

Jan. 17 – 23, 2024

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## SESSION STATUS

At 2:56 p.m. on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, the House stands adjourned until Monday, January 27, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

At 2:53 p.m. on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, the Senate recessed until Monday, January 27, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore.

## UPCOMING SESSION DAYS

### House

Jan. 27-29  
Feb. 3-5  
March 17-19, 24-26  
April 7-9, 22-24  
May 5-7, 12-14  
June 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-27, 30  
Sept. 22-24 (NV), 29-30  
Oct. 1, 6-8, 27-29  
Nov. 17-19  
Dec. 8-10 (NV), 15-17

### Senate

Jan. 27-29  
Feb. 3-5  
March 24-26, 31  
April 1-2  
May 5-7, 12-13  
June 2-4, 9-11, 23-30

*The Education Recap is a comprehensive weekly report on legislative and executive actions on education-related legislation in Pennsylvania state government, as compiled and edited by PLS. Additional information, including video, transcript and testimony, is available to [PLSGovTrac](https://www.pslgovtrac.com) users. For more information, contact [sales@mypls.com](mailto:sales@mypls.com).*

## Press Conferences

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

### GOV. SHAPIRO HIGHLIGHTS HISTORIC K-12 INVESTMENTS IN LEHIGH VALLEY

By Julia Walters, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | January 17, 2025

Governor Josh Shapiro, legislators and others gathered today at Harrison-Morton Middle School in Allentown to discuss investments made in K-12 education statewide and in Lehigh Valley.

Dr. Carol Birks, superintendent, Allentown School District, explained how historically, underfunded school districts are more likely to be in urban or rural areas where funding is lacking. Birks underscored that when government invests in quality education, it can improve student achievement, lessen inequities, improve career readiness for students as well as lessen teacher burnout. “We were able to receive additional revenue that would help us to begin focusing on addressing the areas that create a better schooling experience,” she said of the funding Lehigh Valley received within the last two years. Birks stated that with this funding and the district’s new comprehensive strategic plan, Allentown School District was able to attract and retain new teachers “from around the world,” expand their relative arts programs, build a new Early Learning Center for the district, expand high schoolers’ access to internship opportunities, improve access to technology for students, as well as increase mental health services for students’ investments in technology for schools and students. Birks addressed Gov. Shapiro, stating, “Thank you for bridging the gap.”

Angela Fitterer, interim acting secretary, Department of Education (PDE), discussed how since Gov. Shapiro took office, PDE was able to secure “more than \$2 million in funding increases for K to 12 education in Pennsylvania.” Sec. Fitterer highlighted that 10 million more meals were served to students during the 2023-2024 school year with the Universal Free Breakfast Program, explaining how “these dollars are fueling real positive changes to Pennsylvania schools.” Additionally, Sec. Fitterer described how state investments in career and technology education (CTE) have provided students with increased access to apprenticeships which lead to increased success after high school. “The team at the Department of Education is excited to keep rocking and rolling under your leadership,” she said.

Rep. Peter Schweyer (D-Lehigh), chairman, House Education Committee, stated that during the beginning months of COVID-19, Allentown struggled due to the high population and lack of resources. He noted how “over 3,000 families” did not have access to the internet at home and stated that “it wouldn’t matter anyway because we didn’t have enough devices in Allentown” for students to do online courses during the first months of the pandemic. He said that under the Shapiro administration, Allentown School District can provide devices for every student as well as air conditioning in “almost every building in the district,” remarking that before it was “really, really hot” in the buildings. Rep. Schweyer also described that test scores for the district are rising. “This is what happens when we let good, smart, capable kids, let all the same potential as the kids in districts just five miles in any direction here, give them those same opportunities and same chances,” he emphasized.

Rep. Josh Siegel (D-Lehigh) stated, “Our governor and this administration have shown up and delivered to Lehigh Valley time and time again whether it’s economic development or public safety or public education.”

He acknowledged how Gov. Shapiro and his “GSD mentality” are restoring faith in the government being able to create positive change. “We were 45th in the nation in our state share public education funding,” Rep. Siegel recalled. “That was not acceptable.” He stated that by underfunding schools, children have fewer opportunities and freedoms to pursue successful career paths. Rep. Siegel also mentioned Rep. Schweyer’s efforts as chairman of the education committee and praised his competency and ability “to keep the education committee focused on common sense and not nonsense.” Rep. Siegel stated that together with Rep. Schweyer and Sen. Nick Miller (D-Lehigh) they were able to invest \$250 million into upgrading Allentown schools. Rep. Siegel added that “we don’t settle” and “there’s more work to be done” as he explained that the next goal to pursue is investing further in early childhood education, noting “83,000 kids and toddlers across the commonwealth that can’t be served right now in high-quality child care.”

Sen. Miller stated that as a former school board member of Allentown School District, he “saw the realities of underfunding.” He continued that “they mentioned lacking air conditioning, school buildings filled with lead and asbestos,” emphasizing, “The need is real.” Sen. Miller highlighted that they’ve made the “first steps” toward delivering better quality education, but “there’s work to be done, and we’re getting back to work.” He noted his focus on the governor’s budget address in February as well as the budget hearings.

Taylor Hendell, teacher, Central Elementary Stream Academy, introduced herself as a first-year third-grade teacher and that teaching is a second career for her. She recognized the Student Teacher Support Program as being helpful when she began her student teaching. “It means the world to my family to be able to keep us afloat while I was student teaching,” she said. “We were able to have a little bit of breathing room in our budget and keep my daughter in daycare while I worked.”

