

ROB MATZIE STATE REPRESENTATIVE

 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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THE 16TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT SERVING BEAVER COUNTY

City of Aliquippa; Boroughs of Ambridge, Baden, Conway, East Rochester, Freedom, Monaca, Rochester and South Heights; and the Townships of Center, Harmony, Hopewell and Rochester.

Hello, Neighbors!

The new year means new opportunities for progress, but let's take a moment to look at what we got done in 2025.

We brought home more than \$15 million in grants and tax credits and passed bills to help working families in

Beaver County. Our team served thousands of our neighbors and put more than \$330,000 in property tax and rent rebates back in people's pockets.

I was honored to be chosen as the House Majority Caucus Chairman – giving me a chance to make sure the legislature focuses on real-world issues facing Beaver County's people, communities, and businesses.

In 2026, I'll keep fighting to bring more of your tax dollars back home and protect you when you're spending your hard-earned money on what you and you family need. My team is ready to cut the red tape and make state government work harder for you. Give us a call, send us an email, or stop by and see us.

Rob



REPRESENTATIVE
Rob Matzie

**Legislative
Year in Review**



2025

**MORE THAN
\$15 MILLION**

In grants and tax credits
secured to support district
projects and programs

\$334,555 Property Tax /
Rent Rebate
Money Returned

4,382 Constituent
Services Provided

25 Bills Sponsored or
Co-Sponsored



PA House passes Matzie bill to ban fees for paper account statements

Last year, I joined my colleagues Reps. Arvind Venkat and Tom Mehaffie to introduce first-of-its-kind legislation that would ban businesses from charging customers additional fees for paper account statements.

These fees burden those who can afford it least – lower-income consumers, older adults, and people with limited access to technology.

Our bill would ban these fees as an unfair or deceptive practice. Although businesses could still offer discounts or other incentives to encourage customers to choose digital options, companies would not be allowed to penalize customers who request paper statements, which millions of Pennsylvanians still consider a necessity.

House Bill 81 is now awaiting consideration in the state Senate.

Matzie votes 'Yes' on budget with no tax hikes that invests in every kid in every Beaver County school

The 2025-26 state budget spends responsibly, investing in our public schools and addressing residents' real-world needs without raising taxes or tapping the state's Rainy Day Fund.

Our region's public schools will see across-the-board increases, thanks to additional state funding for basic and special education, adequacy funding to level the playing field for students in less affluent ZIP codes, and savings resulting from cyber charter reform.

Beyond our schools, the new plan delivers funding to address essential quality-of-life issues. Among other investments, the budget allocates \$2 billion to repair and improve our roads and bridges, an additional \$750 million to ensure residents in underserved communities have access to health care, more than \$100 million for job creation, innovation, and support for entrepreneurs, and \$25 million to support reliable, affordable child care for working families.

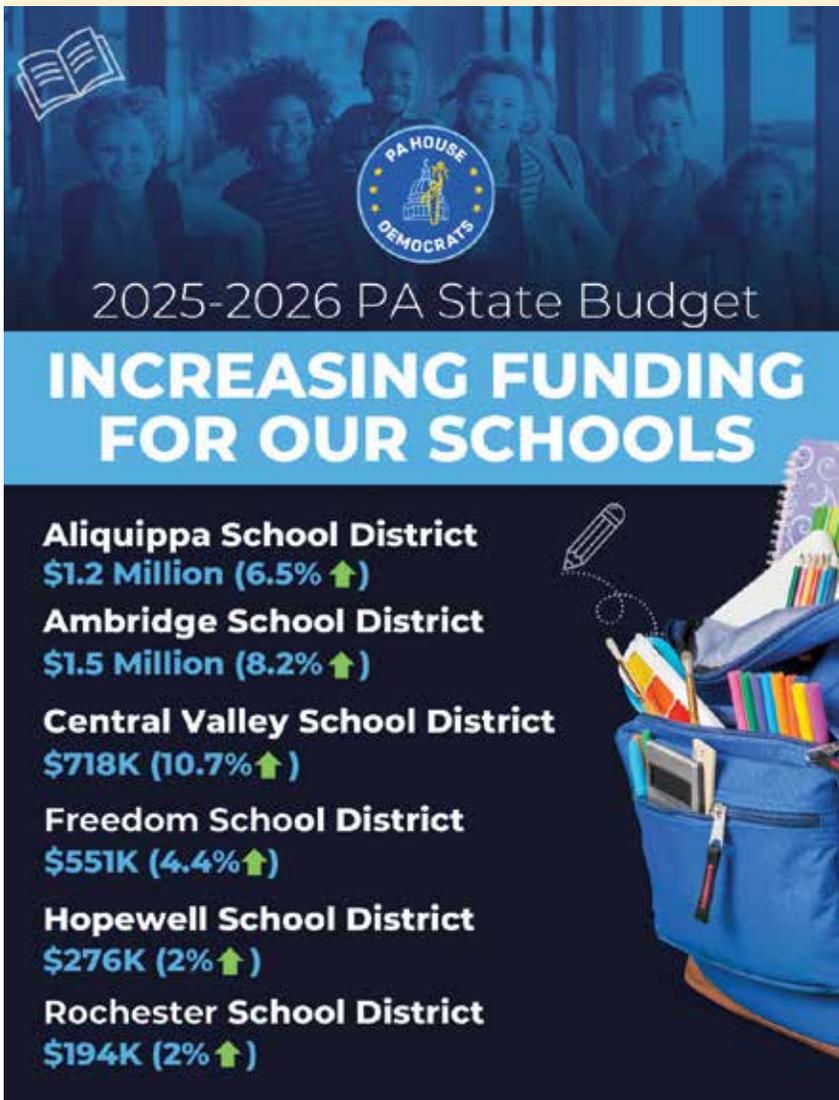
The budget may not be perfect – no budget ever is – but the new plan invests taxpayer dollars in practical ways designed to help residents and small businesses without adding any new tax burden or depleting our state reserves. In my book, that's a plan to lead us in the right direction.

