

news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

(412) 741-3912 (717) 787-2798

FOR RELEASE: Upon receipt

CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

January 5, 1973 - Representative James B. Kelly (R - McCandless), serving his second term in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, has been appointed to three Standing Committees: Ways and Means, Labor Relations, and Education.

It will be Kelly's second term as a member of the Committees on Labor Relations and Ways and Means; his first on Education.

"These committees," Kelly stated, "are of the utmost importance to the people of my district and of Pennsylvania.

"The state spends on education alone approximately one-third of its revenues. It's my belief," Kelly continued, "the Committee on Education, besides channeling so large a portion of state funds, is most directly related to the future of the Commonwealth. The strength of the state's education system will help attract and keep young people in the Commonwealth."

Kelly also has been appointed a member of the higher education sub-committee which is concerned primarily with state-related colleges.

As a senior member of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, Kelly plans to continue efforts on behalf of a more equitable tax climate in the state. All changes in state tax structure originate in the Ways and Means Committee.

The Labor Relations Committee will be active in pursuing ways of improving job opportunities in the state, particularly the western half where the job market has been depressed.

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news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

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FOR RELEASE: January 17, 1973

CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

January 15, 1973 - Scholarship applications for two special programs of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency are now available for distribution, Representative James B. Kelly (R - McCandless) announced today.

Under the two programs, Kelly stated, veterans and dependents of prisoners of war or those reported missing in action may apply for scholarship assistance for use towards academic tuition and fees.

Kelly explained that, by law, all veterans who have been considered in the basic State scholarship program and who may be eligible for an increased award in the Veterans Program will be given the opportunity to qualify for the final term of the 1972-73 academic year without filing a new application.

For consideration within the Veterans Program, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. He is not receiving financial support from his parents.
2. He was a Pennsylvania resident for 12 months prior to his service on active duty and has maintained his domicile in Pennsylvania since his release or discharge.
3. He has served at least 181 days on active duty, part of which is after Jan. 31, 1955, and has been released or discharged under honorable or general conditions.
4. He must comply with all other regulations of the basic scholarship program, except those inconsistent with the specific regulations of this program.

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1st & Last Add/Kelly - PHEAA

Requirements for eligibility within the second program, Kelly pointed out, for dependents of those who are or were prisoners of war or reported missing in action, are as follows:

1. An applicant must be enrolled in a program of at least one year in duration.
2. He must comply with all other regulations of the basic scholarship program, except those inconsistent with the regulations of this program.
3. The father must have been a Pennsylvania resident 12 months prior to his service on active duty and, if released, must maintain his domicile in Pennsylvania.

Applicants for both scholarships should write to the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency at 319 Town House Apartments, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jean Verlich (717-787-2798; 412-741-3912)

Harrisburg, January 16 -- The Pennsylvania House today unanimously passed a citation introduced by Representative James B. Kelly (R - McCandless) posthumously commending McCandless Township policeman Albert W. Devlin for his courage and dedication to duty.

The citation noted the collision last Monday evening between Devlin's police cruiser and a stolen car which fatally injured the patrolman.

Devlin's several accomplishments during his six years of duty on the force, including his three citations for meritorious service, were also mentioned.

Kelly summarized Devlin's accomplishments by saying that his community knew him as "a good husband, a good father, an exemplary citizen, and an outstanding police officer."

In his remarks addressed to the House, Kelly related the circumstances surrounding Devlin's death. "I bring this information," he went on to say, "to the attention of the House in tribute to Patrolman Devlin and as a reminder of the tremendous responsibilities borne by all law enforcement personnel."

The citation asserts that "the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, notes with sadness the passing of Patrolman Albert W. Devlin, posthumously commends him for his courage and devotion to duty and extends its heartfelt sympathy to his wife Lorraine, and four children."

Patrolman Devlin's wife will receive a copy of the citation.