Josh Colon-Hernandez, eighth grader, Harrison-Morton Middle School, discussed the impact his teachers have had on him as a student. “Our teachers care so much about our students at Harrison-Morton, I’ve had so many opportunities to try new things, express myself as a teenager and discover who I am,” he said. He explained how his participation in volleyball and the band has given him the opportunity to see the results of increased funding, noting, “There has been lots of money spent on new band instruments. There’s more people joining band.” He thanked the governor as well as district legislators and Birks for their commitment to expanding resources for students and schools. “I get to enjoy what I do, and it seems like the people around me, they enjoy what they do,” Colon-Hernandez expressed. “This is only the beginning. I have so much more to learn and experience,” he added. “And being here at Harrison-Morton really matters.”

Gov. Shapiro stated protecting rights means not only shielding people from the bad but also expanding access to greater freedoms and opportunities. “When I think about opportunity in Pennsylvania, to me, the foundation of all of that is how we treat our children and what type of education we provide to our kids,” he said. Gov. Shapiro recalled when the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled school funding in Pennsylvania unconstitutional in 2023, remarking, “We changed all that and made significant investments in our public education system.” He stated that as the mid-way point in his governorship approaches, he will continue to focus on funding for schools statewide. “We look at students like Josh and his colleagues... we’ve got to invest in them because they’re the ones who are going to lead us toward a brighter tomorrow,” he stated. Gov. Shapiro also highlighted that he wants to “build on the foundation that we’re setting in our schools to make sure that everyone has an opportunity in every community across Pennsylvania.”



## Committee News

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

### **Joint Performance-Based Funding Council**

*01/21/2025, 10:00 a.m., Penn State University, Room 504, Engineering Collaborative Research and Education Building, University Park*

Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The council held a public hearing to hear testimony regarding performance-based funding formulas for state-related universities.

Chairman Jesse Topper (R-Bedford) stated the purpose of today's meeting was to discuss important metrics for the Pennsylvania State University (Penn State), involving testimony from the university, students and the local chamber of business, as well as insights from Tennessee’s Higher Education Commission on performance-based funding.

Sara Thorndike, Treasurer, CFO and senior vice president for finance & business, Penn State, discussed the importance of [Act 90 of 2024](#) and the need for increased and more predictable funding. “For too long, higher education funding in Pennsylvania has lacked clarity, fairness and predictability,” she said. “Appropriations for Penn State and its fellow state-related universities was last increased in 2019, and in current dollars, Penn State's funding today remains virtually unchanged from the year 2000 despite nearly a quarter century of inflation and significant increases in instructional and operational costs.” She proposed metrics for evaluating university performance, emphasizing Penn State's commitment to accountability and transparency.

Chairman Topper thanked Thorndike and asked her to elaborate on the predictability of higher education funding, or lack thereof, in Pennsylvania. Thorndike responded that the main issue is the unpredictability of state appropriations funding. “It's very difficult for us to know if our state appropriations funding is going to increase and whether we have to make other adjustments accordingly, whether it's adjusting our tuition rates,” she explained. “We're looking at our costs, which we have continued to do year after year, but it makes it difficult for us to plan without knowing what that funding is going to be.”

Chairman Topper further inquired about how market factors affect funding predictability. Thorndike emphasized Penn State's commitment to “making sure that our students are successful,” and highlighted the importance of outcomes-based metrics for budgeting and support for students.

Minority Chairman Peter Schweyer (D-Lehigh) expressed concern about the potential “unintended pitfalls” of performance-based funding, emphasizing the importance of supporting students through their challenges. Thorndike mentioned the importance of using multiple metrics to ensure fairness.

Sen. Wayne Langerholc (R-Cambria) asked if Tennessee's metrics had been considered for Pennsylvania, with Thorndike acknowledging their success and suggesting adjustments to meet Pennsylvania's unique needs. Sen. Langerholc also inquired about the percentage of funding allocated to education within Tennessee's state budget compared to Pennsylvania's budget. Thorndike responded, “I don't know the answer to that, but I'm sure we can get it.” Sen. Langerholc expressed his belief that Tennessee's is 100% performance-based funding. Thorndike replied that it is “very, very high,” if not 100%.

Steven Gentile, executive director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission, described Tennessee's shift to an outcomes-based funding model for higher education following the Complete College Tennessee Act of 2010, moving away from enrollment-based funding. He emphasized the development of a robust data system over 20 years, which supports this model, and mentioned that \$1.6 billion has been distributed based on performance since its adoption. He also discussed the statutory requirements for the funding formula and the establishment of a review committee.

Russell Van Zomeren, senior director of fiscal policy, Tennessee Higher Education Commission, detailed the review process of the outcomes-based funding formula. He explained the 20 outcomes measured, the focus on serving specific populations and the formula's adaptability to each institution's mission. He also discussed the impact of the formula on funding allocation among community colleges and universities, highlighting changes due to policies.

Gentile outlined the benefits and limitations of the outcomes-based learning formula, including its focus on outcomes, incentivization based on mission and stakeholder engagement. He noted the formula's complexity and potential issues such as data manipulation and unhealthy competition.

