”

“This resolution urges the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to uphold the positive reforms implemented in 2002 to reduce lawsuit abuse in medical malpractice cases. The reforms were designed to reduce “forum shopping” schemes by personal injury lawyers which sent medical malpractice insurance rates skyrocketing and contributed to the loss of medical practitioners and facilities. Under the resolution, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania is encouraged to delay action on an amendment proposed by the Civil Procedure Rules Committee. The proposed amendment would repeal the 2002 forum shopping reforms. ACU recognizes that prior to 2002, 10% of the nation’s medical malpractice claims were filed in Philadelphia County (most of any county in the nation) and that the repeal of the reforms would increase medical costs and reduce access and quality of care. ACU further recognizes that our rights under the U.S. Constitution guarantee all who have been genuinely harmed the opportunity to seek remedies through the courts. Unfortunately, this is not possible when the courts are clogged with frivolous litigation. ACU supports reasonable tort reform to reduce frivolous litigation and lawsuit abuse and supported this resolution.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Reasonable Tort Reform To Reduce Frivolous Litigation And Lawsuit Abuse And Supported This Resolution.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

MUTH OPPOSED RATIFICATION OF THE USMCA

In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Vote In Committee Against A Resolution Urging Passage Of The USMCA

In 2019, Williams And Muth Were Among The Democratic Senators To Vote In Committee Against A Resolution Urging Passage Of The USMCA. “The Pennsylvania Senate State Government Committee advanced a resolution by a vote of 7-4 along party lines encouraging Congress to approve the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Democrats Anthony Williams, Maria Collett, Katie Muth and Lindsey Williams voted no last week to Senate Resolution 153 sponsored by Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill, R-York. "Until those changes relative to ensuring labor standards, certain environmental provisions as well as enforcement of the deal itself. ... I will be a 'no' vote," Muth said. Sen. Doug Mastriano, R-Franklin County, countered Muth's statements with support of the bill. "Once it passes, I believe we'll see a boom for our industry and agriculture here across Pennsylvania and then maybe once again Pennsylvania will be open for business." Congress is still ironing out details with the Trump administration on the deal, which would replace the North American Free Trade Act.” (*The Daily American*, 11/4/19)

MUTH'S EMBRACE OF THE LEFT'S COVID REACTION AND GOVERNMENT-FUNDED HEALTHCARE

Muth supports Medicare for All.

During the covid-19 pandemic, Muth supported onerous covid restrictions. Even through September 2021, Muth was a defender of the imposition of school mask mandates. Muth indicated support for big government rule by opposing efforts to provide a check on the executive branch during the covid-19 pandemic. Muth voted against efforts to reopen Pennsylvania's economy and opposed efforts to fairly reopen Pennsylvania bars and restaurants.

MUTH BACKS MEDICARE FOR ALL

In 2019, Muth Noted She Supported Medicare For All

In 2019, Muth Noted She Supported Medicare For All. "Muth said some of her fellow legislators have never had to rely on a minimum wage job and don't understand that paying even \$9.50 or \$12 an hour is still a poverty wage. She said she has no patience for business owners who claim raising the minimum wage would put them out of business. "If your business relies on paying people crap wages then yours is not a moral business," she said. Both senators opposed fracking and favored using less fossil fuel energy, and favored expanded Medicare for all Pennsylvanians, access to better education, and early and other forms of expanded voting." (*Reading Eagle*, 4/19/19)

MUTH WAS A CHEERLEADER FOR COVID RESTRICTIONS, INCLUDING SCHOOL MASK MANDATES

In September 2021, Muth Defended The Imposition Of School Mask Mandates

In September 2021, Muth Defended The Imposition Of School Mask Mandates. "State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th, said Gov. Tom Wolf's order was needed. "Wearing masks, protecting ourselves and protecting our communities should have never been politicized or vilified — we are still fighting a deadly pandemic and need to take every precaution to stop the spread of COVID-19 and the Delta variant," she said. "While there were many schools and childcare facilities across our Commonwealth acting responsibly and requiring masks, many others were not — putting the health and well-being of children and our greater communities at risk. This commonsense order takes necessary steps to keep our communities safe and keep our schools open for in-person learning." Denise Day, president and chief executive officer for YMCA of Greater Brandywine agrees with Wolf's order." (*Daily Local News*, 9/2/21)

In December 2020, Citing The Presence Of Her Desk Next To Republicans Who Did Not Wear Masks, Muth Relocated Herself To A Corner Of The Chamber In A Bid To Socially Distance Herself

In December 2020, Citing The Presence Of Her Desk Next To Republicans Who Did Not Wear Masks, Muth Relocated Herself To A Corner Of The Chamber In A Bid To Socially

Distance Herself. “Katie Muth's assigned seat in the Pennsylvania Senate is near several Republicans who don't wear face masks on the chamber floor. "I call it COVID alley," said Muth, a Montgomery County Democrat. So in October, she brought a new desk into the chamber and set it up in the corner instead. She felt safer. Muth's forced social distancing was emblematic of a vitriolic year in Harrisburg - an environment unlikely to mellow in 2021. While most Pennsylvanians can shelter in their political bubbles while they disagree about the severity of the pandemic and the reality of Joe Biden's election win, in Harrisburg, elected officials have clashed over those same things while sitting right next to one another or on tense Zoom calls.” (*The Morning Call*, 12/26/20)

MUTH INDICATED SUPPORT FOR EXPANDING GOVERNMENT RULE BY OPPOSING EFFORTS TO PROVIDE A CHECK ON THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

In July 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Amend The State Constitution To Provide A Crucial Check On The Authority Of The Executive Branch To Impose Executive Orders During Emergencies Without Legislative Oversight Or Approval”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 1166, Which “Amends The Constitution Of Pennsylvania Providing For Equality Of Rights Because Of Race And Ethnicity, Concurrent Orders And Resolutions, And For Disaster Emergency Declaration And Management.” ([SB 1166](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 7/15/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ANALYSIS: This legislation proposes three separate amendments to the Constitution of Pennsylvania as follows:

Article I: This resolution adds a new section that would prohibit denying or abridging equality of rights under the law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because of the race or ethnicity of an individual.

Section 9 of Article III: This resolution would add a provision allowing for non-presentment to the governor of a Joint Resolution terminating or extending a declaration of disaster emergency.

Article IV: This resolution adds a new section that would authorize the Governor to issue emergency declarations under circumstances provided for by law for that purpose. The General Assembly could by law grant the Governor certain enumerated powers to address and abate the declared emergency. However, a declaration by the Governor of an emergency could not last longer than 21 days unless extended by a concurrent resolution of the General Assembly approving the continuation of the declaration. Upon the expiration of the Governor's emergency declaration, the Governor could not declare a new state of emergency based upon the same or substantially similar facts and circumstances without the passage of a concurrent resolution of the General Assembly expressly approving the new emergency declaration.

([SB 1166](#))

“The Bill Is In Response To Governor Wolf’s Sweeping Emergency Declaration Issued During ... COVID-19. Specifically, The Bill Would Require Approval From Both Legislative Bodies In Order To Impose Or Extend Emergency Declarations Longer Than 21 Days”

ACU: “This Bill Would Amend The State Constitution To Provide A Crucial Check On The Authority Of The Executive Branch To Impose Executive Orders During Emergencies Without Legislative Oversight Or Approval.” “This bill would amend the state constitution to provide a crucial check on the authority of the executive branch to impose executive orders during emergencies without legislative oversight or approval. The bill is in response to Governor Wolf’s sweeping emergency declaration issued during the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19). Specifically, the bill would require approval from both legislative bodies in order to impose or extend emergency declarations longer than 21 days. ACU supports strengthening crucial checks and balances between the coequal branches of government, supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

- **“The Bill Is In Response To Governor Wolf’s Sweeping Emergency Declaration Issued During The Chinese Coronavirus (COVID-19). Specifically, The Bill Would Require Approval From Both Legislative Bodies In Order To Impose Or Extend Emergency Declarations Longer Than 21 Days.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Strengthening Crucial Checks And Balances Between The Coequal Branches Of Government, Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH VOTED AGAINST EFFORTS TO REOPEN PENNSYLVANIA’S ECONOMY

In June 2021, Muth Criticized Republicans For Moving To Terminate The Pandemic Emergency Declarations

In June 2021, Muth Criticized Republicans For Moving To Terminate The Pandemic Emergency Declarations. “Before Thursday' night's vote by the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee on the scaled-back resolution, Sen. Katie Muth, a Democrat from Bucks County, castigated her Republican colleagues for spending a day on what she called the optics of taking credit for declaring the pandemic over, when, she argued, many related issues are far from resolved. "I'm baffled that there's been so much time spent on ending this and sticking it to the governor... and yet we have no plan to say: 'This is how we're going to prevent this from happening again,' number one; or if another emergency occurs how do we improve our response?" Muth said. "Where's that plan? Where's that rushed-through at nine-forty p.m.?" To illustrate, Muth cited questions about whether the state would extra federal funding for summer

lunch programs at schools, or to pay for COVID-related deployments of the Pennsylvania National Guard. "There's no plan. Nothing. End it all, and we're back to normal. This is an unrealistic approach. it's negligence... I urge everybody go get some sleep tonight and come back tomorrow and have a different mindset about working together, and figuring it out," Muth said. The Republican majority proceeded to run the vote." (*The Express-Times*, 6/9/21)

In May 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Helps To Reopen Pennsylvania’s Economy By Placing A Check On The Power Governor Wolf Has Seized Through The ... COVID-19 Pandemic”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 327, Which Amends The Administrative Code By Adding New Articles Regarding Emergency COVID-19 Provisions And Amends Article XXIV Requiring The Department Of General Services (DGS) To Conduct An Annual Survey Of State Facility Usage. ([SB 327](#), Bill Passed - Senate (28-20), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/13/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Helps To Reopen Pennsylvania’s Economy By Placing A Check On The Power Governor Wolf Has Seized Through The Chinese Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic.” “This bill helps to reopen Pennsylvania’s economy by placing a check on the power Governor Wolf has seized through the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Specifically, the bill provides the legislature a voice in carrying out COVID-19 regulations and empowers counties to develop their own plans to reopen industries that have been shuttered down by the Governor. ACU supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill as a step in the right direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

“Specifically, The Bill Provides The Legislature A Voice In Carrying Out COVID-19 Regulations And Empowers Counties To Develop Their Own Plans To Reopen Industries That Have Been Shuttered Down By The Governor.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill As A Step In The Right Direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

In May 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Ensuring Car Dealerships, Barber Shops, Animal Groomers, Manufacturing Operations And Garden Centers Can Safely Reopen”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 2388, Which “Amends The Administrative Code To Add A New Article Relating To Emergency COVID-19 Provisions Regarding Extension Of Waiver Provisions To Several Business Types And Service Operators.” ([HB 2388](#), Bill Passed - Senate (31-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/13/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Ensuring Car Dealerships, Barber Shops, Animal Groomers, Manufacturing Operations And Garden Centers Can Safely Reopen.” “This bill combats Governor Tom Wolf’s abuse of power during the COVID-19 outbreak by ensuring car dealerships, barber shops, animal groomers, manufacturing operations and garden centers can safely reopen. At the time of this vote, these types of establishments had been shut down for months due to emergency orders issued by the governor and other local officials. The bill sets requirements on the establishments that reopen to comply with guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ACU supports protecting constitutional rights, supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Protecting Constitutional Rights, Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

In May 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Ensuring The Real Estate Industry Can Safely Reopen”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 2412, Which “Amends The Administrative Code To Add A New Article Relating To Emergency COVID-19 Provisions Regarding Issuance Of Waiver To The Governor’s Business Closure Order For Legal Services, Residential And Commercial Real Estate Related Activities.” ([HB 2412](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-15), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/13/20, Muth Voted Nay)

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 2412 amends the Administrative Code to add a new article relating to Emergency COVID-19 provisions regarding issuance of waiver to the Governor's Business Closure Order for legal services, residential and commercial real estate related activities.

The legislation requires the Secretary of Community and Economic Development to immediately issue a waiver to the Governor's Business Closure Order to all providers of legal services, and residential and commercial real estate services, including settlement services.

Until the Governor's March 6, 2020, proclamation of disaster emergency, and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency, is terminated or expires:

- o A municipality or municipal authority that requires a use and occupancy certificate, or any other similar certificate or certification as a condition of a property transfer, shall be presumed to have issued a full and unconditional permit without requiring an inspection of the property. If a certificate is presumed to be issued, the municipality or municipal authority shall be enjoined from conducting a property transfer inspection after the proclamation has terminated or expired; and
- o Taxing authorities and public utilities shall provide alternative means for residential home buyers or title insurers to ascertain the current status of tax payments or overdue utility obligations.

All businesses issued a waiver must comply with social distancing practices and other mitigation measures defined by the Centers for Disease Control and the order issued by the Secretary of Health directing public health safety measures for businesses permitted to maintain in-person operations.

([HB 2412](#))

ACU: “This Bill Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Ensuring The Real Estate Industry Can Safely Reopen.” “This bill combats Governor Tom Wolf’s abuse of power during the COVID-19 outbreak by ensuring the real estate industry can safely reopen. Pennsylvania was the only state in the entire country to deem real estate as “nonessential” during the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19), thereby prohibiting home purchases or sales and shuttering the industry. This bill sets specific social distancing requirements and requires the industry to comply with guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in order to reopen. ACU supports protecting constitutional rights, supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Protecting Constitutional Rights, Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Originally, Muth Called For A Statewide Shutdown Of Bars And Restaurants In March 2020

In March 2020, Muth Called For A Statewide Mandated Closure Of Restaurants And Bars. ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 3/15/20)



Senator Katie Muth

March 15, 2020 · 🌐

While I support this vital effort, it should be mandated statewide. We have to stop the rate of spreading and that means every county must be under social distancing protocol.

🔴 COVID-19 Update:

Eating and drinking in restaurants and bars in Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties is now prohibited, by Governor Tom Wolf authority under the state's disaster declaration order. The order takes effect at 12:01 a.m. Monday and will be reassessed in 14 days.

Take-out, delivery and drive-thru services are still allowed. Please continue to support our small businesses through take-out and delivery services only if you're able to practice vital social distancing requirements. If you're in quarantine or isolation at home, please pay for your orders online via credit or debit card, including tip, and instruct delivery services to leave items in front of your door to avoid any physical contact.

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 3/15/20)

MUTH OPPOSED EFFORTS TO REOPEN PENNSYLVANIA BARS AND RESTAURANTS

In September 2020, Muth Voted Against A Bill That “Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Easing Excessive Regulations Which Have Burdened Restaurants And Bars As They Begin To Reopen”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 2513, Which “Establishes A New Article I-A (Establishment Operation) In The Administrative Code To Allow Food And Beverage Establishment Indoor Operations Within Certain Guidelines...” ([HB 2513](#), Bill Passed - Senate (43-6), Pennsylvania State Senate, 9/22/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Easing Excessive Regulations Which Have Burdened Restaurants And Bars As They Begin To Reopen.” “This bill combats Governor Tom Wolf’s abuse of power during the COVID-19 outbreak by easing excessive regulations which have burdened restaurants and bars as they begin to reopen. Under the bill, selfcertification and indoor service restrictions are lessened, and the bill lays out less burdensome guidelines that comply with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ACU recognizes that the Governor’s disastrous economic lockdown has caused 30 percent of Pennsylvania businesses (many of them restaurants) to permanently close according to federal data. ACU supports protecting constitutional rights, supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Protecting Constitutional Rights, Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH INDICATED SUPPORT FOR A BILL THAT WOULD POTENTIALLY LEAVE PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESSES SUBJECT TO LAWSUIT ABUSE

In May 2020, Muth Supported An Amendment That “Would Subject Businesses To Lawsuit Abuse If They Take Any Retaliatory Action Against An Employee Who Refuses To Return To Work Due To COVID-19”

Muth Voted Yea On Amdt. A-5600 To HB 2388, Which Sought To Insert Language Concerning “Protection From Retaliation.” ([Amdt. A-5600 To HB 2388](#), Amendment Failed - Senate (20-28), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/13/20, Muth Voted Yea)

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 2388

Sponsor: SENATOR L. WILLIAMS

Printer's No. 3719

1 Amend Bill, page 6, by inserting between lines 20 and 21
2 Section 110-A. Protection from retaliation.
3 (a) General rule.--It shall be unlawful for a business
4 operating under a waiver to the order to discharge, threaten or
5 otherwise retaliate or discriminate against an
6 individual employed by the business regarding compensation or
7 other terms or conditions of employment because the individual:

([Amdt. A-5600 To HB 2388](#))

ACU: This Amendment “To A Bill Reopening Certain Businesses Would Subject Businesses To Lawsuit Abuse If They Take Any Retaliatory Action Against An Employee Who Refuses To Return To Work Due To COVID-19.” “The Williams (ACUF Lifetime 24%) amendment to a bill reopening certain businesses would subject businesses to lawsuit abuse if they take any retaliatory action against an employee who refuses to return to work due to the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19). The amendment also guarantees employees remain eligible for all state and federal unemployment assistance until their employer adopts every guideline issued by the state and federal government. ACU opposes subjecting employers battling COVID-19 to frivolous litigation and abusing the unemployment trust fund at the expense of other employees and employers and opposed this amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Subjecting Employers Battling COVID-19 To Frivolous Litigation And Abusing The Unemployment Trust Fund At The Expense Of Other Employees And Employers And Opposed This Amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

In November 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Ensures That Businesses And Schools Are Protected From Lawsuit Abuse Related To The Chinese Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 1737, Which Amends The Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, In Particular For COVID-19-Related Liability, Among Other Measures. ([HB 1737](#), Bill Passed - Senate (29-20), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/19/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Ensures That Businesses And Schools Are Protected From Lawsuit Abuse Related To The Chinese Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak.” “This bill ensures that businesses and schools are protected from lawsuit abuse related to the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The bill includes an exemption from the protection if a claimant proves by “clear and convincing evidence” that the person caused the injury by “gross negligence, recklessness, willful misconduct or intentional infliction of harm.” ACU supports reopening the economy by protecting businesses from lawsuit abuse related to COVID-19 and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Reopening The Economy By Protecting Businesses From Lawsuit Abuse Related To COVID-19 And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

SOCIAL AGENDA AND OTHER FAR-LEFT VIEWS

Muth is known to have opposed legislation that sought to prohibit abortion of a fetus on the grounds of a genetic abnormality – a bid intended to protect persons born with down syndrome. In 2021, Muth participated in a rally in support of abortion rights and was among the speakers to criticize the Texas heartbeat abortion law. Just recently, Muth held a pro-abortion rally to express her opposition to overturning Roe V. Wade.

Muth is opposed to efforts to ban transgender persons from participating in women’s sports. Additionally, Muth was among the state Senators to back a proposed reform to remove sex from birth certificates in order to better accommodate transgender individuals.


Muth has expressed support for additional gun control measures and more intensive licensing and oversight.

Muth introduced legislation to end the death penalty in Pennsylvania. Muth was among the legislators to call for the release of medically vulnerable prisoners. Muth has claimed revoking a person’s probation due to failure to pay restitution costs amounted to criminalizing poverty. Finally, Muth supports ending no-knock warrants.

Muth has opposed legislative efforts to expand school choice and has opposed legislative efforts to improve safety in schools.

MUTH ON ABORTION

Muth: “As A Member Of The Health And Human Services Committee, I Know That Abortion Is Healthcare. If Roe Vs. Wade Is Overturned That Does Not Mean Abortions Would Stop, That Means SAFE Abortions Would Stop.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 1/22/20)


Senator Katie Muth January 22, 2020 · 🌐

Today is the 47th anniversary of the implementation of Roe vs. Wade, which paved the way for safe, legal abortions here in the US.


Just last year two PA Senators tried to introduce a bill to ban a woman's right to choose in Pennsylvania, but that bill was vetoed!

As a member of the Health and Human Services Committee, I know that abortion is healthcare. If Roe vs. Wade is overturned that does not mean abortions would stop, that means SAFE abortions would stop.

Nearly 77% of Americans don't want to see it overturned - and I am one of them!

Happy anniversary to Roe vs. Wade and thank you for safe healthcare. 💜💜💜

<https://www.npr.org/.../roe-v-wade-settled-law-or-bad...>



NPR.ORG
Roe v. Wade: Settled Law Or Bad Precedent? States Prep For An Overturn
 A Supreme Court case in March will test the new five-member conservative majority. If justices...

116 41 Comments 11 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 1/22/20)

In 2019, A Senate Committee Advanced Legislation Prohibiting Abortion Of A Fetus On The Grounds Of A Genetic Abnormality – A Bid Intended To Protect Persons Born With Down Syndrome

In November 2019, A Senate Committee Advanced Legislation Prohibiting Abortion Of A Fetus On The Grounds Of A Genetic Abnormality – A Bid Intended To Protect Persons Born With Down Syndrome. “Putting them on course for a guaranteed gubernatorial veto, a state Senate committee voted on party lines Monday to advance a pair of bills imposing new restrictions on a person's right to access abortion, including a hotly debated measure banning the procedure based on a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. The 7-4 votes by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee came at the beginning of what is expected to be one of the Republican-controlled chamber's busiest session weeks in recent memory. It also comes just two months before the start of a 2020 campaign season in which Democrats hope to close the GOP's 27-22 margin by using such culture war measures against them in vulnerable districts in the Philadelphia suburbs. The Down syndrome proposal, sponsored by Rep. Kate Klunk, R-York, provoked the most impassioned debate during the hour-long meeting. Klunk's bill, which cleared the House in May, would expand the state's existing Abortion Control Act to add the genetic

abnormality to gender on the list of reasons a person would be barred from accessing an abortion. The bill provides exceptions in the case of rape, incest or the health of the mother.” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 11/18/19)

Muth Voted Against Advancing The Legislation As Well As Another Measure To “Provide Perinatal Hospice Care To Women Whose Fetuses Are Diagnosed With A ‘Life-Limiting Condition’

Muth Voted Against Advancing The Legislation As Well As Another Measure To “Provide Perinatal Hospice Care To Women Whose Fetuses Are Diagnosed With A “Life-Limiting Condition.”” “Last month, a federal appeals court in Cincinnati blocked Ohio's version of the bill, with a judge concluding that it was invalid under "Supreme Court precedents because it had the purpose and effect of preventing some women from obtaining pre-viability abortions," Reuters reported. Under *Roe v. Wade*, a woman can obtain an abortion for any reason until the 24th week of gestation. Doctors violating the Ohio ban could have up to 18 months in jail, Reuters reported. The Senate panel also advanced legislation, sponsored by Rep. Kathy Rapp, R-Warren, one of that chamber's most vocal abortion opponents, that would provide perinatal hospice care to women whose fetuses are diagnosed with a "life-limiting condition." "This bill helps mothers and fathers through a difficult situation," said the Senate committee's chairwoman, Sen. Michele Brooks, R-Mercer. "I see this as step forward in a difficult situation." Sen. Katie Muth, D-Montgomery, a "no" vote on both measures, said she didn't oppose counseling parents on their options. But, she noted, Rapp's bill left abortion off the list of options. "It does not include information on safe and legal abortion," which some women might decide is the right choice for them, Muth said. "This would intrude on the doctor/patient relationship. Rapp's bill now also heads to the full Senate for a vote.” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 11/18/19)

In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Prohibits An Individual From Performing An Abortion If It Is Sought Because The Unborn Child Receives A Prenatal Diagnosis Of Down Syndrome”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 321, Which Amends The Abortion Control Act Of The Crimes Code, To Further Provide For The Definition Of ‘Down Syndrome.’ ([HB 321](#), Bill Passed - Senate (27-22), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/20/19, Muth Voted Nay)

MEMO: “Under Current Law, A Woman Can Obtain An Abortion Prior To 24 Weeks Gestational Age For Any Reason If A Physician Deems It Is Necessary, Except If The Woman’s Sole Reason Is To Select The Sex Of The Child. This Bill Will Expand That Exception To Prohibit Aborting The Child Solely Due To A Prenatal Diagnosis That The Unborn Child Has Down Syndrome.” ([Down Syndrome Protection Legislation](#))

MEMORANDUM

Posted: February 13, 2019 12:59 PM
From: [Representative Kate A. Klunk](#) and [Rep. Mike Turzai](#)
To: All House members
Subject: Down Syndrome Protection Legislation

We plan to re-introduce legislation amending the Abortion Control Act to prohibit the abortion of any child solely due to a diagnosis of possible Down Syndrome. Last session, this legislation passed the House with a bipartisan vote of 139-56.

Under current law, a woman can obtain an abortion prior to 24 weeks gestational age for any reason if a physician deems it is necessary, except if the woman's sole reason is to select the sex of the child. This bill will expand that exception to prohibit aborting the child solely due to a prenatal diagnosis that the unborn child has Down Syndrome. Nothing in this proposal would interfere with the existing ability of a woman to obtain an abortion in cases of rape, incest or endangerment to the mother, which are contained in different sections of the Abortion Control Act.

[\(Down Syndrome Protection Legislation\)](#)

ACU: “This Bill Would Protect Life By Prohibiting An Individual From Performing An Abortion If It Is Sought Because The Unborn Child Receives A Prenatal Diagnosis Of Down Syndrome.” “This bill would protect life by prohibiting an individual from performing an abortion if it is sought because the unborn child receives a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. ACU believes every human life is endowed with inherent dignity and deserves protection, believes abortion is a human tragedy, supports restrictions on the practice and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Believes Every Human Life Is Endowed With Inherent Dignity And Deserves Protection, Believes Abortion Is A Human Tragedy, Supports Restrictions On The Practice And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In 2021, Muth Participated In A Rally In Support Of Abortion Rights And Was Among The Speakers To Criticize The Texas Heartbeat Abortion Law

In October 2021, Muth Participated In A Rally In Support Of Abortion Rights And Was Among The Speakers To Criticize The Texas Heartbeat Abortion Law. “About 200 people who attended a rally Saturday morning in City Park were implored by speakers, including Pennsylvania's lieutenant governor and second lady, to channel their anger into political action over attempts by Republican lawmakers to infringe on a woman's right to an abortion. The event was hosted by the Berks County Democratic Committee, which had a voter-registration table set up and was handing out pamphlets with instructions for how to contact their elected representatives. Guest speakers included Lt. Gov. John Fetterman and his wife, Gisele, state Reps. Manny Guzman and Brian Sims, state Sens. Katie Muth and Judy Schwank. The speakers criticized the recent Texas law restricting abortions, saying it was the biggest setback since the landmark Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision made abortion rights legal. They also said they had little doubt the Pennsylvania's Republican-controlled House and Senate would pass similar legislation, though Gov. Tom Wolf would veto it. "I'm the last defense of abortion rights in Pennsylvania should, God-forbid, something happen to Gov. Wolf," Fetterman said. "Make no mistake, they would salivate at the prospect of turning Pennsylvania into the next Texas." Fetterman, 51, is running for U.S. Senate and the seat currently occupied by Pat Toomey.” (*Reading Eagle*, 10/2/21)

In May 2022, Muth Held A Pro-Abortion Rights Rally

In May 2022, Muth Held A Pro-Abortion Rights Rally. ‘Pennsylvania Dems hold pro abortion-rights rally, 'emphasizing how high the stakes are for reproductive rights in 2022 and how critical it is to elect a Democratic Governor in Pennsylvania'. Speakers include Democratic Rep. Madeleine Dean, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, Attorney General Josh Shapiro, State House Democratic Leader Joanna McClinton, State Sens. Katie Muth and Maria Collett, and Reps. Austin Davis.’ (*The Associated Press*, 5/6/22)

Muth, In May 2022: “Overturning Roe V. Wade Would Be A Dangerous Attack On Reproductive Freedoms That Would Put The Lives Of Women Across The Country At Risk”

Muth, In May 2022: “Overturning Roe V. Wade Would Be A Dangerous Attack On Reproductive Freedoms That Would Put The Lives Of Women Across The Country At Risk.” “The following information was released by the Pennsylvania Democratic Party: On the one week anniversary of the report that the Supreme Court is poised to overturn Roe v. Wade, leaders from the counties surrounding Philadelphia, which includes Montgomery, Delaware, Chester, and Bucks County, are speaking out on the importance of protecting reproductive freedoms. Congresswoman Madeleine Dean, State Senator Katie Muth, State Senator Maria Collett, and Minority Leader Joanna McClinton issued the following statement: "Overturning Roe v. Wade would be a dangerous attack on reproductive freedoms that would put the lives of women across the country at risk. A woman's right to have an abortion, use contraception, and access reproductive health care are fundamental to equality and liberty. Here in Pennsylvania, we refuse to go backwards and will always fight to protect abortion rights, contraception, and reproductive health care.” (Press Release, “Electeds From Philadelphia Collar Counties Issue Statement On Roe V. Wade,” Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 5/10/22)

Muth Is Associated With Pro-Abortion Advocacy Groups

In 2018, Muth Was Endorsed By Emily’s List. “Today EMILYs List, the nations largest resource for women in politics, endorsed 20 more women leaders for the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Stephanie Schriock, president of EMILYs List, released the following statement: For too long, qualified and experienced women have been shut out of elected office in Pennsylvania while being told to wait their turn. Pro-choice Democratic women arent waiting theyre running in record numbers and building a groundswell of support as they make their way towards Harrisburg. EMILYs List is proud to endorse these 20 pro-choice Democratic women who are ready to serve their communities and champion policies that benefit every Pennsylvanian. EMILYs List endorsed the following slate of candidates: Tina Davis (SD-06) Maria Collett (SD-12) Linda Fields (SD-24) Lindsey Williams (SD-38) Katie Muth (SD-44)...” (Press Release, “Emily’s List Endorses 20 More Women Leaders For The Pennsylvania General Assembly,” Emily’s List, 8/20/18)

- **NOTE:** *Muth is also known to have received the 2022 Emily’s List endorsement.*

MUTH ON LGBTQ ISSUES

In 2021, Muth Opposed Efforts To Bar Trans Girls From Participating In Women's Sports

In April 2021, Muth Opposed Efforts To Bar Trans Girls From Participating In Women's Sports. “Lawmakers in the LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus responded Monday to a group of GOP representatives latest hateful attempt to fuel a culture war over the existence of transgender people and block their full participation in their own communities. The Republican lawmakers had unveiled legislation to bar trans girls and women from playing sports. Its really disappointing and troubling that women in the majority party of the State House of Representatives would take the time and energy to prioritize and amplify legislation that doesnt actually address any real problem, said state Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks/Chester/Montgomery. Unfortunately, theres a nationwide effort driven by political organizations to use this waste of time and resources to fundraise and spread their harmful agenda. Whats further baffling is the claim that this legislation would advance or ensure fairness in womens sports. I would advise the sponsors of this legislation to consider pulling this bill and instead introduce legislation that has substance and positive impact.” (Press Release, “Lawmakers: Legislation Is Hateful Attempt To Ignite Culture War In PA,” PA House Democrats, 4/5/21)

