

172 LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

# Rep. Kevin Boyle



**Capitol Office:** 115 Irvis Office Building • P.O. Box 202172, Harrisburg, PA 17120-2172 • Phone: (717) 783-4944 • Fax: (717) 772-9917 **District Office:** 7801-A Hasbrook Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111 • Phone: (215) 331-2600 • Toll-Free: (833) 787-1043 • Fax: (215) 695-1028

#### Dear Neighbor,

I hope this mailing finds you staying cool and enjoying a happy and healthy summer of 2023!

The goal of my newsletter is to provide you with not only helpful information about the work that I do for you in Harrisburg, but also inform you of the fantastic services that my staff and I can provide for you here at home.

My office is here to answer any questions you may have about state services and programs, and to help with navigating those services and programs. We help with applications for many of the programs I detail inside this newsletter, and we're always a phone call or an email away.

Additionally, if you have an idea for a law that you think could help you or a neighbor, please don't be afraid to reach out and let me know!

You can reach me and my staff at (215) 331-2600 or by email at RepKevinBoyle@pahouse.net.

Representing you in Harrisburg is not only a privilege, but a responsibility and duty that I do not take lightly. It is an exciting honor to serve you in Harrisburg and here at home.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Boyle

#### **Shapiro Bill Signing**

In today's world, you don't have to look far to hear about a cyber attack or cyber breach of someone's personal information. As Chairman of the House Insurance Committee, I took the issue on, introduced House Bill 739, and worked tirelessly to champion the bill through the House and Senate. I am proud to report that the Governor signed the bill into law on June 14, 2023, as Act 2 of 2023.

The new law requires insurers to develop cybersecurity policies and report cyber security events to the Insurance Commissioner. The focus of the law is on directing insurers to better protect your personal information by setting up internal processes to do exactly that — better protect you now before something goes wrong!

So, what type of information is personal and protected by this law? It includes Social Security numbers, driver's licenses, identification card numbers, financial account numbers, credit and debit card numbers, and other information that could provide access to a consumer's financial information.

If a cyber breach does occur, insurers must notify the Insurance

Commissioner promptly, no more than five days from the incident. The Pennsylvania Insurance Department may assess fines on an insurer for not protecting your information adequately.

Finally, there are already laws on the books requiring entities to contact you if there is a breach of personal information. Act 94 of 2005 is known as the Breach of Personal Information Notification Act, and it requires entities to notify consumers when their personal information was accessed or acquired by an unauthorized person.



Governor Shapiro signs my House Bill 739 into law.

As Chairman
of the House
Insurance
Committee, I
work with my
colleagues to
review bills
dealing with
insurance issues
of all kinds in
the state.



Here I am holding a copy of Senate Bill 8 after voting for it.



In October, I was honored to visit the congregations of Sha'are Shamiym and present a grant in support of their kitchen rebuild project. Thankful for all they do for the community, it was hard to hear of the struggles they faced with their current situation, and I was proud to present to them a check to help.



I was proud to host National Night Out at Fox Chase Elementary School! It was a great event where local police, elected officials and community members came together for an evening full of fun activities!

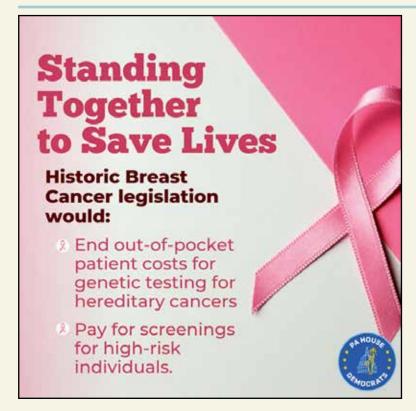




Throwing the first pitch at Fox-Rox Opening Day.



Proud to support the Fox Chase Cancer Center with my colleagues through the state's Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program.



No woman should get the devastating diagnosis of Stage 4 breast cancer because they could not afford preventive screenings and testing. Breast cancer is a huge issue, with 13,000 new cases diagnosed in Pennsylvania every year. One of the ways to know you are at risk for breast cancer is through BRCA gene testing. In May, as Chairman of the House Insurance Committee, I called up Senate Bill 8 for a vote in my committee. It passed unanimously and was the first piece of legislation that Governor Shapiro signed into law. This law expands access to health care by eliminating cost-sharing for preventive screenings and BRCA gene tests for breast cancer. As Chairman of the House Insurance Committee, it was my honor to be a part of this initiative, vote yes, and help get it to the Governor's desk for signing.

### **Available Programs**



# The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is open for applications on rent or taxes paid in 2022

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is accepting applications for rebates on property taxes or rent paid in 2022. The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older; widows and widowers 50 or older; and people with disabilities 18 and older. Visit www.revenue.pa.gov and search for "Property Tax/Rent Rebate" for information on how to apply online. My office can also help you apply. Deadline: Dec. 31, 2023.

#### Need Health Insurance? Contact Pennie today!

If you need health insurance, reach out to Pennie today at 1-844-844-8040 or pennie.com. Pennie is Pennsylvania's one stop shop for health insurance for you and your family. Nine out of 10 Pennie customers qualify for financial savings. To learn more about Pennie, call 1-844-844-8040 or visit pennie.com.

