

Vote411 Voters' Mini-Guide

Special Election February 7, 2023

Pennsylvania State Representative District 34

The 34th Legislative district contains Wilkins Township, Braddock, Braddock Hills, Chalfant, Churchill, East Pittsburgh, Edgewood, Forest Hills, North Braddock, Rankin, Swissvale, Wilkinsburg and a few neighborhoods in the City of Pittsburgh, including Park Place, and *parts of* Homewood and Point Breeze .

This election will fill the seat vacated when Democratic State Representative Summer Lee resigned to take her seat in the US Congress. The candidate who is elected on February 7th will take office right away and serve until November 30, 2024. The Special Election is not a Primary, so all registered voters may vote in this election, whether they are registered in a political party or not.

January 23 - Last Day to Register to Vote before the Special Election

January 31 - Last Day to Request a Mail-in Ballot for the Special Election

February 7 - Election Day. Polls open from 7 am to 8 pm.

- Mail-in Ballots must be received by the Elections Division by 8 pm.

Description of office: The General Assembly is the legislative branch of government in Pennsylvania. It is composed of two houses: the Senate is the upper house, and the House of Representatives is the lower house. A majority vote in both houses is necessary to pass a law. The House of Representatives consists of 203 members. Representatives must be at least 21 years old, have been a citizen and a resident of the state four years and a resident of their respective districts one year before their election, and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service. The House develops budget packages, makes taxation decisions, allocates spending, and passes laws (including redistricting in collaboration with the Senate). The House also has the exclusive authority to impeach public officials. Representatives also serve on various policy committees that may propose legislation.

Term: 2 years

Salary: \$95,432

This Voters' Mini-Guide is an excerpt of the Vote411.org online Voters' Guide -- a project of the League of Women Voters. All information in Vote411 Voters' Guides is submitted by the candidates and has not been edited or altered in any way.



Abigail Salisbury

Party: Democratic

Education: BA in Art History and French from Case Western Reserve University, JD from Pitt Law, MPPM from Pitt Graduate School of Public & International Affairs

Qualifications for office: 5 years as member of Swissvale Borough Council, 2 years as its President

Campaign Email: campaign@salisburyforpa.com

Campaign Web Site: www.salisburyforpa.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SalisburyforPA

Twitter: www.twitter.com/SalisburyforPA



Questions:

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: I would prioritize ensuring that residents of PA have adequate access to healthcare (including access to safe abortions), that our much-needed infrastructure improvements are adequately funded, that our schools are adequately funded, and that PA finally joins the other 49 states that fund indigent defense.

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's election laws?

A: I support public funding of campaigns.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: We need to make PA a leader in developing new forms of energy technologies and increasing their viability in the market. We also need to ensure that these new technologies provide good pay and that their workers can unionize.

Q: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: I support responsible gun ownership, which means knowledge and training on safety as well as keeping guns out of the hands of curious minors so that preventable tragedies do not occur. Gun violence is preventable and it is up to us to pass legislation that prevents it as much as possible.

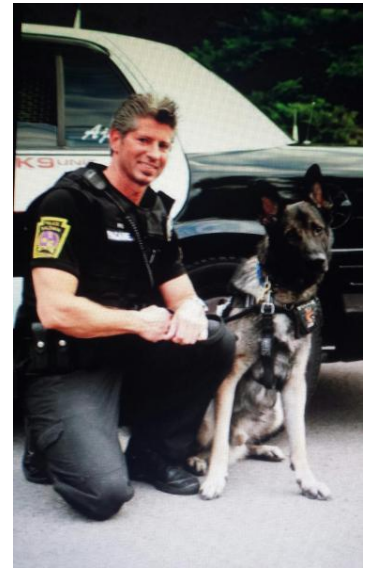
Robert Pagane

Party: Republican

Campaign Email: rjpagane@aol.com

Campaign Web Site: hopefor34.com

Facebook: R.J.Pagane



Questions:

Q: What issue(s) would you prioritize, and how would you work with others in government to get legislation passed and signed into law?

A: Safety in our streets and in our schools. Building bridges of communication between our residents and our Police agencies.

Q: What changes, if any, would you support making to Pennsylvania's election laws?

A: We have solid laws in our state. However I do not believe requiring identification and proof of living in the district one is voting in is being unreasonable or discriminatory. It is a very small requirement for anyone who is interested in voting.

Q: Article 1, Section 27 of the PA constitution guarantees the rights to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment. What actions would you take to protect these rights?

A: If the state already has regulations then it is only imperative to make certain that the laws and policies are first enforced before considering any further law proposals.

Q: There are several pieces of gun legislation being considered on comprehensive background checks, red flag laws, and firearm safety training. What is your position on these measures?

A: We have laws already whereas persons who wish to carry a concealed firearm are subject to background checks. As a law enforcement officer of 3 decades I am certain in stating that most persons who commit acts with firearms did not gain possession of their guns legally. Hence background checks are futile in that regard. I don't believe safety training is of utmost importance when it comes to imposing new laws. Anyone who purchases a gun should have the desire and common sense to learn how to safely use it. I am strongly in favor of holding gun owners accountable for their weapons to include: keeping them secure, locked up, out of the hands or reach of children, having them stolen from unlocked vehicles etc etc. They need to be accountable.