In March 2022, Muth Criticized Legislation To Exclude Transgender Athlete From Competing On Women's Sports Teams

In March 2022, Muth Criticized Legislation To Exclude Transgender Athlete From Competing On Women's Sports Teams, Noting “This Bill Is An Ignorant Attempt To Fix A Problem That Doesn't Exist. If The Majority's Intent Is To Give Women A Level Playing Field, We Should Address The Inequities In Funding, Resources, Media Coverage And Pay In Women's Sports.” “The Pennsylvania House Education Committee voted Tuesday to move a bill that would exclude transgender athletes from competing on women's sports team in the commonwealth. HB 972, [1]also known as the 'Protect Women's Sports Act[2],' would bar transgender athletes from participating in sports consistent with their gender identities. It passed through the committee Tuesday morning in a 15-9 vote. The bill was first introduced last April [3]by state Rep. Barbara Gleim, R-Cumberland. Gleim was joined on the bill by Reps. Martina White, R-Philadelphia; Dawn Keefer, R-York; Valerie Gaydos, R-Allegheny and Stephanie Borowicz, R-Clinton. Speaking to the committee, Gleim said the bill to exclude transgender athletes 'preserves fairness for all women.' 'Identities don't play sports, bodies do,' Gleim said, repeatedly misgendering[4] University of Pennsylvania swimmer and Division I national champion[5] Lia Thomas in her testimony. The panel's ranking Democrat, Rep. Mark Longietti, of Mercer County, questioned whether the decision would be better left up to the governing bodies of high school and collegiate sports in the commonwealth - the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). 'Let's not become the school sports eligibility committee,' Longietti said. Rep. MaryLouise Isaacson, D-Philadelphia, echoed Longietti's comments about the committee's role in the decision: 'There are governing bodies over high school and collegiate sports. We are not one of them,' she said. Rep. Napoleon Nelson, D-Montgomery, said that he was 'dumbfounded' that the committee was considering advancing the bill after a September 2021 hearing suggested that this bill 'is not yet ready.' The General Assembly's LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus called the bill

'dangerous,' in a statement following the vote. 'Once again, the majority party is wasting taxpayer money by bringing up divisive and hateful legislation that pushes a harmful narrative instead of addressing legislation that could help expand educational resources and protections for all students,' state Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks, co-chair of the LGBTQ+ Caucus said. 'This bill is an ignorant attempt to fix a problem that doesn't exist. If the majority's intent is to give women a level playing field, we should address the inequities in funding, resources, media coverage and pay in women's sports.' Are GOP lawmakers pushing ban on transgender athletes ignoring gender inequities at home districts?[6] Naiymah Sanchez, trans rights organizer at the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania, said she is concerned about the harmful effects exclusion from school sports would have on transgender youth. 'School activities like sports give trans kids a feeling of belonging and inclusion,' Sanchez said. 'Like cisgender students, trans students benefit academically and emotionally from participation in sports. It is despicable that some state reps are pursuing a public policy of exclusion and isolation.'" (*Pennsylvania Capital-Star*, 3/29/22)

In 2022, Muth Was Among The Senators To Back A Proposed Reform To Remove Sex From Birth Certificates In Order To Better Accommodate Transgender Individuals

In January 2022, Williams And Muth Were Among The Senators To Back A Proposed Reform To Remove Sex From Birth Certificates In Order To Better Accommodate Transgender Individuals. "State Senate Democrats want to remove sex from Pennsylvania birth certificates among a series of policy changes they say will make life in the commonwealth easier for transgender individuals. In a joint memo seeking support for legislation they're about to propose, Sens. Tim Kearney, Amanda Cappelletti, Katie Muth and Lindsey Williams told their colleagues they were motivated to introduce a package of bills after a Senate Democratic Policy Hearing in June taught them more about the challenges facing transgender Pennsylvanians. The senators said they want to "remove some of the legal barriers the LGBTQ community faces when living as their authentic selves." "Soon, we intend to introduce legislation to protect individual privacy and prevent discrimination by removing sex designations on PA birth certificates," the memo said. As of Wednesday, the proposed legislation from Senate Democrats was little more than a wish list and likely to stay that way in the Republican-controlled Legislature." (*The Herald-Mail*, 1/24/22)

In 2022, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Call On The Legislature To Enact An LGBTQ Non-Discrimination Statute

In January 2022, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Call On The Legislature To Enact An LGBTQ Non-Discrimination Statute. 'Trio of lawmakers calls for anti-discrimination statute after borough revokes LGBTQ+ ordinance The heads of Pennsylvania's legislative LGBTQ+ Caucuses are calling on the General Assembly to enact a non-discriminatory statute one day after a borough became the first in the commonwealth to revoke such a measure at the local level. State Reps. Dan Frankel (D-Allegheny), Brian Sims (D-Phila.), and Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks, all co-chairs of the LGBTQ+ Caucus, excoriated the decision taken on Monday night by the Chambersburg Borough Council, voting to repeal an LGBTQ anti-discrimination ordinance. "Last night, the Republican-led Chambersburg Borough Council committed a shameful action by repealing their local nondiscrimination ordinance," the three lawmakers said in a joint written statement. "That vote was a dangerous step backwards

and puts LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians in an extremely vulnerable position, eliminating their access to recourse if they are denied housing, education or public accommodations because of who they are or who they love. "A family with two moms that stops for dinner on a road trip through Chambersburg can now be refused service at a restaurant. A trans man's rental application for a new apartment can be denied for no other reason than that his gender does not match the sex he was assigned at birth." In repealing the ordinance, Chambersburg became the first among 70 Pennsylvania municipalities that have enacted LGBTQ inclusive laws to revoke it. Other municipalities that have adopted such an ordinance include Gettysburg, Shippensburg, Camp Hill, Carlisle and Harrisburg." (*The Patriot News*, 1/25/22)

MUTH ON THE SECOND AMENDMENT

In August 2019, Muth Promoted Her Gun Control Agenda, Including Universal Background Checks, ERPOs, A State Firearms Registry, And Bans On Assault Weapons.

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 8/7/19)

Senator Katie Muth
August 7, 2019 · 🌐

Silence is violence and our state and federal government has been silent long enough. WE NEED POLICY & CHANGE!

The gun violence epidemic is a public health crisis that deserves more attention and action than "thoughts & prayers" that quickly disappear with the next news cycle. The grieving communities, individuals, families who are affected by gun violence do not get to move on with the next news story.

We the people have the right to feel safe and live in safe communities!

It is time for action and to demand lawmakers pass common sense legislation that will save lives:

- ✓ Universal background checks for firearms and to close loopholes
- ✓ Extreme Risk Protection Orders
- ✓ Additional Disqualifying Criminal Convictions to the Uniform Firearms Act
- ✓ A statewide firearms registry
- ✓ Bans on assault style weapons and high capacity magazines
- ✓ Local regulation of firearms be local and county governments

The time for action is NOW!

"Silence is violence. This is a public health crisis. The time for 'thoughts & prayers' has passed, it is time for policy & change."

Senator Katie Muth

KATIE MUTH

👍❤️ 157 38 Comments 22 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 8/7/19)

In 2018, Muth Noted Her Support For Additional Gun Control Measures, Including More Intensive Licensing And Oversight

In September 2018, Muth Noted Her Support For Additional Gun Control Measures, Including More Intensive Licensing And Oversight. “Muth worked in sports medicine in the NFL, where many of the athletes she worked with grew up around gun violence and lost family members or had been shot themselves. The experiences had a lasting psychological impact on her patients, Muth said. Candidates agreed on the issues. Here is a comment from each on a key issue. Fields: "I do not believe automatic weapons should be in the hands of any person that is not military or police." Muth: "I find it problematic that it takes 10 to 15 minutes to purchase something that could potentially kill people, and it takes months to be a foster parent or adopt a child or get a driver's license with some required training that we don't mandate (for guns) right now.” (Reading Eagle, 9/19/18)

In 2019, Muth Renewed Her Call For Additional Gun Control Measures, Noting “Efforts Such As Closing Gun Purchasing Loopholes, Universal Background Checks, And Banning Assault Style Weapons And High Capacity Magazines Have Wide Support From Many Lawmakers And Our Constituents”

In August 2019, Muth Renewed Her Call For Additional Gun Control Measures, Noting “Efforts Such As Closing Gun Purchasing Loopholes, Universal Background Checks, And Banning Assault Style Weapons And High Capacity Magazines Have Wide Support From Many Lawmakers And Our Constituents.” “The Pennsylvania Senate Democrats issued the following news release on behalf of Pennsylvania State Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks, Chester, Montgomery: Sen. Katie Muth (D-Berks, Chester, Montgomery) is continuing her call for the governor and legislators to return to Harrisburg to address the gun violence epidemic. On Wednesday, Muth joined the bicameral PA Safe Caucus and supported a letter sent by the caucus to Governor Wolf calling for a special session to address gun violence and the rise of extremist ideology. "Month after month, year after year, our communities are devastated by acts of gun violence," said Muth. "It is a disgrace and it is beyond irresponsible that legislative measures that could help end this public health crisis are kicked down the road for a later date or met with resistance from lawmakers who lack political courage to stand up to the gun lobby." On Sunday, Muth expressed an urgency to have lawmakers return from summer break for a special session to pass legislation to combat gun violence from taking more lives. She stated that there is a need to expedite the passing of common-sense measures as we continue to see an increase in acts of gun violence nationwide. "Legislative efforts, some even receiving support from both sides of the isle, have been lingering in the PA legislature waiting to be seriously discussed and brought up for a vote," said Muth. "Efforts such as closing gun purchasing loopholes, universal background checks, and banning assault style weapons and high capacity magazines have wide support from many lawmakers and our constituents.” (Press Release, “Pennsylvania State Sen. Muth Joins PA Safe Caucus, Continues Call For Special Session On Gun Violence Epidemic,” PA Senate Democrats, 8/7/19)

- **“Additional Gun Safety Reform Measures Supported By Muth, And Included In Legislative Efforts, Are The Implementation Of Extreme Risk Protection Orders, Including Additional Disqualifying Criminal Convictions In The Uniform Firearms**

Act, The Creation Of A Statewide Firearms Registry, And Allowing Local Regulation Of Firearms By Local And County Governments.” (Press Release, “Pennsylvania State Sen. Muth Joins PA Safe Caucus, Continues Call For Special Session On Gun Violence Epidemic,” PA Senate Democrats, 8/7/19)

In 2020, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Provides A Crucial Check On ‘Emergency’ Powers By Prohibiting Any Governmental Entity Or Official From Infringing Second Amendment Rights Under The Guise Of An Emergency”

The American Conservative Union “Supports The Founders’ Belief In The Second Amendment And Supported The Bill”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 1747, Which “Amends The Crimes Code By Removing The Current Prohibition Of Carrying A Firearm In Public During An Emergency Proclamation From The State Or A Municipal Government.” ([HB 1747](#), Bill Passed - Senate (29-20), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/18/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ANALYSIS:

HB 1747 amends the Crimes Code by removing the current prohibition of carrying a firearm in public during an emergency proclamation from the State or a municipal government.

In addition, HB 1747 further amends the Health and Safety Code by removing the gubernatorial authority to limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of firearms during a disaster emergency declaration.

([HB 1747](#))

ACU: “This Bill Provides A Crucial Check On ‘Emergency’ Powers By Prohibiting Any Governmental Entity Or Official From Infringing Second Amendment Rights Under The Guise Of An Emergency.” “This bill provides a crucial check on “emergency” powers by prohibiting any governmental entity or official from infringing Second Amendment rights under the guise of an emergency. Specifically, the bill bars government from suspending or limiting the lawful sale of firearms, preventing the transportation of firearms, or restricting open carry rights during a government-declared emergency. The bill is partly in response to the Chinese coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19) which has prompted certain officials to shut down firearm dealers and servicers due to their alleged status as “non-essential businesses,” (a vague and arbitrary term) therefore restricting the ability of law-abiding individuals to exercise their Second Amendment rights. ACU supports the founders’ belief in the Second Amendment and supported the bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports The Founders’ Belief In The Second Amendment And Supported The Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

MUTH PROMOTES NOTIONS OF SYSTEMIC RACISM AND PROMOTES CALLS FOR ANTI-RACISM AND CRITICAL RACE THEORY

Muth Promotes Notions Of Systemic And Structural Racism

In June 2020, Muth Commemorated Juneteenth By Expressing Support For Notions Derived From Critical Race Theory/ Structural Racism Noting “Our Country’s History Is Tied Up In And Interconnected To Slavery. Learning The History Is An Important Step But In Order For Us, As A Nation, To End Systemic Racism And Oppression, We Have To Understand The Legacy Of Slavery And The Trauma Caused By Slavery, And How This Legacy Resulted In Massive Amounts Of Wealth For White Americans.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/20)



Senator Katie Muth
June 19, 2020 · 🌐

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Juneteenth commemorates a historic time in black history when emancipation finally reached enslaved people in the deepest parts of the former Confederacy. Often referred to as a holiday to celebrate the end of slavery in the United States, it's important to discuss the history. As the Civil War neared it's end, and over two years after the Emancipation Proclamation executive order, slavery continued on, especially in areas where the Union army did not have a strong presence or in remote areas, in places like in Texas and nearby areas of the southwest. On June 19, 1865, when Union general Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, he issued an order and read a proclamation that all enslaved people in Texas were to be set free. The Juneteenth holiday is meant to commemorate the emancipation of over 4 million slaves, particularly those who were not yet aware that emancipation had actually been declared over two years ago. 155 years have passed since then, and black people in our country are still battling for their freedom. In many ways, Juneteenth is symbolic of delayed freedom, both in 1865, and in 2020, freedom is still delayed.

Juneteenth is not a nationally recognized holiday (but absolutely should be). The history of Juneteenth is not taught in most history curriculums, especially in K-12 education, resulting in people not learning about this day until adulthood. This is an example of how our education system has been conditioned to overlook and leave out black history, sending a message of that black history is not valued or important. Our country's history is tied up in and interconnected to slavery. Learning the history is an important step but in order for us, as a nation, to end systemic racism and oppression, we have to understand the legacy of slavery and the trauma caused by slavery, and how this legacy resulted in massive amounts of wealth for white Americans. Narratives used to justify slavery are connected to the harmful narratives still used today to oppress black people. Our nation will never be united unless we acknowledge and learn from the 250+ years of slavery, and all of the harms it caused then and still perpetuates today. This will require white people to try and look at history through the eyes of those that were enslaved and those that are still oppressed today. If we, white people, do this long overdue work, our power and privilege would finally bring about the change needed to ensure that freedom is finally a reality for black Americans. This work starts with not just marching and rallies, it starts with open minds and hearts, and the will to succeed fueled by knowing that there's no other way to make change than through daily action of our own collective power. We must demand massive investments in education, healthcare, affordable housing, paid leave, living wage, meaningful work, criminal justice reform, restructuring of our policing system and ending police brutality, a fair court system, and ending poverty and all forms of inequities.

Confused, overwhelmed, or scared about how to help or where to start? Good news, there's plenty of work to do! And today is a great day to start or continue this work! Whether you take the time to educate yourself on the history and meaning of Juneteenth and systemic racism, or taking action in the streets (in a safe, masked up way 🤝), or can't be out marching and participate in online forums, use today and every day following to use your power through action and your voice to speak up, to make sure that black lives are protected from harm, that black lives get justice, that black lives are are uplifted, that black lives are at every table of decision-making, and black lives are valued and respected EVERYWHERE, EVERYDAY.

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/20)

Muth Supports The Black Lives Matter Movement

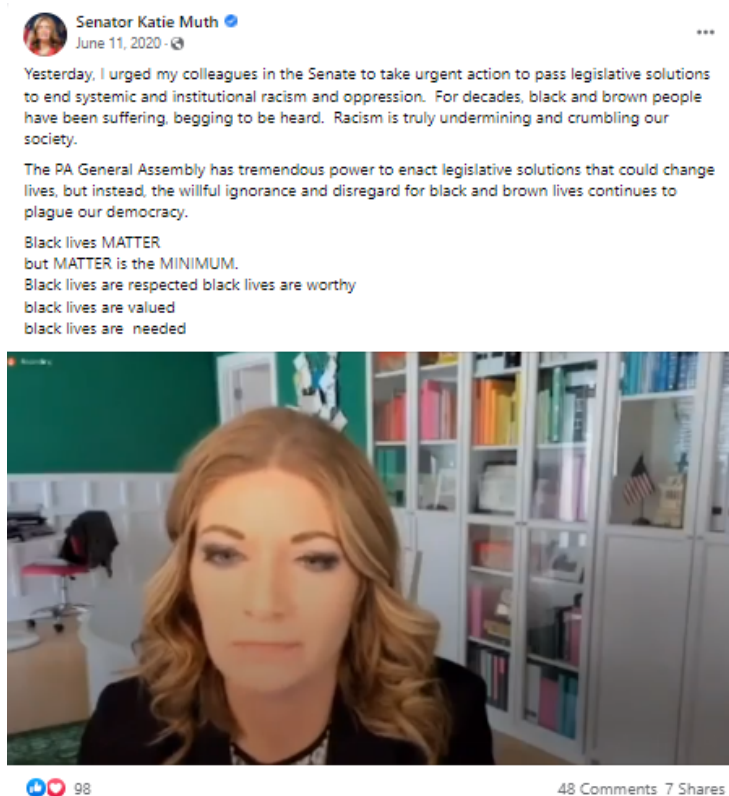
On Her Personal Twitter Profile, Muth Noted Her Support For The Black Lives Matter Movement. ([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)



([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

On Video, Muth Has Called On Her White Colleagues To Be “Anti-Racist” And Previously Acknowledged Notions Of White Privilege

VIDEO: Muth Calls For Her White Colleagues To Be “Anti-Racist” And Noted “I Urged My Colleagues In The Senate To Take Urgent Action To Pass Legislative Solutions To End Systemic And Institutional Racism And Oppression. For Decades, Black And Brown People Have Been Suffering, Begging To Be Heard. Racism Is Truly Undermining And Crumbling Our Society.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/11/20)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/11/20)

In September 2018, Muth Promoted A Post Suggesting Her Support For Notions Of White Privilege. ([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 9/28/18)



([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 9/28/18)

Muth Opposed Attacks On Critical Race Theory Curriculum In Schools

In June 2021, Muth Criticized Efforts Opposing The Teaching Of Critical Race Theory, Contending “Additionally, Teaching About Historical Events, And Current Events To Grow A Student's Ability To Have Critical Conversations Has Been Weaponized With Misinformation Campaigns Designed To Delay Progress And Breed Fear.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/21)



Senator Katie Muth
June 19, 2021 · 🌐

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Today is Juneteenth, which marks the day news of emancipation reached enslaved people in Galveston, Texas (2.5 years after the emancipation proclamation was signed by Pres. Lincoln).

At the same time that Pres. Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law, legislators across the country and right here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania were working fervently to pass voter suppression legislation, which would roll back decades of progress on voting rights. Additionally, teaching about historical events, and current events to grow a student's ability to have critical conversations has been weaponized with misinformation campaigns designed to delay progress and breed fear.

Let me be clear: Juneteenth is not a time to have a bbq and celebrate a day off of work. We must all use this day to reflect, educate and push back against the forces that are working so hard to enact modern-day racial oppression tactics



👍❤️ 77

6 Comments 6 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/21)

MUTH PROMOTED A PIECE JUSTIFYING RIOTS AND LOOTING AMID RACIAL TENSIONS IN 2020

Muth Promoted An Interview With A Black Activist As “Important Words Should Be Read, Understood, Shared, And Used To Take Action”; The Activist Justified Rioting And Acts Of Violence, Such As Looting, In Response To George Floyd’s Murder In June 2020

In June 2020, Muth Promoted An Article From A Black Activist Noting “Sharing Because These Important Words Should Be Read, Understood, Shared, And Used To Take Action.”

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/2/20)



Katie Muth
June 2, 2020 · 🌐



Sharing because these important words should be read, understood, shared, and used to take action. Thank you Kadida Natasha Kenner ❤️



PENNCAPITAL-STAR.COM

A Black activist speaks: 'When they ask me about 2020, this will be my story' | Tuesday Morning Coffee | Pennsylvani...



2 Comments 3 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/2/20)

- The Activist Justified Rioting And Acts Of Violence, Such As Looting, In Response To George Floyd’s Murder In June 2020.** “Black folks can’t fix this. We don’t have the power. We are again at the mercy of the majority to see a glimmer of our humanity and give us liberty and freedom. If they don’t or won’t we’ll never get it in this country. That’s supremacy. They have all the power. “So we “riot” – what else is there for us to do in a country in which we have no power. It’s the hopelessness that hurts the most. This won’t ever change in my lifetime. “White people – please do something within YOUR communities to fix this. Have courage – have raw courage. See our humanity. Use your power for good,” she concluded. On the looting that’s taken place in cities nationwide, including Philadelphia, Kenner wrote on Monday morning: “I don’t like the looting happening right now, especially to black-owned businesses but I understand it. Black buying power is unmatched! We fuel this American economy. According to The State of Working America, Black people spend 4 percent more money annually than any other race despite the fact that they are the least represented race and the race that lives in poverty at the highest rate.” “These protests and instances of looting (by POC) is the manifestation of the rage felt by the oppressed. It’s been a long time coming. It’s not rational but neither is our oppression. Although I’m not advocating for it, I think this display of outrage has to continue on so that the next time a cop puts his knee on a black man’s neck, he’ll think twice, and if he still does it, white America will punish him within the full extent of the law, and immediately, if only out of fear for their property. “They don’t fear our votes, but they fear the loss of capitalism. If you want law and order, give us justice!” (“A Black Activist Speaks: ‘When They Ask Me About 2020, This Will Be My Story’ | Tuesday Morning Coffee,” [Pennsylvania Capital Star](#), 6/2/20)

MUTH HAS CALLED FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORMS

In 2019, Muth Introduced Legislation To End The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania

In 2019, Muth Introduced Legislation To End The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania. “The Pennsylvania Senate Democrats issued the following news release: Today, Sen. Sharif Street (D-Philadelphia), Sen. Katie Muth (D-Berks, Chester, Montgomery), and Rep. Chris Rabb (D-Philadelphia) were joined by advocates as they called for ending the death penalty in Pennsylvania. The lawmakers are introducing legislation in their respective chambers to repeal the penalty that is proven to be unsuccessful as a crime deterrent, incredibly costly, and a flawed system of punishment. "The overwhelming cost, disparate application of the death penalty compounded by human error and it's historically arbitrary and racist implementation in our country make it unfit for any use in an efficient and truly just system," said Street. "I am proud to join my colleagues in issuing the Death Penalty Repeal Act and bringing an end to a relic of Pennsylvania's past, with no role in a future of Progressive Criminal Justice Reform.” (Press Release, "Lawmakers Announce Legislation To End The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania," PA Senate Democrats, 4/30/19)

In July 2019, Muth Was Pictured Next To Hyper-Progressive Philadelphia D.A. Larry Krasner At A Press Conference Promoting Calls To Abolish The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania

In July 2019, Muth Was Pictured Next To Hyper-Progressive Philadelphia D.A. Larry Krasner At A Press Conference Promoting Calls To Abolish The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania. ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/17/19)

Senator Katie Muth July 17, 2019 · 🌐

Yesterday, I joined Philadelphia D.A. [Larry Krasner](#), [Senator Sharif Street](#), [Rep. Chris Rabb](#), and other advocates to address the unconstitutionality of the death penalty

The unconstitutionality of the death penalty should not only shock our conscience but should also call all of us to action. We need to join together across political parties, faiths, and government offices to make real and lasting change in our criminal justice system.

We have the research and facts that show the death penalty is often unfairly implemented to target people of color and poor people. That is not justice, it is inherent bias. It is unconstitutional and unjust to allow this penalty to continue in Pennsylvania.

128

6 Comments 7 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/17/19)

In 2021, Muth Was Among The Legislators To Call For The Release Of Medically Vulnerable Prisoners

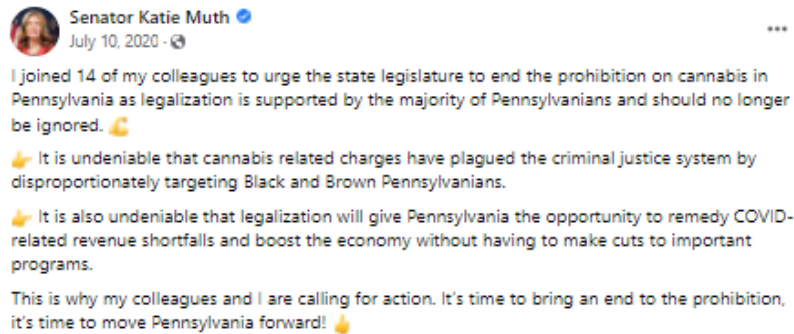
In March 2021, Muth Was Among The Legislators To Call For The Release Of Medically Vulnerable Prisoners. “Pennsylvania state legislators call on Pennsylvania Governor Tim Wolf to release elderly or medically vulnerable incarcerated people who are at risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. Speakers include state Reps. Rick Krajewski, Danilo Burgos, Malcolm Kenyatta, and Dan Williams, state Sens. Sharif Street, Hardy Williams, Nikil Saval, John Kane, Amanda Cappelletti and Katie Muth, and representatives from Amistad Law Project, Color of Change, Families Against Mandatory Minimums, and Reclaim Philadelphia.” (*The Associated Press*, 3/1/21)

In 2022, Muth Noted That She Voted Against SB 913, Claiming Revoking A Person's Probation Due To Failure To Pay Restitution Costs Amounted To Criminalizing Poverty

In February 2022, Muth Noted That She Voted Against SB 913, Claiming Revoking A Person's Probation Due To Failure To Pay Restitution Costs Amounted To Criminalizing Poverty. “State Sen. Katie Muth, a Democrat from the Philadelphia suburbs who was first elected in the "blue wave" of 2018, said she voted against the bill, in part, because she sees it as endorsing the criminalization of poverty. Though SB 913 would prevent someone's probation from being revoked because they can't pay a fine or court costs — probation itself costs a person between \$25 and \$75 a month, depending on the county — it would not do so for restitution. Under the bill, a person who has paid half their debt to a victim or business and otherwise qualifies for early termination would be placed into a new "administrative probation" with reduced reporting requirements. They would be required to continue making payments on a schedule they "can afford to pay," but public defenders have complained that judges rarely examine bank records and other financial obligations before deciding whether a person isn't making good on their restitution due to obstinance or hardship. "I'll be blunt," Muth said in an interview. "I work with people — probably the majority of the people in the Senate — who have never had to live paycheck to paycheck or pay student loan bills." Most also have no idea what it means to be on probation. If they did, Muth argued, the bill might have addressed what she sees as the most glaring flaws in the system: the uncapped length of probation, the indefinite extensions of state supervision, and the "detainers" that allow people in her district to be held for months before they have a hearing on their alleged technical violation. It also does nothing to curtail what constitutes a technical violation, which she sees as setting a trap for those on probation, triggering the cycle of poverty and incarceration. Whether it's 70 days waiting for a hearing or less than a week, any time in jail is enough to lose a job — detention itself is a traumatic experience that, depending on the mood of a probation officer or the policy of their office, can be prompted by the mundane. "It's a whole ordeal, just to live your basic life," she said in an interview. "Like calling 911. What are you supposed to tell them? 'Please take me to a hospital in the county because, like, I'm going to get a technical violation?'" In 2018, just under 11% of Pennsylvanians under supervision had their probation revoked, the majority for technical violations. To Muth and other critics of the supervision status quo, that represents thousands of lives disrupted by a system of arbitrary and arbitrarily enforced tripwires, leading to people being removed from their family and friends, at least temporarily, for behavior that isn't criminal. It is, among other things, an inefficient use of limited resources. From the perspective of a fiscal conservative, it makes no sense to monitor and repeatedly incarcerate someone when it would be cheaper and more effective to treat their underlying problems, be they economic, social, or behavioral. In Philadelphia, a 2019 report prepared for the city found it costs more than \$48,000 a year, on average, to house an inmate. "How the fuck do you justify that? That's not a system that's making people safer. That's locking people into poverty and being in prison," Muth said.” (Business Insider, 2/4/22)

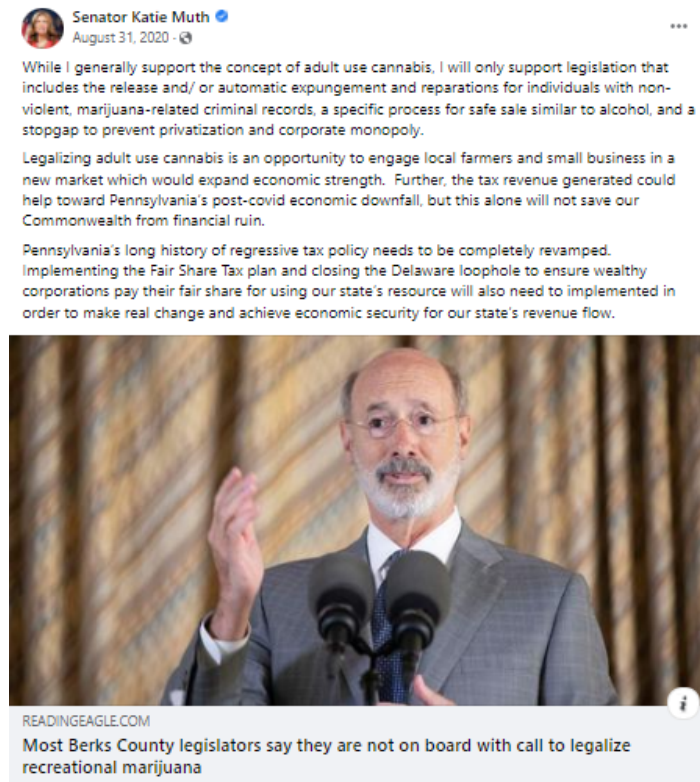
Muth Supports Legalization Of Marijuana And Related Reforms, Such As Expungement And Reparations To Individuals With Non-Violent Marijuana Crimes On Their Records

Muth, In 2020: “I Joined 14 Of My Colleagues To Urge The State Legislature To End The Prohibition On Cannabis In Pennsylvania As Legalization Is Supported By The Majority Of Pennsylvanians And Should No Longer Be Ignored.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/10/20)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/10/20)

Muth, On Legalizing Marijuana And Expunging Records For Marijuana Related Crimes: “Legalizing Adult Use Cannabis Is An Opportunity To Engage Local Farmers And Small Business In A New Market Which Would Expand Economic Strength.” ([Muth Facebook Page](#), Posted 8/31/20)



([Muth Facebook Page](#), Posted 8/31/20)

MUTH BACKS LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORMS AND APPEARS CRITICAL OF POLICE

Muth Has Called For “Restructuring Of Our Policing System And Ending Police Brutality, A Fair Court System, And Ending Poverty And All Forms Of Inequities”

Muth: “We Must Demand Massive Investments In Education, Healthcare, Affordable Housing, Paid Leave, Living Wage, Meaningful Work, Criminal Justice Reform, Restructuring Of Our Policing System And Ending Police Brutality, A Fair Court System, And Ending Poverty And All Forms Of Inequities.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/20)



Senator Katie Muth 
June 19, 2020 · 

...

