



STATE REPRESENTATIVE **JOSE A. GIRAL** SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2026

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Dear Neighbors,

I hope you are well. As we head into our fall voting session, I wanted to share with you some updates from Harrisburg and what they mean for Philadelphia.

The General Assembly passed the 2026-27 state budget in July; I got to celebrate a few of my bills becoming law; and our community received new grants that will support some fantastic projects in our neighborhoods.

It's an honor to serve as your state representative and I am grateful for your trust and support. If you ever need assistance with a state-related issue, please reach out at (215) 291-5643 or by stopping by my office at 3503 B Street, Unit 7, Philadelphia.

Estimados vecinos:

Espero que se encuentren bien. Ahora que nos acercamos a la sesión legislativa de otoño, quería compartir con ustedes algunas novedades procedentes de Harrisburg y lo que significan para Filadelfia.

En julio, la Asamblea General aprobó el presupuesto estatal para el período 2026-2027, tuve la oportunidad de celebrar que algunos de mis proyectos de ley se convirtieran en ley y nuestra comunidad recibió nuevas subvenciones que servirán para financiar algunos proyectos fantásticos en nuestros barrios.

Es un honor desempeñar el cargo de representante estatal y les agradezco su confianza y su apoyo. Si alguna vez necesitan ayuda con cualquier asunto relacionado con el estado, no duden en ponerse en contacto conmigo llamando al (215) 291-5643 o visitando mi oficina, que está situada en 3503 B Street, Unit 7, Filadelfia.

Rep. Jose Giral

The 2026-27 Pennsylvania State Budget

The new budget makes historic investments in public education, including a \$565 million increase to address adequacy and help kids, schools, and taxpayers, and a more than \$50 million increase in basic education funding and special education funding to ensure every child succeeds. It also expands mental health and violence prevention program funding, supports our childcare sector, and maintains the Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit.

El presupuesto estatal de Pensilvania para el período 2026-2027

El nuevo presupuesto incluye inversiones históricas en la educación pública, entre las que se incluyen un aumento de \$565 millones para garantizar una financiación adecuada y ayudar a los niños, las escuelas y los contribuyentes, y un incremento de más de \$50 millones en la financiación de la educación básica y la educación especial, con el fin de garantizar el éxito de todos los niños. Además, amplía la financiación destinada a los programas de salud mental y prevención de la violencia, brinda apoyo a nuestro sector de cuidado infantil y mantiene el crédito fiscal para los trabajadores de Pensilvania.

NEW FUNDING!

- \$1.6 MILLION** for programs benefitting our District
- Hopeworks in Kensington: \$500,000**
- 12Plus in Harrowgate: \$500,000**
- PB&J for CultureTrust: \$60,000**

2026-2027 PA Budget Wins

School Funding Increase

School District of Philadelphia
\$157 Million (7.6% ↑)

2026-2027 Philly Budget wins

- ✓ **Balances budget with no new taxes**
- ✓ **\$557 million** (VAF, increase) for the School District of Philadelphia
- ✓ **\$39 million** for Child Care
- ✓ **\$20.7 million** for School Safety and Security Fund
- ✓ **\$154 million** for Crime and Technical Education
- ✓ **\$98.6 million** for Children's Health Research Program (CHRP)
- ✓ **\$10M increase** for the Student Teacher Award program
- ✓ **\$14.2 million** for Rape Crisis program
- ✓ **\$2.5 million** for Student Incident Clearance and Technological Investigation Referrals and Prevention
- ✓ **\$14.1M FICA increase** for teachers' salaries, benefits, and state retiree
- ✓ **\$2.5 million** for Student Incident Clearance and Technological Investigation Referrals and Prevention
- ✓ **\$10 million** for Research Security Grant Fund
- ✓ **\$500,000** appropriation for Temple University for its state degree completion program
- ✓ **\$200 million** for Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit
- ✓ **\$9.4 billion** for PA managed care program
- ✓ **\$23.75 million** for Historically Disadvantaged Business Assistance
- ✓ **\$17 million** for the Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority Fund
- ✓ **\$2.4 million** for Human Trafficking Referrals and Prevention
- ✓ **And Much More!**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES ACTUALIZACIONES LEGISLATIVAS

I was proud to see some of my legislation making progress. Here's a look at what I've accomplished:

Me sentí orgulloso de ver que algunas de mis propuestas legislativas avanzaban. A continuación, les muestro lo que he conseguido:



PASSED THE HOUSE ✓

Updates blood lead testing requirements for infants, toddlers, and pregnant women

Requires health insurance to cover these tests

REP. JOSE GIRAL | HB 916

My blood lead testing bill passed the House. If it passes the Pa. Senate, it will ensure blood lead levels are checked long before those levels become lead poisoning.

Mi proyecto de ley sobre los análisis de plomo en sangre ha sido aprobado por la Cámara. Si el Senado de Pensilvania da su aprobación, esto garantizará que se controlen los niveles de plomo en sangre mucho antes de que dichos niveles den lugar a una intoxicación por plomo.

The House also passed H.B. 2558 to prohibit non-competes for broadcast journalists – meaning our local news anchors and producers can seek better opportunities without having to leave Philadelphia.

