



STATE REPRESENTATIVE KATE KLUNK

SERVING THE 169TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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ADVOCATING FOR a Responsible Budget

The 2025-26 fiscal year began on July 1, but as of this writing, a budget agreement has not yet been reached.

Pennsylvania is trending toward a fiscal cliff, and Gov. Josh Shapiro is at the wheel. We know state revenues are not keeping pace with spending, and our reserve funds are being rapidly depleted to balance spend-heavy budgets. There are only two options to avoid tax hikes – cutting spending or stimulating economic growth.

The Pennsylvania Prosperity Plan, a culmination of House Republican ideas and bills, focuses on key areas to grow the economy and keep state government spending in check. Our plan contrasts the governor's proposal by focusing on three areas to shield you from future tax increases:

- Unleashing Pennsylvania's energy potential: The best solution to avoiding the fiscal cliff is to grow our economy, particularly in the energy industry.
- Supporting efficient government: Government works best when it is efficient. We need to focus on stopping government waste, fraud and abuse.
- Supporting educational freedom: Education is a vital tool in increasing economic power. By focusing on the individual needs of students and training students for the jobs of today and tomorrow, we can build a solid workforce.

I remain adamantly opposed to the governor's \$51.47 billion budget, and I opposed a \$50.61 billion budget offered by House Democrats. The Democrats' budget did not represent a negotiated product with the Senate, and it was rushed through committee for final consideration on the same day, July 14.

I have also joined other members of the York County Delegation to the House of Representatives to hold the line at \$47.9 billion and flat fund services in conjunction with the 2024-25 state budget. This plan is fiscally responsible and based on current revenue projections. It would not result in tax increases.

I will continue to update you on the budget process in the weeks ahead.

WORKING TO IMPROVE the Child Care Landscape

In June, I traveled to Montour County for a hearing of the House Republican Policy Committee. The hearing titled "Overregulation in Child Care" addressed the obstacles and challenges providers face, as well as how the General Assembly must better align our regulatory environment with their needs.

The hearing featured testimony from experts who touched on unique aspects of the child care crisis. Testifiers reinforced the complexity of child care issues, citing insurance obstacles and staffing needs as critical pieces of the puzzle. They also emphasized child care is a workforce development issue. Not only does access to quality care allow parents to enter the workforce and contribute to Pennsylvania's economy, the industry itself benefits from it.

Testifiers signaled the need for meaningful, transformative changes—not one-time, Band-Aid fixes. I have been vocal in my opposition to the governor's proposal to allocate \$55 million for child care recruitment and retention bonuses, which does not address the root problems our child care industry is facing. By repealing needless and oppressive regulations, we can make it easier for providers to serve our families, as well as teach and nurture our children.

I intend to take these conversations back to Harrisburg and back to the House Children and Youth Committee, where we can introduce legislation to make lasting changes. I am hopeful we can work together to garner bipartisan support for regulatory reform in child care.

I'm energized to continue working for you and our Commonwealth's children. You can learn more about this hearing by visiting PAGOPPolicy.com. I will continue to provide updates as we work to address these issues.



PROUDLY SERVING THE 169TH DISTRICT



Welcoming Wawa to Hanover.



Breaking ground for the new Hanover YWCA children's learning academy.



Teaching Junior Achievement to local elementary schoolers.



Dropping off trout stocking schedules for area anglers.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE **KATE KLUNK**

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2024 Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program Deadline Extended

The deadline for senior citizens and Pennsylvanians with disabilities to apply for rebates on rent and property taxes paid in 2024 has been extended to **Dec. 31**.

Income limits for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program increased this year to \$46,520 for both homeowners and renters. If you were earning too much to qualify before, you may be eligible now. Remember to exclude 50% of Social Security when determining your income. The law I supported to expand the

program also increased the maximum rebate to \$1,000.

The program is open to residents age 65 years and older; widows and widowers 50 years and older; and people with disabilities 18 years and older.

Remember – you do not need to pay anyone for assistance to apply for the rebates. Apply online at mypath.pa.gov, or contact my office for help.

As required by law, rebate distribution began **July 1**.

UPCOMING EVENTS



National Night Out

Tuesday, Aug. 5, from 5:30-8 p.m.

Emory H. Markle Middle School, 225 Bowman Road in Hanover.

Support the 169th District's dedicated first responders at National Night Out. Stop by my legislative booth to chat and check out our literature and resources.



Summer Bash

Sunday, Aug. 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

North Hanover YMCA, 500 George St. in Hanover.

The North Hanover YMCA and David Ross are partnering to host a Summer Bash. This free event provides a fun-filled day of activities and games for families and children of all ages. Stop by my legislative booth to chat and check out our literature and resources.



Back-to-School Event

Tuesday, Aug. 19, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Utz Factory Outlet, 861 Carlisle St. in Hanover.

Families needing school supplies for children in kindergarten through sixth grade can pick up a backpack of goodies. A certified technician can also check your child safety seats to ensure they are installed correctly.



Document Shredding AND Damaged License Plate Replacement Event

Saturday, Sept. 27, from 9 a.m. to noon

at my district office, 118 Carlisle St. in Hanover.

Protect yourself from identity theft by safely and securely shredding documents that contain personal information. Additionally, staff will be available to help you obtain a replacement license plate if yours is damaged. The shredder can handle staples, but paper clips and binder clips must be removed.

Bring your vehicle with the damaged license plate attached as well as your registration card and driver's license. RSVPs are required for the license plate replacement portion of this event. Please call **717-630-8942** or visit RepKlunk.com/Events.

SAVE THE DATE!