Juneteenth commemorates a historic time in black history when emancipation finally reached enslaved people in the deepest parts of the former Confederacy. Often referred to as a holiday to celebrate the end of slavery in the United States, it's important to discuss the history. As the Civil War neared its end, and over two years after the Emancipation Proclamation executive order, slavery continued on, especially in areas where the Union army did not have a strong presence or in remote areas, in places like in Texas and nearby areas of the southwest. On June 19, 1865, when Union general Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, he issued an order and read a proclamation that all enslaved people in Texas were to be set free. The Juneteenth holiday is meant to commemorate the emancipation of over 4 million slaves, particularly those who were not yet aware that emancipation had actually been declared over two years ago. 155 years have passed since then, and black people in our country are still battling for their freedom. In many ways, Juneteenth is symbolic of delayed freedom, both in 1865, and in 2020, freedom is still delayed.

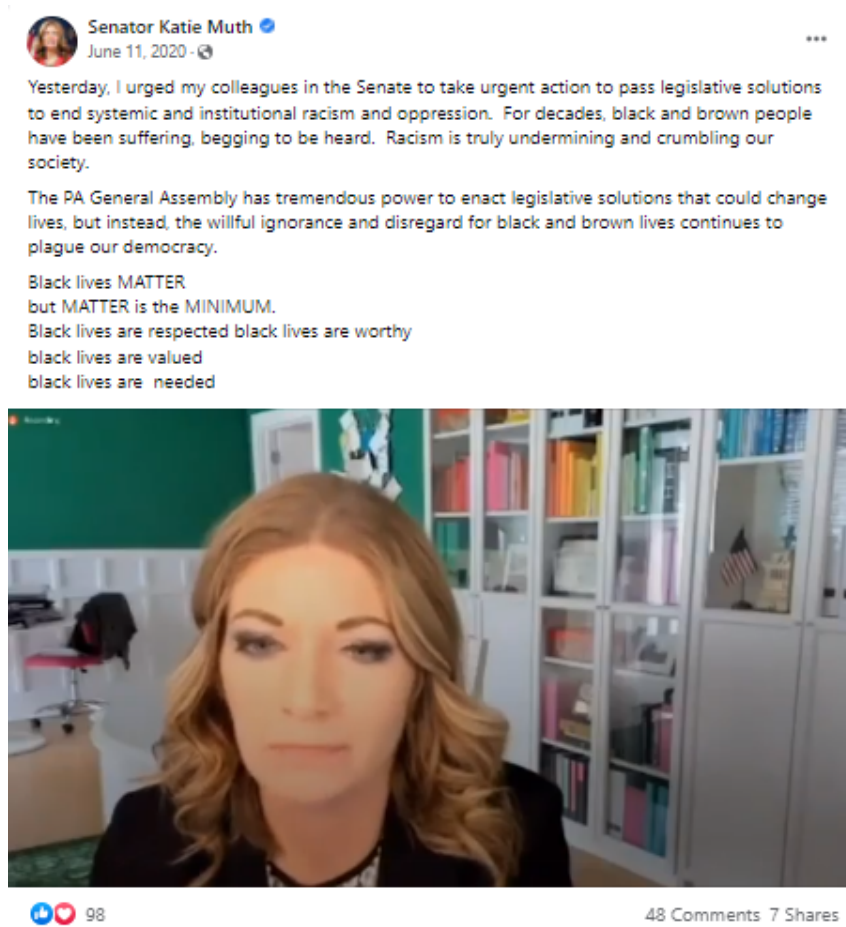
Juneteenth is not a nationally recognized holiday (but absolutely should be). The history of Juneteenth is not taught in most history curriculums, especially in K-12 education, resulting in people not learning about this day until adulthood. This is an example of how our education system has been conditioned to overlook and leave out black history, sending a message of that black history is not valued or important. Our country's history is tied up in and interconnected to slavery. Learning the history is an important step but in order for us, as a nation, to end systemic racism and oppression, we have to understand the legacy of slavery and the trauma caused by slavery, and how this legacy resulted in massive amounts of wealth for white Americans. Narratives used to justify slavery are connected to the harmful narratives still used today to oppress black people. Our nation will never be united unless we acknowledge and learn from the 250+ years of slavery, and all of the harms it caused then and still perpetuates today. This will require white people to try and look at history through the eyes of those that were enslaved and those that are still oppressed today. If we, white people, do this long overdue work, our power and privilege would finally bring about the change needed to ensure that freedom is finally a reality for black Americans. This work starts with not just marching and rallies, it starts with open minds and hearts, and the will to succeed fueled by knowing that there's no other way to make change than through daily action of our own collective power. We must demand massive investments in education, healthcare, affordable housing, paid leave, living wage, meaningful work, criminal justice reform, restructuring of our policing system and ending police brutality, a fair court system, and ending poverty and all forms of inequities.

Confused, overwhelmed, or scared about how to help or where to start? Good news, there's plenty of work to do! And today is a great day to start or continue this work! Whether you take the time to educate yourself on the history and meaning of Juneteenth and systemic racism, or taking action in the streets (in a safe, masked up way 🤝), or can't be out marching and participate in online forums, use today and every day following to use your power through action and your voice to speak up, to make sure that black lives are protected from harm, that black lives get justice, that black lives are are uplifted, that black lives are at every table of decision-making, and black lives are valued and respected EVERYWHERE, EVERYDAY.

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/20)

On Video, Muth Calls For Demilitarizing The Police

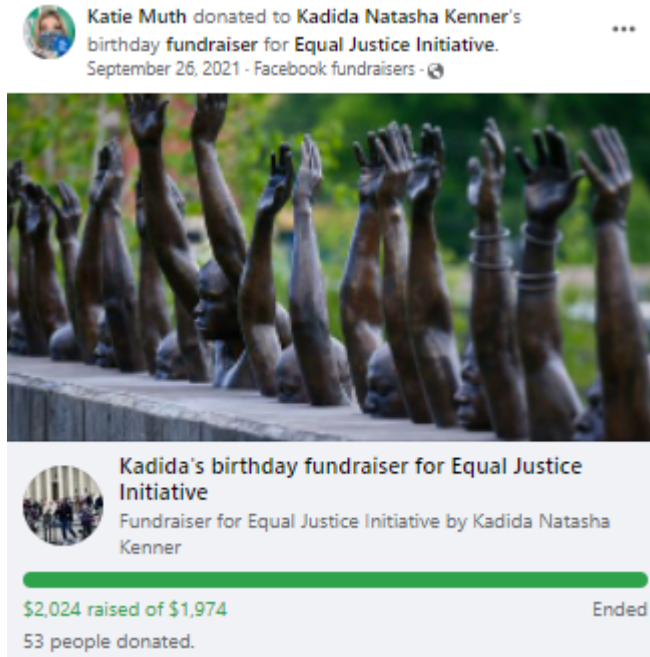
VIDEO: Muth: “We Need To Demilitarize The Police.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/11/20; Minute 4:00)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/11/20; Minute 4:00)

Muth Donated To An Organization That Has Attacked And Criticized Law Enforcement

In September 2021, Muth Donated To The Equal Justice Initiative. ([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 9/26/21)



([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 9/26/21)

- **The Equal Justice Initiative Is Known To Refer To Law Enforcement Members As “Occupying Soldiers.”** ([EJI Twitter Profile](#), Posted 6/8/20)



([EJI Twitter Profile](#), Posted 6/8/20)

- **The Equal Justice Initiative Claims Law Enforcement Currently Exists As A Means To Perpetuate Racism In America.** “The system of policing and incarceration evolved as a way to maintain racial hierarchy after the Civil War. We will eliminate the scourge

of police violence and abuse only if we address the centrality of racial injustice and inequality in America. Because the United States did not commit to racial equality, slavery did not end in 1865; it evolved into convict leasing and decades of racial terror lynchings. Without an explicit commitment to ending racial injustice and the narratives that sustain it, law enforcement and other forms of racial control and mistreatment will continue. Many existing social service institutions already operate in ways that perpetuate racial inequality. Eliminating racism, rooting out white supremacy, and dismantling the racial hierarchy that persists as a legacy of our history must be an explicit and central goal of any meaningful conversation about policing and the treatment of Black people in this country. Public safety and public health in America cannot be advanced without confronting racism.” (“Policing In America,” [Equal Justice Initiative](#), Accessed 6/5/21)

Muth Supports Ending No-Knock Warrants

In 2021, Muth Introduced Legislation To Ban No Knock Warrants

In 2021, Muth Introduced Legislation To Ban No Knock Warrants. “State Sen. Tim Kearney, who represents parts of Delaware and Chester counties, has reintroduced Breonna's Law in the Pennsylvania legislature. "It's a law, essentially, which would prohibit police from using no-knock warrants — which, of course, led to Breonna [Taylor's] death in Kentucky a little over a year ago," Kearney said. Taylor was killed by plainclothes police officers in her Louisville apartment as they were executing a no-knock warrant, a search warrant that allows police to enter spaces without announcing themselves. If passed, Senate Bill 296 would require law enforcement to knock and make themselves known when serving a warrant. In addition, officers would have to wear body cameras and clothing that identifies them as law enforcement. Kearney, a Democrat, introduced the bill last year, but the Republican leadership in the Senate did not give it a vote. "And so, this year, when we reintroduced it, we're making more of an effort to reach out to some of our Republican colleagues to co-sponsor — which, as of yet hasn't happened, but we're still trying," Kearney said. So far, the bill has seven Senate co-sponsors, including Philadelphia-area Democrats Amanda Cappelletti, Maria Collett, Katie Muth, and Vincent Hughes. Kearney has also deployed a citizen co-sponsorship campaign that allows for Pennsylvanians to express their support for the bill.” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 3/28/21)

MUTH OPPOSES STRICT IMMIGRATION AND BORDER SECURITY POLICIES

Muth Has Opposed A Southern Border Wall And Trump's Proposed Muslim Ban

On Her Personal Twitter Profile, Muth Noted Her Opposition To A Muslim Ban And Also The Southern Border Wall. ([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

Katie Muth 

@KJMuth

Persistent nasty woman advocating 4 equal rights 4 all. [#Resist](#) [#StillWithHer](#) [#Indivisible](#) [#MisogynyKills](#) [#LovesLove](#) [#BLM](#) [#NoBanNoWall](#) [#SmashThePatriarchy](#)

 Philadelphia, PA  Joined September 2016

1,287 Following 193 Followers

([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

Muth Supported The Closure Of A Local ICE Facility

Muth, In July 2021: “Earlier This Week, I Joined My Colleagues In Berks County On A Letter Urging President Biden To Terminate The Immigration And Customs Enforcement Contract At The Bern Township Facility.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/30/21)



Senator Katie Muth 

July 30, 2021 · 

...

Earlier this week, I joined my colleagues in Berks County on a letter urging President Biden to terminate the Immigration and Customs Enforcement contract at the Bern Township facility.

While this facility was emptied back in February, the center was one of three facilities in the nation where ICE had detained families with children seeking asylum.

Thank you to [Rep. Manny Guzman](#) for drafting the letter and leading the charge to permanently end the inhumane detention practices that were present at the facility.



READINGEAGLE.COM

Officials urge President Biden to end Berks County Residential Center contract

The Shut Down Berks Coalition announced that 52 elected officials penned a letter to Biden an...

 33

2 Comments 3 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/30/21)

MUTH HAS OPPOSED LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO EXPAND SCHOOL CHOICE

In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Would Provide More Students The Opportunity To Attend The School Of Their Choice By Expanding The State’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit”

Muth Voted Nay On HB 800, Which Amends Article XX-B (Educational Tax Credits) Of The Public School Code To Make Changes To The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program. ([HB 800](#), Bill Passed - Senate (28-21), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/11/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “House Bill 800 amends Article XX-B (Educational Tax Credits) of the Public School Code to make changes to the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. The legislation increases the total amount of tax credits available for contributions to scholarship organizations by \$100 million from the current \$110 million to \$210 million. Beginning July 1, 2019, the legislation provides for the amount of tax credits available for contributions to scholarship organizations to increase by 10% annually if more than 90% of the total aggregate amount of tax credits are used by taxpayers during the prior fiscal year and the General Assembly has not otherwise enacted an increase to the dollar amount provided for scholarship organizations.” ([HB 800](#))

ACU: “This Bill Would Provide More Students The Opportunity To Attend The School Of Their Choice By Expanding The State’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC).”

“This bill would provide more students the opportunity to attend the school of their choice by expanding the state’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC). This tax credit (90% of a contribution amount) is provided to individuals or businesses who make contributions to certain scholarship granting organizations. The organization then provides the funds as vouchers to parents so they can enroll their child in a private or charter school. Under the bill, the cap on the amount of tax credits that may be issued each year would be increased from \$100 million to \$210 million, thus allowing more funding to be redirected to school choice. Furthermore, families earning up to \$95,000 (previously \$85,000) would now be eligible to receive vouchers.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Improving Educational Outcomes And Reducing Taxpayer Costs Through The Responsible Expansion Of School Choice And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Muth Has Opposed School Vouchers

In January 2018, Muth Promoted A Post Calling For Opposition To Vouchers. ([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 1/31/18)

Katie Muth
January 31, 2018 · 🌐



PA School Boards Association

January 30, 2018 · 🌐

ESA vouchers divert scarce resources from public schools that serve all students to pay for private schools for a few. Vote "NO" on SB 2 to keep public money for public school students
[#VoteNoVouchers](#)

👍 2

([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 1/31/18)

MUTH HAS OPPOSED LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

In 2019, Muth Voted Against Legislation That “Improves School Security By Strengthening Last Year’s School Safety And Security Law And Clarifying Policy Regarding Armed Security”

Muth Voted Nay On SB 621, Which Amends Provisions Relating To School Police Officers, School Resource Officers And School Security Guards; And Imposing Powers And Duties On The Pennsylvania Commission On Crime And Delinquency. ([SB 621](#), Bill Passed - Senate (31-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/11/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Improves School Security By Strengthening Last Year’s School Safety And Security Law And Clarifying Policy Regarding Armed Security.” “This bill improves school security by strengthening last year’s School Safety and Security Law and clarifying policy regarding armed security. Under the bill, an oversight is corrected to clarify that sheriffs and deputy sheriffs may serve as school resource officers. Furthermore, the bill ensures that local schools may authorize their security guards to carry firearms. The bill also establishes a baseline of training for all school security personnel, whether armed or not, to ensure students and educators are properly protected. ACU supports efforts to strengthen school safety, supports the founders’ belief in the Second Amendment and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“Under The Bill, An Oversight Is Corrected To Clarify That Sheriffs And Deputy Sheriffs May Serve As School Resource Officers.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)
- **“Furthermore, The Bill Ensures That Local Schools May Authorize Their Security Guards To Carry Firearms.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)
- **“The Bill Also Establishes A Baseline Of Training For All School Security Personnel, Whether Armed Or Not, To Ensure Students And Educators Are Properly Protected.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Efforts To Strengthen School Safety, Supports The Founders’ Belief In The Second Amendment And Supported This Bill.”
 ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

MUTH SUPPORTED AN EFFORT TO GRANT SPECIAL STATUS IN THE CRIMINAL CODE TO MEMBERS OF THE “MEDIA”

In 2019, Muth Supported An Amendment That “Would Add ‘Media Professional’ As A Protected Class In The Event Of An Assault”

Williams Voted Yea On Amdt. A-3153 To SB 351, Which Adds “Media Professional” To Special Status Relate To Victims Of Crime. ([Amdt. A-3153 To SB 398](#), Amendment Failed - Senate (22-27), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/28/19, Williams Voted Yea)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 351

Sponsor: SENATOR FARNESE

Printer's No. 341

1 Amend Bill, page 1, line 8, by striking out "a paragraph" and
 2 inserting
 3 paragraphs
 4 Amend Bill, page 1, by inserting between lines 15 and 16
 5 (40) A media professional.
 6 Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 16 and 17
 7 "Media professional." An officer, agent, employee or
 8 purveyor of a news media organization engaged in news gathering
 9 or the dissemination of information in a daily or weekly
 10 newspaper, magazine, periodical, book, digital publication or
 11 radio or television news broadcast.

([Amdt. A-3153 To SB 398](#))

This Amendment “To A Bill Pertaining To Aggravated Assault Would Provide Prosecutors Further Inappropriate Authority To Enhance Charges Due To The Identity Of The Victim Rather Than The Facts Of The Crime”

ACU: This Amendment “To A Bill Pertaining To Aggravated Assault Would Provide Prosecutors Further Inappropriate Authority To Enhance Charges Due To The Identity Of The Victim Rather Than The Facts Of The Crime.” “The Farnese (ACUF Lifetime 14%) amendment to a bill pertaining to aggravated assault would provide prosecutors further inappropriate authority to enhance charges due to the identity of the victim rather than the facts of the crime. Specifically, the amendment would add “media professional” as a protected class in the event of an assault. As a result, a “simple assault” against a member of the media, which is currently graded as a misdemeanor, would be treated as an “aggravated assault” which is graded as a felony. An aggravated assault felony is punishable by up to 10 years’ imprisonment and a fine up to \$25,000.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“Specifically, The Amendment Would Add “Media Professional” As A Protected Class In The Event Of An Assault. As A Result, A “Simple Assault” Against A Member Of The Media, Which Is Currently Graded As A Misdemeanor, Would Be Treated As An “Aggravated Assault” Which Is Graded As A Felony.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Providing Prosecutors With Inappropriate Authority To Enhance Charges, Opposes Assessing Enhanced Penalties Based On Identity Of The Victim Which Runs Afoul Of The Concept Of Equal Application Of Justice And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

MUTH HAS VOTED TO REPORTEDLY UNDERMINE CIVIL LIBERTIES

In 2019, Muth Supported Infringing Individual Liberties By Raising The Smoking Age From 18 To 21

Muth Voted Yea On SB 473, Which Amends The Definition Of “Minor” To Be An Individual Under 21 Years Of Age And Increases The Legal Age To Purchase Or Attempt To Purchase A Tobacco Product From 18 Years Of Age To 21 Years Of Age. ([SB 473](#), Bill Passed - Senate (43-6), Pennsylvania State Senate, 9/25/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Infringes Individual Liberties By Raising The Smoking Age From 18 To 21.” “This bill infringes individual liberties by raising the smoking age from 18 to 21. Furthermore, the bill subjects nicotine and e-cigarette products such as Juul to the 21 and up restriction. ACU believes the usage of both cigarettes and e-cigarettes is a personal liberty issue, that those who are old enough to fight for our country are old enough to decide whether to purchase tobacco or nicotine products and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

APPENDIX A: ISSUES OF NOTE (BY SUBJECT AREA)

Below is a non-comprehensive reference section pertaining to Katie Muth's issues and policy positions of note. Any actionable material from this section has been incorporated into the prior narrative sections.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES

Taxes

Overall

In 2018, Muth Suggested Raising Corporate And Income Taxes And Imposing A Severance Tax As A Means To Achieve Property Tax Relief. “In response to a question about supporting the abolition of the property tax and how it could be accomplished, Muth suggested two approaches including "taxing wealthy corporations and closing the Delaware loophole, in order to make sure that they pay their fair share," and "to charge a severance tax on the oil and gas industry." Rafferty responded, "By driving dollars from increases in state budget revenue, fair funding formula and monies from having enacted a severance tax." Both candidates expressed support for the levying of a severance tax on natural gas drillers in Pennsylvania. In response to a question about support of the Pennsylvania Fair Funding Formula for Education, Rafferty stated that he supports the formula and that he believes it is being funded adequately. Muth, however, says she supports the formula, but that it is not being funded adequately.” (*The Daily American*, 10/30/18)

VIDEO: In June 2019, Muth Promoted Her Proposal For A Fair Share Tax Levying Higher Taxes On The Wealthy, Inclusive Of Additional Taxes On Wealth And Assets. ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/13/19)



Senator Katie Muth
June 13, 2019 · 🌐

...

Our tax policies must be fair to everyone. Pennsylvania's tax system is unfair, putting a greater burden on hardworking people and families. Everyone needs to pay their fair share of taxes and our current tax laws have been designed to unfairly benefit the wealthy few and special interests. The richest individuals and largest companies, in Pennsylvania and across the nation, do not pay anywhere near their fair share in taxes. Pennsylvania's tax system is upside down- the bottom and middle-income earners pay far higher rates than those at the top. Not only is this unfair, but this rigged system results in a major barrier to raising revenues that our Commonwealth desperately needs to close the public investment deficit.

The Fair Share Tax Plan would fix PA's rigged tax system by replacing our personal income tax (PIT) with two separate taxes. The first would be a tax on wages and interest set at 2.8%, which is lower than the current PIT rate of 3.07%. The second would be on a tax on income from wealth- dividends, capital gains, business profits, estates, royalties, and gambling winnings- which would be set at 6.5%. Most of the new tax revenues would come from those at the top of the income distribution with nearly 69% of new revenue coming from the top 1% and would reduce taxes for low- and moderate-income earners. The plan would reduce taxes for 60% of Pennsylvanians, including small businesses, and would not raise taxes on seniors whose retirement incomes will continue to be exempt from PIT. The Fair Share Tax Plan would ensure everyone is paying their fair share and allow for greater investment in our Commonwealth.

For more information on this plan: https://www.pennbpc.org/.../A_Fair_Share_Tax-Updated_for...



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/13/19)

Subsidies

Dairy Investment Program

Muth Voted Yea On HB 1590, Which Establishes The Dairy Investment Program And Dairy Investment Program Account. ([HB 1590](#), Bill Passed - Senate (50-0), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/26/19, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Expands Cronyism And Interference In The Free Marketplace By Establishing The Dairy Investment Program To Benefit The Dairy Industry.” “This bill expands cronyism and interference in the free marketplace by establishing the Dairy Investment Program to benefit the dairy industry. Under the program, grants up to \$100,000 are awarded to companies that promote the interests of the milk and dairy industry through marketing, industry management techniques and identifying new uses for milk and dairy products.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “...Opposes This Interference In The Free Marketplace Which Shifts Tax Burdens To Those Not Favored By The Government And Provides

Competitive Advantages To Select Industries And Companies And Opposed This Bill.”
([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

“Beginning Farmers” Program

Muth Voted Yea On SB 478, Which Amends The Tax Reform Code Providing For Tax Credits Relating To Beginning Farmers. ([SB 478](#), Bill Passed - Senate (50-0), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/26/19, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Expands Cronyism And Shifts Tax Burdens To Other Taxpayers Not Favored By Government By Establishing A New Tax Credit Program That Benefits ‘Beginning Farmers.’” “This bill expands cronyism and shifts tax burdens to other taxpayers not favored by government by establishing a new tax credit program that benefits “beginning farmers.” Under the bill, landowners are provided a personal income tax credit for the sale or multi-year lease of their property to a beginning farmer who intends to engage in agricultural production. The tax credits, which are worth as much as \$32,000 or 5% of the value of the property, are to be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis, with the state issuing a total of \$6 million annually by 2021.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union Contends This Legislation “Provides Competitive Advantages To Select Landowners And Farmers And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Fees

Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission

Muth Voted Yea On HB 808, Which “Amends Title 30 (Fish And Boat Code) To Authorize The PA Fish And Boat Commission (PFBC) To Establish The Fees For Fishing And Boating Related Licenses And Permits By Regulatory Action.” ([HB 808](#), Bill Passed - Senate (44-5), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/23/20, Muth Voted Yea)

Analysis: “While Enactment Of This Legislation Does Not Require The Commission To Increase Fees And Only Gives Them The Authority To Do So, According To The Commission, If This Legislation Is Enacted, It Will Seek Fee Increases Over Three Years...” ([HB 808](#))

FISCAL IMPACT:

While enactment of this legislation does not require the commission to increase fees and only gives them the authority to do so, according to the commission, if this legislation is enacted, it will seek fee increases over three years for amounts no higher than what is illustrated in the chart below.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission estimates additional revenues of \$1.46 million in FY 2021-22, \$2.23 million in FY 2022-23, \$2.98 million in FY 2023-24 and \$3.71 million in FY 2024-25 if all the proposed increases are implemented. The actual revenue impact may vary from estimate since commission revenues have decreased 7.6 percent to 9.6 percent in years when fees are increased.

Proposed Fee Schedule - Fishing Licenses and Permits

| License Category | Current Fee | Proposed Fee | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Resident Annual | \$ 21.00 | \$ 24.00 | \$ 25.00 | \$ 26.00 | \$ 27.00 |
| Non-resident Annual | \$ 51.00 | \$ 55.00 | \$ 56.00 | \$ 57.00 | \$ 58.00 |
| Senior Resident Annual | \$ 10.00 | \$ 12.00 | \$ 12.50 | \$ 13.00 | \$ 13.50 |
| Senior Resident Lifetime | \$ 50.00 | \$ 60.00 | \$ 62.50 | \$ 65.00 | \$ 67.50 |
| 3-Day Tourist | \$ 25.00 | \$ 28.00 | \$ 29.00 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 31.00 |
| 7-Day Tourist | \$ 33.00 | \$ 37.00 | \$ 38.00 | \$ 39.00 | \$ 40.00 |
| 1-Day Resident | \$ 10.00 | \$ 11.00 | \$ 12.00 | \$ 13.00 | \$ 14.00 |
| 1-Day Tourist | \$ 25.00 | \$ 27.00 | \$ 28.00 | \$ 29.00 | \$ 30.00 |
| Trout/Salmon Permit | \$ 8.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 10.50 | \$ 11.00 | \$ 11.50 |
| Combination Trout/Salmon and Lake Erie Permit | \$ 14.00 | \$ 16.00 | \$ 16.50 | \$ 17.00 | \$ 17.50 |

(HB 808)

ACU: “Under Current Law, Fees Assessed On Fishing And Boating Are Set And Approved By Both Bodies Of The Legislature. This Bill Instead Empowers Unelected Bureaucrats Of The Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission To Establish And Increase Fees...” “Under current law, fees assessed on fishing and boating are set and approved by both bodies of the legislature. This bill instead empowers unelected bureaucrats of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to establish and increase fees and only allows the legislature to disapprove of fee increases through a concurrent resolution. ACU opposes this bill designed to empower unelected bureaucrats and allow the legislature to avoid taking responsibility on voting on fee hikes and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Bill Designed To Empower Unelected Bureaucrats And Allow The Legislature To Avoid Taking Responsibility On Voting On Fee Hikes And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Budgets

2019 State Budget

In June 2019, Muth Opposed Passage Of The 2019 Pennsylvania State Budget Despite Its Increase Of Education Funding. Investment In School Security, And Agricultural Supports. “With Gov. Tom Wolf’s signature, Pennsylvania will have a \$34 billion budget bill. The state Senate approved a budget bill Thursday that provides hundreds of millions more for

schools, makes another investment in school security and provides help to the state's sputtering agricultural industry, all without a tax increase. The Senate voted 42-8 to approve the spending bill; the House passed it by a 140-62 vote Tuesday. The spending package does not include an increase in the state's minimum wage, a key goal for Democrats. The budget increases spending by nearly 4%, or just under \$1.3 billion, over the current year's budget of about \$32.7 billion, and by just 1.8% when the governor's overspending is taken into account. Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Pat Browne, R-Lehigh County, urged support for the budget. He called it a relief to consider a state budget that makes increases in important programs and services after a decade of financial turbulence. While Browne warned that the state's fiscal situation remains tenuous, he said this budget "ensures increased confidence to weather the next storm on the horizon." Senate Democratic Appropriations Committee Chairman Vince Hughes, D-Philadelphia, said he could support the budget despite what he considered missed opportunities. He cited the failure to raise the state's \$7.25 hourly minimum wage. He also disliked the General Assembly's passage of a bill to cut off cash assistance to the state's poorest citizens, a debate that touched off a firestorm in the chamber Wednesday. Senate Majority Chairman Jake Corman, R-Centre County, said, "By and large on this particular budget, I think there's a lot to like because I think what we tried to do is fund what works." Sen. Katie Muth, D-Montgomery County, was among the Democratic senators who opposed the budget. She said, "This budget is not people-centered. This budget does not help enough people." (*Patriot News*, 6/28/19)

2021 State Budget

In June 2021, Muth Was Critical Of The 2021 Bipartisan State Budget, Which Set Aside Billions In Federal COVID Relief Funds Into Savings, Bolstered Spending On Education And Provided Aid To Personal Care Homes. 'The Pennsylvania General Assembly passed a \$40.8 billion state budget Friday that sets aside billions in federal coronavirus relief funds into savings, bolsters spending on education and provides aid to personal care homes. Gov. Tom Wolf's office said he plans to sign it this week. The budget passed the House by a 140-61 vote, and the Senate approved it by a 43-7 vote. The budget calls for no increase in personal or business taxes. Members of the General Assembly who represent Berks County shared their views with the Reading Eagle on the spending plan: Sen. David Argall, a Schuylkill County Republican "The Senate, on a strong bipartisan vote, made it abundantly clear that our focus should be on funding public and private education, broadband and transportation needs — and that's exactly what we did. "We allocated money to provide additional support for schools, nursing homes, roads and bridges. The best part: We did not need to incorporate a massive tax hike as the governor originally suggested. We even have a sizable revenue surplus which we stowed away in our Rainy Day Fund to prevent future tax hikes. "Not everything in this budget was 100% perfect, but I think we can all be proud of this bipartisan budget which will help Pennsylvanians get back on their feet without weighing them down with more taxes." Sen. Bob Mensch, a Montgomery County Republican "It's a very good budget. We've increased education to record highs, we've restored Wolf's cuts to agriculture and health care, we've provided additional funds for infrastructure, we've eliminated the possibility of tax increases. So I'm not sure there is a bad aspect of this budget. "A budget is always about compromise. If I had my way I would have liked to see more done to help spur job creation. We did have some tax ideas for businesses that, unfortunately, did not make it into the plan. But that's a battle for another day.

