



State Representative • 172nd Legislative District

Kevin J. Boyle



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Spring 2017

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DEAR FRIENDS AND RESIDENTS OF THE 172ND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT:

Thank you for once again putting your faith in me to represent the district in Harrisburg. As a lifelong resident of Philadelphia, it is truly an honor to continue serving the people of Northeast Philadelphia and Rockledge. I am humbled by your support, and motivated to keep fighting for working-class values in Pennsylvania's legislature.

My legislative priorities for the new session include advocating for our police officers, increasing education funding, and continuing to invest in our neighborhoods and communities so that we all have a better place to live.

I look forward to representing the 172nd District in Harrisburg this new season, and hearing concerns and opinions from you, my constituents. If you have an issue, need information, or would like to comment on current legislation in Harrisburg, don't hesitate to call my office. My dedicated and professional staff will work to meet your needs.

Kevin J. Boyle

BOYLE STANDS UP FOR WORKING FAMILIES, MIDDLE CLASS IN PA. BUDGET DEBATE

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have an added voice on the state budget. I'm able to raise issues and ask questions of the governor's office, his cabinet secretaries and the heads of independent state agencies. The new fiscal year starts July 1, and the 2017-18 budget could be especially challenging, with up to a \$3 billion deficit looming.



Issues I raised during this year's hearings included:

- **Support for Law Enforcement**
- **Higher Education Funding**
- **Basic Education Funding**
- **Economic Development**

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Rep. Boyle asks questions during a state budget hearing.

Support for Law Enforcement:

During a budget hearing with the Pennsylvania State Police, I vocalized my support for Gov. Tom Wolf's plan to charge municipalities who do not pay for their own police and rely on state police. Philadelphians pay about \$600 million a year for our police protection. Rockledge borough, which I also represent, pays \$1 million a year. I also asked about police efforts to fight heroin and opioid trafficking in Philadelphia and the region.

Economic Development:

I have been a strong advocate of increasing our state's revenue stream by implementing a fair tax on our state's natural gas industry. I asked Revenue Secretary Eileen McNulty about missed revenue opportunities from our state's failure to pass a severance tax on the Marcellus Shale industry and she agreed with me that it has reached "hundreds and hundreds of millions" of dollars in lost funds.

BOYLE WORKING TO COMBAT HEROIN/OPIOID EPIDEMIC FOR THE COMMONWEALTH'S YOUTH



Combating the current heroin and opioid epidemic afflicting our communities has become a legislative priority for me. With more than 900 overdose-related deaths in 2016 in Philadelphia alone, our legislature,

our health experts, and our communities need to continue to work together to fight this crisis.

Earlier efforts to address our growing overdose crisis came when Pennsylvania Physician General Dr. Rachel Levine signed a standing order to allow the life-saving medication naloxone (also known as Narcan) to be purchased over the counter without a prescription to further combat the epidemic. This drug can reverse overdoses for a short period to provide time to get a person to a hospital.

Last fall, Gov. Wolf announced that the Department of Health provided 128 public high schools in the state with naloxone. Yet, only one of those 128 schools to receive the life-saving antidote was inside Philadelphia.

That is why I introduced legislation this year that would provide naloxone to all public schools in the Commonwealth. My bill has already received support from more than two dozen other Democrats and Republicans across the state. We need to make sure we prevent needless deaths caused by the prevalence and proliferation of opioids, particularly among our most vulnerable residents.

I also oppose repealing the federal Affordable Care Act because tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians would lose coverage for drug treatment.

Additionally, if you or anyone you know is suffering from opioid addiction, please call our office so we can make available to you the resources that exist solely to get help to those in need.



Rep. Boyle rallies for safe staffing levels in hospitals and other health-care facilities with members of the Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals.



Rep. Boyle talks with seniors at his annual senior lunch and expo last September at the Villages of Pine Valley in Fox Chase.

Early and Basic Education Funding:

Budget cuts during the four years under then-Gov. Tom Corbett's administration are responsible for a significant gap between the lowest- and highest-funded school districts across the state. The funding disparity in Pennsylvania is among the worst in the country. Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera told me that there is a direct correlation between our lagging student test scores and lost funding. I have continuously supported funding to implement a universal pre-K and kindergarten program, as well as a funding formula that restores the lost investment once made in our basic education system.

Higher Education Funding:

Pennsylvania's state universities are consistently rated among the most expensive in the nation. Students and their families are not the only ones affected by high tuition costs. Our state's economic future is also jeopardized. I have introduced legislation to freeze tuition at our state funded universities until we can figure out a better funding model to sustain quality and affordable higher education in our state.

BOYLE INTRODUCES MARCH FOR MEALS RESOLUTION, RAISES AWARENESS OF SENIOR HUNGER

Every year the Meals on Wheels program sponsors the March for Meals campaign, designed to raise awareness of senior hunger and encourage action at the local level. Meals on Wheels enables more than 100,000 Pennsylvania seniors to remain more healthy and independent, saving billions of dollars in health-care costs and allowing seniors to remain in their own homes rather than relocating to a nursing facility.

Sadly, the program's federal funding has been threatened in the Trump administration's federal budget proposal. My resolution, H.R. 175, designated March 22, 2017 as March for Meals Day. This year it was more important than ever to

shed light on the many benefits our community programs provide to protect the seniors in our community.

