



STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 170TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

BRENDAN F. BOYLE

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COMMITTEE APPROVES REPEAT VIOLENT OFFENDER LEGISLATION

I am pleased to report that since my last newsletter, legislation I've proposed that would increase prison sentences and end early parole for repeat violent criminals has passed its first milestone in the legislative process.

In late June, the House Judiciary Committee voted 16-6 in favor of my legislation (H.B. 1567), which would increase prison sentences for second- and third-strike offenses for repeat violent offenders and eliminate the possibility of early parole. My proposal would also require close monitoring and supervision of repeat violent offender inmates by the parole board for 15 to 20 years after they leave prison.

As the Judiciary Committee prepared to vote on my proposal in June, its need and timeliness was unfortunately underscored when a woman and three young children were killed that month in Philadelphia after being struck by an out-of-control car driven by a young man fleeing a robbery. The man had a lengthy criminal record, including several charges of simple and aggravated assault.

While my legislation was inspired by multiple police killings here in our community, I am confident that it has the potential to save the lives of innocent people across Pennsylvania. House Bill 1567 now awaits a vote by the full House, and I will continue to advocate for its passage.



Rep. Boyle announces his repeat violent offender legislation at a Capitol news conference, joined by Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police President John McNesby, State Police Commissioner Frank Pawlowski and House Judiciary Committee Chairman Tom Caltagirone, D-Berks.

HOUSE WORKING ON LEGISLATION TO EXPAND PACENET

Legislation that is being considered in the state House would expand Pennsylvania's PACE/PACENET prescription program for senior citizens to allow approximately 30,000 more seniors in Pennsylvania to receive benefits.

The expansion of this lottery-funded program would not cost Pennsylvania taxpayers any extra money, since the increase in eligibility would be funded through improvements and efficiencies that the legislation would also make to the program.

I fully support this bill (H.B. 1676), which would increase the income limit for single seniors to qualify for the program from the current \$23,500 a year to \$30,000. The income limit for a couple would increase from \$31,000 to \$40,000.

Savings would be achieved in part by requiring larger rebates that keep pace with inflation for prescriptions bought through PACE/PACENET. While achieving savings to the program is important, I also want to protect our independent or "mom and pop" neighborhood pharmacies.

That's why I'm fighting to ensure this legislation treats them in a fair way that won't put them out of business so I can support the bill when it comes up for a vote in the House.

Additionally, my colleagues and I recently passed legislation that that would exempt any economic stimulus payments from PACE and PACENET income limits. This bill was necessary since the federal economic stimulus initiative provides for a one-time \$250 stipend to many Social Security recipients, people on Supplemental Security Income and veterans receiving disability and pensions. This one-time increase in income has the potential to put some seniors over the income eligibility limits for PACE/PACENET. The bill awaits consideration by the state Senate, and I am urging its passage.

If you are a senior citizen without prescription coverage and you are struggling to pay for your medications, or if you know a senior citizen in that situation, please contact my offices to inquire about PACE/PACENET or other programs that may help.



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SIGN UP FOR MY E-MAIL UPDATES

If you'd like to sign up for my occasional e-mail updates and alerts, please visit www.pahouse.com/boyle and click on "Contact Me" to send me your contact information and let me know what topics you'd like to hear about.

CONSTITUENT SERVICE OFFICES

I am pleased to announce that we've just opened a second office on Rising Sun Avenue, located in the Burholme section of the city, one block south of Cottman Avenue. As always, please don't hesitate to visit or call either of our constituent service offices for help with any state-related issue.

14230 Bustleton Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19116
Phone: (215) 676-0300

Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday - Friday

7215 B Rising Sun Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19111
Phone: (215) 342-1700

Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday
9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday



Rep. Boyle and Rep. Dennis O'Brien, R-Phila., are pictured with the Baldi Middle School student team, champions of the first Boyle-O'Brien academic challenge tournament for junior high school students in Philadelphia.



Rep. Boyle is pictured with India's U.S. Ambassador Meera Shankar during her visit to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.