



# Capitol Recap

*A comprehensive review of the day's events in the Pennsylvania Capitol*

Volume 5 Number 307  
April 17, 2018

At 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 the Senate stands in recess until Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 11:00 a.m., unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore.

At 4:41 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 the House stands adjourned until Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 11:00 a.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

## UPCOMING SESSION DAYS

### House

Apr 18, 30  
May 1, 2, 22, 23  
June 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13,  
18-21, 25-30

### Senate

Apr 18, 23, 24, 25  
May 21, 22, 23  
June 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13,  
18, 19, 20, 25-30

## CONTENTS

AROUND THE ROTUNDA	1
COMMITTEE NEWS	12
NEW LEGISLATION	29
LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS	31
EXECUTIVE ACTIONS	53
UPCOMING MEETINGS	53

Provided by Pennsylvania  
Legislative Services  
240 N. 3rd St. 6th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717.236.6984 phone  
717.236.5097 fax  
www.mypls.com

## AROUND THE ROTUNDA

*PLS coverage of Capitol events including press conferences, bill signings, & media availabilities*

### PENNSYLVANIA HEALTH ACCESS NETWORK VOICES CONCERNS ON NEW TAX LAW

By Mike Howells, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 17, 2018

The Pennsylvania Health Access Network (PHAN) today released a report produced by Americans for Tax Fairness and Health Care for America Now assessing the impact of the newly passed federal tax law on Pennsylvania residents.

Patrick Keenan, director of Policy and Consumer Protections for PHAN, said the wealthiest this year are going to be collecting even more as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, and state residents should be questioning how corporate tax cuts are going to be paid for.

Keenan contended the balance in fact will fall “squarely on the shoulders of working-class Pennsylvanians, and the safety net that they rely on.”

“We have to answer how we are going to address the new debt that they are going to create,” he said of the tax cuts.

Keenan said the new report shows that not only is the new tax law unfairly generous to big businesses and Wall Street, but also shifts more burdens onto individual Pennsylvanians. The richest one percent of state residents will receive 27 percent of the state’s total tax cut, Keenan said, while those in the bottom 60 percent will get just 12 percent, averaging about \$400.

He added the repeal of certain provisions of the Affordable Care Act included in the tax law will increase the number of uninsured Pennsylvanians by 105,000 and drive up premiums for continuing enrollees.

Marc Stier, director of the Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center, emphasized that the tax cuts are “extraordinarily skewed” toward the top one percent of earners.

“These tax cuts were sold as a way of spurring economic growth,” Stier said, but contended that is not happening in reality. He said that investments are not going up and corporate plans remain largely unchanged from a year ago.

“Very few corporations have called for higher wages,” Stier said, and among those employees who have seen a benefit, many are getting one-time lump sum bonuses rather than raises. He indicated the bulk of investment has been in the form of stock buybacks and dividends.

“If we really want to generate economic growth, we’ve got to increase economic demand,” he said, adding any tax cuts should be focused on the middle class.

Ann Saunders, public policy advocate for hunger nonprofit Just Harvest, discussed the implications for the Farm Bill in its proposed renewal issued last week. She said there are proposed cuts to benefits as well as to eligibility that would target low-income workers.

Additionally, Saunders said work requirements and sanctions would also effectively cut benefits to a wide range of individuals.

“This is sort of a way to pay for these tax cuts,” Saunders said of the cuts proposed in the Farm Bill. She added work requirements at the state level are also being considered.

Pastor Tim Johansen from Temple Lutheran Church in Havertown discussed the opioid crisis and the lack of resources to combat addiction.

“It makes no sense to make cuts to Medicaid” in the context of the crisis, he said. “It really makes me wonder what it is that we worship.”

James Luby, a Medicaid consumer from Scranton, discussed how the program has helped him deal with an adult diagnosis of Asperger’s.

“I’m the everyday, real face of this condition,” he said, adding that thanks to Medicaid he has access to a therapist, medication, and preventive care.

Luby said that provides not only a safety net, but a solid foundation for being a productive citizen.

“What’s going on is a direct attack on me,” Luby said. He said work requirements have already caused him to lose his SNAP benefits, because his job does not comply with what he called “a very narrow standard.”

Luby criticized work requirement bills moving through the House for their lack of funds for things like job training and daycare.

“I’m the human consequence,” he said of the tax bill.

The new report is available [here](#).



## **LEGISLATIVE NUCLEAR ENERGY CAUCUS DISCUSSES POWER PLANT CLOSURES**

By Kimberly Howells and Jenna Wise, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 17, 2018

[Video](#)

The Legislative Nuclear Energy Caucus met Tuesday morning to discuss the economic and environmental benefits of the state’s nuclear power plants, as well as the negative impact of shutting these plants down.

Members in attendance included Rep. Jim Marshall (R-Beaver), Rep. Tom Mehaffie (R-Dauphin), Sen. Ryan Aument (R-Lancaster), Rep. Rob Matzie (D-Beaver), Rep. Becky Corbin (R-Chester), Sen. John Yudichak (D-Luzerne), Rep. Tom Quigley (R-Montgomery), Sen. Elder Vogel (R-Beaver), Rep. Bob Godshall (R-Montgomery), Sen. John Rafferty (R-Montgomery), and Sen. Scott Wagner (R-York).

[Don Moul](#), president and chief nuclear officer of First Energy Solutions Generation Companies, announced that two of his company’s power plants filed deactivation notices for all services on March 28. The deactivation process will take place over the next two years, and will hinge upon the amount of financial support the plants receive from the state and federal governments. Moul claimed that his company is one of the largest employers in Beaver County, powering more than 1 million homes. The plants employ about 1,000 people, with \$120 million spent a year on payroll. He added that the company’s labor costs are among the most effective in the country.

Moul highlighted the problems facing the nuclear energy industry, including a downward trend in energy prices. Although the company’s capability factor has steadily increased since 2014, the plants’ reactors remain at risk of a premature shutdown. In the past five years, the industry’s average performance has improved; however, domestic energy is facing competition

from renewable energy sources and low-priced natural gas. Moul pointed out that the nuclear energy crisis is “not a bottom line problem, but a top line problem.” He added that nuclear plants have closed in approximately a dozen restructured states. Moul mentioned that four plants in New York and Illinois will continue to operate with state programs that aim to preserve nuclear plants.

[Debra Raggio](#), senior vice president of regulatory and external affairs counsel at Talen Energy, said her company has about 16,000 megawatts of generation in Pennsylvania, and is the largest generation portfolio in the commonwealth. Talen employs about 1,000 full-time union, non-union nuclear and trade craft professionals, and hires an additional 2,000 contractors to support each plant’s annual refueling and maintenance outage. Raggio argued that the state needs to look at the attributes of nuclear assets if it truly values nuclear energy. She pointed out that state and federal policies do not recognize all available clean energy resources.

[Kathleen Barron](#), senior vice president of competitive market policy at Exelon, claimed that Pennsylvania is only second to Illinois in regard to production, and argued that nuclear plants are critical to the economy. She mentioned that Exelon stopped investing capital at its sites and plants to decommission one site in September 2018. Barron said the state has spent billions of dollars investing in clean energy, and added that it would take more than 15 years to replace the combined lost zero-emission production from Harrisburg’s Three Mile Island (TMI) and Beaver Valley. She argued that there has been an overwhelming amount of support for a nuclear support bill that was put on the ballot in New Jersey. The bill received bipartisan support from the majority of New Jersey Republicans and Democrats.

Sen. Ryan Aument (R-Lancaster) asked the panel to provide background information on claims made by people who oppose nuclear energy in the state and across the country. These claims were made in the midst of “intense lobbying” for the oil and gas industry, and relate to claims made that nuclear plant operators have already been paid for stranded costs, and wasted money when they should have invested in their plants to make them more competitive. Moul said these claims are disingenuous, and argued that the stranded costs were part of an overall deal that capped energy rates over time that more than covered the allocation of the stranded costs, and were given back through capped costs. Barron mentioned that the purpose of stranded costs was to ensure that costs were able to be retrieved before a plant’s sale occurred, but that the issue moving forward relates to the cost of running the plants.

Sen. Aument also wanted to know if the issues facing TMI and Beaver Valley are isolated. Moul claimed that the issues facing both plants are common in restructured plants across the country. He argued that significant issues will arise if the nuclear plants are forced to shut down. Raggio mentioned that her company’s plants have not shut down, but her company maintains that this is not an isolated incident. Barron added that Exelon tried to warn people for some time prior to TMI’s filing of deactivation notices, but no one believed a serious problem was developing.

Rep. Robert Matzie (D-Beaver) wanted to know why the federal government did not try to help save the nuclear market. Barron claimed that the federal government saw the market, for the last 25 years, as something that worked. The market has developed incredible benefits for consumers, she said, and the government is picking winners and losers while not also thinking about the market’s future. Raggio added that the market’s environmental benefits are not the mandate, and believes there is a view that companies should let the market work and take advantage of bankruptcy laws. She mentioned that Talen Energy is fine right now, but may not be in the long-term future.

Rep. Becky Corbin (R-Chester) questioned if the panel would support looking for alternatives for the market if they are unable to consider the interests of nuclear power production. Moul emphasized that he would not turn down any opportunity that would help to keep the state’s nuclear plants in operation. Raggio agreed at Talen Energy would not turn down any opportunity to save nuclear energy in the commonwealth.

Sen. John Yudichak (D-Luzerne) wanted to know if the nuclear energy industry’s cost change was \$285 million. Barron retorted that this was an increase in customer energy bills. Sen. Yudichak then wanted to know if the environmental impact of nuclear energy is measured, or if the cheapest cost is of more importance. Barron claimed that the cheapest cost is considered more important.

[Dr. Dean Murphy](#), principal of The Brattle Group, said his company operates four power plants that are located in Pennsylvania and Ohio, the first three being energy plants and the fourth being TMI. He argued that there is a sense of urgency to understand the impact of eliminating nuclear energy plants, whose retirements would be irreversible. Murphy claimed that air pollutants would increase by tens of thousands if the four plants shut down, subsequently setting back environmental goals by 25 years. Electricity prices would also increase for consumers, and would cause zero-emission levels to drop. He also pointed out that power markets do not necessarily allow nuclear plants to recover its full costs.

Sen. Aument asked if it correct that the loss of four nuclear plants will cost \$1.5 billion in PJM Interconnection and wondered who benefits from that. Murphy replied other generators would be receiving higher prices for the same output they would produce otherwise, plus more output to replace the lost generation. Sen. Aument commented that explains why there is such intense lobbying with regards to power generation.

Rep. Matzie said he constantly hears about air quality and called the numbers “staggering” regarding increase air pollutants if fossil generation increases. He suggested more environmentalists should join this caucus because nuclear power is clean. He called the statistic that lost nuclear undoes 25 years of renewable power is “scary.” Murphy agreed. Rep. Matzie also pointed out parts of Pennsylvania will never be able to take advantage of renewables and also discussed the energy security aspect. Murphy reminded him that keeping nuclear plants keeps electricity prices lower and pointed out that something with such environmental benefits is not as costly as one might expect. Rep. Matzie commented on the importance of job retention as well as job creation.

Rep. Corbin asked if this qualifies as a “corporate bailout.” Murphy replied it is not, commenting that markets are not a level playing field and thus some nuclear plants have been put in financial distress. He called this a way to correct for that failure of the market, provided it is implemented well.

Rep. Quigley questioned if the fossil fuel plants have the capacity to keep up with demand with the loss of four nuclear plants. Murphy cited a conclusion of PJM that it would not directly affect reliability because there is already sufficient capacity in place to accommodate the loss of several nuclear plants. He commented that if enough capacity retired without warning that issue could arise, “but it doesn’t seem that we’re there yet.”

Rep. Mehaffie praised the security of the nuclear plants and mentioned “all these regulations that are going on” and wondered how they can be competitive. Murphy said he has not looked at that issue, but agreed “level playing field is in the eye of the beholder.” He agreed the industry is heavily regulated and pointed out nuclear is not being supported for its environmental attributes like other industries. To keep those assets, he argued, it may be necessary to provide some level of compensation for those attributes, including zero-emission power and diversity of fuel supply.

Sen. Aument cited Murphy’s data that the loss of the four plants would lead to the loss of 3,000 full-time jobs as well as many secondary jobs, and wondered what the economic impact would be in the industries that replace these plants. Murphy confirmed that has been looked at in past studies and confirmed the nuclear jobs would be lost, but there would be gains in other plants. The research, he said, found an economic and jobs impact that includes getting a smaller number of jobs back than lost. He said there would be a very large net job loss, and pointed out many of the jobs would be lost in other parts of the economy unrelated to the power industry because producers and consumers would be spending more for electricity.



## **LEGISLATORS, FARM BUREAU PUSH FOR BROADBAND IN RURAL AREAS**

By Kimberly Howells, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 17, 2018

Legislators joined with farmers Tuesday to call for increased access to high-speed internet in underserved and rural areas.

Rick Ebert, president of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB), highlighted PFB’s lobbying efforts in the capitol today to discuss a variety of issues, including the need for investments in broadband and high-speed internet access in rural areas. He argued the push towards more online services is happening regardless of where people live and many farm families

cannot take advantage of online services like banking or telemedicine simply because they lack rural broadband. He pointed out that he has to go somewhere with service to get ahold of a veterinarian or machinery dealer. “The lack of investment in high-speed internet service is not simply a matter of convenience or entertainment for rural families,” he stated, but in some cases students cannot complete homework assignments and farmers cannot take advantage of online tools. Ebert related this need to that of the need for electricity in rural areas a century ago.

Ebert thanked legislators and Gov. Tom Wolf for making rural broadband a priority, and he called on all lawmakers to get behind the legislative effort and look for other solutions.

Rep. Kristin Phillips Hill (R-York) advocated for broadband access in rural areas, commenting that “artificial intelligence has infiltrated the family farm,” including an intelligent dairy farmer’s assistant which she dubbed “a Fitbit for cows.” She pointed out that students in rural areas are sometimes driving to school after-hours simply to access the Wi-Fi. Rep. Hill commented this is not just an education problem and said bringing broadband to underserved areas is about students who cannot do homework, patients who want to use a smartphone to check performance of medical equipment, entrepreneurs who want to realize a dream of owning a business, and farmers who want to be profitable in a challenging market.

Rep. Pam Snyder (D-Greene) said she has been working with Rep. Hill for two years to bring modern broadband to the 800,000 Pennsylvanians who currently lack access, most of whom are in rural areas. She said they have introduced a four-bill package to advance the effort, including:

- [HR 431](#), which urges the Auditor General to conduct an audit of the Department of Education’s administration of the Educational Technology Fund and to report the findings of the audit to the House of Representatives.
- [HR 429](#), which establishes a legislative task force on the delivery of high-speed broadband services and directs the Joint State Government Commission to establish an advisory committee to conduct a study on the delivery of high-speed broadband services in unserved areas and underserved areas of this Commonwealth and to report its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives.
- [HR 430](#), which directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee and the Joint State Government Commission to jointly conduct an audit and study on the compliance of nonrural telecommunication carriers with the Public Utility Code and high-speed broadband universal service deployment mandates and to report their findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives.
- [HB 1642](#) which directs Department of General Services (DGS) to conduct an inventory of State-owned communications assets and the use of communication towers for the development of wireless broadband services in unserved areas and underserved areas of this Commonwealth.

Rep. Snyder noted the first two resolutions have been reported from committee and was hopeful the other resolution and HB 1642 will move forward soon. She noted the inventory compiled under HB 1642 may enable the use state-owned assets to bring broadband to more areas.

She also discussed a recent [announcement](#) by Gov. Wolf to expand broadband access throughout Pennsylvania by 2022 and was pleased to have him join together in this effort.

Rep. Martin Causer (R-McKean), chairman of the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, stated broadband connectivity is not a luxury, it is a necessity, but “rural Pennsylvania has been left behind by a lot of the large service providers.” He noted he recently attended a conference at the White House on this issue and concluded it is clear progress can be made if everyone works together to coordinate and with proper resources. He credited the governor for allocating \$35 million from the Department of Transportation (PennDOT) for this effort.

Bethany Corson, a dairy farmer from Centre County, related the challenges she faces due to the lack of access to high-speed internet. She said they invested a considerable amount of time and money in selecting an automatic milker, but discovered that their satellite internet was not strong enough to run the robot. “We’ve got this fantastic piece of technology that will give us all the data we need...but we’re not able to access it unless we’re standing right in front of the machine and looking at it,” she lamented. They are also missing out on technical support, she added.

The challenges, she stated, are far beyond simply being unable to watch Netflix. “It is just frustrating,” she concluded.

Corey Grove, a York County poultry farmer, related the impacts of the digital-divide on his household. He said the farm is limited to whatever service is provided by the local phone company. He explained his new layer house is monitored by a computer, but at this time he cannot connect from his house to the computer at the farm. This is problematic, he stated, when something goes wrong and there is an alarm. Grove said technology allows farmers to thrive.

Rep. Rob Matzie (D-Beaver) and Rep. Donna Oberlander (R-Clarion) were also in attendance.



### **RCPA HOSTS ANNUAL CAPITOL DAY**

By Jessica Richardson, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 17, 2018

Members of the Rehabilitation and Community Providers Association (RCPA) rallied in the capitol Tuesday in support of health and human services providers.

President of RCPA Richard Edley explained RCPA is one of the most diverse associations and represents 250,000 staff in every district in the state. He commented it is important to fund direct support professionals (DSPs). Edley added RCPA's key budget concerns are insufficient funding for health and human service providers, addressing the waiting list for intellectual or developmental disability (IDD) services, minimum wage changes, supporting DSPs and providers, and fighting the opioid epidemic.

CEO of Lenape Valley Foundation Alan Hartl added that when Gov. Wolf announced the consolidation of the Department of Human Services (DHS) and Department of Health (DOH) he said it would modernize and streamline the system to provide better service. Hartl stated RCPA is supportive of the consolidation and encourages the administration and the General Assembly to create a design to implement the best agency possible. The budget proposal also included \$16 million increase for services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities; to provide services to an additional 800 special education students that will graduate in 2018; for 100 individuals with intellectual disabilities currently on the emergency waiting list; to the 25 individuals currently residing in the state centers; and an additional 40 individuals to be added to the adult community autism program, Hartl said.

Hartl continued that RCPA supports the waiting list initiative but only if sufficient funding for IDD services also is provided. He added RCPA supports the increase to minimum wage but it must be taken into account that it would significantly increase the cost of services, many of which are publically funded, so they cannot simply increase fees to absorb the costs. A minimum wage increase must be accompanied by increased funding, Hartl said.

Sen. Bob Mensch (R-Bucks) explained [SB 21](#) will help thousands of hardworking, capable people with disabilities find employment that suits their skills. He stated Pennsylvania has had the policy but lacks subject analysis within the system. Sen. Mensch said the proposal makes sure they work with the business, industry, and the nonprofit sectors to encourage them to hire people with disabilities into meaningful jobs.

Each year approximately 17,000 Pennsylvania high school students with disabilities graduate into the workforce, Sen. Mensch said. He stated people with disabilities are willing and able to work and this legislation is a commitment to provide them with opportunities they are asking for. Sen. Mensch added SB 21 along with its companion legislation [HB 1641](#) has strong bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

Sen. Mensch explained the bills would make positive changes by making a dynamic change in employment support for people with disabilities; placing a big priority on putting competitive employment opportunities for people with disabilities at the forefront of Pennsylvania policy; and encouraging agency and providing services to coordinate efforts to ensure state programs are provided into integrated settings.

“Individuals with disabilities deserve a real opportunity to be part of the Pennsylvania workforce, Pennsylvania economy, and to contribute to their communities,” Sen. Mensch said.

