



# REPRESENTATIVE RYAN BIZZARRO'S **BIZZ** REPORT

NEWS FROM HOUSE MAJORITY POLICY CHAIRMAN RYAN BIZZARRO

## KEEPING YOU IN THE KNOW

I arrived in Harrisburg as one of the youngest members of the House of Representatives. Since then, I have never forgotten where I came from or where I grew up.

Family, neighbors and friends have helped keep me grounded.

One of the greatest joys about this job has been to work tirelessly as an advocate for Erie County. In the Capitol, I fight for the state funding we need to make a difference in the lives of the workers and families who call Erie home. That means advocating for our fair share for schools, first responders, police, nonprofits, small businesses and more.

Here at home, I'm proud to have one of the hardest working offices in the state.

We don't sit back and coast, we hustle.

In the first 100 days of the year, my team and I helped an average of three people each day complete Property Tax/Rent Rebate forms. By the end of August, we helped connect more than 500 people with that program, returning an estimated \$250,000 to Erie County seniors, widows, widowers and people with disabilities.

I have brought that same dogged determination to my duties as the House Majority Policy Committee Chairman and as a member of the House Majority leadership team. I am not afraid to reach across the aisle to do what's right. We crisscross the state examining big-topic issues - including allocating more money to technical education - as well as emerging concerns. One of the biggest victories this year came in the form of the state budget, which included historic education increases. It has been a difficult



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budget to negotiate, but we're working to improve how the state funds our schools for decades to come. After years of public service, one thing about me will never change: I will never stop fighting for policies that put workers, taxpayers and families first.

### MOST PRODUCTIVE HOUSE SESSION

PA House passes 150+ bills this year

### FUNDING ERIE'S NEEDS IN 2023

Bizarro has announced nearly \$14M for Erie projects

### KEEPING ERIE SAFE

Bizarro announces nearly \$4.2M for increased safety



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# REPRESENTING YOU IN HARRISBURG

Harrisburg is a long way away from Northwest Pennsylvania. That's why it's important they hear from you about our needs and concerns. I make sure that the small businesses, public schools, and people of our region get everything we deserve.

## SETTING THE AGENDA

I'm currently in my second legislative session as the House Democratic Policy Chair. I'm proud to announce that I held more than 100 Policy Committee hearings during my first session, and we've already held more than 47 hearings this session alone. But our work isn't nearly finished. We've got a busy fall schedule as we continue to travel the state focusing on the issues that matter to everyday Pennsylvanians.

As Chair of the Policy Committee, I focus on the issues that matter to you: **job creation, infrastructure reinforcement and expansion, helping businesses grow and thrive, access to healthcare, and investments in education.**



## BUDGET WINS

House Democrats passed a sensible budget in early July. It took until August, but Senate Republicans finally signed the budget and sent it to Governor Shapiro's desk to be signed into law. While the final spending plan wasn't exactly what we had imagined, we did see several budget wins, including:

- ▶ \$717 million increase in education funding
- ▶ \$10 million increase in violence intervention and prevention grants
- ▶ \$20 million in new funding for Historically Disadvantaged Business Assistance
- ▶ \$50 million in new funding for Whole Home Repairs program



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## BRINGING TAX DOLLARS BACK TO OUR REGION

In just seven months, I have already secured nearly \$14 million for the region.

### Bizzarro announces:

- ▶ \$7.3 million for local road construction, building restoration, equipment
- ▶ \$335K for water quality improvements
- ▶ \$242K for affordable housing programs
- ▶ Portion of \$4 million headed to Erie for community-driven drug and alcohol recovery services
- ▶ \$250K for apprenticeship programs
- ▶ \$157K for violence prevention programs
- ▶ \$120K for school safety improvements

## SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDERS

### Looking out for the people who look out for us:

- ▶ \$325K for West Lake Fire Dept.
- ▶ \$312K for Millcreek Police Dept.
- ▶ \$90K for Belle Valley Fire Dept.





# MOST PRODUCTIVE HOUSE SESSION

Despite working with the slimmest majority, PA House Democrats passed 150+ bills just this year to lower your taxes, help you save for retirement, put more teachers in your schools, and make our neighborhoods safer.

