



STATE REPRESENTATIVE ZACH MAKO

183RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

State Budget **PROTECTS TAXPAYERS, HELPS COMMUNITIES**

After much hard work, a \$50.8 billion Fiscal Year 2026-27 state budget was completed and reflects the Commonwealth's fiscal reality. It is a 3.7% increase over the past fiscal year, which is well below what the governor was seeking, and allowed us to not tap into the Rainy Day Fund. This will be key in holding off tax increases in future years.

More specifically, this state budget is a roadmap for stability, and one that helps communities grow stronger and creates opportunities for everyone. While not perfect, it includes no new taxes on hardworking Pennsylvanians. On top of that, the budget includes an additional \$10 million for career and technical education centers to allow more students to attend, an additional \$10 million to the Grow PA Scholarship Grant Program for students pursuing degrees in high-demand fields and an additional \$10 million of performance-based funding for Pitt, Penn State and Temple.

Another item of note is this budget allocates \$775 million in funding for shovel-ready rural road and bridge projects. These are projects that have been approved and ready to go but lacked funding until now. These repairs will reduce the wear and tear on vehicles, which will benefit drivers' pocketbooks.

Finally, the budget includes an additional \$903 million for PreK-12 education. Schools within the 183rd Legislative District stand to receive a combined additional \$1.389 million in funding.

In just a few short months, preliminary work will begin on the next state budget. I remain committed to always putting the residents of the 183rd District first.

APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED for 2025 **Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program**

The deadline for senior citizens and Pennsylvanians with disabilities to apply for rebates on rent and property taxes paid in 2025 has been extended to Dec. 31.

Income limits for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program increased again this year to \$48,110 for both homeowners and renters. Remember to exclude 50% of Social Security when determining your income. The maximum rebate is \$1,000.

The program is open to residents age 65 years and older; widows and widowers 50 years and older; and people with disabilities 18 years and older.

Remember — you do not need to pay anyone for assistance to apply for the rebates. Apply online at my.path.pa.gov, or contact one of my offices for help. Additional information about the program is available at pa.gov/agencies/revenue/ptrr.

Rebates began to be distributed on July 1, as required by law.

Happy 250th Birthday, AMERICA!

Earlier this summer, we celebrated our nation's birthday on July 4.

The Lehigh Valley played a key role in America's founding 250 years ago. There is so much to see, do and experience right here in our beautiful Commonwealth, and even more specifically in our own backyard. Hopefully, the celebration allowed you to take a step back in time and learn more about how our ancestors helped to build our country from its earliest days and those who have helped it evolve into the masterpiece it has become today.

More celebratory events are planned throughout the Commonwealth for the rest of the year. For more information, visit www.America250PA.org.

EAGLE SCOUTS HONORED

We are proud to have many high-achieving young people in our legislative district. Since the new year, five Scouts have earned Eagle status in the 183rd Legislative District. They are:

- Aaden Clough – Troop 62.
- Carter Clough – Troop 62.
- Robert Gogel – Troop 40.
- Nathaniel Kuhns – Troop 58.
- Collin Paone – Troop 32.
- Nathan Skoff – Troop 33.



In March, I hosted a Scam Jam that addressed financial frauds and scams involving emails, text messages and AI, among others.



This spring, I held a Concealed Carry event at the Bath American Legion. We had a great turnout and thoughtful engagement with our guest speakers.



Since the beginning of the year, I have hosted four Coffee & Conversation events throughout the 183rd Legislative District to hear your concerns and answer your questions.



SUMMER 2026

State Representative

ZACH MAKO

183rd LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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**DISTRICT
OFFICE
LOCATIONS**



NORTHAMPTON OFFICE

2030 Center St., Northampton, PA 18067
610-502-2701

SLATINGTON OFFICE

Slatington Borough Hall
125 S. Walnut St., 1st Floor, Slatington, PA 18080
610-760-9805

UPCOMING EVENTS

SENIOR EXPO | THURSDAY, SEPT. 10, 10 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

Bethany Wesleyan Church, 675 Blue Mountain Drive, Cherryville

More than 70 exhibitors from state and local agencies, businesses and other organizations will be on hand to provide information and answer questions important to seniors. Free health screenings, blood pressure readings and flu shots will be available. The expo is free to attend. No RSVP required.

RESCHEDULED SMALL GAMES OF CHANCE SEMINAR | THURSDAY, SEPT. 24, 6–8 P.M.

Diamond Fire Company, 110 Main St., Walnutport

Learn all about how to navigate the state's Small Games of Chance Law to ensure your organization conducts these games legally and avoids violating any law. To RSVP, visit www.repmako.com/events or call 610-760-9805.

VETERANS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON | FRIDAY, SEPT. 25, NOON TO 2 P.M.

Tri-Boro Sportsmen, 2110 Canal St., Northampton

All veterans residing in the 183rd District are invited to attend this recognition event. Food will be provided and a service representative from the American Legion will review veterans benefits for which you may be eligible. Space is limited. An RSVP is required to attend by visiting www.repmako.com/events or calling 610-760-9805.

FREE SHREDDING EVENT | SATURDAY, OCT. 3, 10 A.M. TO NOON

Co-Hosted with the Borough of Slatington

Bob LaBold Maintenance Building, 550 W. Church St., Slatington

No RSVP needed. Limit four bags/boxes per household.

THIRD ANNUAL DISABILITIES RESOURCE FAIR | SATURDAY, OCT. 24, 10 A.M. TO NOON

Union Lutheran Church, 5500 Route 873, Schnecksville

This event is designed to connect disabled individuals of all ages to local, state and nonprofit organizations offering assistance, shared community and support to caregivers.