Chairman Topper asked about the availability of post-graduation data to assess the impact of higher education on a student's ability to stay in the state, secure jobs in their fields and contribute to the economy. Gentile described Tennessee's P-20 data system, which tracks students from kindergarten through their entry into the labor market, including job placement outcomes for community college graduates. He mentioned the system's linkage with the Labor Department and a new relationship with the U.S. Census to track students across state lines, which could influence their funding formula in the future.

Sen. Jay Costa (D-Allegheny) asked about the outcomes measured in Tennessee's program, wondering if they expanded over time. Gentile explained that the number of outcomes has remained stable at 10 to 12 since 2010, emphasizing the importance of simplicity in the funding formula by ensuring that if a new outcome is added, another must be removed. Sen. Costa asked whether the funding model ensures that no institution loses money and that changes only affect the proportional increase a school receives year to year. Gentile responded that institutions generally do not lose money year-over-year due to the strong economy, but there was flat funding during economic downturns or the pandemic, leading to negative growth for some. He noted the funding formula always includes the potential for institutions to receive more money based on better performance.

Sen. Langerholc asked about the discretion within the funding formula, particularly regarding discrepancies between the raw numbers from the funding formula and the recommended allocations for the next fiscal year, 2025-2026. Gentile explained that while there is discretion to not follow the funding formula, it has been adhered to annually in practice. He said recommendations for funding increases depend on the budget and may not always benefit institutions if not funded by the state, but the formula's relative share

allocations are generally followed. Sen. Langerholc noted that the percentages recommended by the funding formula are consistently followed, but the actual dollar amounts allocated do not always match the recommendations. Gentile mentioned that in the 15 years since the funding formula was introduced, it has not been adhered to in terms of the magnitude of funding for about five years.

Sen. Langerholc asked about the average price of tuition in Tennessee. Gentile mentioned that the average tuition is approximately \$5,000 for community colleges and about \$10,000 for universities. Sen. Langerholc inquired how Tennessee is able to offer significantly lower tuition amounts to its residents. Gentile explained that Tennessee's ability to offer lower tuition rates is partly due to its high funding rate for higher education, which has recovered since the Great Recession, and the state's lower cost of living contributing to lower salaries compared to Pennsylvania.

Sen. Langerholc asked what percentage of Tennessee's state budget was allocated to higher education. Gentile mentioned that Tennessee's institutions of higher education have an operating budget of about \$1.6 billion out of Tennessee's \$30 billion budget.

Thorndike asked for details on the transition from old to new funding metrics, particularly regarding adjustments for institutions that were significantly underfunded or overfunded. Gentile explained that adjustments were made before 2010 and during the first three years of the new funding formula's implementation to ensure parity, resulting in some institutions losing funding due to the elimination of the hold harmless provision.

Chairman Schweyer asked about the use of ACT data for community colleges and the definition of "low income" in the funding formula. Gentile confirmed that ACT data is used and that low income is determined by Pell Grant eligibility. Chairman Schweyer expressed concerns about the lack of increase in African American student enrollment and a significant decrease at Tennessee State University (TSU), asking for reasons behind these trends. Gentile attributed the decline at TSU to changes in scholarship policies, especially following the pandemic. Chairman Schweyer inquired if these scholarship changes were made by the university or public authorities, to which Gentile responded that the university made the decisions.

Chairman Schweyer asked if Pell Grant data is the only metric used to capture students from poor communities, with Gentile confirming it is. Chairman Schweyer asked how many community colleges Tennessee had. Gentile said Tennessee had 13 community colleges.

Sen. Costa asked whether the commission provides training to help universities and colleges understand how to create outcomes to secure a larger share of funding and if it offers guidance on achieving and exceeding goals. Gentile emphasized the commission's role in integrating data into the funding formula and educating stakeholders about its operation, mentioning proactive outreach to new college presidents to offer guidance on the funding formula.

Chairman Topper asked for opinions on whether the accountability and data associated with funding in Tennessee have demonstrated the value of a degree to families, students, and state policymakers. Gentile discussed the development of a new statewide higher education master plan in Tennessee, focusing on restoring faith in the value of higher education and the importance of higher education institutions in economic development.

Michael Fowler, student president, Penn State Lions Caucus, highlighted the value of Penn State, emphasizing its large alumni network, the opportunities it offers and its contributions to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He advocated for increased state funding to enhance the university's educational and research capabilities.

Tracy Langkilde, interim executive vice president and provost, Penn State, discussed the university's educational outcomes, job placement rates, student progression and completion outcomes. She highlighted the ongoing academic portfolio and program review aimed at aligning with student demands and workforce needs, providing data on enrollment, diversity, retention and graduation rates, and the production of STEM graduates. She also mentioned the ["We Earn" data website](#) for insights into graduate earnings.

Greg Scott, president, Chamber of Business and Industry, Centre County, emphasized the importance of aligning Pennsylvania's educational system with the workforce and economic development needs of the commonwealth. He highlighted Penn State's role in supporting economic growth through workforce development, innovation and entrepreneurship. He advocated for performance-based funding to incentivize educational alignment with high-demand industries.

Chairman Topper asked Fowler to explain his decision-making process in choosing to attend Penn State. Fowler explained his decision to attend college was influenced by a clear career path and the opportunity to explore additional opportunities, choosing Penn State for its political science and media studies programs.

Chairman Topper asked Scott how the members of his chamber saw the value of a college degree. Scott discussed developing an economic strategy to strengthen the relationship between Penn State and private industry, focusing on creating a pipeline for local companies through internships and networking opportunities in high-growth industries.

