



State Representative **KYLE J. MULLINS**

Proudly Representing the 112th Legislative District

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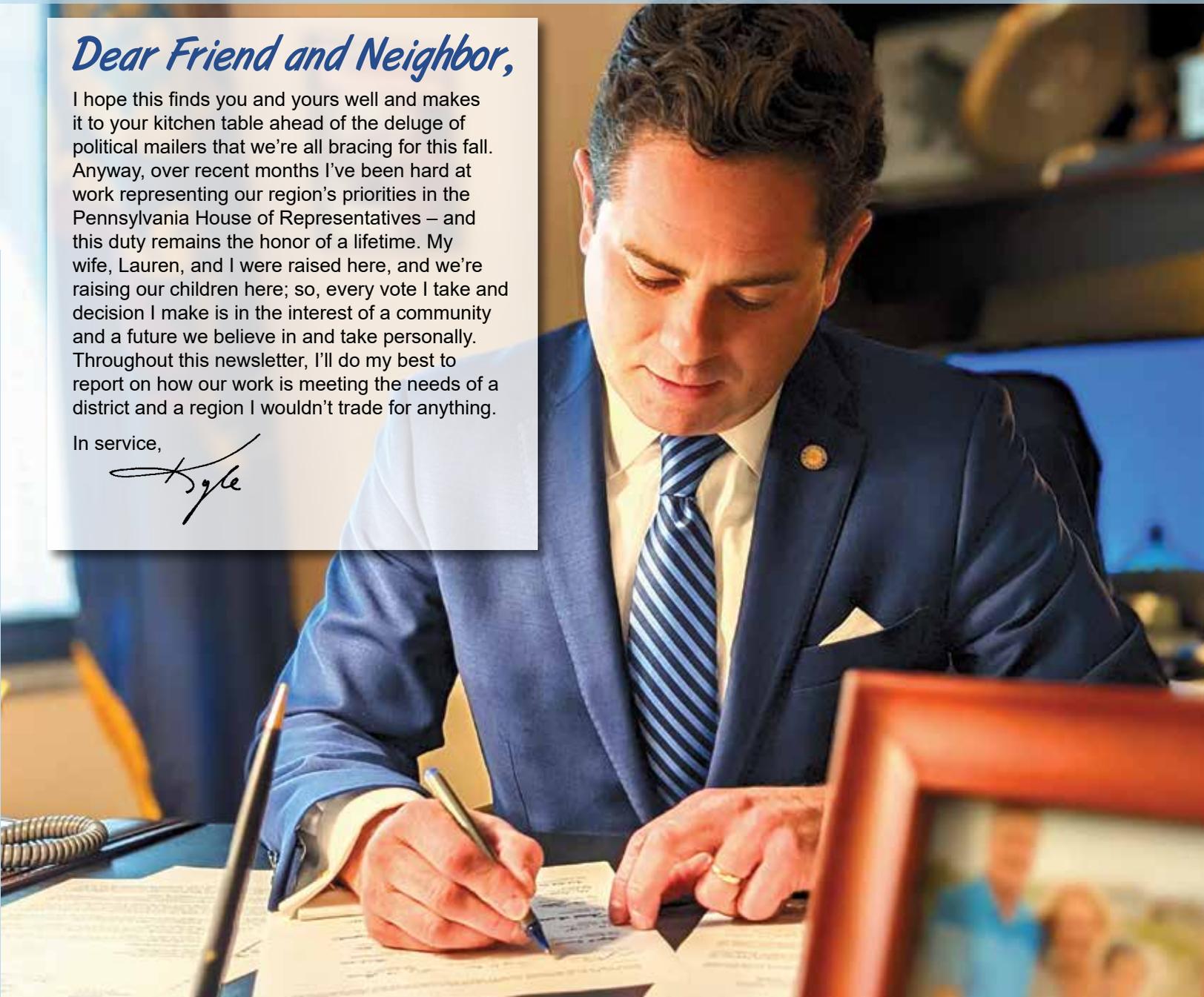
DEDICATED TO LACKAWANNA COUNTY

Dear Friend and Neighbor,

I hope this finds you and yours well and makes it to your kitchen table ahead of the deluge of political mailers that we're all bracing for this fall. Anyway, over recent months I've been hard at work representing our region's priorities in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives – and this duty remains the honor of a lifetime. My wife, Lauren, and I were raised here, and we're raising our children here; so, every vote I take and decision I make is in the interest of a community and a future we believe in and take personally. Throughout this newsletter, I'll do my best to report on how our work is meeting the needs of a district and a region I wouldn't trade for anything.

