



STATE SENATOR **VINCENT HUGHES** Democratic Appropriations Chairman

Serving the 7th Senatorial District and the People of Pennsylvania

- Senator Vincent J. Hughes has been member of the Pennsylvania Senate representing the 7th Senatorial District since November 1994. Prior to joining the Senate, Senator Hughes served as a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from 1987 to 1994. While a member of the Pennsylvania House, Senator Hughes chaired the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus from 1991 to 1994.
- In November 2010, Senator Hughes was elected Democratic Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. As the Democratic Chairman, Senator Hughes plays a key role in developing Pennsylvania's annual budget and establishing the state's spending priorities. It is the committee's job to review all legislation considered in the state capital for its financial impact on Pennsylvania's taxpayers. Prior to attaining his present leadership position, Senator Hughes served as Chairman of the Senate Democratic Caucus, the third highest ranking position, from 2008 to 2010.
- Over the years, Senator Hughes has worked on numerous issues. From political empowerment to creating jobs, and from expanding health insurance to the uninsured to the rebuilding of neighborhoods, Senator Hughes has used his position to provide solutions and services to people often times when they have nowhere else to go.
- Senator Hughes, the dean of the Senate Philadelphia delegation, has been a champion on issues that impact directly on PA's working communities. He helped spearhead efforts to raise the minimum wage and continues to fight to establish a statewide jobs program. Senator Hughes worked in a bi-partisan manner for Pennsylvania's funding of \$20 million for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to provide assistance to individuals who need assistance with their heating bills. With respect to providing health insurance for Pennsylvania's uninsured, Senator Hughes has been and continues to be a leader and vocal advocate and sponsored numerous pieces of legislation throughout his entire legislative career.
- Senator Hughes has worked tirelessly on major revitalization projects in his district. He has led and been intimately involved in the development of projects such as the Salvation Army Kroc Center of Philadelphia, Please Touch Museum at Memorial Hall, City Avenue Revitalization project, Cira Center, the \$50 million Park Town West retail complex and the 500-unit Lucien Blackwell Homes.
- Senator Hughes has been recognized both locally and nationally for his work on HIV/AIDS, and the challenges of mental/behavioral health in the African-American community. His commitment to creating access to college is demonstrated through his service on the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency and the Cheyney University Council of Trustees. Senator Hughes and his family have also established the James Hughes Memorial Scholarship Fund in honor of his late father. The fund has given out more than \$1 million in scholarships to over 400 students.
- In all of his work, which has taken him across the state and around the world, Senator Hughes is staunchly committed to the progress of his 7th Senatorial District, which encompasses portions of Philadelphia and Montgomery County. Senator Vincent Hughes is a member of the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, and is supported by his loving wife, actress, entertainer and activist Sheryl Lee Ralph, and their blended family of four children.