



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Summer 2026

★ ANDREW KUZMA ★

39th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

GAS STATION BILL PASSES HOUSE

My legislation to make tianeptine, also known as “gas station heroin,” illegal in the Commonwealth passed the House earlier this summer. As of June 30, only 18 of the 368 bills to pass the House this legislative session have been prime sponsored by a Republican.

Tianeptine, an antidepressant, can produce feelings of euphoria that mimic the effects of heroin and other opioids, making it highly addictive. Unfortunately, since I first introduced this legislation three years ago, the problem has only become more widespread. I have heard from individuals and families throughout the Commonwealth about the devastating impact this drug has had on their lives.

House Bill 377 would prevent the manufacture, delivery or possession of tianeptine, commonly sold by the names Zaza, Coaxil, Tianna or Stablon. Individuals convicted of violating the law could face penalties of up to five years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$15,000.

Tianeptine is a prescription drug in Europe but often sold as an ingredient in products sold in gas stations and online in the United States. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not approved it for use. U.S. businesses are selling it by labeling it not for human consumption or adding it to dietary supplements. In April, Fayette County Coroner Bob Baker called for a nationwide ban after his county experienced its first overdose due to the drug.

Fifteen states, including Connecticut, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Tennessee, have passed identical laws.

The bill now goes to the Senate for its consideration.



*Century III Mall was the focal point of the South Hills for years, as it was at one time the largest shopping mall on this side of the country. I will continue to fight for new retail, so **our kids** can enjoy what we once did.*

WORK CONTINUES TO REDEVELOP CENTURY III MALL

Redevelopment and economic development in the 39th Legislative District and surrounding areas continue to be a priority of mine. I'm happy to report my years of hard work on the former Century III Mall site finally seem to be paying off.

For a long time, a sketchy out-of-state company refused to cooperate resulting in sale offers for the former mall to fall through. Then I requested Allegheny County District Attorney Stephen Zappala to prosecute the owner for creating a criminal nuisance. After his involvement, we forced the company to pay for the \$5 million demolition of the blighted structure saving taxpayer's dollars. While the razing is a very positive thing for southwestern Pennsylvania, the job is not done.

I'm now working with Sens. Devlin Robinson and Nick Pisciotano and an out-of-state developer to have the site redeveloped. While the possibilities are endless, we need to make sure it fits the community as a new retail site instead of another data center.

I look forward to the day when the problems fade far from everyone's minds.

BRINGING MONEY BACK TO THE 39TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

My main motivation when I ran for office was to make sure the Mon Valley received its fair share of state funding for important projects and services. For far too long, we have been ignored. Since I was elected, I have helped secure more than \$111 million for the 39th Legislative District. These two pages provide further details on my efforts.

South Park – South Park Township

- Allegheny County – \$104,000 for Vale of Cashmere stream restoration.
- Allegheny County – \$200,000 for development of the Paul Riis Trail.
- Allegheny County – \$500,000 for development of the South Park children's playground.
- South Park Township – \$8,448 for the host municipality inspector program.
- South Park Township – \$450,000 for Wilson Park.
- South Park Township – PennDOT – \$600,000 for the Cochran Mills Road Bridge.
- South Park Township – \$200,000 in trout stocking.
- South Park Township – Youth and handicapped fishing area over Peters Creek donated through my salary.
- South Park Township – PennDOT – \$3 million for replacement of the Lick Run Creek Bridge.
- South Park School District – \$122,660 for a school social worker.
- South Park School District – \$35,000 for a school safety grant.
- South Park School District – \$133,486 for school safety and mental health.
- South Park Theatre – \$3,000 for general operating support.

