

## **FOUR DISTRICT OFFICES OFFER ACCESS TO STATE SERVICES**

**A**s part of his effort to make state services readily accessible to the people of the 16th Senatorial District, state Senator Pat Browne has opened four District Offices across the tri-county area he represents.

Senator Browne is maintaining three locations previously used by Congressman Charlie Dent when he served as the state Senator representing the 16th District. As a complement to those offices, Senator Browne has added an office in East Allentown.

The **main District Office is located in downtown Allentown at 801 Hamilton Street.** The office is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number is **(610) 821-8468** and the fax number is (610) 821-6798.

Senator Browne's **Northampton County Office is located in the East Allen Township Municipal Building, 5330 Nor-Bath Boulevard, Northampton.** The office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The phone number is **(610) 502-1567** and the fax number is (610) 502-1570.

Residents of the **West End of Monroe County are served by the District Office at the intersection of Routes 115 and 209, Saylorsburg.**

The office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. The phone number is **(570) 402-1499** and the fax is (570) 402-0746.

The **East Allentown District Office is located on the first floor of 1601 Union Boulevard.** The office is open Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The phone number is **(610) 821-6813** and the fax is (610) 821-6811.

By contacting any of Senator Browne's offices, constituents can receive state forms for PACE and the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program; state transportation and fishing maps; and, assistance with PENNDOT, welfare and other state-related matters.

"These offices are here for one purpose – to help people receive the state services they deserve," Senator Browne said. "That means helping people on a case-by-case basis. Opening these offices is a major step in my efforts to provide the best constituent services possible for the people of my district. These district offices provide local residents with easy access to state services and a way to cut through bureaucracy and red tape."

## **WEBSITE OFFERS INFORMATION ON SERVICES, LEGISLATION**

**A**s part of his effort to provide the people of the 16th Senatorial District with easy access to state services and programs, Senator Pat Browne launched his new website: [www.senatorbrowne.com](http://www.senatorbrowne.com).

The website includes information about pending legislation, state laws, agencies and programs, special sections of interest to senior citizens, veterans and kids, as well as links to other government and civic organizations.

"There is a wide variety of information available on my website," Senator Browne said. "The Internet is a good way to keep constituents informed about what is going on in state government and tell them about programs that are available. The web provides an excellent way for busy people to keep track of what's going on in state government and how it affects their everyday lives - anytime of the day or night when it is convenient for them."



**STATE SENATOR  
Pat Browne**

**Senate Box 203016  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3016**

*Or Current Resident*

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# Report to the People



## from **Senator Pat Browne**

### **16TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

#### *A Letter from Senator Browne*

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present you with my first report as your state Senator. It truly is an honor to represent you and serve as your voice in the state Senate.

This report is intended to let you meet my staff and find out about some of the services available from my district offices. Those offices are staffed by your friends and neighbors and they are there to help you with a number of state services and programs.

I know many people are extremely busy. That's why I also set up a website at [www.senatorbrowne.com](http://www.senatorbrowne.com) where you can learn about state programs and pending legislation. You can also contact me through the website or by e-mail: [pbrowne@pasen.gov](mailto:pbrowne@pasen.gov).

Again, it's an honor to serve you.

Sincerely,  
*Pat Browne*  
Pat Browne

### **SENATOR PAT BROWNE TAKES OATH OF OFFICE**

**O**n Tuesday, May 3, Pat Browne wrapped up his 10-year career in the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives and started his new job as the state Senator representing parts of Lehigh, Monroe and Northampton counties.

Shortly after 1 p.m., Senator Browne was sworn into office by Commonwealth Court Judge Renee Cohn Jubelirer to represent the 16th Senatorial District, the seat that he won in an April 2005 special election.

More than 150 guests came to the state Capitol to attend the special ceremony. Monsignor John P. Murphy of St. Thomas More Church, Allentown, was a special guest of Senator Browne and delivered the invocation to open the Senate session.

"These are the people who helped me get to where I am and I am glad they could make the trip. It's only

right that they share in the happiness and the swearing in ceremony," Senator Browne said.



*Senator Pat Browne is welcomed into his new office on Swearing In Day by the man he replaced, Congressman Charlie Dent.*

## MEET SENATOR BROWNE

**B**orn and raised in Allentown, Senator Pat Browne attended Allentown Central Catholic High School before graduating from the University of Notre Dame in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He earned his law degree from Temple University in 1993.

Previous to his legislative service, he was employed with the accounting firms of Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhouse as a tax manager and senior tax associate, respectively. He is a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

In 1995, as a freshman state

Representative, he wrote the law that enacted the tax cuts that were key to then-Governor Tom Ridge's plan to radically improve Pennsylvania's economy and to provide quality, high-paying jobs for its citizens. Senator Browne also sponsored the "Small Business Jobs Protection Act," which greatly expanded capital opportunities for Pennsylvania's small business people.

Focusing on Pennsylvania's seniors and families, then-Representative Browne sponsored the "School Property Tax Rebate Act," which was the only state-sponsored property tax reduction in Pennsylvania history. He also sponsored the "Health Cost Containment Act of 2003," which empowers patients in making health

care decisions. He authored laws that increased income tax exemptions for working families, repealed the "Widow's Tax," and eliminated taxes on retirement annuities. He served on the Select Committee on Pharmaceutical Drugs which wrote the law which is providing hundreds of thousands more of the state's seniors with prescription drug coverage.

