36TH DISTRICT
STATE SENATOR
JAMES ANDREW MALONE

301 EAST MAIN STREET
LITITZ, PA 17543
(717) 627-0036
FAX: (717) 627-1389

SENATE BOX 203036
THE STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3036
(717) 787-4420

COMMITTEES

GAME & FISHERIES,
MINORITY CHAIR
AGING & YOUTH
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS
COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

E-MAIL: James.Malone@pasenate.com
WEBSITE: SenatorMalone.com
FACEBOOK, X, INSTAGRAM, TIKTOK
@SenJameMalone
BLUESKY
@SenatorMalone.com

Senate of Pennsylvania

Chairman Stephen DeFrank
Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

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PUBLIC COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

Dear Chairman DeFrank:

As the cost of living continues to rise across the region, many residents are feeling the strain on their household budgets. In Lancaster County, this strain is being compounded by increasing utility costs. This September, the City of Lancaster announced a plan to increase its water rates. An additional burden at a time when consumers are already facing higher prices for housing, groceries, and energy. I am deeply concerned about the impact these rising costs will have on local families and individuals who are already struggling to make ends meet.

As you know, the City's Bureau of Water does not just provide water to City residents. Many of the communities I represent in the 36th Senate District are served by the City of Lancaster Bureau of Water and have contacted my office to share their concerns about rising prices.

I am increasingly worried about the effects these rate raises will have on my constituents. I ask that the the Public Utility Commission scrutinize these rate raises closely. Please minimize any increases and ensure the City has pursued all possible alternative sources of funding to supplement rate increases, in whole or in part. Taking this action is a critical step in ensuring the Lancaster area remains affordable for all members of our community.

Sincerely,

James Andrew Malone
State Senator
36th Senatorial District