



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
**THOMAS
KUTZ**
Proudly Serving the 87th District



FALL 2026



Over **\$30 Million Secured** to Support District Projects

Since first taking office in 2023, I have made it a top priority to secure state funding for projects that strengthen our communities, improve local infrastructure, and support long-term economic growth throughout the 87th District. I'm proud to report that, to date, over \$30 million in state grant funding has been awarded for initiatives that directly benefit residents.

These investments are enhancing roads and bridges, parks, public safety initiatives, community facilities, and water and sewer systems; projects that improve daily life while positioning our communities for future

success. Every dollar brought back home reduces the financial burden on local taxpayers and ensures municipalities have the resources needed to move important projects forward.

I remain committed to advocating for the needs of our district by working closely with local officials and community partners. Securing state support for meaningful, community-driven priorities will continue to be one of my highest responsibilities, and I will keep working to ensure the 87th District is well positioned to compete for available funding.

Celebrating National Night Out Across the 87th District

It was a pleasure to join friends and neighbors, first responders, and community organizations for National Night Out celebrations across Silver Spring and South Middleton townships. National Night Out is an important tradition that brings communities together to strengthen relationships with law enforcement, promote public safety, and foster a spirit of partnership.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to the police officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, and volunteers whose dedication keeps our neighborhoods safe. Their commitment and service are at the heart of what makes these events so meaningful. Thank you as well to everyone who organized and attended these outstanding gatherings. It's your involvement and support that make National Night Out such a success each year!



General Assembly Must Enact Sentencing Guidelines Following Supreme Court Decision

On July 23, the House returned to session to consider House Bill 1042, legislation intended to establish a constitutional sentencing framework after the Pennsylvania Supreme Court struck down the state's mandatory life-without-parole sentence for second-degree murder. In March, the court ruled that automatic life sentences violate the Pennsylvania Constitution because they do not allow courts to consider an individual's level of culpability. The decision took effect the next day, July 24; but as of this writing, the House has not been called back to Harrisburg to address this issue.

Approximately 1,100 inmates are currently serving life sentences for second-degree murder. Without updated sentencing guidelines, these offenders may seek resentencing under the court's ruling, leaving judges with the discretion to make those who were sentenced to life-without-parole in many cases eligible for parole.

Individuals convicted of second-degree murder include many of the most egregious offenders in our Commonwealth. Many of these offenders pled guilty to second-degree murder to avoid being prosecuted for a death penalty offense. New sentencing guidelines are imperative to ensure that society is protected from the most violent offenders. These guidelines are also necessary to prevent re-traumatizing victims' families through the parole process.

The bill was amended hours before a vote on final passage by a small panel instead of being debated before the entire House prior to amending. The amendment, among other things, changed language which already passed over a month ago by a bipartisan majority of the state Senate and in consultation with district attorneys and the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General.

Most troubling, the amendment included language that would provide far reaching judicial discretion rather than a more consistent structure of sentencing. As a result of the bill's language, offenders in Philadelphia County will be treated differently than offenders in Cumberland County for the same crimes. This is a miscarriage of justice and means that equal justice under the law will no longer be a bedrock of our criminal justice system for offenders convicted of second-degree murder.

Additionally, the amendment establishes that any inmate, regardless of the nature of the offense, can be eligible for medical release. This means even the most violent offenders and sexual predators can be released for medical purposes. Even more alarming, the language allows for such broad terms that any offender with almost any medical condition may apply for release.

I voted against each of these misguided provisions.

By refusing to engage in meaningful negotiation earlier in this process and instead removing bipartisan language which already passed the Senate, the House has set the process back. Chaos will ensue in our criminal justice system as a result. Again, I voted against this reckless action.

Throughout this process, I have supported establishing a clear sentencing framework that complies with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's ruling while promoting consistency in sentencing. Protecting the safety and wellbeing of the victims' families must remain at the forefront of this conversation.

State Representative
**THOMAS
KUTZ**



PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT NO. 432

DISTRICT OFFICES

Mechanicsburg Office
2 Market Plaza Way
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: 717-975-2235

Hours: Mon.-Fri.: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

South Middleton Township Office
520 Park Drive
Boiling Springs, PA 17007
Phone: 717-258-0247

Hours: Mon.-Fri.: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CAPITOL OFFICE

149B East Wing
PO Box 202087
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2087
Phone: 717-783-2063



@RepKutz



For all the latest, sign up for my weekly e-newsletter! Visit RepKutz.com or scan the QR Code.

UPCOMING EVENTS



► VETERANS APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 8:30–11 a.m.

at Kimberly Ann Fahnestock-Voelz Memorial Post 7530, 4545 Westport Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

Veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families who reside in the 87th District are welcome to join me for a free breakfast honoring their service and sacrifice. We will be joined by keynote speaker, Rep. Joe Kerwin, Pennsylvania Army National Guard officer and Operation Enduring Freedom–Horn of Africa veteran. **Please RSVP by calling 717-975-2235 or visiting RepKutz.com/Events.**

► FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS: PRE-GAME LEGISLATIVE OUTREACH EVENTS

Friday, Sept. 18, from 5:30–7 p.m.

at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park, 1 Memorial Park Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

This tailgate will honor our veterans by highlighting the resources they've earned in service to our country.

Friday, Oct. 9, from 5:30–7 p.m.

at Search Dental, 17 Waterford Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050.

Friday, Oct. 16, from 5:30–7 p.m.

at Citizens Fire Co. Station 2, 405 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, PA 17007.

Residents of the 87th District are invited to join me for some fall fun before our Mechanicsburg, Cumberland Valley, and Boiling Springs high school football teams play under the Friday night lights! My team and I will be providing food and light refreshments at no cost before each game. Additionally, we will have state-related information about important programs and resources.

Please RSVP by calling 717-975-2235 or visiting RepKutz.com/Events.

► FIRST RESPONDERS APPRECIATION DINNER

Wednesday, Oct. 28, from 5:30–7 p.m.

at the Upper Allen Township Municipal Building, 100 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

First responders and their families who serve the 87th District and its communities are invited to a dinner to recognize their service and dedication. **Please RSVP by calling 717-975-2235 or visiting RepKutz.com/Events.**