

June 6 – 12, 2025

Contents

Press Conferences.....	1
Committee News	4
Bullet.in.Points.....	14
Cosponsor Memos	14
Basic Ed Bill Actions	14
Higher Ed Bill Actions.....	24
Upcoming Events	30
In the News	30

SESSION STATUS

At 4:55 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, the House stands adjourned until Monday, June 16, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

At 12:37 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, the Senate recessed until Monday, June 23, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore.

UPCOMING SESSION DAYS

House

June 16-17, 18 (NV), 23-30
Sept. 22-24 (NV), 29-30
Oct. 1, 6-8, 27-29
Nov. 17-19
Dec. 8-10 (NV), 15-17

Senate

June 23-30
Sept. 8-10
Oct. 20-22, 27-29
Nov. 17-19
Dec. 8-9

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.

Press Conferences

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

LAWMAKERS, ADVOCATES CALL FOR FUNDING HOME-BASED CHILD CARE

By Kyle Purchase, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | June 9, 2025

House members and advocates joined together in the East Wing Rotunda today to garner support for the proposed \$55 million in the budget for the funding of home-based child care.

Carol Austin, executive director, First Up, welcomed everyone for “Child Care Awareness Day” and provided a brief overview of what home-based child care is and explained the importance thereof. She said, “Most people have not seen it or experienced it themselves, so it’s hard to understand just how special it is and why it must be protected.” She emphasized that when parents choose the home-based program to send their children to, “they’re choosing a person — they’re choosing a home-based educator that aligns with their values, views and someone they know and trust to care for their child.” She pointed out statistics showing a decline in educators but noted the supply of child care centers returning to pre-pandemic levels. She discussed efforts taken by centers but said it was “not enough” and stated, “Significant funding is needed in order to stabilize the child care system.”

Sonya Sue Daniels, owner, Sonya Sue Geisinger Daycare, said the topic at hand is “deeply personal and profoundly impactful.” She described home-based child care as “a nurturing environment where children can grow, learn and thrive,” and noted potential benefits of home-based child care centers, including the offering of flexibility that is “invaluable to parents with varying schedules.” She also provided an example of a child she cares for in her center, where he had a “tragedy with his grandmother,” and explained she can “give him a space to express his grief.”

Rep. Milou Mackenzie (R-Lehigh) noted her advocacy in education and experience as an educator. She believed children need “clean, safe spaces, engaging materials and opportunities to move and play.” She talked about different environmental settings, such as child care centers and nursery schools, and said, “It is the child and their family who best know.” She voiced support for families to have access to a variety of educational centers to find the “best fit for their child.”

Talona Coleman, owner, Heaven Sent Childcare, provided her background in creating her child care center and emphasized the inclusion of religious curriculum and faith-based teachings into the program. She said she wanted to “foster positive attitude toward education” and regards home-based child care centers as “ministries.” She also spoke about the importance of including families and the “need to make sure families are whole and okay.” She urged support for the funding and said, “If we’re not funded, there is a trickle-down effect that will affect everybody.” She challenged General Assembly members to be “bold and stand up to take the lead.”

Rep. Patrick Harkins (D-Erie) explained he established the Pre-K Caucus and talked about his experiences working as a state representative and his wife’s experiences at an early education center. He agreed with the funding for centers and said the “Achilles heel lies with the Senate Republican leadership.” He encouraged “pressure” to be put on the Senate Republicans and mentioned the House and Senate Democratic caucuses are in support.

Perrinda Williams, public policy specialist, First Up, told her story as a parent and her child attending a home-based child care center. She voiced praise for the work the center did for her daughter and said, “Family child providers do more than change diapers and serve snacks.” She regarded the \$14 an hour average salary for educators as “not fair because their work is to help other families thrive at their own expense.”

Rep. Joe Hoehnstein (D-Philadelphia) mentioned his children were educated in early childhood education centers and pointed out constituents who are educators. “Sometimes neighbors don’t understand the value of having the services right there,” he said, emphasizing the centers are about “neighbors supporting neighbors.” He voiced support for the funding. He said the money is not “a handout,” and argued for the potential economic investment with funding centers and educators. He concluded, saying to the educators gathered, “You are the backbone of our workforce and your work needs to be valued.”

Jennifer Pearson-Mills, owner, Jennifer’s Learning Beyond Limits Family Child Care, explained she opened her child care facility in her home because she wanted to “be the bridge between the parent and the child.” She discussed her educational attainment and her experience educating children. She mentioned former children she taught recognizing her several years later and calling her “Miss Jennifer.” She also described different life scenarios a child was in before Pearson-Mills took them into her program. She had her colleagues in attendance to “raise their hands if they provided food for families, helped a family get a general education degree (GED).” She said she wanted to demonstrate that child care center educators “do social service work with these families every day.” She said she enjoys her work and “loves serving the children,” but noted she could not continue without “adequate funding.”

Charles Smith, parent, talked about his experience trying to find a child care center for his daughter. He also mentioned a documentary he saw called “Make a Circle,” which he said he found “troubling that the lack of resources and the fact that there are providers that have to get second jobs and can’t provide for their families.” He urged the General Assembly to consider the proposed \$55 million and pointed out that the \$55 million is the “bare minimum and we need more than that.”

Laura Manion, president and CEO, Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry, talked about her experience with her children in finding early childhood education and how she was given advice by her friends to find child care. She said she “brushed it off and it turned out it was the best advice I never took.” She provided the example of finding a center for one of her sons and said it was “truly a lifeline.” She emphasized the child care issue as “not only a child care issue, but an economic, workforce and quality of life issue.” She pointed out the commonwealth “loses \$6.6 billion due to a lack of child care, with \$2.4 billion falling on working mothers, and we can do better when we support child care providers.” She encouraged supporting the “unsung heroes” and supporting the \$55 million proposal in Gov. Josh Shapiro’s budget.

Austin affirmed that \$55 million is what is being asked and encouraged others to speak up.



PACCA CALLS ATTENTION TO CHILD CARE TEACHER SHORTAGE

By Dominic Kenny, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | June 10, 2025

The Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA) and Start Strong PA were joined by child care specialists and legislative allies to highlight workforce shortages and low wages in the child care teaching industry at a press conference in the Main Capitol Rotunda today.

Mary Graham, executive director, Children’s Village Child Care Center, and honorary life director, PACCA, discussed her nearly 50 years of child care experience, beginning in 1976. She said she was pleased with Gov. Josh Shapiro’s proposed recruitment and retention award but insisted it was not enough. “We need to fix the system,” she said. “There are over 25,000 children without child care.” She said the problem is due to a lack of facilities and early childhood professionals. “They are not getting paid, they are not getting respect [and] they are not getting what they deserve,” she said. She mentioned a survey of 1,140 programs that found 92% of them cited staffing shortages.

Sen. Lynda Schlegel Culver (R-Northumberland), chairman, Senate Education Committee, highlighted the role early childhood educators play in the lives of Pennsylvania’s children and families. She said the first few years of a child’s life are crucial to their development and shape how they learn, grow and relate to the world around them. “When we support early childhood education, we’re not just giving children a better start,” she said. “We’re also supporting parents, employers, schools and entire communities.”

She said it was important for child care teachers to be supported in the upcoming state budget. She thanked the members of PACCA and Start Strong PA in attendance for their advocacy and commitment to child care.

Rep. Jeanne McNeill (D-Lehigh), chairman, House Children and Youth Committee, said child care is a cornerstone of children's futures and Pennsylvania's prosperity. "Study after study shows us that children who have access to high-quality early childhood development do better in school," she said. "Right now, our child care system is in crisis because of staff retention issues." She discussed her bill, [HB 506](#), which would utilize funding proposed in Gov. Shapiro's 2025-2026 budget to support the child care workforce through recruitment and retention bonuses for participants in the Child Care Works program. She said the bonuses would result in an additional \$1,000 to teachers annually.

Rep. Christopher Rabb (D-Philadelphia) said there are not enough men working in early childhood education. He said his daughters would not be where they are today without the early childhood education they received when they were young. "There's no better investment... than child care," he said.

Rep. Johanny Cepeda-Freytitz (D-Berks) said the current child care system is "broken." She stated professional educators are asked to do one of the most important jobs in society without fair pay. She added that many child care teachers are forced to leave the profession out of necessity. "We know that investing in child care is not a luxury, it's a necessity for our economy," she said. "Pennsylvania cannot afford to underfund child care anymore."

Graham stressed that child care teachers were not "babysitters." She noted that early childhood educators in Philadelphia are only reimbursed \$54.93 a day, which she said was not enough. She criticized city governments for not incentivizing the child care organizations with tax credits to stay open, like they do with other businesses.

Nikki-Marie Dinofrio, early childhood education teacher, Lehigh Career & Technical Institute (LCTI), said she cherished the opportunity to teach and mentor high school students who are passionate about becoming early childhood educators. "But as they learn more about their profession, the conversation gets more difficult," she said. "My students are [facing] the reality of long hours, emotionally demanding work... and wages that don't even come close to covering living expenses." She argued that early childhood educators are earning wages that do not reflect the value of their work. "If we want individuals to enter this field and stay, we need to fund it like the essential service that it is," she said. "When we invest in early childhood educators, we're investing in every single sector of our state's economy."

Norma Bell, master preschool teacher, Children's Village, said she was almost forced to leave the child care industry due to low wages. She stressed the impact of funding on the creation of high-quality educators. She discussed her 36 years of service at the Children's Village of Philadelphia. She urged members of the audience to vote for legislators who supported funding child care.

Steven Lara, general manager, White House Day Care, Inc., discussed his childhood education experience, which was supported by his mother, who opened a daycare group home. He said he struggled to pay his employees a fair wage while maintaining other business expenses. He highlighted the impact of early childhood education on the development of a child's ability to learn. He discussed the challenges of serving a low-income urban area in Redding, including the recruitment and retention of staff, many of whom rely on Medicaid.

Zubeen Saeed, CEO, Building Blocks Learning Center Programs, said her business has grown from having two employees to serving hundreds of children across the commonwealth. "This is not just a child care issue," she said. "It's a workforce, business and community issue." She said child care teachers should receive the wages they deserve.

