



State Representative | 163rd Legislative District

# MIKE ZABEL

**District Offices:**

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Spring  
2021



## Dear Neighbor,

After a year of so much uncertainty and doubt, I'm filled with optimism about our state's ability to turn the corner in the fight against this pandemic.

One of my best days on the job happened this year.

After writing an op-ed for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* detailing the need to increase vaccination supplies in Delaware County and our region, the state responded and corrected this oversight. A mass vaccination site at Upper Darby High School opened days later, vaccinating thousands of people. The community came together in an extraordinarily positive way. Hope and optimism were everywhere.

I continue to serve as a co-chair on the Juvenile Justice Task Force, a position that I know could eventually have a positive effect on thousands of lives, including young people here in Delco. It's an opportunity to reform the juvenile justice system. After learning about the heartbreaking acts of child abuse reported at a juvenile justice center in Delco, I joined other leaders in calling for a swift and thorough investigation.

It's a stark reminder that so much more work still needs to be done.

Even though I see the signs of hope, I realize many people in our community are still hurting. My offices in Clifton Heights and Drexel Hill are here for you: If you need help with unemployment or any other state-related need, pick up the phone or email the office.

We have lots of work left to do, but in the last year our community truly showed we can, in fact, do it. We can overcome.

Sincerely,

**1.** In April, my offices partnered with the Darby Creek Valley Association for a clean-up of Gillespie Park. Thank you to all the neighbors who volunteered!



**2.** To celebrate the return of baseball and softball for Drexel Hill Little League and Llanerch Hills Baseball and Softball, I threw out the ceremonial first pitch and joined Upper Darby Mayor Barbarann Keffer and Councilman Brian Burke in wishing all the players, parents, coaches, and volunteers a successful season.



**3.** Weeks before the opening day of trout season, it was my pleasure to join Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission officials and state representatives to help stock Darby Creek.

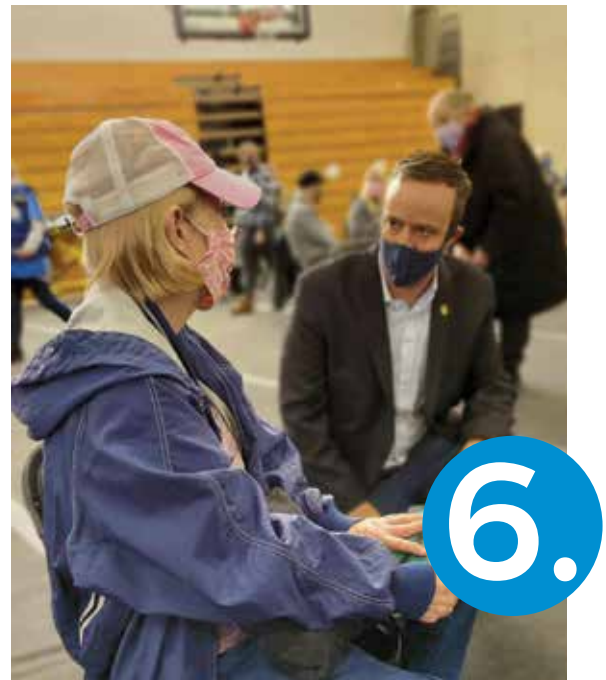


**4.** In February, it was an honor to present World War II veteran and Havertown resident Paul Becker with a special birthday citation for his 100th birthday.



**5.** In March, I toured the facilities of one of Delco's most valuable resources: the AIDS Care Group. ACG is a nonprofit that provides medical care, dental care, and social services to the uninsured and underinsured. It is also one of the largest and most comprehensive HIV/AIDS service providers in our region.

**6.** On March 14, Upper Darby High School hosted Delco's largest COVID-19 vaccination clinic. In nine hours, 1,260 people received their first COVID-19 vaccination. It may have been my favorite day ever in this job. Thanks to all the people who helped make this event happen, including U.S. Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon.





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7. Thank you to the generous people who donated at our various food drives, including the one in February to help St. Bernadette's food pantry and other local pantries collect vital supplies for our neighbors who need them the most.



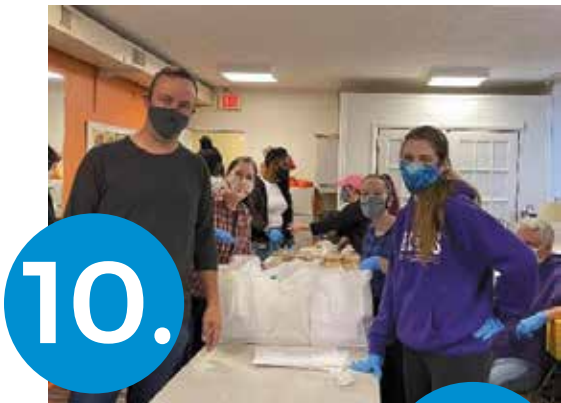
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8. Thank you to everyone who took part in the shredding event I co-hosted with Rep. Margo Davidson, and special thanks are in order for Delco District Attorney Jack Stollsteimer and his office for their successful drug take-back collection efforts at the event.

