

SENATOR JOHN PIPPY
37TH DISTRICT



Senate of Pennsylvania

May 1, 2008

COMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND FINANCE, CHAIRMAN
URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, CHAIRMAN
LAW AND JUSTICE, VICE CHAIRMAN
APPROPRIATIONS
BANKING AND INSURANCE
GAME AND FISHERIES
POLICY
TRANSPORTATION

937 BEAVER GRADE ROAD
MOON TOWNSHIP, PA 15108
412.262.2260
412.262.6394 FAX

605 BEAVER STREET
SEWICKLEY, PA 15143
412.749.4722
412.749.4725 FAX

650 WASHINGTON ROAD
SUITE 102
MT. LEBANON, PA 15228
412.571.3822
412.571.3828 FAX

610 EAST MCMURRAY ROAD
ROOM 105
MCMURRAY, PA 15317
724.942.7210
724.942.7211 FAX

Mr. Gary Ford
Mt. Lebanon High School
155 Cochran Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Dear *Gary* Mr. Ford:

I am writing to indicate my support for House Bill 520, legislation that would, if passed, allow individuals who would be eligible to vote in the general election to vote in the primary election even if they had not attained the age of 18 at that time. I am pleased to hear that your students are testifying in support of this bill at the upcoming House hearing in Fox Chapel.

This bill provides an excellent opportunity for the General Assembly to show its commitment to involving young people in the democratic process. Every year, I host a Student Government Seminar for high school students in my district with that goal in mind. Students who form the habit of voting in every election once they become eligible will probably be more likely to do so in the future. Additionally, it is important to encourage young people to participate in elections as it ensures the representation of the views of a broader constituency. It is my understanding that a number of other states, including Maryland and Rhode Island, are considering similar legislation at this time.

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to voice my support for this bill and for your students, who through your guidance are actively participating in shaping the future of Pennsylvania. I wish them all the best as they prepare their testimony for May 9th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Pippy'.
John Pippy

JRP/bm