Graham referenced a recent *Philadelphia Inquirer* article on the front page about a school that was missing an algebra teacher for an entire year. She noted that the child care industry faces much higher staffing vacancies than the Philadelphia School District and argued that the issue does not receive enough attention from the media. She said the Children's Village should not receive publicity for providing high-quality education to its students because that should be the standard for the industry. She encouraged Gov. Shapiro and the General Assembly to support early childhood education.



Committee News

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

House Appropriations Committee

06/09/2025, 12:45 p.m., Room 140, Main Capitol

By Dominic Kenny, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider several bills.

[HB 30](#) – (PN 11) Amends the Real Estate Appraisers Certification Act, providing for application and qualifications, including requiring that an appraiser trainee shall operate under the direct supervision of one certified residential appraiser or certified general appraiser per assignment and the supervisory appraiser must be in good standing and have at least three years experience as a certified residential appraiser or certified general appraiser. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 191](#) – (PN 1840) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, repealing provisions relating to CPR instruction; and, in school health services, repealing provisions relating to automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) and adding sections to provide for AED and CPR instruction and procedure, for Automated External Defibrillator Program and for availability and specifications of AEDs. Provides that each school entity and nonpublic school shall provide certified instruction for CPR and AEDs to employees and volunteers at least once every two years and requires at least one adult certified in CPR and AED usage to be present in a school building at all times. Requires each school nurse or designee, coach of an athletic activity, marching band director, physical education teacher, athletic trainer and athletic training student aide within each school entity must participate in the instruction of and maintain certification in the use of an AED and CPR. Provides that each school entity must develop or amend existing cardiac emergency response plans to meet the criteria outlined in section 1423.1(3)(e). Requires the Department of Education (PDE) to establish the Automatic External Defibrillator Program to ensure the presence of AEDs in eligible school entities under the program by issuing an invitation to bid for the cost of AEDs and other necessary equipment on a biennial basis. Provides that PDE, in consultation with the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA), shall develop guidelines for the availability of AEDs at athletic activities. Specifies that this section does not create any liability for or a cause of action against a school entity or nonpublic school or its officers or employees. Applies the provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 8331.2 (relating to good Samaritan civil immunity for use of automated external defibrillator) to school entity or nonpublic school employees who render care with an AED. Provides several definitions. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 138, 1646). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1018](#) – (PN 1098) Amends the Steel Products Procurement Act, further providing for contracts for public works to use or supply steel products and for restrictions on payments by public agencies under certain circumstances. Requires anyone initiating a construction or maintenance project using public funding or tax incentives must use steel products as herein defined if any steel products are used or supplied in the project. Prohibits a public agency from authorizing or funding anyone using public funding or tax incentives when unidentified steel products are used. Requires the individual to provide documentation the steel was made in the United States as well as a certification which satisfies the public agency that such person has fully complied with the provision required under section 4. Mandates that any faulty payments made to the individual from a public agency for violating the provisions of this section will be recoverable directly from the contractor or supplier who did not comply with section 4 by either such public agency or the Attorney General of Pennsylvania. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1405](#) – (PN 1604) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, further providing for career and technical instructional certificate. Includes evidence that a veteran has served in the United States Armed Forces for a minimum of 8,000 hours, equivalent to four years full-time, in the occupational area to be taught, for the issuance of a career and technical instructional certificate. Defines “veteran.” Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1429](#) – (PN 1664) Amends the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing for report on transition to chip-enabled access cards. Requires the department to prepare a report evaluating the feasibility of transitioning from magnetic stripe access cards to chip-enabled access cards for use in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Outlines the required contents of the report. Provides to whom the department shall submit the report. Effective immediately. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 462](#) – (PN 445) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in limitation of time, further providing for infancy, insanity or imprisonment; in matters affecting government units, further providing for exceptions to sovereign immunity and for exceptions to governmental immunity; and repealing section 10(3)(ii) of the act of November 26, 2019 (P.L.641, No.87) insofar as the section applies to 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 8522(b)(10) and 8542(b)(9). Removes the provided meanings of “minor,” “sexual abuse” and “forcible compulsion” under section 5533(b). Provides for a temporary window to file claims or civil action arising from sexual abuse if the individual was under 18 years of age at the time of the incident. Adds that if the limitation period for that cause of action has expired, the civil action is revived and the individual will have an additional two years from the effective date. Adds definitions for “forcible compulsion,” “minor” and “sexual abuse.” Provides that the paragraph pertaining to exceptions to sovereign immunity and regarding

exceptions to governmental immunity applies retroactively to a cause of action that arose prior to the effective date and prospectively to a cause of action that arises after the effective date. Effectively immediately. The bill was **reported as committed**, with Republicans voting in the negative except Minority Chairman Jim Struzzi (R-Indiana) and Reps. Torren Ecker (R-Adams), Ann Flood (R-Northampton), Joshua Kail (R-Beaver), Zachary Mako (R-Northampton) and Kristin Marcell (R-Bucks).

[HB 464](#) – (PN 447) Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution, further providing for courts to be open and suits against the commonwealth. Provides that an individual for whom a statutory limitations period has already expired, or whose claim would otherwise be barred or limited by a statutory cap on damages, sovereign immunity or by governmental or official immunity, shall have a period of two years, without bar or limitation by such caps or immunities, from the time that this subsection becomes effective to commence an action arising from childhood sexual abuse, in such cases as provided by law at the time that this subsection becomes effective. A Joint Resolution proposing integrated amendments to the Constitution of Pennsylvania requires approval in two consecutive legislative sessions and then approval by the voters through a referendum. The bill was **reported as committed**, with Reps. Marla Brown (R-Lawrence), Eric Davanzo (R-Westmoreland) and Marci Mustello (R-Butler) voting in the negative.

[HB 846](#) – (PN 876) Amends the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act, further providing for definitions, for specifications, for prevailing wage and for duty of secretary. Provides and revises definitions. Provides specifications for workmen engaged in custom fabrication for public work. Requires workmen to be paid an appropriate rate for their craft and prohibits the payment of multiple rates for one project. Asserts that workmen engaged in custom fabrication for a public works project must be paid the prevailing minimum wage rate for the applicable trade or craft in the locality in which the public works project is located. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as committed**, with Republicans voting in the negative except Reps. Davanzo, Marcell and Eric Nelson (R-Westmoreland).

[HB 1189](#) – (PN 1337) Amends the Fiscal Code, in disposition of abandoned and unclaimed property, further providing for claim for property paid or delivered. Increases the value of a property or proceeds qualified for claims for property paid or delivered from \$500 to \$10,000. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as amended**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

[A00982](#), by Harris, repeals Section 1724-H of the act. The amendment was **adopted**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

Minority Chairman Jim Struzzi (R-Indiana) argued that the amendment was substantive and therefore should not be incorporated into the Appropriations Committee. He criticized the amendment for striking language from the Fiscal Code that would ensure the General Assembly provides oversight and guidance to solar expenditures for all funds. Chairman Jordan Harris (D-Philadelphia) said he was of the opinion that the amendment would have a fiscal impact on the commonwealth, making it appropriate for the committee to discuss it.

[HB 1339](#) – (PN 1828) An Act making appropriations from a restricted revenue account within the General Fund and from Federal augmentation funds to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) for the fiscal year July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. Makes a state appropriation of \$96,000,000 for the salaries, wages and all necessary expenses for the proper operation and administration of PUC. Makes federal appropriations of \$5,110,000 to enforce the regulations of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act, \$500,000 for Motor Carrier Safety and \$2,500,000 for the IRA - Transmission Siting Program. Effective July 1, 2025, or immediately, whichever is later. (Prior PN: 1637). The bill was unanimously **reported as amended**.

[A00925](#), by Harris, corrects errors in the initial bill. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Chairman Struzzi asked why the bill was receiving another amendment in the committee. Courtney Richardson, majority executive director and chief counsel, noted that there was an error in the initial bill and that the amendment was attempting to match the spring update provided by the governor in May.



House Children & Youth Committee

06/10/2025, 10:00 a.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building
Kyle Purchase, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider one bill.

