



STATE REPRESENTATIVE Joe Ciresi

146th Legislative District



Capitol Office:

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District Office:

Park Towne Plaza
301 N. Lewis Rd., Suite 140C • Royersford, PA 19468
(484) 200-8265 • Toll-Free: (833) 821-1732 • Fax: (484) 200-8275
Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Satellite Office:

TriCounty Active Adult Center
288 Moser Rd. • Pottstown, PA 19464
Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

✉ RepCiresi@pahouse.net

🌐 RepCiresi.com

📱 [@RepCiresi](https://www.instagram.com/RepCiresi)

Spring 2026

Dear Neighbor,

I've been working hard for you in Harrisburg this year, introducing more than 50 bills, passing a budget that fairly funds education and chairing the House Communications & Technology Committee, to advance legislation that protects consumers from the misuse of AI chatbots and other bills.

I've also been working to stop the proposed merger of Essential Utilities (Aqua) and Pennsylvania American Water, which I believe will negatively impact consumers in our area.

I'm very proud of the work my district office has done to help constituents with their state-related issues.

REPRESENTATIVE Joe Ciresi

Legislative Year in Review



\$3.8 MILLION
in State Grant Money Brought Back to the District

718 Property Tax/ Rent Rebates Completed by our Office

6 Bills Passed by the House **59** Bills Introduced

444 Event Attendees **499** Bills Co-Sponsored

6494 Constituent Services Provided **1** Bill Enacted into Law

2025

Please contact my office if you need help with any state-related issues by calling (484) 200-8265 or emailing RepCiresi@pahouse.net.

Upcoming Events

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Clinic

March 31 • 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Royersford Free Public Library • 200 S. 4th Ave.

Appointments are required. Call (484) 200-8265 or email RepCiresi@pahouse.net.

Senior Expo

April 2 • 10 a.m. - noon

Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center • 400 S. Lewis Rd.

With Limerick Township

Veterans Discount ID

April 23 • 10 a.m. – noon

Royersford District Office • 301 N. Lewis Rd., Suite 140C

Veterans: Bring your DD214 and a photo ID to receive your discount ID card.

Spring Shredding Event

May 2 • 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Pottstown High School • 750 Washington Street

Please keep to the limit of four large boxes or bags. This will be enforced to make sure the truck does not fill up too quickly.

Scam Jam

May 29 • 10 a.m. - noon

Limerick Township • 646 W. Ridge Pike

Join us for a conversation with experts on how to avoid common consumer scams.

Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit

I was proud to vote for and support the new Working Pennsylvanians Tax Credit program to help put money back in YOUR pocket. The tax credit is a state version of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) – cutting taxes and giving more money back to anyone who qualifies for the federal EITC. If you qualify for the federal credit, you qualify for the state credit!

Applications Open for Home Heating Help

Eligible households can now apply to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to receive a cash grant of \$200 to \$1,000 to help pay heating bills, depending on household size, income, and fuel type. For more information, go to <https://dhs.pa.gov/liheap>.

You can also contact my office if you need help applying for LIHEAP or need help with any utility-related issues.



Apply for 2025 PTRR

The 2025 PTRR application filing period is now open. You may be eligible for a rebate of up to \$1,000. Please contact my office if you require assistance applying for this program.

NOW OPEN

Property Tax / Rent Rebate Applications
Giving money back to PA renters and homeowners

Homeowner & Renter Income	Max Rebate
Up to \$8,550	\$1,000
Up to \$16,040	\$770
Up to \$19,240	\$460
Up to \$48,110	\$380

Applications due by **June 30, 2026**

Legislative Update

Humans should make health care decisions, not chatbots

As chairman of the House Communications & Technology Committee, I've been holding hearings and visiting data centers to learn how to harness Artificial Intelligence for Pennsylvanians while establishing guardrails and protections.



In December, I held a hearing that considered legislation (**H.B. 1925**) that would ensure the technology is deployed responsibly in the health care industry.

The legislation would establish rules for health care providers, insurers, and Medical Assistance and Children's Health Insurance Program managed care plans. It would require that the use of AI in major decisions be disclosed, reviewed for safety and proper use, and involve qualified human oversight based on individual circumstances.

Data centers' electricity bills: Consumers shouldn't be left holding the bag

Over the past two years, the grid region known as PJM has experienced an unusual upswing in electricity prices largely attributed to rising power demand from data centers.

Out of concern that cost burdens will shift to residents, I recently co-sponsored **House Bill 1834** that would give the Public Utility Commission the authority to regulate data centers and protect electricity customers from increased costs due to data center energy use. Data center developers would be required to pay for the construction of transmission and distribution infrastructure, fund the LIHEAP program, and more.