Chairman Topper inquired about the process of reviewing academic programs to ensure their ongoing relevance, comparing it to the difficulty of discontinuing outdated government programs. Langkilde emphasized the importance of reviewing academic programs and curricula to align with workforce needs, mentioning Penn State's focus on innovating curricula to prepare students for future careers. Topper asked about adapting to changes in the market and technology. Langkilde agreed on the importance of adapting the field of study and skills taught.

Chairman Schweyer asked Fowler what he wanted to pursue after college. Fowler mentioned an interest in communications and higher education policy.

Chairman Schweyer discussed the importance of not limiting university funding to specific programs, emphasizing the value of a broad education system. Langkilde discussed teaching students about transferable skills acquired through their degrees, using her experience as a field biologist to illustrate how courses can provide practical skills like project management.

Sen. Costa asked where Fowler was from and if anything about Pennsylvania stood out to him. Fowler said he was from New Jersey and emphasized that his choice of Penn State was influenced by its unique qualities, such as the strong community and the opportunity to carve his own academic and extracurricular path.

Sen. Costa discussed the importance of universities offering pre-graduation internships or externships and inquired about the collaboration with Penn State to develop and encourage student participation in these opportunities. Scott emphasized the importance of internships and opportunities for students to connect with local businesses and organizations, highlighting the goal of retaining graduates locally to maintain a strong workforce.

Sen. Langerholc asked about the challenges in retaining students in Pennsylvania, particularly in Centre County, and sought insights on attracting more students to stay in the region and state. Scott discussed the challenges and strategies for retaining students in Centre County. He emphasized the area's limited local workforce opportunities and highlighted his efforts to strengthen economic development and create job opportunities through partnerships with companies and Penn State.

Sen. Langerholc asked Fowler if he planned to stay in Pennsylvania. Fowler stated, "It's absolutely a possibility to stay in the state of Pennsylvania post-graduation." He emphasized that the main barrier is finding where opportunities are available and mentioned his interest in working in politics.

Sen. Langerholc asked Langkilde if there is "a number that you have that would drop if we would increase the number of dollars allocated to Penn State." He inquired if there is a formula or if they can calculate what it would take to drop tuition. Langkilde replied, "I would defer to our VP for finance and business, but we could come up with that formula for sure." Sen. Langerholc asked if a tuition drop from \$20,000 to \$10,000 would increase applicants and drive more students to the university. Langkilde responded it would "definitely increase applications" as there are many students who don't apply because they are unsure what financial support they would get. She added that the number of students accepted would be "much higher because they could see the affordability and retention of our students." She noted they currently lose students because they are unable to financially maintain their college education.

Chairman Topper expressed his thanks to the testifiers and said the next meeting will be at Temple University on January 30, at 10 a.m.



## **Bullet.in.Points**

No Bullet.in.Points this week.

## Cosponsor Memos

### HCO1117 - Cyber Charter School Attendance Accountability

**Sponsor**

Rep. Clint Owlett (R)

**Summary**

Amends the Public School Code to require cyber charter schools to regularly report the attendance of each student to their school district of residence.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Last Action**

01/17/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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### HCO1118 - Updating provisions relating to State System of Higher Education campus police officers

**Sponsor**

Rep. Clint Owlett (R)

**Summary**

Updates provisions of the Public School Code of 1949 relating to State System of Higher Education campus police officers.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Last Action**

01/17/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## HCO1131 - Non-public School Exemption (Prior HB 552, 2023-2024)

### Sponsor

Rep. David H. Zimmerman (R)

### Summary

Exempts private schools and home schools, home school groups, one-room schools and church schools (who are not taking direct taxpayer dollars to operate their schools) from the requirements, guidelines, mandates or orders of any declaration of disaster emergency made by the governor or any state agency or entity.

### Intro Date

01/17/2025

### Last Action

01/17/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## HCO1135 - Private Academic Schools Act (Prior HB 557, 2023-2024)

### Sponsor

Rep. David H. Zimmerman (R)

### Summary

Amends the Private Academic Schools Act of 1988 to permit the licensure of online schools.

### Intro Date

01/17/2025

### Last Action

01/17/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## HCO1139 - Amend School Code: Eye Health (Prior HB 562, 2023-20234)

### Sponsor

Rep. David H. Zimmerman (R)

### Summary

Requires eye health examinations at crucial points in children's development.

### Intro Date

01/17/2025

### Last Action

01/17/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## HCO1157 - Strengthening Student Data Security (former HB1987)

### Sponsor

Rep. Alec J. Ryncavage (R)

### Summary

Aims to establish data protection frameworks for educational institutions.

### Intro Date

01/21/2025

### Last Action

01/21/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## HCO1158 - Panic Alarms in Schools

### Sponsor

Rep. Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz (D)

### Summary

Aims to require schools to consider implementing a panic alarm system within their classrooms during the annual review of their safety and security practices.

### Intro Date

01/21/2025

### Last Action

01/21/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## HCO1184 - Updates to the Higher Education Gift Disclosure Act

### Sponsor

Rep. Jason Ortitay (R)

### Summary

Lowers the disclosure threshold for foreign gifts from \$100,000 to \$50,000. Requires the disclosure of gifts made to affiliated entities of colleges and universities. Mandates the submission of disclosure reports electronically and the creation of a searchable, sortable public database by the Department of Education. Prohibits colleges and universities from accepting gifts of any amount from prohibited donors. Imposes penalties for willfully or intentionally accepting a gift from a prohibited donor.

