

BRITTNEY RODAS

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES | DISTRICT 105



Brittney's desire to serve stems from her upbringing. Born and raised in Pennsylvania, she is the daughter of her late father, a Vietnam veteran and former steelworker, and was raised by a single mother. Brittney worked to put herself through college and graduate school. She obtained a Bachelor of Science in Sociology, and a Master of Public Administration specializing in public policy and public sector human resources, both from Penn State University.

Brittney is familiar with the struggles that many families face, which inspired her to give back to her community to ensure a brighter future for her children. In 2019 she was appointed to the Dauphin County Democratic Committee where she works to increase voter turnout across the county. And prior to announcing her candidacy, Brittney was the South-central Region Director for the Pennsylvania Young Democrats.

Brittney knows how the state legislature works and is ready to jump in. She has served as a policy and research analyst at the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, where her role gave her responsibility for legislative drafting, policy analysis and constituent and stakeholder service. While at the Capitol, Brittney focused on a wide range of policy issues ranging from health and human services to liquor control.

As a State Representative, Brittney's primary focus will be on increasing the minimum wage and securing fair paying jobs for all skill levels, government reform, quality education and providing adequate resources for healthcare and mental health services. Much of Brittney's life was impacted by her family and friends' battles with alcoholism and substance abuse, making it a top priority for her as a legislator. She currently resides in West Hanover Township with her husband Bryan and their two children, Olivia and Aiden.

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ON THE ISSUES

EDUCATION

As a mother, Brittney sees education as a very important and personal concern. She will fight to fully and fairly fund Pennsylvania's public schools while shifting the burden away from property tax payers. She will support curricula that do not just teach for a test, but that will teach life skills to prepare students for the realities of their future. Most importantly, Brittney will support initiatives that help Pennsylvania's schools recognize and address mental health issues. She will advocate for teachers, counselors and safety officers to ensure they have the resources necessary to provide a quality education in a safe environment.

HEALTHCARE

Healthcare costs, including emergency care and prescription drug costs, are on the rise, making affordable care unattainable for middle class families

and our most vulnerable citizens alike. As a State Representative, Brittney will work to preserve Medicaid expansion and the Children's Health Insurance Program to ensure that no family has to worry about how they'll pay for necessary medical care. She will likewise work to reduce the costs of prescription drugs and fight to ensure that veterans and first responders have access to adequate mental and physical health care.

GOVERNMENT REFORM AND FAIR DISTRICTS

Pennsylvania is in need of government reform at all levels. As a State Representative, Brittney will be committed to fighting for increased voting access, as well as campaign finance reform to bring government back to the people. Additionally, she will advocate for the creation of an independent commission for redistricting to eliminate gerrymandering in Pennsylvania.

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ENVIRONMENT AND CLEAN ENERGY

Harrisburg was recently voted fourth in the country for worst air quality. The legislature must address the poor air quality across the Commonwealth and explore alternative energy sources to natural gasses and fossil fuels in order to protect our climate and children. If elected to the State House, Brittney will prioritize combating climate change, investing in alternative energy sources and improving our air quality.

2016 PRESIDENTIAL

Hillary Clinton: 15,801, 44%
Donald Trump: 18,643, 51.91%
Total: 35,913

2012 PRESIDENTIAL

Obama: 15,089, 45.32%
Romney: 17,758, 54.34%
Total: 33,292

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Nested Congressional Districts

CD10, R+16

Pennsylvania's 105th state house district is located in the Harrisburg area, in [South-Central Pennsylvania](#), and includes parts of Lower Paxton, South Hanover, and West Hanover. It is located in Dauphin County.

Pennsylvania state house districts include an average of 62,573 residents. The state has grown - after the 2000 Census, each district represented 60,498 residents.

PAST RESULTS IN THE DISTRICT

2018 STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Democrat: 15,259, 49.17%
Republican: 15,771, 50.83%
Total: 31,030

2018 GUBERNATORIAL

Democrat: 55.74%
Republican: 44.26%

2018 U.S. SENATE

Democrat: 50.53%
Republican: 49.47%

ABOUT THE OPPONENT

Andrew Lewis the Republican incumbent for PA House District 105. He assumed office on December 1, 2018. His star endorsement is from the NRA. While in office, Lewis has voted as a typical conservative. Instead of supporting public school funding and students, Lewis cosponsored a bill to increase tax credits for students to "[attend the school of their choice](#)", which was a vote to increase funding for charter schools. He has also voted to [repeal assistance programs](#) for people suffering from disabilities, drug addiction, and those trying to escape domestic abuse. Lewis has supported the arming of [school security guards](#), bringing guns into spaces where they are the least desired. And he is staunchly anti-choice: Lewis voted for disgusting and [pointless bill](#) requiring that abortion remains be either cremated or given a funeral.

