

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All Senators

**FROM:** Senator Christine Tartaglione

**DATE:** 3/15/2019

**SUBJECT:** Legislation to Protect Workplace Safety

In the near future, I plan to re-introduce legislation that would establish the Pennsylvania Occupational Safety and Health Review Board within the Department of Labor and Industry.

Currently, Pennsylvania workers at state and local government agencies do not have Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) protection. This means that workers of state and local governments are powerless to change their work environment if they feel unsafe at any time. This legislation would extend OSHA safety rules to public employers (to include the Commonwealth), all legal political subdivisions, public schools, public transit systems, and non-profit organizations.

The US Department of Labor reported that in 2017, there were 172 fatal work injuries in Pennsylvania. It is time that we ensure that all workers in Pennsylvania have a safe place to work to reduce fatal work injuries to zero.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this important legislation.