As for the amount of money we were able to put into the Rainy Day Fund, we have prepared ourselves very well for the continuing economic issues. There's no doubt that once all these federal dollars disappear that we will be left back to our own devices, so having a couple billion dollars set aside to offset that is going to bring a lot of relief for taxpayers." Sen. Katie Muth, a Montgomery County Democrat "While there are some high points and key investments in this year's budget, overall the plan falls far short and fails to invest in our state and the people of the commonwealth. This budget is sadly another example of an opportunity missed. "The people of the commonwealth are begging for us to invest in them and their future. We need to act with courage and be bold with big ideas to rejuvenate Pennsylvania as we emerge from the pandemic. There are simply too many people relying on us." (*Reading Eagle*, 6/28/21)

- **Muth Voted Against The 2021 Budget Calling It “Another Example Of An Opportunity Missed.”** “State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th Dist., voted no and told The Eagle, "Overall the plan falls far short and fails to invest in our state and the people of the commonwealth. This budget is sadly another example of an opportunity missed," she said. "The people of the commonwealth are begging for us to invest in them and their future. We need to act with courage and be bold with big ideas to rejuvenate Pennsylvania as we emerge from the pandemic," said Muth. State Rep. Joe Ciresi, D-146th Dist., also voted no.” (*Daily Local News*, 7/1/21)

Social Assistance/ Welfare

General Assistance

In July 2019, Williams And Muth Were Among The Democratic Legislators To Criticize The Elimination Of The General Assistance Program And To Call For The Creation Of An Emergency Cash Aid Program. “The Pennsylvania Senate Democrats issued the following news release: Following the elimination of General Assistance, several members of the Pennsylvania Senate Democratic Caucus circulated a cosponsorship memo to create an emergency relief program that would serve the population now without cash assistance. Senators Katie Muth, Lindsey Williams, Maria Collett and Pam Iovino circulated the memo with their Senate colleagues late Monday, asking for others to join in sponsoring the legislation. "We have to find a way to provide this relief, we have a duty to protect the most vulnerable citizens of this commonwealth and if we aren't doing that, then we are failing miserably," said Senator Katie Muth. "If we don't get this right, the most vulnerable people of our commonwealth will be left out to dry with no means to the very basic necessities of life, which every human should have access to." "As the wife of a chronic cancer sufferer, I am acutely aware that my family is never more than one emergency away from being unable to pay for the medicine that keeps my husband alive," said Senator Maria Collett. "This program will be a lifeline for people with disabilities, domestic violence survivors and others in crisis.” (Press Release, “Pennsylvania Senate Democrats: Democratic Senators To Introduce Emergency Relief Program Legislation,” PA Senate Democrats, 7/2/19)

- **In June 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Argue Vocally Against Elimination Of The General Assistance Program.** “Pennsylvania’s \$40 million General Assistance program is small compared to the scale of other parts of the state’s safety net for the needy. But its advocates say the \$200 monthly cash stipends for

adults, many of them disabled, helps them pay for transportation and basic living necessities not covered by other social programs. For a few brief moments, Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati (R., Jefferson) took over the rostrum in the chamber, where Lt. Gov. John Fetterman normally presides. Fetterman, a Democrat, had briefly walked down to the floor, where senators were shouting, in an effort to broker peace; in his absence, Scarnati picked up the gavel and, with a procedural vote, shut down any possibility of altering the bill. "He started throwing a fit and came up to the rostrum," Fetterman said of Scarnati, adding that Republicans "invoked the nuclear option." Democratic senators promptly walked off the floor, and when they returned, Republicans voted in near-lockstep to eliminate the program. That again set off a screaming match, with Democratic Sen. Katie Muth of Montgomery County trying to argue against the bill as multiple Republican senators shouted at Fetterman to stop her." (*Philly.com*, 6/26/19)

TANF

In August 2021, Muth Noted Her Intention To Introduce Legislation Amplifying TANF Benefits. "Advocates also highlighted the racial gaps, noting that more than half of TANF recipients are Black, as compared to 12% of the overall Pennsylvania population. With poverty disproportionately affecting Black and Latino youth, any changes to TANF also have the potential to help these children, argued the report's authors. To change the way the state administers cash assistance requires legislation, something that has not happened in decades. "I think one of the reasons the benefit hasn't changed in 30 years is because the legislature doesn't vote on it every year," said Pulzetti. "I don't think they even see it." That could change in 2021. Democratic State Sen. Katie Muth and Democratic State Rep. Malcom Kenyatta have both released memorandums saying they plan to introduce legislation to update TANF "in order to meet basic and essential needs" of recipients." (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 8/22/21)

SNAP

In July 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Express Opposition To The USDA's Reform Of SNAP Eligibility Rules. "As you may be aware, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently opened the public comment period for proposed changes to Section 5(a) of the SNAP program. These provisions allow individuals who are eligible for or receiving benefits from other assistance programs to qualify for SNAP without having to go through a separate financial eligibility review. Pennsylvania is one of a number of states that uses this provision to make it easier for those who are seeking necessary assistance to ensure they are receiving all the benefits they are entitled to. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, approximately 200,000 individuals and 120,000 households in the Commonwealth will lose benefits if the "categorically" eligible rules are changed. Of those 120,000 households, more than 36% are households with children. Feeding America estimates that more than 1.5 million Pennsylvanians are food insecure. Worse, 1 in 6 of Pennsylvania's children struggles with hunger. These numbers are staggering enough without the addition of 200,000 more who could soon be without SNAP. The current rules allow those food insecure individuals who are single parents, disabled veterans, victims of domestic violence and individuals with a disability to receive vital benefits that allow them to put a healthy, fresh meal on their table. More alarming is the effect this rule change could have on free or reduced food

programs for K through 12 schools. Across the nation, 29.7 million children receive a free or reduced meal at school. In Pennsylvania more than 167 million free or reduced lunches were provided during the last school year. These meals ensure that a child, who may not get a fresh meal at home, is able to eat at least one - but often two - meals a day. SNAP is an economic support for our already struggling food and supermarket retailers, especially those in brick and mortar locations, whose businesses operate on a very thin margin, and are further challenged by the growing on-line food delivery business. This proposal on SNAP eligibility is heartless, callous, and Pennsylvanians cannot afford it. Pennsylvanians living at or near poverty recently lost the state's General Assistance program; and it has been a decade since Pennsylvania has seen a minimum wage increase. Now, the federal government is threatening to cut food assistance. We cannot continue to eliminate safety nets and the programs that move people toward self sufficiency after they have fallen on difficult times. Societies are judged by how they treat their most vulnerable; if we let this change to SNAP go unchallenged, we will fail that judgement. Our caucus will oppose the rule change in every way that we are able, and we ask that our federal representatives join us. We, and our constituents, thank you for the advocacy you have already undertaken. We look forward to fighting with you, on behalf of those who need it most.” (Press Release, “PA Senate Democratic Caucus Decries Changes To Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Program, Urges PA Congressional Delegation to Oppose,” PA Senate Democrats, 7/29/19)

- **NOTE:** *Muth was among the signatories of the letter criticizing SNAP eligibility changes.*

Trade

USMCA

In 2019, Williams And Muth Were Among The Democratic Senators To Vote In Committee Against A Resolution Urging Passage Of The USMCA. “The Pennsylvania Senate State Government Committee advanced a resolution by a vote of 7-4 along party lines encouraging Congress to approve the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Democrats Anthony Williams, Maria Collett, Katie Muth and Lindsey Williams voted no last week to Senate Resolution 153 sponsored by Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill, R-York. "Until those changes relative to ensuring labor standards, certain environmental provisions as well as enforcement of the deal itself. ... I will be a 'no' vote," Muth said. Sen. Doug Mastriano, R-Franklin County, countered Muth's statements with support of the bill. "Once it passes, I believe we'll see a boom for our industry and agriculture here across Pennsylvania and then maybe once again Pennsylvania will be open for business." Congress is still ironing out details with the Trump administration on the deal, which would replace the North American Free Trade Act.” (*The Daily American*, 11/4/19)

Labor

Minimum Wage

In 2019, Speaking In Support Of Increased State Minimum Wage, Muth “Said She Has No Patience For Business Owners Who Claim Raising The Minimum Wage Would Put Them Out Of Business” And Claimed “If Your Business Relies On Paying People Crap Wages

Then Yours Is Not A Moral Business.” “Kadida Kenner, campaign organizer for We the People-PA, emceed the forum and talked about the group's legislative agenda, which includes improving access to health care, quality education and making the wealthiest pay their fair share of income and corporate taxes. The group also advocates raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour across Pennsylvania. Schwank said she believes raising the minimum wage will benefit the entire community because all employers would have to pay the wage, and the added income would pump vital dollars into local economies. Muth said some of her fellow legislators have never had to rely on a minimum wage job and don't understand that paying even \$9.50 or \$12 an hour is still a poverty wage. She said she has no patience for business owners who claim raising the minimum wage would put them out of business. "If your business relies on paying people crap wages then yours is not a moral business," she said.” (*Reading Eagle*, 4/19/19)

Muth Voted Yea On SB 79, Which Amends The Minimum Wage Act Of 1968 To Provide For An Increase To The Minimum Wage And To Make Changes To The Exemptions To The Minimum Wage And Overtime Provisions. ([SB 79](#), Bill Passed - Senate (42-7), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/20/19, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Would Reduce Employment Opportunities For Inexperienced Workers By Raising The Minimum Wage...” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Increases In The Minimum Wage Which Harm Those Who Need Employment Experience, Such As Students And Inexperienced Workers, Supports The Ability Of Employees To Negotiate Their Own Benefits And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Overtime Mandates

Muth Voted Nay On HCRRR 1. (HCRRR 1, Resolution Passed - Senate (29-21), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/27/20, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Resolution Protects Employers And Employees From New Overtime Mandates Which May Reduce Job Opportunities. Specifically, This Resolution Formally Disapproves Of The Wolf Administration’s Attempt To Increase The Earnings Threshold For Mandatory Overtime Payments.” “This resolution protects employers and employees from new overtime mandates which may reduce job opportunities. Specifically, this resolution formally disapproves of the Wolf administration’s attempt to increase the earnings threshold for mandatory overtime payments. Under federal law, weekly salaries above \$684 are exempt from overtime mandates. The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry regulation (#12-106) raises the threshold to \$875 starting in 2022, which this resolution would block. Only California and New York currently impose overtime thresholds on employers higher than the federal amount. ACU supports the right of employees and employers to freely negotiate the terms of a contract, opposes this expanded government interference in the right to contract which may reduce employment opportunities and supported this resolution.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports The Right Of Employees And Employers To Freely Negotiate The Terms Of A Contract, Opposes This Expanded Government Interference In The Right To Contract Which May Reduce Employment Opportunities And Supported This Resolution.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard, 2020](#))

Collective Bargaining

Muth Voted Yea On HB 1584, Which “Amends Title 30 (Fish And Boat Code) To Remove Language That Bars Waterways Conservation Officers (Wcos) Of The Pennsylvania Fish And Boat Commission (Commission) From Being Included In Act 111 Of 1968 For The Purpose Of Seeking Collective Bargaining.” ([HB 1584](#), Bill Passed - Senate (48-1), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/19/20, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Authorizes Unionization Of Waterways Conservation Officers, Thus Driving Up Taxpayer Costs And Making It Harder For The State To Dismiss Poorly Performing Employees.” “This bill authorizes unionization of Waterways Conservation Officers, thus driving up taxpayer costs and making it harder for the state to dismiss poorly performing employees. Under existing law, only certain government employees have authority to collectively bargain. ACU opposes this measure designed to enrich greedy union bosses while unnecessarily increasing taxpayer costs and weakening government integrity and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard, 2020](#))

The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Measure Designed To Enrich Greedy Union Bosses While Unnecessarily Increasing Taxpayer Costs And Weakening Government Integrity And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard, 2020](#))

Miscellaneous

Pension Oversight

A Recent Appointee To The PSERS Pension Board, Muth Is Known To Be A Vocal Accountability And Disclosure Advocate Pushing For Organizational Reforms. “The most outspoken board critic of PSERS management, state Sen. Katie Muth (D., Montgomery), is pushing for public exposure. Muth says there should be a written report — though perhaps only shared with the board — and that a written executive summary could be made public. In a letter to the board last month, Muth said this would “provide accountability,” guarantee that any reforms are firmly grounded in Womble's findings, and show the public what it got for its money. So sensitive is the issue of the report's contents that board members and the Womble lawyer have been talking about it only in general terms. Asked directly at a meeting last week, Rauscher did say her probe had not turned up criminal wrongdoing. Rauscher could not be reached for comment Tuesday. PSERS also did not reply to a request for comment.” (*The Patriot News*, 11/9/21)

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Alternative Energy

In 2018, Muth Noted She Supported Government Intervention In The Energy Industry And Called For Government Promotion Of The Clean Energy Sector. “2. Do you believe state government can help spur job creation? If so, what changes would you make in state law to encourage job growth? Rafferty: Yes, the state Legislature can help drive job creation through tax incentives for business and economic development for public works projects. For example, I was the prime sponsor of Act 89, which passed in 2013 and has created thousands of public sector jobs since its implementation. Muth: There are a number of things that we can do to spur job growth. I am passionate about clean and renewable energy jobs that pay more on average than the national median. The Pennsylvania Legislature should back policies that grow our clean energy sector, which can help reduce unemployment, lower power plant emissions and improve public health.” (*Reading Eagle*, 9/17/18)

In May 2019, Muth Co-Sponsored Legislation Requiring Pennsylvania To Obtain 100 Percent Of Its Energy From Renewables By 2050. “A bipartisan group of 88 Republican and Democratic Pennsylvania state legislators yesterday announced the re-introduction of legislation in the General Assembly that would require Pennsylvania to get 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources by 2050. State Rep. Chris Rabb (Philadelphia) introduced the House bill (HB 1425), which was also proposed in last year's session. The Senate version of this legislation (SB630), sponsored by State Sen. Tom Killion (Chester & Delaware County), was first introduced last year by now-retired Republican senator Charles McIlhinney (Bucks County). This effort is the first 100 percent renewable energy legislation in the nation where the lead sponsors have been Republicans. "The vast majority of scientists agree that climate change is real," said Rabb. "And you don't have to be a scientist to notice its effects, which have been caused by human activity. By resorting to 100 percent renewable energy in the commonwealth, we can help to slow this change or face the on-going irreparable damage and its detrimental consequences." Many Chester County legislators are co-sponsors of the legislation, including: Senators Andrew Dinniman (SD 19), Tim Kearney (SD 26), and Katie Muth (SD 44), as well as Representatives Dan Williams (HD 74), Danielle Friel Otten (HD 155), Carolyn Comitta (HD 156), Melissa Shusterman (HD 157), Christina Sappey (HD 158), Stephen Barrar (HD 160), and Kristine Howard (HD 167).” (*The Daily American*, 5/8/19)

Oil And Gas

Overall

Muth: “We Can (And Should) Close The Hazardous Waste Loophole, Discontinue Petrochemical Tax Credits And Strategically Divest From Fossil Fuel Companies Who Are Prioritizing Profits Over The American People.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 5/10/22)

Senator Katie Muth
May 10 at 9:09 AM

Not only are oil and gas companies raking in record profits, but they admit that they are not producing at full output with the permits that they currently have.

Pennsylvania provides billions of dollars in subsidies and tax breaks to the fossil fuel industry annually. Year after year, annual budgets (which I have voted against) put corporate profits over people. Is this the year when the politicians bought and paid for by the fossil fuel industry stand up for their constituents? We can (and should) close the hazardous waste loophole, discontinue petrochemical tax credits and strategically divest from fossil fuel companies who are prioritizing profits over the American people.

Also, make sure you don't take your elected officials word for it. Check out their campaign finance reports and see where they are getting their money from and ask them why they continue to take contributions from the same companies robbing you every time you go to the pump, or buy groceries in the store: <https://www.campaignfinanceonline.pa.gov/.../CFReportSear...>

| Company | YoY Profit Increase | Q1 Profit |
|---------|---------------------|---------------|
| Chevron | 359% | \$6.3 Billion |
| EXXON | 104% | \$5.5 Billion |
| bp | 138% | \$6.2 Billion |
| Shell | 184% | \$9.1 Billion |

85 58 Comments 75 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 5/10/22)

Fracking

In 2019, Muth Noted She Opposed Fracking. “Muth said some of her fellow legislators have never had to rely on a minimum wage job and don't understand that paying even \$9.50 or \$12 an hour is still a poverty wage. She said she has no patience for business owners who claim raising the minimum wage would put them out of business. "If your business relies on paying people crap wages then yours is not a moral business," she said. Both senators opposed fracking and favored using less fossil fuel energy, and favored expanded Medicare for all Pennsylvanians, access to better education, and early and other forms of expanded voting.” (*Reading Eagle*, 4/19/19)

In 2021, Muth Was Among The Democrats To Oppose Republican Efforts To Overturn A Fracking Ban Imposed By The Delaware River Basin Commission. “According to Miano, the Caucus argues in its suit that the Republican Senators do not have standing under the Constitution to bring the claims. "They claim, as individual senators, they have rights to make these claims, but case law and statutes are very clear that they don't have standing to bring the case. The same group tried to intervene in another case about fracking and there the district court ruled that they did not have standing. On appeal, the senators withdrew their case.

"Substantively, we don't believe the Republican Senators or Damascus Township have any claims of taking," added Miano. "The way the law looks at taking is very individualized and has to be facts dependent. What the Republican Senators are asking the courts to do is declare the whole rubric is a taking. In order to win on a takings case you have to show you've been impaired in a very specific way. We don't believe they have any ability to show that. "Finally they claim that somehow they DRBC is usurping their power to legislate in Pennsylvania, taking away the sovereignty of the state. That does not make sense as an argument," said Miano. "All the states, as part of the compact, voted for the fracking ban so we're not quite sure how the DRBC is usurping the power of the states." Five million Pennsylvanians across 17 counties reside in the Basin, which includes Bucks, Delaware, Montgomery, Chester and Philadelphia counties. The Delaware River Basin spans 6,471 square miles in the Commonwealth, across 522 municipalities. The Democratic Caucus members who have signed onto the lawsuit are Senators Steve Santarsiero (D-Bucks), Carolyn Comitta (D-Chester), Amanda Cappelletti (D-Montgomery, Delaware), Maria Collett (D-Montgomery, Bucks), Wayne Fontana (D-Allegheny), Art Haywood (D-Montgomery, Philadelphia), Vince Hughes (D-Philadelphia), John Kane (D-Chester, Delaware), Tim Kearney (D-Delaware), Katie Muth (D-Berks, Chester, Montgomery), John Sabatina (D-Philadelphia), Nikil Saval (D-Philadelphia), Judy Schwank (D-Berks), Sharif Street (D-Philadelphia), Tina Tartaglione (D-Philadelphia) and Anthony Williams (D-Philadelphia)." (*The Daily American*, 3/13/21)

In May 2021, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Support A Series Of Additional Restrictions And Regulations On Fracking. "Pennsylvania Senate Democrats on Tuesday introduced eight bills designed to increase restrictions on natural gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing in the commonwealth, taking up most of the recommendations of last year's investigating grand jury. The grand jury led to criminal complaints against a handful of natural gas producers, but in bringing the report to light last fall, Attorney General Josh Shapiro highlighted the steps that the Legislature should take to bring Pennsylvania's environmental laws up to the grand jury's recommendations. While the grand jury's report had little impact in the GOP-controlled Legislature, Tuesday's news conference and the bills themselves sought to put limits onto natural gas industry onto the agenda in Harrisburg. The bills would • increase the setbacks from natural gas well sites from 500 feet now to 2,500 feet normally and 5,000 feet from schools, hospitals and reservoirs • encompass all air pollution when determining air quality at a drilling site • give the Office of Attorney General the ability to directly prosecute environmental crimes, something it doesn't have at the moment • more strictly regulate the transportation of hydraulic fracturing waste • prohibit Department of Environmental Protection officials from leaving the DEP and going to the private sector immediately • Studying the health of people who live near natural gas drilling sites • Require the disclosure of chemicals used for drilling and hydraulic fracturing State Sen. Steven J. Santarsiero, D-Bucks, said during a news conference Tuesday that the proposed legislation would work to address the grand jury's issues as well as the fallout from Act 13, a sweeping law for the natural gas industry that was passed in 2012. "Many of us saw that as an overreach on the part of the industry and not something that actually protected the public and protected the environment," Santarsiero said. Shapiro said the legislation would help ensure Pennsylvanians' rights to clean air and water; he said there was a gap between the 50-year-old law and reality when it came to natural gas drilling

and hydraulic fracturing. "For far too long, fracking companies and regulators turned a blind eye to the health and safety impact of this industry," Shapiro said. Another co-sponsor, state Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks, said that more attention and regulations needed to be taken when it came to the transportation of hydraulic fracturing waste, including more labeling. "Currently, you could be driving around the highway and be next to something that is full of radioactive waste and not have a clue," Muth said." (*Pittsburgh Business Times*, 5/25/21)

Tax Credits

In March 2020, Muth Was Opposed To HB 1100, Which Provided Tax Credits To Businesses That Used Natural Gas When Manufacturing Fertilizers.

“House Bill 1100 passed both chambers last month and will land on Wolf’s desk when lawmakers return to session next week. The proposal gives tax credits to businesses that use natural gas when manufacturing fertilizers. Businesses must spend at least \$450 million building a new facility that will create at least 800 jobs to qualify for the 30-year program. The governor said, however, he will veto the plan because he thinks tax breaks should be provided to economic development projects on a case-by-case basis. "We've taken too many hits and if you're going to veto this one, we are going to work like you've never seen us work before to gather up the votes to override that veto," Rep. Gerald Mullery, D-Luzerne, said during a rally for the bill in Harrisburg on Monday. "Because we need those jobs." The House voted 157-35 in favor of the plan on Feb. 4, just hours after the Senate approved the bill 39-11. "Keep this in mind," House Speaker Mike Turzai, R-Allegheny, said. "These are veto proof numbers." Legislators must whip up two-thirds of each chamber – 136 votes in the House and 34 in the Senate – in order to successfully override the governor's expected veto. For some Democrats, however, the natural gas industry's impact on the environment trumps HB 1100's purported economic benefits. "I'm eager to work on a bill that actually prioritizes the economic sustainability and health and well-being of both the public workers and the environment and House Bill 1100 is not that bill," said Rep. Katie Muth, D-Montgomery, at a competing rally protesting the plan. "We can have jobs we can have economic security without sacrificing our land, our water and our health.”” (*The Daily American*, 3/10/20)

Mariner East

Muth Is Known To Be Critical Of The Continued Development Of The Mariner East Pipeline Despite Regulatory And Environmental Concerns.

‘State Sen. Katie Muth, a Democrat who represents parts of Chester and Montgomery counties, said she's "infuriated" by the new permits allowing construction at Marsh Creek. "I think it should be completely stopped until they have actually tested the public and private water supplies all along [the pipeline route]," she said. "No one has done that. This project was flawed from the beginning." Muth said she's already received calls from constituents worried about how the current construction could affect groundwater and drinking water supplies, and whether neighboring backyards will once again be flooded. Residents worry that because Energy Transfer has to renew all its original permits in February, the company will rush this last section. "They are pushing forward really fast," said Christina "PK" DiGiulio, who lives by Marsh Creek and uses drones to document construction. "It's been a reckless process. This is the DEP enabling a criminal entity to push their pipe through without doing proper groundwater impact studies and protecting the

health and safety of the people." Muth said that while there are no statutes that prevent companies facing criminal charges from continuing construction, the Department of Environmental Protection can pull permits. "DEP does have the legal authority to revoke or deny any permit for any operator that has a history of repeat violations," said Muth. "So [DEP] doesn't use its authority. You can't say they're underfunded forever, and that the laws aren't strong enough, when they hold the authority to revoke or deny, and they've never done it." (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 12/27/21)

- **In January 2022, “State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th, Of Royersford, State Rep. Dianne Herrin, D-156th, Of West Chester, And State Rep. Danielle Friel-Otten, D-155th, Of Uwchlan, Say That Shapiro Has The Clear Authority Under The Clean Streams Law To File An Emergency Injunction To Halt Pipeline Construction For The Mariner East Pipeline And He Should Do So Immediately.”** “Three area elected officials have called upon Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro to halt construction of the Mariner East Pipeline. State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th, of Royersford, State Rep. Dianne Herrin, D-156th, of West Chester, and State Rep. Danielle Friel-Otten, D-155th, of Uwchlan, say that Shapiro has the clear authority under the Clean Streams Law to file an emergency injunction to halt pipeline construction for the Mariner East Pipeline and he should do so immediately. The elected officials are also asking the attorney general, a Democratic candidate for governor, to file a nuisance lawsuit on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its citizens (also under the Clean Streams Law) to help abate what the three public officials say are ongoing violations by pipeline builder Energy Transfer.” (*Daily Local News*, 1/10/22)

Regulations

In 2019, Muth Introduced Legislation Imposing Additional Regulatory And Oversight Requirements For Natural Gas Pipelines. “The Pennsylvania Senate Democrats issued the following news release on behalf of Pennsylvania State Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks/Chester/Montgomery, who announced that she will be introducing two pieces of legislation that would mandate specific safety and public awareness standards for pipeline construction and operation: "While pipelines may be considered the safest way to transport volatile liquids and natural gases, Pennsylvania has garnered a lengthy history of gas-related accidents, leaks, and disasters," Muth said. "My legislation ensures that residents are adequately informed of, and involved in, safety procedures that are necessary to make sure their communities are not being harmed or damaged by pipeline activity." The first bill would require early collaborative creation and approval of comprehensive risk assessments for each individual pipeline proposal. The assessments would be used to create an Integrity Management Program (IMP) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP). The second bill seeks to create an exception to Act 156 of 2006 that would allow agencies and a qualified Independent Third Party (ITP) to conduct the evaluations required by the first bill.” (Press Release, “Sen. Muth To Introduce Pipeline Safety Legislation,” PA Senate Democrats, 3/19/19)

Muth Voted Nay On SB 790, Which Establishes The Conventional Oil And Gas Wells Act. ([SB 790](#), Bill Passed - Senate (26-23), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/21/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “This bill establishes the Conventional Oil and Gas Wells Act, specifically to restore regulatory provisions of the Oil and Gas Act of 1984 and provide a framework specific to conventional wells and well sites. The reason for this is because both unconventional and conventional wells are currently permitted activities with the same regulatory requirements under Act 13 of 2012.” ([SB 790](#))

ACU: “This Bill Would Reduce Excessive Regulatory Barriers Imposed On Conventional Oil And Gas Operations.” “This bill would reduce excessive regulatory barriers imposed on conventional oil and gas operations. Under the bill, a regulatory framework would be established to govern conventional oil and gas wells which would balance environmental protection, the energy needs of consumers and the uniqueness of the industry. The bill is in response to regulations passed in 2012 designed to address the Marcellus Shale boom and the unconventional oil and gas industry (i.e., hydraulic fracturing), but have placed significant burdens on smaller conventional producers and brought the industry to near collapse. ACU supports all sources of energy, believes government should not favor one source of energy over another, supports this measure to expand energy production and strengthen property rights and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“Under The Bill, A Regulatory Framework Would Be Established To Govern Conventional Oil And Gas Wells Which Would Balance Environmental Protection, The Energy Needs Of Consumers And The Uniqueness Of The Industry.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports All Sources Of Energy, Believes Government Should Not Favor One Source Of Energy Over Another, Supports This Measure To Expand Energy Production And Strengthen Property Rights And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Emissions

RGGI

In August 2021, Muth Defended The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative And Called The Measure’s Implicit Carbon Tax A “Pay To Pollute Fee.” “Sen. Joe Pittman, R-Indiana, blasted RGGI, and called it a carbon tax on emissions that could affect 'thousands of families' that rely on the production of carbon-emitting electricity 'for their livelihoods.' 'There's no other way around it,' Pittman added. Sen. Scott Martin, R-Lancaster, said he worries participation in the agreement will lead to a rise in utility rates among low-income families and individuals. 'These things have real impacts. Energy plays such a critical role in life, keeping people warm, powering things that keep us alive,' Martin said, adding that an 'increase in energy costs has an increase in cost to everything down the line.' Sen. Katie Muth, D-Montgomery, clarified that the initiative is not a tax — it's a 'pay-to-pollute fee.' 'It requires coal and gas power plants to pay for their carbon pollution, so they're being held accountable in a financial manner so that we can limit carbon emissions,' Muth said. 'Companies are going to pay based on how much they pollute, and right now, they don't do that.'” (*Pennsylvania Capital-Star*, 8/18/21)

Muth: “RGGI Simply Requires Coal And Gas Power Plants To Pay For Their Carbon Pollution, So They Are Being Held Accountable In A Financial Manner In Order To Limit Carbon Emissions. By Joining RGGI, Companies Are Going To Pay Based On How Much They Pollute, Which They Currently Don’t Do.” ([Muth Instagram](#), Posted 4/5/22)



senatormuth 🇺🇸 Don't believe the hysteria from politicians who want to continue to subsidize the oil and gas industry with taxpayer dollars. RGGI simply requires coal and gas power plants to pay for their carbon pollution, so they are being held accountable in a financial manner in order to limit carbon emissions. By joining RGGI, companies are going to pay based on how much they pollute, which they currently don't do.

Over its first decade RGGI delivered \$4 billion in net economic benefits, including job creation & bill savings as a result of energy efficient investments. Investment of RGGI proceeds into emergency efficiency programs will lower demand & drive costs down for everyone.

➔ You can learn more about RGGI here: <https://www.rggi.org/>

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([Muth Instagram](#), Posted 4/5/22)

Muth Voted Nay On HB 2025, Which Enacts The Pennsylvania Carbon Dioxide Cap And Trade Authorization Act. ([HB 2025](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 9/9/20, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “This bill clarifies that the Department of Environmental Protection (department) does not have the authority to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) or similar state or regional greenhouse gas cap-and-trade programs unless authorized by the General Assembly.” ([HB 2025](#))

ACU: “This Bill Protects Pennsylvania Residents From Skyrocketing Utility Costs By Preventing The Governor From Committing The State Into The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Or Any Similar Initiative Without Approval From The Legislature.”

