



DECEMBER 2025

ANNUAL LETTER TO PENNSYLVANIANS

BY SENATOR DAVE MCCORMICK



 **DAVE
McCORMICK**
U.S. SENATOR *for* PENNSYLVANIA





Welcoming President Donald J. Trump to Pittsburgh, PA (July 15, 2025)



Visiting coal miners at the Enlow Fork Mine in Prosperity, PA (September 5, 2025)

Annual Letter to Pennsylvanians

Dear Fellow Pennsylvanians,

As my first year in the United States Senate ends, I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to serve again. I am the 54th senator elected from the Keystone State and the 9th senator in American history to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. To hold this seat, at this consequential moment for our country and Pennsylvania, is the honor of a lifetime.

I ran for elected office because I believed the country was headed in a dangerous direction. Record-high inflation, open borders, and chaos abroad put our future in peril. Pennsylvanians wanted profound change, and that's what I promised to do — shake things up. I'm a strong conservative, but I also promised to work with anyone to deliver change for the 13 million Pennsylvanians.

With the love and support of my amazing wife, Dina, I have strived to fulfill those promises by bringing an outsider sensibility and urgency to the U.S. Senate. Thanks to our great team, I'm proud of the work we've done and expect to deliver even bigger change in the years ahead.

During my years as a CEO, I delivered quarterly reports to investors that assessed our performance against expectations and our strategy. The markets and shareholders held us accountable. When I served as an officer in the Army's 82nd Airborne Division, we did something similar with after-action reviews and annual performance reviews.

That kind of accountability does not exist in Washington, where elected officials almost never admit mistakes or acknowledge when they have fallen short. To that end, I am pleased to deliver this annual report to the people of Pennsylvania — a letter to the constituents evaluating the progress we've made compared to my promises, the challenges we still face, and what I see as the path ahead. This annual letter is my commitment to providing that accountability and transparency.

HOW WE DID

When I took office, I set two goals for myself: deliver on my promises to Pennsylvania families and drive transformational change throughout the Commonwealth. To do that, I had to build a great team, which we did, and that team and I had to embrace a culture of service. That is why **we set up our seven offices in Pennsylvania in our first two weeks**, and why my office has prioritized fast and effective casework, clear and responsive communications to constituents, and an active presence across Pennsylvania.

This has been a historically busy year in the Senate. We have been in session — meaning I had to be in Washington — for 197 days, the most time in session in at least 30 years. Despite that, I **made 185 official stops across** Pennsylvania, spanning over half the 67 counties. I am committed to visiting those I missed in the new year. My team has also prioritized rapid responses to constituent mail and casework and now respond, on average, in **14 days (see Appendix A for more details)**. We also send a weekly newsletter — the Keystone Chronicle — to over 90,000 people. (Sign up [here](#)). We have also **closed over 4,400 cases, saving constituents roughly \$15.7 million**.

Constituent services, communications, and engagement are the table stakes for an effective Senator, and I think we are now meeting them. However, to fundamentally change the lives of Pennsylvanians, we need transformative policies and action.

"Your immediate follow up to my wife's initial call, your patience with the details, your frequent communication and accessibility have all been a reflection of Senator McCormick's promise to work for the Pennsylvania taxpayer...Please accept our heartfelt gratitude."

- J. in Yardley, PA

GOAL 1

Deliver on My Day One Promises to Pennsylvania Families

As a candidate, I promised Pennsylvania that I would champion ten priorities on day one in the U.S. Senate that would deliver consequential change. You can see how we did in **Appendix B**. While not all the bills I introduced or cosponsored have passed, I would like to highlight a few successes and areas where I hope to accomplish more next year.

First, as the only senator elected from a swing state in 2024, I have cast the deciding vote in a number of cases, to include **the Working Families Tax Cut Act**, which **made permanent a huge tax cut for Pennsylvanians**, delivered bold change for Pennsylvania consistent with President Trump's agenda, and secured major legislative victories on many of my top priorities.

The bill included major new tax cuts and programs specifically designed to put money in the pockets of working families. **It expanded childcare tax credits; eliminated taxes on tips and overtime; established \$1,000 Trump accounts; and launched a new school choice tax credit** — which I cosponsored — that presents a historic opportunity to improve the Commonwealth's struggling public education system. The pro-growth policies in the bill, such as **expensing of research and development and bonus depreciation for capital expenses**, will also spur investment and help create new, good-paying jobs across the Commonwealth.

