

# GunSenseUs Voter Guide (2022)

**Purpose and Scope.** This **GunSenseUs Voter Guide** presents information about candidates’ positions on gun violence prevention. It covers candidates for the Pennsylvania General Assembly in 2022 – both House and Senate – from Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery and Northampton counties.

**Method.** The Guide was prepared based on candidates’ responses to a questionnaire circulated this summer and, for incumbents, on gun violence prevention bills they sponsored in the current General Assembly term. The questionnaire asked the candidates to complete and return the following chart:

Support	Oppose	No Position	Gun Violence Prevention Measures
			Require a <b>Background</b> check before every firearm purchase.
			<b>Enable</b> courts to temporarily remove guns from individuals deemed an imminent threat to self or others
			Require safety <b>Training</b> prior to first firearm purchase
			Devote public funding, federal and state, to hospital and community-based violence intervention programs

Many candidates responded to the questionnaire, but some did not, even after GunSenseUs volunteers followed up with emails and phone calls. Voters can reach their own conclusions about the positions held by candidates who did not respond.

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**Legislative Action.** The Guide indicates which incumbents sponsored three of the gun violence prevention bills now pending in the Pennsylvania House and Senate Judiciary Committees, all supported by GunSenseUs (the “BET Bills”):

- ❖ **Background Checks** - HB 235 and SB 88
- ❖ **Extreme Risk Protection Orders** - HB 1903 and SB 134
- ❖ **Training Prior to First Firearm Purchase** - HB 1846 and SB 855

Four of the candidates in the counties covered by the Guide – **Katie Muth** (SD 44), **Christine Sappey** (HD 158), **Todd Stephens** (HD 151), and **Perry Warren** (HD 31) – were prime sponsors for one of the bills. These bills are common-sense gun safety measures supported by the majority of Pennsylvanians, Republicans and Democrats, gun owners and non-gun owners alike. (GS Strategy Group Poll, June 2022.) The incumbents who sponsored these bills, and particularly the four who acted as prime sponsors, have demonstrated their commitment to gun violence prevention.

**Hospital and Community-Based Intervention Programs.** One example of such a program is Pennsylvania's [Violence Intervention & Prevention Technical Assistance Program](#), which in 2022 made \$24 Million in funding available for grants to grass-roots organizations dedicated to community violence prevention. We know such organizations can make a huge positive impact on community safety based on the success of the Chester Community Coalition. In indicating support for such programs, **Brian Munroe** (HD 144) said, “All of these programs can help stop gun violence before it happens and help us create a safer society for us and our children.”

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**Omissions.** Limited by the number of our volunteers, the Guide covers only the seven counties mentioned above. No information is provided for races in which each neither candidate responded to the questionnaire or sponsored any of the BET Bills. And information is provided only for those Senators whose four-year terms expire in 2022 and are up for reelection in November.

**Reading the Charts.** The following charts, organized alphabetically by county, contain abbreviations and symbols for convenience. Up to four stars, green or red, indicate how many boxes were checked by each candidate on the questionnaire – a green star for each time a candidate checked “Support” for an item and a red star when the candidate checked “Oppose.” To denote bill sponsorship, the “B” stands for Background Checks, “E” for Extreme Risk Protection Orders and “T” for Training Before First Firearm Purchase. “NR” denotes candidates who failed to respond to the questionnaire.

**Importance of Your Vote.** We hope this Guide is helpful to you in deciding who to support in November. Please vote and encourage your friends to do the same. This is our opportunity to make a difference for gun safety in Pennsylvania.

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## BERKS COUNTY

Senate			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
SD 24	Jill Dennin (D)	****	
	Tracy Pennycuick (R)	NR	
SD 14	Katie Muth (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET); Prime Sponsor for Training Bill
	Jessica Florio (R)	NR	

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## BUCKS COUNTY

House			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 029	Tim Brennan (D)	****	
	Diane Smith (R)	NR	
HD 031	Perry Warren (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET); Prime Sponsor for Background Checks Bill
	Bernie Sauer (R)	NR	
HD 140	John Galloway (D)	NR	Bill Sponsor (BE)
HD 142	Mark Moffa (D)	****	
	Joseph Hogan (R)	NR	
HD 143	Gwendolyn Stoltz (D)	****	
	Shelby Labs (R)	NR	
HD 144	Brian Munroe (D)	****	Navy veteran and former police officer who knows the value of training firsthand
	F. Todd Pollinchock (R)	NR	

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## BUCKS COUNTY

House (Cont'd)			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 148	Mary Daley (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
Senate			
SD 06	Ann Marie Mitchell (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Frank Farry (R)	NR	
SD 10	Steve Santarsiero (D)	NR	Bill Sponsor (BE)
	Matt McCullough (R)	NR	
SD 16	Mark Pinsley (D)	****	
	Jarrett Coleman (R)	NR	

