

# PA-07 District Primer

In 2024, Republican Ryan Mackenzie won this seat by just **4,062 votes**. Dems lost by *less than one vote per precinct*. That's close! If we can persuade just two voters per precinct, we can win this year. With your help, we're going to **FLIP** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

Key dates
<b>Filing Deadline:</b> March 10
<b>Primary:</b> May 19
<b>Midterms:</b> November 3

## Recent Election Results

2024 Presidential Election	2024 House Election	2022 House Election
<b>Trump: 209,881 (51.1%)</b> <b>Harris: 196,712 (48.9%)</b>	<b>Ryan Mackenzie (R): 203,688 (50.4%)</b> <b>Susan Wild (D): 199,626 (49.4%)</b>	<b>Susan Wild (D): 151,364 (51.0%)</b> <b>Lisa Scheller (R): 145,527(49.0%)</b>

## District Facts & Stats



### Largest Cities

- Allentown, pop. ~126,000
- Bethlehem, ~76,000
- Easton, ~28,000

### Geography

Stretching across four counties in the Lehigh Valley, the district includes Allentown, Easton, and most of Bethlehem and their suburbs. The northern part of the district is mostly rural and is tilted towards tourism and outdoor recreation.

### Citizenry

The district is majority white with a notable Hispanic population (21%). 3.1% of residents identify as bi-racial. Major industries include healthcare (~60,000 workers) and manufacturing, with major employers Lutron, Crayola, and Mack Truck in the district. Education, especially Northampton Community College and Lehigh University, is also a major employer. There is a strong union presence in both Allentown and Bethlehem.

### The Local Vibe

Trump's tariffs were blamed for the April 2025 downsizing at Mack Truck (3,000 people laid off).

The region received \$20M in federal funding from the CHIPS Act to support technology investment in 2024 under the Biden administration.

In June 2025, 1,600 people attended the No Kings Rally in Allentown, motivated cuts to Medicaid and SNAP. Another 1,000 people protested ICE raids in Bethlehem. In March 2026, several thousand people attended a No Kings protest in Bethlehem; other smaller protests held in several other places nearby were also well attended.

Indivisible Lehigh Valley is very active in the area.

The Lehigh Valley was hit hard by the opioid epidemic, with 471 deaths since 2021.

## Key Issues

- **Tariffs and job losses:** Tariffs have led directly to major plant closures in the district..
  - **Benefit cuts:** 18,000 people in the district have lost Medicaid coverage, and 32,000 are newly uninsured.
  - **Opioids:** The opioid epidemic is severe and ongoing in the Lehigh Valley.
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## About the Candidates

### Ryan MacKenzie | Republican Incumbent

**Ryan Mackenzie** is a first-term congressman, having narrowly beat Susan Wild in 2024. He previously served in the Pennsylvania House from 2012-2024 and has deep community roots and a history of bipartisan achievements in the state legislature. He's a member of the Education & Workforce, Homeland Security, and Foreign Affairs committees. He has opposed raising the minimum wage and has voted against collective bargaining.

Although Mackenzie presents as a moderate, he has aligned directly with Trump by campaigning at Trump rallies and questioning the results of the 2020 election.

In 2024, he received significant contributions and support from the Americans for Prosperity PAC, the Koch brothers' political organization. His campaign focused on economic issues. As of April 2026, he had \$2.5 million in cash on hand.

### Bob Brooks | Democratic Challenger

Nazareth firefighter **Bob Brooks** bested several rivals in a crowded primary, winning forty percent of the vote. Brooks is focused on affordability and changing the political system that was "designed by and for the rich."

As president of the Pennsylvania Professional Fire Fighters Association, Brooks helped negotiate fairer contracts, better healthcare and safer working conditions as well as a livable wage for Bethlehem's firefighters.

A first-time political candidate, Brooks has caught heat for remarks that cast Gov. Shapiro in an unflattering light and for inflammatory Facebook posts, which he has since disavowed, about the 2020 murder of George Floyd. His staff includes people from the Mamdani campaign in NYC, which ran a highly effective canvassing operation.

He is endorsed by scores of local and national leaders including Gov. Josh Shapiro, Sen. Bernie Sanders, and former Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg; he is endorsed by the Working Families Party and the Blue Dog PAC, by many unions including the SEIU, the Teamsters, the International Association of Fire Fighters. As of April 2026, he had less than \$300,000 on hand, but these major endorsements should boost his fundraising.

**The contrast:** The incumbent claims to be a moderate but has refused to hold Trump accountable. Instead, he has voted for his tariffs and his disastrous military adventurism. He's also anti-labor, a liability in this historically heavily working-class district. As a pro-labor candidate who is seeking to hold Trump accountable for his criminality and ineptitude, Bob Brooks is in step with his constituents and his district.