"I appreciate your excellent work performance and keeping all of your election promises. It's great news that you will be working with President Trump on maintaining an affordable economy in Pennsylvania."

- Andrea in Exton, PA

As a former Army officer and combat veteran, I'm proud to say that the bill also committed **over \$100 billion towards border security and enforcement and \$150 billion to rebuild America's military**. Thanks to that funding, the Trump Administration's decisive action, and **the Laken Riley Act**, which I voted for, we have **secured the border**. And through the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), we have taken additional decisive steps to strengthen the military and surge investment into Pennsylvania's defense industry, as I had promised on my campaign.

Second, we have taken meaningful steps to **stop the scourge of fentanyl**, which killed 4,000 Pennsylvanians in 2024. The first bill I introduced, with my colleague Senator John Fetterman (D-PA), would **establish a joint task force to coordinate fentanyl enforcement**, and I am working to support treatment opportunities for those suffering from addiction. Bipartisanship is hard to come by in Washington, but there is no reason we cannot build a consensus around sound ideas to stop fentanyl. I am devoting significant effort to this problem.

Third, as **Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's Subcommittee on the Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism**, I have championed American strength and leadership in the world, including my support for Israel and strong support for President Trump's actions to take out Iran's nuclear capability. I have also **advanced legislation to confront China** and advocated a just and lasting peace in Ukraine.

I am proud of these and other accomplishments that advanced the President's and my agenda, including being a strong and consistent voice in **combatting antisemitism, passing the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act** to support Pennsylvania dairy farmers, and **standing with law enforcement**, including through the Back the Blue Act.

In 2026, we need to double down on efforts to further **reduce energy, healthcare, and housing prices, raise wages, and make life more affordable for working families**. There's more work to do here. We must also get our fiscal house in order. The reconciliation bill bent the curve of entitlement spending, but we must not lose sight of the ticking time bomb that is our \$38 trillion debt and \$1.8 trillion deficit.

GOAL 2

Drive Transformational Change for Pennsylvania

Beyond the campaign promises, I have pursued ambitious goals that can fundamentally help transform Pennsylvania. I call these “long passes” — big plays down the field, to use a football analogy, that will deliver huge value to all Pennsylvanians and bring good to the country.

To capitalize on these opportunities, my team and I have worked closely with the President and his team and helped form and be a part of unique coalitions with business, labor, community leaders, and those across the aisle to make big things happen in Pennsylvania. That strategy helped land five big, long passes this year, which are already transforming the Commonwealth:

- ▶ **Nippon Steel** announced a **\$14 billion investment in U.S. Steel** that will protect more than **11,000 Pennsylvania jobs** and promises to **create another 14,000 nationally, including 5,000 construction jobs in the Mon Valley**.
- ▶ **Amazon committed \$20 billion** to build data centers in Pennsylvania, generating **thousands of skilled jobs** across the Commonwealth.
- ▶ **Hanwha Ocean committed to invest \$5 billion** in the Hanwha Philly Shipyard, strengthening our nation’s shipbuilding industry and **creating upwards of 5,000 jobs**.
- ▶ **Pittsburgh-based Westinghouse Electric Corporation** inked an agreement with the U.S. government for up to 10 nuclear reactors, which could total **over \$80 billion and create thousands of jobs in Western Pennsylvania**.
- ▶ **The Energy and Innovation Summit secured \$92 billion** in committed investment in Pennsylvania, which will generate **tens of thousands of jobs**.

These “Big 5” (***see more in Appendix C***) are indicative of the kind of job-creating transformation required — and the opportunities made possible by the President’s energy dominance agenda and commitment to rebuilding American manufacturing.

Looking ahead, I see three key areas for Pennsylvania’s transformation.

First, **Pennsylvania is well-positioned to lead the energy and artificial intelligence (AI) revolution.** We took a big step in that direction with the [Pennsylvania Energy and Innovation Summit](#), which Dina and I convened on July 15. The Summit brought **executives from top energy, technology, and investment companies to Carnegie Mellon University alongside labor leaders, university presidents, and Pennsylvania leadership.** Thanks in large part to the presence of President Trump and his cabinet, we secured **\$92 billion of commitments to build energy, power, and data center projects in Pennsylvania.** We also showcased Pennsylvania, with over 150 media in attendance. I want to thank President Trump and his cabinet, Governor Josh Shapiro and Senator Fetterman for joining me at the event.

