



Fall 2026

STATE REPRESENTATIVE **DAN FRANKEL** 23rd Legislative District

2345 Murray Ave., Suite 205, Pittsburgh, PA 15217 • (412) 422-1774 • Fax: (412) 420-2011

RepDanFrankel.com @RepDanFrankel

Dear Neighbor,

I hope you and your family are well as we wind down the summer and head into fall.

As your state representative, I have been hard at work this summer.

My work is always grounded in the values we share: fighting to protect our most vulnerable neighbors, investing in workers, and ensuring access to healthcare and government supports.

My district office is here to help you navigate state government. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you are having trouble with a state agency or have a question about legislation.

I'm honored to be your voice in Harrisburg, and I will keep up the fight.

Very truly yours,

State Rep. Dan Frankel



Budget Delivers Investments in PA Workers, Families, and Pensioners

I'm proud to have voted in July for a state budget that makes meaningful investments in our communities, investing in public education, childcare, health care, public safety and nonprofit security while nearly doubling funding for rape crisis response and providing more support for food banks.

It also delivers a long-overdue cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for nearly 60,000 retired teachers and state employees who retired before the pension formula was changed to pay out more in 2001. It also directs municipalities to increase pensions to adjust for cost of living for many of our retired first responders. After decades without an increase, these retirees will finally see a boost in their pensions to help keep pace with rising costs.

Investing in Pennsylvania's Students and Schools

The 2026-2027 budget makes one of the largest investments in public education in Pennsylvania history while advancing policies that help students succeed from pre-K through college and beyond.

The budget increases funding for public schools by \$670 million statewide, including major investments in basic education, special education, early intervention, career and technical education, school safety, and student mental health. It also expands access to Pre-K Counts and increases Ready

to Succeed scholarships to help more students afford higher education.

In addition to funding, the budget includes research-backed policy improvements to make schools healthier and safer. It mandates 30 minutes of daily recess for elementary school students and prohibits schools from withholding recess as a form of discipline. It also makes funds available for school districts to implement later start times, strengthen protections against cyberbullying, add social media literacy education, improve school safety

planning, create resources regarding eating disorders, and give parents more control over student health screenings. It also strengthens accountability for cyber charter schools through enhanced residency verification, truancy protections and regular student wellness checks.

These investments and reforms reflect our commitment to ensuring every Pennsylvania student has access to a safe, healthy and high-quality education, regardless of where they live.



The Work Isn't Finished

Passing the budget was an important step, but our work isn't done. While this budget makes meaningful investments in some areas, critical priorities remain underfunded because the General Assembly has not yet reached agreement on new revenue sources.

That's just one reason why I am fighting to tax and regulate both recreational adult-use cannabis and skill games. We cannot afford to forgo these revenue sources when programs that support public transit, health care access, the health care workforce, childcare and other essential services simply don't receive the funding they need. Every day these needs go unmet, the cost of addressing them continues to grow.

Passing a budget kept the government operating and ensured vital services could continue. Now it's time to finish the job by approving the revenue measures needed to make the investments Pennsylvanians are counting on.

House Passage of the Fairness Act

In April, I once again cast my vote to move Pennsylvania closer to finally enshrining LGBTQ+ nondiscrimination protections into state law. More than two decades ago, I first introduced the Fairness Act, and I want my LGBTQ+ constituents to know that we aren't going to stop fighting for it until we get it done.

The bill passed the House after extensive debate and a close vote, reflecting both the urgency of these protections and the divisions that remain. If enacted, it would update the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act to explicitly prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in areas like employment, housing, and public accommodations. It's now up to Senate Republicans to decide whether this bill will become law – and I'll keep fighting to make sure they know this can't wait.



Helping Inform Families' Vaccine Decisions Amid Rising Infections

For years, I have warned that the spread of vaccine misinformation and the undermining of medical experts would have dangerous consequences, and unfortunately, we are now seeing that play out. Measles cases have rocketed upward in Pennsylvania, causing hundreds of infections and dozens of hospitalizations. Meanwhile, parents are being inundated with inaccurate and frightening content

that leaves many of them wary of vaccines. That's why I am working with my colleagues to pass legislation requiring parents seeking an exemption from school vaccine requirements to consult with a health care provider about current disease outbreaks, the risks of vaccine-preventable illnesses,

public health measures that may be required during outbreaks, and the benefits and risks of recommended childhood immunizations. By empowering parents with current, accurate information while working to eliminate barriers to medical access for families, I believe we can reverse these dangerous threats to public health.

Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program



\$3.35 MILLION

AWARDED TO PROJECTS IN OUR DISTRICT

\$1,500,000

Carnegie Mellon University
Robotics Innovation Center

\$350,000

Central Catholic High School

\$500,000

Jewish Association on Aging

\$1,000,000

Eastern Atlantic States
Carpenters Tech





House Passage of the Lead Testing Bill

One of the most preventable threats to a child's health is lead exposure, yet too many Pennsylvania children are never tested until the damage is already done. In June, the House passed legislation requiring lead testing for all children before age 2 and requiring private insurance to cover the cost. Universal screening will help identify exposure earlier, connect families with resources sooner and protect more children from lifelong developmental and health challenges.

We Won't Allow Data Centers to Write Their Own Rules

Too many communities throughout the country learned after data centers moved in that they do not make good neighbors. Their massive consumption of resources, along with light, noise, and air pollution, have communities concerned that data centers bring more harm than benefits to the families who live near them.

Before the House adjourned for the summer, we passed a package of legislation that holds Big Tech accountable while protecting our families and local communities.

Our bills would ensure that data centers pay their fair share instead of shifting costs onto households and small businesses, increase transparency about energy and water use, and allow local governments to institute moratoriums against data center development.

The work is only just beginning, but I am pleased that we got several bipartisan guardrails passed through the House quickly. The pressure is now on the Republican-led Senate to act and protect our communities.



Removing Barriers to Access Charitable Bequests

Many of the nonprofit organizations doing important work in our district reached out to my office to let me know of the challenges they face accessing funds left to them by the estates of their donors. Some banks and investment firms require charities to open new accounts with them, complete extensive paperwork, or meet requirements in excess of federal law.

I've introduced legislation to make it easier and faster for charitable organizations to claim funds that have been left to them as beneficiaries. Modeled after successful efforts in other states, my bill will honor the wishes of those who have passed away and ensure their gifts do the work they intended them to do.



Property Tax/Rent Rebate Deadline Extended

The deadline to submit your 2025 property tax/rent rebate application has been extended! If you haven't got yours in yet, my office is happy to help you file your application.

If you are 65+, a widow(er) over 50+, or permanently disabled, you may be eligible for a property tax/rent rebate of up to \$1,000. Contact my office to learn more!



Property Tax/ Rent Rebate Applications

Giving money back to PA renters and homeowners

Homeowners & 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 December 31, 2026



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DAN FRANKEL

23rd Legislative District

2345 Murray Ave., Suite 205
Pittsburgh, PA 15217 • (412) 422-1774

 RepDanFrankel.com

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT NO. 529

Stay in the Know!

Each week, I share what's happening with legislation in Harrisburg, events close to home, and resources you can use right now.



Scan the QR code with your phone to sign up to get my weekly e-newsletter delivered right to your inbox. Follow me on social media  @RepDanFrankel.

My office can help you with:

- Pittsburgh Regional Transit Senior ConnectCards
- Property Tax/Rent Rebates for seniors and people with disabilities
- Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
- Car registrations, special tags, disability parking placards, titles, and driver's license applications
- Obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
- Birth and death certificates
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
- Complaints or questions about utilities and the Public Utility Commission
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
- Problems or questions about the state lottery
- PACE prescription card for senior citizens
- Communicating with the Unemployment Compensation office



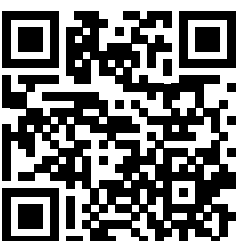
DISTRICT OFFICE:

2345 Murray Ave., Suite 205 • Pittsburgh, PA 15217 • (412) 422-1774 • Fax: (412) 420-2011

CAPITOL OFFICE:

152 Main Capitol Building • P.O. Box 202023 • Harrisburg, PA 17120-2023 • (717) 705-1875

Changes May Be Coming to Your Medicaid Coverage in 2027



If you are an adult aged 19-64, you may face some changes with your Medicaid coverage starting January 1st, 2027. Due to relentless attacks by the Trump administration on our social safety net, some Medicaid recipients will be required to renew their Medicaid every six months instead of every year. Additionally, some Medicaid recipients will need to meet work and community engagement requirements and report that they are meeting this requirement to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. If you do not report, you could lose Medicaid coverage.

Scan this QR code to learn more or contact my office for help navigating these changes.