“This bill protects Pennsylvania residents from skyrocketing utility costs by preventing the governor from committing the state into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) or any similar initiative without approval from the legislature. The RGGI is a cap-and-trade program which places limits and assesses fees on the carbon dioxide emissions of electric energy producers, which costs are then passed on to consumers through higher utility rates. The revenue collected through this scheme is oftentimes directed to Leftist initiatives relating to climate change and energy efficiency. ACU opposes driving up the utility costs of millions of Pennsylvanians to advance Leftist initiatives and a politicized global warming agenda and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Driving Up The Utility Costs Of Millions Of Pennsylvanians To Advance Leftist Initiatives And A Politicized Global Warming Agenda And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Vehicle Emissions

Muth Voted Nay On SB 742, Which Establishes The New Vehicle Emissions Modeling Act. ([SB 742](#), Bill Passed - Senate (26-24), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/25/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “This legislation establishes the New Vehicle Emissions Modeling Act. The legislation requires the PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT), in consultation with the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), to conduct vehicle emissions modeling to determine an exemption period that is in compliance with performance standards under the Clean Air Act and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Inspection/Maintenance Program regulations. The modeling must include scenarios up to and including the newest eight vehicle model years. The purpose is to determine the impacts of exempting newer model year vehicles from the program.” ([SB 742](#))

ACU: “This Bill Would Reduce Regulatory Burdens And Commuter Costs By Exempting Vehicles Made Eight Years Ago Or Less From The Requirement To Be Tested Under The State’s Vehicle Emissions Program.” “This bill would reduce regulatory burdens and commuter costs by exempting vehicles made eight years ago or less from the requirement to be tested under the state’s vehicle emissions program. ACU supports reducing car ownership costs by reducing regulatory burdens and supported this bill as a step in the right direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Reducing Car Ownership Costs By Reducing Regulatory Burdens And Supported This Bill As A Step In The Right Direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Muth Voted Yea On SB 596, To Provide For Transportation Fueling Infrastructure Development. ([SB 596](#), Bill Passed - Senate (43-6), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/19/19, Muth Voted Yea)

ACU: “This Bill Would Interfere In The Marketplace And Drive Up Electricity Costs For All Ratepayers By Mandating That Electric Utility Companies In The State Develop ‘Transportation Electrification Infrastructure Development Plans.’” “This bill would interfere in the marketplace and drive up electricity costs for all ratepayers by mandating that electric utility companies in the state develop “transportation electrification infrastructure development plans.” Under the bill, the plans would be filed with the Public Utility Commission (PUC) and the agency would be directed to develop a statewide plan to expand transportation electrification by 50% by 2030. The plans that utility companies submit would be required to be developed with independent transportation planning experts and detail how the utility plans to develop and install electric charging infrastructure. Furthermore, the bill would authorize utilities to increase all of their customers’ electricity bills—regardless if the customer uses the charging infrastructure—by 0.25% to recover the costs of the plan. ACU supports all sources of energy and believes government should not favor one source of energy over another.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Socializing Infrastructure Costs In Order To Benefit Select (Primarily Wealthy) Vehicle Owners And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Environmentalist Associations (Representatives)

In August 2020, Muth Earned A 100 Percent Rating On The Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard And Claimed Lawmakers Who Continued To Vote On Energy Matters Despite Accepting Contributions From Fossil Fuel Interests Were Undermining Democracy. “Said Sen. Katie Muth (SD-44): “Elected officials and those in positions of power who take money from fossil fuel companies should not be drafting or voting on environmental legislation. Too many members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly remain loyal to special interests, resulting in a direct attack on our democracy, our environment and our public health.” The 2019-2020 Environmental Scorecard reflects a denial of science among legislative leaders that risks the health and safety of Pennsylvania's residents for generations to come. This session, 116 legislators scored zero percent, marking a 500 percent increase in bad voting records on environmental issues since the last environmental scorecard in 2017-2018. However, Chester County was one of the few regions which saw an increase in legislators scoring 100 percent. “We all know the urgency of the climate crisis and the importance of preserving and protecting our environment for future generations,” said Rep. Carolyn Comitta (HD-156). “I am proud to stand with my colleagues to ensure that our communities have environmental champions that are dedicated to passing legislation that will safeguard our constitutional right to clean air and water.” Environmental scores: State Sen. Andrew Dinniman (SD-19): 67 percent, State Sen. Tim Kearney (SD-26): 100 percent, State Sen. Thomas Killion (SD-9): 50 percent, and State Sen. Katie Muth (SD-44): 100 percent.” (*The Daily American*, 8/31/20)

HEALTHCARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Medicare For All/ Single-Payer

In 2019, Muth Noted She Supported Medicare For All. “Muth said some of her fellow legislators have never had to rely on a minimum wage job and don't understand that paying even \$9.50 or \$12 an hour is still a poverty wage. She said she has no patience for business owners who claim raising the minimum wage would put them out of business. “If your business relies on paying people crap wages then yours is not a moral business,” she said. Both senators opposed fracking and favored using less fossil fuel energy, and favored expanded Medicare for all Pennsylvanians, access to better education, and early and other forms of expanded voting.” (*Reading Eagle*, 4/19/19)

COVID

Mask Mandates

In September 2021, Muth Defended The Imposition Of School Mask Mandates. “State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th, said Gov. Tom Wolf's order was needed. “Wearing masks, protecting ourselves and protecting our communities should have never been politicized or vilified — we are still fighting a deadly pandemic and need to take every precaution to stop the spread of

COVID-19 and the Delta variant," she said. "While there were many schools and childcare facilities across our Commonwealth acting responsibly and requiring masks, many others were not — putting the health and well-being of children and our greater communities at risk. This commonsense order takes necessary steps to keep our communities safe and keep our schools open for in-person learning." Denise Day, president and chief executive officer for YMCA of Greater Brandywine agrees with Wolf's order." (*Daily Local News*, 9/2/21)

Social Distancing

In December 2020, Citing The Presence Of Her Desk Next To Republicans Who Did Not Wear Masks, Muth Relocated Herself To A Corner Of The Chamber In A Bid To Socially Distance Herself. "Katie Muth's assigned seat in the Pennsylvania Senate is near several Republicans who don't wear face masks on the chamber floor. "I call it COVID alley," said Muth, a Montgomery County Democrat. So in October, she brought a new desk into the chamber and set it up in the corner instead. She felt safer. Muth's forced social distancing was emblematic of a vitriolic year in Harrisburg - an environment unlikely to mellow in 2021. While most Pennsylvanians can shelter in their political bubbles while they disagree about the severity of the pandemic and the reality of Joe Biden's election win, in Harrisburg, elected officials have clashed over those same things while sitting right next to one another or on tense Zoom calls." (*The Morning Call*, 12/26/20)

Emergency Declaration

In June 2021, Muth Criticized Republicans For Moving To Terminate The Pandemic Emergency Declarations. "Before Thursday' night's vote by the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee on the scaled-back resolution, Sen. Katie Muth, a Democrat from Bucks County, castigated her Republican colleagues for spending a day on what she called the optics of taking credit for declaring the pandemic over, when, she argued, many related issues are far from resolved. "I'm baffled that there's been so much time spent on ending this and sticking it to the governor... and yet we have no plan to say: 'This is how we're going to prevent this from happening again,' number one; or if another emergency occurs how do we improve our response?" Muth said. "Where's that plan? Where's that rushed-through at nine-forty p.m.?" To illustrate, Muth cited questions about whether the state would extra federal funding for summer lunch programs at schools, or to pay for COVID-related deployments of the Pennsylvania National Guard. "There's no plan. Nothing. End it all, and we're back to normal. This is an unrealistic approach. it's negligence... I urge everybody go get some sleep tonight and come back tomorrow and have a different mindset about working together, and figuring it out," Muth said. The Republican majority proceeded to run the vote." (*The Express-Times*, 6/9/21)

Legislative Oversight Of Emergency Declarations

Muth Voted Nay On SB 1166, Which "Amends The Constitution Of Pennsylvania Providing For Equality Of Rights Because Of Race And Ethnicity, Concurrent Orders And Resolutions, And For Disaster Emergency Declaration And Management." ([SB 1166](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 7/15/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ANALYSIS: This legislation proposes three separate amendments to the Constitution of Pennsylvania as follows:

Article I: This resolution adds a new section that would prohibit denying or abridging equality of rights under the law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because of the race or ethnicity of an individual.

Section 9 of Article III: This resolution would add a provision allowing for non-presentment to the governor of a Joint Resolution terminating or extending a declaration of disaster emergency.

Article IV: This resolution adds a new section that would authorize the Governor to issue emergency declarations under circumstances provided for by law for that purpose. The General Assembly could by law grant the Governor certain enumerated powers to address and abate the declared emergency. However, a declaration by the Governor of an emergency could not last longer than 21 days unless extended by a concurrent resolution of the General Assembly approving the continuation of the declaration. Upon the expiration of the Governor's emergency declaration, the Governor could not declare a new state of emergency based upon the same or substantially similar facts and circumstances without the passage of a concurrent resolution of the General Assembly expressly approving the new emergency declaration.

([SB 1166](#))

ACU: “This Bill Would Amend The State Constitution To Provide A Crucial Check On The Authority Of The Executive Branch To Impose Executive Orders During Emergencies Without Legislative Oversight Or Approval.” “This bill would amend the state constitution to provide a crucial check on the authority of the executive branch to impose executive orders during emergencies without legislative oversight or approval. The bill is in response to Governor Wolf’s sweeping emergency declaration issued during the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19). Specifically, the bill would require approval from both legislative bodies in order to impose or extend emergency declarations longer than 21 days. ACU supports strengthening crucial checks and balances between the coequal branches of government, supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Strengthening Crucial Checks And Balances Between The Coequal Branches Of Government, Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Shutdowns

Muth Voted Nay On SB 327, Which Amends The Administrative Code By Adding New Articles Regarding Emergency COVID-19 Provisions And Amends Article XXIV Requiring The Department Of General Services (DGS) To Conduct An Annual Survey Of State Facility Usage. ([SB 327](#), Bill Passed - Senate (28-20), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/13/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Helps To Reopen Pennsylvania’s Economy By Placing A Check On The Power Governor Wolf Has Seized Through The Chinese Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic.” “This bill helps to reopen Pennsylvania’s economy by placing a check on the power Governor Wolf has seized through the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Specifically, the bill provides the legislature a voice in carrying out COVID-19 regulations and empowers counties to develop their own plans to reopen industries that have been shuttered down by the Governor. ACU supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill as a step in the right direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

“Specifically, The Bill Provides The Legislature A Voice In Carrying Out COVID-19 Regulations And Empowers Counties To Develop Their Own Plans To Reopen Industries That Have Been Shuttered Down By The Governor.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill As A Step In The Right Direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

In March 2020, Muth Called For A Statewide Mandated Closure Of Restaurants And Bars. ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 3/15/20)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 3/15/20)

Reopening Of Certain Businesses

Muth Voted Nay On HB 2388, Which “Amends The Administrative Code To Add A New Article Relating To Emergency COVID-19 Provisions Regarding Extension Of Waiver Provisions To Several Business Types And Service Operators.” ([HB 2388](#), Bill Passed - Senate (31-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/13/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Ensuring Car Dealerships, Barber Shops, Animal Groomers, Manufacturing

Operations And Garden Centers Can Safely Reopen.” “This bill combats Governor Tom Wolf’s abuse of power during the COVID-19 outbreak by ensuring car dealerships, barber shops, animal groomers, manufacturing operations and garden centers can safely reopen. At the time of this vote, these types of establishments had been shut down for months due to emergency orders issued by the governor and other local officials. The bill sets requirements on the establishments that reopen to comply with guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ACU supports protecting constitutional rights, supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Protecting Constitutional Rights, Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Reopening Real Estate Industry

Muth Voted Nay On HB 2412, Which “Amends The Administrative Code To Add A New Article Relating To Emergency COVID-19 Provisions Regarding Issuance Of Waiver To The Governor’s Business Closure Order For Legal Services, Residential And Commercial Real Estate Related Activities.” ([HB 2412](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-15), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/13/20, Muth Voted Nay)

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 2412 amends the Administrative Code to add a new article relating to Emergency COVID-19 provisions regarding issuance of waiver to the Governor’s Business Closure Order for legal services, residential and commercial real estate related activities.

The legislation requires the Secretary of Community and Economic Development to immediately issue a waiver to the Governor’s Business Closure Order to all providers of legal services, and residential and commercial real estate services, including settlement services.

Until the Governor’s March 6, 2020, proclamation of disaster emergency, and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency, is terminated or expires:

- A municipality or municipal authority that requires a use and occupancy certificate, or any other similar certificate or certification as a condition of a property transfer, shall be presumed to have issued a full and unconditional permit without requiring an inspection of the property. If a certificate is presumed to be issued, the municipality or municipal authority shall be enjoined from conducting a property transfer inspection after the proclamation has terminated or expired; and
- Taxing authorities and public utilities shall provide alternative means for residential home buyers or title insurers to ascertain the current status of tax payments or overdue utility obligations.

All businesses issued a waiver must comply with social distancing practices and other mitigation measures defined by the Centers for Disease Control and the order issued by the Secretary of Health directing public health safety measures for businesses permitted to maintain in-person operations.

([HB 2412](#))

ACU: “This Bill Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Ensuring The Real Estate Industry Can Safely Reopen.” “This bill combats Governor Tom Wolf’s abuse of power during the COVID-19 outbreak by ensuring the real estate industry can safely reopen. Pennsylvania was the only state in the entire country to deem real estate as “nonessential” during the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19), thereby prohibiting home purchases or sales and shuttering the industry. This bill sets specific social distancing requirements and requires the industry to comply with guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in order to reopen. ACU supports protecting constitutional rights, supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Protecting Constitutional Rights, Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Reopening Lawsuit Abuse

Muth Voted Yea On Amdt. A-5600 To HB 2388, Which Sought To Insert Language Concerning “Protection From Retaliation.” ([Amdt. A-5600 To HB 2388](#), Amendment Failed - Senate (20-28), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/13/20, Muth Voted Yea)

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 2388

Sponsor: SENATOR L. WILLIAMS

Printer's No. 3719

1 Amend Bill, page 6, by inserting between lines 20 and 21
2 Section 110-A. Protection from retaliation.
3 (a) General rule.--It shall be unlawful for a business
4 operating under a waiver to the order to discharge, threaten or
5 otherwise retaliate or discriminate against an
6 individual employed by the business regarding compensation or
7 other terms or conditions of employment because the individual:

([Amdt. A-5600 To HB 2388](#))

ACU: This Amendment “To A Bill Reopening Certain Businesses Would Subject Businesses To Lawsuit Abuse If They Take Any Retaliatory Action Against An Employee Who Refuses To Return To Work Due To COVID-19.” “The Williams (ACUF Lifetime 24%) amendment to a bill reopening certain businesses would subject businesses to lawsuit abuse if they take any retaliatory action against an employee who refuses to return to work due to the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19). The amendment also guarantees employees remain eligible for all state and federal unemployment assistance until their employer adopts every guideline issued by the state and federal government. ACU opposes subjecting employers battling COVID-19 to frivolous litigation and abusing the unemployment trust fund at the expense of other employees and employers and opposed this amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Subjecting Employers Battling COVID-19 To Frivolous Litigation And Abusing The Unemployment Trust Fund At The Expense Of Other Employees And Employers And Opposed This Amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Restaurant And Bar Regulations

Muth Voted Nay On HB 2513, Which “Establishes A New Article I-A (Establishment Operation) In The Administrative Code To Allow Food And Beverage Establishment Indoor Operations Within Certain Guidelines...” ([HB 2513](#), Bill Passed - Senate (43-6), Pennsylvania State Senate, 9/22/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Combats Governor Tom Wolf’s Abuse Of Power During The COVID-19 Outbreak By Easing Excessive Regulations Which Have Burdened Restaurants And Bars As They Begin To Reopen.” “This bill combats Governor Tom Wolf’s abuse of power during the COVID-19 outbreak by easing excessive regulations which have burdened restaurants and bars as they begin to reopen. Under the bill, selfcertification and indoor service restrictions are lessened, and the bill lays out less burdensome guidelines that comply with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ACU recognizes that the Governor’s disastrous economic lockdown has caused 30 percent of Pennsylvania businesses (many of them restaurants) to permanently close according to federal data. ACU supports protecting constitutional rights, supports the ability of Americans to manage their own risk related to illnesses, believes that many of government’s reactions to COVID-19 have done more harm than good and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Protecting Constitutional Rights, Supports The Ability Of Americans To Manage Their Own Risk Related To Illnesses, Believes That Many Of Government’s Reactions To COVID-19 Have Done More Harm Than Good And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Nursing Homes

Muth Voted Yea On SB 1189, Which Amends The Disease Prevention And Control Law Of 1955, Further Providing For Definitions And For Control Measures. ([SB 1189](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-16), Pennsylvania State Senate, 9/22/20, Muth Voted Yea)

Business Lawsuit Protections

Muth Voted Nay On HB 1737, Which Amends The Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, In Particular For COVID-19-Related Liability, Among Other Measures. ([HB 1737](#), Bill Passed - Senate (29-20), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/19/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Ensures That Businesses And Schools Are Protected From Lawsuit Abuse Related To The Chinese Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak.” “This bill ensures that businesses and schools are protected from lawsuit abuse related to the Chinese coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The bill includes an exemption from the protection if a claimant proves by “clear and convincing evidence” that the person caused the injury by “gross negligence, recklessness, willful misconduct or intentional infliction of harm.” ACU supports reopening the

economy by protecting businesses from lawsuit abuse related to COVID-19 and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Reopening The Economy By Protecting Businesses From Lawsuit Abuse Related To COVID-19 And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

EDUCATION

School Choice

Muth Voted Nay On HB 800, Which Amends Article XX-B (Educational Tax Credits) Of The Public School Code To Make Changes To The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program. ([HB 800](#), Bill Passed - Senate (28-21), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/11/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “House Bill 800 amends Article XX-B (Educational Tax Credits) of the Public School Code to make changes to the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. The legislation increases the total amount of tax credits available for contributions to scholarship organizations by \$100 million from the current \$110 million to \$210 million. Beginning July 1, 2019, the legislation provides for the amount of tax credits available for contributions to scholarship organizations to increase by 10% annually if more than 90% of the total aggregate amount of tax credits are used by taxpayers during the prior fiscal year and the General Assembly has not otherwise enacted an increase to the dollar amount provided for scholarship organizations.” ([HB 800](#))

ACU: “This Bill Would Provide More Students The Opportunity To Attend The School Of Their Choice By Expanding The State’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC).”

“This bill would provide more students the opportunity to attend the school of their choice by expanding the state’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC). This tax credit (90% of a contribution amount) is provided to individuals or businesses who make contributions to certain scholarship granting organizations. The organization then provides the funds as vouchers to parents so they can enroll their child in a private or charter school. Under the bill, the cap on the amount of tax credits that may be issued each year would be increased from \$100 million to \$210 million, thus allowing more funding to be redirected to school choice. Furthermore, families earning up to \$95,000 (previously \$85,000) would now be eligible to receive vouchers.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Improving Educational Outcomes And Reducing Taxpayer Costs Through The Responsible Expansion Of School Choice And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In January 2018, Muth Promoted A Post Calling For Opposition To Vouchers. ([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 1/31/18)



([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 1/31/18)

School Safety

Muth Voted Nay On SB 621, Which Amends Provisions Relating To School Police Officers, School Resource Officers And School Security Guards; And Imposing Powers And Duties On The Pennsylvania Commission On Crime And Delinquency. ([SB 621](#), Bill Passed - Senate (31-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/11/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Improves School Security By Strengthening Last Year’s School Safety And Security Law And Clarifying Policy Regarding Armed Security.” “This bill improves school security by strengthening last year’s School Safety and Security Law and clarifying policy regarding armed security. Under the bill, an oversight is corrected to clarify that sheriffs and deputy sheriffs may serve as school resource officers. Furthermore, the bill ensures that local schools may authorize their security guards to carry firearms. The bill also establishes a baseline of training for all school security personnel, whether armed or not, to ensure students and educators are properly protected. ACU supports efforts to strengthen school safety, supports the founders’ belief in the Second Amendment and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“Under The Bill, An Oversight Is Corrected To Clarify That Sheriffs And Deputy Sheriffs May Serve As School Resource Officers.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)
- **“Furthermore, The Bill Ensures That Local Schools May Authorize Their Security Guards To Carry Firearms.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“The Bill Also Establishes A Baseline Of Training For All School Security Personnel, Whether Armed Or Not, To Ensure Students And Educators Are Properly Protected.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Efforts To Strengthen School Safety, Supports The Founders’ Belief In The Second Amendment And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Higher Education

Student Debt

In 2019, Muth Was Among The Democratic Senators To Propose A \$1 Billion Program, Funded By Bonds, To Help Borrowers Pay Down Student Loan Debt. “The following information was released by the Pennsylvania State Senator Vincent J. Hughes: A bold and innovative plan to help students and their families save thousands of dollars, pay down crushing student loan debt and better deal with the high cost of borrowing was unveiled by Sens. Vincent J. Hughes (D-Philadelphia/Montgomery), Katie Muth (D-Montgomery/Chester) and Lindsey Williams (D-Allegheny) today. The plan, called the PA Student HELP (Higher Education Lending Protection) Act, is a multi-pronged effort which allows students to refinance high-interest debt and provide tax credits for those who have outstanding student loans. The plan also includes incentives for employers to help pay down student loan debt of their employees. The refinancing program aimed at curbing excessive student debt would be funded by up to \$1 billion in bond financing. "It's plain and simple: students face crushing loan obligations once they complete years of higher education," Hughes said. "Not only is the expense of postsecondary education sky high, but the cost of borrowing to meet tuition and living expenses financially cripples graduates for years.” (Press Release, “Senate Democrats Present Bold Plan To Tackle Crushing Student Loan Debt,” PA Senate Democrats, 3/20/19)

Williams And Muth: “PA Student HELP Calls For Refinancing High-Interest Student Debt Using Up To \$1 Billion In Bond Financing. Early Estimates Indicate That More Than 28,000 Students Would Benefit From It.” “PA Student HELP calls for refinancing high-interest student debt using up to \$1 billion in bond financing. Early estimates indicate that more than 28,000 students would benefit from it. In Pennsylvania today, there is \$68 billion in outstanding student loan debt — the highest student loan debt per capita in the United States. Nearly 2 million Pennsylvanians carry student loan debt. The average college student in Pennsylvania carries \$36,000 in debt. Under PA Student HELP, a student could refinance his or her debt and save \$10,000 over a 20-year loan repayment. This would be achieved by slicing more than 2% off the blended federal loan repayment rate of 6.25%. The savings would be more pronounced for students who financed their education through private lenders. These students, who carry an average of \$50,000 in debt and a 10% interest rate (the current average private lending rate), would save more than \$43,000 from refinancing under the bill. There are other features. The plan includes a potential \$500 per year tax credit against personal income tax liability. The program would make up to \$10 million in tax credits available. Employers also have a role to play. To retain valuable, educated staff, employers could make contributions into a 529 account and have these contributions credited toward reducing student debt. The program

would also open the possibility for employees to deploy the cash equivalent of unused carryover days to retire student debt. A final feature would boost transparency and open additional tracts of financial data to students to better understand the cost of higher education. The plan would mandate that colleges provide students with an upfront estimated cost of a four-year degree. It also would require that an ombudsman be appointed to guide students and parents through the loan application process.” (Lindsey Williams, Katie Muth, et. al., Op-Ed, “Pa. Bill Would Help Students With Crushing Debt Burden,” *Eastern Express Times*, 6/20/19)

Medical Education Loan Assistance

Muth Voted Yea On Amdt. A-4837 To SB 462, Which Sought To Remove Repeal Of Provisions Relating To The Medical Education Loan Assistance. ([Amdt. A-4837 To SB 462](#), Amendment Failed - Senate (22-28), Pennsylvania State Senate, 4/20/20, Muth Voted Yea)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 462

Sponsor: SENATOR L. WILLIAMS

Printer's No. 858

1 Amend Bill, page 2, lines 13 and 14, by striking out
2 "repealing provisions relating to medical education loan
3 assistance;"

4 Amend Bill, page 2, line 30, by striking out the comma after
5 "XV-B" and inserting
6 and

7 Amend Bill, page 2, line 30, by striking out "AND" and
8 inserting a comma

9 Amend Bill, page 2, line 31, by striking out ", ARTICLE XXII-
10 A AND SECTION" and inserting
11 and

12 Amend Bill, page 23, lines 8 through 30; pages 24 through 32,
13 lines 1 through 30; page 33, lines 1 through 11; by striking out
14 all of said lines on said pages

([Amdt. A-4837 To SB 462](#))

ACU: This Amendment “Would Extend A Program Which Socializes The Student Loan Debt Of Select Individuals Employed In The Medical Industry.” “The Williams (ACUF Lifetime 16%) amendment #4837 to an education bill would extend a program which socializes the student loan debt of select individuals employed in the medical industry. Under the original version of the bill the “Pennsylvania Medical Education Loan Assistance Program” is repealed, and this amendment keeps the program, thus forcing taxpayers to continue to cover up to \$50,000 in student loan debt for select physicians and nurses. ACU opposes this interference in the marketplace and the further socialization of higher education costs for select individuals and industries favored by government and opposed this amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

- **“Under The Original Version Of The Bill The ‘Pennsylvania Medical Education Loan Assistance Program’ Is Repealed, And This Amendment Keeps The Program,**

Thus Forcing Taxpayers To Continue To Cover Up To \$50,000 In Student Loan Debt For Select Physicians And Nurses.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes This Interference In The Marketplace And The Further Socialization Of Higher Education Costs For Select Individuals And Industries Favored By Government And Opposed This Amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

IMMIGRATION

Overall

On Her Personal Twitter Profile, Muth Noted Her Opposition To A Muslim Ban And Also The Southern Border Wall. ([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)



([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

ICE

Muth, In July 2021: “Earlier This Week, I Joined My Colleagues In Berks County On A Letter Urging President Biden To Terminate The Immigration And Customs Enforcement Contract At The Bern Township Facility.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/30/21)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/30/21)

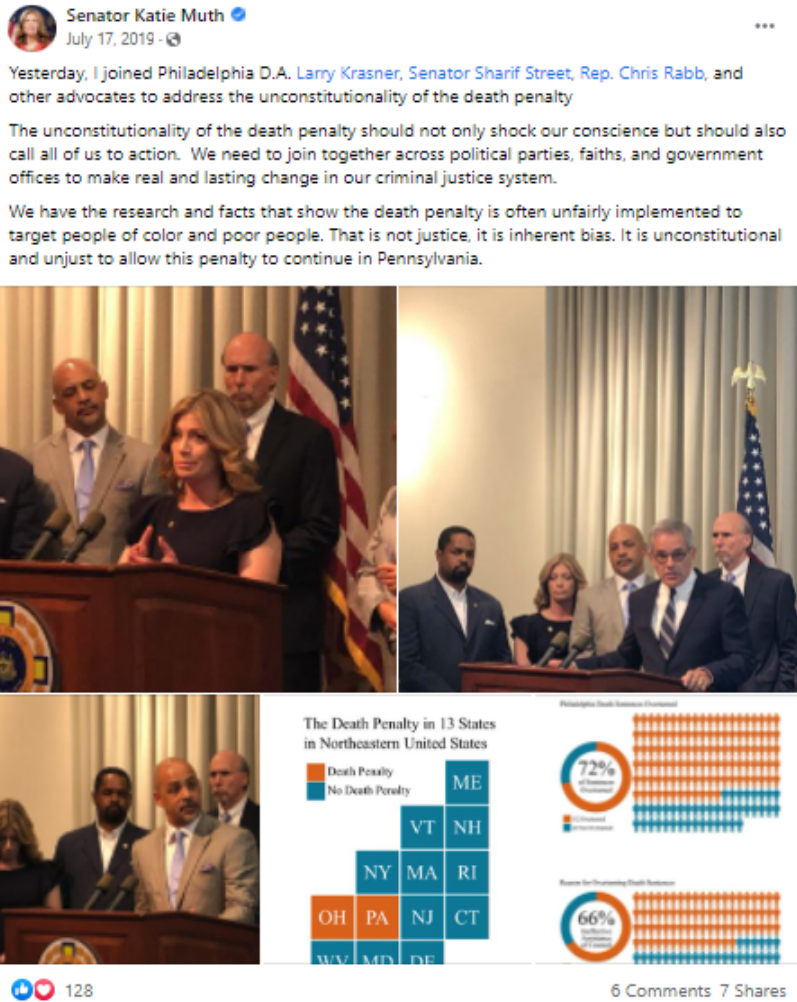
LAW AND ORDER

Criminal Justice Reform

Death Penalty

In 2019, Muth Introduced Legislation To End The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania. “The Pennsylvania Senate Democrats issued the following news release: Today, Sen. Sharif Street (D-Philadelphia), Sen. Katie Muth (D-Berks, Chester, Montgomery), and Rep. Chris Rabb (D-Philadelphia) were joined by advocates as they called for ending the death penalty in Pennsylvania. The lawmakers are introducing legislation in their respective chambers to repeal the penalty that is proven to be unsuccessful as a crime deterrent, incredibly costly, and a flawed system of punishment. "The overwhelming cost, disparate application of the death penalty compounded by human error and it's historically arbitrary and racist implementation in our country make it unfit for any use in an efficient and truly just system," said Street. "I am proud to join my colleagues in issuing the Death Penalty Repeal Act and bringing an end to a relic of Pennsylvania's past, with no role in a future of Progressive Criminal Justice Reform.” (Press Release, "Lawmakers Announce Legislation To End The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania," PA Senate Democrats, 4/30/19)

In July 2019, Muth Was Pictured Next To Hyper-Progressive Philadelphia D.A. Larry Krasner At A Press Conference Promoting Calls To Abolish The Death Penalty In Pennsylvania. ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/17/19)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/17/19)

Early Release (COVID)

In March 2021, Muth Was Among The Legislators To Call For The Release Of Medically Vulnerable Prisoners. “Pennsylvania state legislators call on Pennsylvania Governor Tim Wolf to release elderly or medically vulnerable incarcerated people who are at risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. Speakers include state Reps. Rick Krajewski, Danilo Burgos, Malcolm Kenyatta, and Dan Williams, state Sens. Sharif Street, Hardy Williams, Nikil Saval, John Kane, Amanda Cappelletti and Katie Muth, and representatives from Amistad Law Project, Color of Change, Families Against Mandatory Minimums, and Reclaim Philadelphia.” (*The Associated Press*, 3/1/21)


Probation (Restitution Costs)

In February 2022, Muth Noted That She Voted Against SB 913, Claiming Revoking A Person’s Probation Due To Failure To Pay Restitution Costs Amounted To Criminalizing Poverty. “State Sen. Katie Muth, a Democrat from the Philadelphia suburbs who was first elected in the "blue wave" of 2018, said she voted against the bill, in part, because she sees it as

endorsing the criminalization of poverty. Though SB 913 would prevent someone's probation from being revoked because they can't pay a fine or court costs — probation itself costs a person between \$25 and \$75 a month, depending on the county — it would not do so for restitution. Under the bill, a person who has paid half their debt to a victim or business and otherwise qualifies for early termination would be placed into a new "administrative probation" with reduced reporting requirements. They would be required to continue making payments on a schedule they "can afford to pay," but public defenders have complained that judges rarely examine bank records and other financial obligations before deciding whether a person isn't making good on their restitution due to obstinance or hardship. "I'll be blunt," Muth said in an interview. "I work with people — probably the majority of the people in the Senate — who have never had to live paycheck to paycheck or pay student loan bills." Most also have no idea what it means to be on probation. If they did, Muth argued, the bill might have addressed what she sees as the most glaring flaws in the system: the uncapped length of probation, the indefinite extensions of state supervision, and the "detainers" that allow people in her district to be held for months before they have a hearing on their alleged technical violation. It also does nothing to curtail what constitutes a technical violation, which she sees as setting a trap for those on probation, triggering the cycle of poverty and incarceration. Whether it's 70 days waiting for a hearing or less than a week, any time in jail is enough to lose a job — detention itself is a traumatic experience that, depending on the mood of a probation officer or the policy of their office, can be prompted by the mundane. "It's a whole ordeal, just to live your basic life," she said in an interview. "Like calling 911. What are you supposed to tell them? 'Please take me to a hospital in the county because, like, I'm going to get a technical violation?'" In 2018, just under 11% of Pennsylvanians under supervision had their probation revoked, the majority for technical violations. To Muth and other critics of the supervision status quo, that represents thousands of lives disrupted by a system of arbitrary and arbitrarily enforced tripwires, leading to people being removed from their family and friends, at least temporarily, for behavior that isn't criminal. It is, among other things, an inefficient use of limited resources. From the perspective of a fiscal conservative, it makes no sense to monitor and repeatedly incarcerate someone when it would be cheaper and more effective to treat their underlying problems, be they economic, social, or behavioral. In Philadelphia, a 2019 report prepared for the city found it costs more than \$48,000 a year, on average, to house an inmate. "How the fuck do you justify that? That's not a system that's making people safer. That's locking people into poverty and being in prison," Muth said." (Business Insider, 2/4/22)

Drugs – Marijuana

Muth, In 2020: "I Joined 14 Of My Colleagues To Urge The State Legislature To End The Prohibition On Cannabis In Pennsylvania As Legalization Is Supported By The Majority Of Pennsylvanians And Should No Longer Be Ignored." ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/10/20)

 **Senator Katie Muth** July 10, 2020 · 🌐

I joined 14 of my colleagues to urge the state legislature to end the prohibition on cannabis in Pennsylvania as legalization is supported by the majority of Pennsylvanians and should no longer be ignored. 🙌


👉 It is undeniable that cannabis related charges have plagued the criminal justice system by disproportionately targeting Black and Brown Pennsylvanians.

