



THE SOLOBAY Report

Serving the 46th Senatorial District

February 2013

INSIDE:

- ◆ Update on Major Highway Projects
- ◆ A Look Back at 2011-12 Initiatives
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Senator Solobay attends the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the dedication of the Phase II Section of the Mon/Fayette Expressway.



Senator Solobay participated in the Celebrity Dairy Showmanship Contest at the 2013 Pennsylvania Farm Show.



Investing in Our Future in the 46th District

ON THE COVER: Sen. Solobay joined more than 30 representatives of government, labor and business to discuss the importance of bringing a Shell Chemical ethane “cracker” plant to Beaver County.

Honors and Dedications

Those who have made our community a better place through their accomplishments, be it here or around the world, deserve permanent recognition. The legislature passed several of my bills honoring them.

- A bridge carrying the Mon-Valley Expressway over the Monongahela River was renamed in honor of a local Vietnam War hero, **Ronald C. "Smokey" Bakewell**.
- A bridge carrying Route 1077 over the Monongahela River was dedicated as the "**Stan the Man Musial**" Bridge as a tribute to the Donora native. Sadly, we recently lost our dear friend, Stan the Man. I am pleased to know that we were able to do this while he was still with us.



- The current Beau Street Interchange on I-70 was renamed for East Washington Police **Officer John David Dryer**, who was killed in the line of duty in 2011, during what began as a seemingly routine traffic stop on Interstate 70. Dryer was also a veterinarian, a dog trainer, a wildlife conservation officer, a volunteer firefighter, and an emergency medical technician.
- The interchange of Exit 6 on Interstate 70 in Claysville was renamed the **Sgt. Nathan P. Kennedy** Memorial Interchange. Kennedy, 24, was killed while on foot patrol in Afghanistan on April 27, 2010, three weeks before his scheduled return home from a second tour of duty.

May the men for whom these dedications were named all rest in peace.



A Message from Senator Tim Solobay



Dear Friends,

I just completed my first session in the Senate. I'm very pleased and proud of the work I did on the legislation I introduced that became law. But like all members, I offered many other bills that did not get passed. That's democracy folks! At the end of the last session all bills that were introduced but not signed into

law expired. The Latin phrase for this is "sine die." You see this phrase a lot in the newspapers as a legislative session comes to a close. Many bills start getting a whole lot of extra attention with the hope of becoming law prior to "sine die."

Having the legislative background of serving in the House of Representatives for 12 years and now having served a session as your Senator, I know that I have gained experience and insight that will enable me to excel and exceed expectations in the new 2013–2014 session. It is my honor to serve you.

The good news from the 46th Senate District is that the region's economy is recovering faster and more robustly than most of the state and the nation. Traveling to Harrisburg as often as I do, I get to see this first hand. I firmly believe that we have even more opportunities coming our way.

We all know that Southwestern Pennsylvania suffered dramatically from the decline of the steel industry. Decades of decay and loss took its toll on the region. But our collective ingenuity, work ethic, and resolve are bringing us back to an unprecedented level of prosperity. I want to make certain that we not only have the best educational foundations for our young people, but have solid, successful, sustainable opportunities for them when they complete their educations. It's all about the quality of life.

The energy industry has not only created jobs and drawn private investment in our region, it has also drawn the attention of state economic development officials who have signed off on millions of dollars of grants for the region to propel the economic momentum.

As I have advocated for some time now, this is what happens when politicians reach across the aisle. Things get done. We get results. We all want the same thing in the end, but often we have different ideas about how to get there. I work hard to get people to sit down and talk, to work on that "devil in the details" that so often gets in the way. We can accomplish so much more when we put our differences aside and work together to serve the good people of Pennsylvania.

Looking ahead to the next two years, there is certainly a lot to be done. Please know that I welcome your input on the priorities that matter most to you. If there's something on your mind that we can look at during the upcoming session, please don't hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy J. Solobay".

▶ 2011-12 Session Initiatives

Following are some of the initiatives and legislation on which I worked this past session:

■ Public Utilities Infrastructure

Failing pipelines, including some more than a century old, have resulted in several recent tragedies. This new law will encourage the replacing of aging utility infrastructure in Pennsylvania while protecting consumers from costly rate hikes.

■ Gas Pump Safety

My bill requires new protections at self-service gasoline pumps to keep up with the increasing volume at super-sized stations. It does so by updating the requirements for emergency shut-off controls to National Fire Protection Association Standards.



Senator Solobay was recently honored with the "Lifetime of Public Service" award from the City of Washington.