West Jefferson Hills – Jefferson Hills Borough, Pleasant Hills Borough and West Elizabeth Borough

- Baw Plastics – \$20,000 for lighting.
- Clark Dynamic Test Laboratory – \$500,000 for an ED vibration table.
- Jefferson Hills Borough – \$550,000 for rehabilitation of Peters Creek Road.
- Jefferson Hills Borough – \$1,419 for a recycling performance grant.
- Jefferson Hills Borough – \$145,000 for SouthEast Regional EMS building and parking lot renovations.
- Jefferson Hills Borough – \$1,537 for a recycling performance grant.
- Jefferson Hills Borough – \$246,000 for improvements to Tepe Park.
- Jefferson Hills Borough – \$119,000 for playground upgrades at Beedle, Gill Hall Community and Andrew Reilly Memorial parks.
- Jefferson Hills Borough – PennDOT – \$31.23 million for work on Routes 2040 and 885.
- Pleasant Hills Borough – \$208,000 for renovations to the library.
- Pleasant Hills Borough – \$150,000 for the Saratoga Drive storm sewer improvement project.
- Pleasant Hills Borough – \$40,000 for a public works utility vehicle.
- Pleasant Hills Borough – PennDOT – \$14.42 million for milling and paving of Route 51.
- Pleasant Hills Borough – PennDOT – \$3.5 million for adaptive traffic signals on Route 51.
- SouthEast Regional EMS – \$300,000 for 12 power stretchers.
- SouthEast Regional EMS – \$26,925 for a garage door replacement.
- Steel Center Area Vocational Technical School – \$70,000 for a chill project.
- Steel Center Area Vocational Technical School – \$4 million for critical upgrades and renovations.
- West Elizabeth Borough – \$24,700 for building refurbishment.
- West Elizabeth Borough – \$220,000 for demolition of 20 homes to address blight.
- West Jefferson Hills School District – \$181,331 for school safety and mental health.
- West Jefferson Hills School District – \$161,541 for school safety and mental health.
- West Elizabeth Sanitary Authority – \$55,250 for the Ferry Street lift station integration project.
- West Elizabeth Sanitary Authority – \$85,500 for replacement of the flat rubber roofing system.

Elizabeth Forward – Elizabeth Borough, Elizabeth Township and Forward Township

- Elizabeth Borough – \$252,503 for the South Third Avenue stairway project.
- Elizabeth Borough – \$200,000 to construct an ADA-accessible walkway between Riverfront Park and the boat dock and launch.
- Elizabeth Borough – \$100,000 for sidewalk reconstruction along Center Avenue.
- Elizabeth Borough Volunteer Fire Company – \$56,000 for a Ford Expedition emergency vehicle.
- Elizabeth Forward School District – \$1 million for the high school renovation.
- Elizabeth Forward School District – \$129,102 for an elementary school counselor.
- Elizabeth Forward School District – \$40,000 for technology support to increase safety monitoring.
- Elizabeth Forward School District – \$1.88 million to replace the high school auditorium.
- Elizabeth Forward School District – \$1.6 million for the HVAC system and boilers at the high school.
- Elizabeth Forward School District – \$143,361 for school safety and mental health.

- Elizabeth Township – \$109,000 for a pool liner upgrade at the Buena Vista Pool.
- Elizabeth Township – \$205,000 for the Boston Road improvement project.
- Elizabeth Township – \$150,000 for WMBU Club building improvements.
- Elizabeth Township – \$117,000 for the Buena Vista Volunteer Fire Department recreational facility.
- Elizabeth Township – \$60,800 for a skid steer.
- Elizabeth Township – \$100,000 for phase one of the multi-purpose athletic field.
- Elizabeth Township – \$750,000 for work at the municipal complex.
- Elizabeth Township – \$139,000 for renovations to the Buena Vista Volunteer Fire Department.
- Elizabeth Township – \$862,000 for landslide and road repairs on Forest Hill Road.
- Elizabeth Township – \$300,000 for improvements to Richard Maha Park.
- Elizabeth Township – \$100,000 for upgrades to the municipal garage.
- Elizabeth Township – PennDOT – \$4 million for replacement of the Wylie Run Bridge.
- Elizabeth Township – PennDOT – \$13.4 million for wall replacement on Lovedale Road.
- Elizabeth Township – PennDOT – \$10.4 million for milling and paving of Routes 48 and 2037.
- Elizabeth Township – PennDOT – \$4.17 million for bridge rehabilitation on Sutersville Road.
- Elizabeth Township Fire Department – \$65,000 for emergency equipment.
- Elizabeth Township Sportsmen Association – \$30,000 for youth camp and facility improvements.
- Forward Township – \$127,000 for replacement of the existing boat launch at the end of Gallatin Tigers Road and improved access.
- Forward Township – \$198,110 for repair of Saddler's Hollow Road.
- Forward Township – PennDOT – \$2.95 million for replacement of the Becketts Run Bridge.
- Forward Township Volunteer Fire Company – \$98,735 for ADA-compliant restrooms.
- Forward Township Volunteer Fire Company – \$20,000 for a generator to create a warming station for area residents in case of emergency.