PA House passes Matzie bill to protect consumers from 'speculative ticketing'

In June, the Pennsylvania House passed my bill to ban speculative ticketing. This unfair practice – which allows a ticket reseller to list event tickets for sale before even having them in hand – often leaves consumers empty-handed when the seller is unable to obtain the tickets.

At best, the purchaser may get a refund. At worst, they lose their hard-earned ticket money plus other expenses, such as food and lodging, that they laid out in anticipation of the event. Local businesses lose out, as well: Venues lose credibility with the public, while parking garages, restaurants, bars, and other hospitality businesses lose out on expected revenue.

We don't allow sales of other consumer goods to go forward based on a gamble that the seller will be able to obtain the item, and we shouldn't allow it to happen with ticket sales, either. It's very simple – if you don't have it, you can't sell it. I was pleased to see H.B. 463 – which is now awaiting consideration in the state Senate – pass by a strong bipartisan majority.



2025-2026 PA State Budget

INCREASING FUNDING FOR OUR SCHOOLS

Aliquippa School District	\$1.2 Million (6.5% ↑)
Ambridge School District	\$1.5 Million (8.2% ↑)
Central Valley School District	\$718K (10.7% ↑)
Freedom School District	\$551K (4.4% ↑)
Hopewell School District	\$276K (2% ↑)
Rochester School District	\$194K (2% ↑)



Matzie signs several state budget-related bills as Speaker Pro Tempore.



Matzie welcomes Sheryl Lee Ralph, who plays teacher Barbara Howard on ABC TV's Abbott Elementary, to talk education at the state Capitol.

Matzie secures more than \$15 million to support district projects and programs

One of the most important parts of my job is making sure that Beaver County gets every dollar of funding to which we're entitled – and then some. This year, we secured more than \$15 million in grants and tax credits to support district projects and programs. Some highlights include:

- Nearly \$3.8 million to fund water, wastewater, and transportation improvements; update municipal vehicles and equipment; and provide additional resources to our first responders.
- Nearly \$2.2 million to boost workforce training for job seekers, including \$1.4 million for advanced manufacturing training.
- Nearly \$1 million to support county housing assistance, homelessness prevention, and home modification programs.
- Nearly \$500,000 for improvements to Ambridge's business corridor.

To read about additional funding secured and our other efforts in the district, please visit <https://www.pahouse.com/Matzie/NewsCenter>.

A new state tax cut for PA workers

The new state budget provides for the first Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit. Families who qualify for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit will also qualify for the state tax credit, which is equal to 10% of their federal EITC.

To learn more, visit www.revenue.pa.gov and scroll down to the link titled "Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit" on the right.

WORKING PENNSYLVANIANS TAX CREDIT Putting money back in YOUR pocket			
Dependents	Income Limit (Singlehead of household)	Income Limit (Joint)	Maximum Tax Cut Back in YOUR Pocket
Zero	\$19,104	\$26,214	\$65
One	\$50,434	\$57,554	\$433
Two	\$57,310	\$64,430	\$715
Three or More	\$61,555	\$68,675	\$805

* Returns filed jointly are counted as two individuals. Does not reflect qualifying children or dependents.