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FOR RELEASE: Upon receipt

CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

February 12, 1973 - Representative James B. Kelly (R-McCandless) has been appointed to a task force of the House Judiciary Committee which will review Pennsylvania's penal system.

Appointed last week by Rep. Warren H. Spencer (R-Tioga), Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Kelly stated that the task force will thoroughly study the state's corrections laws and, if necessary, recommend their revision.

The Allegheny County legislator said, too, that "a primary concern of the task force will be the recent charges leveled by District Attorney Robert Duggan regarding conditions at Western Pennsylvania Correctional Institution."

Kelly has also been named to the Committee for the Award of Pennsylvania Medals for the 1973-74 Session. That committee determines the recipient of Pennsylvania Medals.

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news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

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FOR RELEASE: Upon receipt

CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

February 15, 1973 - Representative James B. Kelly (R-McCandless) said today that an extensive inquiry into law enforcement and the administration of justice in Pennsylvania will soon be initiated by a special bipartisan House Committee.

During a lengthy floor debate which preceded the February 6 passage of the resolution authorizing the inquiry, Kelly set forth the underlying reason for such a probe. "I think what we are facing here is resolving the question whether the public can have confidence in our law enforcement efforts in this Commonwealth. . ."

The purpose of the investigation, explained the Allegheny County representative, is to develop legislation and recommend means for the Commonwealth to better deal with the complex problems of crime and punishment at all levels.

"The scope of the investigation," Kelly stated, "was not spelled out specifically in the resolution, enabling the five-man committee to examine all facets of the law enforcement and justice fields."

The Republican legislator went on to say that certain areas of inquiry are probable, including:

"--Alleged wiretapping by members of the State Police of phones used by other State Policemen working with the Pennsylvania Crime Commission which led to the dismissal of the State Attorney General and State Police Commissioner.

"--Alleged influence and pressures exerted by organized crime on law enforcement agencies and personnel.

First and Last Add/Kelly
February 15, 1973

"--The recent failure of Western Penitentiary officials to report prison breaks to local police.

"--Published reports that a former deputy attorney general in the Justice Department appeared as a character witness for a convicted counterfeiter who has been linked with the drug traffic.

"--The effectiveness and accuracy of a national criminal information network which Pennsylvania joined in 1969. Recently the General Accounting Office in Washington charged that the FBI's National Criminal Information Center has no procedures for removing from the files arrest records of individuals who have subsequently been cleared of wrongdoing."

Kelly then asserted, "The fact remains that there has been a decline of public confidence in law enforcement and the administration of justice. It is to the ultimate restoration of that public confidence that the forthcoming investigation is primarily directed."

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Upon receipt

February 23, 1973 - Two Allegheny County legislators will visit Western Penitentiary Thursday (March 1, 1973) to become better acquainted with the institution and its prerelease and furlough program.

Representatives James B. Kelly (R-McCandless) and Joseph Rhodes (D-East Liberty/Homewood), members of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Corrections, will tour the facility and talk to its staff and the inmates.

Rep. Kelly said that he plans a thorough evaluation of the prerelease and furlough program.

"Certain questions must be answered in order to gain a proper perspective of the program," Kelly stated.

"For example, what criteria determine whether an inmate should be recommended and selected for prerelease status? And who in fact makes that final selection?

"The selection process," Kelly continued, "must be viewed from all sides and by all groups involved - the inmates, the correctional officers, and the treatment officers."

The Allegheny County Republican said he intends to take full advantage of this opportunity and spend as much time as possible talking individually to the staff, the correctional officers, and the inmates in order to obtain answers to his questions.

"If I am to gain a better perspective of conditions at the prison," Kelly said, "it is imperative that I talk to all persons concerned and compare their various impressions.

1st and Last Add/Kelly
February 23, 1973

"Much criticism has been leveled recently against Western Pen," Kelly added. "I would like to see just how accurate or inaccurate those criticisms actually are."

Similar visits are planned Thursday and Friday by other members of the Corrections Subcommittee to five additional correctional facilities in the state - Huntington, Rockview, Muncy, Dallas, and Graterford.

