

# BRANDON MARKOSEK



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## STAY UP TO DATE ON HOW I'M WORKING FOR YOU. FOLLOW ME:

  @RepMarkosek  
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## HELLO NEIGHBOR,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. I want to start by offering my gratitude for being able to serve as your state representative for another term.

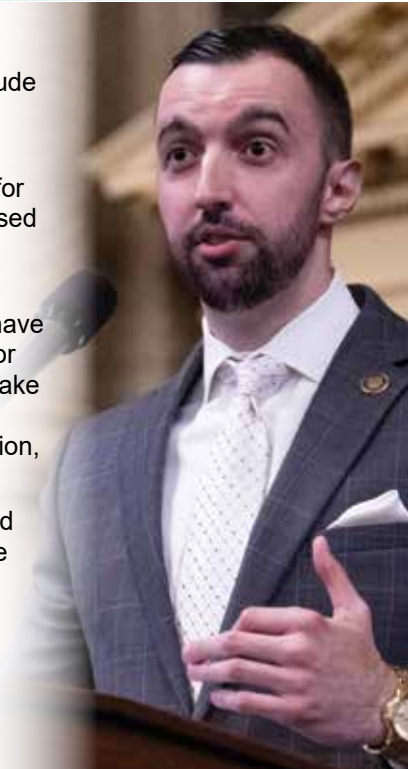
As 2024 comes to a close, I wanted to share what my colleagues and I have accomplished in Harrisburg to secure a better and brighter future for all Pennsylvanians. During the final weeks of the 2023-24 term, we passed many meaningful bills and resolutions that benefit both our district and Pennsylvania as a whole.

I'm particularly proud to report that two pieces of legislation I authored have been signed into law: ensuring insurance coverage of speech therapy for children who stutter and establishing interstate licensing compacts to make sure licensed professionals have the flexibility to practice where they're needed most. You'll find more information about these pieces of legislation, along with other updates and resources, in the pages of this newsletter.

As your state representative, it's my honor to serve you. If you ever need assistance with state programs or services, feel free to stop by my office or give us a call.

Sincerely,

Rep. Brandon Markosek  
25th Legislative District



## MY LEGISLATION TO SUPPORT CHILDREN WHO STUTTER SIGNED INTO LAW

I am honored to announce that my legislation, H.B. 2268, ensuring insurance coverage for speech therapy for children who stutter has officially been signed into law. This is a personal achievement for me, as I have experienced the challenges of lifelong stuttering. I understand firsthand how vital access to speech therapy is for building confidence and overcoming communication barriers.

This law marks a significant step forward for families across Pennsylvania, guaranteeing that children who stutter receive the support they need to succeed in school and life.

I would like to thank my friend Michael Kidd-Gilchrist, former NBA star and a champion for individuals who stutter. Michael, who has also shared his own experiences with stuttering, has been supportive of this legislation throughout this entire process, from coming to the PA House to meet with other legislators about my bill to joining me at the bill signing with Gov. Josh Shapiro in October.

I'm proud to help make a difference for Pennsylvania children who stutter by helping them access the tools and support they deserve.



## MY BILL TO SUPPORT LICENSED PROFESSIONALS BECOMES LAW

Gov. Josh Shapiro also signed my H.B. 2381 into law this fall. This legislation will help Pennsylvania licensing boards quickly implement interstate licensing compacts, ensuring licensed professionals can practice where they're needed most.

The new law will also support the mobility of military families and improve continuity of care when patients or providers relocate. It's a win for professionals, families, and communities across Pennsylvania.

# GRANTS AWARDED - FALL 2024

## Monroeville

- **\$1 million** for Forbes Hospital to expand and renovate its existing Emergency Department.
- **\$250,000** to The Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh's Family Park Center, which hosts a summer camp for children with developmental disabilities, for renovations to accommodate increasing enrollment and to meet the unique needs of campers.
- **\$200,000** for renovations to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's thrift store, including replacing the HVAC system, a garage door and the roof.
- **\$305,175** to Gateway School District to replace deteriorating roofs at University Park Elementary School and Cleveland Elementary School.
- **\$247,025** for updated signal equipment at Monroeville Boulevard and Ivanhoe Drive.
- **\$114,369** for a municipality-wide Controller Modernization Project.
- **\$522,743** for the William Penn Highway (Route 22/Route 2048) Coordination Modernization Project.

## East McKeesport

- **\$700,000** to Chicora Street Park for a new safe playground surface, a new entrance gate, removing old playground equipment, and installing new equipment; and to East Field Park for repairs to its retaining wall, re-leveling and replacing sod, and removing an old backstop.
- **\$120,000** for United Volunteer Fire and Rescue to replace self-contained breathing apparatus equipment.



## North Versailles Township

- **\$28,355** to purchase a new vehicle for North Versailles Township Sewer Authority for its public works department to maintain sanitary sewer facilities in the community.
- **\$47,319** to improve the sanitary sewer at the intersection of Broadway Avenue and Washington Street by replacing pipe and a manhole.
- **\$35,666** to demolish the Crestas Pump Station, which was abandoned after being damaged by a landslide, creating safety hazards like fire risks and attracting pests or unauthorized individuals.
- **\$48,398** for pipe and manhole updates for the Walnut Sanitary Sewer system.