Second is defense reindustrialization. Pennsylvania already has a strong national security footprint that includes everything from robotics and AI innovators to ammunition plants and Army depots. With the historic investment in national defense described above at our backs, the future is bright for our defense industry. **Hanwha Ocean’s generational commitment to the Philly Shipyard is just the start.**

Third is life sciences. Pennsylvania’s medical institutions produce the best life sciences and biotechnology research in the world. I have fought to protect research funding — more on that below — and to build a stronger pharmaceutical manufacturing base on top of it. More good news of pharmaceutical manufacturing coming to Pennsylvania is on the horizon.

Whether its Hanwha, Nippon, AWS, Westinghouse, or the Summit, 2025 has been an incredible year for the economic transformation of Pennsylvania. We must maintain the momentum in 2026.

WHAT I'VE LEARNED AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Lesson 1

Excellence Through Systematic, Repeatable, and Creative Constituent Engagement

Taking over from an 18-year incumbent was like launching a start-up. We had to build a team, establish operations, and deliver on our promises simultaneously. At the same time, we received historic levels of outreach from constituents concerned about issues of the day, like DOGE. At one point in February, the inbound volume was so intense that the **Senate phone system broke**.

My goal is to make sure I understand what my constituents are thinking and respond to their questions and feedback in a thoughtful and transparent way, even to those who profoundly disagree with me. In those early days, we struggled to deliver the quality of service we expected of ourselves, and I want you to know that I understand we were too slow. Some Pennsylvanians, for example, had to wait months for a response to their messages. We turned the corner mid-year by introducing systematic, repeatable and creative approaches to serve Pennsylvanians the way we wanted.

For example, we realized we needed better systems to communicate regularly with constituents. Therefore, we held 15 bimonthly teletown halls with an average of 10,000 Pennsylvanians on each. We also host a Keystone Coffee with any interested Pennsylvanians every Wednesday that I'm in Washington, DC.

We also got creative with how we respond to constituents. I began recording video responses on timely issues in order to get clear, personal answers to Pennsylvanians quickly. **We now respond in two weeks or less to all inbound comments from Pennsylvanians (see Appendix A).**

Some things are out of our control. While my staff and I worked through the 43-day government shutdown and I voted to end it 19 times, much of the government did not, so there were things we couldn't do for you. I have cosponsored legislation to ensure a ridiculous episode like that does not happen again. Shutting down the government is never the answer. At the same time, my team is looking at new software to manage our engagement and other ways to ensure exceptional service and responsiveness going forward.

Bottom line: we cannot let our level of service slip beneath our standards again.

Lesson 2

Transformation Is Hard and Requires New Ways of Doing Things

After taking stock of what we've done so far and what's required to transform our future, I have several big takeaways.

First, Senate offices do not usually prioritize "long passes" or economic transformation as we are, so we need to design ourselves differently. No one had done something like the Pennsylvania Energy and Innovation Summit before. To build on that success, we have refocused ourselves around **a vision for how big changes in the world, like AI, and Pennsylvania can intersect with business and government to transform the Commonwealth.** We **hired an experienced business executive as a Commercial Development Officer, and built a new team**, led by my Deputy Chief of Staff, that is solely focused on developing and delivering that transformation vision.

In addition, we delivered on many of my big promises in the Working Families Tax Cut Act and the NDAA, but **we need to double down on permitting reform** to make permanent the strong actions the President and his team have taken towards achieving energy dominance. Done right, permitting reform will open the door to trillions of dollars of investment in American energy production, power generation and transmission, and AI and technology infrastructure. Without it, we will not see the acceleration we need on energy and AI.

My team and I need to and will focus more on this issue, but we are working against long-simmering antibodies. Because not everyone sees the radical change that is required, it will be a long, hard journey to get this done.

Finally, transformation is disruptive, and we cannot pretend otherwise. **Big changes have real tradeoffs. Those of us in positions of trust have a duty to be honest about the risks and help people understand the benefits.** AI, for example, is not without risk, be it higher electricity bills or fears of how it will affect people's jobs. I believe this revolution is inevitable. It presents an incredible opportunity for our Commonwealth to create good-paying jobs for skilled workers, to attract huge amounts of capital investment and business development, and to revitalize our stalled economy. But it is incumbent on me and others to understand and mitigate the legitimate concerns of Pennsylvanians and have an honest, open dialogue about the good and the bad of AI. A big focus in 2026 will be getting an effective communication strategy in place.

