

# The Gallagher Gazette

FALL 2024



State Rep. Pat Gallagher

173rd Legislative District

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Hello neighbor,

With my first term as your state representative coming to an end, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the privilege of serving you the past 2 years. It has been an honor to represent our community, whether by providing state government-related services through our district office or by advocating for legislation in the State House to improve our neighborhoods.

As we look ahead to the 2025-26 legislative term, I remain committed to working hard for Northeast Philadelphia—both in our community and at the state Capitol—to deliver meaningful results. In this newsletter, I'm excited to share information about valuable state programs and highlight some of the initiatives and accomplishments we've achieved together. Thank you for trusting me to represent you, and I look forward to continuing our work in the years to come!

State Rep. Pat Gallagher  
173rd Legislative District  
Philadelphia

## Programs That Can Help You

It's important for you to be able to stay warm inside your home this winter. Applications are now open for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. The graphic below has qualification info and shows how much money a household can receive to help with utility bills by size. If you have any questions or need help applying, feel free to contact my office.

2024-2025 Income Guidelines	
Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
1	\$22,590
2	\$30,660
3	\$38,730
4	\$46,800
5	\$54,870
6	\$62,940
7	\$71,010
8	\$79,080

Each additional person \$8,070

**Still Need Energy Assistance?**  
LIHEAP Cash applications will continue to be accepted through **April 4, 2025**

The application deadline for Pennsylvania's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is Dec. 31. Take advantage of this opportunity to see if you qualify for a rebate on the property taxes or rent you paid in 2023. The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program benefits Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows or widowers 50 or older, and adults with disabilities 18 or older. Both renters and homeowners are eligible to receive rebates. Contact my office if you have questions or need help applying.

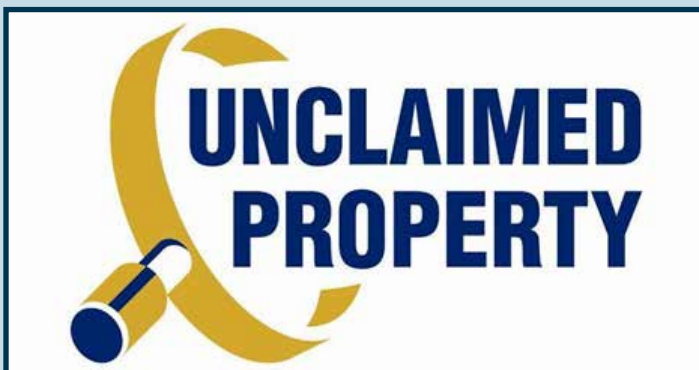
**Property Tax / Rent Rebate 2024 Program Expansion**  
*MORE* people eligible, *MORE* money back!

Homeowner & Renter Income	Max Rebate
Up to \$8K	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$460
Up to \$45K	\$380

Deadline extended to **December 31, 2024**

The state Treasurer's Office is holding millions of dollars in unclaimed property, and some of it could be yours! Unclaimed property is any financial asset that has been left with a bank, insurance company, business or organization without any activity for five years.

Contact my office so we can help you search the database and claim what's yours!



# ARE YOU A VETERAN AND NEED HELP UNDERSTANDING YOUR BENEFITS?



Veteran Service Officers from a nationally recognized organization are available to assist you in my district office. This takes place on the third Thursday of every month. Veteran Service Officers, VSOs, are nationally accredited to counsel and assist veterans and their families with service-connected disability claims, VA pension claims, veteran burial benefits, education benefits, home loan guarantees, and health care eligibility. If you need veterans' benefit/entitlement assistance, please contact one of my district offices to schedule an appointment with a Veteran Service Officer.

## Discounted Vehicle Registration Fee

Thanks to Act 60 of 2024, the annual income threshold for retirees to qualify for a reduced vehicle registration increased from \$19,200 to \$29,906. The change will go into effect Dec. 16 and the registration fee will still be \$11.00. To be eligible for the retired status processing fee, the applicant must make under \$29,906 annually and must be listed on the vehicle's registration. The vehicle may be owned jointly; however, the applicant must be the principal operator of the vehicle.