A Need for community input and transparency

I know many of you were angered by the PA Game Commission Board's approved land swap of 55 acres of state game land to a warehouse developer, Limerick Town Center LLC, to possibly be used as the site for a data center.

The PA Game Commission Board has mishandled the proposed land swap, raising serious questions about the lack of a requirement for municipal input. Though the state controls the land involved in the swap, Limerick Township residents will be impacted by how the land is developed. Therefore, the Game Commission Board should have given more time to Limerick Township residents to consider the planned land swap and taken into consideration the opposition to it.

This situation has made clear that future land swaps should require approval from the local municipalities involved and possibly the Legislature.

I have spoken to Game Commission officials to convey my desire for the community to be heard. The short notice was not in the interest of open transparency. I am looking at potential legislation that will require municipalities to have a seat at the table about decisions impacting them.

Pioneering legislation

As your state legislator, it is one of my main responsibilities to introduce and advocate for legislation that will improve your life.

I am proud that my **House Bill 1176** was enacted into law as **Act 50 of 2025**. The law makes it easier and reduces expenses for Pennsylvanians to claim property that is rightfully theirs — and reduce the financial burden following the death of a loved one.

My Legislative Initiatives are on page 4.

Utility Costs Rise Due to Privatization

The rising cost of utilities for constituents has been on my mind in recent months. My office has been working hard to slow increases in your electricity and water rates.

I strongly oppose the proposed merger of Essential Utilities (Aqua) and Pennsylvania American Water. If approved, this merger will negatively impact 4.7 million customers across 17 states and will likely accomplish little to slow your rising utility prices.

In Limerick Township, where I live, Aqua hiked water rates by 10 percent and sewer by nearly 35 percent in 2019. In 2022, Aqua received a rate increase from the PUC (Public Utility Commission) raising water rates by 10 percent and sewer rates by 50 percent. Then two years later, water and sewer rates increased 19 percent.

Larger water conglomerates will likely result in more rate increases to create value and higher returns for shareholders – not to mention executive pay bumps.

This proposed merger will hurt, not benefit, ratepayers, especially seniors on fixed incomes who are already facing double-digit increases in the cost of housing.

Access to clean water is a constitutional right. We cannot allow the pursuit of profits to take over our water utilities.

The Root of the Problem: Act 12 of 2016 (passed into law before I was elected to the Legislature) was intended to encourage the sale of municipal utilities to private companies by making them financially attractive. This has allowed these utilities to be sold at an artificially inflated sale price. Private companies that have bought the utilities pass on these costs in the form of higher rates to cover their investment and generate profits.

It is estimated that \$1 billion has been added to the utility rate base since the passage of Act 12 – about \$100 million more per year.

What I AM Doing As Your Legislator: I am a co-sponsor of House Bill 1964, which would repeal Act 12 and pause the sale of systems under it. This pause would give the governor and the legislature time to research, approve and implement a long-term solution to curb increases to ratepayers because of these acquisitions.

What You Can Do: Take action by contacting the PUC at www.puc.pa.gov
The docket numbers related to this proposed merger are:

- A-2025-3058927 (Water)
- A-2025-3058928 (Wastewater)
- A-2025-3058929 (Gas)

Around the District



Pennsylvania must raise its minimum wage from the poverty level of \$7.25 per hour. The House and Senate must deliver for our workers in 2026.



At Ringing Rocks Park this past fall, volunteers and township staff worked on trails surrounding this popular park.



We rallied outside of Pottstown Hospital in November to urge Tower Health officials to avoid laying off 131 staff members. The future of hospitals in rural and suburban areas in Pennsylvania remains a challenge, especially given federal cuts to Medicaid. In January, Tower Health ended service of the ICU and Cancer Center.



The federal pause on food benefits (SNAP) led to a surge in demand at local food pantries. Thanks to organizations like Project Outreach in Royersford (managed by Councilman Thomas Weikel), their volunteer supplies were able to fill some of the gap.



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Grants for the District

In 2025, I helped bring home \$3.8 million in state grant funding for our district. A few highlights include:

- **\$350,000** to Pottstown Borough to renovate the Richard J. Ricketts Sr. Community Center.
- **\$250,000** to the Pottstown Borough Authority for Phase III of the Lead Service Replacement project.
- **\$300,000** to the Montgomery County Housing Authority for a new roof at Golden Age Manor in Royersford.
- **\$300,000** to Royersford Borough to purchase and install a new camera surveillance system as part of the Safe Streets project.
- **\$247,000** to Limerick Township to upgrade the Traffic Management Center.

lpo.kw.0226

**New evening hours on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month:
We are open from 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. to help you at our Royersford district office.**

My Legislative Initiatives

