

# Vote411 Voters' Mini-Guide

*Primary Election May 17, 2022*

## Pennsylvania State Representative District 20 Democratic Primary

*This Voters' Mini-Guide is an excerpt of the [Vote411.org](http://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.*



***You must be registered as a Democrat to vote in this Democratic Primary contest. The winner of this election will be the Democratic nominee on the November ballot.***

**The 20th Legislative district contains Ross Township, Avalon, West View, Bellevue, and the Perry North neighborhood in the City of Pittsburgh.**

***To vote in this election, you must register by May 2, 2022.*** You must be registered as a Democrat to vote in the Democratic Primary or as a Republican to vote in the Republican Primary. Candidates of other parties are not included in Pennsylvania's Closed Primary.

**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 PA House of Representatives consists of 203 members representing one district each, with an equal number of constituents. 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.

## Emily Kinhead

**Party:** Democratic

### Biographical Info:

**Occupation:** State Legislator / Attorney

**Education:** Bloomsburg University of PA; Bloomsburg, PA; B.A. Political Science, B.S. Biology | University of Pittsburgh School of Law; Pittsburgh, PA; Juris Doctor

**Campaign Website:** emily4pa20.com

**Facebook:** facebook.com/emily4pa20

**Twitter:** twitter.com/emily4pa20



### 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:** My priorities are and will continue to be criminal justice reform, ending gun violence, and growing the economy. I supported community bail funds when the GOP tried to eviscerate them. This is both a racial justice and income inequality issue. I have pushed back against permitless concealed carry and preemption of local common sense gun laws. I have brought back more than \$16 million to my district and I will continue work toward passing legislation that addresses these issues. I have developed a bipartisan reputation as someone who is thoughtful, a competent legislator, and works hard. I will continue to push my bill HB 1054, which would establish an insurance and low-cost grants program for homeowners who have been impacted by landslides.

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

**A:** I am a co-sponsor of the K Leroy Irvis Voting Rights Protection Act. Beyond that, I have been raising the alarm about the numerous attacks on our democracy for the year that I have been in office. See my full remarks about the Republican attacks on our democracy from my December 2021 press conference here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7yEAGPTffA> I will continue this fight for as long as it takes, on as many fronts as it takes, to ensure that we have free and fair access to our elections by every qualified voter.

**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:** I voted twice to protect Governor Wolf's right to enter Pennsylvania into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). I have worked to secure funding to replace lead water service lines across my district and will continue to do so. I have also worked with local advocacy groups to address air quality issues in Allegheny County. I will also advocate for finally fully funding the Department of Environmental Protection so that it can finally have adequate staff to protect our natural resources and hold polluters accountable. I will also advocate for harsher penalties so that fines for polluting can no longer be considered the cost of doing business.

**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 those measures. The major uptick in gun violence we have seen since the beginning of the pandemic speaks to the incredible economic uncertainty faced by many people and the lack of investment that many kids are getting in their education. I have spent my time in office educating constituents about the programs available to support those affected by gun violence, including securing considerable grant dollars to support and expand these programs. I will continue to put this issue at the forefront of my work in the legislature.

**Nick Mastros**

**Party:** Democratic

**Biographical Info:**

No Photo  
Submitted

***This candidate has not responded.***

**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:** No response

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

**A:** No response

**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:** No response

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**A:** No response