## Pitcairn

- **\$100,000** to excavate and reconstruct Brinton Avenue from 6th Street to the municipal boundary, including adding ADA compliant curb ramps.
- **\$255,100** for the development of the Sports Complex, including the construction of a comfort station, pickleball courts, pedestrian walkway, internal loop trail, access drive and parking area.
- **\$65,000** to the Pitcairn Police Department for the purchase of a new vehicle.

## Turtle Creek

- **\$212,000** to repair Monroeville Avenue from Penn Avenue to Lynn Avenue in Turtle Creek Borough.
- **\$50,000** to expand and enhance code enforcement software that allows municipalities to track and view code enforcement-related items, including inspections, blight, violations, etc.

## Wall

- **\$84,113** to replace the culvert along Wall Avenue in Wall Borough.

## Wilmerding

- **\$133,044** to repair the driveway and retaining wall used by the Wilmerding Volunteer Fire Department to access its fire garage.
- **\$120,000** to Wilmerding Volunteer Fire Department to replace self-contained breathing apparatus equipment
- **\$150,000** to support demolishing unsafe and unoccupied structures.

## Plum

- **\$500,000** to Plum Borough School District for the replacement of the high school roof, which has deteriorated and is prone to leaks that lead to indoor water damage.



# AROUND THE DISTRICT



Presenting the Monroeville Public Library with an official certification of recognition on its 60th anniversary.



Presenting a PA House of Representatives citation to Dr. Janis C. Brooks of North Versailles. She retired after over three decades of service at CADAPrograms, which provides services to youth in need and addresses food insecurity in our communities.



Presenting a PA House citation to Biondi Lincoln for its 60th anniversary and local charity work.



Heritage Days in Monroeville.



Plum Fall Fest.



Speaking at the Rotary Club of Monroeville's International Day of Peace celebration in Monroeville Park.



United Volunteer Fire/Rescue and Eastern Area Prehospital Services held a picnic with first responders in East McKeesport.



I joined the PA House Transportation Committee for a hearing on public transit needs in Allegheny County.



Under the Friday night lights for the Gateway at Plum game.



Supporting our unions at Pittsburgh's Labor Day parade.







Shop with a Cop event at the Monroeville Mall with PA State Police and state Sen. Jim Brewster.



Monroeville Public Library's annual Summer Fun Fest.



27th annual Plum Soccer Kick-off Classic tournament.



At the opening of the Gateway Middle School.



Celebrating Betty Swank and Ed Pferdehirt of North Versailles, who both turned 100 years old.



At Pitcairn Hose Company #1's Fireman's Festival and Parade.



National Night Out festivities with Monroeville and Pitcairn Police Departments.



Presenting a PA House citation to North Versailles Police Department Chief James Matrazzo on his retirement.



My office sponsored a meet-and-greet ice cream social at the Monroeville Senior Citizen Center.



Attending the American Kidney Fund luncheon in Monroeville with my colleague, state Rep. Arvind Venkat.



# PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE PROGRAM

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is better than ever – cutting costs for more seniors and people with disabilities, putting more money back in their pockets to spend however they'd like and helping more seniors stay in the homes they've spent a lifetime building.

Since we expanded the program last year, the income eligibility limits have been raised, the top refund for both homeowners and renters has increased to \$1,000, and over 100,000 first-time applicants have received a rebate.

Applications are due by Dec. 31, 2024.

If you haven't applied yet, or are unsure if you're eligible, contact my office and we'll help you through the process!

## PENNIE OPEN ENROLLMENT RUNS TO JAN. 15

Pennie's Open Enrollment Period for the 2025 coverage year will run until Jan. 15.

During this period, individuals and families can enroll in health insurance plans, make changes to their existing coverage, or renew their current plans. It is a critical time to ensure you have the necessary health coverage for the upcoming year.

Pennie can connect you to local, certified experts that can walk you through every step of the way. Find assistance by visiting the connect page at [www.pennie.com](http://www.pennie.com).

For more information on Pennie, visit [pennie.com](http://pennie.com) or call Pennie Customer Service at 1-844-844-8040.



### Property Tax / Rent Rebate 2024 Program Expansion

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

#### Homeowner & Renter Income Max Rebate

Up to \$8K	<b>\$1,000</b>
Up to \$15K	<b>\$770</b>
Up to \$18K	<b>\$460</b>
Up to \$45K	<b>\$380</b>

Deadline extended to **December 31, 2024**



2024-2025 Income Guidelines		
Still Need Energy Assistance?	Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
LIHEAP Cash applications will continue to be accepted through April 4, 2025	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		

## HELP KEEPING YOUR HOME WARM & SAFE

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills with a cash grant. Households in immediate danger of being without heat can also qualify for crisis grants.

The cash grant is a one-time payment sent directly to the utility company/fuel provider to be credited on your bill. These grants range from \$200 to \$1,000 based on household size, income, and fuel type. Remember: This is a grant and does not have to be repaid.

To apply for a grant online, visit [dhs.pa.gov/LIHEAP](http://dhs.pa.gov/LIHEAP).



State Representative

**BRANDON MARKOSEK**

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lpo.aa.1124

## HERE TO HELP YOU

Please contact my office at  
(412) 856-8284 if you need help with...

- **Property Tax/Rent Rebate**
- **PACE prescription assistance**
- **Pittsburgh Regional Transit Senior ConnectCards (Age 65+)**
- **Children's health insurance**
- **SNAP and Medicaid**
- **Unemployment compensation**
- **Utility problems and more!**

## GOV. SHAPIRO SIGNS MY SPEECH THERAPY BILL INTO LAW

**Learn more inside!**