9. In December, in less than three hours, more than 150 cars turned out to donate for our Holiday Food Donation Drive – so many generous acts of kindness that all of the neighborhood food pantries left with fully loaded vehicles, and some of them were even filled multiple times!



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10. On Thanksgiving morning, I joined Pastor David and scores of volunteers with Upper Darby Community Outreach to help distribute hundreds of meals throughout the community.

11. One of my very favorite days of the year as a state representative is National Read Across America Day. Although we couldn't be in the same room this year, it was still very much my pleasure to read to the wonderful children at Step by Step Learning Center, Drexel Hill, and Manoa Elementary.



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12. Thank you to the staff at the YMCA of Eastern Delco in Lansdowne for the tour of their wonderful educational programs taking place on Martin Luther King Jr. Day – and every day!

13. As a former teacher and attorney, it was a special honor to serve as a presiding judge for the 2021 Pennsylvania High School Mock Trial Championship hosted by the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

# COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE IN DELCO

Everyone 16 and older is now eligible to schedule and receive a COVID-19 vaccine. At the time of publication, the Moderna and Pfizer vaccine are available, and Pfizer has released promising reports it has made strides in creating a vaccine for adolescents and children under the age of 16.

On April 13, Pennsylvania and Delco paused the use of the one-dose Johnson and Johnson vaccine after six cases of rare but severe blood clots were reported nationwide. The vaccine has been administered to almost 7 million people in the United States. The FDA is reviewing the situation and a decision on continuing the vaccine is expected.

## FINANCIAL HELP FOR RENT, UTILITY BILLS IN DELCO

Delco Emergency Rental Assistance, or Delco-ERA, has \$37 million available to assist residents who have suffered disruption and loss of income because of the pandemic. Delco-ERA will help residents with past due rent or an outstanding utility bill.

Visit <https://www.delco-era.com/> for more information or call 484-729-4200 to ask questions.

Funds are limited, so apply early.



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

During the 2021-22 legislative session, I've introduced more than a half-dozen bills. Here are some of the bills I'm working on:

- **Ghost gun legislation:** This bill would address the growing problem of ghost guns, or the practice of felons legally purchasing parts and assembling an untraceable weapon that is impossible for law enforcement to track. In PA, law enforcement seized 99 of these weapons in 2019 and 250 last year. This year, more than 80 ghost guns have already been seized. This bill would close the loophole for sales of gun parts to people who otherwise would not be legally able to own a firearm.
- **Stop pay to play:** This bill would change the way Harrisburg does business, rewarding contracts based on quality of work, efficiency and cost – not the size or frequency of a contractor's campaign donations. This bill would require applicants to list all campaign contributions.



MY OFFICE IS  
**OPEN**

WORKING TO SERVE YOU REMOTELY  
AND IN PERSON.

APPOINTMENTS ARE AVAILABLE,  
CONTACT US TO SCHEDULE AN  
APPOINTMENT.

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- **Level pay for non-opioid treatment:** In an effort to end the opioid epidemic and treat sensible non-opioid pain management as an equal option, this bill would require non-opioid, evidence-based pain management therapies to be considered the same as traditional opioid treatments when assessing out-of-pocket costs and insurance billing rates.
- **Capping insulin prices:** I have reintroduced legislation with Rep. Jeanne McNeill that would cap out-of-pocket prescription insulin prices at \$100 per month. The bill would address rising insulin prices.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**THURSDAY  
MAY 13**

Rain date: Thursday, May 20

**11 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Clifton Heights  
Athletic Field**

217 N. Springfield Rd.  
Clifton Heights

As we continue to deal with the pandemic, we want to help people find work again so they can get back on their feet!

**Bring copies of your resume!**

**Dress is business casual:** Wear shoes suitable for walking on a baseball field.



**Saturday, June 12 • 6:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.**

*\*Rain date Saturday, June 26*

**Arlington Cemetery**

2900 State Rd. • Drexel Hill, PA 19026



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**MIKE ZABEL**  
163<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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Drexel Hill, PA 19026

(484) 200-8262

lpo.km.0421

## MY TEAM AND I ARE READY TO HELP YOU.

Here are just some of the ways we can help:

- 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 – 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 with APPRISE.
- 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.
- PA state veterans' programs.



- Complaints and problems with insurance companies.
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate assistance or questions.
- Problems or questions about state lottery.
- Liaison to local government and state agencies.

**Any issue with state government!**