



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**CLINT OWLETT**  
 68TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



**WHY DON'T WE HAVE A STATE BUDGET YET?**

A core responsibility for lawmakers each year is adoption of a state budget. Yet, at the time of this writing, we are more than a month into the new fiscal year and still without one. Why?

The governor can't close the deal. There was an agreement on legislation that would have helped low-income students in the bottom 15% of school districts with options for education. It's an issue Gov. Josh Shapiro campaigned on, and he agreed to devote \$100 million to scholarships to help get these kids the education they deserve. There's not much both parties agree on, but this was one of those bills.

And then, suddenly, the governor reneged on the deal because he couldn't get the members of his own party to support his budget.

This was a highly negotiated product in a building that runs on trust. Just like in the communities where we live, trust and a handshake is key.

The governor broke his promise to the kids and families who needed it most, the ones he promised to help during his campaign. He violated the trust of fellow lawmakers, which will impact our ability to negotiate with him in good faith.

While our Northern Tier communities are blessed with some outstanding teachers and great schools, not everyone is so lucky. In fact, we have schools here in PA that have been failing students and families for decades, even while getting more state funding every year. Students in these schools are truly stuck and their ZIP code is determining their education and path to success in life. It's sad that the progressive Democrats have chosen to shut down the state government over this issue and 0.2% of the budget.

This is the key issue around this budget. If you would like to talk more about the budget impasse, feel free to call our office and set up a time to meet.



**UPDATE ON PUC INVESTIGATION OF FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS**

Thank you to the hundreds of Frontier Commonwealth customers who turned in early June for four public input hearings held by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) to investigate telephone and internet service issues.

We heard stories about being without phone service for weeks with no means to reach anyone in case of an emergency, about kids who couldn't do their homework online, and about businesses that lost income because they couldn't process orders or credit card payments.

We also heard from emergency responders who have to physically man their fire stations when there is an outage, and from the Bradford County 911 coordinator about how many times they've had to report service outages to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

Our citizens deserve better.

The PUC is continuing its investigation. Ultimately, the Administrative Law Judges will render a recommended decision to the PUC, after which commission members will vote to decide the case. It is a lengthy process but one I hope will lead to better service for all of us here in the Northern Tier.



*Touring Child Hunger Outreach Partners (CHOP) in Towanda to learn more about their outstanding work to ensure our kids have enough to eat. I'm pictured with Founder and CEO Dani Ruhf. Learn more at [www.ChopOutHunger.org](http://www.ChopOutHunger.org).*



*Visiting Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital to learn their innovative ways to meet staffing challenges.*



*Manufacturers like Victaulic provide great jobs and contribute to our local economy.*

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**EVENTS**

### GAME COMMISSION NIGHT

Thursday, Sept. 14  
6–8 p.m.

Wellsboro Fire Company Annex  
21 East Ave., Wellsboro

Please RSVP at [RepOwlett.com](http://RepOwlett.com) or call  
570-724-1390 (Wellsboro) or 570-297-3045 (Troy).



### BREAKFAST MEETING ON AGRICULTURE

**WITH SEN. GENE YAW**

Thursday, Oct. 19, 10 a.m. to Noon  
Tioga County Fairgrounds  
2258 Charleston Road, Wellsboro

Please RSVP at [RepOwlett.com](http://RepOwlett.com) or call  
570-724-1390 (Wellsboro) or  
570-297-3045 (Troy).



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**SIGN UP TO RECEIVE MY WEEKLY EMAILS:** Each week I send an email update that highlights policy actions in Harrisburg and activities of interest here in the district. Even if you are already receiving the email, I encourage you to visit [www.RepOwlett.com](http://www.RepOwlett.com) to reaffirm your interest in getting these updates. It's a great tool to keep track of what's happening in your government.

**WELLSBORO OFFICE:** 74 Main St., Wellsboro, PA 16901, Phone: 570-724-1390

**TROY OFFICE:** 121 Canton St., Troy, PA 16947, Phone: 570-297-3045

**HARRISBURG OFFICE:** 52-A East Wing, P.O. Box 202068, Harrisburg, PA 17120-2068, Phone: 717-772-5371