## BEAGLE FREEDOM BILLS

In April, I teamed up with fellow animal advocates, local and state shelters, and families to host a reunion for some of the 4,000 beagles that were rescued from a mass breeding facility in Virginia last summer. The ANNA Shelter, a nonprofit, no-kill open admission animal welfare organization located in Erie, took in 50 of those beagles, all of which have since been adopted.

As a result of those heinous acts on our four-legged friends, I unveiled my legislation to protect animals from inhumane tests and abuse. Specifically, my bills would protect animals being bred and used for research in animal testing laboratories and from kennels and dealers who face serious or multiple citations under the Animal Welfare Act. I'm doing everything I can to make sure these animals are protected, that they're able to be in someone's lap, not someone's lab.



## BILLS PASSED, SPONSORED & INTRODUCED

- ▶ **HB 126** - First-time homebuyers' savings account
- ▶ **HB 127** - Waive license fee for youth experiencing homelessness to help children enroll in schools, receive care
- ▶ **HB 130** - Permit EMS providers to administer care in patients' homes
- ▶ **HB 132** - Remove duplication of taxes for cyber education
- ▶ **HB 134** - Provide advocate for drivers with disabilities on PennDOT's advisory board
- ▶ **HB 1318, HB 1319, HB 1320** - Package of bills to help end needless animal cruelty in unneeded testing
- ▶ **HB 1335** - Ensure seniors are provided information on in-home care before committing to institutional care



## BETTER REPRESENTATION AT PENNDOT

People with disabilities who drive currently don't have a voice at the table when it comes to PennDOT. That needs to change.

My bill would ensure someone who is an advocate for people with disabilities, someone who works with people with disabilities who drive, would be placed on the Medical Advisory Board at the state Transportation Department. This is key since the board is responsible for creating the physical and medical criteria drivers must meet to obtain a license.



## Property Tax / Rent Rebate Program

**MORE** people eligible, **MORE** money back!

Homeowners Income	This Year	Next Year
Up to \$8K	\$650	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$500	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$300	\$460
Up to \$35K	\$250	\$380
Up to \$45K	\$0	\$380
Renter Income	This Year	Next Year
Up to \$8K	\$650	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$500	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$0	\$460
Up to \$45K	\$0	\$380

## EXPANDING PARAMEDICINE OPTIONS

Jam-packed hospital ERs are often clogged with patients needing nonurgent care. There's a better option.

Started in Pittsburgh, community paramedicine offers an efficient alternative to primary care and emergency services. EMS providers deliver care to patients, in their home - freeing up ER staff and facilities for urgent care. It also allows people to receive the care they need in the comfort of their own home.

Instead of rushing to a hospital, patients can receive health assessments, disease monitoring and follow-up appointments without leaving their home.

Questions? Contact my office for help receiving your refund by calling (814) 835-2880 or by visiting us at RepBizarro.com

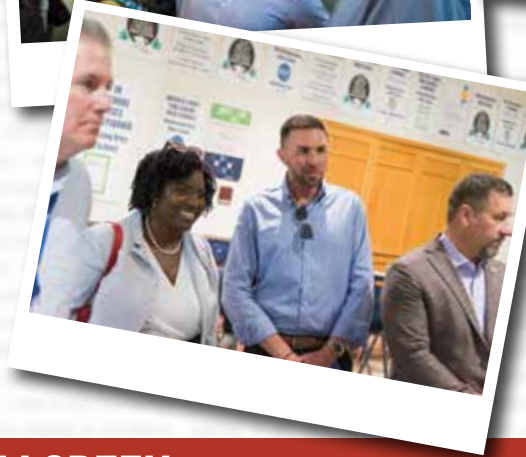




# SAVE OUR SCHOOLS POLICY TOUR

In August, The House Majority leadership team joined the Policy Committee for a statewide SOS tour to Save Our Schools, crisscrossing the state, covering more than 675 miles in four days. The committee heard from educators, school administrators, advocates and parents on the funding challenges facing public schools. The tour made stops to talk about the need to fix toxic schools, to discuss disparity in education funding, for a hearing on the importance of bolstering rural education, and to talk about the cyber charter school reimbursement issue.