Rep. Dan Miller (D-Allegheny) commented he is happy to see so many people supporting people with disabilities but also support the people who support those with disabilities. He said the reality is DSPs are struggling to do their job and balance their individual needs at home. Rep. Miller stated they have a job that is incredibly important, life changing, and that the state cannot do without, but someone is more likely to get more pay working at a cash register. He clarified he is by no means demeaning those who work at a cash register, but it pointing out the proportion to importance.

Rep. Miller added if the state is going to shut down state facilities then they need to invest in the community based supports that allow people to live in dignity. He noted there have been hearings on school safety issues and though there are some links on a demographic chart that tie in aspects of mental health, the overwhelming majority of those with a mental health issue are no harm. Rep. Miller stated they cannot say that because someone has the diagnosis that is the reason for the act.

Rep. Kathy Watson (R-Bucks) explained RCPA is a diverse network that provides rehabilitation and quality care. She said 1 million Pennsylvanians benefit from the work they do and that does not include all the families who are part of those that benefit. Rep. Watson thanked them for their work because it does have a relationship to the House Children and Youth Committee as everyone starts out as a child.

Rep. Watson stated there is legislation from the committee reacting to the phenomenon of the opioid addiction crisis. She explained [HB 1539](#) is for temporary guardianship as there are 89,000 grandchildren being raised by 85,000 grandparents. Rep. Watson added [HB 2133](#) provides tools for those grandparents or other family members raising children. There are also eight bills revising adoption laws in Pennsylvania because families are going outside of Pennsylvania to adopt children because of the too cumbersome laws, Rep. Watson said.

Rep. Gene DiGirolamo (R-Bucks) added he is fully supportive of the super work they do. The problem with increased funding is how they are going to generate money to support all these programs that are desperately needed, Rep. DiGirolamo said. He explained Gov. Wolf wants to do that through a tax on Marcellus Shale and it is important to make that a priority for this year. Rep. DiGirolamo continued that another priority is focusing on Medicaid. He stated Medicaid is under attack in Washington, though fortunately they have been able to beat back cuts to Medicaid that have been proposed in Pennsylvania. However, there is discussion in Washington on block granting traditional Medicaid and block grant means less money coming into the state, Rep. DiGirolamo said. He stated 2.2 million people are on traditional Medicaid in Pennsylvania. Another issue is work requirements for people on Medicaid as those on traditional Medicaid are children, adults in long-term care, or people with disabilities and there is concern with putting them through that, Rep. DiGirolamo.

“Keep up the good work and I just want to let you know that you have a lot of supporters up here in the legislature in Harrisburg,” Rep. DiGirolamo said.

Hartl brought the conversation to a public health concern that all RCPA organizations must be prepared to address. He said suicide resulted in the loss of nearly 45,000 lives in the United States in 2016 and the rate has been increasing in the last decade. Hartl explained Prevent Suicide Pennsylvania has a public service announcement contest and two of the winners are present. He stated Alyssa Snook and Desiree Spicher from Penns Valley High School won first place in the poster contest, and Hayley Keys and Sam Brandt from Northern High School won first place in the 60 second video contest.

Snook explained the poster began as a 28-point health project. She said she is very passionate about the subject as she has struggled with self-image and self-harm. Snook stated it is important to educate people on how they can seek help. Keys added when she was approached about the project she was going through therapy for depression and anxiety. She encouraged everyone to reach out to others.

“Remember, there is strength in the diversity of RCPA and there is strength in our numbers,” Edley said.



## **NURSE PRACTITIONERS RALLY FOR FULL PRACTICE AUTHORITY**

By Andre Dienner, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 17, 2018

A group of nurse practitioners held a press conference Tuesday in the Main Rotunda to rally for [SB 25](#) and [HB 100](#), which would permit full practice authority for qualifying nurse practitioners. Speakers focused on how the change would improve health care access for Pennsylvania residents.

Adele Caruso, president of the Pennsylvania Coalition of Nurse Practitioners, referenced the large amount of practitioners in attendance to say they love their work and are here for one reason; to serve patients. She stated the finish line is in sight and legislative efforts are coming to fruition for full practice authority, referencing new studies and policies which recommend empowering nurse practitioners as she said they are largely educated to provide primary care. “The time is now,” Caruso emphasized, labeling the initiative as the answer to a health care shortage in Pennsylvania. She closed adding that Pennsylvania must keep pace with the movement by passing modern laws for nurse practitioners and if the state falls behind, patients fall behind.

Sen. Lisa Boscola (D-Northampton) discussed previous State Senator Patricia Vance who she said worked hard along with her to get something done for nurse practitioners and commended Sen. Camera Bartolotta (R-Washington) for her work. She mentioned she is proud to support expanding nurse practitioner’s roles and SB 25 was previously voted out of the Senate, elaborating the bill would allow nurse practitioners to operate independently after meeting requirements such as three years and 3,600 hours practice with a physician. Sen. Boscola noted that would be one of the strongest requirements in the nation and implored the House to take up the bill or move HB 100. She pinned the real issue as affordable and accessible health care, adding the bill would protect patients with requirements for training and preparedness while also addressing challenges in areas that have limited access to primary care physicians. Closing Sen. Boscola noted in her own experience her nurse practitioner is seen more than her doctor which should be available for everyone and again implored the House to take up the measure as 21 states and Washington DC already have.

Rep. Jesse Topper (R-Bedford) agreed with a “team approach to medicine,” drawing on his coaching experience to say this legislation puts nurse practitioners in a position to succeed and ultimately puts constituents in a position to succeed. He maintained the status quo is not his goal and this is “simply the right solution” for quality, affordable, and accessible health care in the state.

Rep. Thomas Murt (R-Montgomery) also voiced support for the initiative mentioning his wife has a Ph.D. in nursing and was a neo-natal intensive care nurse. He said 58 million Americans live in areas with primary care shortages and Pennsylvania must meet that need by expanding the use of nurse practitioners. He also opined the bill would alleviate pressure on the “over-burdened primary care system” with a projected 30 percent increase in primary care from nurse practitioners if the bill is passed. Rep. Murt specifically outlined HB 100, saying it would allow them to provide health care free of administrative burdens and expand primary health care to all areas. He reiterated 21 states and Washington DC have already passed similar legislation and voiced support for the cause.

Joanne Grossi, state president of AARP Pennsylvania, advocated for full scope of authority for nurse practitioners saying it would improve consumer access and choice of health care providers and better access to high quality care. She highlighted how nurse practitioners already have the training and skills necessary to provide the care, and called for Pennsylvania to be the next state to allow this measure. On AARP, Grossi explained her organization is fighting for that end especially for older people who need care at home and want to stay out of costly nursing homes, especially in rural areas. She added the most common concerns “have not materialized” in other states and the status quo is failing too many people, urging passage of HB 100.

Rep. Pamela DeLissio (D-Montgomery) was also in attendance.



### **THIRD ANNUAL MUSLIM CAPITOL DAY HELD**

By Andre Dienner, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 17, 2018

The third annual Muslim Capitol Day was held Monday in the Main Rotunda by the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR).

Wasiullah Mohamed, Emgage, began the press conference by introducing two students who led a recitation of the Quran.

Jacob Bender, executive director of CAIR Philadelphia, explained the event should not “raise eyebrows” and should instead be normative. He remarked, however that we live in times where an entire group is condemned for their faith and put on watch lists and travel bans because of their religion. He said the Muslim community and its allies will not be silent in the face of hate, bigotry, misquotation, and prejudice against them, and will announce they are brothers and sisters in America.

Adila Hasan, Emgage Harrisburg, drew on the Quran which says all mankind has been created by God and made into nations and tribes “in the sight of the almighty” to say Muslims believe there is no distinction amongst people and all are equal. She said Muslims are “living and breathing this notion of we the people” and embody the values of the constitution, adding there are hundreds of thousands of Muslims in Pennsylvania and millions across the nation who are an “integral part of the American fabric” and protected as an American and human being. Hasan said the American dream that brought her to the U.S. was about freedom and equality but that is in doubt today, and she worries about the kind of America her children are growing up in due to compromised freedoms and protections. She stated a few people in power choose “the language of hate,” the right to bear arms has morphed into the right to bear weapons of war, and a principal of compassion and mercy has been abandoned. “It’s time we as Americans take back the narrative,” Hasan closed. “The time has come for us to bring back the right people to represent us in our house. It’s time to educate ourselves,” also adding the right to vote must be exercised.

Alaau Muhsin emphasized he speaks as an American citizen and the country has benefited from diverse cultural lifestyles and the wisdom of others around the world. He added Muslim American citizens believe in the land, flag, and wonders of God and are here to form alliances to show young students that this country is great because of its “multiplicity of life” and its laws which show each person has the right to be treated equally. He clarified his goal is not just promoting the Muslim religion but rather “human liberation,” also reciting the pledge of allegiance to say the country is great because of its allegiance to the republic as well as God. Muhsin maintained America has in writing universal protection for all human beings but it is a work in progress to remove all discrimination and fight for the “human liberation movement.”

Tiffany Chang-Lawson, executive director of Gov. Wolf’s advisory commission on Asian-Pacific American Affairs, and Jalila Parker, executive director of Gov. Wolf’s advisory commission on African American Affairs, took turns speaking on Gov. Wolf’s commitment to minority populations and his efforts to ensure state government is accessible and accountable to the communities it represents. They said diverse communities are an integral part of the state and contribute greatly by sharing in culture and traditions, and drew on annual dinners welcoming Muslim community leaders as one way the governor is working to achieve an inclusive environment for all Pennsylvanians.

Rep. Patty Kim (D-Dauphin) discussed the Muslim community in her district which she indicated taught her the value of public service, promoting peace, to be kind and love one another, and is an important part of her district. She said when that community hurts, all people must come together as a family. She also opined the Muslim community shows what discipline in faith is and her message is the Muslim community must share their struggles and successes with their legislators because they are part of their family and “we will be here for you.”

Timothy Welbeck, staff attorney for CAIR Philadelphia, explained it is his vision for a more just and equitable society. He reflected on comments by Martin Luther King Jr. to say he wants America to be what is said on paper where any religion or race is not subject to stigma or violence. “We will no longer hide, we will be proud of who we are,” Welbeck added, saying the fight to build a better society will continue.

Tarah Probst, mayor of Stroudsburg and candidate for Pennsylvania State Senate, said the Muslim community is important

and she does not want anyone to be discriminated against. She mentioned the Human Relations Committee in Stroudsburg, noting that it can help anyone who feels they were discriminated against get to court.

Rabbi Eric Cytryn, Beth El Temple, explained his grandparents came to America around 1900 and did not know the constitution or Declaration of Independence, but were familiar with the statue of liberty which included language of an embracing society for people who wanted freedom and diversity. He discussed promises of a better future in America and recited the poem The New Colossus by Emma Lazarus to say “we must stop being xenophobic” and instead assure the rights and safety of all who come to the US.



### **AICUP, STUDENTS RALLY FOR STATE GRANT FUNDING**

By Andre Dienner, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 17, 2018

The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP) held a press conference Tuesday in the Main Rotunda to call for increased state grant funding.

Mary Young, AICUP government relations advocate, emphasized the lobby day is important to ensure Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) grants are available to allow for a first-class education at private colleges and universities. She told students to relay to legislators why they chose a private college and their future plans to show the value of these colleges and the importance of continued grants.

AICUP president Don Francis said exercising the right to petition legislators is important for democracy to work. He thanked students for their civic engagement and relayed a message that PHEAA student grant funding has decreased in recent years which will continue if the governor and legislature do not intervene. He opined this decrease has been caused by three reasons including flat funding for student grants as proposed by the governor, PHEAA spending \$47 million less next year, and an act to allow distance education schools into the program which he clarified “is a good thing” but more money is needed as the number of students will increase. Francis summarized this will result in grants being cut as much as \$1,100, which demonstrates a need for additional money for the program even though many legislators are unaware of the issue. Francis specifically called for the restoration of PHEAA augmentation money and additional resources from the state “or grants will be cut.” Lastly he asked students to remind legislators throughout the day that PHEAA grants go to students with documented need in all higher education sectors and are the best way to reduce student loans.

Moriah Mauro, senior political science major at York College, explained it is her second year participating in student advocacy day and she chose York College because of its affordability, student-faculty ratio, and location. She added it was not her “dream school” but she does not regret her choice, especially considering her parents are putting four children through college which is costly without financial assistance. Mauro elaborated on what state grants have meant to her, mentioning that it has allowed her to get an effective education as well as pursue law school, which would not have been possible without the assistance unless she took on additional student loans. She summarized that state grants are a way for the state to invest in student’s futures so they can follow their dreams and eventually give back.

John Peters, junior at Lycoming College studying to be a teacher, said his education would not be possible without PHEAA grants and the Ready to Succeed Scholarship. He drew on his grandparents’ experience with not having enough money to continue their education to say his education means the world to him. Peters outlined his personal story of his mother dying of breast cancer, his family dissolving, and subsequent financial struggles, but indicated PHEAA grants made it possible for him to experience campus life and a “support system” at his school as it has with many other students. On the grants, he explained students can pick where the money goes to best suit their needs and they can prevent students from working long hours, quitting sports teams, or dropping out due to financial hardship. Peters then praised legislators for their work in funding education, but called on them to not stop today and continue the “irreplaceable opportunity” of state grants to foster future leaders. He closed by imploring students to use their story to show legislators how they can continue to help students.

Young concluded the press conference stating Pennsylvania is lucky to have these students, and encouraged them to

contact their legislators even after the rally.



## **DELUCA PUSHES FOR COMMITTEE VOTE ON “GOOD GOVERNMENT” BILLS**

By Mike Howells, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 17, 2018

Rep. Tony DeLuca (D-Allegheny) today urged House State Government Committee Chairman Daryl Metcalfe (R-Butler) to allow votes on a package of “good-government” bills containing voting rights and government reform measures. Rep. DeLuca also decried growing divisiveness in the General Assembly, and said with two-thirds of House members up for re-election this year, voters need to question why legislation with broad support is not being allowed to come up for votes.

Rep. DeLuca said Republican committee chairs are “bottling up” good-government bills, to the detriment of the legislature at large. He recalled sending a letter to Chairman Metcalfe on April 6, 2017 asking to bring the bills up for a vote. To date, he said, that has not happened.

“It is incumbent upon us to do the best we can for the people back home,” Rep. DeLuca said.

The bills in question include:

- [HB 945](#), which provides for same-day voter registration.
- [HB 946](#), which provides for early voting.
- [HB 947](#) would require public officials to resign before running for other elected office.
- [HB 948](#) limits the income General Assembly members may receive from outside duties to 35 percent of their base salary.
- [HB 949](#) would impose additional financial disclosure requirements.

“These five bills accomplish two different but equally important things: they expand voting opportunities and hold public officials accountable,” Rep. DeLuca said.

Rep. DeLuca said the bills have public support and called for their movement out of committee so they can be debated on the floor.

“What are we afraid of,” he questioned. He expressed shock that Chairman Metcalfe does not appear to support a photo ID provision in HB 945 given his support of voter ID in general, and said it reinforces his contention “that some majority chairmen are only interested in moving bills that have special interest, and don’t benefit all people.”

Rep. DeLuca offered statistics on legislation passed with Democratic sponsors versus Republican sponsors, showing a lopsided proportion coming from Republicans.

He encouraged members the public to visit his [website](#) to send a letter to Chairman Metcalfe urging him to move the bills.

“No one has a monopoly on good ideas, and no one has all the answers,” he said. “Let members vote on the merits.”

Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski (D-Luzerne) said a bill of his is similarly languishing in House State Government.

[HB 427](#), formerly HB 208 of 2015-16 and HB 1044 of 2013-14, is an early voting bill. According to Rep. Pashinski, it is becoming impossible for many people to find time to vote on Election Day, and early voting would help people cast a ballot anytime within 30 days of a primary or general election. He said his bill has yet to receive a vote in any session.

Rep. Pashinski said he supports the concept that “we will do far more, and do far better, when we all work together.”

Suzanne Almeida, executive director of the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania, said early voting is essential, and registering to vote is one of the biggest barriers to actually casting a ballot.

Almeida thanked Rep. DeLuca for his leadership on the issue and in the fight for good government.

Micah Sims, executive director of Common Cause Pennsylvania, said the proposed bills are critical reform initiatives that would help restore faith in lawmakers.

"None of these bills are partisan driven, but people driven," he said, nor represent a "power grab" on behalf of their sponsors. He noted many of their provisions are being implemented in numerous other states.

"We can no longer afford to sit by and allow a few bad apples to spoil the bunch," he said, of a few lawmakers he said are looking to oppress the rights of the many in the Capitol.



## COMMITTEE NEWS

*Comprehensive coverage of House & Senate public hearings & voting meetings*

### House Appropriations Committee

*4/17/18, 12:45 p.m., Room 140 Main Capitol Building*

By Jeff Cox, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider bills.

[HB 504 Charlton, Alexander \(F\)](#) - (PN 3297) Amends the Insurance Department Act providing for self-service storage facility insurance. Allows the Insurance Department to issue a self-service storage producer license to an owner that has complied with the requirements of the bill authorizing the owner to offer or to sell the kinds of insurance prescribed in connection with and incidental to the rental of space at a self-service storage facility. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 530) - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1539 Pashinski, Eddie Day](#) - (PN 3311) Amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations), in standby guardianship, further providing for definitions and for scope and providing for temporary guardianship. Also in child protective services, further providing for release of information in confidential reports. Establishes temporary guardianship appointed when an individual who is a parent of a minor has entered a rehabilitation facility for treatment of a drug or alcohol addiction and is limited to no more than 60 days from the entry of the order. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1996) - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2133 Watson, Katharine](#) - (PN 3107) The Kinship Caregiver Navigator Program Act establishes the Kinship Caregiver Navigator Program in the Department of Human Services; and provides for creation of the kinship caregiver navigator website to provide information on support and services available to current kinship caregivers and prospective kinship caregivers. A kinship caregiver navigator shall: (1) Assist kinship caregivers with finding information for relevant Federal and State benefits, local supports and services; (2) Mediate with State agency staff or service providers and, when necessary, assist in establishing relationships between kinship caregivers and relevant Federal and State agency staff; (3) Work with the local area agency on aging and county agency to identify and provide outreach to kinship caregivers in need of additional services; and (4) Refer kinship caregivers to the appropriate county agency contact. Effective in 180 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[A06650](#) by Markosek, adds language providing that upon appropriation by the General Assembly of the funds necessary to carry out the provisions of the act, the Secretary of the Budget shall submit notice of the appropriation to Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. The amendment was **withdrawn**.

Minority Chairman Joseph Markosek (D-Allegheny) announced he was withdrawing his amendment. He described the

Kinship Caregiver Navigator Program as a “very, very good program.” Chairman Markosek added, “We all support this program.” He explained that his amendment was designed to indicate this program is very good and it needs to be funded. Chairman Markosek commented that sometimes in the legislature’s rush to do the right thing we forget where is the money going to come from. He added, “I don’t think any of us here really want to fund programs at the expense of other good programs.” Chairman Markosek said, “I think we need to make sure we have sufficient funds to fund all of these very, very good worthwhile programs.”



### House Children and Youth Committee

4/17/18, 10:00 a.m., 60 East Wing

By Kimberly Howells, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider [HB 2213 Moul, Dan](#) - (PN 3231) Amends the Human Services Code providing for the ability of adoptive families to appeal to the department the adoption subsidy amount provided by local authorities. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Chairman Katharine Watson (R-Bucks) explained the bill passed a similar bill already, but that bill was amended in the Senate. She said the hope is to send this bill back to the Senate to join the rest of the bills in the adopted reform package and she has been told the package as a whole will move in the Senate soon.

Rep. Dan Moul (R-Adams) confirmed this bill is exactly the same as [HB 59](#) when it was first considered by this committee.

Rep. Jared Solomon (D-Philadelphia) asked about a discrepancy between the use of the term “family” in the verbal description and “child” in the bill regarding who can make the appeal. Rep. Moul explained that the language was requested by the Department of Human Services (DHS). Rep. Dan Miller (D-Allegheny) explained a child would never act on their own behalf and would always have an attorney, but the parents may not even be a party. The one constant in these cases, he said, is the child which is why that is the standard.



