

State Representative
MIKE CABELL
117TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



STOP BY ONE OF OUR LEGISLATIVE OPEN HOUSES

It's that festive time of year again! Everyone is invited to join me at one of my upcoming legislative open houses. There will be good food, conversation, and treats.

Stop by my Dallas office for some holiday cheer on **Tuesday, Dec. 5, from 4-6 p.m.** If you can't make that date, I will be hosting another open house at my Sugarloaf office on **Friday, Dec. 15, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.**

These are going to be fun occasions where you can meet my staff, who would be happy to start working on any state-related issues you might have.

I would also like to hear suggestions on what district events you would like to see me host in 2024. We've had a number of successful turnouts all throughout the last year, including my recent Veterans Recognition Ceremony and Expo, where more than 200 folks participated.

However, I always prefer hearing input from residents of the 117th Legislative District. In fact, based on constituent feedback, I hosted two Hard-to-Read License Plate Replacement Events that were well-attended, and I plan to do more. Plus, I've heard from local farmers about moving the date for my annual Farmers Breakfast to earlier in the spring.

So please come to the open houses with your suggestions! I want to do whatever I can to meet as many of you as possible.



My Veterans Expo at Misericordia University in November included a pinning ceremony and inspirational remarks from World War II veteran Willis Ide, of Sweet Valley, who just turned 99.



I was thrilled to have state Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding (second from right) as the guest speaker at my first Farmers Breakfast last May in Sugarloaf.



We hosted Hard-to-Read License Plate Replacement events in Dallas and Freeland this fall.



State Representative

**MIKE
CABELL**

117th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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VISIT ME ONLINE!

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STATE POLICE RESPONSE TO SCHOOL THREATS

My office has received many calls and emails from concerned parents recently about threats targeting local school districts, including Lake-Lehman, Hazleton Area and Crestwood. Authorities have not deemed the threats as credible.

Still, as the father of young children myself, this has been as upsetting to me as it has been to many of you. I have been in touch with local and state police, and I am exploring what could be done at the legislative level. Some of these threats have originated from foreign countries, making it difficult for local authorities to bring anyone to justice. However, it was reported that a man was arrested in Peru for allegedly making bomb threats against Pennsylvania schools and other buildings in September.

Pennsylvania State Police Commissioner Christopher Paris is well aware of the concern in our community, and he recently released the following statement:

“We are committed to working with our local, state, and federal partners to fully investigate these threats. As the criminal investigation continues, we will remain in contact with school officials to convey the most up to date information so they can make informed decisions on behalf of their districts.”

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC FROM MASK MANDATES

We all lived through the COVID-19 pandemic, and it's a bad memory for almost everyone. One of the lessons learned for me was to see how easily the government can interfere with our lives.

To help ensure some of our personal freedoms are never intruded upon again, I have introduced legislation that prohibits modes of public transportation from implementing mask mandates or requiring proof of vaccination for services.

My proposal seeks to strike a balance between public safety and personal freedoms. It would apply to school bus and school vehicle transportation companies; regional and county mass transit authorities; and taxis, limousines, ride-share companies and passenger motor carriers regulated by the Public Utility Commission.

The bottom line is this: I trust the average citizen to make informed decisions about their own health. If someone wants to wear a mask on a bus, my legislation does nothing to prevent that person from doing so.



PROPERTY TAX AND RENT REBATE PROGRAM EXPANDED

Many of you have inquired about the expanded income limits for next year's Property Tax and Rent Rebate program. For homeowners, the income cap is rising from \$35,000 to \$45,000. For renters, it's increasing from \$15,000 to \$45,000. In addition, the maximum standard rebate is jumping from \$650 to \$1,000. Those eligible can start applying in mid-January. In the meantime, you have until Dec. 31 to file for this year's rebate. Please stop by or call my offices for help filing or with any questions you might have on the program.