



STATE SENATOR GREG ROTHMAN

34th Senate District



Serving Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry Counties

SPRING 2025

Greetings!

Thank you for the privilege of serving you in the Pennsylvania State Senate. It is my goal to make government accessible and responsive, always keeping in mind that I work for you! I hope you find the contents of this newsletter to be helpful and informative. If I can provide assistance with a state-related matter or Commonwealth agency, please contact my office. I appreciate hearing from you and look forward to seeing you at one or more of the events we have scheduled in the coming months. It is an honor to be your voice in Harrisburg.

Serving the 34th Senate District,

Greg Rothman

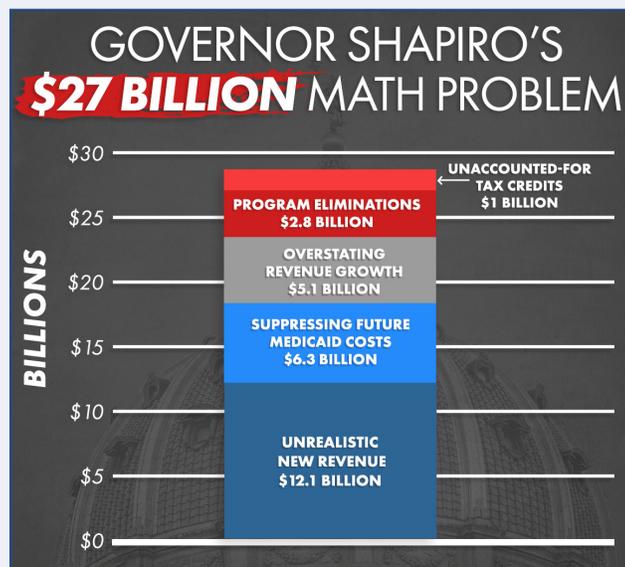


Budget Update: Governor Shapiro's Spending Proposal

On February 4, Gov. Josh Shapiro presented his \$51.5 billion budget proposal. It includes a spending increase of 7.5% (\$3.6 billion) above the current year's budget. His proposal is extremely aggressive on spending and relies on one-time revenue sources. After careful review, it's clear this proposed budget isn't affordable or sustainable.

In order to make it appear as if his budget is balanced over the next five years, Gov. Shapiro's proposed budget includes completely unrealistic revenue projections and vastly understated expenditures. Through fiscal year 2029-30, the administration's baseline revenues (those in existing law) are approximately \$5.1 billion higher than the Independent Fiscal Office's projections.

While the administration is grossly overstating revenue estimates, they are also grossly understating future expenditures. Pennsylvanians deserve an honest accounting of the state's financial position and a clear picture of what the governor's spending plans would mean for hardworking families throughout the commonwealth: Bigger government and higher taxes.



Thankfully, the governor's proposal is just the first step in the budgetary process. Through Appropriations Committee hearings with each commonwealth agency, subsequent negotiations, and ultimately votes in both the House and Senate, the legislature will play a significant role in determining appropriate funding levels. I am committed to passing a budget that meets the needs of Pennsylvanians while being fiscally responsible for the benefit of ALL commonwealth taxpayers.

Every cent the government has comes from taxpayers and we must be mindful of that. We have a duty to be good stewards of those funds and be respectful of those who earned them.

Legislative Priorities to Grow PA's Economy

Pennsylvania is facing a working-age population crisis, and the only way to solve it is to grow the economy. I want families to move to Pennsylvania, not leave our commonwealth for better opportunities. By growing the economy, we create good-paying job opportunities here.

The best way to grow the economy is to encourage job creation and entrepreneurialism, reduce burdensome regulations on small businesses and allow Pennsylvanians to keep more of what they earn. This legislative session, I've introduced legislation to accomplish this and more.