■ Fire Company, Volunteer Ambulance Service Grant Program

While this program has been in existence for a number of years, I was pleased to be involved and instrumental in growing this program to meet the increased demands placed upon our first responders. Another \$5 million was added to the program, bringing it up to \$30 million per year, and after much effort and negotiation we were able for the first time to include professional firefighting companies as well. Fires don't ask whether you are a career or volunteer firefighter. As a firefighter myself, for 36 years, the continuation and augmentation of this program holds a special meaning for me.



Senator Solobay, the Beaver County legislative delegation and Beaver County Commissioners hosted the "Youth Energy Forum for Educators" last fall.

■ Education & Energy Forums

I held a number of highly informative and interesting forums at Career and Technical Centers throughout my district. We brought together key energy industry people and educators so they could meet and speak with our young people to discuss career choices, opportunities, educational needs, and provide a real picture of what their future could look like. It was also an excellent opportunity to assist unemployed and underpaid, but motivated, individuals. I have to say that these were very exciting events. If you have ever doubted the future of our country, when you see how eager, how willing, and how inspired and interested these young people are, how they want to succeed, you will never doubt the future again!

■ Turnpike

The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission announced that it plans to complete the 13 mile "Southern Beltway" in our region (U.S. Route 22 to Interstate 79). This is a project I've been endorsing and supporting for quite some time. It will well serve businesses and commuters. This investment (over half a billion dollars) is a testament and a commitment to the stability and growth of our local economy. Working with local government officials and keeping this vast project on track from the planning phase to the shoveling to the paving has been a top priority for me.

■ Job Creation

The rapidly expanding energy industry has been a real blessing for our area. We not only benefit from the jobs directly provided by the industry, but there are many offshoots and peripheral opportunities as well. We are all working together on doing things the right way, the safe way, and in a way that will enable us to continue on this path of prosperity. One example of how we facilitate this is a program called Helmets to Hardhats (H2H) which brings transitioning veterans into the workforce. We know that those men and women who served their country do an exemplary job at learning the skills they need to prepare for a solid career in the energy industry. This was an important aspect of my first session as a Senator and I absolutely plan to continue with it.

■ Military Spouses

Since 1990, military personnel have been able to put their postsecondary education on hold while serving on active duty. Educational institutions are required to refund tuition or fees for military personnel called to duty, or to credit the tuition and fees to them, when they return from their missions. My legislation extends that right to their spouses. We must support the families that support our military personnel.



As Democratic Chair of the Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee, I was proud to help announce the addition of 14 new Ford vans to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Hospital Transportation Network. DAV volunteers transport disabled veterans to and from VA medical facilities for treatment. There are chapters throughout Pennsylvania and volunteers log thousands of miles providing rides for veterans who cannot otherwise receive treatment for service-connected disabilities.

Recently Completed
Major Highway Projects

GREENE COUNTY

14 projects — \$43.1 MILLION

- Interstate 79 Restoration – \$10.7 million
- Route 88 Ten Mile Creek Bridge – \$9.4 million
- Route 218 over the railroad & Ten Mile Creek – \$6.6 million
- Jefferson Rd. Bridge over South Fork Ten Mile Creek – \$3 million
- Route 18 Bridge over Ten Mile Creek in Center Twp. – \$2.1 million
- Route 18 Brown's Creek Bridge – \$2 million
- Route 19 Bridge over Dunkard Creek – \$1.9 million
- Interstate 79 Emergency Longwall Mining Repairs – \$1.7 million
- Route 1021 Bridge over Muddy Creek – \$1.4 million
- Route 18 over Branch of Brown's Creek – \$1.1 million
- Route 21 over Ten Mile Creek – \$926,107
- Route 18 Bridge over Garner's Run – \$820,967
- Interstate 79 Emergency Repairs – \$773,339
- Route 18 Branch of Brown's Creek Bridge – \$639,395

WASHINGTON COUNTY

17 projects — \$122 MILLION

- Interstate 79 at Meadowlands Interchange – \$22.4 million
- Route 1077 Donora-Monessen Bridge – \$20 million
- Interstate 79 and the North Junction – \$15.1 million
- Interstate 70 Preservation – \$14.5 million
- Interstate 79 and Interstate 70 Intelligent Transportation System Installation – \$10.4 million
- Interstate 70 over Zediker Station Road – \$9.6 million
- Dunningville Interchange – \$5.4 million
- Route 40 over Interstate 79 – \$4.7 million
- Route 40 Interstate 70 to Route 18 – \$4.1 million
- Route 19 Bridge over Route 519 – \$3.4 million
- Route 1093 over Interstate 70 – \$3 million
- Interstate 70 West Virginia to Route 40 – \$2.3 million
- Old Brownsville Bridge – \$1.6 million
- Route 88 Bridge over Mingo Creek – \$1.6 million
- Route 19 Interstate 70 to Conklin Road – \$1.5 million
- Route 844 Chartiers Creek Bridge – \$1.4 million
- Route 4029 Patterson Mill Bridge – \$1 million

