

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

MIKE SCHLOSSBERG

NEWS YOU CAN USE



Fall 2026

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Protecting our Communities from Data Centers

2026 has marked a disturbing trend across America as sprawling, mega-sized data centers are being proposed. With horror stories about spiking electricity and water consumption, increased noise, more traffic, the loss of valuable open space and the proximity of these proposed facilities to homes, schools and small businesses, there is good reason to be concerned.

Let's be clear and honest: proposals like the Atlas Data Center in South Whitehall Township are terrible ideas. Across the street from a school? Next to established neighborhoods? That type of location should never have been allowed for this kind of use. Period.

I'll say this: I am laser-focused on protecting our communities. The Pennsylvania Constitution recognizes that a safe and clean environment is the right of every Pennsylvanian. Unregulated data centers, free from protections that safeguard our communities, are a threat to that right. Data center developers and operators might be used to getting their way in other parts of the country, but I'm going to fight to make sure we hold them accountable in Pennsylvania.



We need policies that protect our communities from the awful problems data centers can cause. This year, I have supported the following bills to address these problems:

- ✓ establish a moratorium to give local and state officials enough time to make the best decisions when it comes to data center development.
- ✓ ban non-disclosure agreements between data center developers and local governments.
- ✓ end tax incentives for data centers.
- ✓ give the PA Public Utility Commission power to prevent data centers from driving up electricity costs for residents and small businesses already struggling with higher bills.
- ✓ require data centers to report water and energy usage to the PA Department of Environmental Protection.
- ✓ require data centers to obtain state permits for high water usage.
- ✓ allow municipalities to set standards and protections against data centers.
- ✓ regulate Artificial Intelligence use to curb the demand for data centers and protect our kids from harmful messages that threaten their mental health.

In total, the House of Representatives has approved almost a dozen bills that would reduce the threats data centers pose to our communities, many with huge bipartisan support. Unfortunately, the Senate Republican Majority Leader has only said that he wants to make sure Pennsylvania is more "competitive" for data center recruitment and development. I strongly disagree!

Around Parkland and Allentown

Celebrating Student Success at Orefield Middle School: I had the opportunity to present the Catalyst for Community Connect Award to Avery Gibson, Tasaq Ilan and Aliya Attinello, students at Orefield Middle School. They were chosen by leaders at the school because they intentionally work to build community, bringing along people who might otherwise be left behind. These students are honest about who they are, what their values are, and



speak truthfully, with compassion and resolve. They understand unresolved physical and mental health needs can be barriers for full participation in the community and get stuff done without expectation of recognition. Congratulations and thank you for recognizing that building a community requires hard work and strong connections!

State funding for Local Parks: The Commonwealth Financing Authority approved funding for public improvement and public safety projects across Lehigh County, including funding for the Lone Lane Park Master Plan in Upper Macungie Township. I continue to be amazed at the quality of parks in communities and look forward to seeing the plans come to fruition.



Celebrating America 250: The July 4 holiday offered us the opportunity to mark 250 years of American independence. It was wonderful to see the wide range of activities in our community where neighbors gathered to commemorate our history. When I joined the Parkland Garden Club for its Liberty Tree Planting Ceremony at Jordan UCC, I remarked how the celebration, at its core helps us to remember the past, learn lessons for the future, and recommit to the values we cherish as a nation. We need more of these opportunities. I'm grateful for the ones we have all had in 2026.



Get Your Free Credit Report

My office receives many calls about how consumers can get credit reports.

These reports can have an impact on employment and your ability to buy a home, car or insurance.

Thanks to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, you are entitled to receive a free credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) every 12 months.

You can order your credit report from all three credit agencies at the same time or spread those requests over

the course of the year to better monitor your credit. These reports will not include your credit score.

Be cautious of websites that claim to offer free credit reports. Some of these sites will only give you a free report if you buy other products or services. Others give you a free report and then bill you for services you have to cancel.

When you apply online, you should be aware that you will be asked questions for security reasons.

