

On November 12, I attended a rally in Harrisburg in support of Pennsylvania public schools on the first day of an historic school funding lawsuit being brought by six Pennsylvania school districts, the Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools, the NAACP-PA State Conference, and a group of public-school parents. The petitioners brought the lawsuit all the way back in 2014 against state government leaders for failing to uphold the General Assembly's constitutional obligation to provide a "thorough and efficient" system of public education. They're finally getting their day in court.

Every child in Pennsylvania has the right to a public education that prepares them for career or college. But our legislative leaders in Harrisburg have created a school funding system where the students who need the most get the least, because of where they live.

Pennsylvania ranks 45th in the nation for state share of funding for K-12 education and the gap keeps widening. The Education Law Center and Public Interest Law Center recently estimated that the funding gap is \$4.6 billion dollars statewide. That disparity hurts our kids, it hurts our educators, it hurts our communities.

I was proud to be there in person to lend my support as a member of the XXX SCHOOL DISTRICT XXX community and as a concerned Pennsylvanian who wants to make sure all the kids in the Commonwealth attend public schools with the resources needed to reach their full potential.