

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 14, 2020

From: Representative MaryLouise Isaacson

To: All House Members

Subject: An Economic Bill of Rights

Can you fully enjoy your constitutional “right to life” if you don’t have access to quality health care? Are you truly enjoying “freedom” if you are worried about how you will feed your family?

The obvious answer to these questions is no. We know it and President Franklin Roosevelt knew it 75 years ago when he proposed an Economic Bill of Rights, stating: “individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. Necessitous men are not free men.”

In recognition of the fact that our freedoms wither without economic security, I am proposing an amendment to our state constitution that will protect our rights to:

- A job that pays a living wage;
- Affordable and accessible health care;
- Safe, efficient, and reliable transportation infrastructure; and
- Safe and healthy working conditions.

We know that Pennsylvanians expect these basic protections from their government and need them in their pursuit of happiness. It’s time they are reflected in our state constitution.

I hope that you join me in building a Pennsylvania that works for all of us by supporting this legislation.