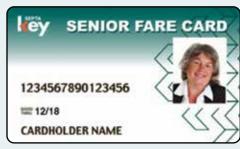
# Do you have unclaimed property?

The Pennsylvania Treasury holds \$3.8 billion in unclaimed property that needs to be returned to the rightful owners!

One in 10 Pennsylvanians has unclaimed property waiting for them. To find out if you are one of them, visit www.patreasury.gov/unclaimed-property or call my office – we can help you search the database

## Many SEPTA Senior Key ID Cards will expire this year

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SEPTA had extended the expiration dates for Senior Key ID Cards with 2020, 2021 and 2022 expiration dates. Those cards remain effective through 2023 but they will expire at the end of the month printed on the card.



For example:

A card with an August 2020 (08/20) expiration date will continue to be valid for travel through August 2023.

Please call or visit my office to renew your card before its expiration date if your card is dated 2020, 2021, or 2022.

#### Affordable Rx for seniors

Older Pennsylvanians living on fixed incomes should never have to choose between affording their medications and affording their food, rent, or heat. Pennsylvania's prescription assistance programs for older adults, PACE and PACENET, can offer low-cost prescription medication to qualified residents, ages 65 and older.

My office is ready to assist with applications and answer any questions you may have about the program.

To find out more visit www.aging.pa.gov or call my office.



# Boyle Bill Protecting Access to Mental Health Screenings and Other Preventive Health Care Passes House

In June, my House Bill 1050 passed the House to protect your access to preventive health care, including mental health screenings.

Preventive health care saves lives. That's why the federal Affordable Care Act requires health insurance companies to cover certain preventive care, like anxiety and depression screenings, suicide risk assessments for teens, cancer screenings, multiple vaccines for children and adults, and more. And to expand access to preventive health care, the Affordable Care Act says consumers do not have to pay a copay or deductible when they get preventive health care.

A federal court case is challenging this law, however. If the law is struck down by the courts, millions of Pennsylvanians could lose access to preventive health care.

That would be devastating. So, to protect consumers and promote a healthy Pennsylvania, I introduced House Bill 1050. This bill would require state-regulated health insurance plans to continue covering free preventive health care if the federal law is struck down in the courts.

I am happy to report that the House passed my bill 199-4 in June. Now the bill moves to the next stage of the process and the Senate must decide whether to pass it.

I will continue fighting for your access to mental health care and other preventive health care by working with the Senate to pass House Bill 1050.

## Boyle Proposes Bill to Expand Access to Mental Health Medications

When I took office, I promised to be a mental health champion.

That's because mental health is just as important as physical health. For many of our friends and neighbors, medications are a vital tool in managing their mental illness — just like how medication is a vital tool to manage high blood pressure or cholesterol.

Sadly, sometimes things get in the way and keep people from accessing their mental health medications. Step therapy can be one of those barriers. Step therapy is a health insurer's requirement that you try one, two, or three (usually cheaper) medications before insurance pays for the medication your doctor wants you to take.

In real life, step therapy means a mental illness must not improve or must get worse before a patient moves on to the next "step." It also means that a person must risk or go through terrible side effects like suicidal thoughts, mood changes, nervousness, dizziness, upset stomach, headaches, and more.

That can make mental illness worse. So, to promote mental health, I am proposing a law that expands access to mental health treatment by eliminating the burdens of step therapy with regard to mental health medications.

I look forward to championing this proposed law, so you and your loved ones have an easier time accessing mental health medications.

#### **Real ID Information**

Beginning May 7, 2025,
Pennsylvanians will need a REAL
ID-compliant driver's license/photo
ID card, or another form of federally
acceptable identification (such
as a valid passport or military ID)
to board a domestic commercial
flight or enter a federal building or
military installation that requires ID.

Documents necessary for preverification process include:

Proof of Identity (i.e., birth certificate or a valid, unexpired U.S. Passport or Passport Card.

Proof of Social Security Number (i.e., Social Security card, W-2, pay stub)

(2) proofs of current physical PA address (i.e., current, unexpired PA license/ID or a PA vehicle registration, auto insurance card, or utility bill).

Proof of legal name changes (i.e., certified marriage certificate, court order, adoption decree).

If you are a lawfully present non-U.S. citizen, acceptable documents include:

Unexpired Employment Authorization Card (EAD) issued by DHS; Forms I-766 or Form 1-688B.

Valid, Unexpired Permanent Resident Card I-551 Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) Issued by DHS or INS.

Unexpired foreign passport with an unexpired U.S. visa affixed, and an I-94 indicating temporary evidence of permanent residence.

Our office can assist you will obtaining some of these documents to prepare for the pre-verification process. If PennDOT confirms that your documents are on file, you can order your Real ID online. Otherwise, a visit to a driver's license center will be necessary for the pre-verification process.



# Kevin Boyle

P.O. Box 202172 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2172

• Consumer complaints.

• Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups.

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# MY OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH: • Obtaining and completing state forms/applications. • Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications. • Unemployment compensation problems. • Birth & death certificates. • Issues with the Department of Human Services (EBT, medical & income assistance). • Pennsylvania Income Tax questions and issues. • Utility inquiries and the Public Utility Commission. • Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. • Renewal of state-issued certifications and licenses. • Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program.

• Requests for literature (bills, regulations, statues, applications, information, etc.).

• Information about federal, state, and local government agencies and offices.