[HB 350](#) - (PN 1276) Amends Titles 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries), 23 (Domestic Relations) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in intestate succession, further providing for rules of succession; in administration and personal representatives, providing for liability of executor; in proceedings prior to petition to adopt, further providing for rules of succession, for hearing, for alternative procedure for relinquishment and for hearing; in support matters generally, further providing general administration of support matters, repealing provisions relating to paternity and further providing for continuing jurisdiction over support orders; in general provisions relating to children and minors, repealing provisions relating to acknowledgment and claim of paternity; in jurisdiction, further providing for bases for jurisdiction over nonresident; enacting the Uniform Parentage Act; providing for parent-child relationship for certain individuals, for voluntary acknowledgment of parentage, for genetic testing, for proceeding to adjudicate parentage, for assisted reproduction, for surrogacy agreements and for information about donors; and, in organization and jurisdiction of courts of common pleas, further providing for original jurisdiction and venue. Asserts that persons begotten before the decedent's death, including a person conceived by assisted reproduction and established to be a child of the decedent, take as if they had been born in his lifetime. Provides that if a decedent's estate is not notified of a transfer of a gamete or embryo and as a result a parent-child relationship between the decedent and the person conceived by assisted reproduction is not established, an executor is not liable to the person for a distribution of the estate of the decedent in reliance on the fact that the relationship was not established. Provides definitions. Provides for applicable law. Provides for data privacy. Provides for establishment of parent-child relationship. Prohibits discrimination. Directs that unless parental rights are terminated, a parent-child relationship applies for all purposes. Provides for presumption of parentage. Provides for acknowledgment of parentage. Provides for the execution of acknowledgement of parentage. Asserts that a presumed parent or alleged genetic parent may sign a denial of parentage in a record. Provides rules for acknowledgment or denial of parentage. Provides for effect of acknowledgement or denial of parentage. Provides that a court conducting a judicial proceeding or an administrative agency conducting an administrative proceeding is not required or permitted to ratify an unchallenged acknowledgment of parentage. Provides procedure for rescission. Provides for challenge after expiration for period for rescission. Provides procedure for challenge by signatory. Directs the court to give full faith and credit to an acknowledgment of parentage or denial of parentage effective in another state if the acknowledgment or denial is in a signed record and otherwise complies with the law of the other state. Provides for forms for acknowledgment and denial of parentage. Permits the Department of Human Services to release certain information and promulgate regulations. Provides for authority to order or deny genetic testing. Provides for requirements and reporting for genetic testing. Permits individuals to challenge genetic testing results. Provides for costs of genetic testing. Provides for genetic testing when specimens are not available. Permits the court to order genetic testing of a deceased individual. Permits the court to order genetic testing of identical siblings. Provides for confidentiality of genetic testing. Specifies that a proceeding may be commenced to adjudicate the parentage of a child. Provides for standing to maintain proceeding. Provides for notice of proceeding. Specifies that the court may adjudicate an individual's parentage of a child only if the court has personal jurisdiction over the individual. Provides for venue for a proceeding to adjudicate parentage. Provides for admissibility of results of genetic testing. Provides for adjudicating the parentage of a child with an alleged genetic parent. Provides for adjudicating parentage of child with presumed parent. Provides for adjudicating claims of de facto parentage of a child. Provides for adjudicating parentage of child with acknowledged parent. Provides for adjudicating parent. Provides for adjudicating parentage of child of assisted reproduction. Provides for adjudicating competing claims of parentage. Provides for precluding establishment of parentage by perpetrator of sexual assault. Permits courts to issue a temporary order for child support. Permits courts to combine a proceeding to adjudicate parentage with a proceeding for adoption, termination of parental rights, child custody or visitation, child support, divorce, dissolution or annulment, administration of an estate or another appropriate proceeding. Provides for proceedings before birth. Directs the court to adjudicate parentage of child without a jury. Permits courts to close a proceeding to the public. Specifies that an order adjudicating parentage must identify the child in a manner provided by the law. Provides for a binding effect of determination of parentage. Asserts that a donor is not a parent of a child conceived by assisted reproduction. Provides for an individual who consents under section 9704 (relating to consent to assisted reproduction) to assisted reproduction with another individual who agrees to give birth to a child conceived by the assisted reproduction with the intent to be a parent of the child is a parent of the child. Provides for consent to assisted reproduction. Provides for limitation on spouse's dispute of parentage. Provides for effect of certain legal proceedings regarding marriage. Provides for withdrawal of consent. Provides for parentage status of a deceased individual. Provides for order or judgment of parentage. Provides for eligibility to enter into a surrogacy agreement. Provides requirements for a surrogacy agreement. Provides for parentage under a gestational surrogacy agreement. Provides for requirements to validate genetic surrogacy agreement. Provides for termination of genetic surrogacy agreement. Provides for parentage under validated genetic surrogacy agreement. Provides for effect of non-validated genetic surrogacy agreement. Provides for parentage status of a deceased intended parent in a genetic surrogacy agreement. Provides for a breach of a genetic surrogacy agreement. Provides for collection of information. Provides for declaration regarding identity disclosure. Provides for disclosure of identifying information and medical history. Provides for recordkeeping. Effective in one year. The bill was **reported as amended**, with Reps. Scott Barger (R-Blair), Gary Day (R-Lehigh), Roman Kozak (R-Beaver),

Milou Mackenzie (R-Lehigh), John Schlegel (R-Lebanon), Jamie Walsh (R-Luzerne) and David Zimmerman (R-Lancaster) voting in the negative.

A01015, by McNeill, changes the term “day-care” to “child-care,” removes provisions in the bill regarding identity disclosure of the gamete donor and changes Section 9906 to Section 9905. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Minority Chairman Kate Klunk (R-York) spoke on the amendment, voicing support for it. She said she appreciated the collaboration with the U.S. Donor Conceived Council (USDCC). She added that the bill “has room for improvement.”

Rep. Sheryl Delozier (R-Cumberland), a co-sponsor of the bill, noted previous conversations of the issue at hand and said the bill aims to “solve a gap” in the law to allow for “intended parents.” She provided a background for the bill and the example of a couple who used in vitro fertilization (IVF) but divorced before the child was born. “I think it’s up to us and incumbent on us to allow for an easier pathway, that who is their parents and who is there to care for them in their lives,” she stated.

Rep. Ben Sanchez (D-Montgomery), prime sponsor of the bill, thanked both chairs and Democratic executive director Danielle Bowers for their help with the bill. He acknowledged the bill has “many pages” and noted the previous discussions and public hearing held about the bill before being considered. He highlighted what the bill does and does not do. “To put it plainly, this bill will make clear who the legal parent is and who the legal parent is not,” he remarked. He explained what the bill does not do by saying, “It does not change custody laws, it does not eliminate or undermine how people are currently recognized as legal parents, it does not make surrogacy legal because it already is legal, it does not make IVF legal because IVF already is legal and it does not make sperm or egg donation legal because that is also already legal.” He regarded his bill as “pro-family” and asked for support.

Rep. Barger agreed the bill is “long” and said it is a “tricky one.” He voiced concerns from the “pro-life community,” and talked about the “underlying” concerns with IVF and surrogacy. He believed a concern with IVF and surrogacy “tends to view children as commodities that are purchased, and then the people who purchase them have certain rights to those children.” He continued, “People aren’t commodities, people are human beings.” Rep. Sanchez noted a “fundamental disagreement” regarding the legality of certain components of the underlying bill. “I don’t want to put words in your mouth, but it doesn’t really affect what’s in this, so I obviously disagree and still believe in the need for this bill in Pennsylvania law,” he replied. Rep. Barger commented, “I just think it’s important for us, on our side, to understand this is why we’re uncomfortable with some of these things, and it’s not demanding that you as the sponsor of this bill answer all these questions.” Rep. Delozier said she understood “philosophical” differences but reiterated the aim of the bill is to respond to courts. She said further discussions or disagreements on IVF and surrogacy can be held.

Rep. Walsh read from the Uniform Parentage Act and asked for clarification if the phrase “a person or persons could become parents without any court inquiry into the best interest of the child” was accurate. Rep. Sanchez replied that the bill does not change adoption processes or custody laws. Rep. Delozier asked Rep. Walsh to identify a specific line in the bill that he was referring to. She explained the legislation does not change “how someone is adopted, how someone is conceived through IVF or the surrogacy laws.” She added, “We’re not touching any of those through how that process happens right now, obviously, the intention or the benefit of the child, it should be paramount across the board.” Rep. Walsh again referred to the Uniform Parentage Act, section 9802-B, to voice concern with the phrase, “a person or persons could become parents without a home study or background check.” Rep. Delozier said she was open to discussing further with Rep. Walsh to address the language on the House floor.

Rep. Mackenzie said she was supportive of IVF and surrogacy but voiced her concerns with the bill. She referenced a story from the Bible to describe the “struggle over who the parents are.”

Rep. Jamie Flick (R-Lycoming) provided a personal example of sperm donation and asked for clarification on specific language in the bill regarding “substantial changes in circumstances.” Rep. Delozier said she didn’t want to misspeak, but said the courts would determine if the change was substantial or not. Rep. Flick provided other examples of “substantial changes.” Rep. Delozier said, “As far as I’m aware, we weren’t modifying any of what the definition of the law on the book says a change of circumstance is.” She noted Rep. Flick’s examples would fall under the existing statute but expressed openness to discussing further with Rep. Flick. Rep. Flick voiced his appreciation and further explained his point about various judges interpreting what a “substantial change” is.

Chairman Klunk said the bill is a “tough one.” She stated she was going to support the bill despite having concerns about it. She pointed out there is opposition to the bill from the PA Family Council and said she can provide their memo to members. She referenced efforts in Colorado to address the issue and suggested reviewing Colorado’s policy. She repeated that she would vote to support the bill out of committee but said to “look for some amendments.”

Rep. Liz Hanbidge (D-Montgomery) thanked both Reps. Delozier and Sanchez for the bill. She stated, “I think it’s really important that we create uniformity, transparency, helping courts, but most importantly, that we help families have some assurance.” She said Pennsylvania would join “25 other states” that have similar laws.



Senate Education Committee

06/10/2025, 10:30 a.m., Room 8E-A, East Wing

Julia Walters, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider several bills and one resolution.

Chairman Lynda Schlegel Culver (R-Northumberland) welcomed the members to the meeting and outlined the agenda.

[SB 375](#) – (PN 912) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, repealing provisions relating to CPR instruction; in school safety and security, further providing for School Safety and Security Grant Program; and, in school health services, further providing for definitions, repealing provisions relating to automatic external defibrillators, providing for AED and CPR instruction and procedure, establishing the Automated External Defibrillator Program and providing for availability and specifications of automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Asserts the School Safety and Security Fund may use grants to provide AEDs and training. Provides additional details regarding the percentage of money in the fund that must go toward AEDs and training. Requires any uncommitted moneys to be returned to the fund by September 30 of each succeeding fiscal year. Defines “automated external defibrillator.” Requires each school entity and nonpublic school to make available instructions on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and AED usage to its employees and volunteers on school property at least once every two years, with additional details. Outlines requirements for AED locations and training. Provides continuing education requirements. Requires completion of training under this section to be recorded with specified details. Requires the Department of Education (PDE), in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH), to develop guidelines and materials to assist school entities and nonpublic schools in developing a cardiac emergency response plan with additional information. Provides additional definitions. Provides a procedure for a biennial bid for the cost of AEDs and other equipment and necessary supplies. Provides requirements of eligibility to obtain, purchase or loan AEDs under the program. Asserts that the provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 8331.2 apply to school entities and nonpublic school employees who render care with an AED. Allows PDE to offer discounts or loans for AEDs as necessary. Asserts that AED purchases are considered an allowable use of Pennsylvania Accountability Grants under section 2599.2(b), as well as an innovative educational program under Article XX-B and an eligible school safety and security expense in section 1306-B(j). Allows PDE to accept donations under this section with specified requirements. Outlines content requirements for reports under this section. Allows PDE to adopt other guidelines as necessary to implement this section. Requires school entities and nonpublic schools that participate in interscholastic athletics to have an AED readily accessible. Prohibits this section from being construed as establishing any liability against a school entity or nonpublic school or its officers or employees. Requires school entities and nonpublic schools to ensure each AED is properly tested and maintained. Effective immediately. The bill was **reported as amended**, with Sen. Dawn Keefer (R-York) voting in the negative.