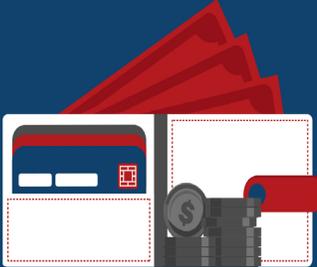
SB 206 would eliminate the state Personal Income Tax (PIT). Other states like Florida, Texas and Tennessee, who have no PIT, have been bold in their pursuit of prosperity, economic growth and attracting residents and businesses to move to their state. Their boldness has paid off through an influx of new residents (many of them from Pennsylvania). By eliminating the PIT, Pennsylvania would send a message that we are serious in our pursuit of job creation, growth and keeping hard-earned dollars in the pockets of those who worked for them.



SB 6 would bring greater accountability to ALL commonwealth agencies. Currently, the Streamlining Permits for Economic Expansion and Development (SPEED) program, which allows applicants to track their permits from start to finish, is only in place at the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). While I was proud to champion this legislation last session, I believe this good government requirement should apply to all agencies. SB 6, sponsored by myself and Senator Phillips-Hill (R-York), would provide an accessible permit tracking system at every state agency and require those agencies to clearly cite the legal authority they claim to have when rejecting a permit application. Increased transparency and accountability in the permit process will provide more certainty to applicants, reduce delays, and encourage investment in Pennsylvania.

SB 207 would accelerate the economy by reducing the Corporate Net Income Tax (CNIT). Lowering tax rates will make Pennsylvania more competitive, which is why the commonwealth is already in the process of phasing down its CNIT. The tax reform package enacted in 2022 will reduce our CNIT from 9.99 percent to 4.99 percent over a nine-year period. While I'm pleased to see our sky-high tax rate is finally being reduced, Pennsylvanians deserve the benefits of lower taxes now. Gov. Shapiro agreed with me on the campaign trail in 2022 when he said the rate should be cut to 4 percent by 2025. To that end, my legislation would cut the CNIT rate to 4 percent the tax year following passage. Not only will this reduction improve the state's business climate, but studies also show it would lead to both higher wages and the creation of new family sustaining jobs. Let's not delay.

KEEP MORE OF WHAT YOU EARN



Start-up Penalty Reforms Enacted

I'm pleased to report that last session, we made good progress toward growing our economy by eliminating the PA Start-up Penalty, and the benefits will soon be realized.

For many businesses, it takes a while to turn a profit. In the first few years, it's common to operate at a loss. While most other states allow struggling businesses to "carryforward" those losses (80% or more) to the next tax year, Pennsylvania has been behind 48 other states, only allowing a 40% carryforward. This means if a business operates at a massive loss one year, yet barely makes a profit the next, they are slammed with unaffordable--and unfair--taxes.

My legislative proposal to eliminate the PA Start-up Penalty was included in the 2024-25 state budget. Beginning in 2025, the PA Start-up Penalty will be reduced incrementally for four years until Pennsylvania's treatment of losses for start-up businesses aligns with federal rules. This much-needed reform will help businesses locate, invest and hire in Pennsylvania.

Some additional work remains, but this victory is an important first step toward making Pennsylvania more competitive.



Congratulations, again, to the State Champion Cumberland Valley Varsity Boys Soccer Team! I had the pleasure of hosting them at the Capitol to celebrate their record-setting, 22-1-1 season that culminated with a thrilling double OT win for the PIAA 4A championship!



Thanks to everyone who attended the Perry County Concealed Carry Seminar, hosted jointly with Rep. Stambaugh. The room was packed with area residents eager to hear from our presenters including Sheriff Dave Hammar and District Attorney Clay Merris.



I was excited to celebrate the 2024 PIAA Class A State Champion West Perry Field Hockey Team at the Capitol! These amazing athletes captured first place in District 3, with a record of 25-1 and brought home the first state title in school history! Congratulations, again, on a phenomenal season, Mustangs!

More Veterans Eligible for Free Birth and Death Certificates

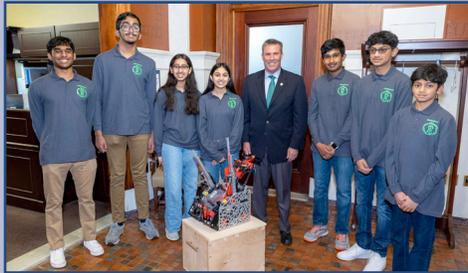
More veterans and their families are now eligible for free birth and death certificates from the Pennsylvania Department of Health, as a result of Act 137 of 2024.

