

# THE ROZZI *Report*

From State Representative

**MARK ROZZI**

*126th Legislative District*



## Dear Neighbor,

As I carry out my final term as your state representative, I want you to know that serving the 126th Legislative District has been the honor of a lifetime for me. For the last 12 years, I've been our community's voice in the Pennsylvania House, advocating for those facing difficult situations, improving our public schools, and protecting the safety and well-being of children. None of this important work would have been possible without your support.

Not only is it a legislator's job to advocate for change within the state Capitol, but I also dedicated myself to ensuring our community received its fair share of funding. Throughout my six terms, I've helped secure funding for Antietam, Exeter Township, Muhlenberg, Reading and Wyomissing Area school districts; our community's first responders; projects to improve our area's infrastructure and roadways; and revitalization efforts for downtown Reading – just to name a few. These are state dollars going to work right here in our neighborhoods to improve residents' quality of life. Plus, I've worked hard to keep our favorite home team right where they belong, here in Reading. I've secured nearly \$10 million for FirstEnergy Stadium to ensure it can meet Major League Baseball standards. Go Phils!

In 2023, during my sixth term in office, I ascended to Speaker of the House. In the highest office of this legislative chamber, my priorities remained the same – being fair and delivering justice. I promised to remain independent to ensure every voice and vote weighed the same on the House floor. Government should not operate in a vacuum. As Speaker, I felt that lawmakers needed to come together and meet in the middle to pass legislation that truly benefited every citizen of this commonwealth. This is how I shepherded the passage of five bills that would reform our state's statute of limitations laws for survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Not only should child predators be held

accountable for their actions, but these victims deserve justice. Unfortunately, all five of these bills continue to languish in the Senate.

Although my time as Speaker was brief, I resigned with dignity knowing that I did everything I could for childhood sexual abuse survivors and implanted new rules to end the House's partisan games.



In closing, I want to assure you that although my time as your state representative is coming to an end, my office in Temple remains open to help you with any state-related matter. My staff at the district office, located at 4933 Kutztown Road, are well-versed in navigating state government websites and procedures. They've helped

folks collect unclaimed property in their name, file Property Tax/Rent Rebates, apply for REAL ID, provide free notary services, coordinate tours of the state Capitol, and so much more. We're still here to help you from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays.

Thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility to represent you. It has truly been an honor to serve, and I remain optimistic about the future of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Rozzi".

# BIPARTISAN BUDGET PASSED

In early July, the legislature passed the state's annual budget and Gov. Josh Shapiro signed the main spending bill into law. I voted in favor of this budget because it's a fair and balanced plan that prioritizes Pennsylvanians in every stage of life. We invested a historic \$1.3 billion in education with a 7.2% increase in special education, increased funding for students' mental health and physical safety, and provided money for menstrual products to help students focus on learning.

**Increases brought home in this year's budget compared to last year's.**



## FURTHER, THIS SPENDING PLAN SUPPORTS:

- Taxpayers by not raising or implementing any new taxes.
- Pennsylvania seniors by allotting for rate increases under Medicaid for nursing homes and home- and community-based services.
- Servicemembers by allocating an additional \$14 million to the state Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to provide services for veterans and their families.
- Those living with intellectual disabilities, increasing the Community Waiver program by \$261 million.
- Working parents by allotting an extra \$26.2 million in subsidized child care services and creating an employer child care tax credit – incentivizing Pennsylvania businesses to help cover their employees' child care costs.
- Student teachers by providing \$20 million for stipends.
- Community revitalization efforts by launching the \$20 million Main Street Matters program, under the Department of Community and Economic Development, which will provide grants to enhance local economies.

# NEW LAWS TO BE AWARE OF

## CRACKING DOWN ON DISTRACTED DRIVING

Earlier this year, the legislature passed Pennsylvania's new distracted driving law, which makes using a cellphone while driving a chargeable offense. Drivers can still use their phones to alert emergency responders and to make phone calls, use a GPS, and listen to music if they are using hands-free technology. It will take effect next year and have a one-year warning period before tickets will be issued.

## PHARMACIES DOING MORE FOR YOU

This new law provides for the oversight of pharmacy benefit manager contracts with pharmacies in Pennsylvania, creates consumer protections in purchasing medications, and creates state Department of Insurance oversight of PBMs. It also allows pharmacists to administer covid and flu vaccines to children 5 and older, and other injectable medications and vaccines to children 8 and older. This initiative will help cut costs for Pennsylvanians while safeguarding access to health care.

## SMOOTHER TRANSITION FROM COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO STATE UNIVERSITIES

It's now easier to transfer from an in-state community college to one of the 10 Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education schools. The new law ensures that all Pennsylvanians who earned an associate's degree from a Council for Higher Education-accredited institution (Reading Area Community College is an accredited institution) will be granted admission with junior status into the PASSHE system.



▲  
I was happy to vote in favor of these three bills in the House.

## VOTE ON (OR BEFORE) NOV. 5

This year's presidential election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 5. If you want to vote by mail, the last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot is October 29 at 5 p.m. Remember, you have to re-request to vote by mail every year. Use the QR code to request it now.

The county election office must receive your mail-in ballot by 8 p.m. on Nov. 5 for it to count. Please know that a Nov. 5 postmark is not sufficient.

For people who choose to vote in person, polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you're in line by 8 p.m., you're entitled to vote.

You can visit [vote.pa.gov](https://vote.pa.gov) for more information or call my office at (610) 921-8921.



# OUT AND ABOUT

I've attended Word of the Week assemblies with Muhlenberg students each year since my first term, and I'm always impressed by the students and the organization of staff who put on these events.



I presented Kutztown University with a \$1.5 million check to kickstart their brand new regenerative organic farming program in partnership with the Rodale Institute, which will revolutionize farming as we know it.



I was honored to accept an award from Child USA in recognition of the work I've done in Harrisburg to hold child predators accountable and safeguard the well-being of Pennsylvania children.



A visit to the Reading Area Firefighters Museum consisted of discussing their planned updates and how the state can help bring those plans to fruition.



My Chief of Staff, Chad, and me putting the "treat" in trick-or-treat at the Temple Halloween parade!

**BACK BY  
POPULAR DEMAND!**

**JOIN ME FOR MY  
FINAL SHRED EVENT!**

# SHRED EVENT



**SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 28**  
9 A.M. - 12 P.M.  
Muhlenberg High School  
400 Sharpe Ave.

Residents of the 126th Legislative District are invited to Representative Rozzi's free shred event. Declutter your home and safeguard your identity by securely shredding papers containing your personal information. This is a first-come, first-serve event and may end before noon in the event that the truck fills up sooner. Ten box maximum per person.



State Representative  
**MARK ROZZI**


126th Legislative District

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State Representative

**MARK ROZZI**

4933 Kutztown Road  
Temple, PA 19560-1569



**JOIN ME FOR MY FINAL SHRED EVENT**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

Open for more details.

lpo.sh.0824



State Representative  
**MARK ROZZI**

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## MY OFFICE CAN HELP WITH:

- **Voter registration, absentee and mail-in ballot applications**
- **Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions**
- **Birth and death certificates**
- **PACE prescription-drug cards for senior citizens**
- **Car registrations, special tags, disability parking placards, titles, and driver's license applications**
- **Reporting potholes or any problems/questions about PennDOT**
- **Information on financial assistance for higher education**
- **Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation**
- **Problems or questions about the state lottery**
- **Consumer complaints**
- **Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications**
- ***Or any problem with state government!***