[A01013](#), by Culver, adds nonpublic schools to a paragraph regarding cardiac emergency response plans, specifies that funds transferred from the School Safety and Security Fund are from funds appropriated in that fiscal year and makes technical changes. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Sen. Rosemary Brown (R-Lackawanna), the bill’s prime sponsor, highlighted her commitment to ensuring AED accessibility in schools, mentioning her time in the House of Representatives advocating for this issue. She shared a “tragic” story from a family in her district whose son died at a school football game due to cardiac arrest with no access to an AED. “These stories remind us why this legislation matters, why it works and why it’s our responsibility to do more to protect students, staff and visitors,” Sen. Brown said. She emphasized the need for AEDs at Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) sanctioned events, adding that two-thirds of cardiac arrests in children occur as a result of physical activity. Sen. Brown continued that it is also the leading cause of death among young athletes, though AED usage can increase survival up to 70%. She commended Senate leadership and the General Assembly as a whole for securing funding for schools to purchase AEDs last legislative session. Sen. Brown stated her intention to build upon that progress. She explained how her bill requires schools to establish emergency response plans and a sudden cardiac event emergency action plan for student athletes, as well as CPR and AED training. Sen. Brown thanked the committee for their support in “getting to this point.”

Sen. Keefer asked if CPR training was already required for schools. Sen. Brown answered she was not “100% sure” it was required training. She mentioned being aware of past bills relating to CPR training but without funding “attached to it.” Sen. Keefer expressed her concern for schools that already require CPR training and conforming to “another mandate.” She stated it “doesn’t meet PDE’s requirements as far as compliance goes.” Sen. Keefer stated she would not support the bill. Sen. Brown responded that PDE and

DOH would work together to develop guidelines on CPR and AED training and resources. She also mentioned much of the funding in her bill “has already been there through the accountability grants.”

[SB 432](#) – (PN 399) Amends the Public School Code, in the State System of Higher Education, providing for educational opportunities for foster and adopted children. Requires an institution to provide each eligible nonresident student who enrolls with a fostering independence waiver for undergraduate courses beginning with the semester starting in fall 2025. Provides eligibility requirements for fostering independence waiver. Stipulates the fostering independence waiver shall be available for up to five years, whether or not consecutive, or until the individual reaches 26 years of age, whichever occurs first. Requires annual reporting. Defines “fostering independence waiver.” Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as amended**, with Sens. Keefer and Doug Mastriano (R-Franklin) voting in the negative.

[A00862](#), by Culver, amends terminology used in the criteria to qualify for the waiver. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Sen. Tracy Pennycuick (R-Berks), the bill’s prime sponsor, stated it was a “reintroduction” of a portion of the Grow PA initiative to expand educational opportunities across the state. She noted how foster children do not have as much access to post-secondary education and that her bill would expand the existing Fostering Independence Tuition Waiver Program. Sen. Pennycuick added it would have “no significant impact on the state” fiscally. She mentioned it could increase revenue for the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) by allowing more students. “Our PASSHE system has excess capacity with taxpayer-funded seats unfilled,” Sen. Pennycuick stated. “This program helps maximize the use of existing resources by filling those open seats and delivering real value to both students and taxpayers.”

[SB 733](#) – (PN 785) Amends the Public School Code, in higher education accountability and transparency, further providing for exit counseling. Requires each institution of higher education that receives information regarding Federal education loans or other student loans that may require repayment for a student enrolled at the institution of higher education shall make financial aid counseling available to each student at the end of the student’s final academic term, unless the individual selects not to participate. Directs an institution to attempt to make financial aid counseling available for students who transfer or withdraw, unless the student has Federal education loans or other student loans known to the institution of higher education that do not require repayment. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Minority Chairman Lindsey Williams (D-Allegheny) spoke on Sen. Vincent Hughes’ (D-Philadelphia) bill, stating it ensures a clear understanding of an institute of higher education’s responsibility to “provide financial aid counseling to students prior to graduation.” She thanked the Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators for working with both her and Sen. Hughes’ offices on the bill.

[SB 838](#) – (PN 904) Amends the Private Licensed Schools Act, further providing for definitions. Expands definition of “private licensed school,” to include the phrase, “a school or provider approved by the State Real Estate Commission or the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers.” Effective immediately. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Sen. Greg Rothman (R-Cumberland) mentioned his background in real estate and serving on the Real Estate Commission, adding the bill is “great legislation.” He continued that both real estate brokers and appraisers are “constantly” taking education classes and “wholeheartedly” supported the bill.

[SR 119](#) – (PN 897) Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to support the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025 and amend or repeal federal law relating to program requirements in order to allow for the availability of whole milk and 2% reduced fat milk, flavored or unflavored, in elementary and secondary schools in Pennsylvania and urging the United States Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of Health and Human Services to update federal standards relating to the establishment of dietary guidelines in order to permit the availability of whole milk and 2% reduced fat milk, flavored or unflavored, in elementary and secondary schools in Pennsylvania. The resolution was unanimously **reported as committed**.



Senate Institutional Sustainability and Innovation Committee

06/10/2025, 11:30 a.m., Room 8E-B, East Wing

By Derek Danneker, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider legislation.

[SB 84](#) - (PN 39) Amends the Public School Code, in construction and renovation of buildings by school entities, further providing for definitions to define “equipment,” “maintenance costs,” “nonconstruction costs,” “operations costs” and “total project costs” and for building condition assessments to change to section heading to facilities condition assessments. Establishes new duties for the department, including developing a facilities condition assessment form for a school entity to use in filing assessments by Oct. 1, 2025, and outlines what information the form shall require to be reported. Requires a school entity to submit a facilities condition assessment to the department by Oct. 1, 2026, and every seven years thereafter, allowing the assessment to be conducted by an individual with professional qualifications and experience in architecture, engineering, construction or facilities management. Asserts that a school entity that fails to comply will be disqualified from being eligible for a grant or reimbursement. Directs the department to post a list of school entities that have submitted a completed facility condition assessment on the department’s publicly accessible website. Defines “school entity.” Effective immediately. The bill was **passed over**.

Chairman Frank Farry (R-Bucks) stated that after speaking with stakeholders, he has decided to pass over the bill. He said Sen. David Argall (R-Schuylkill), the bill’s prime sponsor, will continue to work with stakeholders to address their concerns.

[SB 811](#) - (PN 901) The Pennsylvania Small Business Innovation Research Grant and Small Business Technology Transfer Matching Funds Program Act establishes the Pennsylvania SBIR/STTR Matching Funds Program within the Department of Community and Economic Development to provide technology grants to small businesses. Provides for eligibility, requires at least one of the business’ principal places of business located within the commonwealth, have received an SBIR or STTR Phase I award, satisfy federal requirements, certify that at least 51% of the research will be conducted within the state and demonstrate the business’ ability to conduct research. Provides that the department may provide a matching grant of up to \$50,000 with remittance. Provides for limitations. Provides for application requirements. Provides that the General Assembly shall provide funding. Allows the department to promulgate regulations. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as amended**.

[A00988](#), by Farry, provides language to ensure that funding can be used for technical and business assistance services. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Chairman Farry, prime sponsor of the bill, said the life science industry is vital to the economic development in the state. He said his bill would offer an incentive to stay in Pennsylvania.

Sen. Art Haywood (D-Montgomery) said he was glad to join the legislation as a cosponsor. He added that the life sciences industry is a “tremendously powerful industry” that is competing with key regions throughout the world. He said the bill would increase the chances that small businesses will be successful.

Chairman Farry noted that Sen. Chris Gebhard (R-Lebanon) recently passed [SB 88](#) from the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee, which is going to help with the diagnosis of breast cancer. He described how his wife was diagnosed with breast cancer, however the doctors have assured them that it is treatable. He attributed their confidence to the work done in the life sciences industry. He further thanked Sen. Steven Santarsiero (D-Bucks) for being “a leader with our biotech center in Bucks County.”



House Appropriations Committee

06/10/2025, 11:40 a.m., Room 140, Main Capitol

By Derek Danneker, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider legislation.