In service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle".



BUDGET MESSAGE

Crafting our state's yearly spending plan is one of the chief responsibilities we have as legislators. Because of the diversity of Pennsylvania, it's no wonder that we encounter the push-and-pull you'd expect when it comes to adequately funding a range of worthy programs. While the final budget was the result of compromise, I'm proud to have helped shape historic investments without raising any taxes.

We have a constitutional and moral responsibility to educate our children. This year's budget contains a record investment increase of \$750 million to Pre-K to 12 education. We also increased funding for our career and technical schools by \$6.1 million to ensure that our students have a viable pathway toward a career in the trades. To assist those planning for higher education, the budget also allocated \$7 million for Dual Enrollment grants, something that hasn't been funded since 2010/2011. Our world-class institutions of higher education also received an \$11.3 million increase.

I'm exceptionally proud of the increases we achieved across our health and human service programs because the quality and affordability of the care we receive affects everyone. Along with significant increases across many disease-specific support programs, I'm personally grateful to my colleagues and advocates for securing a historic appropriation of \$1.5 million for



"I was honored to receive recognition by the ALS Association for our work on behalf of those impacted by this disease."

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) support services. As you may know, my father is battling ALS, also known as "Lou Gehrig's Disease" – a fatal, neurodegenerative illness that has robbed him and so many of the ability to speak, swallow, breathe without assistance, or walk, along with other, everyday functions. I take these efforts to find cures and improve services for those impacted by this and other rare diseases personally, and my work will continue.



"Rep. Bridget Kosierowski and I are proud of the work Attorney General Shapiro has done to hold pharmaceutical companies accountable for the opioid crisis."

We also increased support for the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, with a substantial portion funded by the opioid lawsuit and settlement brought by Attorney General Josh Shapiro. Funding for support, treatment, and prevention efforts was increased from \$5 million last year to \$22.5 million.

These last two years haven't been easy for any of us, and especially not for health care and long-term care workers. With an increase of roughly \$150 million for nursing homes and \$294 million in the Medicare nursing facility rate, we have provided needed aid to Pennsylvania's direct care sector. It's also a challenging time to be a parent or caregiver. In recognition of these challenges, there was a \$25



"I'm proud to have worked on this year's budget with some great representatives from across the state and both sides of the aisle."

million increase in child care services for families. To serve an additional 823 individuals with intellectual disabilities waiting for services, the Intellectual Disabilities-Community Waiver program includes an \$18.8 million increase. A new tax credit has been created to provide child care assistance to working families. The highest credit available is for families with income of \$15,000 or less, for which the credit is \$315 for one child and \$630 for two or more children. We also made critical investments in mental health, intellectual disabilities, autism, and child development.

The well-being of our state must also be measured by the reliability of our infrastructure and the health of our environment. That is why we have allocated \$3.9 billion for state infrastructure projects, including bridge, highway, and road repairs. To protect our environment, we have allocated a historic \$640 million in conservation programs, including \$240 million for water and sewer system improvements, and \$100 million for local conservation districts to use on flood control, nutrient management, and other projects.

Creating more family-sustaining jobs requires making our state a better place to do business. I voted to lower the high 9.99% Corporate Net Income tax over the next few years to 4.99% to attract more companies to Pennsylvania.

I also voted to help those who benefit from the Property Tax/Rent Rebate program by issuing them a bonus rebate equal to 70% of the amount received for the 2021 calendar year.

INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Another priority of mine will always be to bring your hard-earned tax dollars and other funds back to our area to benefit you and the rest of our region. Over the last several months, I helped to deliver nearly \$10 million in projects that will address major stormwater and erosion problems; honor area veterans; enhance recreational facilities; support downtown development; help to convert old mine lands into a business development; and much more. I was proud to work with other area legislators to secure funding for the following important projects:

Local Share Account Grants:

Archbald Borough Veterans Monument Park Project \$162,685
Construction of a monument wall for the borough's veterans along with an ADA accessible park

American Legion #411 Jessup Michael Steiner Post \$73,794
Roof rehabilitation

Connell Park Little League \$44,411
Improvements and new equipment for this heavily used facility

The Deutsch Institute \$100,000
Renovations to repurpose an old building on Scranton's East Mountain to benefit those with special needs

Dunmore Missy Softball League \$95,659
Field renovation and new fencing, along with demolition and reconstruction of dugouts

Hospice of the Sacred Heart Inpatient Unit Revitalization \$60,000
Hospice inpatient unit rehabilitation

(VFW) Post #25 \$154,100
Facility repairs and renovations, including ADA compliant restrooms

Albright Memorial Library \$100,000
Library roof repairs

Flood Mitigation

Throop Borough \$75,000
Replacement of existing stormwater pipe to mitigate flooding impacts

Jessup Borough \$50,000
Replacement of two sewage pumping stations

Vandling Borough \$135,000
Upgrading of sanitary sewer piping

Blakely Borough \$75,000
Stormwater and erosion mitigation

Miscellaneous Grants

Borough of Archbald \$330,000
A sidewalk connecting Valley View High School and Intermediate School along a hazardous stretch of Columbus Drive

Victor Alfieri Literary Society \$70,000
Facility roof replacement

Jessup Hose Company #2 \$65,000
New self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) equipment

Mid Valley School District \$28,660
Synthetic turf to replace old field in disrepair

South Scranton Little League \$65,000
Renovation of the South Scranton Little League complex to include the installation of lighting

Willow House Foundation \$100,000
Renovation of facility to support those battling addiction

The Scranton Fringe \$40,000
Funds for new equipment to support programming located in the City of Scranton

University of Scranton \$125,920
Development of a forensic cybersecurity crime lab to support academic programs

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Scranton Cultural Center at the Masonic Temple \$125,920
Renovations and public safety improvements

Dunmore Borough \$75,000
Swinick neighborhood stormwater mitigation

Archbald Borough \$100,000
Stormwater runoff mitigation in the Hills of Archbald

Jefferson Township Sewer Authority \$65,000
Sewage pumping station

Olyphant Borough \$370,000
Mid Valley Drive paving project

Scranton City \$2,000,000
Nay Aug Park, park improvements and pool repair

Fellowship House Foundation \$200,000
Rehabilitation of a blighted building on Green Ridge Street in Scranton to serve area residents with psychiatric disabilities and substance abuse disorders

Borough of Throop \$72,950
Civic Center Park design and improvements



“Securing funding from the state takes teamwork. I’m proud to work alongside my Lackawanna County colleagues Sen. Marty Flynn, and Reps. Bridget Kosierowski, Mike Carroll, Thom Welby, and Karen Boback to advocate for critical area projects.”

Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP)

517 Bogart Project II - Slocum Hollow (Scranton) \$1,000,000
Rehabilitation of vacant buildings for new business development

Agency for Community Empowerment Pre-K Center Phase II \$500,000
Development of a Pre-K center

Triboro Industrial Park Development (Olyphant) \$3,000,000
Reclaiming abandoned mine lands in Olyphant for business development

MEMORABLE MOMENTS



I had the pleasure of welcoming Matthew Miller, a young and rising star from our area who visited me in the Capitol Building to share how our local Outreach Center for Community Resources supports him and why it's so critical that we continue state support of family centers.

Night Out for Local Law Enforcement

We had such a great time participating in a number of "Nights Out," community events designed to thank and spend time with our first responders, especially members of law enforcement in particular. It's an honor to walk with our local police departments, not just in parades, but most importantly when it comes to funding, access to training, and state policy.



Dunmore Night Out with Mayor Max Conway, his wife Ally, and their pup "Finn," along with Borough Councilman William O'Malley and his family.



Archbald Night Out with Chief Trently.



Blakely Night Out. Olyphant Chief DeVoe and his K9 Officer "King."



We're blessed to have many dedicated volunteer first responders in our area, but their life-saving capabilities are only as good as their equipment. It's key that I understand the needs of our various volunteer companies so I can advocate for support on their behalf.