Matzie votes to keep prescription assistance available to seniors

I was proud to help pass key legislation to ensure that PA seniors are not disqualified from the state's PACE and PACENET prescription drug assistance programs merely because of Social Security cost-of-living increases. The state's existing COLA moratorium was set to expire on Dec. 31, but before that happened, the governor signed the new law, extending the moratorium through the end of 2027.



The PACENET program, which provides vital prescription assistance to seniors 65 or older, recently expanded its income limits and is now available to single people earning up to \$33,500 annually and married couples earning up to \$41,500.

To learn more and apply, scan the QR code above or visit www.pa.gov/services and enter "Apply for PACENET" into the search bar. Please remember that our office can also help you apply!



Above: Matzie speaks at the start of Hopewell High School's Career Day

Below: Matzie attends a meeting of the Animal Protection Caucus.



A victory for Big Sewickley Creek – and our community

PennEnergy's announcement in May that the company was surrendering its petition to drain large volumes of water from Big Sewickley Creek was great news to all of us who know and love the creek.

We had opposed the company's petitions from the start based on concerns that withdrawing massive amounts of water would escalate drought, cause

devastating harm to the surrounding habitat, and irreparably damage the creek, which is a critical source of fresh water for our area and supports a multitude of wildlife.

It's good to know that this beloved natural resource will be here for future generations to enjoy.



STATE REP. ROBERT F. MATZIE

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Rep. Matzie talks about maximizing jobs and economic opportunity.

lpo.km.0226

Vehicle registration fees reduced or eliminated for some veterans and retirees

A recent law I helped pass allows more retirees to qualify for the state's reduced vehicle registration fee and eliminates the fee for certain veterans.

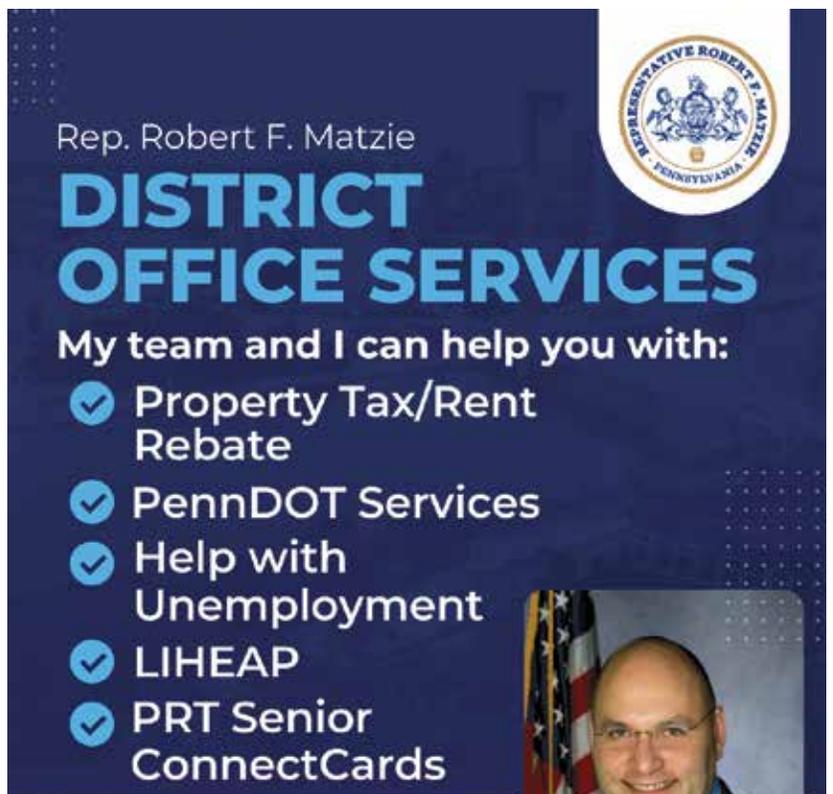
Under the law, retirees earning up to \$30,778 now qualify for the reduced fee. In addition, the law eliminates the fee altogether for certain veterans who were injured in service, captured, or awarded certain medals.

Qualifying veterans include those who lost a limb or eye or who became partially paralyzed while serving; were captured during an armed conflict for which the Department of Defense authorizes a campaign medal; or were awarded the Purple Heart or Congressional Medal of Honor.

To learn more, scan the QR code and scroll down to the free registration and retired status links.

Or visit www.pa.gov and enter "Reduced Registration" into the search bar.

Please remember that our staff also can help you apply!

Rep. Robert F. Matzie

DISTRICT OFFICE SERVICES

My team and I can help you with:

- ✓ Property Tax/Rent Rebate
- ✓ PennDOT Services
- ✓ Help with Unemployment
- ✓ LIHEAP
- ✓ PRT Senior ConnectCards

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