

## **Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program Applications Now Available**

Rep. Rosemary M. Brown (R-Monroe/Pike)

With property taxes being a very large concern in our area, many people are still unaware of this program. Please read through this article to ensure you are aware of this potential benefit. The state's Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is one of the many initiative supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery, which dedicates its proceeds to support programs for older Pennsylvanians. Forms for the state's 2016 program are now available online through the Department of Revenue's website, <u>www.revenue.pa.gov</u>, and paper forms will be available in my district office in the coming weeks.

Eligible participants can receive a rebate of up to \$650 based on their rent or property taxes paid in 2016. Eligibility income limits are set at the following levels, excluding 50 percent of Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and Railroad Retirement Tier 1 benefits:

- \$0 to \$8,000, maximum \$650 rebate (homeowners and renters).
- \$8,001 to \$15,000, maximum \$500 rebate (homeowners and renters).
- \$15,001 to \$18,000, maximum \$300 rebate (homeowners only).
- \$18,001 to \$35,000, maximum \$250 rebate (homeowners only).

If you submitted forms for the 2015 program year, you may already have received booklets in the mail. As a reminder, residents of the 189<sup>th</sup> District need not pay a private entity for assistance in filling the forms. My staff is ready and available to assist you at no cost. If you would like assistance with filing the form, please bring all necessary income, property tax or rental information that is required to complete the form.

Please call my office at 570-420-8301 if you would like a form mailed to you directly. Applications are due by June 30.

The program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians who are 65 years or older, widows and widowers 50 years or older, and those 18 years or older with disabilities. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded.

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