



# State Representative ANITA ASTORINO KULIK

## 45th Legislative District

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### GREETINGS!

2023 has been an amazing year! After redistricting, the 45th Legislative District now consists of Bridgeville, Collier, Carnegie, Robinson, Pennsbury, Kennedy, McKees Rocks, Stowe, Coraopolis, and Neville Island.

I am so proud to represent these wonderful communities. Many have been part of my life since I was a child, and many I have been part of for several decades. Representing communities that are integral parts of my life is a true pleasure!

Each community in the district has unique features that reflect the characteristics of the town and the people who live and work there. I enjoy every visit to residents, local businesses, churches, and civic organizations. We have outstanding local governments, hard-working community development corporations, incredible libraries, dedicated historical societies, and amazing charitable organizations that all look out for the welfare of the residents.

Our outstanding police, fire, and EMS personnel go above and beyond to help residents. I will continue working to bring our first responders the necessary funding they require, and I encourage everyone in our community to offer their thanks and moral support to these front-line heroes!

Our local school districts – Chartiers Valley, Carlynton, Montour, Sto-Rox, and Cornell – offer excellent services to our young people, despite having to deal with funding issues, personnel shortages, and other educational challenges. We also have strong private, parochial, and charter schools that provide sound educational services as an alternative to our public programs.

I was honored to be named majority chair of the House Game and Fisheries Committee and to serve the district’s many hunters and anglers who appreciate and enjoy Pennsylvania’s beauty and vast outdoor resources. In the year ahead, I will continue working on legislation to benefit our district’s sportsmen and women.

I will also continue pushing for legislation to combat domestic violence – a cause so many of us hold close – as well as measures to enhance life for our district’s families and seniors and boost resources for our small businesses.

I have been working with colleagues and leadership to bring much-needed monies into our communities and am proud of the hard work our local officials are doing to put this funding to good use.

I want to wish everyone a peaceful holiday season, a very Merry Christmas, and a blessed New Year! I am looking forward to 2024 and all the good the new year will bring to our district!



*Anita Astorino Kulik*

# INVESTING IN OUR STATE

Over the summer, the state passed a budget bill for the 2023-24 fiscal year. No budget is ever perfect, but this bill delivers on some key priorities, including a historic \$1 billion investment in K-12 public education with funding to provide universal free breakfast for students in PA's public schools, and increases in the Basic Education Formula and Level-Up.

School districts in the 45th Legislative District are due to receive the following increases in funding:



Other highlights of this budget include:

- \$50 million in funding for the Whole-Home Repairs Program to allow folks to make critical improvements to their homes that they wouldn't otherwise be able to afford.
- \$136 million expansion to the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program to help older Pennsylvanians and those with disabilities afford to stay in their homes.
- \$23.5 million for workforce training and career & technical education.
- \$20 million increase for county mental health funding.

## PROPERTY TAX/RENT REBATE EXPANSION

For the first time in 17 years, Pennsylvania is expanding the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. The expansion will help nearly 175,000 more Pennsylvanians qualify for PTRR – including about 16,500 seniors right here in Allegheny County – and many of the 400,000 seniors who already qualify will see their rebates nearly double.

Starting in 2024, the new law:

- Increases the income cap from \$35,000 to \$45,000 for homeowners.
- Increases the income cap from \$15,000 to \$45,000 for renters.
- Automatically increases the income cap to grow with inflation, beginning in claim year 2024.
- Increases the maximum rebate from \$650 to \$1,000.

The rebate amounts and income limits will increase with inflation, so no senior becomes ineligible just because their Social Security payment increased.

I am proud to support this long overdue expansion that will help so many folks in our community remain in their homes.

My office can help you apply. Visit us at 1350 5th Ave. in Coraopolis or call (412) 264-4260.

## AMERICA250PA APPOINTMENT

I'm thrilled to have been selected for the America250PA Infrastructure and Projects Committee, which will identify and showcase our state's signature places as part of the celebration of America's 250th birthday. This is an effort that will capture the very best that Pennsylvania has to offer by honoring our heritage and contributing to our lasting legacy.



# HOUSE GAME AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON



*In the spring, I joined conservation officers with the PA Fish and Boat Commission to help stock trout along the Montour Trail.*



*I traveled to Elk County for a meeting with some committee members, the PA Game Commission, the PA Fish and Boat Commission, and the Keystone Elk Country Alliance. The presenters discussed various issues, from elk and trout to basic wildlife management and funding concerns. After our meetings, we went to look for elk and saw several!*



I am honored to have been appointed as majority chair of the House Game and Fisheries Committee for the 2023-24 legislative session.

The committee works with the state Game and Fish and Boat commissions – independent entities that are largely self-funded by license purchases and fees – to review bills that ensure the interests of hunters and anglers are well represented.

Sportsmen and women have long heard the call of the outdoors here in Pennsylvania, and as chair of this committee, I will work to honor their voices when it comes to hunting, fishing, and wildlife-related issues and policies.

## HISTORIC BREAST CANCER SCREENING LAW

I was proud to support legislation that was later signed into law that will be a major step forward in the fight against breast cancer and help save lives.

Once it takes effect, Act 1 of 2023 will remove out-of-pocket costs associated with genetic testing for hereditary breast, ovarian, prostate, and other cancer syndromes – as well as supplemental breast screenings for women with a high lifetime risk of breast cancer.

This landmark legislation is the first of its kind in the nation and will ensure that critical healthcare will be accessible and more affordable for more Pennsylvanians.