👉 It is also undeniable that legalization will give Pennsylvania the opportunity to remedy COVID-related revenue shortfalls and boost the economy without having to make cuts to important programs.

This is why my colleagues and I are calling for action. It's time to bring an end to the prohibition, it's time to move Pennsylvania forward! 🙌

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 7/10/20)

Muth, On Legalizing Marijuana And Expunging Records For Marijuana Related Crimes: “Legalizing Adult Use Cannabis Is An Opportunity To Engage Local Farmers And Small Business In A New Market Which Would Expand Economic Strength.” ([Muth Facebook Page](#), Posted 8/31/20)

 **Senator Katie Muth** August 31, 2020 · 🌐

While I generally support the concept of adult use cannabis, I will only support legislation that includes the release and/ or automatic expungement and reparations for individuals with non-violent, marijuana-related criminal records, a specific process for safe sale similar to alcohol, and a stopgap to prevent privatization and corporate monopoly.

Legalizing adult use cannabis is an opportunity to engage local farmers and small business in a new market which would expand economic strength. Further, the tax revenue generated could help toward Pennsylvania's post-covid economic downfall, but this alone will not save our Commonwealth from financial ruin.

Pennsylvania's long history of regressive tax policy needs to be completely revamped. Implementing the Fair Share Tax plan and closing the Delaware loophole to ensure wealthy corporations pay their fair share for using our state's resource will also need to be implemented in order to make real change and achieve economic security for our state's revenue flow.



READINGEAGLE.COM

Most Berks County legislators say they are not on board with call to legalize recreational marijuana

([Muth Facebook Page](#), Posted 8/31/20)

Law Enforcement

Reforms

Muth: “We Must Demand Massive Investments In Education, Healthcare, Affordable Housing, Paid Leave, Living Wage, Meaningful Work, Criminal Justice Reform, Restructuring Of Our Policing System And Ending Police Brutality, A Fair Court System, And Ending Poverty And All Forms Of Inequities.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/20)



Senator Katie Muth
June 19, 2020 · 🌐

...

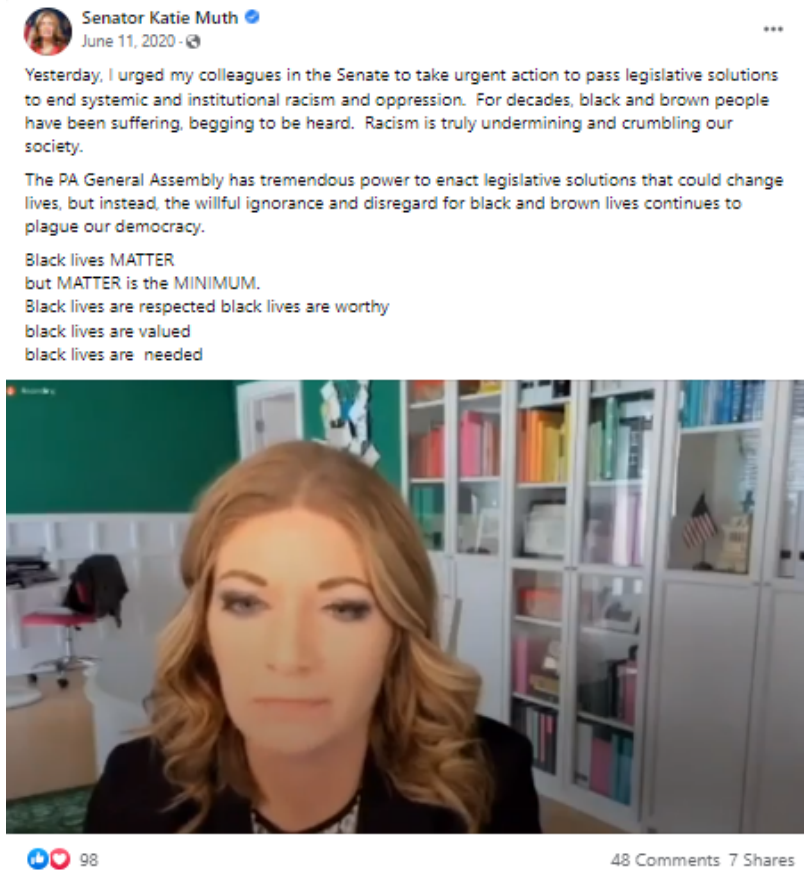
Juneteenth commemorates a historic time in black history when emancipation finally reached enslaved people in the deepest parts of the former Confederacy. Often referred to as a holiday to celebrate the end of slavery in the United States, it's important to discuss the history. As the Civil War neared it's end, and over two years after the Emancipation Proclamation executive order, slavery continued on, especially in areas where the Union army did not have a strong presence or in remote areas, in places like in Texas and nearby areas of the southwest. On June 19, 1865, when Union general Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, he issued an order and read a proclamation that all enslaved people in Texas were to be set free. The Juneteenth holiday is meant to commemorate the emancipation of over 4 million slaves, particularly those who were not yet aware that emancipation had actually been declared over two years ago. 155 years have passed since then, and black people in our country are still battling for their freedom. In many ways, Juneteenth is symbolic of delayed freedom, both in 1865, and in 2020, freedom is still delayed.

Juneteenth is not a nationally recognized holiday (but absolutely should be). The history of Juneteenth is not taught in most history curriculums, especially in K-12 education, resulting in people not learning about this day until adulthood. This is an example of how our education system has been conditioned to overlook and leave out black history, sending a message of that black history is not valued or important. Our country's history is tied up in and interconnected to slavery. Learning the history is an important step but in order for us, as a nation, to end systemic racism and oppression, we have to understand the legacy of slavery and the trauma caused by slavery, and how this legacy resulted in massive amounts of wealth for white Americans. Narratives used to justify slavery are connected to the harmful narratives still used today to oppress black people. Our nation will never be united unless we acknowledge and learn from the 250+ years of slavery, and all of the harms it caused then and still perpetuates today. This will require white people to try and look at history through the eyes of those that were enslaved and those that are still oppressed today. If we, white people, do this long overdue work, our power and privilege would finally bring about the change needed to ensure that freedom is finally a reality for black Americans. This work starts with not just marching and rallies, it starts with open minds and hearts, and the will to succeed fueled by knowing that there's no other way to make change than through daily action of our own collective power. We must demand massive investments in education, healthcare, affordable housing, paid leave, living wage, meaningful work, criminal justice reform, restructuring of our policing system and ending police brutality, a fair court system, and ending poverty and all forms of inequities.

Confused, overwhelmed, or scared about how to help or where to start? Good news, there's plenty of work to do! And today is a great day to start or continue this work! Whether you take the time to educate yourself on the history and meaning of Juneteenth and systemic racism, or taking action in the streets (in a safe, masked up way 🤝), or can't be out marching and participate in online forums, use today and every day following to use your power through action and your voice to speak up, to make sure that black lives are protected from harm, that black lives get justice, that black lives are uplifted, that black lives are at every table of decision-making, and black lives are valued and respected EVERYWHERE, EVERYDAY.

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/20)

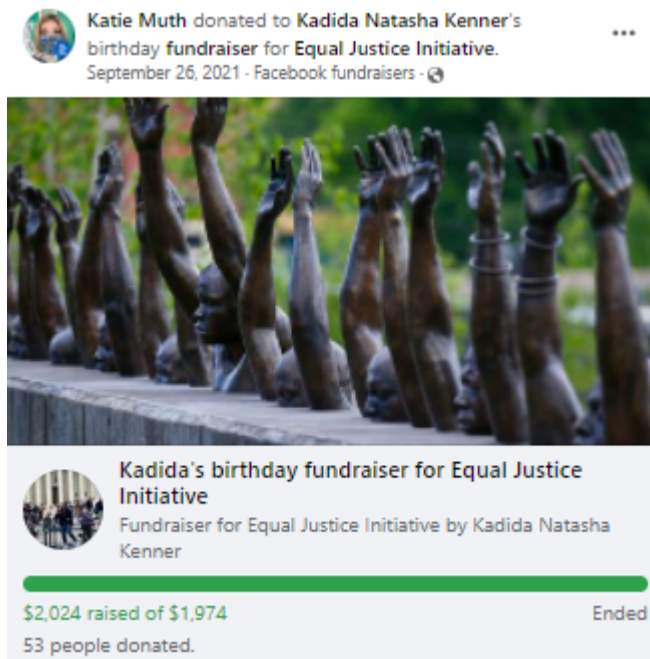
VIDEO: Muth: “We Need To Demilitarize The Police.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/11/20; Minute 4:00)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/11/20; Minute 4:00)

Rhetoric

In September 2021, Muth Donated To The Equal Justice Initiative. ([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 9/26/21)



([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 9/26/21)

- **The Equal Justice Initiative Is Known To Refer To Law Enforcement Members As “Occupying Soldiers.”** ([EJI Twitter Profile](#), Posted 6/8/20)



([EJI Twitter Profile](#), Posted 6/8/20)

- **The Equal Justice Initiative Claims Law Enforcement Currently Exists As A Means To Perpetuate Racism In America.** “The system of policing and incarceration evolved as a way to maintain racial hierarchy after the Civil War. We will eliminate the scourge

of police violence and abuse only if we address the centrality of racial injustice and inequality in America. Because the United States did not commit to racial equality, slavery did not end in 1865; it evolved into convict leasing and decades of racial terror lynchings. Without an explicit commitment to ending racial injustice and the narratives that sustain it, law enforcement and other forms of racial control and mistreatment will continue. Many existing social service institutions already operate in ways that perpetuate racial inequality. Eliminating racism, rooting out white supremacy, and dismantling the racial hierarchy that persists as a legacy of our history must be an explicit and central goal of any meaningful conversation about policing and the treatment of Black people in this country. Public safety and public health in America cannot be advanced without confronting racism.” (“Policing In America,” [Equal Justice Initiative](#), Accessed 6/5/21)

No Knock Warrants

In 2021, Muth Introduced Legislation To Ban No Knock Warrants. “State Sen. Tim Kearney, who represents parts of Delaware and Chester counties, has reintroduced Breonna's Law in the Pennsylvania legislature. "It's a law, essentially, which would prohibit police from using no-knock warrants — which, of course, led to Breonna [Taylor's] death in Kentucky a little over a year ago," Kearney said. Taylor was killed by plainclothes police officers in her Louisville apartment as they were executing a no-knock warrant, a search warrant that allows police to enter spaces without announcing themselves. If passed, Senate Bill 296 would require law enforcement to knock and make themselves known when serving a warrant. In addition, officers would have to wear body cameras and clothing that identifies them as law enforcement. Kearney, a Democrat, introduced the bill last year, but the Republican leadership in the Senate did not give it a vote. "And so, this year, when we reintroduced it, we're making more of an effort to reach out to some of our Republican colleagues to co-sponsor — which, as of yet hasn't happened, but we're still trying," Kearney said. So far, the bill has seven Senate co-sponsors, including Philadelphia-area Democrats Amanda Cappelletti, Maria Collett, Katie Muth, and Vincent Hughes. Kearney has also deployed a citizen co-sponsorship campaign that allows for Pennsylvanians to express their support for the bill.” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 3/28/21)

Civil Unrest

In June 2020, Muth Promoted An Article From A Black Activist Noting “Sharing Because These Important Words Should Be Read, Understood, Shared, And Used To Take Action.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/2/20)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/2/20)

- The Activist Justified Rioting And Acts Of Violence, Such As Looting, In Response To George Floyd’s Murder In June 2020.** “Black folks can’t fix this. We don’t have the power. We are again at the mercy of the majority to see a glimmer of our humanity and give us liberty and freedom. If they don’t or won’t we’ll never get it in this country. That’s supremacy. They have all the power. “So we “riot” – what else is there for us to do in a country in which we have no power. It’s the hopelessness that hurts the most. This won’t ever change in my lifetime. “White people – please do something within YOUR communities to fix this. Have courage – have raw courage. See our humanity. Use your power for good,” she concluded. On the looting that’s taken place in cities nationwide, including Philadelphia, Kenner wrote on Monday morning: “I don’t like the looting happening right now, especially to black-owned businesses but I understand it. Black buying power is unmatched! We fuel this American economy. According to The State of Working America, Black people spend 4 percent more money annually than any other race despite the fact that they are the least represented race and the race that lives in poverty at the highest rate.” “These protests and instances of looting (by POC) is the manifestation of the rage felt by the oppressed. It’s been a long time coming. It’s not rational but neither is our oppression. Although I’m not advocating for it, I think this display of outrage has to continue on so that the next time a cop puts his knee on a black man’s neck, he’ll think twice, and if he still does it, white America will punish him within the full extent of the law, and immediately, if only out of fear for their property. “They don’t fear our votes, but they fear the loss of capitalism. If you want law and order, give us justice!” (“A Black Activist Speaks: ‘When They Ask Me About 2020, This Will Be My Story’ | Tuesday Morning Coffee,” [Pennsylvania Capital Star](#), 6/2/20)

Special Status For “Media”

Muth Voted Yea On Amdt. A-3153 To SB 351, Which Adds “Media Professional” To Special Status Relate To Victims Of Crime. ([Amdt. A-3153 To SB 398](#), Amendment Failed - Senate (22-27), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/28/19, Muth Voted Yea)

1 Amend Bill, page 1, line 8, by striking out "a paragraph" and
 2 inserting
 3 paragraphs
 4 Amend Bill, page 1, by inserting between lines 15 and 16
 5 (40) A media professional.
 6 Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 16 and 17
 7 "Media professional." An officer, agent, employee or
 8 purveyor of a news media organization engaged in news gathering
 9 or the dissemination of information in a daily or weekly
 10 newspaper, magazine, periodical, book, digital publication or
 11 radio or television news broadcast.

[\(Amdt. A-3153 To SB 398\)](#)

ACU: This Amendment “To A Bill Pertaining To Aggravated Assault Would Provide Prosecutors Further Inappropriate Authority To Enhance Charges Due To The Identity Of The Victim Rather Than The Facts Of The Crime.” “The Farnese (ACUF Lifetime 14%) amendment to a bill pertaining to aggravated assault would provide prosecutors further inappropriate authority to enhance charges due to the identity of the victim rather than the facts of the crime. Specifically, the amendment would add “media professional” as a protected class in the event of an assault. As a result, a “simple assault” against a member of the media, which is currently graded as a misdemeanor, would be treated as an “aggravated assault” which is graded as a felony. An aggravated assault felony is punishable by up to 10 years’ imprisonment and a fine up to \$25,000.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Providing Prosecutors With Inappropriate Authority To Enhance Charges, Opposes Assessing Enhanced Penalties Based On Identity Of The Victim Which Runs Afoul Of The Concept Of Equal Application Of Justice And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Utilization Of Public Resources

Muth Voted Nay On SB 501, Which Amends Title 42 (Judiciary And Judicial Procedure) And Title 61 (Prisons And Parole). ([SB 501](#), Bill Passed - Senate (38-11), Pennsylvania State Senate, 12/18/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Makes Numerous Reforms To The Criminal Justice System In Order To Better Ensure Taxpayer Resources Are Best Utilized To Fight Crime And Improve Public Safety.” “This bill makes numerous reforms to the criminal justice system in order to better ensure taxpayer resources are best utilized to fight crime and improve public safety. Under the bill, numerous reforms are made to the probation and parole system and the Sentencing Commission is provided greater ability to make risk related adjustments to sentencing guidelines. Furthermore, the bill seeks to reduce recidivism by strengthening the state’s drug treatment program.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- “Under The Bill, Numerous Reforms Are Made To The Probation And Parole System And The Sentencing Commission Is Provided Greater Ability To Make Risk Related Adjustments To Sentencing Guidelines.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)
- “Furthermore, The Bill Seeks To Reduce Recidivism By Strengthening The State’s Drug Treatment Program.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)


The American Conservative Union “Supports This Measure To Reduce Unnecessary Incarceration And Instead Redirect Scarce Taxpayer Resources To Initiatives That Reduce Recidivism And Improve Public Safety And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

SOCIAL ISSUES

Abortion And Reproductive Issues

Overall

Muth: “As A Member Of The Health And Human Services Committee, I Know That Abortion Is Healthcare. If Roe Vs. Wade Is Overturned That Does Not Mean Abortions Would Stop, That Means SAFE Abortions Would Stop.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 1/22/20)

 Senator Katie Muth 
January 22, 2020 · 🌐

Today is the 47th anniversary of the implementation of Roe vs. Wade, which paved the way for safe, legal abortions here in the US.

Just last year two PA Senators tried to introduce a bill to ban a woman's right to choose in Pennsylvania, but that bill was vetoed!

As a member of the Health and Human Services Committee, I know that abortion is healthcare. If Roe vs. Wade is overturned that does not mean abortions would stop, that means SAFE abortions would stop.



Nearly 77% of Americans don't want to see it overturned - and I am one of them!

Happy anniversary to Roe vs. Wade and thank you for safe healthcare. 💜💜💜

<https://www.npr.org/.../roe-v-wade-settled-law-or-bad...>



NPR.ORG
Roe v. Wade: Settled Law Or Bad Precedent? States Prep For An Overturn
A Supreme Court case in March will test the new five-member conservative majority. If justices...

  116

41 Comments 11 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 1/22/20)

In November 2019, A Senate Committee Advanced Legislation Prohibiting Abortion Of A Fetus On The Grounds Of A Genetic Abnormality – A Bid Intended To Protect Persons Born With Down Syndrome. “Putting them on course for a guaranteed gubernatorial veto, a state Senate committee voted on party lines Monday to advance a pair of bills imposing new restrictions on a person's right to access abortion, including a hotly debated measure banning the procedure based on a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. The 7-4 votes by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee came at the beginning of what is expected to be one of the Republican-controlled chamber's busiest session weeks in recent memory. It also comes just two months before the start of a 2020 campaign season in which Democrats hope to close the GOP's 27-22 margin by using such culture war measures against them in vulnerable districts in the Philadelphia suburbs. The Down syndrome proposal, sponsored by Rep. Kate Klunk, R-York, provoked the most impassioned debate during the hour-long meeting. Klunk's bill, which cleared the House in May, would expand the state's existing Abortion Control Act to add the genetic abnormality to gender on the list of reasons a person would be barred from accessing an abortion. The bill provides exceptions in the case of rape, incest or the health of the mother.” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 11/18/19)

- **Muth Voted Against Advancing The Legislation As Well As Another Measure To “Provide Perinatal Hospice Care To Women Whose Fetuses Are Diagnosed With A “Life-Limiting Condition.”** “Last month, a federal appeals court in Cincinnati blocked Ohio's version of the bill, with a judge concluding that it was invalid under “Supreme Court precedents because it had the purpose and effect of preventing some women from obtaining pre-viability abortions,” Reuters reported. Under *Roe v. Wade*, a woman can obtain an abortion for any reason until the 24th week of gestation. Doctors violating the Ohio ban could have up to 18 months in jail, Reuters reported. The Senate panel also advanced legislation, sponsored by Rep. Kathy Rapp, R-Warren, one of that chamber's most vocal abortion opponents, that would provide perinatal hospice care to women whose fetuses are diagnosed with a “life-limiting condition.” “This bill helps mothers and fathers through a difficult situation,” said the Senate committee's chairwoman, Sen. Michele Brooks, R-Mercer. “I see this as step forward in a difficult situation.” Sen. Katie Muth, D-Montgomery, a “no” vote on both measures, said she didn't oppose counseling parents on their options. But, she noted, Rapp's bill left abortion off the list of options. “It does not include information on safe and legal abortion,” which some women might decide is the right choice for them, Muth said. “This would intrude on the doctor/patient relationship. Rapp's bill now also heads to the full Senate for a vote.” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 11/18/19)

Muth Voted Nay On HB 321, Which Amends The Abortion Control Act Of The Crimes Code, To Further Provide For The Definition Of ‘Down Syndrome.’ ([HB 321](#), Bill Passed - Senate (27-22), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/20/19, Muth Voted Nay)

MEMO: “Under Current Law, A Woman Can Obtain An Abortion Prior To 24 Weeks Gestational Age For Any Reason If A Physician Deems It Is Necessary, Except If The Woman’s Sole Reason Is To Select The Sex Of The Child. This Bill Will Expand That Exception To Prohibit Aborting The Child Solely Due To A Prenatal Diagnosis That The Unborn Child Has Down Syndrome.” ([Down Syndrome Protection Legislation](#))

MEMORANDUM

Posted: February 13, 2019 12:59 PM
From: [Representative Kate A. Klunk](#) and [Rep. Mike Turzai](#)
To: All House members
Subject: Down Syndrome Protection Legislation

We plan to re-introduce legislation amending the Abortion Control Act to prohibit the abortion of any child solely due to a diagnosis of possible Down Syndrome. Last session, this legislation passed the House with a bipartisan vote of 139-56.

Under current law, a woman can obtain an abortion prior to 24 weeks gestational age for any reason if a physician deems it is necessary, except if the woman's sole reason is to select the sex of the child. This bill will expand that exception to prohibit aborting the child solely due to a prenatal diagnosis that the unborn child has Down Syndrome. Nothing in this proposal would interfere with the existing ability of a woman to obtain an abortion in cases of rape, incest or endangerment to the mother, which are contained in different sections of the Abortion Control Act.

[\(Down Syndrome Protection Legislation\)](#)

ACU: “This Bill Would Protect Life By Prohibiting An Individual From Performing An Abortion If It Is Sought Because The Unborn Child Receives A Prenatal Diagnosis Of Down Syndrome.” “This bill would protect life by prohibiting an individual from performing an abortion if it is sought because the unborn child receives a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. ACU believes every human life is endowed with inherent dignity and deserves protection, believes abortion is a human tragedy, supports restrictions on the practice and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Believes Every Human Life Is Endowed With Inherent Dignity And Deserves Protection, Believes Abortion Is A Human Tragedy, Supports Restrictions On The Practice And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

In October 2021, Muth Participated In A Rally In Support Of Abortion Rights And Was Among The Speakers To Criticize The Texas Heartbeat Abortion Law. “About 200 people who attended a rally Saturday morning in City Park were implored by speakers, including Pennsylvania's lieutenant governor and second lady, to channel their anger into political action over attempts by Republican lawmakers to infringe on a woman's right to an abortion. The event was hosted by the Berks County Democratic Committee, which had a voter-registration table set up and was handing out pamphlets with instructions for how to contact their elected representatives. Guest speakers included Lt. Gov. John Fetterman and his wife, Gisele, state Reps. Manny Guzman and Brian Sims, state Sens. Katie Muth and Judy Schwank. The speakers criticized the recent Texas law restricting abortions, saying it was the biggest setback since the landmark Supreme Court *Roe v. Wade* decision made abortion rights legal. They also said they had little doubt the Pennsylvania's Republican-controlled House and Senate would pass similar legislation, though Gov. Tom Wolf would veto it. "I'm the last defense of abortion rights in Pennsylvania should, God-forbid, something happen to Gov. Wolf," Fetterman said. "Make no mistake, they would salivate at the prospect of turning Pennsylvania into the next Texas." Fetterman, 51, is running for U.S. Senate and the seat currently occupied by Pat Toomey.” (*Reading Eagle*, 10/2/21)

In May 2022, Muth Held A Pro-Abortion Rights Rally. ‘Pennsylvania Dems hold pro abortion-rights rally, 'emphasizing how high the stakes are for reproductive rights in 2022 and how critical it is to elect a Democratic Governor in Pennsylvania'. Speakers include Democratic Rep. Madeleine Dean, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, Attorney General Josh Shapiro, State House Democratic Leader Joanna McClinton, State Sens. Katie Muth and Maria Collett, and Reps. Austin Davis.’ (*The Associated Press*, 5/6/22)

Muth, In May 2022: “Overturning Roe V. Wade Would Be A Dangerous Attack On Reproductive Freedoms That Would Put The Lives Of Women Across The Country At Risk.” “The following information was released by the Pennsylvania Democratic Party: On the one week anniversary of the report that the Supreme Court is poised to overturn Roe v. Wade, leaders from the counties surrounding Philadelphia, which includes Montgomery, Delaware, Chester, and Bucks County, are speaking out on the importance of protecting reproductive freedoms. Congresswoman Madeleine Dean, State Senator Katie Muth, State Senator Maria Collett, and Minority Leader Joanna McClinton issued the following statement: "Overturning Roe v. Wade would be a dangerous attack on reproductive freedoms that would put the lives of women across the country at risk. A woman's right to have an abortion, use contraception, and access reproductive health care are fundamental to equality and liberty. Here in Pennsylvania, we refuse to go backwards and will always fight to protect abortion rights, contraception, and reproductive health care.” (Press Release, “Electeds From Philadelphia Collar Counties Issue Statement On Roe V. Wade,” Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 5/10/22)

Pro-Choice Associations (Representative)

In 2018, Muth Was Endorsed By Emily’s List. “Today EMILYs List, the nations largest resource for women in politics, endorsed 20 more women leaders for the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Stephanie Schriock, president of EMILYs List, released the following statement: For too long, qualified and experienced women have been shut out of elected office in Pennsylvania while being told to wait their turn. Pro-choice Democratic women arent waiting theyre running in record numbers and building a groundswell of support as they make their way towards Harrisburg. EMILYs List is proud to endorse these 20 pro-choice Democratic women who are ready to serve their communities and champion policies that benefit every Pennsylvanian. EMILYs List endorsed the following slate of candidates: Tina Davis (SD-06) Maria Collett (SD-12) Linda Fields (SD-24) Lindsey Williams (SD-38) Katie Muth (SD-44)...” (Press Release, “Emily’s List Endorses 20 More Women Leaders For The Pennsylvania General Assembly,” Emily’s List, 8/20/18)

- **NOTE:** *Muth is also known to have received the 2022 Emily’s List endorsement.*

LGBTQ

Transgender Issues

In April 2021, Muth Opposed Efforts To Bar Trans Girls From Participating In Women’s Sports. “Lawmakers in the LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus responded Monday to a group of GOP representatives latest hateful attempt to fuel a culture war over the existence of transgender people and block their full participation in their own communities. The Republican lawmakers had unveiled legislation to bar trans girls and women from playing sports. Its really disappointing and troubling that women in the majority party of the State House of Representatives would take the time and energy to prioritize and amplify legislation that doesnt actually address any real problem, said state Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks/Chester/Montgomery. Unfortunately, theres a nationwide effort driven by political organizations to use this waste of time and resources to fundraise and spread their harmful agenda. Whats further baffling is the claim that this legislation would advance or ensure fairness in womens sports. I would advise the sponsors of this legislation to consider pulling this bill and instead introduce legislation that has

substance and positive impact.” (Press Release, “Lawmakers: Legislation Is Hateful Attempt To Ignite Culture War In PA,” PA House Democrats, 4/5/21)

- **In March 2022, Muth Criticized Legislation To Exclude Transgender Athlete From Competing On Women’s Sports Teams, Noting “This Bill Is An Ignorant Attempt To Fix A Problem That Doesn't Exist. If The Majority's Intent Is To Give Women A Level Playing Field, We Should Address The Inequities In Funding, Resources, Media Coverage And Pay In Women's Sports.”** “The Pennsylvania House Education Committee voted Tuesday to move a bill that would exclude transgender athletes from competing on women's sports team in the commonwealth. HB 972, [1] also known as the 'Protect Women's Sports Act[2],' would bar transgender athletes from participating in sports consistent with their gender identities. It passed through the committee Tuesday morning in a 15-9 vote. The bill was first introduced last April [3] by state Rep. Barbara Gleim, R-Cumberland. Gleim was joined on the bill by Reps. Martina White, R-Philadelphia; Dawn Keefer, R-York; Valerie Gaydos, R-Allegheny and Stephanie Borowicz, R-Clinton. Speaking to the committee, Gleim said the bill to exclude transgender athletes 'preserves fairness for all women.' 'Identities don't play sports, bodies do,' Gleim said, repeatedly misgendering[4] University of Pennsylvania swimmer and Division I national champion[5] Lia Thomas in her testimony. The panel's ranking Democrat, Rep. Mark Longietti, of Mercer County, questioned whether the decision would be better left up to the governing bodies of high school and collegiate sports in the commonwealth - the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). 'Let's not become the school sports eligibility committee,' Longietti said. Rep. MaryLouise Isaacson, D-Philadelphia, echoed Longietti's comments about the committee's role in the decision: 'There are governing bodies over high school and collegiate sports. We are not one of them,' she said. Rep. Napoleon Nelson, D-Montgomery, said that he was 'dumbfounded' that the committee was considering advancing the bill after a September 2021 hearing suggested that this bill 'is not yet ready.' The General Assembly's LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus called the bill 'dangerous,' in a statement following the vote. 'Once again, the majority party is wasting taxpayer money by bringing up divisive and hateful legislation that pushes a harmful narrative instead of addressing legislation that could help expand educational resources and protections for all students,' state Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks, co-chair of the LGBTQ+ Caucus said. 'This bill is an ignorant attempt to fix a problem that doesn't exist. If the majority's intent is to give women a level playing field, we should address the inequities in funding, resources, media coverage and pay in women's sports.' Are GOP lawmakers pushing ban on transgender athletes ignoring gender inequities at home districts?[6] Naiymah Sanchez, trans rights organizer at the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania, said she is concerned about the harmful effects exclusion from school sports would have on transgender youth. 'School activities like sports give trans kids a feeling of belonging and inclusion,' Sanchez said. 'Like cisgender students, trans students benefit academically and emotionally from participation in sports. It is despicable that some state reps are pursuing a public policy of exclusion and isolation.’” (*Pennsylvania Capital-Star*, 3/29/22)

In January 2022, Williams And Muth Were Among The Senators To Back A Proposed Reform To Remove Sex From Birth Certificates In Order To Better Accommodate

Transgender Individuals. “State Senate Democrats want to remove sex from Pennsylvania birth certificates among a series of policy changes they say will make life in the commonwealth easier for transgender individuals. In a joint memo seeking support for legislation they're about to propose, Sens. Tim Kearney, Amanda Cappelletti, Katie Muth and Lindsey Williams told their colleagues they were motivated to introduce a package of bills after a Senate Democratic Policy Hearing in June taught them more about the challenges facing transgender Pennsylvanians. The senators said they want to "remove some of the legal barriers the LGBTQ community faces when living as their authentic selves." "Soon, we intend to introduce legislation to protect individual privacy and prevent discrimination by removing sex designations on PA birth certificates," the memo said. As of Wednesday, the proposed legislation from Senate Democrats was little more than a wish list and likely to stay that way in the Republican-controlled Legislature.” (*The Herald-Mail*, 1/24/22)

Discrimination

In January 2022, Muth Was Among The Democratic Legislators To Call On The Legislature To Enact An LGBTQ Non-Discrimination Statute. ‘Trio of lawmakers calls for anti-discrimination statute after borough revokes LGBTQ+ ordinance The heads of Pennsylvania's legislative LGBTQ+ Caucuses are calling on the General Assembly to enact a non-discriminatory statute one day after a borough became the first in the commonwealth to revoke such a measure at the local level. State Reps. Dan Frankel (D-Allegheny), Brian Sims (D-Phila.), and Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks, all co-chairs of the LGBTQ+ Caucus, excoriated the decision taken on Monday night by the Chambersburg Borough Council, voting to repeal an LGBTQ anti-discrimination ordinance. "Last night, the Republican-led Chambersburg Borough Council committed a shameful action by repealing their local nondiscrimination ordinance," the three lawmakers said in a joint written statement. "That vote was a dangerous step backwards and puts LGBTQ+ Pennsylvanians in an extremely vulnerable position, eliminating their access to recourse if they are denied housing, education or public accommodations because of who they are or who they love. "A family with two moms that stops for dinner on a road trip through Chambersburg can now be refused service at a restaurant. A trans man's rental application for a new apartment can be denied for no other reason than that his gender does not match the sex he was assigned at birth." In repealing the ordinance, Chambersburg became the first among 70 Pennsylvania municipalities that have enacted LGBTQ inclusive laws to revoke it. Other municipalities that have adopted such an ordinance include Gettysburg, Shippensburg, Camp Hill, Carlisle and Harrisburg.” (*The Patriot News*, 1/25/22)

Race

Critical Race Theory/ Structural Racism/ Anti-Racism

In June 2020, Muth Commemorated Juneteenth By Expressing Support For Notions Derived From Critical Race Theory/ Structural Racism Noting “Our Country’s History Is Tied Up In And Interconnected To Slavery. Learning The History Is An Important Step But In Order For Us, As A Nation, To End Systemic Racism And Oppression, We Have To Understand The Legacy Of Slavery And The Trauma Caused By Slavery, And How This

Legacy Resulted In Massive Amounts Of Wealth For White Americans.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/20)



Senator Katie Muth
June 19, 2020 · 🌐

...