The legislators are conducting the visits to become better informed with the prerelease and furlough program prior to public hearings scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 1973.

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Representative Kelly plans to be available to the press immediately following the program at Western Penitentiary, approximately 3:30 p.m. More specific information will be forwarded to you as soon as it has been formulated.

news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

(412) 741-3912 (717) 787-2798

FOR RELEASE: Wednesday, May 9, 1973 CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

May 3--Representative James B. Kelly (R-McCandless) announced today that applications for State scholarships under the Title III program are now available for individuals planning to attend college during the 1973-74 academic year.

The Title III program, Kelly explained, covers those persons who graduated in or before 1972 and those who will graduate this year but did not take the Scholastic Aptitude Tests, or SATs.

According to the Republican State legislator, over 20,000 Pennsylvania students applied last year for scholarships under the Title III program.

Graduating Seniors who took the SATs as Juniors last Spring automatically received a State scholarship application from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency, Kelly said.

Depending on financial need, students can receive up to \$1,200 per year while attending a school in Pennsylvania and up to \$800 per year at an out-of-state school.

Kelly said that anyone needing the Title III Scholarship Application Form can obtain one by writing the Financial Aid Office at the school they plan to attend or by contacting him directly.

"Students can write me at 430 Beaver Street, Sewickley, or call 741-3912, and I will be glad to send them the necessary papers," Kelly added. "Or they can stop in at my office and pick up the forms."

The applications must be filed by May 31.

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news from jim kelly

State Representative - 28th District

(412) 741-3912 (717) 787-2798

FOR RELEASE:

CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

Harrisburg, May 7 -- Representative James B. Kelly (R-McCandless) today called for a blanket \$2,000 exemption from the State's 2.3 percent personal income tax as the best method of providing substantial tax relief for all Pennsylvanians.

Following House passage of a \$3.5 billion General Appropriations Bill, Kelly, a co-sponsor of the exemption plan, said this action could lead to eventual substitution of his \$2,000 proposal for the Administration's plan to cut the tax rate itself.

"Even a cursory examination of the arithmetic involved," he added, "shows that such a course is the only way we can ever hope to provide meaningful tax relief to all our citizens, especially those senior citizens living on a fixed income, the poverty stricken, and working college students.

"For example, a blanket \$2,000 exemption on all incomes would result in an immediate \$46 per year reduction in the individual income tax bill for all Pennsylvanians. And," Kelly added, "it would be within the guidelines of the State Constitution."

Continuing, Kelly said, "Thousands of people of all ages now living at or below the poverty level as well as the thousands of senior citizens whose fixed incomes come largely from interest on lifetime savings would receive substantial tax relief by eliminating most of them from State income tax rolls.

-more-

First & Last Add/Kelly
May , 1973

"The \$2,000 exemption would provide tax relief also to college students who now earn part of their expenses through summer and part-time employment yet, under the law, still must pay a State income tax on those earnings. Moreover, it would help meet any possible tuition increase.

"And finally, to the vast majority of Pennsylvanians, including union workers, who now pay taxes on incomes ranging between \$10,000 and \$15,000 a year, such an exemption would mean more than would reducing the tax rate itself."

Kelly explained that a tax rate reduction from 2.3 to 2.1 percent as suggested by the Shapp Administration would amount to savings of only \$30 for workers earning \$15,000 per year, which is \$16 less than the \$46 annual savings available through the exemption procedure.

"And on a \$10,000 a year income," he added, "the proposed tax rate cut would mean a savings of only \$20 as compared to the \$46 provided under the exemption plan. Actually it would take an annual income of \$23,000 before individual tax savings under both proposals would be equal.

"Now that the House has taken the first step by passing a General Appropriations Bill well within its previously imposed ceiling on State spending, I am hopeful that, when the time comes to provide tax relief, tax exemption will receive strong backing in the General Assembly by both parties."