I was pleased to support this legislation which expands the veteran fee waiver for birth and death certificate applications to include all veterans who were discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable. Previously, veteran fee waivers were only available for military members who were in active service or who were honorably discharged. The eligibility for this waiver now includes general military discharge classifications.

Up to 10 free copies are now available for most veterans. The fee waiver may be applied to applications for oneself, spouse, and dependent children. The law applies whether the applicant is the eligible veteran or the spouse/widow(er) of the eligible veteran. To have fees waived, documentation proving military status must accompany birth and death certificate applications. Of course, my office would be glad to assist.



I was humbled to join Commissioner Kelly Neiderer in paying tribute to the Cumberland County EMS personnel and firefighters who have given their lives in the line of duty. The ceremony was a sobering reminder of the risks faced by our first responders, as well as their dedication to protecting our communities.



The Javengers are an impressive group of 7th-12th graders that compete in FIRST Tech Robotics Challenges. The team stopped by the Capitol to show me the robot they designed, built, coded, and programmed. They are state champions, world championship qualifiers, and are absolutely amazing!



Identity Theft Prevention events offer residents the opportunity to securely destroy and dispose of documents containing personal information. I'm glad to join with Reps. Sheryl DeLozier, Thomas Kutz, Hampden and Silver Spring Townships again this year to offer shredding services free of charge.

Mark Your Calendar

New events are being planned year-round. For a current list of events, visit SenatorRothman.com/events.

FREE Identity Theft Protection Event

With Reps. Sheryl DeLozier and Thomas Kutz, as well as Hampden and Silver Spring Townships. Take steps to protect your identity by safely shredding old documents containing sensitive information. Please note, there is a limit of five boxes per household. For your convenience, residents will be asked to stay in their vehicles.

Saturday, April 5, from 9 a.m. to Noon

Kohl's Parking Lot, 6444 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg

FREE License Plate Replacement Events

Get your damaged and illegible license plates replaced for free. All Pennsylvania license plates, including personalized and specialty plates are eligible for replacement at no cost through these events.

Western Cumberland County • Saturday, April 26, from 9-11 a.m.

First Assembly of God Church • 420 Baltimore Road, Shippensburg

Eastern Cumberland County • Saturday, May 10, from 9-11 a.m.

River of God Church • 747 Wertzville Road, Enola

Perry County • Saturday, May 17, from 9-11 a.m.

Perry County Fairgrounds • 248 Fairground Road, Newport

Northern Dauphin County • Saturday, June 14, from 9-11 a.m.

Grace United Methodist Church • 982 Medical Road, Millersburg



Veterans Appreciation Breakfast

Save the Date: Saturday, November 8, from 8-10 a.m.

Carlisle Expo Center

100 K Street, Carlisle

RSVPs will be required. More details will be forthcoming.





I was pleased to join Rep. Thomas Kutz, Commissioner Jean Foschi, borough officials, and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to see the improvements made to the Mt. Holly Springs portion of Ridge Road. The work that's been done will prevent flooding and improve accessibility. Thanks to all involved!



What an honor it was to help celebrate the 150th Gratz Fair! I look forward to attending the fair each year and make it a priority to walk through the barns and watch the livestock shows. I always appreciate the opportunity that the fair provides to connect with constituents.



Patriot Day services at the Naval Support facility in Mechanicsburg were deeply meaningful. The annual remembrance honors the lives lost on 9/11/01 and acknowledges the enduring impact of that day on our nation and our military. We must Never Forget.



Hosting school groups at the Capitol is among my favorite things to do. Recently, I had the opportunity to spend some time with students from Sporting Hill Elementary School, discussing civics and government, showing them the beautiful building that I'm blessed to work in, and maybe sparking some interest in future legislative service.



