

**Madison Brame**

From: George Margetas <Gmargetas@pahousegop.com>

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2026 8:15 PM

To: RA-DHCHAPTR27PROPREG@pa.gov

Cc: Kathy Rapp <Klrapp@pahousegop.com>; John Popovich <Jpopovich@pahousegop.com>; Cortny Mullen <Cmullen@pahousegop.com>

Subject: Rulemaking #10-242: Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases; IRRC #3490.

My Support for Rep. Rapp's Comments on the Proposed Chapter 27 Regulations

To Whom it May Concern:

As a member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, representing the 196th, George H Margetas, I want to make clear why I support the legislative comments submitted by Rep. Kathy Rapp and the other members of the General Assembly concerning the Department of Health's proposed Chapter 27 regulations.

I did not seek elected office to give unelected bureaucrats greater authority over the lives of Pennsylvanians. I was elected to represent my constituents, protect their rights, and participate in the legislative process when government proposes policies that can have significant consequences for their lives.

That is why I believe this proposed rulemaking deserves serious scrutiny.

The Department of Health's proposal is extensive, and it raises legitimate questions about the scope of government authority, medical privacy, parental rights, and the powers that could be exercised in the name of communicable-disease control. When regulations have the potential to affect private medical information, children and schools, families, or the privacy of someone's home, I believe the public deserves clear answers about exactly what government officials would be permitted to do and what safeguards would protect individual rights.

I also strongly believe in the proper separation between the executive and legislative functions of government. Regulations have an important place in administering laws enacted by the General Assembly. But when a proposal would establish or significantly expand government authority over fundamental aspects of people's lives, I believe those questions deserve open debate and accountability in the General Assembly—not simply resolution through the regulatory process.

We all learned during COVID that public-health decisions can have enormous consequences. There are legitimate circumstances in which government must have the ability to respond to serious threats to public health. But protecting public health and protecting individual liberty are not mutually exclusive. We should be capable of doing both.

As a legislator, I believe my responsibility is to make sure that government authority remains subject to appropriate checks and balances and that Pennsylvanians do not have their rights diminished without a transparent legislative process and meaningful public debate.

For me, this is not about being for or against public health. It is about **who makes decisions, what authority government has, and what protections exist for the individual when that authority is exercised.**

I therefore support Rep. Rapp's call for the Department of Health to withdraw the proposed Chapter 27 package in its current form and work with the General Assembly on any changes that would substantially alter the Commonwealth's public-health powers.

I believe Pennsylvanians deserve nothing less than transparency, accountability, legislative oversight, and respect for their constitutional rights.

Sincerely,

George H Margetas

Member, Pennsylvania General Assembly, 196th district.

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