



State Representative | 35th Legislative District

SUMMER 2024

MATTHEW R. GERGELY

HELLO NEIGHBOR,



I've been privileged to serve the great people of the 35th Legislative District and Pennsylvania as a whole for a year and a half now, and while the time has given me a chance to get more acclimated with my role, I've not slowed down when it comes to doing good work in Harrisburg and at home. I'm excited to give you a preview of what you can look forward to reading about in the next few pages.

My colleagues and I are coming off passing the 2024-25 state budget, a plan that invests more than \$47.5 billion in services, programs, and resources for Pennsylvania residents. This is my second budget as a state legislator, and I was grateful to add my input for Pennsylvania and its population.

Two pieces of legislation I've introduced have also been signed into law. As a freshman lawmaker, this only motivates me to get more positive policy changes across the finish line and enacted to benefit PA residents.

Additionally, I've enjoyed meeting and talking with neighbors like you about the issues that matter most. The issues and concerns that have been shared with me are what drive me to perform my duty to the best of my ability.

I'm eager to further this crucial dialogue and put words to action in Harrisburg as your state representative.

Yours in service,



TWO OF MY BILLS BECAME LAW

I'm ecstatic that two bills I introduced have already been signed into law this legislative session.

The first law ensures donated source plasma is suitable for integration into essential pharmaceuticals. The second allows employees to work at more than one liquor-licensed establishment at a given time and extends permitted happy hours at such establishments from 14 hours to 24 hours. These bills benefit the health and well-being of citizens and economies statewide.

I want to thank Gov. Josh Shapiro for enacting both into law, PA House and Senate members on both sides of the aisle for their guidance and cooperation, and my family for all their support!

Don't forget that **you can sign up for my weekly emails** by visiting pahouse.com/mgergely and filling out the form near the bottom of the page to stay updated on the work I'm doing and more!



MAIN DISTRICT OFFICE

409 Walnut St., 1st Floor
McKeesport, PA 15132
(412) 664-0035
Open Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MUNHALL OFFICE

3905 Main St.
Munhall, PA 15120
(412) 476-3046
Open Mondays, Wednesdays,
& Fridays
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

CLAIRTON OFFICE

551 Ravensburg Blvd.
Clairton, PA 15025
(412) 233-2505
Open Tuesdays & Thursdays
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

CAPITOL OFFICE

117A East Wing
P.O. Box 202035
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2035
(717) 783-1018

A BUDGET FOR ALL

The 2024-2025 budget is a more than \$47.5 billion investment for Pennsylvanians. Please visit houseappropriations.com/Topic/BudgetYears/804 to view a full summary.

An essential part of the plan is a \$1.3 billion investment in public schools, which includes increases in education funding for school districts across the 35th Legislative District:

- A \$4.8 million increase for McKeesport Area School District.
- A \$2.4 million increase for West Mifflin Area School District.
- A \$1.4 million increase for South Allegheny School District.
- A \$1.3 million increase for Steel Valley School District.
- A \$867,000+ increase for Duquesne City School District.
- A \$640,000+ increase for Clairton City School District.

Higher education also becomes more affordable with this budget. One new program is the Grow Pennsylvania Scholarship Program, which awards \$5,000 grants to Commonwealth students enrolled in an approved course of study who maintain satisfactory academic progress and have not yet earned a bachelor's degree. In return, they must agree to work in Pennsylvania for 12 months for each academic year they receive the scholarship.



2024-2025 PA BUDGET WINS

- **\$20M** for student teacher stipends
- **\$70M** for attainable housing initiatives through the PHARE Housing Program
- **\$16.5M increase** for anti-violence investments and after-school programs
- **\$20M increase** for county based mental health services
- **NEW \$2.5M** for legal services in eviction proceedings
- **\$7M increase** for Workforce Development
- **\$161M** for Public Transportation and Multimodal projects
- **\$261M increase** for Intellectual Disabilities/Autism Community Waiver Program

Budget highlights also include:

- A \$261 million increase for the Intellectual Disabilities/Autism Community Waiver Program.
- \$161 million for public transportation and multimodal projects.
- \$20 million for student teacher stipends.
- A \$20 million increase for county-based mental health services.
- A \$16.5 million increase for anti-violence investments and after-school programs.

- **Over \$26M increase** for subsidized childcare services
- **NEW \$6M** for Urban Search and Rescue in Western PA
- **\$36M increase** for Neighborhood Assistance Program
- **\$5M increase** for Homelessness Assistance
- **Over \$2M increase** for Domestic Violence Prevention
- **\$5M increase** for Non-profit Security grants
- **\$7.5M** for indigent defense
- **AND MUCH MORE!**

Additionally, the budget provides:

- A \$36 million increase for the Neighborhood Assistance Program.
- An over \$26 million increase for subsidized childcare services.
- \$6 million for urban search and rescue in western PA.
- An over \$2 million increase for domestic violence prevention.