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## CHESTER COUNTY

House			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 013	David Cunningham (D)	****	
	John Lawrence (R)	NR	
HD 026	Paul Friel (D)	****	
	Timothy Hennessey (R)	NR	
HD 074	Dan Williams (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Dan Hensel (R)	NR	
HD 155	Danielle Friel Otten (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Kyle Scribner (R)	****	
HD 156	Christopher Pielli (D)	****	Gun owner and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Amendment Supporter Supports BET
	Heidi Vanderwaal (R)	NR	

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## CHESTER COUNTY

House (Cont'd)			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 157	Melissa Shusterman (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Sarah Marvin (R)	NR	
HD 158	Christina Sappey (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET); Prime Sponsor for Training Bill
	Leon Spencer (R)	****	
HD 160	Cathy Spahr (D)	****	Attends gun violence prevention rallies
	Craig Williams (R)	NR	
HD 167	Kristine Howard (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Gail Newman (R)	**	Checked "Support" for B and E
Senate			
SD 44	Katie Muth (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET); Prime Sponsor for Training Bill
	Jessica Florio (R)	NR	



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## DELAWARE COUNTY

House			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 160	Catherine Spahr (D)	****	Attends gun violence prevention rallies
	Craig Williams (R)	NR	
HD 161	Leanne Krueger (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BE)
	Edward Mongelluzzo (R)	NR	
HD 162	David Dellosa (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BE)
	Michelle Mattus (R)	NR	
HD 163	Michael Zabel (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Kelly Bellerby -Allen (R)	NR	
HD 164	Gina Curry (D)	***	Checked "Support" for B, T and Funding of Intervention Programs; Unsure about E
HD 165	Jennifer O'Mara (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BE)

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## DELAWARE COUNTY

<b>House (Cont'd)</b>			
<b>District</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Questionnaire</b>	<b>Comments</b>
HD 166	Gregory Vitali (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BE)
	Kimberly Razzano (R)	NR	
HD 168	Lisa Borowski (D)	****	
	Christopher Quinn (R)	NR	Bill Sponsor (BE)
HD 191	Joanna McClinton (D)	*	Bill Sponsor (B)
<b>Senate</b>			
SD 08	Anthony Williams (D)		Bill Sponsor (E)
SD 26	Timothy Kearney (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Frank Agovino (R)	****	

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## LEHIGH COUNTY

House			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 022	Joshua Siegel (D)	****	
	Robert Smith (R)	****	
HD 132	Michael Schlossberg (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
HD 133	Jeanne Mcneill (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BE)
HD 134	Peter Schweyer (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (B)
	Brent Labenberg (R)	NR	
Senate			
SD 14	Nicholas Miller (D)	****	
	Dean Browning (R)	***	Might support Funding of Intervention Programs
SD 16	Mark Pinsley (D)	****	
	Jarrett Coleman (R)	NR	

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## MONTGOMERY COUNTY

House			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 053	Steven Malagari (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BE)
	Jennifer Sodha (R)	NR	
HD 054	Greg Scott (D)	****	
	Allen Anderson (R)	* * * *	Checked "Support" for B and T
HD 61	Liz Hanbidge (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Jessie Bradica	****	
HD 146	Joseph Ciresi (D)	****	
HD 147	Alexandra Wisser (D)	****	
	Donna Scheuran (R)	NR	
HD 148	Mary Daley (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)

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## MONTGOMERY COUNTY

House (Cont'd)			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 149	Tim Briggs (R)	****	Bill Sponsor (T)
HD 150	Joseph Webster (D)	****	
	Beth Mazza (R)	NR	
HD 151	Melissa Cerrato (D)	****	
	Todd Stephens (R)	****	Bill Sponsor (BE); Prime Sponsor for ERPO Bill
HD 152	Nancy Guentst (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (B)
	John Weinrich (R)	NR	Vocal supporter of 2nd Amendment
HD 153	Benjamin Sanchez (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Larry Ulrich (R)	****	100% supporter of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Amendment
HD 154	Napoleon Nelson (D)	NR	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Angela Banks (R)	NR	

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## MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Senate			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
SD 04	Arthur Haywood (D)	NR	Bill Sponsor (BET)
SD 12	Maria Collett (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
	Robert Davies (R)	NR	
SD 24	Jill Dennin (D)	****	
	Tracey Pennycuick (R)	NR	
SD 44	Katie Muth (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET); Prime Sponsor for Training Bill
	Jessica Florio (R)	NR	

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## NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

House			
District	Candidate	Questionnaire	Comments
HD 135	Stephen Samuelson (D)	**	Bill Sponsor (BE)
HD 136	Robert Freeman (D)	****	Bill Sponsor (BET)
HD 137	Anna Thomas (D)	****	A detailed passionate response supporting gun violence prevention
Senate			
SD 14	Nicholas Miller (D)	****	
	Dean Browning (R)	***	Might support Funding of Intervention Programs
SD 18	Lisa Boscola (D)	NR	Bill Sponsor (E)
	John Merhottein (R)	NR	