To celebrate March for Meals Month, I participated in Klein Life's home delivery meal program and met many of the wonderful seniors in my district who rely on these important programs.

And once again, with the generous help of many local residents, my office's annual food drive donated more food than ever before. Thank you again for all the donations that benefit a local food pantry that serves more than 2,000 families in our community.



Far Left: Rep. Boyle celebrates March for Meals Month with Klein Life's home-delivered meals program and delivers a meal to 92-year-old Manya Perel.

Left: Rep. Boyle delivers over 600 pounds of food collected during his annual holiday food drive.

SHREDDER EVENT

May 20th • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

7801 Hasbrook Ave. (outside the Fox Chase office)



Please limit your documents to only those that contain personal information.

You may bring up to 4 bags of documents to shred.



Gov. Tom Wolf signs Rep. Boyle's bill expanding emergency vehicle designations for both the Philadelphia Prison System and additional ranking members of emergency responder units. This new law will make our streets safer and help minimize unnecessary danger for our emergency responders who work tirelessly to protect our communities. The law also allows for high-ranking fire department officials to use flashing lights in both official and private vehicles when responding to emergencies. This is especially needed for volunteer forces, like those in Rockledge Borough.

BOYLE PUSHES TO RESTORE HATE CRIMES LAW

With the recent wave of hate-motivated crimes in our country – including the vandalism of about 100 tombstones at a Philadelphia Jewish cemetery – I believe it's more important than ever to restore all of Pennsylvania's hate crime law.

The state Supreme Court struck down part of the law on a technicality in 2008. I have reintroduced my bill (H.B. 505) that would have the law again cover crimes motivated by actual or perceived ancestry, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity.

Our dedicated law enforcement officials need this tool restored so they can better prosecute and hopefully deter repeats of the cemetery vandalism and the brutal 2014 attack in Philadelphia that sent two gay men to the hospital. One of the men had to undergo surgery and have his jaw wired shut; the other suffered bone fractures and cuts to his face. Enough is enough!



Above: Rep. Boyle was honored to speak at a women's legislative event this winter. If you'd like to invite him to speak at a meeting of your organization, please call either of his offices at 215-695-1016 or 215-331-2600.



Right: Rep. Boyle enjoys meeting constituents at Mayfair's annual Trunk or Treat event in October.

BOYLE INTRODUCES BILL TO REMOVE STATE CONTROL OF PHILADELPHIA PARKING AUTHORITY

Reform could return more money for Philly schools

In January, along with State Rep. Stephen Kinsey, I introduced a bill to eliminate state control of the Philadelphia Parking Authority by June 30, 2018.

Serious questions of mismanagement and lack of the state board's oversight have prompted an audit by state Auditor General Eugene DePasquale. The deadline proposed in my bill will give the Auditor General ample time to do his investigation and give local authorities time to determine whether or not the PPA should be returned to local control.

Two decades of patronage hiring and promotion practices, along with employee misconduct cover-ups and sexual harassment scandals, culminated when Vincent Fenerty Jr. resigned last year. The high-level executive's excessive payout of unused vacation and compensatory time, unwarranted pension protection and 15-year health

care coverage has left serious doubt among government officials and the public as to what the state board's role should have been in stopping the PPA's unchecked power.

All the while, the cash-strapped Philadelphia School District remains one of the biggest losers. Promised to bring in as much as \$45 million annually from the PPA, reports show the school district received as little as \$2 million in one year.

I have formed a coalition with elected officials at the federal, state, and local level to call for major changes within the PPA and my bill serves as the first step in allowing these overdue reforms.

The bill, H.B. 874, was referred to the Urban Affairs Committee in March.



From left, Congressman Brendan Boyle, Lisa Shousky of Operation Bundle-Up and Rep. Boyle display some of the warm coats and jackets collected at Rep. Boyle's office for the foster children in our community.



Left: Rep. Boyle and James Kennedy from Congressman Brendan Boyle's office meet with constituents at the annual Rockledge Fall Festival and Car Show.

Right: Rep. Boyle speaks at the opening of the new office for the Northeast NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community), which helps local seniors who want to live independently in their own homes. The program is run by the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia in partnership with Catholic Health Care Services.





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INSIDE:

- Boyle stands up for working families, middle class in Pa. budget debate
- Boyle working to combat heroin/opioid epidemic
- Shredder event May 20th

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Rep. Boyle recites the Pledge of Allegiance on swearing-in day in January. His priorities for the new session include education, law enforcement and economic development. He is also eager to continue championing legislation he had previously introduced. This includes a continued focus on reducing the cost of higher education, a bill that would amend the state's hate crimes law to include sexual orientation, and a bill that would address negligent property owners.



SENIOR LUNCH
May 18th • 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Fox Chase Rec. Center
 7901 Ridgeway St. • Philadelphia, PA 19111
Parking available at the Fox Chase Elementary School
Entrance to the lot is on Rbawn St.
 Please RSVP to (215) 695-1016.



REP. BOYLE'S OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
- Information on financial assistance for higher education
- Assistance in obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
- Birth and death certificates
- Issues with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
- Inquiries about utilities and the Public Utility Commission
- Issues with insurance companies
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
- Questions about the state lottery
- PACE prescription-drug cards for senior citizens
- Consumer complaints
- Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
- Information about federal, state and local government agencies

Any state government-related matters!