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Last Action**

01/22/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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**HCO1188 - 529 TAP Accounts/Keystone Scholars**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Patrick Gallagher (D)

**Summary**

Updates the Tuition Account Programs and College Savings Bond Act (TAP Act) to align the provisions of the PA-529 program and the Treasury's administrative capacity with federal law.

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Last Action**

01/22/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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**HCO1197 - COSPONSOR MEMO – Updating Transfer of Disciplinary Records in the School Code**

**Sponsor**

Rep. John A. Lawrence (R)

**Summary**

Updates school code and related provisions to require the transfer of a student's disciplinary record at the time of enrollment in a new school.

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Last Action**

01/22/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## **HCO1208 - Cost-of-Living Adjustment for Retired Public-School Employees**

### **Sponsor**

Rep. Daniel J. Deasy (D)

### **Summary**

Provides a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS) and State Employees' Retirement System (SERS) retirees.

### **Intro Date**

01/22/2025

### **Last Action**

01/22/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## **HCO1212 - School District Cyber Education Programs**

### **Sponsor**

Rep. Ryan A. Bizzarro (D)

### **Summary**

Allows a student who wishes to engage in cyber education to choose between a cyber charter school or their home district's cyber program.

### **Intro Date**

01/22/2025

### **Last Action**

01/22/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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## **HCO1220 - Substitute Teachers (From 4 Year Degree to 2 Year Degree) URGENT Need.**

### **Sponsor**

Rep. Jamie L. Flick (R)

### **Summary**

Aims to reduce the required education, which requires substitute teachers to have a bachelor's degree in Pennsylvania, from a four-year degree to a two-year degree.

### **Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Last Action**

01/22/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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**HCO1225 - CareerBound Workforce Development Program****Sponsor**

Rep. Milou Mackenzie (R)

**Summary**

Establishes CareerBound, a workforce development program.

**Intro Date**

01/23/2025

**Last Action**

01/22/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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**HCO1242 - Protecting Schools from Predators (former HB47)****Sponsor**

Rep. Jeremy Shaffer (R)

**Summary**

Prohibits sexually violent predators from residing within a certain distance of any school or daycare center.

**Intro Date**

01/23/2025

**Last Action**

01/23/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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**HCO1243 - Requiring Naloxone (Narcan) in High Schools****Sponsor**

Rep. Robert Freeman (D)

**Summary**

Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health, to develop policies and procedures requiring high schools to provide and maintain the opioid antagonist, naloxone, onsite in each public-school facility.

**Intro Date**

01/23/2025

**Last Action**

01/23/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

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**HCO1252 - Early Human Life Development Education****Sponsor**

Rep. Joe Hamm (R)

**Summary**

Requires early human life development instruction in schools.

**Intro Date**

01/23/2025

**Last Action**

01/23/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

## **Basic Ed Bill Actions**

**HB158 - An Act providing for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creating causes of action for harms suffered by designation.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)

**Summary**

(PN 149) The Fairness in Women's Sports Act provides for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creates causes of action for harms suffered by designation. Provides definitions. Prohibits an athletic team or sport designated for females, women or girls from being open to students of the male sex. Specifies that students are not restricted from participating in an interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic team or sport designed for the student's sex or designated coed or mixed. Asserts that a government entity, licensing or accrediting organization or an athletic association or organization may not entertain a complaint, open an investigation or take other adverse action against a school or institution of higher education for maintaining a separate interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic team or sport for students of the female sex. Provides for cause of action, outlining deprivation of opportunity, retaliation, school's cause of action and limitation. Asserts that if part of this act is found invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part shall remain in effect. Adds that if a part of this act is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications. Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/14/2025

**Actions**

01/14/2025 H - Introduced

01/17/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB201 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in intermediate units, further providing for powers and duties of the intermediate unit board of directors and for capital subsidy.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)

**Intro Date**

01/23/2025

**Actions**

01/23/2025 H - Introduced

01/23/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB203 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, further providing for days schools not to be kept open and for additional holidays and vacations.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)

**Summary**

(PN 151) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, further providing for days schools not to be kept open to include Veterans' Day and for additional holidays and vacations to remove language stating that the board of school directors of each district shall require that each school within such district observes Veterans' Day by special exercises. Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/16/2025

**Actions**

01/16/2025 H - Introduced

01/17/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB215 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in professional employees, providing for professional librarian.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)

**Summary**

(PN 172) Amends the Public School Code, in professional employees, providing for professional librarian. Directs each public school to employ at least one certified librarian. Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB228 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in the State Board of Education, further providing for definitions and providing for academic standards review; and making editorial changes.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)

**Summary**

(PN 181) Amends the Public School Code, in the State Board of Education, further providing for definitions and providing for academic standards review; and making editorial changes. Revises wording throughout Section 2601 of the Public School Code referencing the "Department of Education," to "department." Defines "department" to mean the Department of Education of the commonwealth. Adds Section 2607-B to provide for academic standards review, establishing the board's schedule and requiring the schedule to ensure academic standards for each content area are reviewed by the board at least every three years. Requires the board to determine if the state academic standards for each content area are age appropriate, clear, industry specific, academically challenging and meet the needs of the job market. Requires the board to make revisions to the state academic standards by regulation as necessary. Requires the board to submit a report of a review made to the chairpersons and minority chairpersons of the House and Senate Education Committees and outlines the contents of the report. Effective immediately.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB231 - An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in nomination of candidates, further providing for petition may consist of several sheets and statement of circulator.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)