### House Finance Committee

4/17/18, 9:30 a.m., Room 205 Ryan Office Building

By Matt Hess, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider legislation.

[HB 2040 Hennessey, Tim](#) - (PN 2974) The Senior Tax Reduction Incentive Volunteer Exchange Program Act authorizes public school districts to implement a senior tax reduction incentive volunteer exchange program. Effective immediately. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed with a request to re-refer** to the House Aging and Older Adult Services Committee.

[HB 1925 Peifer, Michael](#) - (PN 2717) The Senior Citizen Tax Reduction Incentive Act authorizes municipalities to establish a senior citizen tax reduction incentive volunteer exchange program that provides real property tax credits to participants in exchange for participants performing volunteer services for the municipality. Effective immediately. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed with a request to re-refer** to the House Aging and Older Adult Services Committee.

[HB 415 Murt, Thomas](#) - (PN 421) Amends the Tax Reform Code, in inheritance tax, further providing for definitions and proving that the inheritance tax upon the transfer of property and other assets either directly to a child with a disability or to a trust for the benefit of a child with a disability from a natural parent, an adoptive parent or a stepparent of the child shall be at the rate of zero percent. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was **reported as amended** with Minority Chairman Jake Wheatley (D-Allegheny), Rep. Mary Jo Daley (D-Montgomery), and Rep. Christopher Rabb (D-Philadelphia) voting in the negative.

[A06160](#) by Roe, aligns the definition “individual with a disability” with the one used most recently in the ABLE Account Legislation and Social Security Act. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Rep. Tom Murt (R-Montgomery), prime sponsor of the legislation, explained that there are around 14,000 adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities on the waiting list in Pennsylvania and many have parents in their eighties and nineties that are still caring for them. “Many of these people have waiting for decades to get a waiver or some sort of state funding for their care and at the present time when a parent wants to leave money in an estate for the care of their adult child with special needs they have to pay the inheritance tax,” he stated. “We should be willing to help those families and be willing to forego the state inheritance tax in order to assist in their care for their loved one.”

Chairman Wheatley inquired about the economic situation of families on the waiting list. Rep. Murt said he did not have the “financial profile” of every family. “I can tell you of the 14,000 families of the waiting list, most are very deserving in a financial sense and if we had the resources, most of them would be getting waivers and funding for their adult child,” he stated. Chairman Wheatley asked if the legislation would impact families beyond just those on the waiting list. Rep. Murt stated “that’s correct.”

Chairman Wheatley said he believes in the concept of the legislation but said he would be voting in the negative. “We’ve been talking with the administration and they would like anything that would impact the General Fund to be part of the budget decision,” he stated. “Personally and I assume the administration as well would not be necessarily opposed to help those struggling economically to try to figure this out but we should have anything that is going to take out of the General Fund should be part of the overall decision.”

Chairman Bernie O’Neill (R-Bucks) opined, “Sometimes we need to get a bill out there in discussion so it can be part of the final process.”

Rep. Frank Ryan (R-Lebanon) spoke in support of the legislation. “This is a very commonsense approach to provide some degree of relief,” he stated. “

Rep. Daley echoed the sentiments of Chairman Wheatley. “This is something we should hold until budget discussions,” she stated. “It seems to me we would be better served to create a plan for reducing the number of individuals on the waiting list instead of doing bills like this that may or may not benefit people who are on the waiting list.”

Rep. George Dunbar (R-Westmoreland) urged an affirmative vote on the bill but called for the total elimination of the inheritance tax. “Instead of piecemealing this, we should just eliminate it. A tax on one’s death is the most onerous tax we have,” he stated.

Rep. Rabb disagreed with Rep. Dunbar’s comments. “I wasn’t aware there was an impact fee upon dying the state of Pennsylvania. There are many Pennsylvanians who die with no money, who are not able to provide inheritance to anyone irrespective of how hard they worked in their life. I believe the inheritance tax is appropriately named,” he stated.

Rep. Rabb argued that there are better ways to help families in greatest need to help their adult children with special needs. “There are a number of categories that are just as deserving as these type of benefits,” he stated. “I know there is an outcry of support around getting rid of the inheritance tax. As an African American, for every dollar of wealth a white person has an African American has a nickel. That’s not because of a lack of hard work, or financial literacy, or lack of morality. That’s policy. We’re talking about picking winners and losers as it relates to the tax code; we have to really think about all the categories that could benefit.”



## House State Government Committee

4/17/18, 10:00 a.m., Room G-50 Irvis Office Building

By Jeff Cox, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

Video:  [\(click here\)](#)

The committee met to consider bills.

[HB 466 Marshall, Jim](#) - (PN 608) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) adding language granting to sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who have successfully completed the same type of training as municipal police officers the same powers as municipal police officers to make arrests, without warrants for all crimes and offenses including all offenses for all violations to Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses), Title 75 (relating to vehicles) and The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. Also provides the sheriffs and deputy sheriffs shall also have the same powers, duties, responsibilities and immunities conferred on municipal police officers generally and specifically under various sections of Title 42. Effective immediately. - The bill was **reported as amended** with the committee Republicans voting yes and the committee Democrats voting in the negative.

[A06262](#) by Metcalfe, eliminates the provision in the bill granting full powers, duties and responsibilities and immunities which municipal police officers possess to sheriffs and deputy sheriffs and retains the portion of the bill granting sheriffs and deputy sheriffs the power to make arrests, without warrants for all crimes and offenses when they are engaged in their county court related duties. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Chairman Daryl Metcalfe (R-Butler) thanked the Pennsylvania Sheriffs' Association and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) for working with his staff and others to develop the amendment adopted by the committee.

[A01592](#) by Bradford, adds language further providing for sheriff training and making a related repeal. The amendment was **withdrawn**.

[HB 1843 Grove, Seth](#) - (PN 2560) Amends Title 72 (Taxation & Fiscal Affairs) adding new language establishing the Financial Watch Program within the Treasury Department for the purpose of ensuring that Commonwealth programs do not expend money in excess of the amount appropriated to the Commonwealth programs. Provides information relating to the program and findings of the program to be placed online. Further provides for duties of the State Treasurer, duties of Commonwealth agencies, corrective action plans, and withholding of funds. Requires the House and Senate Appropriation Committees to hold a public hearing on the details of the finalized corrective action plan. Effective in 90 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as amended**.

[A06497](#) by Grove, removes the current language and inserts new language requiring agency budget documents submitted to the Office of the Budget to be placed on the agency's website; codifies the State Treasury transparency portal; and creates the Commonwealth checkbook. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Rep. Seth Grove (R-York), prime sponsor of the bill, argued that the bill as amended will "provide some of the greatest financial transparency as any state has had to date."

Rep. Pamela DeLissio (D-Philadelphia) wanted to know how this proposal is different than PennWATCH. Rep. Grove explained that PennWATCH will continue to be active and will still be available to everyone. He further explained that the State Treasurer's office is building upon its current transparency portal and this allows them to drill down into deeper detail.

Representatives Cris Dush (R-Jefferson) and Frank Ryan (R-Lebanon) expressed their support for the amendment and the underlying legislation.

Minority Chairman Matthew Bradford (D-Montgomery) commented that it is his understanding the Wolf Administration has some concern with the startup costs. He asked if the Treasury Department is in support of the legislation. Rep. Grove responded, "The Treasurer's Office is supportive of all the language on the transparency portal." Chairman Bradford reiterated that the Administration has a problem with the bill and it is a cost issue. He did add he believes the idea behind

the legislation has merit.

Rep. Mary Jo Daley (D-Montgomery) noted the amendment includes language that the implementation costs for the Commonwealth checkbook shall be paid by the Office of the Budget with unencumbered funds. She wanted to know if the Wolf Administration was included in any discussions related to the legislation. Rep. Grove responded, "No." Rep. Daley asked if there was a reason they were not included in any of the discussions. Rep. Grove again responded, "No." Rep. Daley commented that was interesting considering they are opposed to the bill relating to costs. Regarding the unencumbered funds, Rep. Grove reported the Office of the Budget is currently sitting on \$10 million of expended dollars from previous years. He said they have the money in order to implement the checkbook. Rep. Grove pointed out the system is already in place and the legislation just expands who has access to it.

Chairman Bradford commented that there is support to report the bill but there is a need to "rope in the Administration" before support the legislation on the floor.

[HB 1642 Hill, Kristin](#) - (PN 2332) The Communications Assets and Wireless Broadband Services Act requires the Department of General Services to conduct an annual inventory of all communication towers, poles, buildings, facilities and other assets owned by a commonwealth department, agency, board, commission or other entity. Also requires the department to leverage existing State-owned assets for the provision of high-speed broadband to unserved areas and underserved areas. Provides the inventory shall be made publicly available to persons or private entities who wish to install or collect wireless facilities to provide high-speed broadband services within the commonwealth. Further provides for the lease or conveyance of communication towers. Also provides for departmental guidelines; approvals; and request for proposals. Effective immediately. - The bill was **passed over**.

Chairman Metcalfe explained that the bill was being passed over while an amendment is being drafted. He told committee members he plans to have an off-the-floor meeting later today or possibly tomorrow to consider the legislation.



### **House State Government Committee**

*4/17/18, 1:30 p.m., 205 Ryan Office Building*

By Kimberly Howells, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider bills.

[HB 1642 Hill, Kristin](#) - (PN 2332) The Communications Assets and Wireless Broadband Services Act requires the Department of General Services to conduct an annual inventory of all communication towers, poles, buildings, facilities and other assets owned by a commonwealth department, agency, board, commission or other entity. Also requires the department to leverage existing State-owned assets for the provision of high-speed broadband to unserved areas and underserved areas. Provides the inventory shall be made publicly available to persons or private entities who wish to install or collect wireless facilities to provide high-speed broadband services within the commonwealth. Further provides for the lease or conveyance of communication towers. Also provides for departmental guidelines; approvals; and request for proposals. Effective immediately. - The bill was unanimously **reported as amended**.

Rep. Jeff Wheeland (R-Lycoming) pointed out that sometimes the state uses county assets and wondered if that will be part of the inventory, noting that is occurring in Lycoming County. Rep. Kristin Phillips Hill (R-York) replied if the asset is owned by a county or municipality it would not be included in the inventory; this only addresses state-owned assets. She added, however, that counties and municipalities could play an important part in the deployment of high-speed internet but they would not be compelled to do so under this bill. Rep. Wheeland suggested discussions to modify the bill to include state assets on a tower that the state does not own. Rep. Hill reiterated it would only be state-owned assets, but was happy to have conversations to leverage any assets to further deploy broadband access.

[A06825](#) by Hill, was said to be a cleanup effort and to improve the process of businesses leasing an asset. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Rep. Hill explained her amendment is the result of work with the department and indicated much of it is the result of an effort to clean up the language. It also assures that the process of a business leasing an asset is not onerous or burdensome, she noted, by addressing the 20-legislative-days provision.

Rep. Pam DeLissio (D-Philadelphia) appreciated the language that cleans up the fact that this does not have to come back to the legislature for the purpose of approving licensing plans and similar items.

On the bill as amended, Rep. Cris Dush (R-Jefferson) expressed his appreciation for the bill and noted that Indiana County has done a good job of leveraging assets. He opined an inventory to expand access is very important.



### **Senate Finance Committee**

*4/17/18, 1:58 p.m., Rules Committee Conference Room*

By Andre Dienner, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider [SB 1056 Brooks, Michele](#) - (PN 1509) Amends the Tax Reform Code, in corporate net income tax, further providing for definitions. The stated intent of the bill is to align state law with federal law's 100 percent bonus depreciation. Effective immediately. - The bill was **reported as amended** with Senators Jay Costa (D-Allegheny), Art Haywood (D-Montgomery), and Vincent Hughes (D-Philadelphia) voting in the negative.

Sen. Michelle Brooks (R-Mercer) described the bill as very "pro-business" and stated Pennsylvania cannot be the only state to not allow bonus depreciation.

[A06472](#) by Browne, excludes section 168(k) (special allowance for certain property) from applying to the depreciation of property to avoid the allowance of bonus depreciation. The amendment was **adopted** with Senators Costa, Haywood, and Hughes voting in the negative.

On the amendment, Sen. Costa asked for a no vote due to impacts on the General Fund budget which he pinned at \$20 to \$40 million this year and rising to \$120 million or more going forward, saying it should be a part of the overall budget discussion instead.

Sen. Patrick Browne (R-Lehigh), on fiscal implications, said this only brings revenue back to where it was and results in revenue neutrality if you also include the governor's tax bulletin, summarizing it can be accommodated because it only offsets.



### **Senate State Government Committee**

*4/17/18, 12:00 p.m., Room 8E-A East Wing*

By Matt Hess, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider bills.

[SB 595 Folmer, Mike](#) - (PN 912) Amends Title 57 (Notaries Public), in revised uniform law on notarial acts, defining "audio-video communication" and further providing for personal appearance required and for identification of individual by allowing notarial acts to occur via means of audio-video communication. Provides for journal entries for audio visual communications; requires the Department of State to publish proposed regulations regarding performance of notarial acts by means of audio visual communication within eighteen months. The amendment or addition of section 327(a) and (c) of the act are effective immediately the remainder is effective on the date of publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking in the Pennsylvania Bulletin under section 327(c). (Prior Printer Number: 699) - The bill was unanimously **re-reported as amended**.

Chairman Mike Folmer (R-Lebanon), prime sponsor of the legislation, said the goal of introducing the bill was to bring the notarization process into the 21st century. He explained that the bill was reported out of the State Government Committee last year but was re-referred to the committee to hold a public hearing and to make changes in order for the legislation to

align with the federal work of the Uniform Law Commission's Drafting Committee. "One thing that makes Pennsylvania a little different is we ensure the Department of State promulgates regulations on electronic notarization and does so in a certain timeframe. This recommendation was made by stakeholders," he stated. "I want to extend my sincere thanks to all the stakeholders for their insight throughout the process and the Legislative Reference Bureau for all their work on the amendments. I want to thank Pennsylvania's members of the Uniform Law Commission's Drafting Committee who attended the meeting and who helped us with this. I'm happy to continue the dialogue with all of you as the bill moves through this chamber."

[A06459](#) by Folmer, establishes a clear process for a notary public to perform a notarial act facilitated by communication technology relating to a statement made in or a signature executed on a record by a remotely located individual; establishes a process for when the remotely located individual be located outside the United States; requires notarial certificates to specify if an individual was remotely located; requires an audio-visual recording of the notarial act be retained for at least ten years after the recording is made; allows the Department of State to promulgate regulations regarding performance of a notarial act with respect to a remotely located individual and establishes standards for the regulations; and provides definitions. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

[A06827](#) by Folmer, is an amendment to amendment A06459; provides revisions to definitions; and makes clarifications and technical changes in order to align with the national model. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

[SB 299 Alloway, Richard](#) - (PN 1636) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code, in nomination of candidates, further providing for number of signers required for nomination petitions of candidates at primaries adding that for office of magisterial district judge 100 signatures is required, but only for a candidate's primary election when the candidate does not already hold the office of magisterial district judge. A sitting magisterial district judge elected to the office shall not be required to file a nominating petition to run for the office of magisterial district judge but may instead file a certificate of nomination for reelection specifying the intent to seek reelection to the office. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[SB 1038 Costa, Jay](#) - (PN 1474) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code, in primary and election expenses, further providing for residual funds. Adds language to allow a candidate or political action committee that has terminated its financial activity to donate any residual funds to a nonprofit organization. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.



### **Senate Judiciary Committee**

*4/17/18, 11:30 a.m., Room 8E-B, East Wing*

By Kimberly Howells, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider legislation.

Chairman Stewart Greenleaf (R-Montgomery) announced most of the bills would be passed over because they need more work. He indicated they may be brought up at a meeting next week.

[SB 189 McGarrigle, Thomas](#) - (PN 178) Amends the Crime Victims Act adding that victims of crime have the right to not be excluded from any criminal or juvenile proceeding in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. 6336 (relating to conduct of hearings), unless the court, based on the record before it, determines that testimony by the victim would be materially altered if the victim heard other testimony at the proceeding. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

The chairman indicated this bill is in conjunction with other bills dealing with assessment proceedings.

Sen. Art Haywood (D-Montgomery) asked if the "materially altered standard" is recognized in the court. Patrick Cawley, executive director of the committee, said it is not a term that has been litigated but would go to the discretion of the judge to decide. Chairman Greenleaf suggested it is "more of a factual issue than a legal issue." Sen. Haywood also asked about the standard for "fullest attendance possible by the victim." Cawley noted options like video conferencing and said this, too,

would be up to the discretion of the judge.

[SB 1092 Mensch, Bob](#) - (PN 1577) Amends Title 18 (Crimes & Offenses) adding language further providing for the offense of endangering welfare of children to include an individual who commits a personal injury crime knowing the crime was witnessed, either through sight or sound, by another person who is less than 18 years of age and a member of the individual or other individual's family. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Sen. John Sabatina (D-Philadelphia) asked for clarification on the watercraft by DUI offense. Cawley noted the distinctions of homicide by vehicle while DUI and homicide by watercraft while DUI and said if a child is present that would qualify under this.

Per a question from Sen. Wayne Langerholc (R-Cambria), Cawley noted the grading does not change.

Sen. Larry Farnese (D-Philadelphia) wondered if the cognitive ability of a child to understand is weighed. Chairman Greenleaf replied it would be up to the judge to make the decision based on the facts. Sen. Farnese suggested it would be presented through expert testimony to determine if, for example, a five year old child has the cognitive ability to understand what he witnessed. He further raised various circumstances that may weigh in the case and Chairman Greenleaf agreed those issues could be brought up to be weighed, such as the perpetrator not knowing the child was present. Sen. Bob Mensch (R-Montgomery) referenced a group, Creative Health, that has done a great deal of work in the area and has developed data that suggests it is not age-dependent, as even a young child can recognize verbal and physical abuse and it does indeed create trauma with lasting effects. He said the belief in the mental health community is children of many ages can recognize abuse.

Sen. Gene Yaw (R-Lycoming) opined the language is a strict liability. "If you do something in front of a minor, it carries this penalty or increased penalty with it. Period." Sen. Mensch responded, "Well said. Yes senator."

Minority Chairman Daylin Leach (D-Montgomery) offered agreement with Sen. Farnese's points, mentioning that in, for example, children can be called as a witness in custody hearings. He was troubled by the lack of minimum age "in the sense of if it's an infant" and suggested that the bill specify the age. Sen. Farnese interjected that in strict liability it would not matter how old the child is "and if that's what the goal is, then that's what the goal is." Chairman Leach replied there could be a strict liability offense even with specified ages.

Sen. Sabatina foresaw an issue because the victim of the crime is being changed. The victim would be the person abused, but now there would be a separate victim, he argued, and wondered how that would transpire in hearings and who would prove the presence of the child. He suggested calling the child to testify could lead to further trauma. Sen. Mensch commented that may necessitate more discussion around child advocacy centers. He agreed the bill would add victims. "There really is another victim when a child sees this," he said, pointing out the effects of PTSD.

Sen. Mensch agreed to further conversations with members to address concerns.

[SB 1132 Greenleaf, Stewart](#) - (PN 1644) Amends Title 44 (Law and Justice), in other officers, establishing the Pennsylvania Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission responsible for encouraging and facilitating the development, use, coordination, support and evaluation in this Commonwealth of affordable and high-quality alternative dispute resolution programs and services, providing for its powers and duties, and establishing the Alternative Dispute Resolution Fund to receive and disburse money to implement the chapter. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was **reported as committed** with Sen. Alloway and Sen. Farnese voting in the negative.