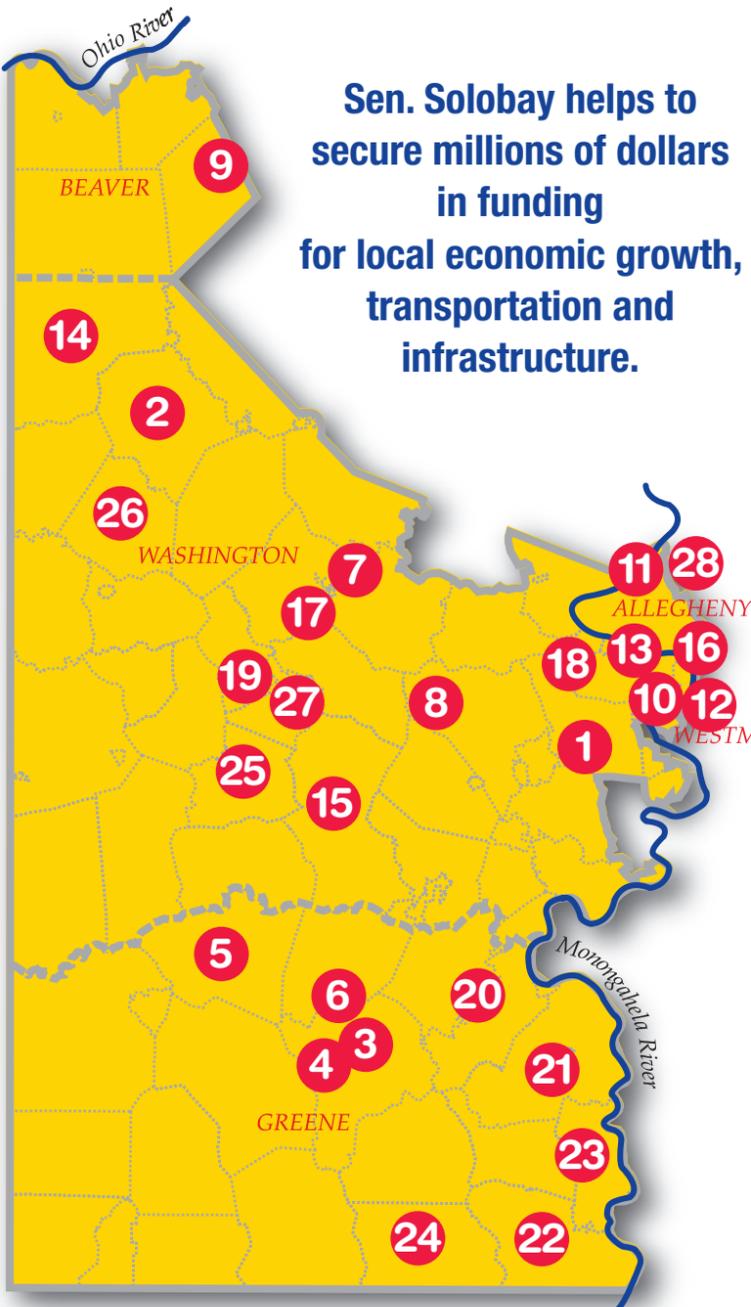


46th Senatorial District
INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

- 1 Alta Vista** – Fallowfield Township, Washington County – \$600,000 to continue development of 256-acre, former U.S. Steel site
- 2 The Community Networks Solar Park** – Smith Township, Washington County – \$350,000 for solar energy project
- 3 Southwest Regional Medical Center** – Waynesburg, Greene County – \$500,000 for renovations



- 4 Greene County Airport** – Franklin Township, Greene County – \$250,000 for proposed business park
- 5 Greene Arc Inc.** – Morris Township, Greene County – \$400,000 for enhanced vocational training center
- 6 Central Greene School District** – Greene County – \$435,000 to create a comprehensive program aimed at improving literacy from infancy to 12th grade
- 7 The Perryman Company** – Houston, Washington County – \$30,000 for employee training
- 8 AMETEK/Specialty Metal Products** – Eighty Four, Washington County – \$6,150 for employee training
- 9 Ardex Inc.** – Aliquippa, Beaver County – \$30,000 for employee training
- 10 Progeny Systems** – Charleroi, Washington County – \$17,000 for employee training
- 11 The Monongahela Valley Hospital** – Monongahela, Washington County – \$22,000 for employee training
- 12 Alumisource LLC** – Monessen, Westmoreland County – \$355,000 to reestablish a connection between their Monessen facility and the CSX rail line
- 13 Three Rivers Marine** – Charleroi, Washington County – \$302,500 to construct new track and rehabilitate storage track
- 14 Starpointe Business Park** – Hanover Township, Washington County – \$1 million to redevelop 225 acres of brownfield
- 15 Amwell Township** – Washington County – \$750,000 for the consolidation and expansion of its existing sewer system



Sen. Solobay helps to secure millions of dollars in funding for local economic growth, transportation and infrastructure.