We visited four counties in four days, having important conversations with the teachers and administrators who dedicate their time to our students, and we've heard the same thing at each stop—we must properly and equally fund education in Pennsylvania. It's time to get to work.



# ARMORED VEHICLE FOR MILLCREEK

In the fall, I was proud to secure \$312,000 for the Millcreek Township Police Department to help them purchase an armored vehicle. These are life-preserving vehicles built for the specific purpose of saving the lives of local law enforcement. It's extremely rewarding to see state funds

being used to protect the well-being of officers who are called on to step into harm's way to serve our community. It's been an honor to work so closely with the Millcreek Township Police Department.



# OFFICE INFORMATION

My dedicated office staff is waiting to help you navigate state services and programs! Here's how you can get in touch with my offices.

## Erie Office:

Peninsula Plaza  
1101 Peninsula Drive, Suite 213  
Erie, PA 16505-4169  
814-835-2880  
Mon. - Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## Fairview Office:

Fairview Township Building  
7471 McCray Road  
Fairview, PA 16415-2401  
814-835-2880  
Wednesdays, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## Harrisburg Office:

116 Main Capitol Building  
P O Box 202003  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2003  
717-772-2297  
Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

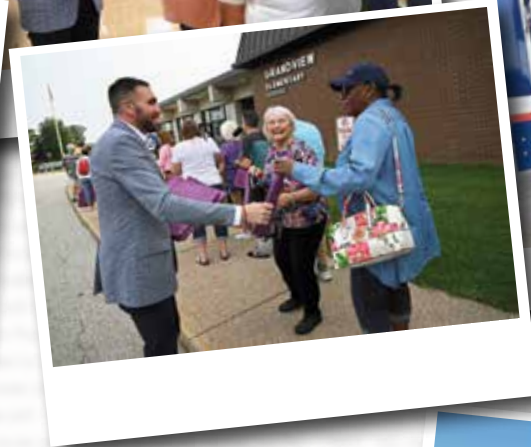




# 2023 SENIOR FAIR & OLDER LIVING EXPO

We had a RECORD turnout for this year's Senior Fair & Older Living expo. I want to thank the 1,000+ of you who came out to the event this year. A special thank you to my team and the vendors for making this event such a huge success for our community. And finally, I want to thank U.S. Senator John Fetterman for stopping by. It was great to see him in Erie, and the attendees were very happy to see him as well!

Are you an older PA resident who needs help obtaining state services? We can help. Call me at (814) 835-2880.



## SAVE THE DATE

### License Plate Replacement Event

Do you have a damaged, blistered, peeling or hard-to-read license plate? My office can help! I'm once again partnering with the Millcreek Township Police Department for a License Plate Replacement event. Come visit us on Thursday, September 28 from 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the former Kmart Plaza at W. 26th St. and Sterrettania Road.

Note: You will NOT receive a plate on the day of the event, and you will NOT receive the same plate back from PennDOT. Your old plate must remain on the car until the new plate is sent back to our office. Once a new plate is delivered, owners should replace it immediately. Our office will take the old, damaged plate and return it to PennDOT.

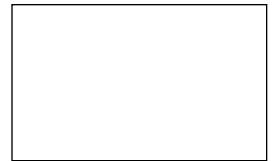






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## I'M HERE TO HELP

As state representative, one of my most important jobs is helping you get the most out of state government. The list below explains some of the many ways my office and I can help.

- ▶ Unemployment or the PUA system.
- ▶ FREE notary (excludes title transfers).
- ▶ Property tax/rent rebates for seniors.
- ▶ Voter registration and vote by mail.
- ▶ Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance).
- ▶ Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications.
- ▶ Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems.
- ▶ Information on financial assistance for higher education.
- ▶ Assistance in obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds.
- ▶ Birth and death certificates.
- ▶ Complaints or questions about utilities and the Public Utility Commission.
- ▶ Complaints and problems with insurance companies.
- ▶ Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications.
- ▶ Problems or questions about the state lottery.
- ▶ PACE cards for senior citizens.
- ▶ Consumer complaints.



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