Chairman Greenleaf offered background on the bill, remarking most people want to have their case resolved quickly and outside a courtroom. He said his personal feeling is the more people kept out of the courtroom the better, noting alternative dispute resolution options such as mediation. He mentioned a resolution he has introduced to look at how to encourage more alternative dispute resolutions and the findings that came from that study. Chairman Greenleaf opined on the importance of the issue and read from the report from the study. He also noted alternative dispute resolution would come with great cost savings.

Sen. Rich Alloway (R-Franklin) did not disagree with the chairman, but said it sounds like this is setting up “kind of a shadow court.” He wondered if this is being done already. Chairman Greenleaf replied it is hodge-podge and said this is not a court, “they’re an advisor and educator.” He said no one would be forced to use it, but the idea is to educate people about what the best practice may be.

Chairman Leach questioned if, in order to take advantage of this, all sides would have to agree to participate. Chairman Greenleaf confirmed it is not mandatory and said it would be the responsibility of the attorney to educate himself and his client. Chairman Leach also wondered if the decision has to be made during litigation, noting the distinction that may occur with binding arbitration. Chairman Greenleaf reiterated this is just about educating people about the options available to them.

Sen. Farnese read from section 7508 regarding reports and concluded the board will evaluate each company that provides these services. Chairman Greenleaf reiterated it is about education and not forcing anyone to do anything. Sen. Farnese said the board would be forced to do that. Chairman Greenleaf said they cannot mandate anyone to do anything, but this provides information for lawyers to make a choice.

Sen. Yaw pointed out conversations and written materials have mixed up ARD and ADR in several places. Cawley said he would make the necessary corrections to the materials.

[SB 1036 Greenleaf, Stewart](#) - (PN 1472) Amends Titles 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 75 (Vehicles), in sentencing, further providing for payment of court costs, restitution and fines, for fine and for failure to pay fine; in licensing of drivers, further providing for suspension of operating privilege for failure to respond to citation; and, in penalties and disposition of fines, further providing for inability to pay fine and costs. The bill requires a judge to conduct a hearing to determine whether a defendant is financially able to pay and provides for payment in installments in cases of manifest hardship. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was **passed over**.

[SB 1126 Reschenthaler, Guy](#) - (PN 1638) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in selection and retention of judicial officers, further providing for continuing education requirement by adding that on a frequency as determined appropriate by the board, the program shall include instruction on options available to indigent defendants for failure to pay court costs, fines, restitution or fees in summary cases. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was **passed over**.

[SB 1133 Greenleaf, Stewart](#) - (PN 1645) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in juries and jurors, further providing for powers of investigating grand jury by establishing the presentment shall concisely address the elements of the charge recommended but may not include an assessment about the credibility of a defendant or witness. Provides for investigating grand jury proceedings by establishing an obligation of secrecy may not be imposed on a person except in accordance with the law, a document or record obtained by subpoena may not become grand jury matters subject to secrecy solely because the document is presented to a witness or the grand jury, a person not granted immunity from prosecution who is held in contempt for refusing to answer a question on the basis of self-incrimination shall be entitled to a stay of the contempt determination and an immediate right of appeal, and the court shall provide reasonable notice to the attorney for the Commonwealth, the defendant and each witness or other person affected by a disclosure of grand jury matter before approving the disclosure. Provides for investigating grand jury reports by establishing the report shall be limited to the target of the investigation and shall contain no allegation or assessment of a subject not under investigation. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was **passed over**.

[SR 312 Greenleaf, Stewart](#) - (PN 1646) Resolution urging the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to promulgate and enforce changes in the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules of Criminal Procedure to ensure a prosecuting attorney make available to the defendant the complete files of the law enforcement agencies, investigative agencies, and the prosecutor's office involved in the investigation of the crime alleged and promulgate and enforce changes in the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules of Criminal Procedure to ensure a prosecuting attorney act not only as an advocate but also as a minister of justice by disclosing to the defendant materials and information, whether or not admissible in court, and take other appropriate steps to remedy a conviction when the prosecutor has knowledge that the defendant was wrongfully convicted of the offense. - The bill was **passed over**.



## **Senate Labor and Industry Committee**

*4/17/18, 10:00 a.m., North Office Building Hearing Room 1*

By Jessica Richardson, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee held a public hearing on [SB 479 Dinniman, Andrew](#) - (PN 468) The Pennsylvania Family and Medical Leave Act requires an employer to provide up to six weeks of the same leave to an eligible employee to which the eligible employee is entitled under the Family and Medical Leave Act with respect to a spouse, son, daughter or parent, but only for the eligible employee's sibling, grandparent or grandchild, provided the sibling, grandparent or grandchild has no living spouse, child over 17 years of age or parent under 65 years of age. Effective immediately.

Chairman Ward stated expanding family and medical leave bills and policies have been proposed and are being discussed at the federal, state, and local levels as family structures evolve.

Sen. Dinniman explained they are facing an issue that happens to many families in the commonwealth. He stated the issue is how to take care of someone who is chronically ill. Sen. Dinniman said family is not what it used to be in America as there are many different family relationships such as siblings depending on siblings or children being raised by grandparents. He stated in the end it will cost much more money in terms of the state if they do not have family members looking out for each other. Sen. Dinniman explained they tried to compromise and made legislation have leave as six weeks instead of 12 weeks.

[Anne Marie Pearson](#), advocate, explained her sister was diagnosed unexpectedly with late stage gynecologic cancer in June 2008 who needed around the clock care. Pearson said she was denied Family Medical Leave (FML) at her place of employment because it was a sibling who was not covered as an eligible individual under the current law. She stated she made the difficult decision to voluntarily resign her position of 17 years to help take care of her sister until she passed away. Pearson commented she felt Pennsylvania law should change to include a provision to include siblings under special circumstances as eligible individuals that may take protected leave from their jobs.

Pearson rebutted some of the concerns that will be brought in opposition. She explained in an effort to make the bill as business friendly as possible, the language in the bill has been modified several times to allow the fewest people to even qualify for use as some say people will overuse and abuse the legislation. Another concern can be adding another family member to the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) law is not needed, but today's family unit is no longer simply father-mother-child, Pearson said. She stated extended families are common and caregiving responsibilities reach across generations. Pearson commented some may say Family Medical Leave is not good for business, but according to the most recent business survey conducted in 2012 by the United States Department of Labor, family medical leave is indeed working for employers.

Pearson added another concern might be that companies are not expanding benefits because they do not want extra regulation. She said businesses are jumping at the chance to make themselves employers of choice among prospective job applicants and a company's benefits and perks are held in such a high esteem and value by the employees. The Chamber of Commerce may say in speaking for the business members that they do not want benefit enhancements and believe it is too costly and too troublesome, Pearson said. She stated the business polls on the Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce's website for the past five consecutive years showed zero to two percent of business owners consider human resources to be an issue or an area of concern for them.

Pearson explained both human resources professionals and business owners are claiming administration is too difficult, but FMLA has been administered for 25 years and the human resource professionals have had ample time to become well versed. She added some are even concerned that legal challenges will arise, but FML lawsuits are not keeping lawyers and employers busy as the number of FML complaint cases has steadily decreased over the years.

[Marianne Bellesorte](#), vice president of advocacy, PathWaysPA, said they strongly support the bill. She explained under the FMLA certain workers may take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave care for themselves, their spouse, parents, or children. When it is a sibling, grandparent, or grandchild that falls ill or is injured, workers do not have the same protections, and therefore must choose between caring for a loved one and potentially losing their jobs, Bellesorte said. She stated according

to the census nearly 1.5 million Pennsylvanians live alone, and another 300,000 live in non-family households. These adults have few options for family during care during an illness under the present law, Bellesorte said.

As population ages, it becomes more likely that parents will not be available to take part in any care that is needed, Bellesorte said. She stated instead, family members such as siblings and even grandchildren will be needed to pick up essential services and nationally, more than one-fourth of family caregivers don't qualify as family under FMLA guidelines. Bellesorte commented extending the definition of FMLA to siblings increases the likelihood that someone will be there to care for sick or injured individuals, ensuring less of a strain on the health care system. She added that if they put a monetary value on informal caregiving services in Pennsylvania, it would add up to over \$13.4 billion worth of care per year. Bellesorte said Joanne's Law gives Pennsylvania's workers the ability to care for their family members without fear of job loss while saving money in the communities.

Sen. Dinniman asked what happens if someone appeals to their employer based on the loco parentis provision in FMLA. Bellesorte explained the sibling had to be classified as disabled under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), incapable of self-care, and be reliant on the person applying to provide physical or psychological care. She added the sibling also has to have or intend to have day-to-day responsibility in financially supporting the sibling. Sen. Dinniman stated in Pearson's case her sister was self-sustaining but the disease happens and can be aggressive. He asked how long she lived. Pearson replied seven months. She also stated she applied for loco parentis but was denied because she was not financially responsible.

Sen. Dinniman asked how many other states have passed similar legislation. Bellesorte replied expansions of FMLA or paid family leave provisions have happened in a number of other states. She said for expansion of FMLA there is Hawaii, Maine, Oregon, Washington D.C., California, and Minnesota.

Sen. Laughlin commented he does not have a large company but he has employees and would do everything in his power to help them if they were in a similar situation. He asked if there is any cutoff for company size. Pearson said 50 employees or more. Sen. Laughlin asked if this can be piggybacked off of the 12 weeks of family leave. Pearson responded this will not deny the federal privilege but will work together. Sen. Laughlin questioned if this is only if someone is terminal. Pearson replied yes because it was important to make it as business friendly as possible.

Sen. DiSanto questioned if Pearson was her sister's legal guardian if the issue would have resolved itself. Pearson said yes and she was aware of that which is why she tried the loco parentis but was denied. Sen. DiSanto asked how many employees were at her company. Pearson said 175 employees and she could not return to the company because the position was no longer available. She stated she is now a human resource consultant.

Chairman Ward asked what the average leave for family leave is. Pearson replied 40 percent of leave for the employee is for ten days or less.

[Alex Halper](#), director of government affairs, Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, stated it is impossible to listen to the previous testimony and not appreciate the circumstances and recognize that there may very well be deficiencies in the current law that have not kept pace with the evolution of the family. He commented they have concerns with the legislation and believe there ought to be other ways to achieve what is intended by the legislation. Halper said one area to look at could be loco parentis status and how that relationship is achieved.

Halper explained the concerns stem that the state legislation would essentially amend federal law. He said there is challenge with how the weeks under FMLA are counted and under FMLA and the legislation it would provide a 50 percent increase in the amount of leave. Halper stated an appropriate approach would be taking it to the federal level because there is concern the state would have its own set of case law and guidelines regarding the law. He commented the most frustrating area for businesses are competing laws at the federal, state, and local level.

[Rebecca Oyler](#), legislative director, National Federation of Independent Business Pennsylvania (NFIB), explained the NFIB appreciates the reasons for the bill and are sympathetic to those that have suffered hardships that led to proposing this law, but NFIB believes that the bill will inadvertently affect the livelihood of many Pennsylvanians. She said businesses depend on predictability and uniformity to stay competitive and small businesses are especially vulnerable to the impact

of labor and leave mandates. Oyler stated adding Pennsylvania-specific requirements to the federal FMA complicates an already difficult legal and regulatory environment for small businesses and exposes these businesses to legal challenges. She added understanding and complying with the complexity of these mandates is expensive in both terms of money and time. According to the Small Business Administration, workplace compliance costs small businesses 36 percent more per employee than it costs large businesses.

Oyler stated the federal FMLA is already almost uniformly cited by employers as the most onerous requirements with which they must comply because of its administrative complexity and complicated tracking, notification, and documentation requirements. SB 479 will add several layers of complexity to this process, Oyler said. She explained although they understand and appreciate the reasoning for this requirement, it may be nearly impossible for a small business owner and his or her employees to comply with this in a legally compliant manner.

Oyler added SB 479 may handicap businesses' ability to attract workers at a critical time because one of the primary ways in which small businesses attract and retain talented workers is by providing innovative benefits like flexible leave policies, designed specifically to fit the needs of their employees and their businesses. She said the informal and unstructured nature and more limited financial resources require greater flexibility in creating policies and solutions. Oyler stated mandating uniform leave policies for all employers cuts off an avenue through which small business owners can shine through unique programs that benefit their businesses, their customers, and their employees. In addition, leave mandates increase costs for small employers, which almost always limits the flexibility of small businesses to provide benefits that many employees already enjoy, Oyler said.

Oyler commented the poor economic environment in Pennsylvania creates a comparative disadvantage that is reinforced by mandates like SB 479, creating yet another barrier for businesses looking to keep and create jobs. Pennsylvania needs to take proactive steps to make the commonwealth more attractive to job-creators, not less, to ensure that every worker has an opportunity for success, Oyler said.

Chairman Ward inquired if they are not opposed to who is eligible but more how to get there. Oyler responded consistency is important and to the extent changes are made it should be debated at the national level. Halper said he agrees as they have family and relationships that are evolving and public policy should take that into account.

Chairman Tartaglione asked what the number of employees is that they consider a small business. Oyler stated there are a number of definitions of small business. She said the typical NFIB member would not qualify under this legislation, but they do represent larger members.

Sen. Dinniman commented Pennsylvania is the second oldest state with the second oldest population so the issue of terminal disease is greater here. He stated every federal law passed has states trying to put in more regulations to make the bills fit to the state's need. Sen. Dinniman said they are trying to find a way to meet the needs of the people, and they are not talking about a huge group of people. Halper responded he appreciates that perspective but many employers will say it is a challenge. He recognized that the legislation has evolved over the last several sessions but believes the best way to achieve this is through federal law.

Sen. Dinniman asked how it comes out to 18 weeks instead of six weeks because if someone does not qualify for FMLA they are given six weeks. Halper explained they are looking at the totality of the leave that would be guaranteed as a benefit for employees under their interpretation. Sen. Dinniman said they are not talking about federal law as that does not allow leave for siblings. He added it is not going to get passed on the federal level and this only applies for terminal illness. Oyler responded increasing mandates simply increases the costs of doing business in the state and benefits are growing with the growing economy. Sen. Dinniman stated the economy goes up and down but terminal illness stays the same. He said they are not trying to create mandates but are trying to find ways to help people.

Sen. Laughlin commented there is only a situation of a lawsuit if an employee is denied. He noted having this fixed at the federal level would be a better solution yet he doubts they have advocated for that. Sen. Laughlin explained they should fix this at the state level and if the federal level cleans up then they can do away with this bill.

Sen. Laughlin questioned if either testifier had to take care of a dying relative. Halper replied not as a primary caregiver.

Sen. Laughlin said that would change their opinion on this. He added he does think that the leave should not piggyback to 18 weeks.

Chairman Ward noted she too would like to talk further on the matter because it should not be 18 weeks, but they need to find a way to help people.

Written testimony was submitted by:

- [Heather Arnet](#), CEO, Women and Girls Foundation
- [National Partnership for Women and Families](#)
- [Erik Rettig](#), Northeast and Mid-Atlantic director, Small Business Majority



### **Senate Rules and Executive Nominations Committee**

*4/17/18, 4:00 p.m., Rules Committee Conference Room*

By Andre Dienner, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider legislation and executive nominations.

[SB 837 Ward, Kim](#) - (PN 1528) Act designating a portion of State Route 981 in Smithton Borough and South Huntingdon Township, Westmoreland County, as the Specialist 4 William J. Kolenc Memorial Highway. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1099) - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[SB 844 White, Donald](#) - (PN 1531) Amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations), in child custody, allowing individuals to file for physical or legal custody if no biological or adoptive parents have custody of a child and the individual assumes or is willing to assume responsibility further providing for standing for any form of physical custody or legal custody, has a sustained, substantial and sincere interest in the welfare of the child. The bill provides for exceptions and for standing or partial physical custody and supervised physical custody relating to grandparents. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1133, 1375) - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[SB 877 White, Donald](#) - (PN 1458) Amends the Insurance Department Act allowing insurance providers to offer or give to an insured or prospective insured money or any favor, advantage, object, valuable consideration or anything other than money which has a cost or redeemable value of \$100 or less, which is not specified in the contract of insurance. The amount may be increased by the insurance commissioner. Further provides an insurance producer may not make receipt of anything or value contingent on the purchase of insurance. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1135) - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[SB 878 White, Donald](#) - (PN 1459) Amends the Insurance Company Law allowing insurance providers to offer or give to an insured or prospective insured money or any favor, advantage, object, valuable consideration or anything other than money which has a cost or redeemable value of \$100 or less, which is not specified in the contract of insurance. The amount may be increased by the insurance commissioner. Further provides an insurance producer may not make receipt of anything or value contingent on the purchase of insurance. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1136) - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[SR 278 Browne, Patrick](#) - (PN 1521) Resolution adopting a temporary rule of the Senate relating solely to amendments to the General Appropriation Bill and other appropriation bills for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, including any amendments offered to or for supplemental appropriations for prior fiscal years. Floor amendments to the General Appropriation Bill or other General Fund or special fund appropriation bills shall be in order on second or third consideration only. Any amendment offered on the floor to the various budget bills at a level different from the amount contained in the 2018-2019 Budget as reported from the Appropriations Committee shall not be in order and may not be considered unless the amendment contains sufficient revisions or reductions to that 2018-2019 Budget so that the amendment does not result in a net increase to the total spending and yields a balanced budget based on current and projected revenues. The amendment shall have appended thereto a "statement of intent" setting forth the proposed adjustment to the other appropriation bill or bills that will

result in no net increase in the total spending from the General Fund or any special fund contained within the 2018-2019 Budget as reported from the Appropriations Committee. - The resolution was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Various [executive nominations](#) were unanimously **recalled and reported from committee**.



### **Senate Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee**

*4/17/18, 1:54 p.m., Rules Committee Conference Room*

By Andre Dienner, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider [SB 1073 Vulakovich, Randy](#) - (PN 1578) Amends the Enforcement Officer Disability Benefits Law to extend coverage to the following: Allegheny County Port Authority police officers; park rangers employed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; police officers at Fort Indiantown Gap; university police officers at the state-related universities; campus police officers at the schools in the State System of Higher Education; special investigators of the Office of Inspector General; and Allegheny County Housing Authority Police. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as amended**.

[A06851](#) by Vulakovich, changes DCNR "Park Rangers" to "Rangers, Ranger Supervisors, Ranger Operation Specialists, and Ranger Trainees" and clarifies that the agency that the law enforcement office comes under is responsible for the coverage. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Chairman Randy Vulakovich (R-Allegheny) noted the bill is the result of years of collaboration with many police and law enforcement organizations and stakeholders.



### **House Judiciary Committee**

*4/17/18, 9:00 a.m., Room 140 Main Capitol*

By Nicole Trayer, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee held a public hearing on public safety, gun laws and violence.

[Rep. Joanna McClinton](#) said as a lifelong resident of Southwest Philadelphia she is tired of seeing her family, friends and neighbors lose their lives to gun violence. She added that communities of color have been victims of gun violence for decades and offered statistics that show African Americans and Latinos represent nearly 79 percent of all gun homicides in Pennsylvania. From 2005 to 2014, Pennsylvania ranked fourth in the nation for the rate of gun deaths among African Americans and African Americans account for 70 percent of gun homicides in the commonwealth, she said. She called for "adequate funding" to the state Attorney General and local prosecutors for gun violence prevention programs as well as labeling gun violence as a public health crisis. She pointed out that gun violence in Pennsylvania is on the rise with data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) showing that gun-related homicides increased in 2016 to about 11,000 from about 9,600 in 2015. Rep. McClinton stated that this is not a mental health issue, but rather a gun issue. She said the legislature needs to work toward sensible solutions that save lives including [HB 194](#), [HB 1400](#), [HB 2112](#), and [HB 528](#). Additionally, she said it is imperative that the commonwealth invests in prevention programs through allocating funding to the Department of Health (DOH) to solve gun violence as a public health crisis and directing funds to the Attorney General's office to expand the Gun Violence Task Force beyond the City of Philadelphia. In conclusion, she read names of constituents in her district that have lost their lives to gun violence including Philadelphia Police Sergeant Robert Wilson, 15-year-old Tyhir Barnes and Terrell Bruce.

