



# STATE REPRESENTATIVE RICK KRAJEWSKI

## Dear Neighbor,

I know many of us in West and Southwest Philly are already feeling threatened and unsafe due to the new presidential administration. President Donald Trump and his billionaire backers are sowing fear and panic to divide us while he threatens critical federal programs, threatens our transgender and immigrant neighbors and undoes decades of progress towards racial and economic justice. This is an authoritarian power grab intent on toppling our democracy to further his oligarchic agenda.

**I want my constituents to know that my office strongly opposes his extremist agenda and will be doing everything in our power to protect our community.** Already, I was proud to join 20 lawmakers across the city condemning the first I.C.E. raid to take place in the city, but I know that statements aren't enough. My office is committed to working closely alongside frontline, grassroots organizations building radical community and fighting for real safety for all of our neighbors in the time ahead.

Thank you for your support and solidarity,



State Rep. Rick Krajewski



## TERM IN REVIEW

The start of the new year marked the end of my second term representing West and Southwest Philly. Looking back, I'm proud to say that we've made real progress in Harrisburg — building historic progressive power, passing legislation defending working-class tenants and the incarcerated community and bringing back millions to West and Southwest Philly.

### Accomplishments I'm particularly proud of include:

**Securing more than \$30 million in grant funding for West and Southwest Philly**, including more than \$2.5 million for parks and \$11 million for violence prevention initiatives. Right in the neighborhood, I won funding for projects at Kingsessing Rec, Malcolm X Park, Clark Park and the Woodlands, including:

- **\$100,000 for Malcolm X Park** to make repairs, days after a fire damaged the park's bathroom and electrical system. With the collaboration of Councilmember Jamie Gauthier, we made sure the park was repaired quickly and made stronger than ever.
- **\$500,000 for the Friends of Clark Park** to get started implementing their Master Plan renovations, a beautiful design created by and for the surrounding neighborhood that includes nature-based playgrounds, a multi-height basketball hoop, a permanent bathroom and more.

# TERM IN REVIEW

**Five bills I sponsored passed the PA House or became law**, including new protections for working class tenants, voting rights for incarcerated voters and procedures to hold vulnerable families together. We also formally celebrated West Philly's own Paul Robeson!

- 1. H.B. 1058:** Holding families together by supporting kinship care providers – like grandparents and family friends – in child custody proceedings
- 2. H.B. 287:** Ended Philly's for-profit eviction system, the landlord-tenant office, which led to three shootings in the summer of 2024.
- 3. H.B. 1756:** Won the first ever statewide voting in jails policy.
- 4. H.B. 2443:** Launched Pennsylvania's Tenant Right to Counsel Program, providing free legal assistance to tenants facing eviction statewide.
- 5. H.R. 231:** Declared April 9th as Paul Robeson Day, celebrating a legendary Black radical organizer, artist and hero of our community.



**Standing with movements for justice**, whether that meant protesting for a ceasefire, launching the Coalition of Workers at Penn, blocking billionaire-backed school vouchers for the second year in a row or defeating the 76ers destructive Chinatown arena plan.



**Taking leadership**, co-founding the state legislature's first Progressive Caucus and being elected chair of the PA Commission on Sentencing to take on mass incarceration and win the transformative change that working-class Pennsylvanians deserve.



As I was sworn in for my third term, I felt immense gratitude, knowing none of this work could ever have happened alone, and excited to begin the work ahead. Priorities for my second term include legalizing adult-use cannabis, giving thousands of incarcerated Pennsylvanians second chances, standing up for working families against corporate greed, fighting for housing as a human right and ensuring our families and youth have the resources they need to live safe and healthy lives.

## AROUND THE DISTRICT

### CELEBRATING SENIORS AT STAR HARBOR

This fall, my office brought vendors, performers and community organizations to Star Harbor Senior Center for an incredible Senior Health Fair! Our constituents were able to connect with important health-related resources. Additionally, I had the honor of pinning the newest members of Star Harbor's advisory council. I appreciate these seniors for their leadership and passion in our community.



## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION AT CHRISTY REC

Christy Recreation Center is a critically important space in our community, but I've heard from many constituents that it could feel more welcoming. My office staff and I went door to door, bringing neighbors together for a community conversation. We discussed neighborhood safety, quality-of-life concerns and the repairs project timeline for the center. Thank you to our partners at Parks & Rec., the 18th District, the Managing Directors Office, Councilmember Jamie Gauthier's office and all of our West Philly neighbors who joined us.



## CELEBRATING THANKSGIVING TOGETHER

This Thanksgiving, I worked hard to make sure that every family had the resources they needed for a warm and connected celebration. At my office's Turkey Giveaway and Shred Day, we gave away more than 150 turkeys! We also had a shredding truck to assist anyone who stopped by with safe disposal of sensitive documents.

# STATE OF THE UNIONS

## Our district's and city's labor movement just keeps growing!

Post-doctoral workers and research assistants at Penn recently announced their campaign to form a union with the United Auto Workers, after graduate workers and librarians won unions over the summer and fall. Retail workers across the city are also standing up and fighting back – from Unite Here concession workers in the arena district who went on strike this fall to Philly Whole Foods Workers who won the first union in the nation. And in a historic month, tens of thousands more medical residents

across seven hospitals in Philly formed unions this January alone.

I was proud to speak out in support of, organize alongside and build a support network among state lawmakers for these campaigns and more. No matter how the Trump administration tries to bully and threaten organized labor, my office and I will always stand with workers forming unions and fighting for strong contracts that deliver good wages and benefits. **If you or someone you know is looking to organize at work, know that I have your back. Solidarity!**



## STATE RESOURCES

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is open again for people aged 65+, people aged 50+ who are a widow/widower and people aged 18+ who have a permanent disability.

Since my colleagues and I fought for expansions to the program in 2023, many more people qualify and will receive a larger rebate for rent or property taxes paid.

Stop by or call my office so we can help you apply today!

## LIHEAP

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program is here to help you stay warm in the winter. LIHEAP will help if you are struggling with paying your utility bills by making payments directly to your utility company. The

best part is this is a grant that does not need to be paid back.

## PA MONEY MATCH

Keep an eye on your mailbox to see if you'll be receiving some unclaimed property!

The PA Treasury is returning unclaimed property to Pennsylvanians who have abandoned funds from a bank account, insurance policies and much more.

The first round of PA Money Match could return more than \$2 million to more than 8,500 Pennsylvanians.

You can also check to see if you have any unclaimed property on the PA Treasury website at [www.PaTreasury.gov](http://www.PaTreasury.gov) or contact my office for help.



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Recap  
2024

State Representative | 188th Legislative District  
**RICK KRAJEWSKI**

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## How can my office help you?

- ➔ Property Tax/Rent Rebate applications
- ➔ PennDOT services, such as car registrations, handicap placards or titles
- ➔ Unemployment Compensation issues
- ➔ Voter registration and absentee/mail-in ballot applications
- ➔ Birth and death certificates
- ➔ Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- ➔ Pennsylvania income tax questions
- ➔ Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
- ➔ Consumer complaints
- ➔ Notary services for state documents
- ➔ PACE prescription cards for senior citizens
- ➔ Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications

**Any other questions about state government!**