# BRINGING MONEY BACK TO OUR COMMUNITIES

I am committed to advocating for state funding to address issues that are important to our communities and help them thrive. Since my last newsletter, I have helped to secure funding for the following:

## INFRASTRUCTURE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- \$325,000 to Coraopolis Borough for reconstruction and improvements to Mill Street.
- \$200,000 to SunCap Property Group LLC for roadway improvements to support the Riverfront Industrial Development project in Stowe Township.
- \$500,000 to the McKees Rocks Community Development Corporation to remediate and stabilize the former bank building located at 602 Chartiers Ave.
- \$252,232 to Neville Township to support updating signal equipment at the intersection of Neville Road and Gulf Oil Co.
- \$500,000 to the Municipal Authority of the Township of Robinson to rehabilitate a raw water intake station.
- \$2 million to Welly LLC to purchase and/or renovate the existing industrial facility at 507 Forest Ave. in Scott Township for an insulated steel drinkware manufacturing line.

## POLICE, FIRE & FIRST RESPONDERS

- \$246,088 to McKees Rocks Borough for the purchase of four police vehicles, along with integrated vehicle and body cameras to improve safety and increase evidence quality.
- \$75,000 grant for Chartiers Valley School District to hire school resource officers.
- More than \$137,000 for fire and EMS companies in McKees Rocks, Kennedy Township, Robinson Township, Bridgeville, Stowe Township, Carnegie, Coraopolis, Neville Island, and Presto.
- More than \$346,000 for law enforcement equipment in Carnegie, Kennedy Township, McKees Rocks, and Bridgeville.

## COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

- \$1 million to Rosedale Technical College in Kennedy Township to build out a second-level space that will require architectural and construction designs for additional classrooms.
- \$2 million for the Sports and Athletic Complex at Montour Junction in Coraopolis.
- \$2.25 million to Josh Gibson Foundation for the reconstruction and development of a new community center in McKees Rocks Borough.
- \$220,000 to Neville Township for the development of Neville Island Riverfront Park.
- \$1.6 million to preserve 40 affordable housing units at Coraopolis Gardens.
- \$400,000 to Carnegie Borough to upgrade a pavilion to Carnegie Park and add a storage shed to store municipal items and park equipment at Chioda Park.
- \$300,000 to Coraopolis Borough to replace outdated playground equipment and install a safety surface for the Ridge Avenue Tot Lot.
- \$460,000 to McKees Rocks Community Development Corporation, which works to create programs and places to meet people where they live and enable residents to reach full economic and social potential.
- \$13,750 to Junior Achievement of Western PA in Kennedy Township to provide programming to the McKees Rocks area through the Sto-Rox School District to help students succeed professionally and financially in life after school.
- \$55,000 to Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania to replace the roof of the main building in Carnegie for safer access for programs.
- \$180,000 to Coraopolis Community Development Corporation Inc. for revitalization efforts.

## AROUND THE CAPITOL



*I testified before the House Judiciary Committee on my legislation to provide guidelines to the courts on how to address how pets are handled in domestic litigation cases. The bill went on to pass the full House.*



*Thank you to the 55 friendly faces who attended my annual bus trip to the state Capitol.*



*Members of the Allegheny County Delegation met with Lt. Gov. Austin Davis and his staff to discuss issues of importance to our region, including public transportation, bridge repairs, and education funding.*



*I was honored to offer the opening prayer before the House this legislative session.*



*This tarantula and several other unique insects visited the Capitol in October.*

# AROUND THE COMMUNITY



*I celebrated our strong unions and laborers with Gov. Josh Shapiro and my colleagues in the House during Pittsburgh's Labor Day parade.*



*I observed exercises for the rescue team from Robinson Twp. VFC #1. The efforts of our military and first responders are always appreciated!*



*Robinson Township held a moving and inspiring Memorial Day ceremony and parade.*



*I hosted a House Policy Committee hearing on the issue of misclassifying workers, which denies employees important protections and impacts valuable revenue to the state.*



*I enjoyed Kennedy Township's Community Days and helped with license plate replacement, unused medication takeback, and child safety information.*



*It was an honor to welcome hundreds of veterans with Vets Roll 2023 as they stopped in Carnegie on the way to Washington, D.C.*



*I held document shredding and medication takeback events in Robinson Township, Collier Township, and Carnegie over the summer.*



*Riding along with our Waterways Conservation Officers on the Three Rivers gave me a greater understanding of all the ways these officers protect and maintain our beautiful waterways.*



*I joined volunteers to clean up parts of Carnegie in the spring.*



*I helped celebrate some of our amazing first responders at Collier Township's Community Safety Day.*



*Our bus trip to the Flight 93 National Memorial in October was deeply memorable.*



*We had fun times at the Robinson Library Trunk-or-Treat!*



*I attended a Veterans Day ceremony at Montour High School and stopped by Kennedy Township Volunteer Fire Department to deliver new American and Pennsylvania flags.*



*Senior fairs in Kennedy and Collier townships this fall helped connect older residents to resources and free flu shots.*



State Representative ♥ 45th Legislative District  
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*State Representative Anita Kulik's*

## **District Office Services**

*My team and I can help you with:*

- **Property Tax/Rent Rebate**
- **Driver's License/Vehicle Registration/Real ID assistance**
- **Connect Cards**
- **Assistance for Seniors and Veterans**
- **Unemployment Compensation**
- **All other state related matters**



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## **APPLY NOW FOR HOME HEATING HELP**



**Need Energy Assistance?**  
**2023-2024 LIHEAP**  
**Applications are**  
**Now Open!**

**LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Applications are now open for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. The program helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills in the form of a cash grant that does not need to be repaid. Households in immediate danger of being without heat can also qualify for crisis grants.

**Please contact my office at (412) 264-4260 for assistance filling out the application.**