



★ PENNSYLVANIA ★

PUTTING PENNSYLVANIANS *FIRST*

AMERICA FIRST POLICY INSTITUTE

Since Pennsylvania was founded by William Penn in 1681, this haven of freedom, innovation, and self-governance has borne witness to some of the greatest chapters in our Nation's history.

It is one of the 13 original colonies, and the Declaration of Independence was signed in her Independence Hall in Philadelphia. The Battle of Gettysburg marked the turning point of the Civil War, and it was after this battle that President Abraham Lincoln called for all Americans to ensure that “government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

After the war, Pennsylvania continued to lead American production and innovation. Pennsylvania Steel Company was the first steel company in America and two of the largest steel manufacturers in U.S. history—U.S. Steel and the Bethlehem Steel Corporation—were founded and based in the state. Together with its coal and iron production, Pennsylvania was critical in establishing our Nation as a mighty industrial power. It remains the sixth-largest economy in the U.S.

During the last several decades, however, many of Pennsylvania's communities have told a different story. Jobs were once plentiful, but company towns and manufacturing bases have been hollowed out as factories moved elsewhere. Main streets have become empty storefronts, and one wage earner is often not enough to support a family.

The America First Policy Institute (AFPI), a nonprofit, non-partisan research institute that educates lawmakers and the American public on the policies that put America first, has founded a state chapter in Pennsylvania. Building on AFPI's America First Agenda, AFPI-Pennsylvania is committed to the renewal of Pennsylvania. By embracing policies that help grow Pennsylvania's economy, this state can once again reach its full potential.

We base our work on the following policies:

Building PROSPERITY and Creating OPPORTUNITIES

Inflation has driven up prices and put financial pressure on too many Pennsylvania families, and the anti-manufacturing and anti-growth policies coming out of Harrisburg—and Washington, D.C.—are not helping. Pennsylvania's farmers and agricultural community are struggling, too, under policies that jeopardize their ability to thrive. Pennsylvania can rebuild its communities and create fulfilling and well-paying jobs by reducing regulations and taxes—especially by implementing Opportunity Zones and other programs that help distressed areas—and developing a pro-business, pro-worker climate statewide.

Expanding Pennsylvania's ENERGY Leadership

Pennsylvania is awash in energy, with enough natural gas to power the entire country for the next 300 years. Unfortunately, overregulation and a hostile approach to energy production are harming the industry, threatening jobs, and pushing up costs. Policymakers should oppose tax and regulatory proposals that favor some energy sources over others, encourage infrastructure projects that expand production, and push back against harmful environmental, social, and governance (ESG) policies that drive up oil and gas costs.

Strengthening Pennsylvania FAMILIES and Children

Pennsylvania families have not forgotten the failed promises of a governor who ran on advancing school choice and funding students instead of systems. To prepare our children for the future, policymakers must ensure that parents are the ones guiding our education systems—not the government—and promote school choice opportunities for all families.

Keeping Pennsylvania's Streets SAFE

Crime has been on the rise across the country, and Pennsylvania is in need of policy solutions that keep its streets safe. By fully funding law enforcement and holding criminals accountable while also investing in programs that focus on prevention, mental health, and rehabilitation services, Pennsylvania can restore trust in its judicial system and institutions. In addition, the U.S. must secure our southern border to stop human trafficking and end the flow of fentanyl, opioids, and other dangerous drugs coming into Pennsylvania from Mexico.

Making GOVERNMENT Work For the People

Pennsylvanians deserve openness and transparency throughout all levels of government. State and local elected officials alike should ensure that the bureaucracy is accountable to the people, taxpayer dollars are spent wisely, and elections are fair, secure, and transparent. Accountability and trust in the basic functions of government are at the very foundation of our republic, and Pennsylvania's elected officials have a responsibility to meet these expectations for the people of their state.

For more information and policy recommendations, check out AFPI's website today!

LEARN MORE

A Strategic Approach for Pennsylvania

AFPI-Pennsylvania brings key partners together who can help build out these policy prescriptions. Pennsylvania has long been home to freedom-oriented thought leaders, including academic institutions, think tanks, civic groups, and religious organizations.

WE WILL BUILD THE *AMERICA FIRST* MOVEMENT FOR PENNSYLVANIA THROUGH:

Engagement

By connecting with Pennsylvania communities, we strengthen alliances and foster new relationships.

Policy Development

We are building out an agenda that develops Pennsylvania-specific policies and solutions, tapping into best practices from academic experts, policy practitioners, and other thought leaders.

Research Partnerships

By bringing together like-minded Pennsylvanians, we work as a force multiplier for each other's work so our assets go even further.

Events

By regularly convening speakers and meetings across Pennsylvania, we reinforce the message that there are still many hardworking, honest, and thoughtful Pennsylvanians who want to preserve their state's important legacy.

By mobilizing these efforts, we are expanding upon the America First Agenda and addressing the needs of hardworking Pennsylvanians.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE, AND IT NEVER WILL BE TOO LATE.

For an in-depth understanding of our work, please visit
americafirstpolicy.com/state-chapter/america-first-pennsylvania



FOLLOW US



@AmericaFirstPolicyInstitutePennsylvania



@A1Policy_PA



@a1policy



America First Policy Institute

DONATE



AMERICA FIRST POLICY INSTITUTE

americafirstpolicy.com/state-chapter/america-first-pennsylvania