



State Representative ANITA ASTORINO KULIK

45th Legislative District

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GREETINGS!

As we come to the end of 2025, I can't help but reflect back on all the wonderful memories I have as your state representative. In this newsletter is a small sampling of things that were accomplished, and events that were held, and the places I was able to visit and the good people of the district I was grateful to meet.

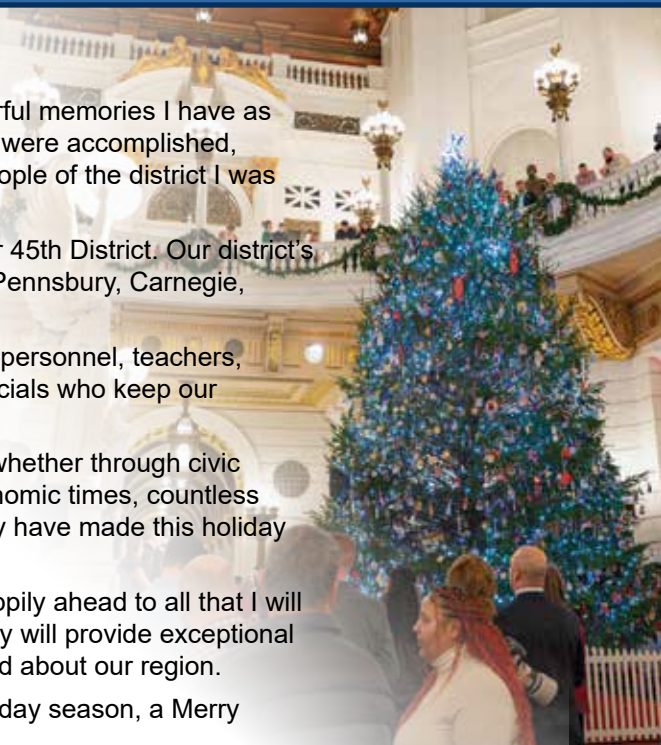
I cannot comment enough about the people I am fortunate to represent in our 45th District. Our district's 10 municipalities – Robinson, Kennedy, Coraopolis, Stowe, McKees Rocks, Pennsbury, Carnegie, Collier, Bridgeville and Neville – are full of warm and welcoming residents.

I likewise cannot say THANK YOU enough to all the police, firefighters, EMS personnel, teachers, administrators, medical professionals, and local government workers and officials who keep our communities safe and running.

Special thanks to all those who serve in volunteer roles in our communities, whether through civic or church organizations, or in other capacities. Especially in these trying economic times, countless volunteers have taken the time to help our struggling neighbors. And so many have made this holiday season brighter for so many!

While 2026 will be my last year as your state representative, I am looking happily ahead to all that I will get to do with our communities in the coming year. Our nation's 250th birthday will provide exceptional opportunities for our towns and residents to shine and show off all that is good about our region.

On behalf of my Staff and myself, I want to wish everyone the best of the holiday season, a Merry Christmas, and a truly blessed and successful New Year!



2025-2026

PA BUDGET WINS

- No new taxes or reductions in the Rainy Day Fund
- **Over \$100M increase** for Basic Education Funding and a **\$40M increase** to Special Education funding
- **\$125M** for public school facility improvement grants, with at least **\$25M** set aside for Solar for Schools
- **Nearly \$600M** investment to further address adequacy and help kids in our public schools
- **\$25M** for child care worker retention and recruitment
- Putting money back in the pockets of Pennsylvanians with the Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit (WPTC)
- **\$750M** for the MA Managed Care Program, supporting those compassionate care workers
- **\$150M increase** to help Pennsylvanians with intellectual disabilities
- **\$40M** to feed hungry Pennsylvanians and support family farms
- **Nearly \$300M increase** to fund DCNR and DEP, supporting environmental projects
- Funding to fix and improve roads and bridges across the commonwealth
- **More than \$100M** in job creation, innovation, and entrepreneurial support

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

At long last, the state has a balanced, bipartisan budget. I voted for this plan because it's a budget that helps every kid in Allegheny County's schools, restores services, and prevents layoffs – with no tax increases or reductions in the Rainy Day Fund.

While no budget is perfect, this budget spends a little over \$50 billion and represents a compromise between proposals from the governor, the House and the Senate.

Here are some of the highlights of what the budget accomplishes:

- Cuts your costs and makes it easier for you and your family to survive when the federal government is so unpredictable.
- Makes sure Allegheny County and our townships and boroughs won't be forced to lay off the hardworking people who keep us moving.
- Increases school funding and makes sure those dollars go to kids in our local school districts so they have tools they need to learn.
- Gives people in crisis somewhere to turn.
- Fixes roads and bridges, protects our air and water, and supports the local businesses that invest in you and our communities.

This budget creates jobs, invests in kids, protects seniors, and stands up for taxpayers like you today and in the future.



House Game and Fisheries Committee sponsored our annual Zoo Day featuring the Commonwealth's zoos and the National Aviary.

I joined colleagues and Game Wardens for a firsthand look at Pennsylvania's bear conservation efforts.

HOUSE GAME & FISHERIES COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

As majority chair of the House Game & Fisheries Committee, I'm proud of the work we've done this year to expand opportunities for hunters, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts in Pennsylvania. I'm excited to share key highlights, including major legislative wins, that are protecting our natural resources while giving Pennsylvanians more ways to enjoy the outdoors.