**Reduced Retired Registration Income Limit Increase**

Act 60 of 2024 raises the eligibility limit for the reduced vehicle registration fee from

**\$19,200 → \$29,906**

Registration fee will still be \$11

**Beginning December 16th, 2024**

The graphic features a dark background with a car's front end visible. The text is white and red, with a red arrow pointing from \$19,200 to \$29,906.

## Legislation to assist law enforcement across the state of PA

On November 18th, Gov. Josh Shapiro signed into law my legislation, H.B. 2426, to ban license plate flipping devices in Pennsylvania. These devices can be used to conceal a license plate, modify its appearance, or switch one license plate to another. Drivers can use these devices to evade identification for purposes such as avoiding tolls, reckless driving, or even more nefarious criminal activity.

"There are currently many ambiguities in our state law that allow individuals to use these devices as loopholes to get out of making payments they owe. The City of Philadelphia recently took action on this issue by prohibiting these devices in the city, and now it's time for the entire state of Pennsylvania to follow suit.

This bill was similar to the one introduced by Philadelphia Councilman Mike Driscoll and passed by City Council earlier this year. "Tag-flipping devices belong in a James Bond movie, not on our city's streets," said Driscoll. "Their recent proliferation is a symptom of the sense of lawlessness that's pervaded our city and detracted from the quality of life of Philadelphians."

## REAL ID update

REAL ID is a federal law that affects how states issue driver's licenses and ID cards if they are going to be acceptable for federal purposes, such as boarding a domestic commercial flight, or entering a military installation or federal facility that requires ID. **Beginning May 7, 2025**, Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID-compliant license/identification card, or another form of federally acceptable identification (such as a valid passport or military ID) to:

- Board domestic commercial flights.
- Enter a military base.
- Enter a federal facility that requires ID at the door.

**NEW federal REAL ID enforcement date**

**May 7, 2025**

pennsylvania  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The graphic shows a sample of a Pennsylvania Driver's License. The license is for Andrew Jason, born 01/07/1973, with a DL number of 01/08/2026. It includes a photo of a man and a signature. Below the license, the date "May 7, 2025" is prominently displayed in a blue box. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation logo is at the bottom.

# IN THE DISTRICT

I was proud to help bring state funding back to our district for various projects that will benefit our community! I look forward to bringing more state dollars back home in the new term!



**\$600,000**  
in state grants to support  
Glen Foerd Conservation Corporation

Grant source: Statewide Local Share Account



Rep. Gallagher announces  
**\$127,000**  
awarded to Holy Family University  
in state funding this year.



**\$500,000**  
in state funding for local  
infrastructure and community  
resources awarded to  
**Russo Park Playground**



I recently visited the new offices and warehouse of CLIP (Community Life Improvement Program) at 8716 Frankford Ave., accompanied by Deputy Managing Director Tom Conway and CLIP staff. CLIP's mission is to enhance Philadelphia's livability by removing graffiti, enforcing property maintenance on vacant lots, and providing community service opportunities. CLIP works with residents, community groups, and city agencies to maintain cleaner, safer neighborhoods, offering supplies for community cleanups from their Frankford Avenue location. Residents can report issues or request services like graffiti removal via Philly311 or by calling 215-683-CLIP.

**REP. GALLAGHER'S OFFICE HAS HELPED NEARLY 4500 NEIGHBORS WITH STATE GOVERNMENT-RELATED SERVICES IN 2024.**



## Representative Pat Gallagher

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I'm grateful that I was able to participate in many extraordinary events in our community and at the state Capitol this year with many of our wonderful neighbors and my legislative colleagues! I hope to meet more of our neighbors and participate in events that bring the community together throughout my time as your state representative!