Chairman Marsico referenced HB 194 which seeks to ban assault weapons in Pennsylvania and asked Rep. McClinton how many of the murders in Philadelphia have been caused by assault weapons. Rep. McClinton said a majority of the homicides involved hand guns.

Rep. Costa said in urban areas a large majority of shootings are done using illegal guns, but when a five-year mandatory sentence is imposed for an illegal firearm most representatives from Allegheny and Philadelphia counties are opposed. He

said in order to control illegal guns there has to be a way to send a message and asked Rep. McClinton for her ideas on how to do so other than a mandatory sentence. Rep. McClinton said the data does not show that mandatory sentences reduce violence, but if it did she would be the first to support it. Instead, she explained that mandatory sentences place an increased cost on the taxpayer without curbing violence. She said what she sees as a potential solution is to make sure the Gun Violence Task Force is fully funded and that they have partnerships throughout the state with local municipalities. In her legal experience, she added one of the main ways an individual acquires an illegal firearm is through a straw purchaser and that there should be a message sent through the prosecution of straw purchasers. Rep. Costa said straw purchasing is one of the sources, but the largest source is burglaries. He added that there is a mandatory five-year sentence for committing a crime with a gun, but that many district attorneys have been plea bargaining that down.

Rep. Jozwiak clarified whether the statistic regarding African Americans accounting for 70 percent of gun homicides is strictly in Pennsylvania or Philadelphia. Rep. McClinton said African Americans are 12 percent of the state population, but account for 70 percent of the gun violence homicides. Rep. Jozwiak asked how many of the individuals that died from gun violence were the result of suicides. Rep. McClinton said she did not have that answer, but could find out. Rep. Jozwiak said most likely the majority of individuals in that 70 percent statistic come from broken homes without fathers and the children end up looking to gangs for security. He asked how many of the shootings over the years were gang-related. Rep. McClinton said a high number of homicides in Philadelphia are unresolved so she does not have data to show which incidents were gang-related or not. Rep. Jozwiak asked Rep. McClinton if she believes banning high-capacity magazines would reduce crime. She said she does, especially as it relates to what is happening on the national scale. Rep. Jozwiak said statistics show high-capacity magazines do not produce crime. He also referenced HB 528 that would prevent individuals on the no-fly list from purchasing guns and asked Rep. McClinton if she knew how many people in the country are on that list. She said she did not. He replied that it is about 81,000 people with only about 1,000 being Americans. Rep. Jozwiak said he does believe this is a mental health problem because something often happens in a person's life that makes them snap and choose to do something violent. He said these bills being proposed will only affect the honest people because the dishonest people will continue to acquire firearms illegally.

Chairman Petrarca said he believes the five-year mandatory sentence should be imposed for crimes involving a firearm. He asked Rep. McClinton if she saw in her past experience as a public defender that many of these cases received a plea instead of the mandatory five-year sentence. She replied that when she was a defender there was a gun court in place for those charged just with possessing a hand gun. She explained that many of the individuals arrested for possessing a hand gun with no prior record would receive a short county sentence and probation. Those charged with actually using a gun in a crime would go to regular court and receive jury trials or often many would choose to take a plea, she added.

In regards to crimes committed in Philadelphia, Rep. Knowles wanted to know if there was information on guns purchased legally and if the person who committed the crime had a concealed carry permit. Chairman Marsico said the committee could get that information from the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). Rep. Knowles said he wants to consider laws that would help the situation. Rep. McClinton said the majority of those crimes were not committed by individuals with a license to carry or concealed carry permit.

Rep. Miller said he has concerns related to mental health and that it is difficult in the mental health community to determine when an event occurs whether it is a "manifestation" of someone's mental health or not. He added that aspects of mental health should be discussed, but that just because there is a mental health diagnosis does not mean it was the cause of any action.

Rep. White alluded to Rep. McClinton's statements in her testimony regarding communities of color and the impact of a lack of education funding. She asked her to explain how the lack of those funds creates a culture of gun violence. Rep. McClinton said when children who live in deep poverty and face serious struggles at home go to a school that's been the same for generations there is nothing to motivate them to flourish and make the right choices. She pointed out that that is not an excuse for bad behavior, but it doesn't cultivate an environment where children feel anyone is investing in them or their future. She said it's not just a lack of school funding that relates to this "pipeline to prison," but that there are other issues such as a lack of insurance and limited access to fresh groceries.

Rep. Topper said annual firearm sales in Pennsylvania have more than doubled from 2006 to 2016 while violent crimes with

a firearm decreased by almost 30 percent. He explained that after the shooting in Parkland, Florida he went into the schools to speak and discussed safety issues with students. He said the students understand that an improvement in security sometimes means a loss of freedom and understand how that would look in a school setting. He said the founding fathers of our country lived under tyranny and when creating the constitution, they were establishing it for the future. When looking into these solutions, he said the legislature should keep in mind that when the government starts telling others what they “need” to protect themselves it can be a dangerous road to go down.

Rep. Barbin said there is going to be a different perspective depending on where you are in the commonwealth due to the different traditions across the state. He said all those perspectives must be protected.

Rep. Delozier said she has received many calls and emails from her constituents on these issues from both gun control and 2nd amendment advocates. When receiving calls, she said her office asked people to be specific on what they supported and what they opposed. Many 2nd amendment advocates had a common belief of enforcing the laws already on the books and strengthening some of the existing laws by focusing on better background checks and mental health screenings, she stated. On the other hand, she said those supporting gun control efforts often called for a ban on bump stock devices and raising the age to purchase a firearm to 21. Other ideas included banning assault weapons and high capacity magazines, she added. Regarding the topic of arming teachers, she said most 2nd amendment supporters believed this could be a good idea for those trained to do so, but that the school district should have a say. Rep. Delozier said incidents have occurred in her district where it was not realized until after the fact that the individual was suffering from an untreated mental illness. She said she spoke with the superintendents in her school districts to find out what they think is missing. She said one of her school districts has entered into a contract with a mental health provider to fill the gaps for individual counseling. However, she said students with private health insurance are running into a hurdle with some insurance companies refusing to pay or only covering part of the cost because of where the services are provided. She also mentioned that the majority of those in the school district do not support arming teachers. Finally, Rep. Delozier brought up the issue of social media and the stress it brings to children to always be maintaining a public image.

Chairman Petrarca said many of his constituents in Western Pennsylvania have a distrust regarding gun control because they believe any gun law will lead to a total slippery slope. He asked Rep. Delozier if she feels the pro-gun community feels the same in her district. She said she does and that there was even some misunderstanding regarding these hearings. She added that there are some people who are very adamant that any change to the gun laws is a step towards total gun control.

Rep. Barbin said there are two bills pending on the issue of school violence including Sen. Donald White's (R-Indiana) bill giving school districts the right to allow properly trained teachers to carry in schools as well as a bill that would allow for trained school resource officers. He asked Rep. Delozier if she feels it is beneficial for school resource officers to be the ones in the schools identifying students with mental health issues. Rep. Delozier said many schools use retired law enforcement to serve as school resource officers and they are a tool, but that the identification of students in need of mental health care will come from a lot of different areas.

Rep. Costa said Rep. Delozier's testimony shows the complexity and diversity of this issue. He added that having school resource officers helps to identify potential red flags and give students who are “outcasts” someone who they feel cares about them. Rep. Delozier said she focused on schools because that's where the last shooting took place, but that these incidents do not always occur in schools.

Rep. Jozwiak said he gets nervous about the term “school resource officer” because to him a school resource officer is a fully trained police officer. He stated that he believes those individuals should be a fully trained police officer who has received training to look for mental health issues in children and how to address them. Rep. Delozier said the idea of a school resource officer came from the “Officer Friendly” initiative to show children a different perspective on what a police officer is and how they should behave. In terms of the resource officer, she said she agrees it should be a trained individual and a pre-requisite to the position should be someone with law enforcement experience.

Rep. White asked Rep. Delozier for her response on the removal of cash bail for crimes such as theft. Rep. Delozier said the ability to make sure someone arrested for a crime will not be a danger to somebody else is why the cash bail system is in place. Rep. White said the city of Philadelphia has decided not to offer cash bail to prevent individuals who commit these crimes from being put back on the street.

Rep. Pashinski said addressing these issues cannot be fully accomplished with a law and that he finds difficulty in the “hands-off” position many people take towards these problems. As a teacher, he said every school has a troubled child who will eventually become a troubled adult. In reviewing these issues and the right to protect oneself and one’s property, it becomes a question of to what extent, he stated. He brought up the invention of various guns such as the Tommy gun to explain how guns have been designed and used throughout history. He agreed to the need for school resource officers, but said someone who is mentally ill and has a military style weapon can wait outside for dismissal or go to movie theater venue and still commit an act of violence. “I’m appealing to my colleagues for simple, common sense solutions,” he said. He pointed out that a stop light for example doesn’t prevent every death, but has still prevented “billions.”

Chairman Petrarca asked Rep. Pashinski his opinion as a former teacher on legislation to arm teachers. He said he would be totally against teachers bearing arms in schools and that he wants the well-trained police officer to provide protection for teachers and students.

Rep. Evankovich said his testimony would focus on the phenomenon of mass shootings and that there is a problem with the country’s reliance on fact-based debate with two different sets of opposing facts. “We need to abandon our addiction to dichotomous facts or we will get nowhere,” he said. He stated that the people committing mass shootings are modern day serial killers who he referred to as “violent episode killers.” He said it is important to try and understand how a serial killer comes to be and explained that boys begin experiencing subtle sexual pressure in their head around the ages of five to eight years old leading to a level of frustration. He said for young boys who do not learn how to socialize properly the pressure grows leading to violent fantasies that some choose to act on leading to the creation of a serial killer. He said this problem is something deeper than mental illness and there is a new model for carrying out those acts of a “violent episode killer.” Rep. Evankovich said these new violent killers have been born out of societal problems and no gun legislation or talk of mental illness will fix the problem. He brought up three areas causing this phenomenon including pressure on children, the need for coaching not consequences and the effects of social media. He shared that his recommendation would be to form an alliance with the federal government, law enforcement, state government, academia and the education system to come up with solutions to address the problem.

Rep. Donatucci spoke on her bill, [HB 273](#), that would create a firearm purchase self-exclusion list for individuals who believe they should not have access to firearms, but are not banned by law. She explained that the bill is directed towards those with mental or emotional health concerns who feel they may be a danger to themselves or others. She noted that the list is confidential and voluntary and the individual could place themselves on the list for as long as they see fit. She pointed out that it could be a temporary period of self-exclusion and the individual would be able to get their firearms back upon coming off the list. Rep. Donatucci added that Philadelphia itself reported 295 shootings between January 1 and April 9 of this year. “There’s no way any of you would put up with nearly 100 shootings a month in your community and we shouldn’t have to either,” she stated. She commented that it’s time to at least give Philadelphia the ability to take its own “pertinent measures” to protect residents.

Rep. Gainey said he is not interested in taking away anyone’s guns, but rather in discussing how the legislature can work together to save a life. He noted that universal background checks are one solution that has a lot of bipartisan support and pointed out that a large number of drive-by shootings involve assault weapons. He noted that there is not one piece of legislation that can stop violence, but that the members need to work to put together a multitude of legislation that can help save lives. He also stated that responsible gun owners do not misplace their firearms and that the lack of a statewide lost and stolen hand gun bill is a problem. For someone to continuously lose their guns and not report them and then have the gun show up in a homicide is a problem, he said. He also commented that there is a safety problem in schools, but arming teachers is not the solution. Rep. Gainey said not addressing the problem now will lead to a similar epidemic as to what has occurred with the opioid crisis. “I will always choose the life of being able to save our children over anything and I will not put nothing above that including the 2nd amendment,” he said.

Rep. Saccone said arming teachers has always been proposed as an option and that having trained individuals such as himself with a military or law enforcement background in the classrooms would be beneficial. Rep. Gainey replied that Rep. Saccone has been trained by the military, so he cannot compare himself to the average teacher in the classroom who did not go to college to learn how to handle guns, but rather to educate children. Rep. Saccone said his point is that it would be up to each school district to allow teachers who are trained to have the option of carrying a gun. He also commented

on lost or stolen firearms and said reporting guns as lost does not help the police to find them. He noted that the average “time to crime” for guns in Pennsylvania that are stolen and retraced is 10 years. Rep. Gainey said in reality those statistics are not true because individuals come into urban areas every day and sell their guns for drugs and then say that they lost them. Rep. Saccone responded that doing so is already a felony. He added that Rep. Gainey mentioned the use of assault weapons for a quicker trigger pull and said the trigger pull is the same for a hand gun as it is for a rifle. Rep. Gainey said there are more rifles used in drive-by shootings in urban areas and that it is a problem that needs to be addressed in regards to background checks. Rep. Saccone said background checks have been required for hand guns since 1934, but that you are still 20 times more likely to be killed with a hand gun than a rifle. Rep. Gainey said there should be uniformity for both and that an overwhelming majority of Pennsylvanians support universal background checks.



## NEW LEGISLATION

### **HB 456 DeLuca, Anthony (D)**

(PN 3313) The Body Piercing and Corrective Cosmetic Artists Act regulates tattoo, body-piercing and corrective cosmetic artists; limits tongue splitting; provides for powers and duties of the Department of Health; and imposes penalties. The bill directs the Department of Health to establish sterilization, sanitation and safety standards for any business engaged in such action and creates a central registry within the department for persons performing tattooing or body piercing and for establishments where such procedures are performed. Requires the department to inspect an establishment prior to issuing an initial facility registration and to randomly inspect 20 percent of all registered facilities each year thereafter. Section 5(a) (requiring the department to adopt regulations) shall take effect in two years. Section 10 (relating to tongue splitting limitation) shall take effect in 60 days. The remainder of the act shall take effect in 180 days. (Prior Printer Number: 477, 2771)

**Apr 17, 2018 - Received and referred to Senate Health and Human Services**

### **HB 1343 Readshaw, Harry (D)**

(PN 1662) Amends the act entitled, “An act empowering the General Counsel or his designee to issue subpoenas for certain licensing board activities; providing for hearing examiners in the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs; providing additional powers to the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs; and further providing for civil penalties and license suspension,” adding that in addition to disciplinary powers and duties, boards and commissions shall have the power to provide for the carryover of any continuing education credits in excess of the number required for biennial renewal. The carryover shall be valid for one biennial renewal term only. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - Received and referred to Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure**

### **HB 1419 Delozier, Sheryl (R)**

(PN 3314) Amends Title 18 (Crimes & Offenses) and Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in dissemination of criminal history record information, further providing for general regulations and for order for limited access and providing for clean slate limited access. Further provides for exceptions; for order to vacate order for limited access; for effects of expunged records and records subject to limited access; and for employer immunity from liability. Also provides for, in juvenile matters, inspection of court files and records and for law enforcement records. Section 9122.1 relating to petition for limited access shall take effect in 180 days. The remainder shall take effect in 365 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1847, 3166)

**Apr 17, 2018 - Received and referred to Senate Judiciary**

### **HB 1699 Marshall, Jim (R)**

(PN 3125) Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in size, weight and load, further providing for operation of certain combinations on interstate and certain other highways, repealing provisions relating to operation of motor homes on interstate and certain other highways and further providing for width of vehicles and for length of vehicles. The stated intent of the bill is to allow 102-inch wide trailers on all Pennsylvania highways, while still allowing the department and municipalities the ability to restrict these vehicles where necessary on specific roadways. Certain provisions are effective in 180 days and the remainder takes effect immediately. (Prior Printer Number: 2283)

**Apr 17, 2018 - Received and referred to Senate Transportation**

**HB 2124 Quinn, Chris (R)**

(PN 3122) Amends the Public School Code, in preliminary provisions, providing for information regarding education loans. The bill establishes that an institution of higher education that receives Federal education loan information or other student loan information regarding a student enrolled at the institution shall provide the following to the student on an annual basis prior to the student's acceptance of the Federal education loan or other student loan disbursed by the institution of higher education: an estimate of the total amount of Federal education loans or other student loans which are disbursed by the institution of higher education taken out by the students; the potential total payoff amount of the Federal education loans and other student loans; monthly repayment amounts; number of years used in determining the potential payoff amount; information on how the student can access online repayment calculators; and percentage of the borrowing limit the student has reached. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 3079)

**Apr 17, 2018 - Received and referred to Senate Education**

**HB 2273 Donatucci, Maria (D)**

Amends the Small Business Incubators Act, for defs., creation of program, incubator grants, loans & loan guarantees & responsibilities of sponsors; repealing provisions; providing for general powers & duties of the board; for funding.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HB 2274 Donatucci, Maria (D)**

Amends Title 35 (Health and Safety), in Commonwealth services, further providing for Fire Safety Advisory Committee.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HB 2275 Grove, Seth (R)**

Amends Title 18 (Crimes & Offenses), in firearms and other dangerous articles, further providing for persons not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell or transfer firearms.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HB 2276 Mehaffie, Thomas (F) (R)**

Amends the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act, in Early Intervention Program, further providing for defs., for objectives & for authorization; in municipal financial distress, for limitation of status; & making an editorial change.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HR 845 Donatucci, Maria (D)**

Resolution recognizing the week of May 13 through 19, 2018, as "National Prevention Week" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HR 846 Hickernell, David (R)**

Resolution designating May 12, 2018, as "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HR 847 Driscoll, Michael (D)**

Resolution designating May 7 through 13, 2018, as "Fallen Firefighters Survivors Week" in Pennsylvania and May 11, 2018, as "Fallen Firefighters Survivors' Day" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HR 848 Grove, Seth (R)**

Resolution recognizing State Treasurer Joe Torsella and the Treasury Department for outstanding work on behalf of the citizens of this Commonwealth.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HR 849 McNeill, Jeanne (F) (D)**

Resolution designating May 12, 2018, as “National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Day” in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HR 850 Burns, Frank (D)**

Resolution recognizing the week of May 13 through 19, 2018, as “National Police Week” and recognizing May 15, 2018, as “Peace Officers Memorial Day” in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**HR 851 Zimmerman, David (R)**

Resolution recognizing April 28, 2018, as “World Veterinary Day” in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Filed**

**SR 316 Hughes, Vincent (D)**

(PN 1655) Resolution honoring the 40th anniversary of Cheyney University’s 1977-1978 men’s Division II National Championship Basketball Team.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Filed**

## LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

**HB 100 Topper, Jesse (R)**

(PN 1038) Amends the Professional Nursing Law further providing for definitions; and providing for licensure as a certified nurse practitioner. The bill outlines the scope of practice for certified nurse practitioners. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**HB 104 Godshall, Robert (R)**

(PN 2952) Amends Title 53 (Municipalities Generally), in municipal authorities, further providing for money of authority and for transfer of existing facilities to authority and providing for sale or transfer of authority. Requires authorities to file an annual report of its fiscal affairs covering the preceding fiscal year within 180 days. Also requires the report to be posted on the authority’s website. If the authority does not maintain a publicly accessible website, the report shall be provided by electronic or other means to any other municipality that has customers served by the authority. Prevents authorities from (1) acquiring bonds or other security and (2) selling or transferring title to all or a portion of the water or sewer infrastructure of the authority unless the authority has discussed the acquisition at a public meeting as reflected in their minutes. Effective in 90 days. (Prior Printer Number: 82, 1047)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table (Pursuant to Senate Rule 9)**

**HB 149 Knowles, Jerry (R)**

(PN 113) Amends Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) adding a new section providing for the unlawful use of an audio or video device in court. Provides a person commits a misdemeanor of the second degree if the person in any manner or for any purpose uses or operates an audio or video device within a hearing room, courtroom or the environs of a hearing room or courtroom without the approval of the court or presiding judicial officer or except as provided by the rules of court. Further provides for a definition of “environs.” Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Second consideration**