[HB 1088](#) - (PN 1205) Amends the Insurance Company Law, in casualty insurance, providing for coverage for blood pressure monitors. Requires a health insurance policy to provide coverage, including reimbursement, for medically necessary blood pressure monitors for pregnant or postpartum insureds for each pregnancy. Defines “health insurance policy,” “insurer” and “postpartum.” Establishes applicability. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1250](#) - (PN 1379) Amends the Manufactured Home Community Rights Act, providing for resident associations and group meetings; further providing for disclosure of fees; providing for reasonable increases in rent and fees and for justified rent increase to support extraordinary increases in operating expenses; and further providing for damages. Provides for resident associations and group meetings, requiring a manufactured home community owner to allow group meetings on site between residents without limitations. Increases the timeline for rent, fees, service charges and assessment payable to 90 days after notice. Removes the time specifications from all new leases, lease extensions and lease renewals and increases the time to 90 days for notification in advance to the manufactured home lessee for any home space rental amount increases. Allows a manufactured home community owner or operator to increase rent, fees and service charges or assessments for any 12-month period, effective upon renewal or extension of a lease. Requires notification to all lessees of any increases at least 90 days prior to the effective date and provides for exceptions. Adds that failure to comply renders all increases void and unenforceable in the courts of the state. Provides for justified rent increases to support extraordinary increases in operating expenses and establishes notice requirements. Allows for challenges on the reasonableness of the proposed increase by filing a civil action in the court of common pleas. Adds further definitions. Increases the time period to 60 days within which the manufactured home occupant can accept the new, renewed or extended rental agreement or notify of the intent to vacate within 60 days from receiving receipt of the community owner’s or operator’s intent to offer a new lease, receipt of notification by the Attorney General that the complaint has been closed or the issuance of a final decision on any legal challenge, whichever occurs later. Provides for filings for abatement, nullification or restitution of any increase in rent, fees, service charges or assessments imposed in violation. Effective immediately. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1326](#) - (PN 1647) Amends the Public School Code, in pupils and attendance, further providing for computation of distances; and, in reimbursements by commonwealth and between school districts, providing for pupil transportation data. Repeals language allowing the board of school directors in any school district to provide for the free transportation of pupils as long as the school is either located within district boundaries or located within the commonwealth but outside the district boundaries, not exceeding 10 miles by the nearest public highway. Asserts that these distances will be calculated using technology capable of accurate measurements of distances. Prohibits the Department of Education (PDE) from requiring the manual recording of distances. Requires school entities who are entitled to reimbursement for pupil transportation to provide specified data, in a manner that is not redundant or overly burdensome for school entities, to PDE beginning with information from the 2025-2026 school year and annually thereafter. Requires school entities who are entitled to reimbursement for pupil transportation to provide a detailed breakdown of pupil transportation expenditures to PDE, beginning with information from the 2025-2026 school year and annually thereafter. Removes the homeless student data requirement and requires the collection of data for students enrolled in an entity located outside of the boundaries of the state and eligible to receive free pupil transportation. Establishes further data and reporting requirements. Requires PDE to post data collected under this section on their public website. Requires PDE to notify the chairmen and minority chairmen of both the Senate and House Appropriations Committees and the Senate and House Education Committees when the information is posted under subsection (c). Adds a definition for extraordinary transportation expenses. Effective July 1, 2025, or immediately, whichever is later. (Prior PN: 1518). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1511](#) - (PN 1872) Amends Title 44 (Law and Justice), adding Part V to provide for miscellaneous provisions and Chapter 81 for violent incident clearance and technological investigative methods; establishing the Violent Incident Clearance and Technological Investigative Methods Program; and imposing duties on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Provides and revises several definitions. Explains the purpose of the program. Permits the submission of applications and requires applications to be accepted on an annual basis. Details permitted the use of grants. Directs that grants allocated through the program are to be used to supplement and not supplant existing funding for law enforcement agencies. Provides for subsequent applications. Requires geographic diversity. Allows multijurisdictional applications. Requires each grant recipient under the program to submit a report to the commission in the form and manner determined by the commission, establishing what each report shall contain at a minimum. Mandates the commission to evaluate the program and provides what each evaluation shall include. Establishes who the commission shall submit an evaluation to, no later than one year after the effective date and by March 31 of each year thereafter. Prohibits the commission from expending more than 3% of money appropriated to the commission for the program on administrative expenses. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1767). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1428](#) - (PN 1663) Amends Title 24 (Education), in preliminary provisions relating to retirement for school employees, further providing for definitions. Redefines “government entity.” Details the applicability of the definition of “governmental entity.” Effective immediately. The bill was **reported as committed**, on a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

[HB 1460](#) - (PN 1871) The Health System Protection Act provides for approval from the Department of Health and the Office of Attorney General before certain transactions involving health care entities within this commonwealth. Provides several definitions. Establishes a general rule that a person may not enter into a covered transaction that is against the public interest and provides an exception to the general rule in the absence of a covered transaction. Provides for the filing of transactions. Requires notification of the transaction to be sent to the Attorney General. Lists the required contents of the notification. Provides for binding covered transactions and a 60-day waiting period. Permits public input and provides for the conduct of public hearings. Requires notice of public hearings. Lists permitted actions by the Attorney General. Provides for additional extensions. Provides for the compliance and power of the courts. Mandates the Attorney General to promulgate rules and regulations. Outlines what the Attorney General may do regarding contracting. Adds that the cost of a contract must be an amount that is reasonable and necessary to conduct the review and evaluation. Inserts that the Attorney General shall be entitled to reimbursement from the entities seeking consent for the covered transaction for 50% of all actual, reasonable and direct costs incurred in reviewing, evaluating and making a determination. Requires entities to pay the Attorney General within 30 days of the request and allows the Attorney General to provide additional time for the entities to pay, not exceeding 90 additional days. Provides for if the transaction involves a merger or acquisition. Directs cooperation among agencies. Establishes the powers and duties of the department. Provides for confidential treatment. Establishes the act’s construction. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1696, 1821). The bill was **reported as committed**, on a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.



House Appropriations

06/11/2025, 1:45 p.m., Room 140, Main Capitol

By Derek Danneker, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider legislation.

[HB 375](#) - (PN 331) Amends the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, in subdivision and land development, providing for signage on subdivision or land development. Directs developers to post signage no later than seven days after the first submission of a subdivision or land development application. Provides guidelines for signage. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 681](#) - (PN 1882) Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, further providing for health services, for reports and for interagency coordinating council for child health, nutrition and physical education; and, in terms and courses of study, further providing for physical education. Provides for student confidentiality. Exempts a student from height and weight measurement if the student’s parent or legal guardian requests an exemption in writing. Directs school districts to provide notification to the student’s parent or guardian regarding the procedure to request an exemption. Permits student measurements to be tracked into a growth pattern. Asserts that a school district may not deliver a student’s body mass index (BMI) to either the student or the student’s parent or legal guardian unless requested by the parent or legal guardian. Directs school districts to report measurements to the Secretary of Health in a manner that protects confidentiality. Includes the Department of Human Services (DHS) secretary as a member of the Interagency Coordinating Council for Child Health, Nutrition and Physical Education. Requires the council to include recommendations from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) education program. Mandates the final report to be available on the websites of DHS, Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education (PDE) and Department of Agriculture (PDA). Directs that in the academic instruction on personal health, nutrition and physical fitness, the calculation of BMI is prohibited and any instruction that requires the collection of a student’s height and weight measurement information shall be conducted in a manner that protects student confidentiality. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 1648, 695). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 967](#) - (PN 1048) Amends the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, further providing for definitions. Expands definitions for “unfair methods of competition” and “unfair or deceptive acts or practices.” Defines several terms in the subclause. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1084](#) - (PN 1883) Amends Title 15 (Corporations and Unincorporated Associations), in general provisions relating to corporation bureau and UCC fees, further providing for fee schedule; and, in incorporation, providing for exemption from certain fees and solicitation requirements for volunteer fire companies. Exempts a volunteer fire company from paying fees for filing articles of incorporation under this chapter. Provides that a volunteer fire company filing articles of incorporation shall be exempt from requirements for solicitation and a supplier, vendor or professional fundraising counsel contracted by a volunteer fire company filing articles of incorporation shall be exempt from the requirements for solicitation. Defines offenses. Requires annual reporting. Defines "volunteer fire company." Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1202). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1402](#) - (PN 1884) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, providing for state certificate fee reduction and further providing for professional educator discipline fee. Asserts that certificate fees assessed by the Department of Education related to the review of certificate eligibility for issuance of certificates under section 1201 may not be more than \$50, striking the professional educator discipline fee under section 1216.1 from the language of the bill. Further provides that an individual who is a member of the United States Armed Forces, including a reserve component or National Guard, or a veteran, or the spouse of a member of the United States Armed Forces or the spouse of the veteran, may not be required to pay a fee. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1684, 1601). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1431](#) – (PN 1896) Amends Title 34 (Game), in Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC), further providing for organization of commission; in game or wildlife protection, further providing for regulations, for report to commission officer, for surrender of carcass to commission officer and for unlawful activities; and, in hunting and furtaking, repealing provisions relating to hunting on Sunday prohibited, further providing for unlawful devices and methods and for the offense of trespass on private property while hunting and repealing provisions relating to hunting on Sunday without written permission. Requires the governor to ensure that at least one member of PGC represents the interest of agricultural commodities that pertain to normal agricultural operations and wildlife. Provides definitions. Requires reports to PGC officers regarding the killing of game or wildlife to include the location of the carcass. Asserts PGC will establish a self-reporting system that assigns an individual to remove deer for crop damage purposes and reports each harvest to a PGC officer via a telephone number, online application or public website. Asserts carcasses will be delivered to a processor for final disposition. Outlines violations, including for the failure to obtain written permission to hunt on a Sunday. Asserts that violations under this subchapter pertaining to written permission are considered third-degree summary offenses. Outlines exceptions to subsection (a) pertaining to unlawful devices and methods. Adds situations that are classified as trespassing. Amends penalty information, including the forfeiture of hunting within the commonwealth for various periods of time. Provides that upon the dismissal or dropping of charges, that person is not guilty of a violation and the person's privilege to hunt or take game or wildlife within this commonwealth shall be immediately restored. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1667). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Minority Chairman Jim Struzzi (R-Indiana) said that for HB 375, HB 681, HB 967, HB 1084, HB 1402 and HB 1431, although his caucus has policy differences, they are not fiscally opposed to the legislation.

[HB 1549](#) – (PN 1881) Amends the Minimum Wage Act, further providing for definitions, for minimum wages and for exemptions. Provides for a minimum wage of \$15 per hour beginning January 1, 2029, in cities of the first class and cost-of-living adjustments each January 1 following. Further provides for employees who are employed by an employer in a county of a second class, second class A, third class, fourth class, with population requirements, or sixth class to be paid a minimum of \$12 beginning January 1, 2026, \$13 per hour beginning January 1, 2027, and \$15 per hour beginning January 1, 2028, then beginning January 1, 2029, and each January 1 thereafter employees will receive a cost-of-living increase. Provides for employees employed by an employer in a county of the fourth class, with population requirements, fifth class, sixth class, seventh class or eighth class to be paid at least \$10 per hour beginning January 1, 2026, \$11 per hour beginning January 1, 2027, \$12 per hour beginning January 1, 2028, and beginning January 1, 2029, and each January 1 thereafter to receive an annual cost-of-living adjustment. Removes language providing for certain exemptions. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1826). The bill was **reported as committed**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

Chairman Struzzi said his caucus is concerned about the impact on small businesses with the increase in the minimum wage. He noted the Department of Revenue has reported that the increase in minimum wage could result in a \$2.8 billion loss to small businesses, which is about 12,000 jobs and a decrease of about \$300 million in wages for employees.

[HB 276](#) - (PN 220) The Employee Misclassification Working Group Act provides for interagency cooperation regarding employee misclassification; and establishes the Employee Misclassification Working Group to coordinate enforcement strategies involving state agencies and employee misclassification. Provides for working group representatives. Allows the Department of Revenue to provide state tax information to the Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Unemployment Compensation Tax Services, and other offices to assess or investigate employee misclassification. Directs state agency business applications to include and use federal employer identification numbers. Directs the working group to meet at least quarterly. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as committed** with Republicans voting in the negative.



