

**LOU BARLETTA**

11TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

**TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

CHAIRMAN  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,  
AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE  
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**HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE**



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April 26, 2018

The Honorable Steve Mnuchin  
Secretary  
Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

I am writing today to call your attention to a matter of great importance to my district, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a whole. As you know, on April 20, 2018, Governor Tom Wolf submitted Pennsylvania's allotted 300 census tracts across the state as Qualified Opportunity Zones. Included in these 300 designations are several localities in my district that would be exceptional choices for this designation. These localities are Berwick, Bloomsburg, Shamokin, Sunbury, Danville, Hazleton, Hazle Township, Carlisle, and Harrisburg.

As you know, Qualified Opportunity Zones are a new development program established by the historic Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was signed into law last December. This program encourages long-term investment in urban and rural communities across the United States by providing investors the chance to help rebuild the country's economically distressed communities.

As a former small business owner and Mayor of Hazleton, Pennsylvania, I understand that the key to job creation and unlocking economic prosperity is investment in small, private businesses. The people of Pennsylvania are innovative, hardworking, and resilient, and providing them with this economic stimulus will lead to growth and development throughout the region and state.

I am proud to have played a role in providing relief for the forgotten men and women of America by voting for the largest tax reform package this country has seen in over 30 years. The work we are doing here in Congress is creating more jobs, higher wages, and allowing American workers to keep more of their hard-earned paychecks.

Therefore, I am respectfully asking you to take into consideration the gravity and importance of this issue for my constituents, and the sizeable impact this designation would have on Pennsylvania.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lou Barletta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lou Barletta  
Member of Congress