SENATOR GREG ROTHMAN 34TH DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE OFFICES

NEW BLOOMFIELD DISTRICT OFFICE

25 East McClure St.
New Bloomfield, PA 17068
717-582-2454

*Monday, Wednesday and Friday
from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

SHIPPENSBURG DISTRICT OFFICE

81 Walnut Bottom Rd.
Shippensburg, PA 17257
717-844-5441

*Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

SILVER SPRING DISTRICT OFFICE

4 Flowers Dr., Suite 3
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
717-283-4200

Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NORTHERN DAUPHIN SATELLITE OFFICE

Northern Dauphin Human Services Center
295 State Dr.
Elizabethville, PA 17023
717-283-4200

*Second Tuesday of each month from
10 a.m. to noon and by appointment*



Those who travel Route 233 in Tyrone Township, Perry County will now see Marine LCpl. Jason Frye's name as they cross Shermans Creek. We trust the bridge named in his honor will serve as a reminder of Jason's selflessness, heroism, and sacrifice.



Recognizing those who achieve scouting's highest rank is an honor. I treasure the opportunity to celebrate each new Eagle Scout's achievements with their families, friends, and fellow scouts. Pictured here is Aaron K. from Troop 333, Cumberland County. Congratulations, again, to him and all who have earned the rank.



In 2024, I visited each of the 77 municipalities I am blessed to represent in the Senate. In December, I stopped by the Crossroads Market in Gratz with Rep. Joe Kerwin. It was a great opportunity to warm up, buy local and meet with constituents like Nate.



Our first responders are brave, professional, and always ready to assist in our moments of need. I could not be more grateful for the heroes at Newport EMS and all fire, police, and EMS personnel who serve their communities with such selflessness and dedication.

Check Your Mailbox! Billions in Unclaimed Property Being Returned

Money you weren't expecting may soon be coming your way! A new law allows the Pennsylvania Treasury to automatically return certain unclaimed property when the owner is easily located.

Unclaimed property often includes dormant bank accounts, uncashed checks, rebates, insurance payments and more. Prior to the passage of Act 81 (2024), the burden to identify, claim, and prove ownership of any unclaimed property fell on the owner of that property, many of whom were unaware of the property's existence or the process by which to search for it. Now, through the Money Match program, unclaimed properties valued at \$500 or less that belong to a single owner are being returned by the Treasury Department proactively. Those with eligible properties will receive a letter in the mail to confirm their address. After doing so, they will receive a check for their property in approximately 45 days.

The Money Match program will enable Treasury to return more than \$4.5 billion in unclaimed property; the program removes barriers, improves efficiency, and reduces burdens on Pennsylvanians, so I was glad to support it.

Please contact my office should you have any questions about the Money Match program or more complex unclaimed property situation. We'd be happy to help search for property and/or submit a claim.



Here to Serve You

We are here to serve you. My staff and I pledge to make state government accessible.

We'd be honored to:

- Provide copies of legislation and state laws.
- Help determine the status and/or facilitate the processing of state licenses, unemployment claims and state permits.
- Access forms for PennDOT, state taxes, Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, LIHEAP, birth/death certificates, absentee ballots and voter registration and much more.

For information about any of these services or to provide input on pending legislation, please contact me at SenatorRothman.com or call one of my district offices.





STATE SENATOR
GREG ROTHMAN

Senate Box 203034
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3034

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You May be Eligible for Property Tax Relief

More residents are eligible for rebates than in previous years due to an increase in allowable income. The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is funded by lottery revenue and is open to state residents who:

- Are age 65 or older or
 - Are widows and widowers age 50 or older or
 - Anyone age 18 and older who is 100% disabled
- AND**
- Has a household income of \$46,520 or less, counting only half of Social Security.

Rebate amounts are calculated based on applicants' 2024 income and the amount of property tax or rent paid in 2024, with rebates ranging from \$380 to \$1,000.

Application assistance and electronic filing are available in my district offices.
Appointments are recommended.

<i>If your income is:</i>	<i>Your maximum rebate is:</i>
\$0 - \$8,270	\$1,000
\$8,271 - \$15,510	\$770
\$15,511 - \$18,610	\$460
\$18,611 - \$46,520	\$380

Stay in Touch

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at SenatorRothman.com*

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Instagram.com/SenatorRothman

X.com/Rothman_Greg



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at SenatorRothman.com.*