Bullet.in.Points

DHS: INCOME LIMITS AND CO-PAYMENTS FOR THE SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE PROGRAM

The Department of Human Services issued a notice to increase the income limits codified at 55 Pa. Code Chapter 3042, Appendix B (relating to co-payment chart family co-payment scale (based on the 2025 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines)) under 55 Pa. Code § 3042.97(b) (relating to use of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines and State Median Income). The increase is effective May 5, 2025. There is no fiscal impact on the commonwealth. Additional information is available on the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY: CHILD ABUSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The State Board of Massage Therapy announced proposed amendments relating to child abuse reporting requirements. Additional information is available on the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Cosponsor Memos

HCO2349 - Assessment Innovation and Flexibility

Sponsor

Rep. John A. Schlegel (R)

Summary

Aims to encourage Pennsylvania to develop and implement new, innovative assessment methods that move beyond traditional standardized tests and better align with students' educational goals and needs.

Intro Date

06/10/2025

Last Action

06/10/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

Basic Ed Bill Actions

HB179 - An Act authorizing the provision or sale of Pennsylvania milk in Pennsylvania schools.

Sponsor

Rep. John A. Lawrence (R)

Summary

(PN 858) The Whole Milk in Pennsylvania Schools Act authorizes the provision or sale of Pennsylvania milk in Pennsylvania schools. Provides definitions. Mandates Pennsylvania milk that is offered for sale to a Pennsylvania school be deemed to be in the stream of intrastate commerce. Permits the school board or other governing entity of a Pennsylvania school to utilize funds from state or local sources to obtain whole Pennsylvania milk or reduced-fat Pennsylvania milk to provide or sell. Directs the Secretary of Education to notify the superintendent or chief administrator of each Pennsylvania school of the provisions of the act. Directs the Attorney General to bring a civil action against the federal government or any other entity to recover funds withheld or revoked as a result of an action taken by the school board or other governing entity. Directs the secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of

Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Milk Board, to issue a report to the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of the House and Senate. Provides for expiration. Effective in 30 days.

Intro Date

03/10/2025

Actions

03/07/2025 H - Introduced

03/10/2025 H - Referred to - House Agriculture and Rural Affairs

06/11/2025 H - Meeting Scheduled - 06/16/2025, 11:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Agriculture and Rural Affairs), Room 515, Irvis Office Building

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

01/22/2025

Actions

06/09/2025 S - Meeting Scheduled - 06/10/2025 - Voting Meeting (Senate Appropriations), Rules Committee Conference Room

06/09/2025 S - Second consideration

06/09/2025 S - Re-referred to - Senate Appropriations

06/10/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee - Senate Appropriations

06/10/2025 S - Re-reported as committed - Senate Appropriations

HB681 - 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, further providing for health services, for reports and for interagency coordinating council for child health, nutrition and physical education; and, in terms and courses of study, further providing for physical education.

Sponsor

Rep. Danielle Friel Otten (D)

Summary

(PN 1882) Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, further providing for health services, for reports and for interagency coordinating council for child health, nutrition and physical education; and, in terms and courses of study, further providing for physical education. Provides for student confidentiality. Exempts a student from height and weight measurement if the student's parent or legal guardian requests an exemption in writing. Directs school districts to provide notification to the student's parent or guardian regarding the procedure to request an exemption. Permits student measurements to be tracked into a growth pattern. Asserts that a school district may not deliver a student's body mass index (BMI) to either the student or the student's parent or legal guardian unless requested by the parent or legal guardian. Directs school districts to report measurements to the Secretary of Health in a manner that protects confidentiality. Includes the Department of Human Services (DHS) secretary as a member of the Interagency Coordinating Council for Child Health, Nutrition and Physical Education. Requires the council to include recommendations from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) education program. Mandates the final report to be available on the websites of DHS, Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education (PDE) and Department of Agriculture (PDA). Directs that in the academic instruction on personal health, nutrition and physical fitness, the calculation of BMI is prohibited and any instruction that requires the collection of a student's height and weight measurement information shall be conducted in a manner that protects student confidentiality. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 1648, 695)

Intro Date

02/20/2025

Actions

06/10/2025 H - Placed on HVS

06/11/2025 H - Voted Favorably From Committee - House Appropriations

06/11/2025 H - Re-reported as committed - House Appropriations

06/11/2025 H - Laid out for discussion

06/11/2025 H - Third consideration and final passage

HB1428 - An Act amending Title 24 (Education) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preliminary provisions relating to retirement for school employees, further providing for definitions.

Sponsor

Rep. Joe Webster (D)

Summary

(PN 1663) Amends Title 24 (Education), in preliminary provisions relating to retirement for school employees, further providing for definitions. Redefines "government entity." Details the applicability of the definition of "governmental entity." Effective immediately.

Intro Date

05/07/2025

Actions

06/09/2025 H - Placed on HVS

06/10/2025 H - Voted Favorably From Committee - House Appropriations

06/10/2025 H - Re-reported as committed - House Appropriations

06/10/2025 H - Laid out for discussion

06/10/2025 H - Third consideration and final passage

HB1500 - 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 Cyber Charter School Funding and Policy Council and further providing for advertising and sponsorships; in pupils and attendance, further providing for exceptional children and education and training; in charter schools, further providing for definitions, for funding for cyber charter schools, for powers and duties of department and for assessment and evaluation, providing for fund balance limits, further providing for cyber charter school requirements and prohibitions, providing for cyber charter school fund balance accountability, further providing for establishment of cyber charter school, for cyber charter school application, for enrollment and notification, for enrollee wellness checks and for applicability of other provisions of this act and of other acts and regulations and providing for cyber charter school moratorium; and, in reimbursements by Commonwealth and between school districts, further providing for extraordinary special education program expenses.

Sponsor

Rep. Mary Isaacson (D)

Summary

(PN 1829) Amends the Public School Code, in preliminary provisions, providing for Cyber Charter School Funding and Policy Council and further providing for advertising and sponsorships; in pupils and attendance, further providing for exceptional children and education and training; in charter schools, further providing for definitions, for funding for cyber charter schools, for powers and duties of department and for assessment and evaluation, providing for fund balance limits, further providing for cyber charter school requirements and prohibitions, providing for cyber charter school fund balance accountability, further providing for establishment of cyber charter school, for cyber charter school application, for enrollment and notification, for enrollee wellness checks and for applicability of other provisions of this act and of other acts and regulations and providing for cyber charter school moratorium; and, in reimbursements by commonwealth and between school districts, further providing for extraordinary special education program expenses. Establishes the Cyber Charter School Funding and Policy Council, providing for powers and duties. Requires the council to transmit recommendations no later than April 1, 2026. Provides for council members. Requires each public school entity to report to the Department of Education the entity's total expenditures for paid media advertisements and sponsorships of public events. Removes the provision for special education children and training under pupils and attendance. Provides that cyber charter schools shall receive the statewide cyber charter school tuition rate of \$8,000, provides calculations for non-special education students. Further providing for cyber charter school requirements and prohibitions. Provides for cyber charter school fund balance accountability. Requires each cyber charter school to submit a statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the fiscal year. Further provides for the establishment of cyber charter school, for cyber charter school application, for enrollment and notification, including a proof of residency, for enrollee wellness checks and for applicability of other provisions of this act and of other acts and regulations. Allows for the department to require proof of compliance by a cyber charter school to ensure the well-being of the enrolled student in a cyber charter school and verify participation in the education program. Provides that beginning with the 2025-2026 school year through the 2029-2030 school year, the department may not review or act on any application for the establishment of a new cyber charter school. Further provides that no less than 1% of the special education appropriation may be distributed to school districts and charter schools for extraordinary special education program expenses under reimbursements by the commonwealth and between school districts. Provides for a cap on money distributed to a school district or a charter school. Makes a corrective change to refer to section 302 of the Taxpayer Relief Act, replacing section 301, in section 1725.1-A(f)(1)(ii) of the Public School Code. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 1807, 1795)

Intro Date

05/30/2025

Actions

06/03/2025 H - Placed on HVS

06/04/2025 H - Re-reported as amended - House Appropriations

06/04/2025 H - Laid out for discussion

06/04/2025 H - Third consideration and final passage

06/06/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

HB1505 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in early learning programs, further providing for definitions.

Sponsor

Rep. Liz Hanbidge (D)

Summary

(PN 1760) Amends the Public School Code, in early learning programs, further providing for definitions. Adds an intermediate unit to the definition of "eligible provider." Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

05/28/2025

Actions

05/27/2025 H - Introduced

05/28/2025 H - Referred to - House Children and Youth

06/11/2025 H - Meeting Scheduled - 06/17/2025, 10:00 AM - Voting Meeting (House Children and Youth), Room B31, Main Capitol

HB1589 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in books, furniture and supplies, providing for school library collections.

Sponsor

Rep. Gregory Scott (D)

Summary

(PN 1899) Amends the Public School Code, in books, furniture and supplies, providing for school library collections. Provides for each public school to maintain a library collection that includes a variety of print, nonprint and electronic resources. Requires the collection to have technology and related equipment of a specific quality and quantity to support the educational needs of students. Provides that the collection includes at least 5,000 items in a print collection or no less than 10 books per student, plus access to state-funded resources. Establishes duties for a certified school librarian. Provides for regulations to be implemented by the department. Defines “certified school librarian,” “department,” “library,” “library collection” and “public school.” Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

06/11/2025

Actions

06/10/2025 H - Introduced

06/11/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

HB1596 - An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in sales and use tax, further providing for exclusions from tax.

Sponsor

Rep. Ann Flood (R)

Summary

(PN 1908) Amends the Tax Reform Code, in sales and use tax, further providing for exclusions from tax. Provides sales tax exclusions for computer equipment under \$1,500 and select school supplies under \$50 from the first Saturday in August to and including the third Saturday in August. Provides definitions. Permits the Department of Revenue to promulgate regulations to include additional items. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

06/11/2025

Actions

06/11/2025 H - Introduced

06/11/2025 H - Referred to - House Finance

HB1597 - 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 after-school reading program.

