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### **StateRep.Me Launches First Online Tracking System for Pennsylvania State Legislature**

Philadelphia, PA (March 28, 2013) – The StateRep.Me team, a civically-minded group of independent technologists consisting of Jason Blanchard, Josh Borkowski, Christopher Brown, Joshua Darr, Lauren Gilchrist, Christopher Nies, Andrew Thompson, and Nickolas Weingartner, is pleased to announce the launch of the first web application for tracking the actions of Pennsylvania state legislators. [StateRep.Me](http://StateRep.Me) compiles the votes, press releases, tweets, and Facebook posts of all Pennsylvania state legislators in one simple web portal to enable easy tracking of legislative actions by individual representatives. Searchable by address, the goal of the application is to increase legislator accountability and constituent engagement by reducing the time and effort it takes to monitor the Pennsylvania state legislature. In addition to an ideology score for each legislator, developed by modeling preferences based on roll call voting behavior in the General Assembly and scaling legislators on a single dimension, the application also features a blog written by the team that hopes to cover notable trends in governing in the state and other pertinent topics. Finally, StateRep.Me enables registered user commentary on individual legislator actions through thumbs up/thumbs down “voting.”

StateRep.Me was conceived and executed during [Hacks4Democracy](#), a Fall 2012 [Azavea](#)-sponsored civic hackathon in Philadelphia, PA. StateRep.Me (originally called State Gov Tracker) received the “Greatest Potential Impact” award during the competition. Recently described as “a hugely important project” by Mark Headd, Chief Data Officer for the City of Philadelphia, and covered by the Sunlight Foundation’s [Blog](#), StateRep.Me is constructed using a combination of APIs provided by Azavea ([Cicero](#)), the Sunlight Foundation ([OpenStates](#)), and Twitter, along with original scraped data.

To learn more about the StateRep.Me application and the project team, visit the StateRep.Me [About page](#).

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