**HB 415 Murt, Thomas (R)**

(PN 421) Amends the Tax Reform Code, in inheritance tax, further providing for definitions and proving that the inheritance tax upon the transfer of property and other assets either directly to a child with a disability or to a trust for the benefit of a child with a disability from a natural parent, an adoptive parent or a stepparent of the child shall be at the rate of zero percent. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted favorably from committee as amended House Finance**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported as amended House Finance**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-First consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid on the table**

**HB 427 Pashinski, Eddie Day (D)**

(PN 443) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code providing for conduct of early voting in primaries and elections. The county board of each county shall provide for early voting to begin 30 days prior to the dates of elections and primaries and to end the Friday before the starting date. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H- Press conference held**

**HB 466 Marshall, Jim (R)**

(PN 608) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) adding language granting to sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who have successfully completed the same type of training as municipal police officers the same powers as municipal police officers to make arrests, without warrants for all crimes and offenses including all offenses for all violations to Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses), Title 75 (relating to vehicles) and The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. Also provides the sheriffs and deputy sheriffs shall also have the same powers, duties, responsibilities and immunities conferred on municipal police officers generally and specifically under various sections of Title 42. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted favorably from committee as amended House State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported as amended House State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-First consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid on the table**

**HB 504 Charlton, Alexander (F) (R)**

(PN 3297) Amends the Insurance Department Act providing for self-service storage facility insurance. Allows the Insurance Department to issue a self-service storage producer license to an owner that has complied with the requirements of the bill authorizing the owner to offer or to sell the kinds of insurance prescribed in connection with and incidental to the rental of space at a self-service storage facility. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 530)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted favorably from committee on House Appropriations**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported as committed from House Appropriations**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Final Passage by a vote of 192 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HB 563 Neilson, Ed (D)**

(PN 588) Joint resolution proposing integrated amendments to the Pennsylvania Constitution providing for legislative and congressional reapportionment. Further provides for the Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Commission providing for its members and its powers and duties. Constitutional amendments require approval in two consecutive legislative sessions and then approval by the voters through a referendum.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Resolution to discharge committee from further consideration of this bill presented**

**HB 566 Santora, James (R)**

(PN 1928) Amends the Contractor and Subcontractor Payment Act further providing for owner's payment obligations and for contractors' and subcontractors' payment obligations. If payment is not received by a contractor or subcontractor as required, the contractor shall have the right to suspend performance of any work, without penalty, until payment is received in full. Stipulates that the provisions of the act cannot be waived in a contract. Requires a written explanation of a good-faith reason to be given when the payment is retained for a deficiency item. Provides that a contractor or subcontractor to facilitate the release of retainage on its contract before final completion of the project by posting a maintenance bond with approved surety for 120 percent of the amount of retainage being held; and provides that if the withholding of retainage is longer than 30 days after the acceptance of the work, a written explanation must be provided. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 591)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Removed from the table**

**HB 595 Brown, Rosemary (R)**

(PN 627) Amends Title 68 (Real & Personal Property), as follows: in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in management of the condominium, providing for alternative dispute resolution in condominiums and for complaints filed with Bureau of Consumer Protection; in protection of purchasers, further providing for effect of violations on rights of action; in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in management of cooperatives, providing for alternative dispute resolution in cooperatives and for complaints filed with Bureau of Consumer Protection; in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in management of planned community, providing for alternative dispute resolution in planned communities and for complaints filed with Bureau of Consumer Protection; and in protection of purchasers, further providing for effect of violations on rights of action. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Final Passage by a vote of 50 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HB 638 Simmons, Justin (R)**

(PN 3164) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code, in district election officers, further providing for election officers to be sworn; in dates of elections and primaries and special elections, further providing for affidavits of candidates; in nomination of candidates, further providing for petition may consist of several sheets and affidavit of circulator, for affidavits of candidates, for examination of nomination petitions, certificates and papers and return of rejected nomination petitions, certificates and papers, for vacancy in party nomination by failure to pay filing fee or for failure to file loyalty oath, for affidavits of candidates, for filling of certain vacancies in public office by means of nomination certificates and nomination papers and for substituted nominations to fill certain vacancies for a November election; in ballots, further providing for form and printing of ballots; in returns of primaries and elections, further providing for manner of computing irregular ballots; and replacing references to "justice of the peace" with "magisterial district judge." The bill's stated intent is to remove the ability of candidates for school board to cross-file nomination petitions. Also removes references to the "traffic court of Philadelphia". Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 675)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 866 Dunbar, George (R)**

(PN 972) Amends the Local Tax Enabling Act, in local taxes, further providing for definitions, for payroll tax and for payment of tax to other political subdivisions or states as credit or deduction and withholding tax; in consolidated collection of local income taxes, further providing for definitions, for declaration and payment of income taxes, for tax collection committees, for powers and duties of department, for powers and duties of tax officer and for withholding and remittance; and, in collection of delinquent taxes, further providing for penalties and for costs of collection of delinquent per capita, occupation, occupational privilege, emergency and municipal services, local services and income taxes. The stated intent of the bill is to provide clarification that taxpayers with no income will not be required to file a local return, to insert clear and concise safe harbor language for estimated taxes, provide oversight of the local Tax Collection Committee, clarify tax withholdings for temporary job assignments, provide W2 reporting requirements, define non-resident, and provide that audits of taxes received and disbursed shall be on a calendar year basis only. Provides that beginning January 1, 2020, no political subdivision, tax collection committee or tax officer in administering this act may use any form other than that which is promulgated by the department. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Final Passage by a vote of 44 YEAS 6 NAYS**

**HB 913 Everett, Garth (R)**

(PN 1944) Amends Title 8 (Boroughs & Incorporated Towns) adding provisions related to incorporated towns and providing for storm water management plans and facilities. The bill adds language allowing an incorporated town council to assess fees for storm water management activities and facilities without the need to establish a municipal authority. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1067, 1713)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Removed from the table**

**HB 914 Everett, Garth (R)**

(PN 1945) Amends Title 8 (Boroughs & Incorporated Towns) adding language allowing a borough to assess fees for storm water management activities and facilities without the need to establish a municipal authority. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1068)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Removed from the table**

**HB 915 Everett, Garth (R)**

(PN 1946) Amends the First Class Township Code adding language allowing the board of commissioners to assess fees for storm water management activities and facilities without the need to establish a municipal authority. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1069)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Removed from the table**

**HB 916 Everett, Garth (R)**

(PN 1947) Amends Title 11 (Cities) adding language allowing a city to assess fees for storm water management activities and facilities without the need to establish a municipal authority. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1070)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Removed from the table**

**HB 945 DeLuca, Anthony (D)**

(PN 1100) Amends Title 25 (Elections), in voter registration, further providing for methods of voter registration, providing for same-day voter registration and further providing for time and for preparation and distribution of applications. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**HB 946 DeLuca, Anthony (D)**

(PN 1101) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code providing for early voting in primaries and elections. The county board of a county shall provide for early voting to begin 15 days prior to the dates of elections and primaries. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H- Press conference held**

**HB 947 DeLuca, Anthony (D)**

(PN 1102) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code further providing for limitations on eligibility of candidates. A candidate may not file a nominating petition for more than one State, county or municipal public office in an election year. A public official may not file a nominating petition for State, county or municipal public office, unless any of the following apply: (1) The nominating petition is for the same State, county or municipal public office that the public official currently holds; (2) The nominating petition is for a State, county or municipal public office that begins after the public official's current term of office expires; or (3) The public official resigns from the public office that the public official currently holds. These provisions shall not apply to a candidate for the office of President or Vice President of the United States. Effective January 1, 2018.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H- Press conference held**

**HB 948 DeLuca, Anthony (D)**

(PN 1103) Amends the public Official Compensation Law further providing for members of the General Assembly by stipulating that a senator or representative may not annually receive more than 35 percent of the base salary of a member of the General Assembly in salary for services rendered outside of the salary and allowances of his or her office. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H- Press conference held**

**HB 949 DeLuca, Anthony (D)**

(PN 1104) Amends Title 65 (Public Officers), in ethics standards and financial disclosure, providing that the statement of financial interests shall include the amount and source of any direct or indirect source of income totaling in the aggregate \$1,300 or more. The source shall be identified by its name and address and the amount shall be reported in ranges. Effective January 1, 2019.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H- Press conference held**

**HB 1024 Benninghoff, Kerry (R)**

(PN 2518) Amends the Adult Protective Services Act, in reporting suspected abuse by employees, providing for statewide adult abuse registry. The bill requires the Department of Human Services to establish a statewide adult abuse registry of individuals who have been convicted of simple assault, aggravated assault and neglect of a care-dependent person. Effective in 180 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1183)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid on the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 1076 Caltagirone, Thomas (D)**

(PN 1354) Amends Title 68 (Real and Personal Property), in land banks, further providing for legislative findings and purpose, for powers and for disposition of property and providing for exemption from realty transfer tax by establishing that a transfer of real property to or from a land bank shall be exempt from both the State and local realty transfer tax. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid on the table**

**HB 1341 Pyle, Jeff (R)**

(PN 2065) Amends the Bituminous Coal Mine Safety Act adding language allowing a mine operator to have an emergency medical responder (EMR), an emergency medical technician (EMT), or an advanced emergency medical technician on duty in an underground coal mine. Requires an EMR, as defined in the bill, employed in underground mining to complete three additional courses from the EMT certification that have applicability to mining emergencies. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1660)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Signed in the House**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Signed in the Senate**

**HB 1364 James, Lee (R)**

(PN 2017) Amends the Act entitled “An act authorizing political subdivisions, municipality authorities and transportation authorities to enter into contracts for the purchase of goods and the sale of real and personal property where no bids are received,” further providing for title of the act; adding a short title; and providing for contracts for services. The bill creates a short title as the Public Contract Bid Nonreceipt Act and establishes when a political subdivision, municipality authority or transportation authority is required to advertise for bids in order to enter into a contract for services and no bids are received, the political subdivision, municipality authority or transportation authority may proceed by (1) advertising for bids a second time, (2) initiating negotiations for a contract to obtain the services previously advertised, with any provider not otherwise disqualified by law or an enactment or policy of the governing body, and (3) at a regular or special meeting of its governing body, must publicly announce the identity of the parties, the proposed contract price and a summary of the other terms and conditions relating to any proposed contract. Also establishes penalties for evasion. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1693)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table (Pursuant to Senate Rule 9)**

**HB 1412 Barrar, Stephen (R)**

(PN 3120) Amends Title 66 (Public Utilities), in restructuring of electric utility industry, providing for microgrid and energy storage by adding an electric distribution company may propose energy storage or microgrid pilot programs for review and approval by the Public Utility Commission the Public Utility Commission (PUC), with approval guidelines for the PUC to consider. Requires a report by the PUC with specific criteria to be considered and included in the report and shared with the General Assembly; provides an electric distribution company the opportunity to recover costs that are reasonable and prudently incurred; provides net proceeds from the distributed emergency resources shall be credited to ratepayers; provides explicit authority to the PUC over the rate structure and cost allocation for projects and the allocation of wholesale market proceeds consistent with recommendations of the PUC; and provides flexibility for the PUC to approve inclusion of other forms of distributed energy resources at its discretion, consistent with recommendations of the PUC. (Prior Printer Number: 1777)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Recommitted to House Veterans Affairs & Emergency Prepared.**

**HB 1488 Deasy, Daniel (D)**

(PN 1895) Amends the Massage Therapy Law further providing for powers and duties of the board by establishing an individual applying for licensure for the first time shall be exempted from the continuing education requirement for the biennial renewal period following initial licensure. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid on the table**

**HB 1539 Pashinski, Eddie Day (D)**

(PN 3311) Amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations), in standby guardianship, further providing for definitions and for scope and providing for temporary guardianship. Also in child protective services, further providing for release of information in confidential reports. Establishes temporary guardianship appointed when an individual who is a parent of a minor has entered a rehabilitation facility for treatment of a drug or alcohol addiction and is limited to no more than 60 days from the entry of the order. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1996)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted favorably from committee on House Appropriations**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported as committed from House Appropriations**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Final Passage by a vote of 192 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HB 1641 Cutler, Bryan (R)**

(PN 2734) The Employment First Act provides for competitive integrated employment in state and county agencies and any entity providing publicly funded education, training, employment and related services and long-term services and supports for working-age Pennsylvanians with a disability; establishes Employment First, the Governor's Cabinet for People with Disabilities and the Employment First Oversight Commission and provides for their powers and duties; and confers powers and imposes duties on the Governor and the Office of the Governor. The bill establishes that it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth that competitive integrated employment shall be the preferred outcome for all individuals with a disability eligible to work under federal or state law, regardless of severity of disability and assistance required and work-based learning experiences for all youth with a disability in collaboration with the Department of Labor and Industry. Employment services and opportunities must be offered to all individuals with a disability receiving publicly funded services, regardless of whether they live in their own home or in a residential setting. The Office of the Governor shall develop an initial three-year plan based upon information provided by the state agencies for implementing Employment First for submission to the General Assembly. The plan shall identify the specific policies and implementation dates for state agency compliance. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 2192)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Press conference held**

**HB 1642 Hill, Kristin (R)**

(PN 2332) The Communications Assets and Wireless Broadband Services Act requires the Department of General Services to conduct an annual inventory of all communication towers, poles, buildings, facilities and other assets owned by a commonwealth department, agency, board, commission or other entity. Also requires the department to leverage existing State-owned assets for the provision of high-speed broadband to unserved areas and underserved areas. Provides the inventory shall be made publicly available to persons or private entities who wish to install or collect wireless facilities to provide high-speed broadband services within the commonwealth. Further provides for the lease or conveyance of communication towers. Also provides for departmental guidelines; approvals; and request for proposals. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Passed over in committee House State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted favorably from committee as amended House State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported as amended House State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-First consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid on the table**

**HB 1843 Grove, Seth (R)**

(PN 2560) Amends Title 72 (Taxation & Fiscal Affairs) adding new language establishing the Financial Watch Program within the Treasury Department for the purpose of ensuring that Commonwealth programs do not expend money in excess of the amount appropriated to the Commonwealth programs. Provides information relating to the program and findings of the program to be placed online. Further provides for duties of the State Treasurer, duties of Commonwealth agencies, corrective action plans, and withholding of funds. Requires the House and Senate Appropriation Committees to hold a public hearing on the details of the finalized corrective action plan. Effective in 90 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted favorably from committee as amended House State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported as amended House State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-First consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid on the table**

**HB 1925 Peifer, Michael (R)**

(PN 2717) The Senior Citizen Tax Reduction Incentive Act authorizes municipalities to establish a senior citizen tax reduction incentive volunteer exchange program that provides real property tax credits to participants in exchange for participants performing volunteer services for the municipality. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted from committee with request to re-refer to House Aging House Finance**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported with request to re-refer to House Aging House Finance**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Aging and Older Adult Services**

**HB 2030 Bernstine, Aaron (F) (R)**

(PN 3009) Amends Title 8 (Boroughs & Incorporated Towns), in manufacture and supply of electricity, further providing for specific powers and providing for security deposits, for payment agreements and for restrictions on termination; and making an editorial change. The bill establishes that a borough, through its governing body, shall have the power to regulate the use of and the charge for electricity furnished by the borough, if situate in more than one county, for use by residents in those counties. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Final Passage by a vote of 106 YEAS 89 NAYS**

**HB 2040 Hennessey, Tim (R)**

(PN 2974) The Senior Tax Reduction Incentive Volunteer Exchange Program Act authorizes public school districts to implement a senior tax reduction incentive volunteer exchange program. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted from committee with request to re-refer to House Aging House Finance**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported with request to re-refer to House Aging House Finance**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Aging and Older Adult Services**

**HB 2066 Dowling, Matthew (F) (R)**

(PN 2999) Amends Title 74 (Transportation), in scenic highways, further providing for designation of certain State routes as scenic byways. The bill provides for the designation of the National Road with the stated intent being to designate the original National Road and not any rerouted portion of U.S. Route 40. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2078 Markosek, Joseph (D)**

(PN 3141) Act appropriating \$47,278,000 from the Professional Licensure Augmentation Account to the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs, including the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners. Appropriates \$8,460,000 from the restricted receipts account of the State Board of Medicine for the operation of the board for fiscal year 2018-19. Appropriates \$2,283,000 from the restricted receipts account of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine for the operation of the board for fiscal year 2018-19. Appropriations \$284,000 from the restricted receipts account of the State Board of Podiatry for the operation of the board for fiscal year 2018-19. Appropriates \$647,000 from the Athletic Commission Augmentation Account for the State Athletics Commission for its operation for fiscal year 2018-19. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2080 Markosek, Joseph (D)**

(PN 3143) Act appropriating \$1,855,000 from the restricted revenue account within the General Fund to the Office of Small Business Advocate in the Department of Community and Economic Development to provide for its operation for fiscal year 2018-19. Effective July 1, 2018 or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2081 Markosek, Joseph (D)**

(PN 3144) Act appropriating from a restricted revenue account within the General Fund \$5,850,000 to the Office of Consumer Advocate in the Office of Attorney General. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2082 Markosek, Joseph (D)**

(PN 3325) Act appropriating \$51,637,000 from the Public School Employees' Retirement Fund and \$4,950,000 from the PSERS Defined Contribution Fund to provide for expenses of the Public School Employees' Retirement Board including all salaries, wages and other compensation and travel expenses of the employees and the members of the board for the fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later. (Prior Printer Number: 3145)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2083 Markosek, Joseph (D)**

(PN 3146) Act appropriating \$30,766,000 from the State Employees' Retirement Fund and \$4,901,000 from the SERS Defined Contribution Fund to provide for expenses of the State Employees' Retirement Board for the fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2084 Markosek, Joseph (D)**

(PN 3147) Act appropriating \$2,935,000 from the Philadelphia Taxicab and Limousine Regulatory Fund and \$200,000 from the Philadelphia Taxicab Medallion Fund to the Philadelphia Parking Authority for fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2085 Markosek, Joseph (D)**

(PN 3148) Act appropriating \$74,185,000 from a restricted revenue account within the General Fund and from Federal augmentation funds to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission for the fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. \$3,977,000 from the federal appropriation is allocated for natural gas pipeline safety and \$2,090,000 from the federal appropriation is allocated for motor carrier safety. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2086 Markosek, Joseph (D)**

(PN 3326) The Gaming Control Appropriation Act of 2018 makes the following appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018: (1) From the State Gaming Fund: \$1,340,000 to the Attorney General; \$8,267,000 to the Department of Revenue; \$28,115,000 to the Pennsylvania State Police; and \$46,153,000 to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board; (2) From the Fantast Contest Fund restricted revenue accounts: \$400,000 to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board; and \$1,459,000 to the Department of Revenue; and (3) From the Video Gaming Fund: \$2,000,000 to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board; and \$3,014,000 to the Department of Revenue. There is no authority for the State Treasurer, the Secretary of the Budget, the Secretary of Revenue or the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to transfer any money within or between the appropriations. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later. (Prior Printer Number: 3149)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2133 Watson, Katharine (R)**

(PN 3107) The Kinship Caregiver Services Navigator Program Act establishes the Kinship Caregiver Navigator Program in the Department of Human Services; and provides for creation of the kinship caregiver navigator website to provide information on support and services available to current kinship caregivers and prospective kinship caregivers. A kinship caregiver navigator shall: (1) Assist kinship caregivers with finding information for relevant Federal and State benefits, local supports and services; (2) Mediate with State agency staff or service providers and, when necessary, assist in establishing relationships between kinship caregivers and relevant Federal and State agency staff; (3) Work with the local area agency on aging and county agency to identify and provide outreach to kinship caregivers in need of additional services; and (4) Refer kinship caregivers to the appropriate county agency contact. Effective in 180 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted favorably from committee on House Appropriations**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported as committed from House Appropriations**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Final Passage by a vote of 190 YEAS 2 NAYS**

