



STATE REPRESENTATIVE **KATE KLUNK** SERVING THE 169TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

Ensuring Safer Roads by Supporting DUI Recovery

Last fall, I introduced a bill that would support the recovery needs of high-risk DUI offenders who are statistically likely to commit further offenses.

Under current DUI law, Pennsylvania requires DUI offenders to be assessed for drug and alcohol addiction as a condition of Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) prior to their sentencing. However, the assessment process does not consider medication as a treatment recommendation, despite strong evidence that demonstrates the effectiveness of pharmacotherapies in supporting recovery and preventing relapse.

Under the bill I introduced, defendants assessed for drug and alcohol addiction following a DUI charge would be considered for medication-assisted treatment in conjunction with behavioral therapies if deemed clinically appropriate.

This legislation would ensure both first-time and repeat DUI offenders are offered the means to enter and sustain recovery. By providing an avenue for offenders who are battling the disease of addiction to access evidence-based treatment, we can reduce recidivism among impaired drivers and ensure safer roadways for Pennsylvania residents and those travelling through the state.

This initiative would address another layer of intervention in the ongoing opioid crisis. I was encouraged by the unanimous, bipartisan support it received in the House Judiciary Committee, and I am hopeful we can get this initiative through to the governor's desk for a safer Pennsylvania in the near future.



Modernizing the Way Pennsylvanians Negotiate Divorce

To simplify the family law process, I sponsored a 2021 family law arbitration bill to provide families going through divorce with a voluntary and private process for resolving disputes instead of going to court. The initiative was taken up again in 2023, and would have saved families time, money and stress in addition to reducing the burden on our legal system and saving taxpayer money.

Resolving legal issues among family members can be emotionally and financially draining. Whether property or spousal or child support is in dispute, family law cases can have

a lasting impact on all parties involved, especially children. This arbitration method would not only reduce strain on courts, but stress on families. In the fall, the Senate Judiciary Committee passed this proposal with unanimous and bipartisan support.

While this effort has not yet reached the finish line, I am optimistic Pennsylvania families may receive the options they deserve when negotiating a divorce in the future. I will continue to stand up for families and advocate for common sense reforms that positively impact our residents.

Do You Have Unclaimed Property?

According to the Pennsylvania Treasury Department, which administers the state's Unclaimed Property program, one in 10 Pennsylvanians has unclaimed property waiting to be claimed. The Treasury receives hundreds of millions of dollars annually, often because of something as simple as a misspelled name, or out-of-date address. This is your property, and they want to return it to you.

Unclaimed property may include abandoned or forgotten bank accounts, stocks, uncashed checks, unused gift cards, safe deposit boxes, life insurance policies and more.

It's free and easy to check for unclaimed property by visiting **[PaTreasury.gov](https://www.PaTreasury.gov)** and searching the database or calling **1-800-222-2046**. Again, there is no fee associated with this service.

You may also call my office at **717-630-8942** for assistance with accessing this information.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE **KATE KLUNK**

DISTRICT OFFICE:

118 Carlisle St., Suite 300, Hanover, PA 17331

Phone: 717-630-8942

Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

CAPITOL OFFICE:

Room 113 Ryan Bldg., Harrisburg PA 17120-2169

Phone: 717-787-4790



Visit **RepKlunk.com**
to subscribe to my email newsletters!



Mark Your Calendar for Property Tax/Rent Rebate Assistance

Do you need assistance filing a Property Tax/Rent Rebate application for property taxes and rent paid in 2023? Come out to this FREE event where my office and I can serve you! It's estimated over 150,000 additional Pennsylvanians may be eligible for the program since its expansion in 2023.

Join us on **Tuesday, March 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the New Freedom Borough office council chambers, located at 49 E. High St. in New Freedom.**

Please call **717-630-8942** to make an appointment. We will schedule a time to assist you and ensure you know what documentation is needed to file your application.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program benefits Pennsylvanians 65 years and older; widows and widowers 50 years and older; and people with disabilities 18 years and older. The income limit was raised to \$45,000 with half of Social Security income excluded. The maximum rebate also increased from \$650 to \$1,000.

For questions about this event, please visit **RepKlunk.com/Events** or call **717-630-8942**.



WE HAVE FREE RESOURCES FOR SPORTSMEN

Attention sportsmen! Are you looking for targets or information on Pennsylvania's fish, game and wildlife laws? My office has free resources for the upcoming hunting, fishing and trapping seasons. Stop by during business hours to help yourself! We are located at 118 Carlisle St. in Hanover. Please call ahead to see if we have trout stocking schedules available.

I Want to Hear from You!

An important part of my job as your elected representative is to communicate with you the latest news from Harrisburg. Please consider taking my online survey to sign up to receive email updates in subject areas of interest to you. Please note, this would be an additional email that is not part of my regular email newsletter. To take the survey, please fill out the form at **RepKlunk.com/Form/LatestNewsSurvey**.