Sponsor

Rep. Jason Ortity (R)

Summary

(PN 1910) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, providing for after-school reading program. Permits school entities to establish an after-school or summer-peer tutoring program that employs teen leaders from the school entity's community to deliver one-to-one structured literacy tutoring and uses an evidence-based phonics curriculum to students enrolled in kindergarten through grade two at the school entity to help improve reading proficiency beginning with the 2026-2027 school year and continuing with each school year thereafter. Permits school entities to collaborate with businesses, educational organizations and other nonprofit organizations to establish the program. Directs the Department of Education to develop guidance no later than December 31, 2025. Provides principles for the program. Directs school entities that establish a program to submit a report to the department beginning September 1, 2027, and each September 1 thereafter. Permits school entities to use federal funds, state funds, private grants or gifts to implement the program. Provides definitions. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

06/11/2025

Actions

06/11/2025 H - Introduced

06/11/2025 H - Referred to - House Education

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)

Summary

(PN 67) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, providing for credit for employment at congregate care facilities requiring a student who is in grade 11 or 12 at a school entity or nonpublic school and who is employed, either on a paid or voluntary basis, at a congregate care facility may earn one elective credit toward graduation for every 250 hours worked at the congregate care facility, for a maximum of two elective credits toward graduation and the school entity or nonpublic school shall develop or modify an existing application process and form for the student seeking elective credit under this section with the appropriate criteria and requirements with deadlines of application submissions. Adds that the school entity or nonpublic school may not award the elective credit to the student unless the school entity or nonpublic school has approved the student's application and the student has satisfied all the requirements under this section. Specifies definitions. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

01/22/2025

Actions

01/22/2025 S - Introduced

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

06/10/2025 S - Discussed at LeadingAge PA Press Conference

SB375 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, repealing provisions relating to CPR instruction; in school safety and security, further providing for School Safety and Security Grant Program; and, in school health services, further providing for definitions, repealing provisions relating to automatic external defibrillators, providing for AED and CPR instruction and procedure, establishing the Automated External Defibrillator Program and providing for availability and specifications of automated external defibrillators.

Sponsor

Sen. Rosemary M. Brown (R)

Summary

(PN 912) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, repealing provisions relating to CPR instruction; in school safety and security, further providing for School Safety and Security Grant Program; and, in school health services, further providing for definitions, repealing provisions relating to automatic external defibrillators, providing for AED and CPR instruction and procedure, establishing the Automated External Defibrillator Program and providing for availability and specifications of automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Asserts the School Safety and Security Fund may use grants to provide AEDs and training. Provides additional details regarding the percentage of money in the fund that must go toward AEDs and training. Requires any uncommitted moneys to be returned to the fund by September 30 of each succeeding fiscal year. Defines "automated external defibrillator." Requires each school entity and nonpublic school to make available instructions on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and AED usage to its employees and volunteers on school property at least once every two years, with additional details. Outlines requirements for AED locations and training. Provides continuing education requirements. Requires completion of training under this section to be recorded with specified details. Requires the Department of Education (PDE), in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH), to develop guidelines and materials to assist school entities and nonpublic schools in developing a cardiac emergency response plan with additional information. Provides additional definitions. Provides a procedure for a biennial bid for the cost of AEDs and other equipment and necessary supplies. Provides requirements of eligibility to obtain, purchase or loan AEDs under the program. Asserts that the provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 8331.2 apply to school entities and nonpublic school employees who render care with an AED. Allows PDE to offer discounts or loans for AEDs as necessary. Asserts that AED purchases are considered an allowable use of Pennsylvania Accountability Grants under section 2599.2(b), as well as an innovative educational program under Article XX-B and an eligible school safety and security expense in section 1306-B(j). Allows PDE to accept donations under this section with specified requirements. Outlines content requirements for reports under this section. Allows PDE to adopt other guidelines as necessary to implement this section. Requires school entities and nonpublic schools that participate in interscholastic athletics to have an AED readily accessible. Prohibits this section from being construed as establishing any liability against a school entity or nonpublic school or its officers or employees. Requires school entities and nonpublic schools to ensure each AED is properly tested and maintained. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

06/06/2025

Actions

06/10/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - Reported as amended - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - First consideration

06/11/2025 S - Second consideration

06/11/2025 S - Re-referred to - Senate Appropriations

SB604 - An Act authorizing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Counseling Compact; and providing for the form of the compact.

Sponsor

Sen. Lisa M. Boscola (D)

Summary

(PN 612) The Counseling Compact Act authorizes the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Counseling Compact; and provides for the form of the compact. Provides definitions. Outlines the requirements for state participation in the compact and member duties, including participating fully in the commission's data system, notifying the commission on any adverse action, implementing or utilizing procedures for considering the criminal history records of applicants, complying with the rules of the commission, requiring an applicant to obtain or retain a license in the home state, granting the privilege to practice to a licensee holding a valid unencumbered license in a member state and providing for the attendance of the state's commissioner to the Counseling Compact commission meeting. Establishes the privilege to practice of a licensee and outlines requirements. Outlines the procedure for obtaining a new home state license based on a privilege to practice. Requires active duty military personnel or their spouses to designate a Home State where the individual has a current license in good standing. Establishes compact privilege to practice telehealth and allows for adverse actions. Establishes informing and reporting requirements for adverse actions and investigations taken by a state in the compact. Establishes the Counseling Compact Commission, outlines member guidelines, provides the power and duties of the commission including establishing the fiscal year, bylaws, maintaining financial records, meeting and taking action consistent with the compact, promulgating rules, bringing and prosecuting legal proceedings or actions, purchasing and maintaining insurance and bonds, borrowing, accepting or contracting for services, hiring employees, electing or appointing officers, fixing compensation, defining duties, accepting any and all appropriate donations and grants, leasing, purchasing, accepting appropriate gifts or donations, selling, conveying, mortgaging, pledging, leasing, exchanging abandoning or other disposing of real property, establishing a budget, borrowing money, appointing committees, providing and receiving information from law enforcement agencies, establishing and electing an executive committee and performing such other functions as may be necessary. Outlines the composition of the executive committee and outlines meeting requirements. Provides for financing of the commission and for qualified immunity, defense and indemnification. Requires the creation, maintenance, operation and utilization of a coordinated database and reporting system and outlines information submission requirements for member states. Allows the commission to promulgate reasonable rules and outlines the rule requirements. Provides for oversight, dispute resolution and enforcement. Allows for withdrawals and amendments to the compact. Provides for the binding effect of the compact and other laws. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

04/09/2025

Actions

06/03/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee - Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure

06/03/2025 S - Reported as committed - Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure

06/03/2025 S - First consideration

06/09/2025 S - Second consideration

06/09/2025 S - Re-referred to - Senate Appropriations

SB838 - An Act amending the act of December 15, 1986 (P.L.1585, No.174), known as the Private Licensed Schools Act, further providing for definitions.

Sponsor

Sen. Lynda Schlegel Culver (R)

Summary

(PN 904) Amends the Private Licensed Schools Act, further providing for definitions. Expands definition of “private licensed school,” to include the phrase, “a school or provider approved by the State Real Estate Commission or the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers.” Effective immediately.

Intro Date

06/06/2025

Actions

06/10/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - Reported as committed - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - First consideration

06/11/2025 S - Second consideration

06/11/2025 S - Re-referred to - Senate Appropriations

SB839 - 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 media literacy education.

Sponsor

Sen. Katie J. Muth (D)

Summary

(PN 913) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, providing for media literacy education. Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the State Board of Education, to develop, within 12 months of the effective date, an age-appropriate model curriculum for students in kindergarten through grade 12 for media literacy instruction. Outlines the curriculum content requirements and guidelines. Adds that the department shall ensure that approved media literacy training opportunities are made available for use in professional development programs for teachers. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

06/06/2025

Actions

06/06/2025 S - Introduced

06/06/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Education

Higher Ed Bill Actions

HB1403 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, further providing for program of continuing professional and paraprofessional education.

Sponsor

Rep. Lisa A. Borowski (D)

Summary

(PN 1685) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, further providing for program of continuing professional and paraprofessional education. Mandates that inactive certifications be granted at no cost to the professional educator. Directs that inactive certification be removed by the department upon the application of the professional educator and evidence that the professional educator has received an offer of employment that has committed to providing and ensuring that they complete 30 hours of in-service continuing professional education within the first two years of employment. Asserts that professional educators have the same number of hours of continuing professional education and the same amount of time in which to complete the hours as existed for the professional educator at the time inactive certification was granted upon removal of inactive certification. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1602)

Intro Date

05/05/2025

Actions

05/12/2025 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended - House Education

05/12/2025 H - Reported as amended - House Education

05/12/2025 H - First consideration

06/10/2025 H - Removed from table

06/11/2025 H - Placed on HVS

HB1405 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, further providing for career and technical instructional certificate.

Sponsor

Rep. Brian Munroe (D)

Summary

(PN 1604) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, further providing for career and technical instructional certificate. Includes evidence that a veteran has served in the United States Armed Forces for a minimum of 8,000 hours, equivalent to four years full-time, in the occupational area to be taught, for the issuance of a career and technical instructional certificate. Defines "veteran." Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

05/05/2025

Actions

06/04/2025 H - Placed on HVS

06/09/2025 H - Voted Favorably From Committee - House Appropriations

06/09/2025 H - Re-reported as committed - House Appropriations

06/09/2025 H - Laid out for discussion

06/09/2025 H - Third consideration and final passage

SB330 - An Act amending the act of July 2, 2019 (P.L.366, No.56), known as the Sports Raffle Charities Act, further providing for athletic event drawing.