La Cámara también aprobó el proyecto de ley 2558 para prohibir las cláusulas de no competencia para los periodistas de televisión, lo que significa que nuestros presentadores y productores de noticias locales podrán buscar mejores oportunidades sin tener que marcharse de Filadelfia.

Budget wins for older adults

Logros presupuestarios para las personas mayores

2026-2027 PA Budget Highlights:

Key Investments for Seniors and Their Communities



Aging Programs

PACE & PACENET
\$155 Million (3.3% ↑)

Department of Aging's General Government Operations
\$19.9 Million (13.6% ↑)

Aging Our Way, PA
\$4 Million (33.9% ↑)

LIFE Program providers
\$3.5 Million (3.9% ↑)

The Budget Neutrality Factor Renewed for 2 years.
Effective January 1, 2027, funding is included for this factor to be set at not less than 0.86 for nonpublic nursing homes.

HB 1894 | Chair Madden
Requires the Independent Enrollment Broker (IEB) to provide the following additional education materials to eligible individuals:

- A list of frequently asked questions that provide clarification on the LIFE program benefits and requirements.
- Contact information for the LIFE provider in the eligible individual's area of residence.
- A comparison of services provided by the Community HealthChoices program and the LIFE program.
- An attestation form to be signed by the eligible individual stating that the individual understands the services offered under the LIFE program.



2026-2027 PA Budget Highlights | Aging Committee

Medical Assistance (MA) Programs:

Medical Assistance Managed Care Program
\$9.4 Billion (7% ↑)

Living Independence for the Elderly (LIFE) Program
\$183.5 Million

Human Services Programs:

Blind and Visual Services
\$5.2 Million (9.6% ↑)

Nursing Homes Budget Adjustment Factor
\$81 Million

Chip-enabled cards for SNAP
\$7 Million



IN THE COMMUNITY | EN LA COMUNIDAD



What an honor! The Juniata Park Older Adult Center recently dedicated their fitness center to me as a thanks for helping them secure funding for new equipment. I am touched to receive such a thank you from our community – all of you deserve access to resources that help you stay healthy. I am happy to assist whenever I can.

¡Qué honor! El Centro para Adultos Mayores de Juniata Park recientemente dedicó su gimnasio en mi honor como agradecimiento por ayudarles a conseguir financiamiento para nuevo equipo. Me emociona recibir un agradecimiento así de nuestra comunidad: todos ustedes merecen tener acceso a recursos que les ayuden a mantenerse saludables. Me alegra poder ayudar siempre que puedo.



We had a great time at National Night Out, where I spent some time with Rep. Gallagher, 24th District Police Captain Christopher Bullick and Councilmember Michael Driscoll.

Lo pasamos muy bien en la Noche Nacional de Seguridad, donde pasé un tiempo con el representante Gallagher, el Capitán de Policía del Distrito 24, Christopher Bullick y el concejal Michael Driscoll.



My Community Meet & Greet brought together new and longtime residents to meet my team and the district captains of the Philadelphia PD.

Mi encuentro comunitario reunió a nuevos residentes y a los que llevan tiempo viviendo aquí para que conocieran a mi equipo y a los capitanes de distrito de la policía de Filadelfia.



PA Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding (red shirt) visited our local Tusculum Gateway Garden as part of Urban Agriculture Week.

El secretario de Agricultura de Pensilvania, Russell Redding (con camiseta roja), visitó nuestro huerto local Tusculum Gateway Garden en el marco de la Semana de la Agricultura Urbana.



I met constituents at Coffee with a Cop.

Me encontré con los ciudadanos en Café con un Policía.



I got to visit the great people of Deep Roots Charter School.

Tuve la oportunidad de visitar a las maravillosas personas de la escuela charter Deep Roots.



I helped with food preparation for a Caring for Friends meal distribution event.

Ayudé a preparar la comida para un acto de reparto de comidas organizado por "Caring for Friends".



Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis came out to Philly to celebrate significant grant funding for our neighborhoods.

El vicegobernador Austin Davis vino a Filadelfia para celebrar importantes fondos de subvenciones destinados a nuestros barrios.



State Representative
JOSE A. GIRAL

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I had a great time with some of our youngest residents at our Community Easter event in Hope Park.

Lo pasé muy bien con algunos de nuestros residentes más jóvenes en nuestro evento comunitario de Pascua en Hope Park.



Rep. Jose Giral

DISTRICT OFFICE SERVICES

My team and I can help you with:

- ✓ Property Tax/Rent Rebate
- ✓ PennDOT Services
- ✓ Help with Unemployment
- ✓ LIHEAP
- ✓ SEPTA Senior Fare Cards

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Redevelopment Assistance
Capital Program

\$3.7 MILLION

**AWARDED TO PROJECTS
IN OUR DISTRICT**

\$1.5 million
to renovate 3360-70 Kensington Avenue

\$1.25 million
to renovate a vacant warehouse into a new youth recreation center

\$500K
to construct a multifamily building, townhomes, and a dedicated parking lot

\$500K
to renovate a vacant warehouse into an ADA-accessible Maternal Wellness Center

Do you have a SEPTA Senior Fare Card?

Seniors ages 65 and older can ride SEPTA routes in PA for free with a Senior Fare Card! Sign-up or renew your card at my district office today!