In honor of John Wilding, the Scranton police officer who was killed while pursuing suspects on foot, I joined other area legislators in introducing and passing a new law to strengthen penalties when an officer is seriously hurt or killed during such a pursuit.

Infrastructure Update: New one-stop-shop for asphalt and concrete



It was an exciting honor to join the Kriger Construction family, area officials, and other project developers to break ground for the prospective NEPA Asphalt and Concrete plant in Archbald. This environmentally-sound facility will be the only plant for many miles to produce both asphalt and concrete. With such significant infrastructure funding on its way – and an outstanding regional workforce ready to repair and resurface our roads – this plant will serve a critical need.

Selected as ESU's Legislative Fellow for 2022-2023

I'm honored to announce that I have been selected as the Legislative Fellow for East Stroudsburg University during their 2022-2023 term. I am looking forward to this opportunity to share invaluable experiences with their students and staff.

What is the Legislative Fellow Program? East Stroudsburg University's Legislative Fellow program was introduced in January 1999. The program is designed to bring state legislators to campus to participate in a variety of campus activities and to meet formally and informally with students, faculty, and staff throughout the year.

How are Legislative Fellows chosen? Legislative Fellows are selected through a non-partisan process by a committee of faculty and staff members jointly appointed by the University President and the local chapter of APSCUF. Once appointed at the beginning of each academic year, these distinguished political leaders serve for the duration of that year.

What are the responsibilities of a Legislative Fellow?

Fellows are selected based on their records of achievement and service to their community and to the commonwealth. They may serve as guest lecturers in classrooms or symposia and are invited to attend, as our guest, all university-sponsored events on campus including commencement activities.

I have had the opportunity to visit ESU's campus and to meet with Interim President Long, alongside various students and staff. I always cherish opportunities that allow me to meet with the community at large. Being chosen as a Legislative Fellow has been an absolute honor and a humbling experience.



A special thanks to our summer interns

This summer, I welcomed two interns into our district office family. For 10 weeks, Taylor Burdick and Declan Caviston worked alongside us to help enrich and serve the 112th District. This June, they were introduced to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and toured PA's capitol building in Harrisburg. They even got me to join TikTok! Having once served as a PennDOT and legislative intern, I can attest to the value of such opportunities, and I hope Taylor and Declan felt the same about their experience this summer.

Meet Declan: Declan graduated Carbondale Area Junior Senior High School in the class of 2020. His parents are Joseph and Michele Caviston. Declan is a junior attending Penn State University. He is currently studying Political Science and Labor and Employment Relations (LER). Upon graduating college, Declan wants to pursue a career in union organizing and negotiations. He also has a passion for the world of politics and would like to explore that

career path if an opportunity were to arise.

Meet Taylor: Taylor is a senior at Penn State University's Scranton Branch. She's a Dean's List student majoring in English and minoring in Corporate Communications, with an interest in pursuing a career in Social Media Management. Taylor joined our office as a social media intern in June.



While visiting Harrisburg, Taylor and Declan had the honor of meeting House Speaker Bryan Cutler and Democratic Leader Joanna McClinton.



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Please bookmark my legislative website: www.RepKyleMullins.com. It has links to information on state services, legislation that I introduce or co-sponsor and includes a form that allows you to contact my office by email. And, be sure to follow me on social media for more important updates.

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My Office Can Help You With:

- Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions.
- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications.
- Information on financial assistance for higher education.
- Obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds.
- Voter registration and absentee ballot applications.
- Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation.
- Birth and death certificates.
- Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance).
- Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems.
- Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information.
- Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones.
- Complaints or questions about utilities and the Public Utility Commission.
- Complaints and problems with insurance companies.
- Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications.
- Problems or questions about the state lottery.
- PACE cards for senior citizens.
- Consumer complaints.
- Liquor Control Board concerns or questions.
- Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups.
- Information about federal, state and local government agencies.
- Unclaimed property.

Senior Fair on Sept. 9

Be sure to save the date for a joint Senior Fair at the Marketplace in Scranton, Friday Sept. 9 from 11am to 2pm. This is a great one-stop shop to learn about new and exciting services which benefit our senior citizens. I'll be joined by several of my Lackawanna County legislators to meet with our older residents to discuss the important issues and concerns they have which we can advocate for in Harrisburg. I hope to see you there!