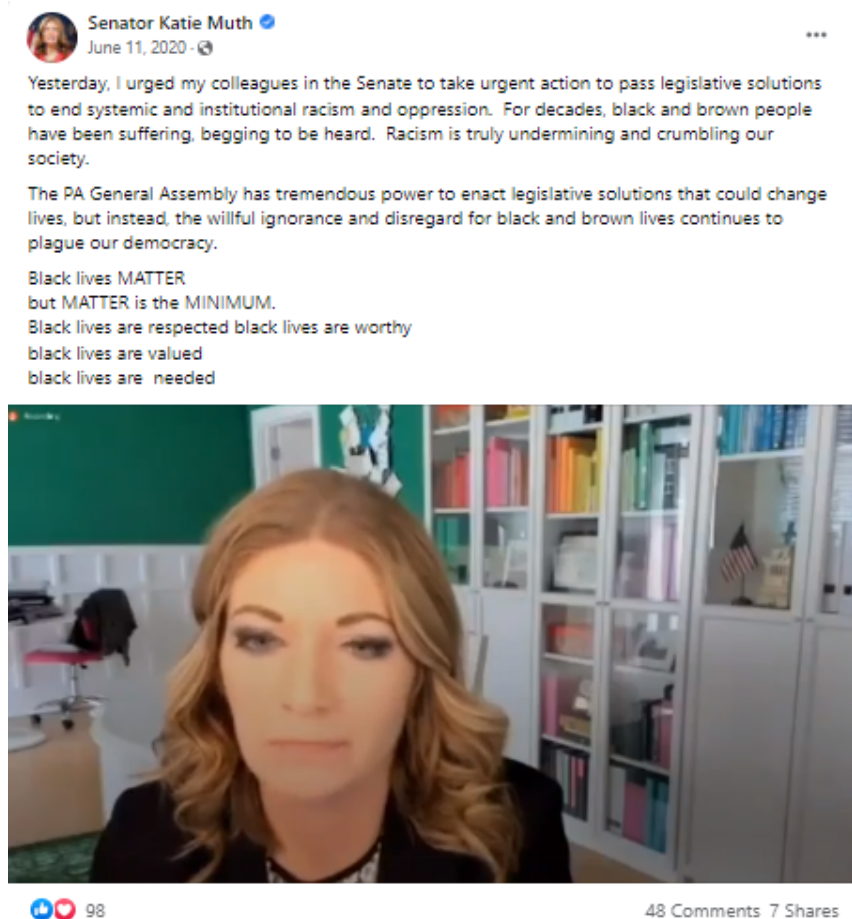
Juneteenth commemorates a historic time in black history when emancipation finally reached enslaved people in the deepest parts of the former Confederacy. Often referred to as a holiday to celebrate the end of slavery in the United States, it's important to discuss the history. As the Civil War neared its end, and over two years after the Emancipation Proclamation executive order, slavery continued on, especially in areas where the Union army did not have a strong presence or in remote areas, in places like in Texas and nearby areas of the southwest. On June 19, 1865, when Union general Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, he issued an order and read a proclamation that all enslaved people in Texas were to be set free. The Juneteenth holiday is meant to commemorate the emancipation of over 4 million slaves, particularly those who were not yet aware that emancipation had actually been declared over two years ago. 155 years have passed since then, and black people in our country are still battling for their freedom. In many ways, Juneteenth is symbolic of delayed freedom, both in 1865, and in 2020, freedom is still delayed.

Juneteenth is not a nationally recognized holiday (but absolutely should be). The history of Juneteenth is not taught in most history curriculums, especially in K-12 education, resulting in people not learning about this day until adulthood. This is an example of how our education system has been conditioned to overlook and leave out black history, sending a message of that black history is not valued or important. Our country's history is tied up in and interconnected to slavery. Learning the history is an important step but in order for us, as a nation, to end systemic racism and oppression, we have to understand the legacy of slavery and the trauma caused by slavery, and how this legacy resulted in massive amounts of wealth for white Americans. Narratives used to justify slavery are connected to the harmful narratives still used today to oppress black people. Our nation will never be united unless we acknowledge and learn from the 250+ years of slavery, and all of the harms it caused then and still perpetuates today. This will require white people to try and look at history through the eyes of those that were enslaved and those that are still oppressed today. If we, white people, do this long overdue work, our power and privilege would finally bring about the change needed to ensure that freedom is finally a reality for black Americans. This work starts with not just marching and rallies, it starts with open minds and hearts, and the will to succeed fueled by knowing that there's no other way to make change than through daily action of our own collective power. We must demand massive investments in education, healthcare, affordable housing, paid leave, living wage, meaningful work, criminal justice reform, restructuring of our policing system and ending police brutality, a fair court system, and ending poverty and all forms of inequities.

Confused, overwhelmed, or scared about how to help or where to start? Good news, there's plenty of work to do! And today is a great day to start or continue this work! Whether you take the time to educate yourself on the history and meaning of Juneteenth and systemic racism, or taking action in the streets (in a safe, masked up way 🧢), or can't be out marching and participate in online forums, use today and every day following to use your power through action and your voice to speak up, to make sure that black lives are protected from harm, that black lives get justice, that black lives are are uplifted, that black lives are at every table of decision-making, and black lives are valued and respected EVERYWHERE, EVERYDAY.

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/20)

VIDEO: Muth Calls For Her White Colleagues To Be “Anti-Racist” And Noted “I Urged My Colleagues In The Senate To Take Urgent Action To Pass Legislative Solutions To End Systemic And Institutional Racism And Oppression. For Decades, Black And Brown People Have Been Suffering, Begging To Be Heard. Racism Is Truly Undermining And Crumbling Our Society.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/11/20)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/11/20)

In June 2021, Muth Criticized Efforts Opposing The Teaching Of Critical Race Theory, Contending “Additionally, Teaching About Historical Events, And Current Events To Grow A Student's Ability To Have Critical Conversations Has Been Weaponized With Misinformation Campaigns Designed To Delay Progress And Breed Fear.” ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/21)



Senator Katie Muth
June 19, 2021 · 🌐



Today is Juneteenth, which marks the day news of emancipation reached enslaved people in Galveston, Texas (2.5 years after the emancipation proclamation was signed by Pres. Lincoln).

At the same time that Pres. Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law, legislators across the country and right here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania were working fervently to pass voter suppression legislation, which would roll back decades of progress on voting rights. Additionally, teaching about historical events, and current events to grow a student's ability to have critical conversations has been weaponized with misinformation campaigns designed to delay progress and breed fear.

Let me be clear: Juneteenth is not a time to have a bbq and celebrate a day off of work. We must all use this day to reflect, educate and push back against the forces that are working so hard to enact modern-day racial oppression tactics



👍❤️ 77

6 Comments 6 Shares

([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 6/19/21)

White Privilege

In September 2018, Muth Promoted A Post Suggesting Her Support For Notions Of White Privilege. ([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 9/28/18)



([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 9/28/18)

Black Lives Matter

On Her Personal Twitter Profile, Muth Noted Her Support For The Black Lives Matter Movement. ([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)



([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

Second Amendment

Gun Control

In September 2018, Muth Noted Her Support For Additional Gun Control Measures, Including More Intensive Licensing And Oversight. “Muth worked in sports medicine in the NFL, where many of the athletes she worked with grew up around gun violence and lost family members or had been shot themselves. The experiences had a lasting psychological impact on her patients, Muth said. Candidates agreed on the issues. Here is a comment from each on a key issue. Fields: "I do not believe automatic weapons should be in the hands of any person that is not military or police." Muth: "I find it problematic that it takes 10 to 15 minutes to purchase something that could potentially kill people, and it takes months to be a foster parent or adopt a

child or get a driver's license with some required training that we don't mandate (for guns) right now.” (*Reading Eagle*, 9/19/18)

In August 2019, Muth Renewed Her Call For Additional Gun Control Measures, Noting “Efforts Such As Closing Gun Purchasing Loopholes, Universal Background Checks, And Banning Assault Style Weapons And High Capacity Magazines Have Wide Support From Many Lawmakers And Our Constituents.” “The Pennsylvania Senate Democrats issued the following news release on behalf of Pennsylvania State Sen. Katie Muth, D-Berks, Chester, Montgomery: Sen. Katie Muth (D-Berks, Chester, Montgomery) is continuing her call for the governor and legislators to return to Harrisburg to address the gun violence epidemic. On Wednesday, Muth joined the bicameral PA Safe Caucus and supported a letter sent by the caucus to Governor Wolf calling for a special session to address gun violence and the rise of extremist ideology. "Month after month, year after year, our communities are devastated by acts of gun violence," said Muth. "It is a disgrace and it is beyond irresponsible that legislative measures that could help end this public health crisis are kicked down the road for a later date or met with resistance from lawmakers who lack political courage to stand up to the gun lobby." On Sunday, Muth expressed an urgency to have lawmakers return from summer break for a special session to pass legislation to combat gun violence from taking more lives. She stated that there is a need to expedite the passing of common-sense measures as we continue to see an increase in acts of gun violence nationwide. "Legislative efforts, some even receiving support from both sides of the isle, have been lingering in the PA legislature waiting to be seriously discussed and brought up for a vote," said Muth. "Efforts such as closing gun purchasing loopholes, universal background checks, and banning assault style weapons and high capacity magazines have wide support from many lawmakers and our constituents.” (Press Release, “Pennsylvania State Sen. Muth Joins PA Safe Caucus, Continues Call For Special Session On Gun Violence Epidemic,” PA Senate Democrats, 8/7/19)

- **“Additional Gun Safety Reform Measures Supported By Muth, And Included In Legislative Efforts, Are The Implementation Of Extreme Risk Protection Orders, Including Additional Disqualifying Criminal Convictions In The Uniform Firearms Act, The Creation Of A Statewide Firearms Registry, And Allowing Local Regulation Of Firearms By Local And County Governments.”** (Press Release, “Pennsylvania State Sen. Muth Joins PA Safe Caucus, Continues Call For Special Session On Gun Violence Epidemic,” PA Senate Democrats, 8/7/19)

Muth Voted Nay On HB 1747, Which “Amends The Crimes Code By Removing The Current Prohibition Of Carrying A Firearm In Public During An Emergency Proclamation From The State Or A Municipal Government.” ([HB 1747](#), Bill Passed - Senate (29-20), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/18/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ANALYSIS:

HB 1747 amends the Crimes Code by removing the current prohibition of carrying a firearm in public during an emergency proclamation from the State or a municipal government.

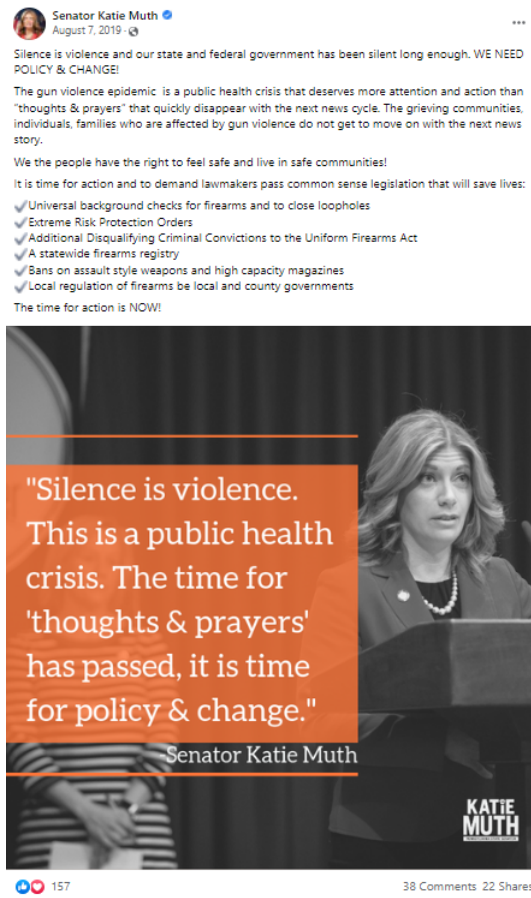
In addition, HB 1747 further amends the Health and Safety Code by removing the gubernatorial authority to limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of firearms during a disaster emergency declaration.

([HB 1747](#))

ACU: “This Bill Provides A Crucial Check On ‘Emergency’ Powers By Prohibiting Any Governmental Entity Or Official From Infringing Second Amendment Rights Under The Guise Of An Emergency.” “This bill provides a crucial check on “emergency” powers by prohibiting any governmental entity or official from infringing Second Amendment rights under the guise of an emergency. Specifically, the bill bars government from suspending or limiting the lawful sale of firearms, preventing the transportation of firearms, or restricting open carry rights during a government-declared emergency. The bill is partly in response to the Chinese coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19) which has prompted certain officials to shut down firearm dealers and servicers due to their alleged status as “non-essential businesses,” (a vague and arbitrary term) therefore restricting the ability of law-abiding individuals to exercise their Second Amendment rights. ACU supports the founders’ belief in the Second Amendment and supported the bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports The Founders’ Belief In The Second Amendment And Supported The Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

In August 2019, Muth Promoted Her Gun Control Agenda, Including Universal Background Checks, ERPOs, A State Firearms Registry, And Bans On Assault Weapons. ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 8/7/19)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 8/7/19)

Feminism

On Her Personal Twitter Profile, Muth Noted Her Support For Aggressive Modern Feminism Noting “Smash The Patriarchy.” ([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

Katie Muth 

@KJMuth

Persistent nasty woman advocating 4 equal rights 4 all. [#Resist](#) [#StillWithHer](#)
[#Indivisible](#) [#MisogynyKills](#) [#LovesLove](#) [#BLM](#) [#NoBanNoWall](#)
[#SmashThePatriarchy](#)

 Philadelphia, PA  Joined September 2016

1,287 Following 193 Followers

([Muth Twitter Profile](#), Accessed 5/12/22)

REGULATORY

Executive Authority

Muth Voted Nay On SB 398, Which Amends The Regulatory Review Act. ([SB 398](#), Bill Passed - Senate (27-22), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/22/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “An Act amending the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the Regulatory Review Act, further providing for definitions, for proposed regulations and procedures for review, for final-form regulations and final-omitted regulations and procedures for review and for procedures for subsequent review of disapproved final-form or final-omitted regulations.” ([SB 398](#))

ACU: “This Bill Is Designed To Improve Oversight Of The Regulatory Process And Strengthen A Crucial Check On Executive Branch Power.” “This bill is designed to improve oversight of the regulatory process and strengthen a crucial check on executive branch power. Firstly, the bill would ensure that lawmakers and the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) have adequate time to review regulations proposed by state agencies, thus limiting a scheme in which state agencies propose regulations when the legislature is in recess and prevent lawmakers from having time to review the policies. Secondly, the bill would improve oversight by ensuring committee chairs within the General Assembly are able to properly review proposed legislation, hold hearings and submit comments. Finally, the bill would eliminate the requirement that “statements of purpose” (SOPs) drafted by agencies be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, a weekly journal produced by the state detailing agency rules and regulations.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Strengthening Oversight And Transparency Over The Regulatory Process, Supports Strengthening Checks And Balanced To Curb Any Inappropriate Power Of Unelected Bureaucrats Within The Executive Branch And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Outdated Bureaucracy

Muth Voted Nay On HB 57, “An Act Abolishing Numerous State Authorities, Boards, Commissions, Committees, Councils And Representatives; And Making Related Repeals.” ([HB 57](#), Bill Passed - Senate (46-3), Pennsylvania State Senate, 11/19/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Streamlines Government By Abolishing Eight Outdated Boards, Commissions And Committees, Many Of Which Have Not Convened In Years.” “This bill streamlines government by abolishing eight outdated boards, commissions and committees, many of which have not convened in years. Some of these entities include the Public Television Broadcasting Advisory Council, the Public Television Network Commission and the Pennsylvania Quality Leadership Awards Council. ACU supports efforts to streamline government and eliminate entities that, in many cases, should not have been a function of government in the first place and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Efforts To Streamline Government And Eliminate Entities That, In Many Cases, Should Not Have Been A Function Of Government In The First Place And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Agricultural Buildings

Muth Voted Nay On SB 453, Which Reduces Regulations Surrounding The Use Of Agricultural Buildings For Events. ([SB 453](#), Bill Passed - Senate (27-20), Pennsylvania State Senate, 5/7/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Would Reduce Excessive Regulations That Have Prevented Individuals From Utilizing Agricultural Buildings Such As Barns For Weddings And Other Special Events.” “This bill would reduce excessive regulations that have prevented individuals from utilizing agricultural buildings such as barns for weddings and other special events. Specifically, the bill would exempt certain agricultural buildings used for special events from stringent requirements under the Uniform Construction Code (UCC). For example, agricultural buildings would be required to meet basic safety standards such as smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and proper egress (i.e., exit), but would not have to meet other stringent regulations designed for new commercial buildings. ACU supports strengthening individual liberties and property rights by reducing excessive regulations and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

- **“Specifically, The Bill Would Exempt Certain Agricultural Buildings Used For Special Events From Stringent Requirements Under The Uniform Construction Code (UCC).”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Strengthening Individual Liberties And Property Rights By Reducing Excessive Regulations And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Motorized Scooters

Muth Voted Nay On Amdt. A-6509 To HB 632, Which Amends Regulations Concerning Motorized Scooters. ([Amdt. A-6509 To HB 632](#), Amendment Failed - Senate (20-30), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/30/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: This Amendment “Would Reform Outdated And Excessive Regulations To Allow The Operation Of Motorized Scooters...” “The Laughlin (ACUF Lifetime 71%) amendment #6509 to the vehicle titling bill would reform outdated and excessive regulations to allow the operation of motorized scooters from companies such as Bird and Lime. Under existing law, all motorized devices on the road must be registered and certified like cars and motorcycles. This amendment exempts motorized scooters from this mandate, and instead lays a basic framework to allow scooter use with oversight from local governments. ACU opposes excessive statewide mandates which prohibits environmentally friendly travel and limit mobility options for commuters, tourists and families and supported this amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Excessive Statewide Mandates Which Prohibits Environmentally Friendly Travel And Limit Mobility Options For Commuters, Tourists And Families And Supported This Amendment.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Telecommunications

Muth Voted Nay On SB 1112, Which “Amends Title 66 (Public Utilities) To Provide For Telecommunication Carrier Regulatory Relief.” ([SB 1112](#), Bill Passed - Senate (33-16), Pennsylvania State Senate, 10/21/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Expands Consumer Access To Broadband And Other Telecommunication Services By Repealing Costly Regulations And Requiring Regular Review Of Regulatory Impact.” “This bill expands consumer access to broadband and other telecommunication services by repealing costly regulations and requiring regular review of regulatory impact. Specifically, this bill requires the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to waive several regulations that are outdated, costly, or unnecessary and may stifle broadband expansion. The bill also requires the PUC to undertake a review of all regulations applicable to telecommunications every three years. ACU supports expanding consumer access and reducing costs by limiting excessive regulations and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Expanding Consumer Access And Reducing Costs By Limiting Excessive Regulations And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Price Controls

Muth Voted Nay On SB 139, Which Amends The Price Gouging Act Definitions And Prohibitions In The Case Of A Declaration Of A State Of Disaster Emergency. ([SB 139](#), Bill Passed - Senate (31-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/4/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Would Make A Series Of Amendments To The State’s Price Gouging Act To Limit The Application Of The Law To Actual Disasters And Emergencies.” “This bill would make a series of amendments to the state’s Price Gouging Act to limit the application of the law to actual disasters and emergencies. Under current law, any time the governor declares a state of emergency (including non-disaster declarations), price restrictions are automatically imposed for 30 days with extensions up to 90 days. This bill would provide the governor with flexibility to determine in which disasters to impose price restrictions. Additionally, the bill would limit the duration of the restrictions to 15 days with extensions up to 60 days. The bill does, however, contain one negative provision that would prevent prices from rising greater than 10% during an emergency (previously 20%). ACU opposes price controls that aggravate disasters by preventing the market from allocating scarce resources and incentivizing the flow of additional goods and supported this bill as a step in the right direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes Price Controls That Aggravate Disasters By Preventing The Market From Allocating Scarce Resources And Incentivizing The Flow Of Additional Goods And Supported This Bill As A Step In The Right Direction.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Licensure

Pharmacy Technicians

Muth Voted Yea On HB 770, Amends The Pharmacy Act To Provide For Pharmacy Technicians And Pharmacy Technician Trainees. ([HB 770](#), Bill Passed - Senate (31-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 6/4/19, Muth Voted Yea)

- NOTE: “The legislation requires a pharmacy technician to register with the Board of Pharmacy (board) biennially and pay a registration fee, possess an unrestricted registration from the board to practice, and be responsible to and under the direct and immediate personal supervision of a board-licensed pharmacist.” ([HB 770](#))

ACU: “This Bill Restricts Competition And Drives Up Pharmaceutical Costs By Imposing New Barriers For Pharmacy Technicians To Enter The Workforce.” “This bill restricts competition and drives up pharmaceutical costs by imposing new barriers for pharmacy technicians to enter the workforce. Under the bill, no individual may be employed as a pharmacy technician unless they are certified by the State Board of Pharmacy, satisfy a near endless number of requirements, and pay various fees. ACU recognizes that pharmacy technicians work under the supervision of pharmacists who are already licensed, opposes the proliferation of licensing regimes which drive up consumer costs and are primarily designed to restrict competition and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union “Opposes The Proliferation Of Licensing Regimes Which Drive Up Consumer Costs And Are Primarily Designed To Restrict Competition And Opposed This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Judicial

Judges Elections

Muth Voted Nay On HB 196, A Joint Resolution Proposing Integrated Amendments To The Constitution Of The Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania, Organizing The Judiciary Into Representative Districts And Further Providing For Residency Requirements. ([HB 196](#), Bill Passed - Senate (26-24), Pennsylvania State Senate, 7/15/20, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Is Designed To Ensure That All Pennsylvanians Have A Voice In Selecting Judges For The Commonwealth’s Three Appellate Courts.” “This bill is designed to ensure that all Pennsylvanians have a voice in selecting judges for the commonwealth’s three appellate courts: The Commonwealth Court, Superior Court, and the Supreme Court. Specifically, the bill proposes to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to allow voters to elect appellate judges by districts rather than statewide elections. Under the bill, the state would be divided into nine Commonwealth Court districts, 15 Superior Court districts and seven Supreme Court districts. As a result, voters would be able to elect a judge who resides in the district to serve on the respective statewide court. ACU recognizes that under the current system, 60% of appellate court judges reside in two of the most liberal counties while the other 65 counties have 80% of the state’s population but only 40% representation on the courts. ACU supports this measure to help achieve more equal representation on the courts, supports efforts to ensure strict constructionists dedicated to the U.S. Constitution have a voice on the courts and supported this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

- **“Specifically, The Bill Proposes To Amend The Pennsylvania Constitution To Allow Voters To Elect Appellate Judges By Districts Rather Than Statewide Elections. Under The Bill, The State Would Be Divided Into Nine Commonwealth Court Districts, 15 Superior Court Districts And Seven Supreme Court Districts.”** ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

The American Conservative Union Supports This Measure To Help Achieve More Equal Representation On The Courts, Supports Efforts To Ensure Strict Constructionists Dedicated To The U.S. Constitution Have A Voice On The Courts And Supported This Bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2020)

Tort Reform

Muth Voted Nay On SR 20, A Resolution Concerning The Impact Of Venue For Medical Professional Liability Actions On Access To Medical Care And Maintenance Of Health Care Systems. ([SR 20](#), Resolution Passed - Senate (32-17), Pennsylvania State Senate, 2/5/19, Muth Voted Nay)

- NOTE: “A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of the impact of venue for medical professional liability actions on access to medical care and maintenance of health care systems in this Commonwealth and requesting that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court delay action on the proposed amendment to Pa.R.C.P. No. 1006.” ([SR 20](#))

ACU: “This Resolution Urges The Pennsylvania Supreme Court To Uphold The Positive Reforms Implemented In 2002 To Reduce Lawsuit Abuse In Medical Malpractice Cases.” “This resolution urges the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to uphold the positive reforms implemented in 2002 to reduce lawsuit abuse in medical malpractice cases. The reforms were designed to reduce “forum shopping” schemes by personal injury lawyers which sent medical malpractice insurance rates skyrocketing and contributed to the loss of medical practitioners and facilities. Under the resolution, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania is encouraged to delay action on an amendment proposed by the Civil Procedure Rules Committee. The proposed amendment would repeal the 2002 forum shopping reforms. ACU recognizes that prior to 2002, 10% of the nation’s medical malpractice claims were filed in Philadelphia County (most of any county in the nation) and that the repeal of the reforms would increase medical costs and reduce access and quality of care. ACU further recognizes that our rights under the U.S. Constitution guarantee all who have been genuinely harmed the opportunity to seek remedies through the courts. Unfortunately, this is not possible when the courts are clogged with frivolous litigation. ACU supports reasonable tort reform to reduce frivolous litigation and lawsuit abuse and supported this resolution.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

The American Conservative Union “Supports Reasonable Tort Reform To Reduce Frivolous Litigation And Lawsuit Abuse And Supported This Resolution.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

Civil Liberties

Smoking Age

Muth Voted Yea On SB 473, Which Amends The Definition Of “Minor” To Be An Individual Under 21 Years Of Age And Increases The Legal Age To Purchase Or Attempt To Purchase A Tobacco Product From 18 Years Of Age To 21 Years Of Age. ([SB 473](#), Bill Passed - Senate (43-6), Pennsylvania State Senate, 9/25/19, Muth Voted Nay)

ACU: “This Bill Infringes Individual Liberties By Raising The Smoking Age From 18 To 21.” “This bill infringes individual liberties by raising the smoking age from 18 to 21. Furthermore, the bill subjects nicotine and e-cigarette products such as Juul to the 21 and up restriction. ACU believes the usage of both cigarettes and e-cigarettes is a personal liberty issue, that those who are old enough to fight for our country are old enough to decide whether to purchase tobacco or nicotine products and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union Pennsylvania Legislative Scorecard](#), 2019)

POLITICAL

Ideology

Progressive Associations – We The People And 2018/2019 Agenda

In 2018, Muth Was Among The Candidates To Endorse The “Progressive” Agenda Laid Out By We The People Pennsylvania Action, Which Called For Higher Wages And Implicitly Higher Taxes On High Earners. “Organizations often endorse a candidate and his or her agenda. We the People-Pennsylvania Action, on the other hand, asks candidates to embrace

its agenda. Three Democrats running for seats in the Pennsylvania General Assembly endorsed the group's progressive agenda Wednesday afternoon with podium speeches at Penn and Fifth streets in Reading. Michael Blicher Jr. of Kutztown, Doug Metcalfe of Robeson Township and Katie Muth of Royersford, Montgomery County, stood with the group on its six-point agenda: Raise wages and improve working conditions. Adequately and equitably fund education. Protect rights to the necessities of life, including health care and housing. Invest in infrastructure and safeguard the environment. Fix the rigged tax system. Secure democracy and make sure all have a voice in government. "We want to set a new direction for the state other than cut taxes and cut spending," said We the People State Director Marc Stier, who says the group is nonpartisan. "Republicans control the General Assembly, and they want to cut taxes on rich people and cut spending on the middle class and the poor." (Reading Eagle, 10/11/18)

- **Muth: “As A Working-Class Person And As A Working-Class Candidate, There Are A Lot Of Things In This Platform That Reflect My Values, Especially Wage Equality, Not Just For Women And Non-White, Working-Class Males, But Wages Across The Board Have Not Gone Up.”** “Muth wants to see workers earn higher wages. "The agenda is very people-focused," Muth said. "As a working-class person and as a working-class candidate, there are a lot of things in this platform that reflect my values, especially wage equality, not just for women and non-white, working-class males, but wages across the board have not gone up. We need to make a shift so people can earn a fair wage." Muth is challenging state Sen. John Rafferty, a Montgomery County Republican, in the 44th District.” (Reading Eagle, 10/11/18)
- **VIDEO: In September 2018, At A Rally Unveiling The We The People Agenda, Muth Is Recognized As Among The Candidates To Support The Agenda.** ([We The People Facebook Page](#), Posted 9/27/18; Minute 20:30)



([We The People Facebook Page](#), Posted 9/27/18; Minute 20:30)

- **We The People Called For A “Much Higher” State Minimum Wage (With An Increase To \$15 An Hour) And Indexing The State Minimum Wage To Inflation.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvania policy needs to restore balance in our economy rather than continuing to step on the scale on the side of employers and the rich:

- Raise and enforce labor-market standards that ensure basic fairness for
 - lower-wage workers through a much higher state minimum wage, elimination of the tipped minimum wage, and indexing of the minimum wage to inflation;

THE SOLUTION

We recommend that policymakers raise the minimum wage gradually with the aim of setting it at \$15 by 2024, thereafter making small annual adjustments to maintain the purchasing power of the minimum relative to the median wage.

