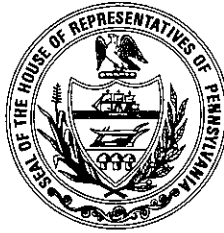


DARISHA K. PARKER, MEMBER
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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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February 13, 2023

Philadelphia Water, Sewer, and Storm Water Rate Board
1515 Arch Street
17th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Board Members:

Recently, the Philadelphia Water Department announced their intention to request an increase in water, sewer and stormwater rates and charges. I write to urge you to decline the Philadelphia Water Department's request. Such rate increases will deeply impact vulnerable residents who are struggling in poverty. This is a life sustaining resource, and we need to be working to make it more affordable, not less.

The Department's Tiered Assistance Program (TAP) is crucial in granting all Philadelphians access to clean water. With increased rates, this program will need to be increased dramatically. Otherwise, we will see residents choosing between paying the water bill, another important bill, or face housing insecurity.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I would be happy to meet with you. Otherwise, I look forward to discussing this proposed rate increase in future public hearings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darisha K. Parker".

Darisha Parker
State Representative
198th Legislative District

DP/awm