In short, to make transformation a reality, we need to do a better job of driving legislation, improving communication, and continually evolving our design to ensure success.

Lesson 3

Civility, Unity, and Authenticity to Get Things Done

In this moment of polarization and division, **I've also sought to conduct myself honorably and model civility, unity, and authenticity.** That was my code in the military and in business, and it remains my code now.

"We're lucky to have you in office. Too many politicians talk a lot of talk but don't actually show they care, you do. As a veteran and current service member...I respect your service and it means something extra to know you understand that side of life too."

- Devin in State College

Since long before I first ran for elected office, I have tried to champion civility in my tone and actions. I called out political violence when the President was shot in Butler, right before my eyes, and later when an arsonist attacked Pennsylvania's Governor. In the Senate, I seek always to bring down the volume and recognize that, despite many differences across the political spectrum, we are all fellow Americans.

To my embarrassment, I slipped up during an interview on CNN this fall, when I referred to my Democratic colleagues as "terrorists" in relationship to their holding the government hostage during the shutdown. I corrected myself immediately, but I saw how easy it is to get caught in the inflammatory, escalatory rhetoric of the day.

Second, when I say unity, I don't mean agreement on everything or even most things. I mean "unity of effort," a term used in the military that means marshalling force on the objective to achieve a strategic goal. Sometimes that means **building coalitions within my own party**, as when I joined with Senators Jim Banks (R-IN), Pete Ricketts (R-NE), and Tom Cotton (R-AR) on a controversial topic: limiting China's access to advanced semiconductors. Sometimes it means **reaching across the aisle**, as I have with Governor Shapiro and Senator Fetterman, despite my profound differences with both on many topics. I'm proud that **all 19 of my bills were bipartisan and that I have sponsored 11 bills and resolutions with my friend and colleague Senator Fetterman**, who is a breath of fresh air in the Senate. In Pennsylvania, we will disagree, often forcefully, but we have to find ways to work together for our state and country.

Finally, I will be authentic and disagree with friends and allies when they go against what I believe. For example, while I agreed with the goals of the "DOGE" effort — cut spending, excise waste, and unwind bureaucracy — I did not always agree with how the administration went about it and said so publicly. **I criticized the disruptions to the National Institutes of Health (NIH)** and other research funding and lobbied, alongside colleagues, to release it. And, when the tariffs uniquely harmed Pennsylvanians, such as the levies on cocoa, **I worked with the Administration to roll them back.** I also **publicly challenged and encouraged Governor Shapiro**, with whom I have built a productive working relationship, to opt into the new school choice tax credit to create equality of opportunity for all families in the Commonwealth.

To sum it up, civility, unity, and authenticity are the watch words for how we must conduct ourselves in 2026 and beyond. We cannot and must not slip.



Honored to meet His Holiness Pope Leo XIV (September 24, 2025)



Visting U.S. Steel's Edgar Thompson Works with Senator John Fetterman and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Scott Turner in Braddock, PA (July 25, 2025)

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

This year held many special days: Marc Fogel's safe return from wrongful detention in Russia; President Trump's visit to Philadelphia for the [NCAA men's wrestling tournament](#), to Pittsburgh for the Energy and Innovation Summit, and to the Poconos in December; the Eagles Super Bowl victory, which I was fortunate to see in person; and the almost daily opportunities to meet and talk with the great people of Pennsylvania. I will never forget those moments nor when I walked onto the floor of the Senate chamber with my wife Dina and my daughters for the first time.

In next year's letter, I hope to celebrate great progress on the promises made at the Energy and Innovation Summit, on big legislative issues like permitting reform, and on our effort to strengthen Pennsylvania's position as a defense and life sciences hub. I also expect to report excellent constituent services and to have visited every single county in the state.

You can count on me to conduct myself in a manner worthy of the trust you, the great people of Pennsylvania, have placed in me. You can count on me to say what I think, listen carefully to the people I represent, learn from my mistakes, and always work furiously to bring change for Pennsylvania. And you can count on me to reject the four horsemen of decline - cynicism, incrementalism, pettiness, and divisiveness — and embrace positive, honest, and authentic leadership.

By any objective measure, Pennsylvania faces serious challenges, but we are making serious progress. More than ever, this moment demands urgency and inspiration. To quote President Ronald Reagan, "We have every right to dream heroic dreams." I look forward to dreaming heroic dreams together and turning them into reality.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave McCormick".