The results of increasing the minimum wage will be good for workers, their families, and the economy.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Called For Phasing Out The Tipped Minimum Wage – A Measure Known To Have Drawn Criticism From Restaurant And Food Service Businesses.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

We recommend streamlining Pennsylvania’s minimum wage law by phasing out the tipped minimum wage by 2025. The Economic Policy Institute estimates that raising the tipped minimum in Pennsylvania to \$5.25 immediately, while boosting the minimum wage to \$9, would increase the wages of 161,688 tipped workers. Two other subminimum wages that policymakers sometimes propose include subminimum wages for younger workers or subminimum wages for workers in small business. These provisions generally do more harm than good by giving employers an incentive to discriminate in hiring by age or by subsidizing inefficient firms.⁵

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Called For Proactive Government Measures To Increase Wages, Such As Prevailing Wage Laws.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

The state should systematically analyze how its funding and regulatory authority interact with wages throughout the economy—including in caregiving, health care, truck driving, manufacturing, and residential construction. The state should use its funding and regulatory authority to raise wages, especially where doing this would deliver multiple benefits—better jobs and other positive impacts, such as higher quality human services or fewer traffic fatalities in accidents involving trucks. One model for how to lift wages is the state’s prevailing wage law in construction.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Called For Measures To Strengthen Unions And Make It Easier To Organize.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Public policy and elected officials that support unions need to help unions grow in both the public and private sectors.

- Unions in the public sector are a big part of today's labor movement. Helping them remain strong in the context of unprecedented attacks is vital.
- The private sector is most of the economy and where the next generation of unions is already being born.

Some specific ways lawmakers and other public officials can bolster unions:

- Make it easier for public sector workers to form a union. Replace the lengthy, bureaucratic process currently in place with a simple card check process that allows a majority of workers to form a union.

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- **We The People Called For More Accepting Treatment Of Ex-Convicts Seeking Employment, Including Ban The Box Measures To Prevent Employers From Asking About Criminal History.** [\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- **Reduce barriers to good jobs and increase job opportunities for ex-offenders.**
 - o. Support a dignity-based approach for ex-offenders. People released from jail should not continue to be degraded and marginalized; they should be encouraged to contribute and integrate back into society. Compared to similar countries, the United States tends to continue to punish and stigmatize those with criminal records beyond their actual sentence. This has numerous collateral consequences for those getting out of jail.¹² Pennsylvania has taken steps towards a dignity-based model, including the passage of clean slate legislation (passed in the summer of 2018) which allows those with minor convictions to get their records sealed so that it does not serve as a barrier to employment or housing.
 - p. Support Ban the Box laws and other fair hiring policies: Ban the Box laws are policies that remove the check-box from job applications, indicating whether an applicant has ever been convicted of a crime. While there has been debate in the literature as to the impact of Ban the Box, multiple studies have shown that Ban the Box laws have been effective at getting more

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- **We The People Calls For Free Tuition For Students Enrolled At The Public Colleges And Universities And Universal Pre-K.** [\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

THE SOLUTION

- Adequately and equitably fund K-12 education by substantially increasing state funding through the fair funding formula.
- Provide free college tuition for students at state system schools, state-related universities, and community colleges, and provide grants for job training/apprenticeship programs that are closely tied to jobs that pay good wages.
- Make pre-kindergarten and early childhood education available and affordable to all families.

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- **We The People Calls For Additional K-12 Educational Funding, Up To \$3.7 Billion Over Ten Years, By Adjustments To The Fair Funding Formula.** [\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvania must:

- Increase basic education funding, run through the fair funding formula, by at least \$3.7 billion over a number of years. Increased state funding

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- **We The People Calls For A Protection And Expansion Of Several Welfare And Social Assistance Programs Such As SNAP, Cash Assistance/ TANF, And Affordable Housing.** [\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvania should deepen and strengthen its safety net to ensure all residents of our state can afford the necessities of life.

- Enact a Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance (PFMLI) system in which everyone pays a small amount per month into the system and can then draw benefit from it when they need it.
- End hunger in Pennsylvania by protecting and expanding SNAP in Pennsylvania, passing the Pennsylvania Fresh Financing Initiative to reduce the number of food deserts in the state and expanding the number of children benefiting from free and reduced lunch, breakfast, and summer meals.
- Expand child care programs in Pennsylvania by increasing funds for child care services to ensure all low-income families with eligible children can get access to subsidized child care; increase reimbursement rates for child care providers so they can pay their workers a living wage and meet required safety guidelines.
- Protect and expand cash assistance programs by restoring the state's General Assistance program and improving TANF so it better serves low-income Pennsylvanians.
- Substantially increase the availability of affordable and safe housing in Pennsylvania by passing a state low-income housing tax credit; increase

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

○ **We The People’s Calls For SNAP Protection And Expansion Includes Expanding Program Eligibility To 200 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Level.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **Protect and expand SNAP benefits.** In the face of mounting attacks on SNAP on both the federal and state level, the General Assembly must protect access to this important program, rejecting all efforts to impose work requirements that will kick people off the program because of administrative red tape and burdensome reporting requirements. The General Assembly should also take steps to increase SNAP participation from 90% to 98% by strengthening outreach for the program.⁵
- **The Department of Human Services should increase the SNAP income threshold to 200% of the federal poverty line.** By using the categorical eligibility rules for SNAP, states can choose to increase the gross income threshold. Nationally, it is set at 130% of the federal poverty line. Pennsylvania has increased eligibility to 200% of the federal poverty line for seniors and people with disabilities but only increased it to 160% for everyone else. Pennsylvania can, and should, go further and increase it to 200% for all families/individuals so that more people in need can get access to SNAP benefits.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

○ **We The People’s Calls For Welfare Protection And Expansion Includes Nearly Doubling TANF Cash Grants And The Protection Of The Controversial General Assistance Program.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Pennsylvania should protect the General Assistance program which was reinstated in 2018 and improve the TANF program so that it better serves low-income Pennsylvanians. Cash benefits should be increased, and the earned income disregard should be increased, as well, to further strengthen the program. The following proposals will attain these goals.

- **Protect and Expand General Assistance:** General Assistance was eliminated in Pennsylvania by legislation in 2012. Due to a positive ruling by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the program has been restored. But as in 2012, it is vulnerable to attack by the General Assembly. We should protect the newly re-established General Assistance program and make sure outreach efforts are done effectively so those that need this support can access it. Moving forward, we should consider increasing the benefit from its 1990 grant level.
- **Raise the TANF Cash Grants:** TANF grants to Pennsylvania families have not increased since 1990. Had grants kept up with inflation, a grant for a family of three would be \$721/month instead of the current \$403/month. The state should increase its grant amounts and factor in a cost-of-living adjustment so that Pennsylvania’s poorest families

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For The Creation Of A Public Option For Health Insurance And The Expansion Of Medicaid.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- Make quality, affordable health care accessible to all by creating a public health insurance option in the health care exchanges, enacting regulatory reform that reduces health insurance costs, protecting people's access to doctors as their insurance changes, and expanding coverage under Medicaid.
- Combat the opioid epidemic by making it easier for people to access medication-assisted treatment for substance abuse disorder, repealing counter-productive drug laws, making Naloxone more widely available and training people on its use, and protecting Medicaid and other social services that help people suffering from opioid abuse.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For The Elimination Of Drug Induced Homicide Laws And The Establishment Of Syringe Exchange Programs.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Repeal Counterproductive Drug Laws

- Drug-induced homicide laws allow charges of murder or manslaughter to be brought against persons involved in the manufacturing, sale, distribution or delivery of a controlled substance resulting in death. Pennsylvania is leading the charge here—the Commonwealth ranked number one in the nation for the number of drug-induced homicide charges brought. For this same crime, people of color on average receive much higher sentences than that of white individuals.⁷ Though these laws are generally brought forward with good intentions, they are harmful, target some of our most vulnerable populations, and should be eliminated.
- Similarly, laws that discourage doctors from providing legitimate pain treatment that sometimes includes the use of opioids often have unintended victims—people who are suffering from severe pain that sometimes cannot be treated in other ways. These laws can drive some pain patients to seek out alternatives, increasing the demand for heroin or unregulated prescription drugs sold on the street. We should be educating doctors and patients about the risks of substance misuse yet trusting them to make the best decisions about their medical needs.⁸
- In order to set up syringe exchange programs and harm reduction centers, Pennsylvania needs to pass HB196 or a similar law that legalizes syringes and enables advocates and public health departments to set up syringe exchange services. Syringe service

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For Alternative And Lighter Sentencing For Low-Level Drug Crimes.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- Reduce sentences and create alternatives to incarceration for low-level drug crimes. (See our “End Overincarceration” policy piece for more information.) Revise drugs laws to be consistent with understanding substance use disorder as a health issue not a criminal justice issue.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For Additional Environmental Regulations And Transitions To Alternative Energy.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- Protect our air and water by: updating and vigorously enforcing environmental laws to meet current challenges—especially for natural gas drilling; strengthen the public entities tasked with protecting our air and water; and pass legislation to address lead in drinking water.
- Rehabilitate blighted land and preserve open spaces.
- Transition rapidly to renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power. These energy sources are becoming more cost effective and are already proven job creators.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People’s Environmental Agenda Includes Opposition To Expanded Areas For Fracking, Additional Limitations On Oil And Gas Development, And The Passage Of A Severance Tax.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Protect our land, water, air, and health by further regulating the oil and gas industry.

- Protect our public lands from fracking. Oil and gas companies continue to try to access our most pristine and protected land, including our state parks, state forests and other public lands, for natural gas extraction. The General Assembly should oppose any legislation to open these areas for drilling.
- Extend gas facility to structure/building set-back distances. Set-back distances should be increased to: 0.6 mile (3281 feet) from smaller shale gas facilities; 1 ¼ miles from gas processing plants or compressor complexes; and 1 ¼ miles for schools/daycares, hospitals, nursing homes, and other high-occupancy buildings.⁶
- Pass a severance tax. Pennsylvania is the only natural gas-rich state without a severance tax, which means that oil and gas drillers located here are pillaging our natural resources without paying their fair share to the state. For more information, see WTP policy paper on passing a severance tax.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For Raising The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvania's clean energy policies are weak compared to surrounding states. Pennsylvania must strengthen its energy policies² by doing the following things:

- **Raise our Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS):** These standards are low compared to surrounding states. Pennsylvania should commit to generating 15% of its electricity with solar energy by 2025.³
- **New regulations to limit methane pollution:** The Department of Environmental Protection should develop new regulations to limit methane pollution and air admissions from existing sources of oil and gas wells, pipelines, and other infrastructure.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For Supporting Higher Gas And Motor Fuel Taxes At The Federal And State Level To Increase Infrastructure Spending.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

To improve roads and bridges, Pennsylvania should⁶

- establish stable sources of transportation funding at the federal and state levels. On the federal side, Pennsylvania should advocate for more investment in the Highway Trust Fund and an increase in the federal gas tax which hasn't been updated since 1993. As Act 89 plateaus, Pennsylvania must come up with a funding plan internal to PA.
 - The Pennsylvania State Police should not get a disproportionate amount of appropriations from the Motor License Fee, which they currently do.⁷ The 2016 state fiscal code addressed this issue by capping the portion given to State Police, and then decreasing it over a 10-year period.
 - The motor fuels tax and, in the long term, a usage-based revenue system should remain a significant part of state funding for roads and bridges. As the number of electric cars increases, the gas tax will bring in less and less revenue. A usage-based funding system (based on mileage travelled) is undergoing a pilot test in Pennsylvania and other states. Greater reliance on usage fees needs to be coupled with protection for low-income, rural Pennsylvanians who drive long distances to work.⁸

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For Higher Corporate And Individual Taxes (Such As A Carbon Tax) As A Means To Potentially Increase Infrastructure Spending.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- Corporate taxes (e.g., closing corporate tax loopholes) and individual taxes that fall more heavily on upper-income taxpayers—such as the PBPC “fair share tax” described elsewhere and some carbon taxes—should also be explored as a source for road and bridge repair as well as mass transit funding, in part, because corporations and the affluent benefit disproportionately from the wealth and income generated by robust investment in infrastructure.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Encourages Passage Of \$5 Vehicle Registration Fees To Fund Infrastructure Needs.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- to stretch infrastructure dollars.
- encourage additional counties to impose an additional \$5 fee to vehicle registration fees to raise money for local road and bridge projects as one third of PA counties currently do.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For The Imposition Of Over \$3 Billion In Tax Increases, Including The Imposition Of A “Fair Share” Or Higher Wealth Tax And A Severance Tax On Oil And Gas Development- Along With Closing Certain Corporate Tax Loopholes.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

winnings) from 3.07% to 6.5% while lowering the tax on wages and interest from 3.07% to 2.8%. The Fair Share Tax would raise an addition \$2.32 billion in the next fiscal year (2019-20) while reducing income taxes for 59% of individuals and small business owners in Pennsylvania. By fiscal year 2021-22, the Fair Share Tax would bring in an additional \$2.63 billion.

- **A severance or shale tax on natural gas drilling** at the same 5% rate imposed by West Virginia would raise \$567 million in the next fiscal year and \$833 million by fiscal year 2021-22.
- **Combined reporting** should be instituted for the corporate net income tax to close the Delaware Loophole while reducing the corporate tax rate from 9.99% to 9.49% starting in 2020-21. This would bring in an additional \$332 million in revenue in the next fiscal year and \$254 billion in 2021-22.

THE SOLUTION

The We The People campaign proposes three solutions to our unfair and inadequate tax system. Taken together, these proposals will raise \$3.2 billion in fiscal year 2018-19 and \$3.6 billion in fiscal year 2021-22 while reducing taxes for close to 60% of Pennsylvanians, for small businesses, and for Pennsylvania based corporations.

- **Our Fair Share Tax** increases the tax rate on income from wealth (e.g. dividends, capital gains, business profits, estates, royalties, and gambling

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People’s Proposed “Fair Share” Tax Would Raise Over \$2.2 Billion Alone And Would Impact Middle Class Households Earning Approximately \$100,000 Or Higher – And Some Families Making Less Than That Amount.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- The Fair Share Tax would raise \$2.22 billion in new revenue in the 2019-20 fiscal year and \$2.63 billion in 2021-22.
- Most of the new tax revenues would come from those at or close to the top of the income distribution with nearly 60% of the new revenue coming from the top 1%.
 - Fifty-nine percent would come from Pennsylvania households in the top 1% of incomes who have an income above \$569,000 and average income of \$1.5 million. Their taxes would increase by an average of \$24,119, only 1.6% of their average income.
 - Another 25% would come from Pennsylvania households with income in the 95th through 99th percentile with incomes between \$242,000 and \$669,000 and an average income of \$351,000. Their taxes would increase by an average of \$2,571 or 0.7% of their average income.
 - Another 12% would come from Pennsylvania households with incomes in the 80th through 94th percentile with incomes in the range of \$109,000 to \$242,000 and an average income of \$152,000. Their taxes would increase by an average of only \$330 or 0.2% of their average income.
 - Overall, 95% of the increased revenue paid under the Fair Share Tax would come from families in the top 20% of all incomes.

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- **We The People Calls For Several Political Reforms, Including Making It Easier To Vote And Ending So-Called Over Incarceration.** [\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

THE SOLUTION

Pennsylvanians need to fight for and win a more responsive democracy. Nothing is more important. To do this, we need to

- make it easier, not harder, for people to vote;
- enact comprehensive campaign finance reform legislation to reduce the influence of money on electoral outcomes;
- end the gerrymandering of state and congressional legislative districts;
- eliminate barriers to participation in political and economic life based on race, gender, and/or sexual orientation;
- end the over incarceration of Pennsylvanians, which wastes money and lives;
- protect immigrants and welcome them into our communities; and
- ensure that our state and local police forces are well-equipped to protect Pennsylvanians and hold accountable the few who abuse their power.

[\(We The People, Posted January 2019\)](#)

- **We The People’s Proposed Electoral Reforms Include Same-Day Voter Registration, Pre-Registering Of 17-Year-Olds, Expanded Mail Voting, And Automatic Voter Registration.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Institute automatic voter registration. Automatic voter registration would use information already on file with the state to identify individuals who are eligible to vote and add them to voter rolls or update voter information automatically when they are already registered. Voters who are automatically registered would have the option of removing themselves from the rolls if they choose.

Pre-register eligible 16- and 17-year-olds and automatically add them to voter rolls when they turn 18. Pre-registering voters before they turn 18 is a good first step towards educating them on their civic responsibilities. Twelve states and Washington, D.C. pre-register 16-year-olds and another four pre-register 17-year-olds.

Allow registration of unregistered voters on Election Day. Election Day and “same-day” registration (SDR) allows voters to register on the day of the election. As of early 2018, 16 states and Washington, D.C. had adopted SDR. To avoid manipulation of primary elections, SDR could be limited to unregistered voters with already registered voters being permitted to switch their party registration only until 30 days before a primary election. Research shows that same-day registration increases turnout by 5% to 7%. Over half of Americans support automatic voter registration (54%) and same-day registration (55%).¹

Encourage voting with no-fault absentee voting and voting by mail. A recent study found that Utah’s experimentation with all-mail voting increased turnout by nearly 5%-7%. Earlier research in Washington state found all-mail voting was associated with 2%-4% increases in turnout. Both studies found that the positive effects of all-mail voting were most pronounced among young voters and those who never or rarely voted.

Not only can the state make it easier for people to register to vote, it can encourage people directly and indirectly to vote.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Acknowledges The Existence Of Systematic And Structural Racism In The U.S. Criminal Justice System.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Eighth, until the federal government ensures that basic data about police shootings and other forms of violence are collected from all police forces and also by means of population surveys, the state should take on this task. We will not be able to fully address the structural and systemic racism of the criminal justice system in America if we do not know its extent.

Ninth, state legislative committees should begin an investigation of the distribution of police resources not only by local community but by neighborhoods in our medium and large cities. The state should develop and enforce guidelines to ensure that police services are equally distributed in all neighborhoods.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For Criminal Justice Reform Measures, Such As The Reclassification Of Several So-Called Low Level Felonies To Misdemeanors And Reducing The Utilization Of The Life Without Parole Sentence.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

To reduce the amount of time that people spend in prison we should do the following.

- Embrace sentencing reform. The General Assembly should change the criminal code in the state to reduce maximum sentences, especially for drug offenses.
 - Many lower-level offenses should be reclassified from felonies to misdemeanors.
 - The life without parole sentence is overused in Pennsylvania. It leads to many people who have not taken a life or who, after long years in prison, have repented for their crimes, staying in prison when that serves no useful purpose. Use of this sentence should be reformed and opportunities for parole should be made available to selected inmates.
 - Reduce revocations from supervision for minor parole violations. In 2016, 15% of the prison population was in prison because of a parole violation. The likelihood of recidivism is highest in the first year following incarceration, yet many of those leaving prison have long parole terms and probation sentences. Reforms should focus on capping how much jail time one can receive for minor parole offenses and/or diversionary treatment for those with drug usage or mental health issues.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

- **We The People Calls For An End To Cash Bail And Sentencing Enhancements Based On Location Such As Drug Free School Zones.** ([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Efforts should also be made to reduce racial disparities and the criminalization of the poor. Reducing admissions and time served will decrease the overall prison population in Pennsylvania, but it will not solve the problem of racial disparities within the prison system. Addressing this racial disparity will take comprehensive reform at many levels. We can do several things to reform the criminal justice system and address these racial disparities and the criminalization of the poor.

- End cash bail. The current cash bail system in Pennsylvania keeps primarily poor individuals in jail, sometimes for significant periods of time, despite not yet being convicted of a crime. The

PA Supreme Court's Rules Committee has the authority to make this change.

- End over-policing in communities of color.
- End sentencing enhancements that are based on location like drug-free school zones.
- Shift funding from law enforcement/corrections to investment in job creation and training, strong public education, mental health and drug treatment, and other social and human services.¹⁴

The use of private prisons has, in some cases, created corrupt relationships between judges and the owners of prisons that led to horrible abuses, especially of juveniles. Prison privatization should be prohibited in this state.

([We The People](#), Posted January 2019)

Progressive Associations – Additional

In 2018, Muth Participated In An Event Featuring Several Candidates Hosted By The Progressive Advocacy Organization People For The American Way. “People for the American Way issued the following news release: Young progressive women running for office in battleground states joined People For the American Way's Next Up Victory Fund today for a National Press Club discussion about the impact of the #MeToo movement on the 2018

midterms, and the future of politics under a president with a record of harming women. Rachel Crooks, candidate for Ohio State House District 88 who was sexually assaulted by Donald Trump, joined Anna Eskamani, candidate for Florida State House District 47, Myya Jones, candidate for Michigan State House District 4, and Katie Muth, candidate for Pennsylvania State House District 44 for a discussion moderated by People for the American Way's Political Director Lizet Ocampo.” (Press Release, “Progressive Women Candidates Join Next Up Victory Fund To Call For Change, Discuss Impact of #MeToo Movement On Midterms,” PFAW, 7/24/18)

- **NOTE:** In October 2018, Muth was among the candidates endorsed by PFAW.

Electoral Reforms

In March 2021, Muth Called For Support For Partisan Electoral Reforms At The National Level. ([Muth Facebook Page](#), Posted 3/9/21)



Senator Katie Muth ✓

March 9, 2021 · 🌐

...

Today, I signed onto a letter urging [Senator Pat Toomey](#) and [U.S. Senator Bob Casey](#) to vote in favor of H.R. 1, which would strengthen voting rights protections and implement much needed changes to our campaign finance system.

Americans on both ends of the political spectrum agree that we need to rid our political process from the pay-to-play system that favors candidates who are propped up by wealthy donors and dark money.

This legislation is a step in the right direction to level the playing field and give the power back to the people.



The Democratic Caucus

Senate of Pennsylvania

March 9, 2021

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
193 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

Over the past four years, we've seen how fragile and subject to corruption our democracy is. With your help we can regain the trust of the American people and bring more security and transparency to the election process.

The recently introduced For the People Act (H.R.1/S.1) is a comprehensive package that would get big money out of politics and includes comprehensive voting rights reforms that would modernize and secure our elections. It would finally cut the cord between corporate special interests and Washington rentism.

While Americans turned out in record numbers to vote last year, millions had to jump through too many hoops just to exercise their right to vote. H.R.1/S.1 would address many of the challenges voters experienced in the 2020 election by ensuring that everyone can cast their ballot safely, conveniently, and securely in the future. The bill would eliminate unnecessary barriers to voter registration and boost participation, while setting standardized guidelines for absentee voting, requiring each state to have adequate periods of safe early voting, ensuring no voter faces discrimination, modernizing the voter registration process, and providing states the funding and equipment they need to administer and protect our elections.

Just as important as ballot access, this bill would help us finally end dark money and reduce the power of shady corporate influences in politics. Special interests have controlled Washington for far too long and it is time we sever the cord. This legislation would end the dominance of big money and put a stop to the pay-for-play politics by shining a light on dark money, empowering small donors, strengthening campaign finance oversight, fortifying ethics laws, and closing loopholes for lobbyists and foreign agents.

Our democracy is under attack, and we must do everything we can to protect the values of our institution.

Have signed this document in support of the For the People Act (H.R.1/S.1) and in support of their fellow Democrats.

Members

| | |
|---|---|
|  <small>Senator Jay Bybee, R-UTAH</small> |  <small>Senator George A. Brown, D-OHIO</small> |
|  <small>Senator Lisa Murkowski, R-ALASKA</small> |  <small>Senator Steve Daines, R-MONTANA</small> |
|  <small>Senator Amy Klobuchar, D-MINNESOTA</small> |  <small>Senator Markwayne Mullin, R-OKLAHOMA</small> |
|  <small>Senator Cory Gardner, R-COLORADO</small> |  <small>Senator Dan Claitor, R-KANSAS</small> |
|  <small>Senator Ted Cruz, R-TEXAS</small> |  <small>Senator Jim Inhofe, R-OKLAHOMA</small> |
|  <small>Senator Mitt Romney, R-UTAH</small> |  <small>Senator Robert C. Manchin, D-WEST VIRGINIA</small> |
|  <small>Senator John Cornyn, R-TEXAS</small> |  <small>Senator Josh Manchin, D-WEST VIRGINIA</small> |
|  <small>Senator Mike Lee, R-UTAH</small> |  <small>Senator Shelley Moore Capito, R-WEST VIRGINIA</small> |
|  <small>Senator Lisa Murkowski, R-ALASKA</small> | |

  134

26 Comments 7 Shares

([Muth Facebook Page](#), Posted 3/9/21)

Democratic Associations

Barack Obama

In 2018, Muth Is Known To Have Been Endorsed By Barack Obama. “Candidate: Chrissy Houlahan, Democrat Endorsements: Former President Barack Obama, End Citizens United, Realtor PAC Office: State senator, 44th district Candidate: Katie Muth, Democrat Endorsement: Former President Barack Obama...” (*Reading Eagle*, 10/9/18)

AOC

In June 2018, Muth Promoted An Article Describing AOC As The “Future Of The Democratic Party.” ([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 6/26/18)



([Muth Facebook Profile](#), Posted 6/26/18)

Additional Associations

In June 2019, Muth’s Letter Reading Actions On The Floor Of The Pennsylvania Senate Over Republican Objections Was Heralded By Elizabeth Warren, Kamala Harris, And Other Liberals. “Democratic State Sen. Katie Muth was having dinner with her husband Sunday night when she saw the tweet. "Keep persisting, @Senator-Muth," wrote Massachusetts senator and Democratic presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren. Warren, like thousands of others, had viewed and shared a video on social media of Muth on the Senate floor from last Wednesday. The video has exploded online, giving the freshman senator from Montgomery County instant internet fame. On Monday, it landed her an invitation to appear on MSNBC's Hardball With Chris Matthews and a shout-out from yet another Democratic presidential contender, California Sen. Kamala Harris. In the video, Muth stands at a lectern reading a letter from a former homeless man pleading to save a cash-assistance program for the poorest Pennsylvanians that the Republican-controlled legislature was cutting in the state budget. For 3½ tense minutes, as Muth reads the letter, Republican Majority Leader Jake Corman - surrounded

by male colleagues and staffers - angrily yells in an attempt to get her to stop. Under Senate rules, Corman has the right to interrupt another senator, and he and other Republicans were furious that Lt. Gov. John Fetterman, a Democrat, was refusing to recognize him.” (*The Philadelphia Daily News*, 7/2/19)

Miscellaneous

Trump And 2020 Election Aftermath

Muth: “We Elected A Sexual Predator To Our Presidency And That Was Really Hard For Me As A Victim Of Rape.” “Muth, an athletic trainer and adjunct anatomy professor, has a difficult story to tell. She said the 2016 campaign took a more emotional toll on her than she had expected and was the reason she decided to take the leap into politics. "We elected a sexual predator to our presidency and that was really hard for me as a victim of rape," she said. "It really infuriated me that we were willing to overlook this. That was the final straw for me." Muth, who ran unopposed in her primary to challenge Sen. John Rafferty, a Montgomery County Republican, said pushing legislation to keep victims of abuse safe will be a top priority for her if she wins. She is also focused on implementing policies to support working women, make college more affordable and bring good-paying jobs to the state. Those issues stem from her personal experiences. She said her husband makes almost twice what she does in the same field of sports medicine and she has struggled to manage her student loan debt.” (*Reading Eagle*, 5/28/18)

In January 2021, Muth Condemned The January 6th U.S. Capitol Riots And Sen. Doug Mastriano’s Participation In The Event. ([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 1/7/21)



([Muth Facebook](#), Posted 1/7/21)

In June 2021, Muth Criticized GOP Proposals To Audit Pennsylvania’s Election Systems.

“State Sen. Katie Muth, D-44th, of Royersford, whose district encompasses parts of northern Chester County and western Montgomery County said Saturday she considered the efforts a danger to maintaining trust in the state's democratic process. "I think that at this point anything that the majority party is doing is all being done to try to undermine our democracy and the whole process of our elections, just to prepare for 2022," Muth said in an interview. "They are desperate to hold onto their majority, and they are going to do everything they can to do so. It's a waste of time and money." The Pennsylvania lawmakers and others in their delegation spent about 20 minutes on the Phoenixville arena floor, where volunteers counted and photographed ballots. Doug Logan, the head of Cyber Ninjas, the firm leading the audit, led them around, according to press reports.” (*Delaware County Daily Times*, 6/5/21)

Kobe Bryant

In 2020, “Sen. Katie Muth (D-Montgomery) Objected To A Resolution Honoring Pennsylvania Native Kobe Bryant, The Basketball Star Who Died In A Helicopter Crash On Jan. 26.”

“The episode marks the second time in two weeks that resolutions have caused a stir in Pennsylvania's State Senate. Last week, Sen. Katie Muth (D-Montgomery) objected to a resolution honoring Pennsylvania native Kobe Bryant, the basketball star who died in a helicopter crash on Jan. 26. Bryant was charged with rape in 2003 and privately settled a lawsuit with his accuser in 2004. The resolution was introduced by Sen. Daylin Leach (D-Montgomery) who has been accused of workplace harassment and sexual assault himself. After Muth lodged her objection, the resolution was sent to the Senate Rules Committee, where it now awaits a vote. Kocher said the Bryant controversy led Republican leaders to declare an end to unanimous consent resolutions in the Senate. She said all resolutions, regardless of their message, will now be routed through committees for votes — the same procedure the House follows.” (*The Philadelphia Tribune*, 2/6/20)