



Lebanon County Democrats
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PRESS RELEASE

Our democracy depends on mutual respect, trust, and our pursuit of untainted facts and the truth. This extraordinary time of a deadly pandemic has taken over 100,000 lives. Now should be a time of cooperation and focused efforts to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus as we are making progress to reopen our community. Instead, Republicans in our legislature have defied the Governor's orders to contain and control the spread of the virus. In fact, they have behaved in a way that threatens their colleague's health. It was recently disclosed that Republican State Representative Andrew Lewis from Dauphin County tested positive for COVID-19. House Republicans, including Lebanon County's Russ Diamond (HD- 102) were notified but kept it a secret while self-quarantining for two weeks without informing any Democratic members of the state house with whom they were in contact.

Diamond has been the leading opponent of efforts to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus. He has publicly bragged about shopping without a mask and has led the efforts to undermine the Governor's orders.

Reprehensibly, PA Republican legislators and their leadership have denied medical science, and now appear to have intentionally failed to notify Democratic legislative committee members of their risk of exposure to COVID-19. .

PA State House Democrats have called for House Speaker Mike Turzai's resignation for his careless and reckless decision to put political games and his agenda ahead of public health and safety. The Lebanon County Democratic Committee concurs and would also call on Representative Russ Diamond to resign from office due to his total disregard for the health and safety of the citizens of Lebanon County and his disruptive behavior encouraging citizens to engage in civil disobedience endangering their health and the health of others. He has not met his responsibility to fulfill the oath of office to support, obey and defend the Constitution of Pennsylvania and its laws.

Lebanon County Democratic Committee
Daniel Sidelnick, Chair