I enjoyed learning about mussels, native fish, and electrofishing with the Game and Fisheries Committee, thanks to the DEP and a surprise visit from our Water Conservation Officers.



ADDRESSING ABANDONED BOATS IN PA WATERWAYS

My legislation addressing abandoned boats in Pennsylvania's waterways is now law.

Act 28 of 2025 clearly defines "abandoned," "at-risk," and "derelict" vessels and sets up a process for authorities to tag, investigate, and remove problem boats. It requires officials to notify owners and give them 14 days to act before removal, allows municipalities to recover costs, and increases penalties for abandonment.

Abandoned boats have become a growing safety and environmental concern. I worked with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to get this done and I'm proud that this law will give communities the tools they need to hold boat owners accountable and protect our waterways. Act 28 takes effect in January.



With a Water Conservation Officer and MBA students from Duquesne University to discuss the issue of abandoned boats and possible solutions.



Members of the House Game and Fisheries Committee met with the PA Game Commission and other leaders to discuss updates on the Commonwealth's Elk programs.

EXPANDED SUNDAY HUNTING

I'm also glad to share that Pennsylvania's long-standing ban on Sunday hunting has officially ended. This was one of the last remaining "blue laws" in the state, and changing it opens up more opportunities for hunters across the Commonwealth.

House Bill 1431, introduced by my colleague Rep. Mandy Steele, D-Allegheny, fully repeals the Sunday hunting ban and gives the Pennsylvania Game Commission the authority to offer more Sunday hunting days. Governor Josh Shapiro signed it into law as Act 36 of 2025.

Through strong bipartisan work on the House Game and Fisheries Committee, we were able to help guide this bill through to become law, giving hunters more flexibility while supporting our outdoor traditions.

LEGISLATION I SPONSORED

My legislation, House Bill 97, allowing the courts to consider factors when awarding pets during divorces, has overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives. As someone who saw firsthand in family law how difficult it can be for couples to decide who keeps a beloved pet, I introduced this bill to give our courts clear guidance. I'm grateful to my colleagues who supported the measure and to the advocacy groups whose efforts helped make this possible.

The House also passed House Bill 102 with bipartisan support. I introduced this bill to address the growing problem of verbal and physical harassment being faced by our sports officials.

Sports officials enforce the rules of the games they officiate. These rules are in place to keep our kids safe on the field of play. Without officials, games would not be possible.

FUNDING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

As your state representative, I'm proud to help bring state funding back to our communities to support local projects and services.

- Chartiers Avenue Apartments project - \$1.8 million in federal tax credits for affordable housing development in McKees Rocks.
- Captain Thomas Espy Post at the Andrew Carnegie Free Library in Carnegie - \$10,000 from the America250PA to preserve Civil War uniform pieces for public display.
- Carlynton Junior-Senior High School - \$254,683 from the Solar for Schools Grant Program to support the school's solar project.
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Western PA in Carnegie - \$214,539 for HVAC replacement at the Carnegie Clubhouse.



- Mancini's Bakery Inc. in McKees Rocks - \$80,000 for the bakery's addition project, which includes acquiring building and demolition, equipment purchase, engineering, architectural planning and sidewalk repairs.
- The Municipal Authority of the Township of Robinson - \$253,300 for the Route 60 waterline replacement from Church Hill Road to Tidball Road.
- Carnegie Borough - \$200,000 to make the Irishtown Tot Park and Carnegie Municipal Park more accessible to children with disabilities.



I worked with Sen. Devlin Robinson to secure funding for a new sewer truck, giving Char-West COG municipalities a more efficient, cost-effective way to maintain their systems.

FIRE AND EMS GRANTS

13 fire and emergency medical services companies in the 45th Legislative District were awarded grants totaling \$227,000 through the state's Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program.

- Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Department - \$14,385.
- Carnegie Volunteer Fire and Rescue - \$13,524.
- Coraopolis Volunteer Fire Department - \$13,524.
- Forest Grove Volunteer Fire Department - \$16,322.
- Kennedy Township Volunteer Fire Co. - \$14,385.
- Kirwan Heights Volunteer Firemans Association (Fire and EMS) - \$28,739.
- Moon Run Volunteer Fire Co. - \$15,030.
- Neville Island General Volunteer Fire Department - \$13,094.
- Presto Volunteer Fire Department - \$15,891.
- Rennerdale Volunteer Fire Department - \$13,955.
- Robinson Emergency Medical Service Inc. - \$15,000.
- Robinson Township Volunteer Fire Co. No. 1 - \$14,170.
- Stowe Township Volunteer Fire Department - \$39,676.

MY OFFICE CAN HELP WITH:

- Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program.
- PACE prescription drug cards for senior citizens.
- Information on financial assistance for higher education.
- Unemployment, disability or workers' compensation.
- Pennsylvania income tax problems.
- Problems or questions about PennDOT - car registrations, special tags, disability parking placards, titles and driver's license applications.
- Consumer complaints.
- Complaints or questions about utilities and the PUC.
- Assistance with Pittsburgh Regional Transit ConnectCards for seniors.

NOW OPEN

Property Tax / Rent Rebate Applications
Giving money back to PA renters and homeowners

Homeowner & Renter Income	Max Rebate
Up to \$8,270	\$1,000
Up to \$15,510	\$770
Up to \$18,610	\$460
Up to \$46,520	\$380

Extended until **December 31, 2025**

NEED ENERGY ASSISTANCE?

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides cash grants to help Pennsylvania families pay their heating bills.

APPLY NOW!



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PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

