

\$20 MILLION DOLLARS TO FIGHT HOUSING DISCRIMINATION



Senator Hughes' call for an investigation into redlining and housing discrimination in the Philadelphia metro area resulted in a historic \$20 million dollar settlement with Trident Mortgage Company.

During the settlement announcement in Pennsylvania, then PA Attorney General, Josh Shapiro explained, "It was Senator Hughes that reached out to the Office of Attorney General five years ago to sound the alarm on possible redlining in our communities, and he's been dogged about this, staying on us."

"Black and Brown citizens deserve the right to make their dream of owning a home a reality. Discrimination in getting a mortgage must not be tolerated. We've been fighting 'modern-day redlining' for many years. Although we've had a victory here, the fight is not over."
— Senator Hughes

Pennsylvanians interested in buying a home in one of the impacted communities can email the Office of the Attorney General, at redlining@attorneygeneral.gov.

Consumers who believe they may be victims of these tactics should contact the Office of Attorney General at Discrimination@attorneygeneral.gov or call the office's Civil Rights section at (717) 787-0882.

Senator Hughes first called on state and federal leaders to take action against housing discrimination by mortgage lenders during an Appropriations Committee Hearing.



SENATOR HUGHES AND SHERYL LEE RALPH GIVE OUT 1,000+ LITERACY KITS TO PHILADELPHIA STUDENTS

Senator Hughes teamed up with his wife, actress and activist Sheryl Lee Ralph, to hand out literacy kits to students in multiple Philadelphia schools in the 7th district. Literacy kits included books and school supplies that students could utilize in the classroom and at home to keep up with school work and academic goals.

The literacy kit giveaway was part of Senator Hughes' larger effort to help combat what he calls the "academic pandemic" – the negative impact on students' education and learning caused by the coronavirus pandemic.



NEW SCHOOL BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION

New construction has started on a brand new Cassidy School!

The new Lewis C. Cassidy Academic Plus School will serve 570 students Pre-K-8. The school will have a total of 20 standard classrooms (2 per grade) and include two music classrooms, an art room, three small group breakout rooms, and three special education rooms, as well as incorporate 21st-century learning environments such as collaborative hub areas, flex labs, and an instructional media center for library stacks and technology spaces.

When complete, the school will be a new 21st-century learning facility and a model that can replicated across PA.

STATE SENATOR
VINCENT HUGHES
DEMOCRATIC APPROPRIATIONS CHAIR

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INVESTING IN COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION IN EAST FALLS

Senator Hughes was proud to join Rep. Roni Green, Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr., and community leaders to present the East Falls Development Corporation with state grant funding to make improvements to Ridge Avenue.

The grant funding will be used to install street lighting along Ridge Avenue to improve walkability and encourage foot traffic on the street. In addition to the \$89,860 grant that was awarded, Senator Hughes announced over \$200,000 in further state grant funds that will be used to install benches, bike racks, and new trash receptacles.



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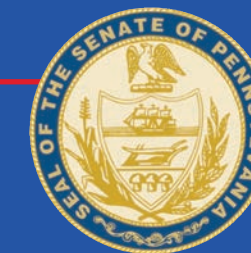
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Serving the 7th Senatorial District

SUMMER 2023

State Senator **VINCENT HUGHES**
Reports to the People

Investing Millions in the Fight Against Gun Violence



INVESTING OVER **\$350 MILLION** IN NEW STATE FUNDS TO FIGHT GUN VIOLENCE

\$150 MILLION IN GRANTS TO FIGHT GUN VIOLENCE AND SUPPORT LOCAL PREVENTION EFFORTS

We are investing over \$150M in neighborhood based grass roots organizations to invest in our youth and to provide an alternative to gun violence. This is all new state money, and it's the largest amount ever. The fight to stop gun violence must include investing in our young people.

– Senator Hughes

Earlier this year, Senator Hughes and Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus Chairwoman Representative Donna Bullock announced \$105 million dollars for Pennsylvania community-based violence reduction efforts at the Boys and Girls Club of Philadelphia.



\$135M TO UPDATE LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY AND STAFFING TO WIN THE FIGHT AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

Senator Hughes and Speaker Joanna McClinton were proud to announce \$135 million for police departments throughout the commonwealth. The funding will be used to upgrade equipment, establish new units including crisis-intervention teams, retain law enforcement personnel, and recruit the next generation of police officers.

\$25 million of the \$135 million will go to the Philadelphia Police Department. The funds will be used to modernize and upgrade forensic equipment and to hire 120 additional technical staff to assist with crime scene and forensic investigations.

“ *We are committed to fighting the scourge of gun violence taking so many innocent lives across the commonwealth and here in Philadelphia.* – **Senator Hughes**

\$50 MILLION IN GRANTS TO INVESTIGATE AND PROSECUTE GUN VIOLENCE IN PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Hughes, former Governor Tom Wolf, and other state and community leaders, announced state investments that will fund additional efforts to investigate and prosecute gun violence. \$50 million was awarded to District Attorney's Offices and law enforcement agencies statewide.

The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office received \$20 million of the \$50 million to expand their investigation capabilities and hire more prosecutors for Philadelphia's gun violence task force.

Of the \$50 million, SEPTA will receive \$5 million to enhance safety and prevent violence on public transportation throughout Philadelphia. SEPTA will use the funding to bolster staffing levels and potentially expand a new artificial intelligence pilot ZeroEyes, which is capable of identifying people carrying guns onto buses and trains.



To see the list of local organizations who are receiving grant dollars go to: www.senatorhughes.com/105MforGVP

SEE ME – IMAGINE YOU CAREER DAY

In May, Senator Hughes brought his “See Me – Imagine YOU” Career Day to 13 schools across Philadelphia. The career day program was simultaneously held for students in each school and featured 140 professionals from a range of careers and backgrounds, including CEOs, lawyers, pastors, first responders, entrepreneurs, and city leaders from the Philadelphia area.

"I wanted students to hear from people who look like them and live in their neighborhoods. The goal was to teach these young people about the power of education, hard work, and believing in themselves." – **Senator Hughes**



Over 140 professionals spoke across 13 different schools in Philadelphia.



SENATOR HUGHES HONORED WITH KEYSTONE COURAGE AWARD FROM CEASEFIREPA

CeaseFirePA honored Senator Hughes with the Keystone Courage Award to recognize his work and advocacy that has secured millions in investments to implement prevention solutions and get ahead of some of the root causes of community violence and crime.

Senator Hughes will continue to stand with organizations like CeaseFirePA to call for commonsense gun legislation like red flag laws, expanded background checks, and assault weapon bans that will help stop senseless violence and keep communities safer.

“Commonsense gun laws must be passed in PA. Red Flag laws, background checks, and assault weapon bans, are extremely popular. As we secure over \$350M of new state money to fight gun violence, we must also turn this legislation into reality.” – Senator Hughes



Senator Hughes alongside Nancy Gordon, Co-Founder of CeaseFirePA, and Dr. Hasshan Bhatta, Executive Director of Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley