

Fall 2021 State Representative | 163rd Legislative District

MIKE **ZABEL**

District Offices:

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Dear Neighbor,

During the last year, our district has experienced positive changes.

For instance, two of our local school districts – Upper Darby and William Penn – received Level Up funding. Sadly, Pennsylvania ranks 44th in the nation in state share of funding for school districts, but that's a ranking I'm working to improve. Level Up helps address this issue by providing state money for our most deserving school districts. In short, it helps to level the playing field for school districts that have not received proper funding.

It has also been rewarding to return to hosting events in and around our district and interacting with members of our community. After months of limiting gatherings particularly indoor events during the pandemic - it was enjoyable to once again see so many neighbors and friends joins us for our Job Fair, Outdoor Movie Night, Backpack Giveaway, and Senior Expo. We hope to continue hosting events and using CDC guidance to keep everyone safe as we navigate life after seeing the worst – we all hope – of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On a personal note, it was also rewarding to see my first bill - a corporate tax reform bill - advance out of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives with unanimous support. I worked across the aisle on this bipartisan collaboration that would save taxpayer dollars by closing a tax break loophole and ensure businesses invest in community resources.

It's been a challenging year, but it's also been an exciting time to experience some much needed change and positive news.

Sincerely,





We had a great time last June at our Family Resource Fair and Outdoor Movie Night. Families had the chance to connect with many valuable community partners ... and enjoy cotton candy, popcorn, Spider-Man, and a movie under the stars on a beautiful night.

I joined members of the community and numerous local public officials for the Overdose Awareness Day Memorial Vigil. We remembered and honored the lives lost to this public health crisis, and we renewed our commitment, both as legislators and members of the community, to addressing the opioid epidemic and getting people the help and treatment they need and deserve.

It was great to take part in a return of parades this summer, walking alongside Delaware County District Attorney Jack Stollsteimer in the Aldan Fourth of July Parade and doing the same with my family during the Clifton Heights Fourth of July Parade.

I think my children rode about every ride this year at the Clifton Heights Carnival, an event that helps support two great local youth services – the Clifton Heights Police Athletic League and Clifton Heights Boys Club. Special thanks go to the Clifton Heights Borough Police Department for ensuring a smooth and safe night out for everyone.

Upper Darby's first ever Pride Festival in June was a terrific success! It was a pleasure to see so many elected officials join residents, neighbors and families to celebrate a cause that's so important: equality in Pennsylvania.

Through my work with the House Policy Committee we learned more about union apprenticeships throughout Pennsylvania. Through these programs, an apprentice can receive valuable training, earn college credits and remain debt-free. Apprentices emerge with skills that can serve as the foundation for a lifelong career.



















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Thank you to everyone who came out for our Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway at Garrettford Elementary in August. Along with school supplies, families were able to play games, have fun, and connect with valuable resources. The excitement for the new school year was all around us!

It was great to witness the community energy and excitement at the Lansdowne Arts Festival hosted by Lansdowne Economic Development Corporation.

I joined Moms Demand Action and CeaseFirePA in calling for legislative action to address gun violence in Pennsylvania on the Capitol steps in June. I'm grateful for these groups' advocacy on this important issue, and together with my work on the bipartisan Juvenile Justice Task Force, I'm hoping we can see some important change in PA.

I joined a bipartisan group of lawmakers for the Capitol
All-Stars Softball Game in
Harrisburg, a charity event that has raised over \$250,000 for
Pennsylvania's food banks and pantries since 2013.

In October, I enjoyed Haverford Township Day, almost as much as our daughter did.

Thank you to everyone who came out for our Senior Expo, which I cohosted with Senator Tim Kearney. I enjoyed some great conversations, and there were many terrific organizations on hand to present information on valuable resources available to our seniors. We're already looking forward to next year's expo!

LEGISLATION I'VE INTRODUCED OR SUPPORT

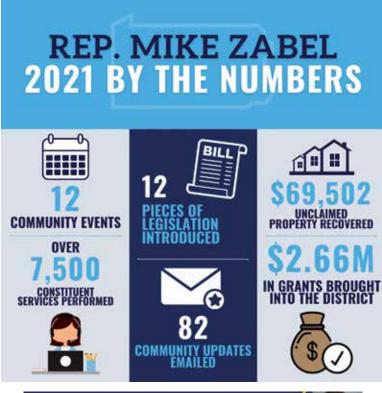
CLOSING TAX BREAK LOOPHOLES: This bill, which passed the House, prohibits businesses from zone hopping in order to receive multiple tax breaks. The Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) Program was created to help revitalize communities' unused, or abandoned land and buildings to add to or improve the community. Any eligible business or resident within a zone may apply for tax credits. Unfortunately, one of the richest law firms in Philadelphia used this loophole to collect a second round of KOZ tax breaks when they moved from their current KOZ to a new one. The bill would prevent zone hopping and end multiple tax breaks to one business and preserve the positive work of the program.

STOPPING PAY TO PLAY: Each year our state awards hundreds of millions of dollars in contracts. These contracts are supposed to be based on quality of work, not the size or frequency of campaign contributions. This bill would require all companies applying for a state contract to disclose all campaign contributions – thereby providing a level of transparency and helping end the practice of pay to play.

MODERNIZING PA'S ELECTRONIC

RECYCLING: Electronic waste is the fastest-growing portion of the municipal waste stream, and it accounts for about 70% of the toxicity in our state's waste stream. This bill would establish the Manufacturer E-Waste Program and the Advisory Electronics Recycling Task Force to modernize our failing electronic waste laws.

BANNING GHOST GUN PARTS: An increasing number of untraceable guns which have been assembled from parts, have been seized by Pennsylvania law enforcement following violent crimes. Felons can currently legally purchase untraceable parts and assemble this type of untraceable gun – or ghost gun. This bill would close that loophole, and it would end the sale and production of these untraceable or ghost gun parts.







SERVICES WE OFFER



DID YOU KNOW?

My office is available to process SEPTA Senior Key Card requests.

Seniors **65+** are eligible to travel for **FREE** on all PA SEPTA services lines with a **SEPTA Key Card**.

Contact my office:

Drexel Hill: 5248 Township Line Rd., (484) 200-8262 **Clifton Heights:** 236 W. Baltimore Ave., (484) 200-1563





NEED HELP?

The 163rd's district office is ready to help you with a variety of services. Here are just some of the ways our office can assist you:

- Car registrations, special tags, titles, and license applications
- Unemployment compensation problems
- Vital Records/Birth certificate applications
- Assistance with finding Unclaimed Property
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Pennsylvania income tax problems
- Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical assistance)
- LIHEAP & CAP (PECO) applications
- Requests for literature of all kinds bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information, student aid information, etc.
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding local accomplishments and family milestones

- Complaints or questions about utilities and the PUC
- SEPTA Senior ID card (65+)
- Reduced car registration for income-qualifying seniors
- Medicare counseling appointments
- Consumer complaints
- Problems or questions about road conditions and PennDOT
- Tours of the State Capitol for individuals or groups
- Disability plates and placards
- PACE cards for senior citizens
- Complaints and problems with insurance companies
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate assistance or questions
- PA state veterans programs
- Problems or questions about state lottery
- Liaison to local government and state agencies

Any problem with state government!

We look forward to serving you. If you have any questions or are interested in one of our services, please call or visit us today.



MIKE ZABEL 163 RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

5248 Township Line Rd. Drexel Hill, PA 19026

(484) 200-8262

Ipo.km.1221

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE 163RD

