

THE CORMAN REPORT

FROM STATE SENATOR JAKE CORMAN

34TH DISTRICT • FALL 2006



CORMAN SECURES FUNDING FOR PERRY COUNTY FAIR

I recently secured grant funding to help the Perry County Community Fair with the construction of a new Youth Exhibition Hall at the fairgrounds.

The \$38,500 grant funding will help the Perry County Community Fair with its expansion project that will add exhibition space to the fair.

The Perry County Fair has grown so much over the years that expansion is necessary in order to showcase the importance and value of Perry County youth exhibits for many years to come.

The Perry County Community Fair Association has been in existence for over 35 years. Each year the fair continues to grow and the need for additional exhibition space is required. Currently, there are two buildings which house Home and Produce Exhibits, Grange Exhibits, FFA Exhibits, Antique Farm and

Home Exhibits, 4-H Exhibits and Hay and Grain Exhibits.

The Association plans on using the \$38,500 grant to construct an additional building measuring approximately 50 feet by 100 feet to house the 4-H and FFA Exhibits.

It is anticipated that the project will begin in the spring of 2007, with the building complete before the 2007 Fair.



Senator Corman presents Senate citations to members of the West Perry and Greenwood Area High School District Championship basketball teams.

CAPITOL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION SLATED FOR SEPT. 30 - OCT. 4

Pennsylvania's Capitol is a priceless, architectural and artistic treasure, a majestic symbol of history and power, and an icon of democracy and freedom. This year marks the centennial celebration of the Capitol, and a number of events and activities are scheduled from September 30 to October 4 to mark this historic event.

Among them are a treasure hunt and expo for kids, an arts and architecture tour of the Capitol, a parade featuring the state's 67 counties and a rededication ceremony on Wednesday, October 4. The Centennial is a perfect time to visit the state Capitol. To find out more about the celebration and the schedule of events, go to

<http://www.pacapitol.com>.

EMINENT DOMAIN LAW PROTECTS PROPERTY OWNERS FROM LAND SEIZURES

Last year, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that local officials in New London, Connecticut, could condemn private property for redevelopment using eminent domain laws.

The decision raised major concerns that government could use its powers to take over private property to boost economic development – meaning that private landowners had little or no ability to protect their land.

I helped to lead the passage of new laws that will prohibit the use of eminent domain to benefit private businesses. The Private Property Protection Act would still allow government to condemn abandoned, dangerous, or severely tax-delinquent properties.

The bill would also prohibit any local government from taking land from an adjacent township without an agreement from both local governments.

The idea that a citizen's home or property can be taken by the government and turned over to another citizen for non-governmental use is outrageous. This new law will protect Pennsylvania homeowners, small businesses, farms, and churches from land seizures for private development.

“JESSICA’S LAW” CRACKS DOWN ON CHILD SEXUAL PREDATORS

The State Senate recently approved legislation I cosponsored to impose a mandatory minimum sentence of 25 years for convicted child molesters and require them to wear a monitoring device for life.

“Jessica’s Law” is named for Jessica Lunsford, a 9-year old Florida girl who was kidnapped and

murdered by a convicted sex offender. I am especially proud that Pennsylvania

comprehensively monitor offenders, and ensure that all offenders register under the current Megan’s Law.

Our hope is that Jessica Lunsford did not die in vain and that other states will join in a national effort to more closely

monitor sex offenders and strengthen our laws to protect our children.

MEGAN’S LAW WEBSITE IMPROVED

The Pennsylvania State Police has established a web page to provide timely information, free of charge, to the public on Sexually Violent Predators residing in the Commonwealth. The Pennsylvania Megan’s Law website is

www.pameganslaw.state.pa.us.

is leading a national effort to crack down on child sexual predators, more

BILL WOULD HELP TO FIGHT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

Illegal immigration has gotten out of hand and taxes our schools, social services and hospitals. It drives down wages for hard-working families.

As part of an effort to crack down on illegal immigration, I am cosponsoring legislation that would prohibit the expendi-

ture of any public money to benefit a person who is in this country illegally.

I also voted for Act 43, which establishes the Prohibition of Illegal Immigrant Alien Labor on Assisted Projects Act.

The law requires grant recipients to pay back grants they receive from the

Commonwealth if they knowingly employ or knowingly permit contractors to use illegal immigrant labor on the project for which they received the grant.

I believe these measures are needed to ensure that illegal aliens do not benefit from public funds.

CORMAN PUSHING FOR GAMING REFORMS

For several months, I have been working with my colleagues to develop a gambling reform agenda. We recently unveiled our comprehensive plan to make major structural reforms to the two-year-old gambling law. The 21-bill package is designed to close loopholes in the law; enhance the accountability of the Gaming Control Board; improve the administration of the law; and strengthen oversight by the Attorney General and the General Assembly over the conduct of gaming in Pennsylvania.

These reforms are needed to restore public trust and confidence in the process being used to award the casino licenses, and to guard against fraud, influence peddling and criminal activity. Although I

did not support the gambling expansion, now that it is in effect, the priority is to

strengthen the law and ensure the integrity and accountability of the process.



Senator Corman announces his gaming reform package at a Capitol news conference.

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