**HB 2138 Dowling, Matthew (F) (R)**

(PN 3328) Amends the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing for work requirements. The bill requires the secretary to apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a demonstration program under section 1115 of the Social Security Act in order to institute a work requirement for a Medicaid enrollee who meets certain criteria. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 3158)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Final Passage by a vote of 115 YEAS 80 NAYS**

**HB 2155 Bloom, Stephen (R)**

(PN 3276) Amends the Public School Code further providing for vocational instructional certificate. Adds language directing the State Board of Education to require an applicant for a vocational instructional certificate to present evidence of at least four years of wage-earning experience in the occupation to be taught in order for the Secretary of Education to grant the applicant the certificate. Further provides the board shall not require an applicant to have completed more than 18 credit hours in an approved program of vocational teacher education in order for the secretary to grant the applicant a certificate which shall entitle the individual to teach for eight annual school terms. Also provides the board shall not require an applicant to have completed more than 60 total credit hours in an approved program of vocational teacher education to be granted a Vocational Instructional II Certificate. Requires the Department of Education to form a professional advisory committee to review vocational instructional certification program guidelines every five years. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2156 Tobash, Mike (R)**

(PN 3277) Amends the Public School Code adding a new article establishing the Career and Technical Education Partnership Tax Credit Program to expand access to high-career and technical education by encouraging private investment in education, career and technical education programs and the repair, upkeep, replacement and upgrading of industry-grade materials and instructional equipment. Provides for qualification and application by organizations; application by business firms; tax credits; limitations; lists; guidelines; school participation in program; scholarships; carryover, carryback, refund and assignment; and original jurisdiction. Further provides the total aggregate amount of all approved tax credits for contributions from business firms shall not exceed \$15 million in a fiscal year. Requires the Department of Community and Economic Development to submit an annual report summarizing the effectiveness of the tax credit to the chairs and minority chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations and Education Committees. Also provides the new article shall apply to taxable years commencing December, 31, 2018. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2157 Grove, Seth (R)**

(PN 3278) Amends the Public School Code adding language requiring the Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence to issue guidelines and update the guidelines every five years to identify the circumstances when a student who successfully completes an academic course, program or activity for credit may apply the credit toward completion of an agriculture education program. Requires the Department of Education to issue guidelines and update the guidelines every five years to identify the circumstances when a student who successfully completes a course, program or activity in science, technology, engineering or mathematics for credit may apply the credit toward the completion of a course, program or activity offered by any area vocational-technical school, technical institute or vocational school or department. Also requires the department to establish a standard application form for a public school entity seeking approval to establish or renew a classification of program code. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2158 Mako, Zachary (F) (R)**

(PN 3285) Amends the Public School Code, in preliminary provisions, providing for career information and recruitment. The bill establishes that school entities shall seek participation of representatives of skilled trades, area career and technical education schools, institutions of higher education, business, industry, charitable institutions or other employers regarding employment, employment training or education opportunities. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2159 Staats, Craig (R)**

(PN 3279) Amends the Public School Code adding language requiring all public schools, the Rural Regional College, state-related institutions, and the Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology to submit their articulation agreements to the Department of Education to be included in the department's electronic database and portal that displays articulation agreements entered into by community colleges, the institutions in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and institutions that elect to participate. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2203 Harkins, Patrick (D)**

(PN 3286) Amends the Public School Code, in vocational education, providing for an online career resource center. The bill requires the Department of Education to establish a central online clearinghouse which shall at a minimum include an online database of the following: postsecondary pathways and options; career and technical education and workforce; career pathways; data and statistics on employment opportunities and compensation; statewide and regional articulation agreements; and other relevant career resources. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2204 Mullery, Gerald (D)**

(PN 3252) Amends the Public School Code adding a new section requiring the Department of Education, no later than January 1, 2019, in consultation with the Department of Labor and Industry, to conduct an inventory to determine the number and types of workforce development programs offered at secondary and postsecondary institutions. Allows the department to compile a clearinghouse of model programs discovered during the inventory. Provides the department shall encourage the use of the model programs by secondary career and technical education programs, postsecondary programs and business and industry. Also requires the department to report its findings and actions to the chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations and Education Committees. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2205 Roebuck, James (D)**

(PN 3330) Amends the Public School Code, in vocational education, further providing for advisory committees by requiring that an occupational advisory committee be established for each career and technical education program or cluster of related career and technical education programs offered by an area vocational-technical school or school district. The occupational advisory committee shall be appointed by the board of directors of the area vocational-technical school or school district, as applicable. A majority of the members of the occupational advisory committee shall be employees and employers in the occupation for which the career and technical education program is provided. Each occupational advisory committee shall meet at least twice each year to: (1) advise the board of directors, administrators and staff on curriculum, equipment, instructional materials, safety requirements, program evaluation and other related matters; and (2) verify that the programs meet industry standards and, if appropriate, licensing board criteria, and that the programs prepare students with occupation-related competencies. To increase employer participation in an occupational advisory committee, the boards of directors of multiple area vocational-technical schools or school districts operating career and technical education programs may agree to establish a shared occupational advisory committee to serve all agreeing area vocational-technical schools or school districts, provided that all agreeing area vocational-technical schools or school districts are located within the same intermediate unit. If a shared occupational advisory committee is formed, the occupational advisory committee shall be designed to provide equal opportunities for all agreeing area vocational-technical schools or school districts to participate, including scheduling meetings at each area vocational-technical school or school district on a rotating basis. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2206 Roebuck, James (D)**

(PN 3331) Amends the Workforce development Act, in local workforce investment areas and boards, adding that membership shall include at least one local administrator of a career and technical center. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Removed from the table**

**HB 2213 Moul, Dan (R)**

(PN 3231) Amends the Human Services Code providing for the ability of adoptive families to appeal to the department the adoption subsidy amount provided by local authorities. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Voted favorably from committee on House Children and Youth**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Reported as committed from House Children and Youth**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-First consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid on the table**

**HB 2242 Saylor, Stanley (R)**

(PN 3291) Supplement to the act to accept grant of Public Lands, by the US, to several states, for endowment of Agricultural Colleges making appropriations for carrying the same into effect; providing for a basis for payments of such appropriations, for a method of accounting for the funds appropriated and for certain fiscal information disclosure; and making an appropriation from a restricted account within the Agricultural College Land Scrip Fund. The bill appropriates \$230,436,000 for general support and \$22,074,000 for Pennsylvania College of Technology. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Over in House**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2243 Saylor, Stanley (R)**

(PN 3292) Supplement to an act providing for the establishment and operation of the University of Pittsburgh as an instrumentality of the Commonwealth to serve as a State-related university in the higher education system of the Commonwealth; providing for change of name; providing for the composition of the board of trustees; terms of trustees, and the power and duties of such trustees; authorizing appropriations in amounts to be fixed annually by the General Assembly; providing for the auditing of accounts of expenditures from said appropriations; providing for public support and capital improvements; authorizing the issuance of bonds exempt from taxation within the Commonwealth; requiring the chancellor to make an annual report of the operations of the University of Pittsburgh," making appropriations for carrying the same into effect; and providing for a basis for payments of such appropriations, for a method of accounting for the funds appropriated and for certain fiscal information disclosure. The bill appropriates \$144,210,000 for general support and \$2,763,000 for rural education outreach to the Trustees of the University of Pittsburgh for the fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Over in House**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2244 Saylor, Stanley (R)**

(PN 3293) Supplement to an act providing for the establishment and operation of Temple University as an instrumentality of the Commonwealth to serve as a State-related university in the higher education system of the Commonwealth; providing for change of name; providing for the composition of the board of trustees; terms of trustees, and the power and duties of such trustees; providing for preference to Pennsylvania residents in tuition; providing for public support and capital improvements; authorizing appropriations in amounts to be fixed annually by the General Assembly; providing for the auditing of accounts of expenditures from said appropriations; authorizing the issuance of bonds exempt from taxation within the Commonwealth; requiring the President to make an annual report of the operations of Temple University," making an appropriation for carrying the same into effect; providing for a basis for payments of such appropriation; and providing a method of accounting for the funds appropriated and for certain fiscal information disclosure. The bill appropriates \$150,586,000 to the Trustees of Temple University for the fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Over in House**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2245 Saylor, Stanley (R)**

(PN 3294) Supplement to an act providing for the establishment and operation of Lincoln University as an instrumentality of the Commonwealth to serve as a State-related institution in the higher education system of the Commonwealth; providing for change of name; providing for the composition of the board of trustees; terms of trustees, and the power and duties of such trustees; providing for preference to Pennsylvania residents in tuition; authorizing appropriations in amounts to be fixed annually by the General Assembly; providing for the auditing of accounts of expenditures from said appropriations; providing for public support and capital improvements; authorizing the issuance of bonds exempt from taxation within the Commonwealth; requiring the President to make an annual report of the operations of Lincoln University," making an appropriation for carrying the same into effect; providing for a basis for payments of the appropriation; and providing a method of accounting for the funds appropriated and for certain fiscal information disclosure. The bill appropriates \$14,436,000 to the Trustees of Lincoln University, Chester County, for the fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019, for general support. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Over in House**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HB 2246 Saylor, Stanley (R)**

(PN 3295) Act making appropriations to the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania. The bill appropriates \$30,135,000 for veterinary activities and \$281,000 for the Center for Infectious Diseases to the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania for the fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. Effective July 1, 2018, or immediately, whichever is later.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Over in House**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**HR 76 Miller, Daniel (D)**

(PN 427) Concurrent Resolution declaring that the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is opposed to the enactment and enforcement of a State law, under a Federal mandate, that requires the suspension or revocation, or the delay of issuance or reinstatement, of the driver's license of an individual convicted of a violation of the Controlled Substances Act or another drug offense; urging the Governor to submit a written certification stating the Governor's opposition to the State law along with this resolution to the United States Secretary of Transportation; and accordingly preventing the United States Secretary of Transportation from withholding a specified percentage of Federal transportation apportionments under 23 U.S.C. 159.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 189 YEAS 3 NAYS**

**HR 390 Pashinski, Eddie Day (D)**

(PN 1989) Resolution directing the Joint State Government Commission to study the trend of grandfamilies in Pennsylvania and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-1 Floor amendment(s) adopted**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 187 YEAS 5 NAYS**

**HR 429 Hill, Kristin (R)**

(PN 3312) Resolution establishing a legislative task force on the delivery of high-speed broadband services and directing the Joint State Government Commission to establish an advisory committee to conduct a study on the delivery of high-speed broadband services in unserved areas and underserved areas of this Commonwealth and to report its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives. (Prior Printer Number: 2266) 3312

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**HR 430 Hill, Kristin (R)**

(PN 2267) Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee and the Joint State Government Commission to jointly conduct an audit and study on the compliance of nonrural telecommunication carriers with the Public Utility Code and high-speed broadband universal service deployment mandates and to report their findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**HR 431 Hill, Kristin (R)**

(PN 2268) Resolution urging the Auditor General to conduct an audit of the Department of Education's administration of the Educational Technology Fund and to report the findings of the audit to the House of Representatives.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 192 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 728 Christiana, Jim (R)**

(PN 3082) Recognizes April 17, 2018, as "World Hemophilia Day" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 753 Kinsey, Stephen (D)**

(PN 3133) Resolution designating April 17, 2018, as "Tuskegee Airmen Day" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 762 Freeman, Robert (D)**

(PN 3177) Resolution recognizing the month of May 2018 as "Bladder Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 770 Murt, Thomas (R)**

(PN 3190) Resolution recognizing the week of April 16 through 22, 2018, as "Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 783 Longiotti, Mark (D)**

(PN 3221) Resolution designating the week of April 15 through 21, 2018 as "Pittsburgh Life Sciences Week 2018" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 786 Heffley, Doyle (R)**

(PN 3234) Resolution commemorating the 175th anniversary of Carbon County.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 797 Diamond, Russ (R)**

(PN 3256) Resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Borough of Myerstown.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 803 Marsico, Ron (R)**

(PN 3262) Resolution recognizing April 27, 2018, as "Arbor Day," promoting public participation in the celebration and recognizing the value of trees to our environment.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 834 Krueger-Braneky, Leanne (D)**

(PN 3339) Resolution designating the month of May 2018 as "Fibromuscular Dysplasia Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 835 Harris, Jordan (D)**

(PN 3340) Resolution honoring the 40th anniversary of Cheyney University's 1977-1978 men's Division II National Championship Basketball Team.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**HR 836 Gainey, Ed (D)**

(PN 3341) Resolution recognizing the efforts and contributions that the architectural community and AIA Pennsylvania have made to celebrate and promote equity, diversity and inclusion within the profession of architecture and in workplaces throughout this Commonwealth.

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Adopted by a vote of 195 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**SB 21 Mensch, Bob (R)**

(PN 1323) The Employment First Act provides for competitive integrated employment in state and county agencies and any entity providing publicly funded education, training, employment and related services and long-term services and supports for working-age Pennsylvanians with a disability; establishes Employment First, the Governor's Cabinet for People with Disabilities and the Employment First Oversight Commission and providing for their powers and duties; and confers powers and imposes duties on the governor and the Office of the Governor. The bill establishes that it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth that competitive employment in integrated settings shall be the preferred outcome for all working age adults and youth with disabilities, regardless of severity of disability and assistance required. Employment services and opportunities must be offered to all individuals receiving publicly funded services, regardless of whether they live in their own home or in a residential setting. The Office of the Governor shall develop an initial three-year plan based upon information provided by the state agencies for implementing Employment First for submission to the General Assembly. The plan shall identify the specific policies and implementation dates for State agency compliance with this act. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1053)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Press conference held**

**SB 25 Bartolotta, Camera (R)**

(PN 314) Amends the Professional Nursing Law further providing for definitions, for State Board of Nursing, for dietitian-nutritionist license required, for temporary practice permit, for graduates of schools of other states, territories or Dominion of Canada, for certified registered nurse practitioners, for scope of practice for certified registered nurse practitioners, for prescriptive authority for certified registered nurse practitioners, for Drug Review Committee and for professional liability; and providing for the expiration of the State Board of Nursing's power to license certified registered nurse practitioners. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Press conference held**

**SB 108 Sabatina, John (D)**

(PN 1529) Amends Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries), in anatomical gifts, further providing for manner of executing anatomical gifts by providing rights and protections for certain individuals. The bill states that an individual who is in need of an anatomical gift shall not be deemed ineligible to receive an anatomical gift solely because of the individual's physical or mental disability, except to the extent that the physical or mental disability has been found by a physician or surgeon following an individualized evaluation of the individual to be medically significant to the provision of the anatomical gift. Effective immediately. (Prior Printer Number: 82)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-1 Floor amendment(s) adopted**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Over in House**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**SB 180 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1532) Amends Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries), in ownership of property and legal title and equitable estate, further providing for right to dispose of a decedent's remains; in health care, further providing for example; in anatomical gifts, further providing for definitions, providing for scope, further providing for persons who may execute anatomical gift, for persons who may become donees and purposes for which anatomical gifts may be made, for manner of executing anatomical gifts, for rights and duties at death, for requests for anatomical gifts, for use of driver's license or identification card to indicate organ or tissue donation, for The Governor Robert P. Casey Memorial Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Trust Fund contributions, for The Governor Robert P. Casey Memorial Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Trust Fund, for confidentiality requirement and for prohibited activities, providing for promotion of organ and tissue donation, establishing the Donate Life PA Registry, providing for facilitation of anatomical gift from decedent whose death is under investigation, for collaboration among departments and organ procurement organizations, for requirements for physician and nurse training relative to organ and tissue donation and recovery, for Department of Transportation, for Department of Corrections, for study of organ procurement organizations and for relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, repealing provisions relating to corneal transplants and providing for vascularized composite allografts. Portions are effective immediately, portions are effective in 60 days, and the remainder is effective upon publication of notice. (Prior Printer Number: 923, 1530)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-1 Floor amendment(s) adopted**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Second consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Over in House**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Rereferred to House Appropriations**

**SB 189 McGarrigle, Thomas (R)**

(PN 178) Amends the Crime Victims Act adding that victims of crime have the right to not be excluded from any criminal or juvenile proceeding in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. 6336 (relating to conduct of hearings), unless the court, based on the record before it, determines that testimony by the victim would be materially altered if the victim heard other testimony at the proceeding. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Voted favorably from committee on Senate Judiciary**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as committed from Senate Judiciary**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-First consideration**

**SB 299 Alloway, Richard (R)**

(PN 1636) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code, in nomination of candidates, further providing for number of signers required for nomination petitions of candidates at primaries adding that for office of magisterial district judge 100 signatures is required, but only for a candidate's primary election when the candidate does not already hold the office of magisterial district judge. A sitting magisterial district judge elected to the office shall not be required to file a nominating petition to run for the office of magisterial district judge but may instead file a certificate of nomination for reelection specifying the intent to seek reelection to the office. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Voted favorably from committee on Senate State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as committed from Senate State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-First consideration**

**SB 479 Dinniman, Andrew (D)**

(PN 468) The Pennsylvania Family and Medical Leave Act requires an employer to provide up to six weeks of the same leave to an eligible employee to which the eligible employee is entitled under the Family and Medical Leave Act with respect to a spouse, son, daughter or parent, but only for the eligible employee's sibling, grandparent or grandchild, provided the sibling, grandparent or grandchild has no living spouse, child over 17 years of age or parent under 65 years of age. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Public hearing held in committee Senate Labor and Industry**

**SB 595 Folmer, Mike (R)**

(PN 912) Amends Title 57 (Notaries Public), in revised uniform law on notarial acts, defining "audio-video communication" and further providing for personal appearance required and for identification of individual by allowing notarial acts to occur via means of audio-video communication. Provides for journal entries for audio visual communications; requires the Department of State to publish proposed regulations regarding performance of notarial acts by means of audio visual communication within eighteen months. The amendment or addition of section 327(a) and (c) of the act are effective immediately the remainder is effective on the date of publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking in the Pennsylvania Bulletin under section 327(c). (Prior Printer Number: 699)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Voted favorably from committee as amended Senate State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as amended Senate State Government**

**SB 653 Browne, Patrick (R)**

(PN 1374) Amends the Local Tax Enabling Act, in local taxes, further providing for collection; in consolidated collection of local income taxes, further providing for tax collection committees and for powers and duties of tax officer; in collection of delinquent taxes, further providing for costs of collection; and making a related editorial change. The bill consolidates the collection of local taxes by requiring a tax officer to collect each authorized tax, except tax upon the transfer of real property or of an interest in real property. Changes the weighted voting system for tax collection committees to be based on the aggregate of all taxes collected instead of just income taxes. A contingent fee audit may not be conducted in the collection of delinquent taxes. Effective January 1, 2019, or immediately, whichever is later. (Prior Printer Number: 892, 942)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-1 Floor amendment(s) adopted**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Over in Senate**

**SB 742 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1162) Amends the Sexual Assault Testing and Evidence Collection Act further providing for rights of sexual assault victims. The bill establishes the right not to be prevented from, or charged for, receiving a medical forensic examination. It also defines "sexual assault counselor." Requires the appropriate official with custody of the collection kit to collaborate with a sexual assault counselor to employ best practices when notifying a victim of information pertinent to the victim. Also requires the Attorney General, in consultation with the Office of Victim Advocate, the State Police and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, to develop a standard protocol for notifying victims. The Attorney General, State Police and Office of Victim Advocate shall post the standard protocol on the internet. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 909)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Final Passage by a vote of 50 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**SB 780 Vogel, Jr., Elder (R)**

(PN 1448) The Telemedicine Act provides for telemedicine and for insurance coverage. The bill stipulates that the Commonwealth's health professional licensure boards shall maintain consistent licensure or certification and standards of care requirements between in-person and telemedicine-provided practices for health care practitioners. The bill outlines standards for evaluation and treatment through telemedicine and requires insurance coverage of such treatment. The Department of Human Services shall provide medical assistance coverage and reimbursement, including medical assistance fee-for-service and managed care programs, for health care services delivered through telemedicine. Effective in 90 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1001)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Removed from the table**

