

END OF THE YEAR REVIEW

STATE REPRESENTATIVE MANUEL “MANNY” GUZMAN, JR. 127TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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Dear Neighbor,

I want to start by wishing you a Happy New Year! As we head into the first days of 2024 and a new legislative session, this is the time to reflect on this year and share with you some highlights of my work.

My priorities are reflected in this recap. I am championing public safety, fair public education funding, affordable housing, and increasing access to mental health services.

I am committed to doing all I can to ensure our community is moving in the right direction.

Please remember to reach out to my office for any assistance that my staff and I can provide with state and local services. There are many resources we can connect you with, so give us a call or stop by to see how we can help you.



Manuel “Manny” Guzman, Jr.
State Representative

I AM HONORED TO REPRESENT MY COMMUNITY



January 3, 2023, marked the beginning of my second term representing Pennsylvania’s 127th Legislative District. Once again, I took the oath of office in the state Capitol to serve my community and I am beyond honored.



VISIT WITH PA SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION IN READING

It was a great pleasure to host Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Secretary Mike Carroll in Reading on July 25. We discussed current state-level efforts on regional transportation needs and projects that will benefit Berks County.

The visit was an opportunity to talk about the needs in our community in terms of transportation and infrastructure, but also a chance to learn more about ongoing and future projects of the Department of Transportation in Berks County.



SMALL BUSINESS TOUR WITH LT GOV. AUSTIN DAVIS

I had the honor to partner with Lt. Gov. Austin Davis to walk the streets of our community and get a pulse of the Latino and Black-owned businesses in the area.

We were able to hear directly from business owners about their concerns, struggles and hopes. I am determined to bring resources to the community and boost our economy.



FULLY COMMITTED TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY

In May and August, I hosted two successful job fairs in Reading. Over 600 residents came throughout the day to speak to 100 local companies about career opportunities in a welcoming, casual environment.



\$50K GRANT TO IMPROVE THE SERVICES OF HELPING HARVEST

Last year, I helped secure \$50,000 in grant funding for Helping Harvest. The funds allocated will allow Helping Harvest to purchase a new transit van to deliver food to the Weekender Program at elementary schools and to pick up donations from retail grocer partners.



\$32,470 IN GRANT FUNDING TO ENHANCE VALUABLE VIOLENCE-PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS



I am always glad to contribute to the development of organizations like nonprofit **The Real Deal610**. Proud to say that we secured \$32,470 in grant funding to enhance valuable violence-prevention and mental health programs in our community. Thanks to Executive Director and Founder Seleda Simmons for her hard work and activism!

RAISE THE WAGE



I have been fighting relentlessly for a minimum wage increase. I am calling on the Senate to approve H.B. 1500. The bill would raise the state's minimum wage, which has been stagnant since 2007.

CHAMPIONING A FAIR BUDGET FOR OUR COMMUNITY



House Democrats have invested a huge amount of dollars in the school system. We have provided resources in our neighborhoods, and have allocated tax credits to attract more teachers, police officers and nurses. I am proud of our work with the budget; we have done our job to close the gap of inequality by acknowledging that inequality exists.

FUNDING FOR THE READING HOUSING AUTHORITY

It was truly a pleasure to present a check to the Reading Housing Authority for \$200,000. The funds will support the construction of a playground in the Oakbrook housing complex.



SIMPLIFYING THE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS



I am amazed by the outpouring of support that we received during our Grant Workshop in October. I am proud to say that all participants were provided with the skills needed to prepare competitive grant applications. I am determined to empower individuals and organizations in our community to pursue funding opportunities.

RALLY TO SAVE OUR SCHOOLS

House Democrats have been touring schools across the state. In August I hosted a visit to the Reading School District. Because it's about the kids – not the special interests.

We are going to keep fighting and we won't stop until all our schools across Pennsylvania are properly and equally funded.



GOVERNOR SHAPIRO VISITS THE MILLMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



I had the honor and privilege of joining Gov. Josh Shapiro and Dr. Khalid Mumin, the state Secretary of Education, during a visit to the Millmont Elementary School to talk about the budget's significant investments in K-12 public schools.

The spending plan includes the largest increase in basic education funding in Pennsylvania history and universal free breakfast for public school students.



BACK TO SCHOOL RESOURCE FAIR

I partnered with local organizations to host a new installment of my traditional Back-to-School Resource Fair to help those in need. The outcome was an extraordinary outpouring of support from our neighbors, an epic day full of services, giveaways, and resources. I was able to distribute more than 300 backpacks and essential school supplies in our community.





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State Representative Manny Guzman

I'm here to help!

My team and I can help with:

- Property Tax/Rent Rebate
- Information about jobs, housing relief and utility assistance
- Prescription assistance for seniors
- Drivers Licenses & Vehicle Registration



Call our office toll free: **(833) 767-3576** Now available!

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THANKSGIVING RESOURCE FAIR

One of the most anticipated events in my district and one of my favorites is the Thanksgiving Resource Fair. Not only do I provide information about state-related resources and services, but I also am able to help families in need have a great meal during the holiday. I was able to connect neighbors to services available to them and offered a turkey giveaway among more than 1,000 residents. I am grateful for the support of all residents, and I am committed to continue working to help our community thrive.