Kelly said the total cost of the income tax exemption plan would amount to approximately \$180 million annually, well within the State spending ceiling established by House passage of the General Appropriations Bill.

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news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

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FOR RELEASE:

CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

June 6, 1973

Kathy Brandt

June 6, 1973 -- State Representative

James B. Kelly (R-28th District) has announced the appointment of Kathy Brandt as his new Administrative Assistant. She will be responsible for the day-to-day operation of Kelly's district office in Sewickley.

Mrs. Brandt, a 1968 graduate of St. Louis University, previously served in a voluntary capacity in Kelly's office.

Jean Verlich, Kelly's former assistant, has accepted a position with the Beaver County Times.

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news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

(412) 741-3912 (717) 787-2798

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT: ~~JEAN VERLICH~~
Kathy Brandt

June 7 ----- Rep. James B. Kelly (R-28th District) has been chosen a "Prominent Young Pennsylvanian" by the graduating class of the D. T. Watson Home for Crippled Children, Sunny Hill, Leetsdale.

In making their selection of outstanding persons under the age of 35, the seniors nominated Rep. Kelly because of his extensive assistance to the school and because of his general interest in the problems of handicapped children. Kelly's close association with the home and his near perfect attendance record in Harrisburg were noted as factors in his selection.

Kelly was honored during commencement ceremonies last Wednesday evening at the home.

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news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

(412) 741-3912 (717) 787-2798

FOR RELEASE: Upon receipt

CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

June 21, 1973

Rep. James B. Kelly (R-28th District) announced that forms are available for constituents wishing to apply for flood relief grants.

The Department of Community Affairs will administer the distribution of funds but cautions those seeking assistance that certain restrictions must be considered:

1. Business losses are not included in this program;
2. Farmers are not eligible under this particular grant;
3. Where flood damaged homes will be acquired by a public agency, there is no eligibility;
4. The maximum grant is \$3000, and the Department will decide if the extent of damage warrants complete assistance.

Although forms are available now in Rep. Kelly's district office, 430 Beaver St., Sewickley, reimbursement will not be made until after mid-September since the statute requires all claims must be received and processed before any payments are made.

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news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

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FOR RELEASE: UPON RECEIPT

CONTACT: JEAN VERLICH

August 10, 1973

Rep. James B. Kelly (R-28th District) has been appointed Chairman of the House Bipartisan Committee to investigate the existence and adequacy of legislation regulating private security guards.

The Committee, which will open hearings in the Fall, will seek to determine the necessity of additional legislation to regulate the training and activities of private guards. One of the concerns of the Committee is whether private security guards are entitled to carry and use lethal weapons, and whether specific shooting incidents can be attributed to guards overreacting or being unfamiliar with their weapons.

Rep. Kelly and the seven other members of his committee will seek to discover if the public interest will best be served by requiring certification of private guards upon completion of a training course.

Presently, no training is required by the State for private guards either in the handling of weapons, community relations, or knowledge of enforcement of laws and protection of citizens' rights.

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FOR RELEASE: Upon Receipt

CONTACT: ~~JEAN VERKICH~~
Kathy Brandt

August 23, 1973

Six publications from the Pennsylvania Insurance Department's series of "Shoppers Guides" are now available through the office of Rep. James B. Kelly (R-28th District). Designed to assist the consumer in making a sound judgment in the marketplace, each edition gives a comprehensive synopsis of information pertinent to various forms of insurance and medical care.

These publications are available on request from Mr. Kelly's district office by calling 741-3912.

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news from jim kelly

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FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT: ~~JEAN VERLICH~~
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October 17, 1973

A realistic ceiling on state spending is an absolute necessity if Pennsylvania's taxes on industry--highest in the nation--are to be brought down to a level competitive with other job-producing industrial states.

Such was the conclusion of Representative James B. Kelly (R-28th District) following the release of a detailed study of the state's tax climate conducted by the House Ways and Means Committee on which Kelly serves.

