

# Hello Neighbor,

Summer is coming to an end, and I want to let you know what we've been up to around the district and in Harrisburg over these past few months. I always enjoy meeting with young people, and I spent some time speaking to two different youth summer programs about the sciences, democracy, and voting rights. Our office held a job fair in July at Christy Recreation Center and in August we co-hosted a backpack giveaway. Legislators from Harrisburg came to Kingsessing Rec Center for a policy hearing to discuss the need for funding our community infrastructure. On Your Porch is back for a second season and we are still looking for hosts.

June was full of activity in Harrisburg. It took a while, but we finally passed a state budget well past the deadline on July 7th. There are some good things and some bad things in this year's budget. My budget priorities have always been equitable funding for schools, housing, and parks and recreation, and I'm pleased that additional funding for these issues was included. However, I am disappointed by the corporate giveaways and expansion of education vouchers included in this budget. We also continued to see attacks on abortion rights in Harrisburg, and I'm working with my colleagues to push back and protect a person's right to choose an abortion. I'm looking forward to working on legislation this fall to expand voting access for incarcerated individuals.

Sincerely,



State Rep. Rick Krajewski



## STATE REPRESENTATIVE RICK KRAJEWSKI

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## AROUND THE DISTRICT



### Monell Center Apprenticeship Capstone Event

I had a blast at the Monell Science Center's Capstone Event for their summer apprenticeship programs. Aspiring scientists from ages 16-22 studied a research topic and then gave a presentation with their findings. It was so cool to learn more about a wide range of topics from sense of taste to enzymes and metabolism. I'm inspired to see this generation take on the field of science with such rigor.

# AROUND THE DISTRICT



## High School Voter Project

This summer I was excited to meet for the second year in a row with the High School Voter Project, where 10 students from high schools across West Philly come together at UPenn's campus to discuss potential policy solutions to problems in their communities and then present them to legislators. This year, we spoke about the issue of gun violence amongst young people and how to involve more youth in the political process through voting and organizing.

## Backpack Giveaway

We were happy to partner with University City Arts League for the 2022 West Philly Arts Jamboree. We gave away 200 bookbags to students for the new school year! We were so glad to continue our partnership with University City Arts League and provide critical supplies for the students.



## State Representative Krajewski

*On Your Porch is back!*

THESE SMALL NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERINGS ARE A SPACE TO DISCUSS WITH ME WHAT OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS AND HEAR UPDATES ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HARRISBURG. I'LL BE ON YOUR PORCHES ACROSS THE DISTRICT DURING AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER. IF YOU'D LIKE TO HOST, PLEASE CONTACT MY OFFICE.



# JOB FAIR

I've heard from countless constituents about how there are not enough jobs available that provide a livable wage, which is why we hosted a job fair at Christy Recreation Center and made sure every employer invited had opportunities that can lead to an actual career. I connected the community to great jobs and educational resources. Next year will be bigger and better!



# AROUND HARRISBURG

## Passing a budget that prioritizes our homes, communities, and schools

### WHOLE-HOME REPAIRS

I'm excited to announce that \$125 million has been allocated towards the Whole-Home Repairs Program. This program, the largest housing investment made by the legislature in some time, includes several provisions:

- Up to \$50,000 per home to repair and update them throughout the commonwealth.
- Resources for a support staff to help people across PA with their home improvements.
- Resources for training programs and offering stipends to trainees to amass the manpower needed to meet these improvement demands in the state.



*Housing is a human right. Having the Whole Home Repairs funding included in the state budget is a huge step in ensuring that all Pennsylvanians have a safe, secure place to call home. This is transformative change that protects our communities from environmental wear and profit-driven overdevelopment.*



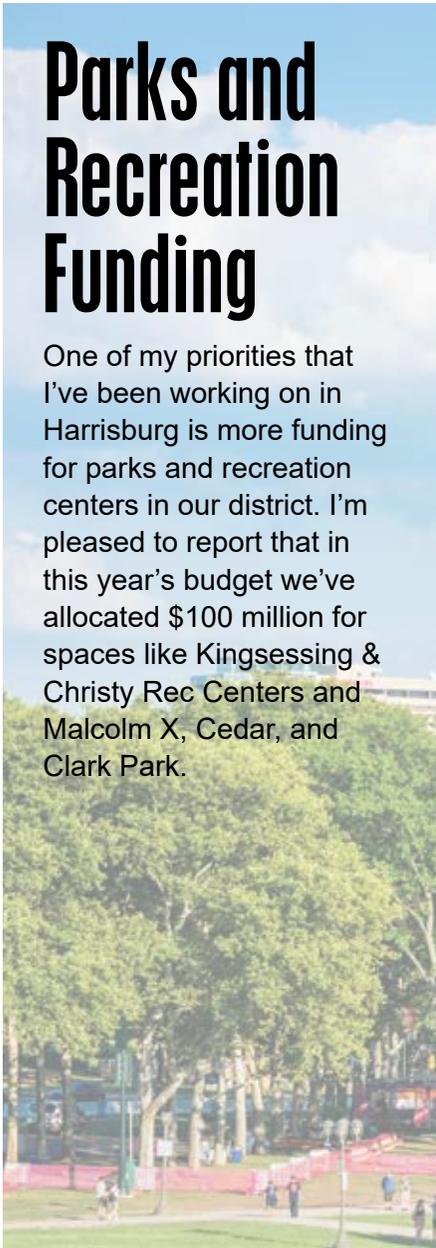
**REP. RICK KRAJEWSKI**  
Philadelphia County

