



## Senate of Pennsylvania

The Honorable Kim L. Ward  
President Pro Tempore  
292 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3039

The Honorable Joe Pittman  
Senate Majority Leader  
350 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3041

The Honorable Scott Martin  
Majority Appropriations  
Committee Chair  
281 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3013

May 12, 2026

Dear President Pro Tempore Ward, Leader Pittman and Chairman Martin,

Recently, members of the Western Pennsylvania Bleeding Disorders Foundation (WPBDF) visited my Harrisburg office. WPBDF serves people living with Hemophilia, von Willebrand Disease, and other rare bleeding disorders. They provide education, advocacy, and many other services to help members manage their disease and improve their quality of life. Their service area includes 26 counties in Western PA:

Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Green, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Somerset, Venango, Warren, Washington, Westmoreland.

The western chapter works closely with the Hemophilia Center of Western Pennsylvania, which is one of seven hemophilia treatment centers (HTCs) in Pennsylvania. The other six HTCs service the remainder of the state and partner with our sister chapter, the Eastern Pennsylvania Bleeding Disorders Foundation. The other six HTCs are:

1. The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
2. St. Christopher's Hospital for Children
3. Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
4. Penn State Hershey Medical Center
5. Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
6. Lehigh Valley Hospital

All seven HTCs provide comprehensive care via specially trained multidisciplinary teams that include hematologists, pediatricians, nurses, social workers, physical therapists, and genetic counselors, among others.

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I am requesting your support for the Governor's budget proposal to fund the hemophilia line item at \$1,017,000. In addition, I request support to:

- Maintain the hemophilia line item as a separate line item in the budget bill; and
- Include language in the fiscal code to maintain the existing funding distribution to the HTC's.

There are approximately 20,000 patients with hemophilia and thousands more with other inherited bleeding disorders in the U.S. More than 3,000 patients receive care in Pennsylvania at the HTC's, all of which have been recognized as centers of excellence by the Commonwealth.

The HTC's are critical to the patients who receive care at these facilities. Without this support, Pennsylvania will incur approximately 5x more costs for these citizens, from emergency and inappropriate care via Medicaid and lost tax revenue from those who become unable to remain gainfully employed. The Hemophilia Program saves Pennsylvania lives and saves Pennsylvania money.

Again, on behalf of Pennsylvania's hemophilia community, I want to extend my support and request your thoughtful consideration of their requests in the upcoming budget negotiations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elder Vogel, Jr." in a cursive script.

Senator Elder Vogel, Jr.  
47<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District