Dave McCormick
United States Senator

I invite you to leave your own feedback to me at the link below:

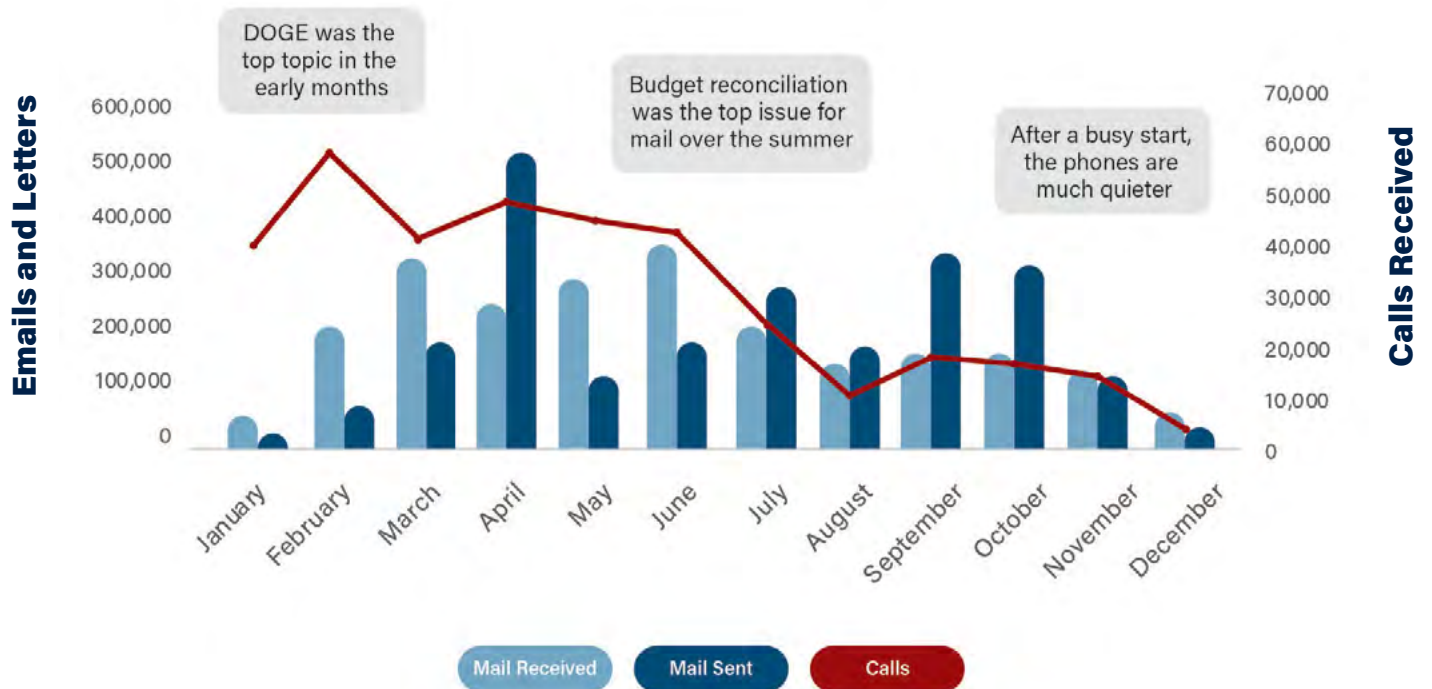
<https://www.mccormick.senate.gov/contact/contact-dave/>

Stay connected and follow along for updates:

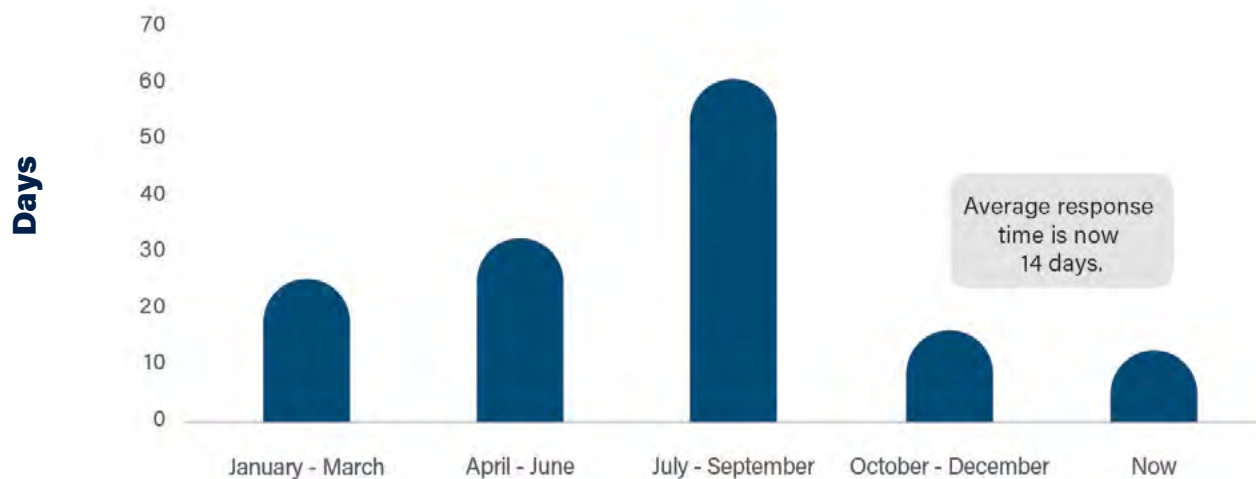
X ([@SenMcCormickPA](#)), Instagram ([@senmccormickpa](#)), and Facebook ([Senator Dave McCormick](#))

APPENDIX

Appendix A: Serving Pennsylvanians



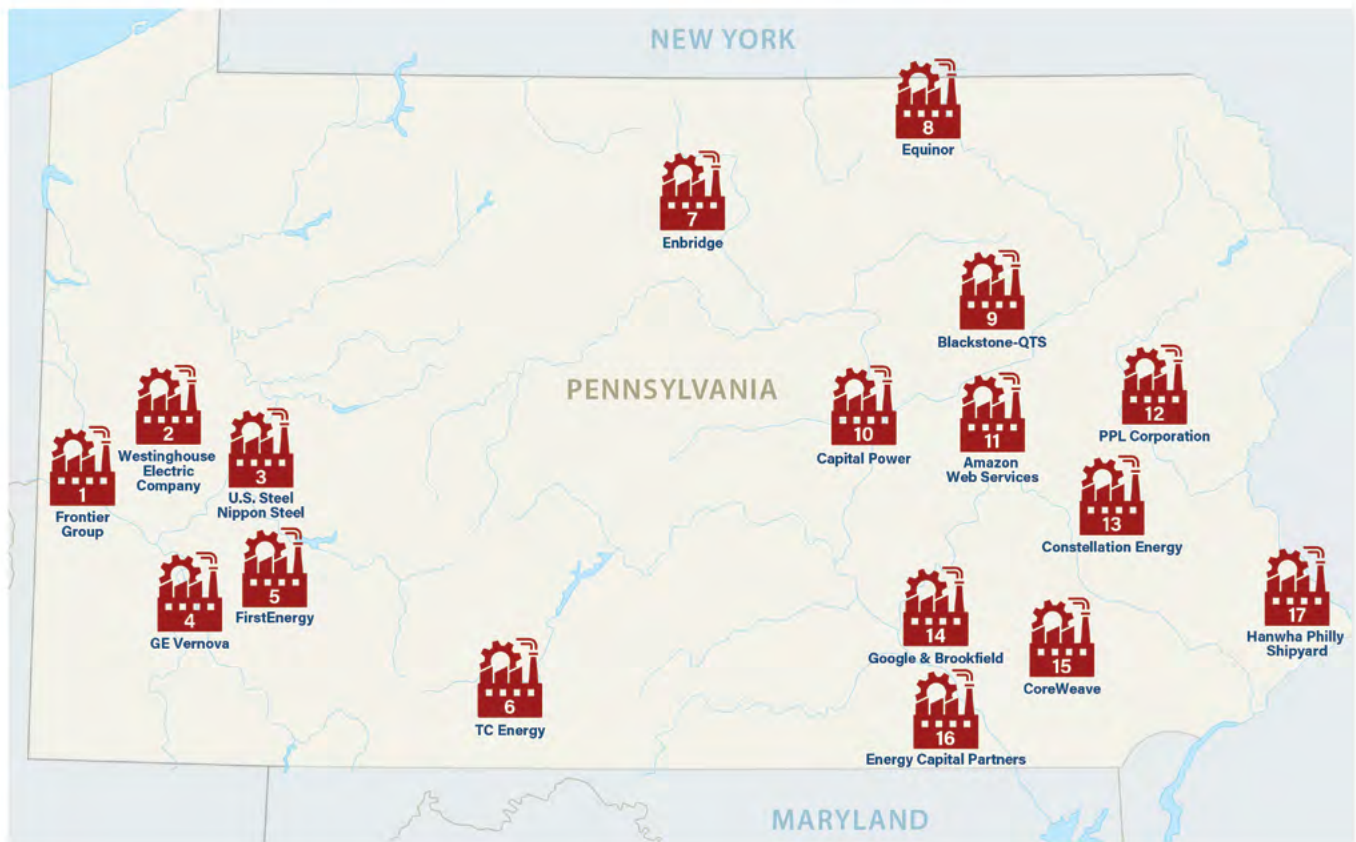
Average Respond Time to Constituent Mail



