



YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**PATTY KIM**  
 103RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

## Bill would eliminate COLAs for public officials

In an attempt to eliminate unnecessary spending, I sponsored legislation that would eliminate automatic cost-of-living adjustments, or COLAs, for various public officials.

The bill, House Bill 1035, would repeal provisions of a law that provides annual COLAs for certain Pennsylvania public officials, including members of the General Assembly, the governor and lieutenant governor, those elected to the state row offices and secretaries of state agencies. Various judges, including Pennsylvania Supreme Court justices and district justices, also would be included.

The median household income of a Pennsylvania family is \$51,000 and that's the figure I'm working on increasing, not the annual salaries of public officials. The last two state budgets hit our most vulnerable Pennsylvanians particularly hard. They are the ones who deserve a pay increase, not public officials. I am attempting to eliminate this unnecessary spending so the money can be reallocated to help Pennsylvania's neediest residents.

The bill has been referred to the House State Government Committee and I am working to see that it gets a vote.



Rep. Patty Kim is sworn in to the House of Representatives on January 1, 2013.

## Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program now open

The state is now accepting applications for eligible senior citizens and others to apply for a rebate on their 2012 property taxes or rent.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is open to residents 65 or older; widows and widowers 50 or older; and people with a disability 18 or older. To qualify, homeowners must have a household income of \$35,000 or less; renters qualify if

their household income is \$15,000 or less. Applicants only have to count half of their Social Security, Supplemental Security, or federal Railroad Retirement Tier I benefits toward the income limit.

The maximum standard rebate is \$650, but supplemental rebates for qualifying homeowners can boost rebates to \$975. The supplemental rebate is automatically calculated by the state.

If you received a rebate last year, you should have received a 2012 application in the mail. If not, applications are available online at [www.revenue.state.pa.us](http://www.revenue.state.pa.us) or by calling 1-888-222-9190. Residents can call my office at (717) 986-1673 to obtain the form. My staff is available to process your application and answer any questions.

The deadline to apply is December 31.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**PATTY KIM**

PA House of Representatives  
 103rd Legislative District

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## Kim discusses 2013-14 state budget

The House of Representatives completed the state's budget for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Sadly, the budget did next to nothing to restore the \$1 billion in education funding that was cut in Gov. Tom Corbett's first two budgets. I am happy that the budget included an additional \$485,464 for Harrisburg School District, a 1.1 percent increase, and \$122,907 more for Steelton-Highspire, a 1.6 percent increase, over last year's budget, but the overall budget failed to adequately or fully fund basic education.

This budget severely underfunds school districts' needs and is a disservice to all of our children and their families. This lack of funding, which has been a hallmark of the state budget under Gov. Corbett, will force schools to lay off teachers and staff, cut vital programs such as music and art and increase property taxes, which places the burden on taxpayers.

Additionally, the final budget agreement did not include the expansion of Medicaid, which would provide at least 500,000 Pennsylvanians with health insurance. The Senate passed the Medicaid expansion 40-10, but it was removed by House Republicans. This is truly a shame because not only would Medicaid expansion make health care accessible to half a million Pennsylvanians, it would provide a \$3 billion boost to the state economy and create at least 35,000 jobs statewide. I will continue to push for Medicaid expansion when we return to session in the fall.

Lastly, I spoke out against the House Republican budget proposal that cut the Capitol Fire Protection line item by 80 percent, from \$2.5 million to \$496,000. I am proud to say that the final budget includes \$5 million to compensate the Harrisburg Fire Department for the fire protection it provides the nearly 40 state government buildings located in the city.



Rep. Patty Kim hosts Korean veterans of the Vietnam War at the state Capitol in March.



Rep. Patty Kim hosts firefighters from the Highspire Fire Department at the state Capitol in honor of the unanimous adoption of her resolution celebrating International Firefighters Day on May 14, 2013.



Rep. Patty Kim with her summer interns. From left: Zack Marmer, sophomore at Penn State University Main Campus; Carolina Sanchez, junior at Temple University and Stanley Lumpkin Jr., sophomore at Shippensburg University.



## Kim named to committee on school safety

There are few things more important than the safety of our children and our communities. That is why I am proud to have been appointed to serve on the House Select Committee on School Safety. The committee is tasked with conducting a thorough study of school safety and security procedures, with the ability to call witnesses and procure documents. Once that study is completed, the committee will issue a report of its findings and recommendations by September 30.

Set forth by House Resolution 53, adopted in March, the select committee will examine security policies and procedures in public and nonpublic schools and institutions of higher education in the commonwealth; state laws and regulations related to school safety and security; early detection of potentially violent perpetrators; and, any potential budgetary, revenue and governance reforms necessary to address these matters.

Since the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut, we are reminded that schools are no longer immune from the violence that plagues other parts of society. I embrace this assignment with great enthusiasm, knowing that when our work is done, it may mean fewer families will endure heavy hearts from unexpected tragedies. If there is any way we can reduce school violence, or the potential for bloodshed, we need to find and implement that idea. I am honored to have a seat at this committee's table, and plan to work tirelessly to see our mission through to completion.



## Liquor privatization plan bad for Pennsylvania

When I ran for office, I stated that creating and maintaining jobs was one of my top priorities. When I vote on different proposals before the House, I always consider the impact on employment.

With that in mind, I voted against the House Republicans' liquor privatization measure because if it is enacted, it will cost thousands of hard-working Pennsylvanians their jobs. These are workers in Harrisburg, in Dauphin County and beyond who stand to lose their jobs at no fault of their own.

Family-owned beer distributors employ nearly 5,000 workers alone and 4,000 workers are employed at state wine and spirit shops. You cannot put a value on what those jobs mean to these Pennsylvanians.

Our struggling economy cannot withstand any more unemployed workers, especially in my district. These good-paying jobs will be lost to big-box retail giants. It just doesn't add up. My choice in this debate was convenience or jobs: I choose saving jobs.

In addition, consumers, small businesses and taxpayers will lose under the plan. The annual loss of revenue to the state budget for critical programs and services would be \$200 million. Now is not the time to add insult to injury by cutting vital state funding.

## Fighting for seniors

Since I took office in January, I have been working on helping seniors in our area and around the state. In fact, I have co-sponsored three resolutions that benefit seniors.

Sadly, approximately 18,500 reports of elder abuse were made to the state Department of Aging in 2012. We must protect the health, safety and well-being of the seniors in Pennsylvania, so I co-sponsored a resolution designating June 15, 2013 as Elder Abuse Awareness Day. If you or someone you know is a victim of abuse, please call the Statewide Elder Abuse Hotline at 1-800-490-8505.

The commemoration of Older Americans Month is an opportunity to recognize the many contributions of Pennsylvania's older citizens. I was proud to co-sponsor a resolution designating May 2013 as Older Americans Month in Pennsylvania.

According to the Arthritis Foundation, 50 percent of adults 65 or older have some form of arthritis. I co-sponsored a resolution designating May 2013 as Arthritis Awareness Month in Pennsylvania to raise awareness about this painful disease.



Rep. Patty Kim participates in the Marine Corps League Annual Memorial Day Services at Riverfront Park in Harrisburg.



Rep. Patty Kim participates in the Great American Clean-Up in South Allison Hill on April 20.

## My expenses are posted online

In an effort to improve transparency and openness in state government, I have made my expense reports available on my legislative website.

The monthly expense reports are available on my legislative website at [www.pahouse.com/kim](http://www.pahouse.com/kim) under the Expense Reports tab on the left side of the page.

As an elected state representative, I am accountable to the people of the 103rd District. I hope that by posting my expenses, you will see that my staff and I are doing all we can to be good stewards of taxpayer money.

In addition to posting my expenses, I do not accept any per diems or a lease for a state-funded automobile.





STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**PATTY KIM**  
103RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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## MOBILE OFFICES

In an effort to make state government as accessible as possible, I have been hosting mobile offices around the 103rd District. The mobile offices offer the same assistance as my two main offices and they give constituents the opportunity to learn about the state programs, services and assistance available through my constituent service office, including free notary service to citizens of the 103rd district. Mobile offices have focused on emergency preparedness and offering specialized services to seniors. More mobile offices are scheduled for the future and I hope to see you at one of them:



**August 8**  
**Highspire Municipal Office**  
640 Eshelman St., Highspire

**August 15**  
**United Methodist  
Neighborhood Center**  
1801 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg

**August 22**  
**Swatara Fire House**  
1201 Ober St., Steelton

**September 5**  
**Latino Hispanic American  
Community Center**  
1319 Derry St., Harrisburg

**September 12**  
**Highspire Municipal Office**  
640 Eshelman St., Highspire

**September 19**  
**United Methodist  
Neighborhood Center**  
1801 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg

**September 26**  
**Swatara Fire House**  
1201 Ober St., Steelton

**October 3**  
**Latino Hispanic American  
Community Center**  
1319 Derry St., Harrisburg

**October 10**  
**Highspire Municipal Office**  
640 Eshelman St., Highspire

**October 17**  
**United Methodist  
Neighborhood Center**  
1801 N. 2nd St. Harrisburg

**October 24**  
**Swatara Fire House**  
1201 Ober St., Steelton

## SENIOR FAIR COMING IN SEPTEMBER



I will host my 1st Annual Senior Fair on Friday, September 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Citizen's Fire Company No. 1 at 272 Second Street in Highspire. Dozens of vendors and organizations will be there helping seniors with everything from the PACE program to free health screenings. I hope to see you there!