# School Funding

The budget also includes a 13% increase in funding for our schools for a total of \$189.3 million. While it doesn't include things like funding to fix our toxic schools, it will go a long way in providing the resources our students, teachers, and communities need.

# Parks and Recreation Funding

One of my priorities that I've been working on in Harrisburg is more funding for parks and recreation centers in our district. I'm pleased to report that in this year's budget we've allocated \$100 million for spaces like Kingsessing & Christy Rec Centers and Malcolm X, Cedar, and Clark Park.



**Philadelphia County**  
schools will receive an additional  
**\$189.3 Million**  
**13.7% more than last year!**



# Disappointments in the budget Giveaways to Corporations

One of the pieces that I was disappointed to see included in the budget was cuts to the Corporate Net Income Tax. The cut would reduce the rate corporations are taxed in half over the next five years, eliminating nearly \$2.5 billion in funding for the commonwealth. During the pandemic we saw corporations make record profits, and I believe we should be holding them to a higher tax standard – not a lower one. I voted no on the Tax Code bill that provided this corporate tax giveaway because we need the funding available to support working families and communities in Pennsylvania.

# Threats to Public Education Funding

I was also disappointed that this year's budget expanded the use of education vouchers. These programs dip into public school budgets and reduce the amount of funding available to support public schools. With a funding crisis already devastating our public schools, I'm opposed to any measure that continues to defund our public education system.

# ABORTION RIGHTS UNDER ATTACK

I STAND FOR

women's health care

reproductive rights

safe + legal abortion access

The Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade and roll back a person's rights to receive an abortion is devastating for so many people, and Pennsylvania is already seeing the impacts. Currently in Pennsylvania abortion is still legal up to 24 weeks. However, in the midst of trying to pass an already delayed budget, Republicans pushed through a constitutional amendment that could pave the way to banning abortion. Specifically, the constitutional amendment would state that the Pennsylvania Constitution does not grant the right to taxpayer-funded abortions or any other right relating to abortion.

The bill still needs to be voted on again by the House and the Senate when the next session term starts in January 2023. We can't predict when that vote will be, but we know that this is a priority for Republicans. If they move quickly and it passes, this constitutional amendment would be on the ballot as early as Spring 2023.

Democrats are already fighting back, and I've signed on to several pieces of legislation to attempt to protect and

expand abortion access in Pennsylvania:

Fiedler Bill (1): would provide funds to the Department of Health to establish a training program for abortion care.

Fiedler Bill (2): would require insurance companies to provide abortion services without imposing a deductible, coinsurance, copayment, or any other cost-sharing requirement.

Frankel Bill: Would allow physician assistants, nurse-midwives, and certified registered nurse practitioners to prescribe medication abortion.

HB2766 (Hill-Evans): Would prohibit all law enforcement officers, state government departments and their employees, and local government entities and their employees from cooperating with out-of-state investigations into abortions legally obtained in Pennsylvania.

## HEALTHY PARKS AND OPEN SPACES PUBLIC HEARING:

In August I hosted a Policy Hearing with the Democratic Caucus right here in Southwest Philly at Kingsessing Recreation Center. We began with a tour of the recreation center and library, led by Rec Leader Coach Larry, and concluded with hearing from our panelists. I'm grateful for everyone who testified about the need for significant investments in our parks, rec, and green space infrastructure. It's clear this isn't just an issue about having nice surroundings — this is about gun violence, environmental justice, and supporting our young people and our communities. I look forward to the work before us. I also got to hoop with the kids and had a blast!



## WHAT I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IN HARRISBURG

We're back in session starting September 12. With only 12 days of session before the end of this term, I'm planning to focus on legislation to expand voting access to people who are currently incarcerated. Some incarcerated individuals in correctional institutions have been barred from being allowed to vote, even though they are still eligible to participate. HB2718 and 2719, which I've co-sponsored alongside Representative Rabb, seeks to fix this by permitting all incarcerated individuals to be eligible to vote by absentee ballot and requiring the Department of State to create a uniform policy for civic education in state and county correctional institutions, including voting guides and notifications of all elections.





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## How can my office help you?

- ➔ Property Tax/Rent Rebate applications
- ➔ PennDOT services, such as car registrations, handi-cap placards or titles
- ➔ Unemployment Compensation issues
- ➔ Voter registration and absentee 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 cards for senior citizens
- ➔ Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications

**[Any other question about state government!](#)**