

News and Action Summary for January 20, 2023

Empowering people of faith to make a difference for the common good!

The Pennsylvania General Assembly—senators—are at it again. They are attempting to rewrite Pennsylvania's Constitution by pushing for amendments to Pennsylvania's constitution to "limit voting rights, bog down our elections in needless bureaucracy, and seize unearned power over our state government." The strategy seems to be to push this through before the special elections on February 7 for three vacant House seats that were held by Democrats—one who died, one who has gone to Congress, and one who is now Lieutenant Governor. These seats are expected to be won by Democrats, who would then



assume the majority they won in November. We need to stop this now—<u>Tell Your PA Senator to Stop</u> <u>Attempt to Rewrite PA Constitution</u>.

If you are a gardener and love pizza, <u>Pizza Garden Seed Kit Available Now</u> from Interfaith Power and Light.

We hope you will support this ministry with a generous gift, or even better a monthly gift. You can help us by going to <u>https://pachurches.org/shop/</u> where you will find our address and links to make your donation. If you want to support advocacy, scroll down the page to find the links for Public Witness Ministry.

Here's some "News You Can Use":

- SNAP Emergency Allotments Will End in February
- Home Energy Assistance Program Open

Many actions are available, and you can learn more in the articles below.

If you are interested in any programs that would help you to gain greater understanding and ability to be an effective advocate, contact Sandy Strauss at <u>s.strauss@pachurches.org</u>.

To learn about how to keep informed between these updates, go to <u>http://www.pachurchesadvocacy.org</u>. As usual, we understand that there is a lot of information here and in the links provided for further information. **Please know that you aren't expected to act on everything! Just choose the issues that are most important to you and do something!** Sometimes you will be directed to action pages of other organizations **don't worry!** These are organizations that we work with regularly and who share a common interest.

Please consider contacting your legislators to thank them when they support your position as well, or to express your disappointment when they don't. We don't follow up with them often enough. They need our feedback to understand how we feel. Go to <u>https://org2.salsalabs.com/o/5415/getLocal4.jsp</u> to find a summary of your federal and state legislators with basic contact information.

Our <u>website</u> is updated regularly. If there is something you would really like to see that isn't there, please contact us at <u>s.strauss@pachurches.org</u>.

URGENT ACTIONS

If you don't have time for any other actions, please consider taking action on these issues!

Tell Congress to Expand the Child Tax Credit Now

NEW ACTIONS

Tell Congress to Cut the Pentagon Budget and Support Vulnerable Persons First-NEW

Tell Your PA Senator to Stop Attempt to Rewrite PA Constitution—NEW

Act Now to Oppose Administration's New Asylum Bans-NEW

Tell the US Forest Service NO to Destroying Public Lands-NEW

Tell EPA to Stand Up to Polluting Industries and Protect People and Wildlife-NEW

Call on Bayer to Protect Bees—Stop Making Neonicotinoids—NEW

Urge New PA House Speaker to Prioritize Gun Safety Laws—NEW

ONGOING ACTIONS

Tell the New Congress to Fight for Policies Supporting Families and the Economy

Tell the President No Tax Breaks to Wealthy Corporations Without Investments in Children and Families

Tell the Governor to Grow Access to High Quality Pre-K, Child Care, and More

Urge Your US Representative to Co-Sponsor the Environmental Justice for All Act

Tell the EPA to Reduce Pollution from the Gas Industry—deadline February 13

Tell the US Senate to Reject House Bill That Would Defund the IRS

Tell the President to Demand a Clean Debt Ceiling Increase with No Cuts to Social Security or Medicare

STREAM Act Passed the Senate—Tell the House to Pass It As Well

Tell Congress to Pass Citizenship Legislation for DREAMers Now

Tell Congress to Expand Insulin Copay to All Americans

Tell Congress to Save Lives by Capping the Price of Insulin

Urge Governor-Elect Shapiro to Make Tackling Gun Violence a Top Priority

Tell Our Senators to Vote for Assault Weapons Ban

Sign Now to Tell Congress to Pass the DISCLOSE Act and Overturn Citizens United

Urge the President to Take Major Action to Protect Voting Rights and Our Democracy

Tell Congress to Pass the Equality Act

IMPORTANT AND TIME SENSITIVE NEWS!

So Much Happening: Here's How You Can Keep Informed Between Updates

Summary of All News Posts Since Previous Update

Learn About Sea Otters and How Protecting Them Protects Marine Ecosystems

Pizza Garden Seed Kit Available Now

EVENTS

For a full monthly calendar of events, see the Events page at <u>http://www.pachurchesadvocacy.org/events/</u>. For a listing with descriptions of events, go to <u>http://www.pachurchesadvocacy.org/events/list/</u>. For general information about our calendar, links to ongoing events, and how to submit events, go to <u>http://www.pachurchesadvocacy.org/events/about-our-calendar/</u>.

Ongoing/upcoming events:

Just Creation Conference: Shalom for Our Common Home-March 16-18, Decatur, GA

Living the Golden Rule: Faith Climate Action Week 2023—April 14-23, 2023—Organizer's Kit now available

Caring for Creation with PA IPL—First Fridays, October 2022-June 2023

Moral Mondays—Sign Up for Notifications

Freedom Church of the Poor—Sundays 6-7:30

Events in the coming weeks:

<u>Reducing the Threat of Nuclear War: Social and Economic Costs of the Current Nuclear Weapons</u> <u>Buildup</u>—January 21

Fighting for the CFPB with Senator Elizabeth Warren—January 24

Blue Hydrogen: What You Need to Know!—January 25

Challenging 50 Years of Mass Incarceration—January 25

OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES TO LEARN AND ACT

For postings since the previous Summary...

Resources Opportunities Jobs. internships and fellowships

NEWS POSTS

Visit our **weblog** for the latest news and information. For previous News Summaries, go to <u>http://www.pachurchesadvocacy.org/news-summary/news-summary-archive/</u>. Also, check out specific issue-related posts by clicking on links on the right side of the page.

Subscribe to our weblog via e-mail (see link at bottom of home page).

Summary of most recent News Posts.

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If you received this message from a friend, **sign up for Pennsylvania Council of Churches Advocacy e-mails** at <u>http://org2.salsalabs.com/o/5415/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup_signup_page_KEY=531</u>.

Financial support for the Council's Advocacy Ministry is always welcome! Go to our online support page at <u>https://www.pachurches.org/shop/</u> and look for "Public Advocacy Donation."

And finally...PLEASE FORWARD THIS E-MAIL!

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