**Summary**

(PN 184) Amends the Pennsylvania Election Code, in nomination of candidates, further providing for petition may consist of several sheets and statement of circulator. Adds language stating school districts where that office is elective to the exemptions under the petition guidelines. Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House State Government

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**HB233 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in charter schools, further providing for powers of board of trustees.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)

**Summary**

(PN 186) Amends the Public School Code, in charter schools, further providing for powers of board of trustees. Adds that the board of trustees of a charter school shall include a member appointed by the local board of school directors and in the case of a regional school, each board of school directors for the chartering school district shall appoint a member. Adds it as an exemption for the powers of the board of trustees. Effective immediately.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB240 - An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for qualifications for school bus driver endorsement.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Kerry A. Benninghoff (R)

**Summary**

(PN 192) Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in licensing of drivers, further providing for qualifications for school bus driver endorsement to assert that applicants must complete a physical examination which will include a hearing test for those requiring hearing aids to ensure proper functioning to meet the department's minimum hearing standards. Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Transportation

01/22/2025 H - Meeting Scheduled - 01/27/2025, 11:00 AM - Voting Meeting (House Transportation), Room 523, Irvis Office Building

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**HB248 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, providing for parental notification and permission for participation in clubs and organizations.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)

**Summary**

(PN 198) Amends the Public School Code, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, providing for parental notification and permission for participation in clubs and organizations. Directs the governing board of a school entity to include information regarding school clubs and organizations in the student code of conduct. Provides that the information should be provided in a manner most commonly used for other communications to parents or legal guardians and should be posted to the school entity's publicly accessible website for at least two weeks prior to the start of the school year or two weeks prior to the first meeting of the activity, club or organization. Establishes the information provided shall include a statement that a student may not participate in the club or organization without written permission, the name of the club or organization, the mission or purpose of the club or organization with detail to describe the meetings and activities, the name of the faculty advisor, a description of past or planned meetings and activities, a statement that a parent or legal guardian has a right to attend a meeting or activity unless good cause for exclusion is provided by the governing board of the school and a statement that a parent or legal guardian has a private right of action against wrongful exclusion. Provides that the governing body cannot permit a student to participate without written permission from a parent or legal guardian, who can withdraw permission in writing at any time. Provides that the school entity shall provide a written procedure and sample consent or withdrawal form in the school administration office and on its website for a parent or legal guardian to provide or withdraw permission for their student. Establishes the consent form should be presented so it is not more complicated to withhold consent than grant consent. Provides a club or organization created after the school year begins can only accept written permission for student participation after the information required is given to all parents and legal guardians. Provides that parents or legal guardians of a student cannot be prohibited from attending a meeting or activity of a club and can take a private right of action against the governing body of the school entity if good cause is not provided in writing for their exclusion. Defines "club or organization," "governing board," "school entity" and "school official." Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB249 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for school counseling services.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)

**Summary**

(PN 199) Amends the Public School Code, providing for school counseling services. Defines “administrative activities,” “department,” “direct services,” “indirect services,” “plan” and “school entity.” Provides for a school counseling plan that provides academic and career developmental support for all students. Requires the plan to include implementation by a Pennsylvania-certified school counselor, use of national and state-recognized counselor frameworks which may not include medical guidance, social and emotional learning, critical race theory or behavioral health, annual review and updates as needed by the counselor in collaboration with the principal and other stakeholders and be systemically aligned to kindergarten through grade 12 within the school. Provides that the plan components should include a vision statement, mission statement and plan goals focused on management, delivery and accountability. Establishes the plan shall guide students in academic and career planning only limited to the guidance provided by the department. Provides that a school entity should allow sufficient time for a counselor to carry out the duties stated in the plan. Provides that direct and indirect services such as academic advisement services, career-planning processes, skills designed to address bullying and suicide, intervention with students at risk of dropping out, providing orientation programs for new or transfer students and serving as a member of decision-making teams should be provided in collaboration with other school personnel and parents or legal guardians. Establishes administrative activities such as coordinating state assessments, developing master schedules, coordination of programs and monitoring of students in common areas provided by school counselors in collaboration with school personnel. Establishes policy for school guidance and counseling programs with regard to parental notification and private right of action. Provides that the policy should include written notification to parents or legal guardians about the academic and career guidance programs available to their children, a provision prohibiting the use of counseling techniques beyond the scope of professional certification or training of school counselors, a provision requiring information on social and emotional counseling be kept confidential and separate from educational records and not disclosed to third parties without parental consent unless provided by law, a provision that states parents can elect in writing to have their child opt into social or emotional counseling noting parents must be present at all times for this type of counseling and a provision providing the inclusion of a parent when a student receives direct or indirect services from a school counselor. Provides for a private right of action for a parent or legal guardian against the governing body of the school entity if they are being denied involvement in counseling. Effective immediately.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB252 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in school health services, providing for parental notification of implementation of mental health services digital platform by school entity.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)

**Summary**

(PN 201) Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, adding section 1426 to provide for parental notification of implementation of mental health services digital platform by school entity. Permits parent or legal guardian to withdraw permission in writing. Requires school entity to provide written procedures and a sample consent or withdrawal form in the school's administration office and on the school's publicly accessible website. Requires the consent or withdrawal form not to be drafted or presented in a manner that makes it more difficult to withhold or revoke consent than it is to grant consent. Provides for parent or legal guardian access upon request. Requires written notification from the school entity to the parent or legal guardian if the student is enrolled in a mental health services digital platform. Provides definitions. Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB289 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in grounds and buildings, providing for radon testing.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Tim Briggs (D)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 H - Introduced