WHY THIS RACE IS IMPORTANT

To flip PA's lower state legislative chamber, Democrats need to win 9 House seats. Momentum is on our side: in 2018, Democrats broke a Republican supermajority in the Senate and flipped a dozen State House seats. We can build on this energy to flip the chamber in 2020. Flipping a chamber in the PA legislature would give Democrats a critical seat at the redistricting table,

DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

| Popula- tion | House- holds | Over 65 | White | Black | Latinx | Asian | Other | Median Income | % Poverty | % Un- employ- ment | % College | %HS Grad | %No HS |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| 65,043 | 27,395 | 17% | 77.6% | 9.9% | 4.3% | 5.1% | 3.1% | \$70,684 | 6.5% | 2.4% | 45.9% | 48.3% | 5.8% |



SISTER DISTRICT
PROJECT

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particularly for Congressional redistricting. Republican state legislators have brutally gerrymandered PA's Congressional districts. And the political commission in PA that draws state legislative maps has also permitted terribly gerrymandered maps. We can prevent this from happening again by flipping a chamber and ensuring that Democrats have a voice in the next round of redistricting. Flipping a chamber blue is especially important because the PA Governor does not have veto power over state legislative maps. So while Democratic Governor Wolf will be in office during the next round of redistricting, we'll still need Democratic control of a chamber to have a say in the outcome.

These are 'last chance' races: whoever is elected to the PA state legislature in 2020 will draw the next round of district lines.

WHY PENNSYLVANIA IS IMPORTANT

PENNSYLVANIA FAST FACTS

- **Current Control:** Divided.
Governor - D; Senate - R; House - R
- **Gubernatorial Election:** Not up in 2020
- **Length of State House Terms:** 2 years
- **Candidate Filing Deadline:** February 18, 2020
- **State Legislative Primary Date:** June 2, 2020 (subject to further delay)
- **Redistricting:** State legislature controls Congressional redistricting, Political Commission controls state legislative redistricting; Governor has veto over Congressional maps but not state legislative maps
- **Electoral College Votes:** 20

BROADER 2020 OPPORTUNITIES

- Pennsylvania is a critical, perennial battleground presidential state. Before Trump won the state by 44,000 votes, or less than 1%, Pennsylvanians had voted for the Democratic Presidential nominee in every election since 1992. Pennsylvania is one of the "Big Four" states that are likely to control the outcome of the 2020 presidential election.

Democrats have a tremendous opportunity to claim PA's 20 Electoral College votes this year, with smart organizing, expanding the electorate through voter registration, and turnout efforts.

- There are also several important, very competitive Congressional races in PA this year (including PA-10, PA-08, and PA-01, PA-07, PA-17, and PA-16).
- Working to support PA state legislative candidates will be instrumental in helping drive turnout up and down the ticket in this historic election year.

REDISTRICTING & GERRYMANDERING

In Pennsylvania, Congressional district lines are drawn by the Pennsylvania General Assembly. State legislative lines are drawn by a five-member commission, the first four members of which are appointed by the majority and minority leaders of the State House and Senate, with the chair being appointed by either these four members or the State Supreme Court.

After the last round of redistricting, the Republican State House Majority Leader presided over a [piece of legislation](#) that remapped the state, resulting in extremely gerrymandered Congressional maps. For instance, Pennsylvania's 7th Congressional District was one of the most gerrymandered districts in the country, before the [Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional](#) in 2018. The district gained national notoriety as one of the most obvious efforts to gerrymander. The 7th District was so egregious that it earned a nickname, based on the cartoon characters it resembled: "[Goofy Kicking Donald](#)". The net result of the GOP's manipulations was a state that voted majority Democrat, but which sent thirteen Republicans to Congress and only five Democrats. Fortunately, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled in 2018, after three elections conducted under this travesty, that the 2011 district maps were illegally partisan, and when the state's legislature could not agree on new district boundaries, the Court provided districts of its own. Unfortunately, the state legislative maps remain gerrymandered in favor of Republicans - as [an example](#), in 2018, Pennsylvania's Democratic State House candidates received 54% of the vote, but only won 45% of the seats.