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR GRANT FUNDING FOR A PROJECT?

Contact my office at
412-382-2009.

Ringgold – Carroll Township, Finleyville Borough, city of Monongahela, New Eagle Borough and Union Township

- City of Monongahela – \$304,310 for the Mounds Park area storm sewer replacement project.
- City of Monongahela – \$147,000 for a streetlight project.
- City of Monongahela – \$100,000 for storm sewer improvements in the Mounds Park area.
- City of Monongahela – \$50,000 for preparation of an energy audit, design and loan application for efficiency projects.
- Finleyville Borough – PennDOT – \$3.5 million for replacement of the John Emerick Memorial Bridge.
- Finleyville Senior Center – \$2,551 for programming.
- Mon Valley Alliance Foundation – \$100,000 for the Monongahela and New Eagle Business Improvement Grant Program.
- Monongahela Senior Center – \$2,551 for programming.
- New Eagle Borough – \$200,000 for social hall building improvements.
- Ringgold Middle School – \$1,020 for a teaching artist residency.
- Ringgold Elementary School South – \$880 for a teaching artist residency.
- Ringgold School District – \$486,767 for school safety and mental health.
- Ringgold School District – \$150,412 for school safety and mental health.
- Union Township – \$166,740 for Pleasant Stream Park streambank restoration.
- Union Township – \$77,450 for Nike site building demolition.
- Union Township – \$192,888 for stream bank stabilization and restoration.
- Union Township – \$133,769 for replacement of the Snee Road Bridge.

Grants Through Fire Company and Emergency Medical Service Program

- Blaine Hill Volunteer Fire Company – \$63,426.
- Broughton Volunteer Fire Company – \$64,411.
- Buena Vista Volunteer Fire Company – \$36,640.
- Carroll Township Volunteer Fire Company – \$57,016.
- Elizabeth Borough Volunteer Fire Company – \$114,470.
- Elizabeth Township Fire Department – \$199,184.
- Elrama Volunteer Fire Company of Union Township – \$61,831.
- Finleyville Volunteer Fire Department – \$50,855.
- Floreffe Volunteer Fire Company – \$54,012.
- Forward Township Volunteer Fire Company – \$48,955.
- Gallatin Sunnyside Volunteer Fire Department – \$62,347.
- Jefferson Hills 885 Volunteer Fire Company – \$59,207.
- Library Volunteer Fire Company – \$44,949.
- Monongahela Fire Department – \$50,924.
- New Eagle Volunteer Fire Department – \$49,817.
- Pleasant Hills Volunteer Fire Company – \$45,408.
- SouthEast Regional EMS – \$160,000.
- Tri-Community Ambulance – \$55,000.
- Valley Inn Volunteer Fire Department – \$55,170.



I am committed to having local issues addressed. One concern brought to my attention was a road slide on Blythedale Road. Working with PennDOT, I was able to get the slide repaired so it is now safe for motorists.



State Representative
**ANDREW
KUZMA**
39th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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e-newsletter at
RepKuzma.com/Email-Signup

DISTRICT OFFICES

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717-260-6122



*When I return home from Harrisburg after legislative session,
it's great to see my family again.*



*Natalie and I checked out the annual Fleatigue on the Mon in
June. If you've never been, you should!*



*In the spring, I held a Scam Prevention Seminar. Many thanks to
state police Trooper Rocco Gagliardi for providing a lot of helpful
information.*



*I inserted language into Act 17 of 2025 to name the bridge carrying Gill Hall Road over Peters Creek
in Jefferson Hills in honor of Mayor Janice B. Cmar. Thank you to everyone who came out for the
dedication ceremony.*



*As a member of the House Game and Fisheries Committee, I headed out with my friends after
Thanksgiving to hunt in Clearfield.*