01/23/2025 H - Referred to - House Environmental and Natural Resource Protection

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**SB46 - An Act providing for adoption by the Attorney General of a Statewide model policy related to the prevention of excessive force by law enforcement officers and school security personnel.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Vincent J. Hughes (D)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Law and Justice

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**SB77 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in pupils and attendance, further providing for excuses from attending school.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Judy L. Schwank (D)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

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**SB86 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for in-State tuition for undocumented individuals.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Judy L. Schwank (D)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

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**SB96 - An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, further providing for the offense of terroristic threats.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Michele Brooks (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Judiciary

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**SB116 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, providing for credit for employment at congregate care facility.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. David G. Argall (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

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**SB127 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, repealing provisions relating to Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations instruction and providing for Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations instruction required.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

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**SB128 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, providing for online curriculum availability.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

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**SB139 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in pupils and attendance, providing for exception from compulsory education for certain children with disabilities.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. David G. Argall (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

## Higher Ed Bill Actions

**HB158 - An Act providing for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creating causes of action for harms suffered by designation.**

### Sponsor

Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)

### Summary

(PN 149) The Fairness in Women's Sports Act provides for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creates causes of action for harms suffered by designation. Provides definitions. Prohibits an athletic team or sport designated for females, women or girls from being open to students of the male sex. Specifies that students are not restricted from participating in an interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic team or sport designed for the student's sex or designated coed or mixed. Asserts that a government entity, licensing or accrediting organization or an athletic association or organization may not entertain a complaint, open an investigation or take other adverse action against a school or institution of higher education for maintaining a separate interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic team or sport for students of the female sex. Provides for cause of action, outlining deprivation of opportunity, retaliation, school's cause of action and limitation. Asserts that if part of this act is found invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part shall remain in effect. Adds that if a part of this act is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications. Effective in 60 days.

### Intro Date

01/14/2025

### Actions

01/14/2025 H - Introduced

01/17/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB224 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in higher education accountability and transparency, further providing for comparison tool.**

### Sponsor

Rep. Thomas H. Kutz (R)

### Summary

(PN 177) Amends the Public School Code, in higher education accountability and transparency, further providing for comparison tool. Removes language referencing the U.S. Department of Education. Adds requirements for the comparison tool to allow a user to identify and compare high priority occupations in this commonwealth. Provides that the information under this paragraph shall be searchable by county and include information on educational attainment, wages and employment demand. Revises duty of institutions to require each institution of higher education to provide information listed in this section. Effective in 60 days.

### Intro Date

01/17/2025

### Actions

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB246 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, prohibiting certain diversity training and courses.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)

**Summary**

(PN 196) Amends the Public School Code, in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, prohibiting certain diversity training and courses. Provides for a prohibition of diversity training or a diversity course requirement to graduate for students attending an institution of higher education. Defines “diversity course,” “diversity training” and “institution of higher education.” Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB251 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, providing for reporting of partnerships with foreign nations.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)

**Summary**

(PN 200) Amends the Public School Code, in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, adding section 2005-I to provide for reporting of partnerships with foreign nations. Requires a public institution of higher education that intends to make an expenditure involving the travel of a student or staff person to a foreign nation for an academic, cultural or research activity or purpose shall submit a report to the department one calendar year before the travel, asserting that the report shall include the cost, duration, rubric, source of funds, the purpose and the benefit derived for this commonwealth. Requires the report to be posted on the department’s publicly accessible website and maintain the posting for a period of not less than five years from the date the report is received. Defines “department” and “public institution of higher education.” Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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**HB256 - An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in inheritance tax, further providing for transfers not subject to tax.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)

**Summary**

(PN 202) Amends the Tax Reform Code, in inheritance tax, further providing for transfers not subject to tax. Provides that the transfer of ownership of amounts in a qualified tuition program to the designated beneficiary or, in the case of a designated beneficiary who is under 18 years of age, the parent or guardian of the designated beneficiary shall not be subject to tax. Defines “qualified tuition program” and “designated beneficiary.” Applies the act to estates of decedents dying after November 6, 2023. Effective immediately.

**Intro Date**

01/17/2025

**Actions**

01/17/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Finance

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**HB265 - An Act amending the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd Sp.Sess., 1937 P.L.2897, No.1), known as the Unemployment Compensation Law, in compensation, further providing for benefits based on service for educational institutions.**

**Sponsor**

Rep. Lindsay Powell (D)

**Summary**

(PN 210) Amends the Unemployment Compensation Law, in compensation, further providing for benefits based on service for educational institutions. Adds that with respect to services performed on and after the effective date of this subclause, benefits shall be paid on the basis of such services to any individual described in subclause (i), regardless of whether or not there is a reasonable assurance that such individual will perform those services in the second of such academic years or terms. Effective in 60 days.