A 16 page memorandum to all members of the General Assembly and the Governor from the House Ways & Means Committee, took sharp issue with the Governor's charges that a two-stage reduction in the corporate net income tax from 11 per cent to 9 per cent would result in a "tax windfall for industry." Noting that Republican tax relief proposals call for "approximately \$2 of tax relief to individuals for every \$1 granted corporations, Representative Kelly said that "in no way can this breakdown be construed as a disproportionate windfall for corporations."

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Page Two/Kelly

Here are a few of the facts contained in the memorandum:

--Pennsylvania's 11 per cent corporate net income tax is 57 per cent higher than the average rate of six neighboring states, and New Jersey's rate-5.5 per cent-is 100 per cent lower.

--According to the Pennsylvania Business Survey of Penn State University, manufacturing employment fell by 124,000 jobs in the past three years. And from September, 1972 until March, 1973, a period of great national prosperity, non-agricultural payrolls increased twice as fast in the nation as in Pennsylvania.

--Investment in new plant and equipment in the state rose by 93 per cent between 1964 and 1969, but declined 7 per cent since that time.

--The percentage of total general fund taxes paid by Pennsylvania industry rose from 20 per cent in 1965 to 30 per cent in 1972. During the same period, New York's percentage declined from 24 to 17 per cent.

In conclusion, the report stressed the point that urgently needed tax relief for both business and individuals can only be accomplished by containing the recent astronomical rise in state spending, and that budget control and relief are inseparable.

Immediate

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November 9, 1973

Rep. James B. Kelly (R-28th District) has announced that Governor Milton J. Shapp has signed House Bill 30 into law.

H.B. 30, proposed in this session by Rep. Kelly, permits the payment of additional compensation benefits to unemployed parents of physically and mentally handicapped children over the age of 18. Previously, dependents' benefits had not been allowed for such individuals even though they were unable to support themselves and were forced to rely entirely on their temporarily unemployed parents.

Kelly's proposal had been strongly backed by the Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Children and the Secretary of Labor and Industry, Paul J. Smith.

news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

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FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT: ~~JEAN VERLICH~~ XXXXX

November 12, 1973

Following a year of persistent effort by Rep. James B. Kelly (R-28th District), the Environmental Quality Board has adopted an important new amendment to the State Park Rules and Regulations.

It was Mrs. Evelyn Schmitt of Pine Creek Road who took time to bring to Rep. Kelly's attention a long-standing rule which prohibited her physically handicapped daughter from using buoyant devices in park swimming areas.

Kelly enlisted the support of Department of Environmental Resources officials and petitioned the Board on behalf of Mrs. Schmitt and her daughter. Several hearings were held and a proposed new regulation was advertised in the Pennsylvania Record.

Last month, the Board held its final hearing and the new ruling has been published. Effective October 14, 1973, the new regulation permits handicapped children, supervised by an adult, to use Coast Guard approved buoyant devices.

Next summer, Pennsylvania's parks will have an added attraction for handicapped children thanks to Mrs. Schmitt and Rep. Kelly.

news from jim kelly

State Representative—28th District

(412) 741-3912 (717) 787-2798

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

CONTACT: ~~JEAN VERLICH~~
Kathy Brandt

December 11, 1973

The Pennsylvania Game Commission's 1973 edition of "The Game Laws", the most recent compilation of Pennsylvania Game Laws enacted by our Legislature, including those added or amended in the 1971 and 1972 sessions of the General Assembly, is now available through the district office of Representative James B. Kelly (R-28th District).

In making the booklets available for his constituents, Kelly noted that the Game Laws, as well as the rules and regulations adopted by the Commission, are aimed at providing adequate protection for our wildlife resources, under conditions which offer every hunter and trapper a fair and equal chance. The Game Law also endeavors to keep the sport of hunting and trapping safe for all those who participate.

Those individuals wishing to obtain a copy of the Game Law may contact Representative Kelly by phone at 741-3912; or stop by his office at 430 Beaver Street, Sewickley.

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