- 16 Donora** – Washington County – \$750,000 to assist with the Donora Place Plan Sewer Extension Project
- 17 The Canonsburg-Houston Joint Authority** – Washington County – \$355,641 to assist with the installation of 4,000 LF of 18-inch sewer line to parallel an existing interceptor
- 18 Carroll Township Authority** – Washington County – \$383,779 for the sewer rehabilitation of the Dry Run service area to help reduce wet weather flow
- 19 City of Washington** – Washington County – \$150,000 for stormwater project
- 20 Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority** – Greene County – \$4 million for new sewer lines
- 21 Municipal Authority of the Borough of Carmichaels** – Greene County – \$250,000 to improve wastewater treatment
- 22 AMD Reclamation, Dana Mining Company** – Dunkard Township, Greene County – \$62,000 for clean energy equipment
- 23 Warwick Mine Dewatering Plant** – Monongahela Township, Greene County – \$31,000 for clean energy equipment
- 24 Cornerstone Care** – Mt. Morris, Greene County – \$200,000 for dental clinic
- 25 Washington County Airport** – South Franklin Township, Washington County – \$1.2 million for improvements and repairs
- 26 Cross Creek Township** – Washington County – \$91,000 grant toward continued development of Cedar Grove Park
- 27 Washington & Jefferson College** – Washington, Washington County – \$1 million for science-education construction project



- 28 City of Monessen** – Westmoreland County – \$500,000 for new public safety building and \$500,000 for renovations to the Monessen Public Library

Construction or Design/Build in 2013

Major Highway Projects

GREENE COUNTY

1 project — \$3.7 MILLION

- Small Bridges Contract – \$3.7 million
 - Route 18 in Freeport Township
 - Route 18 in Franklin Township
 - Route 21 in Gray Township
 - Route 2019 in Cumberland Township

WASHINGTON COUNTY

13 projects — \$110.1 MILLION

- I-70 / I-79 Interchange – \$35.2 million
- Interstate 70 at Route 519 Interchange – \$26.4 million
- Route 2018 Charleroi-Monessen Bridge – \$26.1 million
- Route 19 Washington & Jefferson College – \$5.5 million
- Route 19 Washington / Valley Brook Road Intersection – \$4.9 million
- Small Bridges Contract – \$3.9 million
- Route 4030 over I-70 – \$1.7 million
- Route 481 Pigeon Creek Bridge – \$1.6 million
- Route 50 over Cross Creek – \$1.3 million
- Route 7225 over Pigeon Creek – \$1.2 million
- Route 4037 Midway Bridge – \$1.2 million
- Route 2079 over Pike Run – \$1.1 million
- Route 18 Bridge over Railroad – \$748,500



Senator Solobay attends the groundbreaking for Hormann Flexon LLC in Starpointe Industrial Park.



Sen. Solobay attends a ceremony where the Governor officially signs Senate Bill 566 ("Stan the Man" Musial Bridge naming) into law (Act 102 of 2012).



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Constituent Outreach - We Can Help!

Assistance with State Agency Information, Questions, Problems or Complaints:

- ◆ Attorney General's Office—
Consumer Complaint Forms
- ◆ Birth Certificate Applications
- ◆ Citations—Senate Recognition for
Outstanding Accomplishments,
Awards and Special Occasions
- ◆ Criminal Record Check Applications
- ◆ Child Abuse Clearance Applications
- ◆ Death Certificate Applications
- ◆ Insurance Department—
Complaints or Problems with
Insurance Companies
- ◆ Labor and Industry—
Unemployment and Workers' Comp
Questions or Problems
- ◆ Notary Public Applications
- ◆ PACE/PACENET—Pharmaceutical
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Applications and Problems
- ◆ PennDOT—Drivers License, Vehicle
Registration, Disability Parking
Placard/Plates, and State Highway
and Bridge Issues
- ◆ PHEAA—Financial Assistance for
Higher Education
- ◆ Public Utility Commission—
Utility Complaints
- ◆ Department of Revenue—PA Income
Tax and Property Tax/Rent Rebate
Program, Applications and Inquiries
- ◆ Tours—Capitol Building Tours
for School Groups, Families or
Organizations
- ◆ Voter Assistance—Registration and
Absentee Ballot Applications
- ◆ Welfare—Energy Assistance
(LIHEAP), Food Stamps (SNAP)
- ◆ Literature/Publications—Bills,
Regulations, PA Maps, and more



www.SenatorSolobay.com

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