Three free ways to get your credit report

- 1) Online at www.annualcreditreport.com.
- 2) By phone at 1-877-322-8228.
- 3) By mail, just print out the form available online and send it to:

**Annual Credit Report
Request Services**
P.O. Box 105281
Atlanta GA 30348-5281

Around Parkland and Allentown



Girl Scout Silver Award: It was a pleasure to join the celebration for Scoot Laudenslager as she received her Girl Scout Silver Award. To receive this award, Scoot planned and executed an opportunity for Allentown middle school students to join the William Allen pep band in practices and a performance at a basketball game. I've known Scoot for a while and she is an amazing leader. Congratulations Scoot! Keep shining and being a source of light in a world that desperately needs it.



Recognizing Chief Search: This spring, Woodlawn Fire Department hosted its annual banquet, recognizing the dedication of some of our community's finest people. I had the opportunity to present a House Citation to Chief Barry Search who was recognized for 50 years of service as a volunteer firefighter. If you know Barry, you know how kind and generous he is. We are fortunate for all he does in the community.

Police Week Flag-Raising: I had the opportunity to attend the City of Allentown's Police Week Flag-Raising Ceremony to say thank you to the brave officers who help keep our communities safe. Proclamations - like the one we read - are important, but they aren't enough. Our officers deserve funding, salary, laws, and equipment commensurate with what we ask of them, and I will continue to do whatever I can to support all of our police. It was a special bonus to be joined by Allentown School District students who happened to be at City Hall for conversations with the Mayor and other city leaders.



Increasing Young Adult Voter Participation: Enjoyed a great visit with Thomas Jay, Angelina Zaiter, Kelly Wood and Jordan Silver. They are students at Parkland High School doing a video to increase voter participation among their peers as they are turning 18. They came ready, managed the set up, and will be doing the work to get the video ready.

2025 Property Tax & Rent Rebate Extended

It's not too late to apply for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. Gov. Shapiro extended the deadline to apply to December 31, 2026. My office has filed hundreds of rebates this year and we can help you too. Applications can be filed using the PA-1000 form or by using my.path.pa.gov to file electronically at no cost.

To qualify, applicants must have earned less than \$48,110 in 2025—and only HALF of Social Security or Railroad Retirement benefits count toward eligibility. Residents of assisted living facilities may be eligible if they reside in a facility which pays property taxes and meets the income limits.

If you're eligible – or you know someone who might be – my office can help you file the application or answer questions. Give my office a call (610) 821-5577 or email RepSchlossberg@pahouse.net.





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What My Office Can Do for You...

lpo.ks.0826

My office has the experience needed to help with a variety of state government challenges. It is what we do. Here are some of the most common ways we can help:

- Pennsylvania Department of Revenue inquiries, state tax forms
- PennDOT questions and inquiries, including reduced car registration fees for low-income retired persons, disability parking placards, applying for veteran's license plates, vehicle registration and license/photo ID renewals and replacements
- Applying for Pennsylvania Birth and Death Certificates
- Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation claim inquiries
- Interaction with any state agency to assist with state government matters
- Enrolling in Senior Fare programs at LANTA and SEPTA

OPEN FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DATA CENTERS

MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING WIN

"All of this builds on the investments we've made in county mental health services – recognizing that they are on the front lines of this work. A special thanks to **Representative Mike Schlossberg** for being our collective conscience on this important issue."

– Gov. Josh Shapiro
2026 Budget Signing on July 12



PA Money Match

One in 10 Pennsylvanians has unclaimed property. Through bipartisan work, we're making it easier to return old bank accounts, uncashed paychecks, insurance payments, rebates and other forms of unclaimed property to its rightful owners. If you receive a letter from the Pennsylvania Treasury Department indicating that you have money coming thanks to Money Match, hold on to it! You should receive your check about 45 days later. It's not a scam, but if you want to double check, feel free to give a call to PA Treasury (800) 222-2046 or visit www.PaTreasury.gov/Money-Match. If you find property and need help generating the claim form, or need help doing a search for your name, give my office a call (610) 821-5577.