

Metabolic Disorders-- Advocacy Call Script for HB 109

Introduction:

Hello, my name is [Name], and I'm a constituent from:

-- Haverford on the border of Delaware and Montgomery Counties.

--Marcus Hook/Trainer/Chester/Lower Chichester or Swarthmore in Delaware County

I'm calling today to express my strong support for HB 109, also known as the *Cumulative Impacts Bill*. This bill is critical for protecting our overburdened communities from the harmful health effects of cumulative environmental pollution and its serious impacts on our health.

Why This Matters:

Our communities are badly affected by multiple types of pollution. In the Delaware Valley region, several large oil and LNG refineries and trash incinerators are polluting our air.*

*Tailor by inserting information from your location:

*Haverford and Swarthmore: we live close to the below facilities and are not in a bubble: air and water pollution travels!

*Chester: Largest trash incinerator in the US, Kimberly-Clark paper factor and PQ and Evonik Chemical plants, among many others, in Chester

*Trainer: Monroe Energy/Delta Airlines' oil refinery in Trainer

*Marcus Hook and Lower Chichester: Massive Energy Transfers LNG refinery as well as Braskem petrochemicals, among others, in Marcus Hook

Multiple manufacturing plants are also releasing PFAS and PFOS forever chemicals into our drinking water supplies. And numerous superfund sites – including X in my township alone! – continue to leach pollutants into our soil and groundwater.**

**Tailor by inserting information from your location:

**Haverford: 3 superfund sites in Haverford Township

**Chester: 3 superfund sites in Chester City

**Trainer: 1 superfund sites in tiny Trainer

**Marcus Hook: 1 superfund sites in tiny Marcus Hook

**Lower Chichester: 1 superfund sites in tiny in Lower Chichester

**ALL: 18 superfund sites in Delaware County

Current federal air, water and soil quality standards regulate the pollution releases of each site individually. **They do not consider their combined effects.** As a result, we residents are experiencing numerous damaging impacts -- impacts that we can literally smell, taste, and hear in our everyday lives.

Do you know how much the combined impact of all of this pollution is *negatively impacting our health*? Do you know that rates of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease caused by air pollution are highly elevated in large portions of DelCo and MontCo? That the adult annual crude incidence rates of nearly two dozen different types of cancer are very highly elevated in our region as compared to the US National average rates? Throughout our region, adult annual crude cancer incidence rates range from 10% to 300+% higher than the US averages. Many constituents and their families are prematurely losing their lives and suffering!

(If speaking live: Would you like to know which cancer types are elevated as compared with US national average incidence rates in my township?)

Haverford, ranging from 7-102% higher, and starting with the most elevated: testicular cancer, Hodgkin's lymphoma, thyroid cancer, melanoma, urinary and bladder cancer, uterine cancer, brain and nervous system cancer, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, pancreatic cancer, colorectal cancer, prostate cancer, leukemia and esophageal cancer.

Chester, ranging from 16-91% higher, and starting with the most elevated: Liver and bile cancer, Laryngeal cancer, Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Pancreatic cancer, Cervical cancer, Lung and bronchial cancer, Stomach cancer, Esophageal cancer, Prostate cancer, Colorectal cancer and Myeloma .

Trainer, ranging from 16-109% higher, and starting with the most elevated: Thyroid cancer, Oral and pharyngeal cancer, Lung and bronchial cancer, Laryngeal cancer, Cervical cancer, Liver and bile cancer, Ovarian cancer, Kidney and renal cancer, Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Leukemia, Hodgkin's lymphoma, Breast cancer, Myeloma and Colon and Rectal cancer

Marcus Hook, ranging from 51-299% higher, and starting with the most elevated: Laryngeal cancer, Liver and bile cancer, Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Esophageal cancer, Lung and bronchial cancer, Kidney and renal cancer, Uterine cancer, Brain and nervous system cancer, Oral and pharyngeal cancer and Colorectal cancer

Swarthmore, ranging from 6-193% higher, and starting with the most elevated: Hodgkin's lymphoma, Thyroid cancer, Prostate cancer, Breast cancer, Stomach cancer, Melanoma, Ovarian cancer, Oral and pharyngeal cancer, Brain and nervous system cancer, Leukemia, Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Testicular cancer.

(If they have questions about the cancer stats or want to know about the research methods and findings, please refer them to Lauren Minsky at lminsky@haverford.edu or 610-888-5803).

Key Points:

HB 109 – the Cumulative Impacts Bill -- is very important. By regulating toxic pollution, it will reduce the incidence of the diseases that are damaging our lives and killing us.

It will do this by giving the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) the authority to consider permits for new or expanding industrial facilities in terms of existing levels of pollution in our communities. Currently, existing pollution levels are not considered! It will also allow residents to have a voice, and policymakers to fully appreciate, how any new polluting facility will further impact residents' health.

Ultimately, HB109 will create a more transparent and fair permitting process to protect the health of us all, including workers at these facilities. It will help to uphold our rights in Article 1, Section 27 of the PA Constitution, which declares that all PA residents have a right to clean air, clean water and the preservation of our health and lives.

Conclusion:

Please support HB 109. This bill represents a crucial step toward upholding the constitutional right to a clean environment and healthy lives for all Pennsylvanians. If passed, this legislation can also serve as an important model for other states grappling with similar challenges.

Thank you for taking the time to listen, and I appreciate your consideration. We need your support!