



State Representative • 172nd Legislative District

Kevin J. Boyle

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DISTRICT OFFICES: **Fox Chase** – 7801-A Hasbrook Ave. • Philadelphia, PA 19111 • (215) 695-1016

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Property Tax/ Rent Rebate program now accepting applications

FREE assistance with filing applications for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is available in my constituent service office. The program, primarily funded by the Pennsylvania Lottery, has contributed \$4.8 billion to rebates for older Pennsylvanians and those living with disabilities.

The program provides rebates on property taxes paid in 2012 to eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older; widows and widowers 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The annual income limit is \$35,000 for homeowners and \$15,000 for renters and half of Social Security, Supplemental Security or federal Railroad Retirement Tier I income is excluded.

If you receive a mailing or solicitation asking you to pay a fee for help with filing this application, PLEASE IGNORE IT.

State Reps. Kevin and Brendan Boyle working to bring back Fox Chase Night Out



Over the years, hundreds if not thousands of families all across Northeast Philadelphia have enjoyed the annual Fox Chase Night Out. Unfortunately, this popular event did not take place as usual last year due to several logistical and funding issues. As a Fox Chase resident, I was dismayed by this and decided to do something about it. Working with my brother and colleague state Rep. Brendan Boyle who represents a portion of Fox Chase we reached out to President Steve Philips of the Fox Chase Town Watch and began the process of trying to bring back the event to the neighborhood. In previous years, the Fox Chase Town Watch had been the community group solely responsible for hosting the annual Fox Chase Night Out.

My office and Brendan's have engaged in several meetings with Mr. Phillips and we are all on the same page. This is a crucial event which brings the great neighborhood of Fox Chase together. Collectively, our offices have begun working on a vendor list and have made contact with the school district to secure the location. "I know that neither Kevin nor I are going to be one of these guys who just show up to take a bow, we plan to roll up our sleeves and make this Night Out happen," Brendan said of efforts to revive the event.

Both Brendan and I are proud to represent Fox Chase. Our staff members, many of whom also live in Fox Chase, are excited to work on this project and we are confident that it will look and feel like it has in the past.

Fox Chase Night Out is slated to come back on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM at Fox Chase Elementary School. If you have any questions, would like further information or would like to be a vendor, please contact my office at 215-695-1016.



Rep. Boyle's sworn in to his second term representing the 172nd Legislative District. He said following the ceremony, "I was honored to be sworn in to represent the people of the 172nd Legislative District for the second time. In the upcoming session, I plan to continue the work I started in my first term, including maintaining the quality of life in our neighborhoods."

Stronger regulations for methadone clinics

As you may know, I've been part of a nearly two-year fight to prevent a methadone clinic from locating at 7900 Frankford Ave. The proposed Healing Way methadone clinic came out of nowhere and we've been fighting it ever since this clinic tried opening in secrecy on the same block as a child daycare, kids dance studio and a church.

In an effort to keep it from happening again, I have reintroduced legislation that would tighten the loose regulations now in place for narcotics treatment facilities. I sincerely believe that had stronger regulations regarding the placement of these clinics been in place, we would not have been blindsided.

To gather more facts on methadone treatment facilities and their effect on host communities, I organized a House Policy Committee public hearing in January. Those testifying made me more convinced than ever on the need for my legislation and that the proposed facility along Frankford Avenue is not a good location.

House Bill 422 would require the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs to notify all federal, state and local elected officials within five days of receiving an application for a proposed facility. It also would require the department to assess whether adequate parking is available at the proposed location.

At least one public hearing regarding the proposed

facility also would be required under my bill, and all property and business owners located within 500 feet of the proposed treatment facility would have to receive written notice of the public hearing at least 30 days prior to it being held.

The public has the right to receive adequate notice and the chance to respond when a narcotics treatment center wants to open in their community. The goal of my bill is to create a more transparent process and give communities the tools they need to prepare.

My legislation is now under consideration in the House Human Services Committee.



Rep. Boyle questions a testifier during his public hearing about the effects of narcotics treatment facilities on communities.



Rep. Boyle, along with the Bridge Educational Foundation, presents a check to students at Father Judge High School. He continues working with education organizations like the Bridge Foundation to support the state's EITC program, which authorizes tax credits to businesses that make contributions to scholarship organizations, educational improvement organizations that work with public schools, and pre-kindergarten scholarship organizations.

Boyle bill would require mandatory reporting of child abuse

I have reintroduced legislation aimed at ensuring that people who witness the abuse of a child report it to the proper authorities.

The Jerry Sandusky child sexual abuse scandal brought to light inadequacies in state law regarding the responsibilities of staff who witness abuse at their place of employment. Current law only requires that the abuse be reported to the person in charge of the institution, school, facility or agency, or the designated agent of the person in charge.

My bill (H.B. 673) would require staff members of institutions to immediately notify a law enforcement official of witnessed abuse, rather than simply following an in-house and likely confusing chain of command.

Our current laws, coupled with the inaction of various individuals, failed the victims of Jerry Sandusky. We cannot let that happen again.

Is the PA Treasury holding your unclaimed property?

Each year, the state treasury receives millions of dollars of unclaimed property. It might be yours, and my office can help you find it.

What is unclaimed property?

- Closed bank accounts
- Uncashed checks, including paychecks
- Lost stocks and bonds
- Contents of safe deposit boxes
- Proceeds from the demutualization of insurance companies
- Expired gift cards/gift certificates

If these items go unclaimed for five years, they must be turned over to the state Treasurer's Office, which is required to hold unclaimed property.

Treasury estimates that roughly one in 10 Pennsylvanians has unclaimed property.

To find out if that's you, contact my office. My staff and I can help you determine if you have unclaimed property being held by the Treasurer's Office. There is NO CHARGE to claim your unclaimed property.

Visit to Israel educational, powerful

In early March I took part in a one-week mission to Israel with four other state lawmakers, including my brother Rep. Brendan Boyle, to discuss economic and foreign policy issues with Israeli leaders. The visit was organized and paid for by the Pennsylvania Jewish Coalition and the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

Our visit included security briefings and meetings with retired and current military officials that involved, among other things, the Iranian nuclear threat. Many in Israel and here at home are encouraging states to pass laws that would help reduce that threat. One idea is to pass a law that would prohibit firms that provide at least \$20 million in goods and services to Iran's energy sector from winning a contract worth \$1 million or more with Pennsylvania.

In addition to these meeting and briefings, we visited sensitive areas such as a Jewish settlement in the West Bank and the Negev town of Netivot near the Gaza border.

Our visit to Yad Vashem, Israel's national Holocaust memorial, was one of the most powerful moments of my life. Brendan has introduced a bill in the legislature calling for the state to mandate Holocaust education in public and private schools. I am working with him to get the bill passed.

The whole experience was informative and educational, and helped me to understand the needs and workings of others across our globe.



Reps. Kevin and Brendan Boyle in Jerusalem, the capital of Israel.



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**Save the date for this
upcoming event!**

DOCUMENT SHREDDING EVENT

FREE SATURDAY, MAY 4

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

State Rep. Kevin Boyle's District Office

7801 Hasbrook Ave.

(Hasbrook Ave. and Hartel Ave.)

Philadelphia, PA 19111

Bring personal financial documents that are no longer needed, and any other papers with confidential information, such as account numbers and signatures. The documents will be shredded on site. Please No Trash. Limited to 4 shopping bags.



Rep. Boyle presents more than 200 pounds of food collected by his constituent service office to Lillian Leaser of Feast of Justice food pantry.