**Intro Date**

01/21/2025

**Actions**

01/21/2025 H - Introduced

01/22/2025 H - Referred to - House Labor and Industry

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**SB25 - An Act amending the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known as The Professional Nursing Law, further providing for title, for definitions, for State Board of Nursing, for dietitian-nutritionist license required, for unauthorized practices and acts not prohibited, for temporary practice permit, for graduates of schools of other states, territories or Dominion of Canada, for persons entitled to practice, for certified registered nurse practitioners and qualifications, for scope of practice for certified registered nurse practitioners, for prescriptive authority for certified registered nurse practitioners, for Drug Review Committee, for professional liability, for reporting of multiple licensure, for continuing nursing education, for punishment for violations, for refusal, suspension or revocation of licenses, for reinstatement of license and for injunction or other process; and providing for the expiration of the State Board of Nursing's power to license certified registered nurse practitioners.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Camera Bartolotta (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure

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**SB59 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in community colleges, further providing for definitions, for powers and duties of State Board of Education and for degrees.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Frank A. Farry (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

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**SB86 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for in-State tuition for undocumented individuals.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Judy L. Schwank (D)

**Summary**

(PN 41) Amends the Public School Code, providing for in-state tuition for undocumented individuals. Adds Article XX-N for development, relief and education for alien minors. Provides definitions. Establishes eligibility and requirements. Establishes requirements for institutions of higher education. Permits for financial aid. Provides requirements for the Department of Education. Mandates that the information obtained in the implementation of this article is confidential and shall be used or disclosed only for purposes of administering this article. Effective immediately.

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

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**SB96 - An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, further providing for the offense of terroristic threats.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Michele Brooks (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Judiciary

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**SB126 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in preliminary provisions, providing for special provisions applicable to 2025-2026 school year.**

**Sponsor**

Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

**Intro Date**

01/22/2025

**Actions**

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

01/22/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

## Upcoming Events

**MONDAY – 01/27/2025**

**10:00 AM, [House Education](#)**

*Voting Meeting, Room B-31, Main Capitol*

To consider: [HB 190](#) and [HR 9](#)

**12:00 PM, Press Conference on Charter School Funding**

*Press conference on EVPA charter school report*

**TUESDAY – 01/28/2025**

**10:00 AM, Families and Educators Come Together in Support of National School Choice Week**

*Press Conference*

**FRIDAY – 01/30/2025**

**10:00 AM, [Performance-Based Funding Council](#)**

*Public Hearing, Temple University, Charles Library Event Space, Room 102, 1900 N. 13th St., Philadelphia, PA*

Public hearing on testimony regarding performance-based funding formulas for state-related universities

**MONDAY – 02/03/2025**

**10:00 AM, [House Education](#)**

*Informational Meeting, Room 140, Main Capitol*

Informational meeting on Future Ready PA Index and student outcomes

**TUESDAY – 02/18/2025**

**1:00 PM, [Senate Appropriations](#)**

*Budget Hearing, Hearing Room 1, North Office Building*

Budget Hearing with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA)

**THURSDAY – 02/20/2025**

**9:00 AM, Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency**

*Board of Directors meeting, PHEAA Board Room*

**10:00 AM, House Appropriations**

*Budget Hearing, House Floor*

Budget Hearing with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA)

**1:00 PM, House Appropriations**

*Budget Hearing, House Floor*

Budget hearing with state-related universities

**MONDAY – 02/24/2025**

**10:00 AM, House Appropriations**

*Budget Hearing, House Floor*

Budget hearing with the Department of Education (PDE)

**1:00 PM, House Appropriations**

*Budget Hearing, House Floor*

Budget Hearing with the Department of Education (PDE)

**THURSDAY – 03/06/2025**

**1:00 PM, House Appropriations**

*Budget Hearing, House Floor*

Budget hearing with the Governor's Office of the Budget/Executive Offices

**WEDNESDAY – 02/26/2025**

**9:30 AM, [Senate Appropriations](#)**

*Budget Hearing, Hearing Room 1, North Office Building*

Budget hearing with the Department of Education (PDE)

**1:00 PM, [Senate Appropriations](#)**

*Budget Hearing, Hearing Room 1, North Office Building*

Budget hearing with the Department of Education (PDE) continued

**THURSDAY – 03/06/2025**

**9:30 AM, [Senate Appropriations](#)**

*Budget Hearing, Hearing Room 1, North Office Building*

Budget hearing with the Governor's Budget Office/Executive Offices

**1:00 PM, [House Appropriations](#)**

*Budget Hearing, House Floor*

Budget hearing with the Governor's Office of the Budget/Executive Offices

## **In the News**

[01/22/2025 - Getting Workforce Development Done: Shapiro Administration Highlights Nearly \\$400K Investment to Expand Early Childhood Education Pre-Apprenticeship Program in Philadelphia](#)

[01/23/2025 - PDE: Getting Faster Teacher Certifications Done: 142 Students Complete Accelerated Special Educator Certification Program to Become Special Educators in PA](#)

[01/23/2025 - Shapiro-Davis Administration Invests in Afterschool Programs in Erie and Across Western Pennsylvania](#)

[01/23/2025 - PUC to Investigate Pike County Light & Power's Request to Increase Natural Gas Distribution Rates](#)

[01/23/2025 - PDE: Getting Stuff Done: Shapiro Administration Delivers Funding for Free Period Products to all Pennsylvania School Districts](#)

Education Recap is a comprehensive weekly report on legislative and executive actions on education related legislation in the Pennsylvania Capitol and is compiled and edited by PLS.

For subscription information, questions or more information contact PLS at [mypls@mypls.com](mailto:mypls@mypls.com) or 717-236-6984. Thank you, Deborah, Cheryl, Derek, Hattie, Sam, Grace, Aaron, Christian, Katie, Zoe, Daniel, Kyle, Nouman, Nicholas, Dominic and Julia.

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