Appendix B: Delivering on My Promises to Pennsylvanians

	PROMISES	PROGRESS
PROMISES KEPT	Lower Energy Prices and Create Energy Jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Hosted the Pennsylvania Energy and Innovation Summit. ✓ Passed the Working Families Tax Cut Act. ✓ Led 2 pro-energy bills and cosponsored 2 more. ✓ Support for the President's energy dominance agenda.
	Secure the Border	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Led 2 bills and cosponsored 5 more. ✓ Passed the Working Families Tax Cut Act. ✓ Stood with the President's executive orders to strengthen enforcement and close the border.
	Counter China's Rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Led 7 bills on Chinese technological, economic, and fentanyl threat. ✓ Cosponsored bills to restrict chip sales to and investment in China.
	Combat the Rise of Liberal Extremism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Supported President Trump's counter-DEI executive orders. ✓ Led resolution condemning antisemitism. ✓ Cosponsored 4 bill and resolutions.
	Get Tough on Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Supported President Trump's crackdown on crime in cities, including leading a bill to codify EOs. ✓ Cosponsored 4 pro law-enforcement bills, including Back the Blue Act.
IN PROGRESS	Reduce the Cost of Living for Working Families & Those on Fixed Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Passed the Working Families Tax Cut Act. ✓ Led or sponsored 4 affordable housing bills, including the Housing Affordability Act. ✓ Support for the President's deregulatory agenda.
	Support Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Passed the Working Families Tax Cut Act, which included the Educational Choice for Children Act, which I cosponsored. ✓ Led 1 bill and cosponsored 14, including the recently passed Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act.
	Rebuild our Military Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which included 3 of my bills. ✓ Passed the Working Families Tax Cut Act. ✓ Cosponsored 2 bills including the SHIPS for America Act.
	Shake up Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Introduced term limits resolution. ✓ Led bill to move a Department of Energy office to Pittsburgh.
MORE TO DO	Get Our Fiscal House in Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Passed the Working Families Tax Cut Act. ✓ Cosponsored 1 additional bill, the Delivering On Government Efficiency in Spending Act.

Appendix C: A Transformational Year for Pennsylvania



Projected Investment and Job Creation in Pennsylvania:

1. **Frontier Group:** Bruce Mansfield conversion, \$3.2B and 15,000 construction jobs
2. **Westinghouse Electric Company:** 8-10 reactors, \$80B and 15,000 jobs
3. **U.S. Steel-Nippon Steel:** Mon Valley Works, \$1B and 5,000 jobs
4. **GE Vernova:** Charleroi Plant, \$100M and 250 jobs
5. **FirstEnergy:** Grid upgrades, \$15B
6. **TC Energy:** Pipeline modernization, \$400M
7. **Enbridge:** Pipeline expansion, \$1B
8. **Equinor:** Gas production, \$1.6B and 1,000 jobs
9. **Blackstone-QTS:** Data centers, \$25B and over 6,000 construction jobs
10. **Capital Power:** Hummel Station, \$3B
11. **Amazon Web Services:** Data centers, \$20B, 1,250 permanent jobs, and thousands of construction jobs
12. **PPL Corporation:** Grid upgrades, \$6.8B and 3,400 jobs
13. **Constellation Energy:** Limerick Generating Station, \$2.4B and 3,000 jobs
14. **Google & Brookfield:** Hydro power, \$3B
15. **CoreWeave:** Data center, \$6B, 600 permanent jobs, and thousands of construction jobs
16. **Energy Capital Partners:** Data center, \$5B and 2,500 jobs
17. **Hanwha Philly Shipyard:** \$5B and 5,000 jobs