There's no such thing as a perfect budget, but I believe this financial plan for the fiscal year has the right priorities and makes the kind of bold investments PA needs!

BE SAFE AND HAVE FUN OUTDOORS!

As a member of the PA House Game & Fisheries Committee, I wanted to provide you with some important information to keep in mind as you enjoy the outdoors:

Hunters can visit pgc.pa.gov to purchase licenses for the year, find out the dates for the upcoming seasons, register for educational seminars, and much more!

PA's lakes and streams are stocked with thousands of fish, and anglers can find the nearest stocking location by visiting fishandboat.com. You can also visit the website to purchase a license or launch permit.

Boat safe by always wearing a life jacket, making a float plan to let others know where you'll be boating, checking the weather forecast ahead of time, and PLEASE don't drink and boat.

Be safe and have fun!



STATE & LOCAL RESOURCES

PA's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. Half of Social Security income is excluded when determining eligibility, and spouses, personal representatives, or estates may also file rebate claims on behalf of claimants who lived at least one day in the claim year and meet all other eligibility criteria. In addition, each Pittsburgh senior household with an income under \$30,000 will have their property tax rebate increased by an additional 50%. Not only that, the program's gotten even better this year!

A new law raises the annual income cap to \$45,000 for homeowners and renters starting this year and will be tied to cost-of-living moving forward, resulting in the number of eligible seniors rising from 400,000 to 575,000. On top of that, the maximum rebate amount jumps from \$650 to \$1,000 in 2024 and beyond. The enclosed chart is a breakdown of rebate payouts based on income.

Please visit www.revenue.pa.gov (and click on "Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program" under "Popular on Revenue.PA.Gov" to apply. Apply by **December 31st**.



Property Tax / Rent Rebate Program 2024 Expansion

MORE people eligible, **MORE** money back!

Homeowner Income	Rebate	Renter Income	Rebate
Up to \$8K	\$1,000	Up to \$8K	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$770	Up to \$15K	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$460	Up to \$18K	\$460
Up to \$35K	\$380	Up to \$45K	\$380
Up to \$45K	\$380		



Questions? Contact me for more information by calling (412) -664-0035 or visit our office at 409 Walnut St. First Floor, McKeesport, PA 15132-2524

Allegheny County's Lead-Safe Homes Program tests homes for lead and makes FREE repairs and work to remove lead from homes. To see if you qualify and to learn more, call Action Housing at 412-227-5700 or email alleghenylead@actionhousing.org.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY LEAD SAFE HOMES PROGRAM



The pilot program Allegheny GO, which provides a 50% discount on Pittsburgh Regional Transit fares for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients, is now permanent. Interested riders should download PRT's Ready2Ride app and then visit discountedfares.alleghenycounty.us/ to apply to the program.

Eligible applicants will have the ability to pay for discounted fares within their app and, initially, Allegheny GO will only be available to applicants with smartphones. It will be available, however, on PRT's new smartcard set to launch next year.

OUT & ABOUT IN THE 35TH



Highlighting PA's commitment to after-school programs with Lt. Gov. Austin Davis and other colleagues.



Rededicating Riverfront Park to my uncle, Richard J. Gergely.



Marching in White Oak's Memorial Day parade with state Rep. Nick Pisciotto.



Talking government with Clairton School District students.



Hosting my inaugural community document shredding event.



Presenting Jordan Anjo Martino, nephew of my staff member Karen Lischner, with a PA House citation commemorating her becoming a U.S. citizen.



Marking the grand opening of Transtar/Union Railroad's new rail car repair shop in Duquesne with state Sen. Jim Brewster and others.



My staff provided McKeesport neighbors with info on state services and programs during Good Neighbor Day.



State Representative
MATTHEW R. GERGELY

P.O. Box 202035
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2035

LPO.KG.0824

State Representative Matt Gergely

District Office Services

I'm ready to work for you!

- **Property Tax/Rent Rebate**
- **PRT (Port Authority) Senior Bus Passes**
- **Various PennDOT Services including Drivers License Renewal, Vehicle Registrations, Disability Placards & more**
- **LIHEAP**

My District Office is Now Open!



📍 Tube City Center
409 Walnut St. First Floor
McKeesport, PA 15132

✉️ RepGergely@PAHouse.net

☎️ (412) 664-0035

🌐 RepGergely.com

📱 @RepGergely

My staff and I are here to assist with an assortment of state services and with the issues that matter to you most.

We are available at:

**The main district office in
Tube City Center
Mondays through Fridays from
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**The Munhall office
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**The Clairton office
Tuesdays and Thursdays from
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Please don't hesitate to stop by, even if it's just to say hello. We're eager to see and help you!