**SB 837 Ward, Kim (R)**

(PN 1528) Act designating a portion of State Route 981 in Smithton Borough and South Huntingdon Township, Westmoreland County, as the Specialist 4 William J. Kolenc Memorial Highway. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1099)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Re-reported on concurrence as committed SRULES**

**SB 844 White, Donald (R)**

(PN 1531) Amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations), in child custody, allowing individuals to file for physical or legal custody if no biological or adoptive parents have custody of a child and the individual assumes or is willing to assume responsibility further providing for standing for any form of physical custody or legal custody, has a sustained, substantial and sincere interest in the welfare of the child. The bill provides for exceptions and for standing or partial physical custody and supervised physical custody relating to grandparents. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1133, 1375)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Re-reported on concurrence as committed SRULES**

**SB 877 White, Donald (R)**

(PN 1458) Amends the Insurance Department Act allowing insurance providers to offer or give to an insured or prospective insured money or any favor, advantage, object, valuable consideration or anything other than money which has a cost or redeemable value of \$100 or less, which is not specified in the contract of insurance. The amount may be increased by the insurance commissioner. Further provides an insurance producer may not make receipt of anything or value contingent on the purchase of insurance. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1135)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Re-reported on concurrence as committed SRULES**

**SB 878 White, Donald (R)**

(PN 1459) Amends the Insurance Company Law allowing insurance providers to offer or give to an insured or prospective insured money or any favor, advantage, object, valuable consideration or anything other than money which has a cost or redeemable value of \$100 or less, which is not specified in the contract of insurance. The amount may be increased by the insurance commissioner. Further provides an insurance producer may not make receipt of anything or value contingent on the purchase of insurance. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1136)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Re-reported on concurrence as committed SRULES**

**SB 915 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1534) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary) adding a new subchapter relating to Victim and Witness Outreach. Also amends section 9545 relating to jurisdiction and proceedings extending the time period from 60 days to one year for a person bringing a petition for a post-conviction relief action. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Final Passage by a vote of 50 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**SB 916 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1535) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in post-trial matters, further providing for postconviction DNA testing. The stated intent is to update the law by removing the supervision requirement, allowing those who plead guilty to access testing, requiring the Commonwealth to identify all physical evidence in a case, allowing testing when new DNA testing technology becomes available, and matching with DNA profiles the FBI's DNA database. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Final Passage by a vote of 50 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**SB 936 White, Donald (R)**

(PN 1281) Amends the Workers' Compensation Act, in liability and compensation, further providing for prescription drugs and the treatment of work-related injuries; and, in procedure, further providing for peer review. The bill requires the department to select a nationally recognized, evidence-based prescription drug formulary appropriate for resolving issues related to drugs prescribed for or related to the treatment of work-related injuries and establishes requirements related to the formulary for comment periods, selection factors, costs, annual review, online availability, savings calculations, and utilization review. The bill also places requirements on utilization review organizations and peer review organizations for certification. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Signed in the Senate**

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-Signed in the House**

**SB 961 Rafferty, John (R)**

(PN 1585) Amends Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 75 (Vehicles), in licensing of drivers, further providing for learner's permits and for driving while operating privilege is suspended or revoked; in miscellaneous provisions, further providing for the offenses of homicide by vehicle, aggravated assault by vehicle, homicide by vehicle while driving under influence and aggravated assault by vehicle while driving under the influence; and for accidents involving death or personal injury while not properly licensed; and, in driving after imbibing alcohol or utilizing drugs, further providing for grading. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1337, 1390)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Second consideration**

**SB 1003 White, Donald (R)**

(PN 1389) Amends the Insurance Company Law, in quality health care accountability and protection, further providing for emergency services adding that the managed care plan shall pay any reasonably necessary costs associated with medically necessary emergency services provided during the period of emergency, subject to any copayment, coinsurance or deductible as specified in the health insurance policy and consistent with the managed care plan's medical policies. The managed care plan shall pay for services rendered by licensed emergency medical services agencies that have the ability to transport patients or are providing and billing for services under an agreement with an agency which has that ability. The managed care plan may not deny a claim for payment of costs solely because the enrollee did not require transport or refused to be transported. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1382)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-1 Floor amendment(s) adopted**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Over in Senate**

**SB 1036 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1472) Amends Titles 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 75 (Vehicles), in sentencing, further providing for payment of court costs, restitution and fines, for fine and for failure to pay fine; in licensing of drivers, further providing for suspension of operating privilege for failure to respond to citation; and, in penalties and disposition of fines, further providing for inability to pay fine and costs. The bill requires a judge to conduct a hearing to determine whether a defendant is financially able to pay and provides for payment in installments in cases of manifest hardship. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Passed over in committee Senate Judiciary**

**SB 1038 Costa, Jay (D)**

(PN 1474) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code, in primary and election expenses, further providing for residual funds. Adds language to allow a candidate or political action committee that has terminated its financial activity to donate any residual funds to a nonprofit organization. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Voted favorably from committee on Senate State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as committed from Senate State Government**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-First consideration**

**SB 1050 Martin, Scott (F) (R)**

(PN 1519) Amends Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses), in abortion, defining "Down syndrome" and further providing for medical consultation and judgment by stipulating that no abortion shall be deemed necessary if sought exclusively for either or both of the following reasons: (1) The sex of the unborn child; and (2) A prenatal diagnosis of or belief that the unborn child has Down syndrome. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 12, 2018 - S-Press conference held**

**SB 1056 Brooks, Michele (R)**

(PN 1509) Amends the Tax Reform Code, in corporate net income tax, further providing for definitions. The stated intent of the bill is to align state law with federal law's 100 percent bonus depreciation. Effective immediately.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Voted favorably from committee as amended Senate Finance**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as amended Senate Finance**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-First consideration**

**SB 1071 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1555) Amends Titles 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 61 (Prisons and Parole), in judicial boards and commissions, further providing for powers and duties, for adoption of guidelines for sentencing, for adoption of guidelines for county intermediate punishment, for adoption of guidelines for State intermediate punishment and for adoption of risk assessment instrument; in sentencing, further providing for sentencing generally, for order of probation, for sentence of partial confinement, for sentence of total confinement, for sentence of county intermediate punishment, for information required upon commitment and subsequent disposition, for modification or revocation of order of probation, for court-imposed sanctions for offenders violating probation, for modification or revocation of county intermediate punishment sentence and for revocation of State intermediate punishment sentence; in county intermediate punishment, further providing for county intermediate punishment programs and for continued eligibility; in motivational boot camp, further providing for definitions, for selection of inmate participants and for motivational boot camp program; in State intermediate punishment, further providing scope of chapter, for definitions, for referral to State intermediate punishment program, for drug offender treatment program and for reports; in recidivism risk reduction incentive, further providing for definitions, for evaluation and for reports; in Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, further providing for definitions, for advisory committee, for general powers of board, for probation services, for parole power, providing for short sentence parole, further providing for violation of terms of parole and for parole procedure; and making conforming amendments. This bill is part of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. Portions are effective in 60 days, portions are effective in 120 days and the remainder is effective immediately. (Prior Printer Number: 1526)

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Over in Senate**

**SB 1073 Vulakovich, Randy (R)**

(PN 1578) Amends the Enforcement Officer Disability Benefits Law to extend coverage to the following: Allegheny County Port Authority police officers; park rangers employed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; police officers at Fort Indiantown Gap; university police officers at the state-related universities; campus police officers at the schools in the State System of Higher Education; special investigators of the Office of Inspector General; and Allegheny County Housing Authority Police. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Voted favorably from committee as amended Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Prepa**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as amended Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Prepared.**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-First consideration**

**SB 1078 Tomlinson, Robert (R)**

(PN 1560) Amends Title 65 (Public Officers), in open meetings, adding that an executive session may be held to discuss, plan or review matters and records that are deemed necessary for emergency preparedness, protection of public safety and security of all property in a manner that if disclosed would be reasonably likely to jeopardize or threaten public safety or preparedness or public protection. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Third consideration**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Final Passage by a vote of 50 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**SB 1090 Corman, Jake (R)**

(PN 1583) Amends Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in offenses involving danger to the person, providing for antihazing and prescribing penalties; in forfeiture of assets, further providing for asset forfeiture; and making a related repeal. The bill adds a chapter to Title 18 on antihazing, defines the offense of hazing, and provides for aggravated hazing, organizational hazing, and institutional hazing. Institutions and secondary schools shall adopt policies against hazing and appropriate penalties for hazing. Title 42 is amended to provide for asset forfeiture for aggravated hazing. Effective in 30 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid out for discussion**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-1 Floor amendment(s) adopted**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Over in Senate**

**SB 1092 Mensch, Bob (R)**

(PN 1577) Amends Title 18 (Crimes & Offenses) adding language further providing for the offense of endangering welfare of children to include an individual who commits a personal injury crime knowing the crime was witnessed, either through sight or sound, by another person who is less than 18 years of age and a member of the individual or other individual's family. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Voted favorably from committee on Senate Judiciary**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as committed from Senate Judiciary**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-First consideration**

**SB 1126 Reschenthaler, Guy (R)**

(PN 1638) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in selection and retention of judicial officers, further providing for continuing education requirement by adding that on a frequency as determined appropriate by the board, the program shall include instruction on options available to indigent defendants for failure to pay court costs, fines, restitution or fees in summary cases. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Passed over in committee Senate Judiciary**

**SB 1132 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1644) Amends Title 44 (Law and Justice), in other officers, establishing the Pennsylvania Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission responsible for encouraging and facilitating the development, use, coordination, support and evaluation in this Commonwealth of affordable and high-quality alternative dispute resolution programs and services, providing for its powers and duties, and establishing the Alternative Dispute Resolution Fund to receive and disburse money to implement the chapter. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Voted favorably from committee on Senate Judiciary**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as committed from Senate Judiciary**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-First consideration**

**SB 1133 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1645) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in juries and jurors, further providing for powers of investigating grand jury by establishing the presentment shall concisely address the elements of the charge recommended but may not include an assessment about the credibility of a defendant or witness. Provides for investigating grand jury proceedings by establishing an obligation of secrecy may not be imposed on a person except in accordance with the law, a document or record obtained by subpoena may not become grand jury matters subject to secrecy solely because the document is presented to a witness or the grand jury, a person not granted immunity from prosecution who is held in contempt for refusing to answer a question on the basis of self-incrimination shall be entitled to a stay of the contempt determination and an immediate right of appeal, and the court shall provide reasonable notice to the attorney for the Commonwealth, the defendant and each witness or other person affected by a disclosure of grand jury matter before approving the disclosure. Provides for investigating grand jury reports by establishing the report shall be limited to the target of the investigation and shall contain no allegation or assessment of a subject not under investigation. Effective in 60 days.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Passed over in committee Senate Judiciary**

**SB 9999 (Withdrawn) ( )**

Senate Executive Nominations - See Roll Call Votes for list of available floor votes on executive nominations.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Executive Nominations Confirmed by a vote of 50 YEAS 0 NAYS**

**SR 104 Bartolotta, Camera (R)**

(PN 796) Resolution urging the Governor to end the moratorium on new nonsurface disturbance natural gas drilling leases involving Commonwealth State forest land.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Laid on the table**

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Removed from the table**

**SR 278 Browne, Patrick (R)**

(PN 1521) Resolution adopting a temporary rule of the Senate relating solely to amendments to the General Appropriation Bill and other appropriation bills for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, including any amendments offered to or for supplemental appropriations for prior fiscal years. Floor amendments to the General Appropriation Bill or other General Fund or special fund appropriation bills shall be in order on second or third consideration only. Any amendment offered on the floor to the various budget bills at a level different from the amount contained in the 2018-2019 Budget as reported from the Appropriations Committee shall not be in order and may not be considered unless the amendment contains sufficient revisions or reductions to that 2018-2019 Budget so that the amendment does not result in a net increase to the total spending and yields a balanced budget based on current and projected revenues. The amendment shall have appended thereto a "statement of intent" setting forth the proposed adjustment to the other appropriation bill or bills that will result in no net increase in the total spending from the General Fund or any special fund contained within the 2018-2019 Budget as reported from the Appropriations Committee.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Reported as committed from Senate Rules and Executive Nominations**

**SR 312 Greenleaf, Stewart (R)**

(PN 1646) Resolution urging the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to promulgate and enforce changes in the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules of Criminal Procedure to ensure a prosecuting attorney make available to the defendant the complete files of the law enforcement agencies, investigative agencies, and the prosecutor's office involved in the investigation of the crime alleged and promulgate and enforce changes in the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules of Criminal Procedure to ensure a prosecuting attorney act not only as an advocate but also as a minister of justice by disclosing to the defendant materials and information, whether or not admissible in court, and take other appropriate steps to remedy a conviction when the prosecutor has knowledge that the defendant was wrongfully convicted of the offense.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Passed over in committee Senate Judiciary**

**SR 316 Hughes, Vincent (D)**

(PN 1655) Resolution honoring the 40th anniversary of Cheyney University's 1977-1978 men's Division II National Championship Basketball Team.

**Apr 17, 2018 - S-Introduced and adopted**

## EXECUTIVE ACTIONS

**HB 1341 Pyle, Jeff (R)**

(PN 2065) Amends the Bituminous Coal Mine Safety Act adding language allowing a mine operator to have an emergency medical responder (EMR), an emergency medical technician (EMT), or an advanced emergency medical technician on duty in an underground coal mine. Requires an EMR, as defined in the bill, employed in underground mining to complete three additional courses from the EMT certification that have applicability to mining emergencies. Effective in 60 days. (Prior Printer Number: 1660)

**Apr 17, 2018 - H-In the hands of the Governor**

**Apr 27, 2018 - H-Last day for Governor's action**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**WEDNESDAY - 4/18/18**

**House Commerce**

**9:00 a.m., Harrisburg University, 14th Floor Auditorium, 326 Market St., Harrisburg**

Public hearing on: [SB 234](#) Blake, John Amends Title 12 re energy improvements

**House Judiciary**

**9:00 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building**

Public hearing on public safety, gun laws and violence

**House Professional Licensure****9:00 a.m., Room B31, Main Capitol**Public hearing on: [HB 789](#) Christiana, Jim Amends Medical Practice Act re Anesthesia**House Aging and Older Adult Services****9:30 a.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building**

Informational meeting on budget overview for aging-related services and supports

**House Human Services****10:00 a.m., Room 60, East Wing**To consider: [HB 1535](#) Ward, Judith Amends Human Services Code re payment rates [HB 2069](#) Miller, Daniel Amends Independent Living Services Act [HB 2126](#) Ortitay, Jason Amends act allowing minors to consent to care [HR 760](#) Cruz, Angel Concurrent Resolution re tech. & info. access**\*\*\*House Appropriations (Agenda updated)****Off the Floor, Room 140 Main Capitol**To consider: [HB 638](#) Simmons, Justin Amends PA Election Code re school board [SB 180](#) Greenleaf, Stewa Amends Title 20 re Organ Donation**\*\*\*Senate Urban Affairs and Housing (New)****Off the Floor, Rules Committee Conference Room**To consider: [SB 735](#) Brewster, Jim Amends Real Estate Tax re County Demolition [SB 962](#) Dinniman, Andrew Amends Title 53 re blighted property**\*\*\*Senate Education (New)****1:00 p.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building**

Public hearing on issues and potential alternatives to the current Act 88 collective bargaining process and teacher strikes

**THURSDAY - 4/19/18****Independent Regulatory Review Commission****10:00 a.m., 14th Floor Conference Room, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg**

To consider the following regulations: 3148 State Board of Physical Therapy #16A-6517 Post-Act Revisions 3138 Environmental Quality Board #7-522: Handling and Use of Explosives

**Senate Democratic Policy Committee****11:00 a.m., Penn State Worthington Scranton Campus, 120 Ridge View Drive, Dunmore**

Public hearing on "Our Students, Our Workforce, and the Jobs of Tomorrow"

**FRIDAY - 4/20/18****House Transportation and House Judiciary****10:00 a.m., Philadelphia City Hall, Room 676, 1401 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Philadelphia**

Joint public hearing to evaluate the effects of DUI and drugged driving laws and programs

**Senate Education****1:00 p.m., Bedford County Courthouse, 200 S. Julianna Street, Bedford**

Public hearing on issues and potential alternatives to the current Act 88 collective bargaining process and teacher strikes

**TUESDAY - 4/24/18****House Labor and Industry****10:00 a.m., Room 140, Main Capitol**

Public hearing on harassment and sexual misconduct in the workplace

**Senate State Government****10:00 a.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building**

Second public hearing on redistricting legislation

**House Democratic Policy Committee****2:00 p.m., Northeast Baptist Church, 4744 Tackawanna Street, Philadelphia** Public hearing with Rep.

Jason Dawkins on gun violence and domestic abuse issues

**WEDNESDAY - 4/25/18****House Democratic Policy Committee****2:00 p.m., Overbrook Park Library, 7422 Haverford Avenue, Philadelphia**Public hearing with Rep. Morgan Cephas on: [HB 2210](#) Cephas, Morgan ( Amends Public School Code re offenses**THURSDAY - 4/26/18****House Democratic Policy Committee****10:00 a.m., Temple University, Shusterman Hall, 1834 Liacouras Walk, Philadelphia**

Public hearing with Rep. Emilio Vazquez on alcohol poisoning prevention and education

**FRIDAY - 4/27/18****House Democratic Policy Committee****10:00 a.m., Kimmel Center, Hamilton Gardens, 300 Broad Street, Philadelphia**Public hearing with Rep. Brian Sims on: [HB 1243](#) Sims, Brian Amends Equal Pay Law re Unpaid Wages**MONDAY - 4/30/18****House Consumer Affairs****10:00 a.m., Room B31 Main Capitol**Public hearing on: [HB 2113](#) Oberlander, Donn Amends Unfair Insurance Practices Act**House Democratic Policy Committee****10:00 a.m., Room 418 Main Capitol**

Public hearing on food banks

**Senate and House Education****11:00 a.m., Rooms 8E-A & B, East Wing**

Joint public hearing on the RAND Corporation Study of the PASSHE System

**TUESDAY - 5/1/18****\*\*\*House Finance (New)****9:30 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building**Public hearing on: [HB 1511](#) Quinn, Marguerit Amends Tax Reform Code re hotel occupancy**\*\*\*House Game and Fisheries (New)****Off the Floor, Room 205, Ryan Office Building**To consider: [HB 1273](#) Zimmerman, David Amends Title 34 re hedgehogs and gliders [HB 1603](#) Miller, Brett Amends Title 34 re hunting on private property**THURSDAY - 5/24/18****House Labor and Industry****10:00 a.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building**Public hearing on: [HB 861](#) Grove, Seth Amends Title 53 re Local Labor Mandates

**THURSDAY - 6/7/18**

**House Game and Fisheries**

**10:00 a.m., Room 60, East Wing**

Public hearing on chronic wasting disease



Volume 5 Number 307  
April 17, 2018

Provided by  
Pennsylvania Legislative  
Services  
240 N. 3rd St. 6th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717.236.6984 phone  
717.236.5097 fax  
www.mypls.com

Capitol Recap is a daily report on legislative and executive actions and is compiled and edited by PLS editors. For subscription information, questions or more information contact PLS at [mypls@mypls.com](mailto:mypls@mypls.com) or 717-236-6984.

Thank you, Lynn, Kim, Jeff, Mike, Matt Hess, Nina, Matt Hykes, Deborah, Kara, Cheryl, Andre, Aaron, Sarah H., Becky, Amyra, Nick, Jessica, Nicole and Stephen.

Copyright © 2018. All materials contained in Capitol Recap are protected by US copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, published, broadcast, or modified, in whole or in part, without prior written permission from Pennsylvania Legislative Services.