"State government has a basic responsibility to be responsive to the needs of all people," Senator Browne said. "That's the challenge we face on a daily basis and one that I look forward to addressing as a member of the state Senate."

## MEET SENATOR BROWNE'S STAFF



**Ellen Kern**  
*Chief of Staff*

When he put together his staff, Senator Pat Browne wanted someone with a solid background in the community to serve as his chief of staff. With that in mind, he hired Ellen Kern, who was then serving as the Vice President-Development for the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce.

"I am extremely pleased to have Ellen heading my staff," Senator Browne said. "She knows the community and is known in the community. That is a great advantage that will help as we establish our presence throughout the 16th District. She has significant leadership experience and great people skills that

will serve her well as she directs the staff and interacts with constituents."

Kern graduated from the State University of New York at Geneseo where she received a B.A. in English and Sociology. She also received the New York State Regents Academic Merit Scholarship, the Jesse Stevens Merit Scholarship and the PA Governor's Highway Safety Award. In 1991, the March of Dimes Lehigh Valley Chapter named Kern "Most Wanted Woman in the Lehigh Valley" for her fundraising activities.

Kern became the first female president of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown in 1993 and was designated a "distinguished president" by Kiwanis International in 1994. In 1996, Kern received the Lehigh

Carbon Community College "Collegiate Award of Distinction." She was the recipient of the City of Allentown's 1997 Human Relations Award, and most recently, honored as a Woman of Distinction by the Great Valley Girl Scout Council.

"Through her professional experience and her work with many civic organizations, Ellen knows the issues that are important to the people of our community," Senator Browne said. "Her knowledge and enthusiasm make her the ideal person to lead my staff."

Kern has been active with many community organizations including the United Way of the Lehigh Valley, March of Dimes, the American Heart Association, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and the Kiwanis Club of Allentown.



**Lisette (Lee) dePaula**  
*Urban Affairs Liaison*

Lee dePaula has worked with Pat Browne since 2001. Prior to working in state government, Lee served for seven years as a court advocate for Turning Point, a domestic abuse counseling agency in Allentown and as a paralegal and victim/witness aide in the Lehigh County District Attorney's Office from 1996 to 2001.

Currently, Lee is on the board of Casa Guadalupe, a Latino interest group in Allentown, the Allentown chapter of Volunteers of America, and is the chairperson of the Allentown Human Relations Commission.

Because of her interest in inner city issues and her bi-lingualism, Lee is looking forward to advancing Senator Browne's outreach efforts.



**Beth Harwick**  
*Legislative Aide*

Beth Harwick has worked for Pat Browne for four years and is looking forward to serving the constituents of the 16th Senatorial District. Beth is a 1991 graduate of Kutztown Area High School and a Career and Vocational Institute graduate in Fashion Design.

She is a member and a Caravan Leader at the First Church of the Nazarene in Allentown and the President of Safe Beginnings of The Lehigh Valley. She currently resides in Whitehall with her husband, Wayne, and her two daughters.



**Grace D. Marks**  
*Legislative Aide*

Grace D. Marks works in the Monroe County Office. Grace has been a member of the West End Community for almost 40 years. She was raised there and

attended Pleasant Valley High School. She lives in Brodheadsville with her husband Bill. They have two grown children, Charles and Jennifer, and a 6 year-old granddaughter, Madison.

She is a Pennsylvania State Constable, a position she has held for 15 years. Grace is also a Notary Public. Grace has served as a legislative staffer since 1998, working for state Representative Craig Dally and then-Senator Charlie Dent.



**Matt Moyer**  
*Legislative Aide*

Matt Moyer recently joined Pat Browne's staff after working for three years as a legislative aide to State Representative Paul Semmel. Matt has also worked as a free-lance writer for Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries and as a sports writer for East Penn Publishing.

Matt is a 1997 graduate of Parkland High School and a 2001 graduate of Shippensburg University with a degree in Communications/

Journalism. He currently resides in Fogelsville.



**Doris Stearns**  
*Director of Constituent Services*

Doris Stearns has enjoyed working with constituents in the 131st Legislative District for over 18 years. She will be responsible for continuing that service to the residents of the 16th Senatorial District.

Doris has been with Pat Browne since his election as a state Representative in November 1995. Prior to that, she was a legislative assistant for former Representative Karen Ritter for eight years.

Doris is the Vice President of Safe Beginnings of the Lehigh Valley as well as a Troop Leader for the Girls Scouts, Co-Director Youth Recreational Cheerleading program and volunteers for other community organizations. She lives in Whitehall with her husband, Kevin, and daughters, Kaitlynn and Lindsey.

## **Harrisburg Staff**



**Bonita Truax**



**Lorre Cooper**



**Stacey Connors Mosca**



**Lesley Wahmann**

Senator Browne has an experienced staff in his Harrisburg Office, dedicated to helping him advance his legislative priorities and serve the people of the 16th Senatorial District.

**Bonita Truax** *Administrative Assistant*, worked for Pat Browne when he served in the House of Representatives and moved over with him as he transitioned into the Senate.

**Lorre Cooper** *Administrative Assistant*, worked for Charlie Dent during his tenure in the state House and in the Senate.

**Stacey Connors Mosca**, *Staff Counsel*, a native of the 16th District, and **Lesley Wahmann**, *Legislative Aide*, both worked for former state Senators Joe Uliana and Charlie Dent.