Sponsor

Sen. Michele Brooks (R)

Summary

(PN 287) Amends the Sports Raffle Charities Act, further providing for athletic event drawing to specify that the other 50% of the total amount collected from the sale of athletic event drawing tickets shall be donated by each affiliated nonprofit organization conducting an athletic event drawing as follows: 95% shall be donated within seven days from the date of the drawing to one or more designated charitable organizations and 5% shall be used to fund grants issued by the Office of State Fire Commissioner under 35 Pa.C.S. Ch. 78 Subchs. B (relating to Fire Company Grant Program) and C (relating to Emergency Medical Services Grant Program). Directs an affiliated nonprofit organization to remit the amount collected in the prior year to the Department of Revenue (DOR) beginning on the first June 30 one year after the effective date and each June 30 thereafter. Requires DOR to report the amount remitted to the State Treasurer and the State Treasurer to transfer the amount to a restricted revenue account within the General Fund to fund grants issued by the Office of State Fire Commissioner. Directs the affiliated nonprofit organization to compile a report on the ticket sales for DOR and the appropriate committees in the House and Senate. Effective in 30 days.

Intro Date

02/26/2025

Actions

02/26/2025 S - Introduced

02/26/2025 S - Referred to - Senate Community, Economic and Recreational Development

06/09/2025 S - Meeting Scheduled - 06/10/2025, 12:30 PM - Voting Meeting (Senate Community, Economic and Recreational Development), Room 461, Main Capitol

SB375 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, repealing provisions relating to CPR instruction; in school safety and security, further providing for School Safety and Security Grant Program; and, in school health services, further providing for definitions, repealing provisions relating to automatic external defibrillators, providing for AED and CPR instruction and procedure, establishing the Automated External Defibrillator Program and providing for availability and specifications of automated external defibrillators.

Sponsor

Sen. Rosemary M. Brown (R)

Summary

(PN 912) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, repealing provisions relating to CPR instruction; in school safety and security, further providing for School Safety and Security Grant Program; and, in school health services, further providing for definitions, repealing provisions relating to automatic external defibrillators, providing for AED and CPR instruction and procedure, establishing the Automated External Defibrillator Program and providing for availability and specifications of automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Asserts the School Safety and Security Fund may use grants to provide AEDs and training. Provides additional details regarding the percentage of money in the fund that must go toward AEDs and training. Requires any uncommitted moneys to be returned to the fund by September 30 of each succeeding fiscal year. Defines “automated external defibrillator.” Requires each school entity and nonpublic school to make available instructions on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and AED usage to its employees and volunteers on school property at least once every two years, with additional details. Outlines requirements for AED locations and training. Provides continuing education requirements. Requires completion of training under this section to be recorded with specified details. Requires the Department of Education (PDE), in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH), to develop guidelines and materials to assist school entities and nonpublic schools in developing a cardiac emergency response plan with additional information. Provides additional definitions. Provides a procedure for a biennial bid for the cost of AEDs and other equipment and necessary supplies. Provides requirements of eligibility to obtain, purchase or loan AEDs under the program. Asserts that the provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 8331.2 apply to school entities and nonpublic school employees who render care with an AED. Allows PDE to offer discounts or loans for AEDs as necessary. Asserts that AED purchases are considered an allowable use of Pennsylvania Accountability Grants under section 2599.2(b), as well as an innovative educational program under Article XX-B and an eligible school safety and security expense in section 1306-B(j). Allows PDE to accept donations under this section with specified requirements. Outlines content requirements for reports under this section. Allows PDE to adopt other guidelines as necessary to implement this section. Requires school entities and nonpublic schools that participate in interscholastic athletics to have an AED readily accessible. Prohibits this section from being construed as establishing any liability against a school entity or nonpublic school or its officers or employees. Requires school entities and nonpublic schools to ensure each AED is properly tested and maintained. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

06/06/2025

Actions

06/10/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - Reported as amended - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - First consideration

06/11/2025 S - Second consideration

06/11/2025 S - Re-referred to - Senate Appropriations

SB432 - 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 System of Higher Education, providing for educational opportunities for foster and adopted children.

Sponsor

Sen. Tracy Pennycuick (R)

Summary

(PN 399) Amends the Public School Code, in the State System of Higher Education, providing for educational opportunities for foster and adopted children. Requires an institution to provide each eligible nonresident student who enrolls with a fostering independence waiver for undergraduate courses beginning with the semester starting in fall 2025. Provides eligibility requirements for fostering independence waiver. Stipulates the fostering independence waiver shall be available for up to five years, whether or not consecutive, or until the individual reaches 26 years of age, whichever occurs first. Requires annual reporting. Defines “fostering independence waiver.” Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

03/17/2025

Actions

06/10/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - Reported as amended - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - First consideration

06/11/2025 S - Second consideration

06/11/2025 S - Re-referred to - Senate Appropriations

SB719 - An Act amending the act of May 26, 1947 (P.L.318, No.140), known as the CPA Law, further providing for definitions, for general powers of the board, for examination and for requirements for issuance of certificate; repealing provisions relating to practice in this Commonwealth by individuals under substantial equivalency; further providing for practice outside this Commonwealth under substantial equivalency and for practice by firms and unlicensed entities under substantial equivalency; providing for practice in this Commonwealth by individuals under automatic mobility; and further providing for licenses to practice, for licensing of firms, for grounds for discipline, for reinstatement and for unlawful acts.

Sponsor

Sen. Scott Hutchinson (R)

Summary

(PN 862) Amends the CPA Law, further providing for definitions, for general powers of the board, for examination and for requirements for issuance of certificate; repealing provisions relating to practice in this commonwealth by individuals under substantial equivalency; further providing for practice outside this commonwealth under substantial equivalency and for practice by firms and unlicensed entities under substantial equivalency; providing for practice in this commonwealth by individuals under automatic mobility; and further providing for licenses to practice, for licensing of firms, for grounds for discipline, for reinstatement and for unlawful acts. Provides definitions. Revises the general powers of the board. Permits an applicant to take each part of the examination in any order and retake a part of the examination that the applicant did not pass. Asserts that the applicant shall receive credit for each part of the examination the applicant passed if the applicant passes all parts of the examination within a rolling 30-month period beginning on the date the applicant passes one part of the examination. Specifies that if the applicant does not pass all parts within the 30-month period, credit for the earliest examination passed expires, and a new rolling 30-month period begins on the date the next passing score is released. Allows the board to extend the 30-month period if the applicant demonstrates that the failure to pass was due to circumstances beyond their control. Provides for assessing the moral character of an applicant with a criminal conviction, requiring the board to conduct an individualized assessment per 63 Pa.C.S. § 3113 (relating to consideration

of criminal convictions). Revises experience requirements. Repeals section for individuals practicing in the commonwealth under substantial equivalency and replaces substantial equivalency with automatic mobility. Establishes practice in the commonwealth under automatic mobility, requiring the completion of a total of at least 150 semesters. Outlines license renewal requirements. Provides applicability. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 750) (PN 750) Amends the CPA Law, further providing for definitions, for general powers of the board, for examination and for requirements for issuance of certificate; repealing provisions relating to practice in this commonwealth by individuals under substantial equivalency; further providing for practice outside this commonwealth under substantial equivalency and for practice by firms and unlicensed entities under substantial equivalency; providing for practice in this commonwealth by individuals under automatic mobility; and further providing for licenses to practice, for licensing of firms, for grounds for discipline, for reinstatement and for unlawful acts. Provides definitions. Revises the general powers of the board. Permits an applicant to take each part of the examination in any order and retake a part of the examination that the applicant did not pass. Asserts that the applicant shall receive credit for each part of the examination the applicant passed if the applicant passes all parts of the examination within a 30-month period beginning on the date the applicant passes one part of the examination. Provides for assessing the moral character of an applicant with a criminal conviction, requiring the board to conduct an individualized assessment per 63 Pa.C.S. § 3113 (relating to consideration of criminal convictions). Revises experience requirements. Repeals section for individuals practicing in the commonwealth under substantial equivalency and replaces substantial equivalency with automatic mobility. Establishes practice in the commonwealth under automatic mobility. Provides applicability. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

05/06/2025

Actions

06/10/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee - Senate Appropriations

06/10/2025 S - Re-reported as committed - Senate Appropriations

06/11/2025 S - Laid out for discussion

06/11/2025 S - Third consideration and final passage

06/11/2025 H - Referred to - House Professional Licensure

SB733 - 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 exit counseling.

Sponsor

Sen. Vincent J. Hughes (D)

Summary

(PN 785) Amends the Public School Code, in higher education accountability and transparency, further providing for exit counseling. Requires each institution of higher education that receives information regarding Federal education loans or other student loans that may require repayment for a student enrolled at the institution of higher education shall make financial aid counseling available to each student at the end of the student's final academic term, unless the individual selects not to participate. Directs an institution to attempt to make financial aid counseling available for students who transfer or withdraw, unless the student has Federal education loans or other student loans known to the institution of higher education that do not require repayment. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

05/12/2025

Actions

06/10/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - Reported as committed - Senate Education

06/10/2025 S - First consideration

06/11/2025 S - Second consideration

06/11/2025 S - Re-referred to - Senate Appropriations

SB842 - An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.216, No.76), known as The Dental Law, further providing for definitions, for general powers of the State Board of Dentistry, for penalties and for restricted faculty license.

Sponsor

Sen. Rosemary M. Brown (R)

Summary

(PN 914) Amends the Dental Law, further providing for definitions, for general powers of the State Board of Dentistry, for penalties and for restricted faculty license. Extends the duration of practice of dentistry in a clinical continuing education course to one year. Adds a clinical facility owned and operated by a dental school or affiliated academic health care center when the clinical facility or affiliated academic health care center is not operated for the profit of the dental school or any affiliated third party under the definition of "restricted faculty license." Requires the board to perform individualized assessments in assessing moral character. Adds facilities owned or operated by a dental school, an affiliated academic health care center or a dental school-owned faculty practice throughout the language of the bill. Outlines additional criteria for restricted faculty licenses. Removes the limitations on restricted faculty licenses. Makes technical and editorial changes. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

06/06/2025

Actions

06/06/2025 S - Introduced

06/10/2025 S - Meeting Scheduled - 06/11/2025, 10:30 AM - Voting Meeting (Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure), Room 8E-A, East Wing

06/11/2025 S - Voted Favorably From Committee - Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure

06/11/2025 S - Reported as committed - Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure

06/11/2025 S - First consideration

Upcoming Events

TUESDAY – 06/17/2025

10:00 AM, [House Children & Youth](#)

Voting Meeting, Room B-31, Main Capitol

To consider: [HB 506](#), [HB 1021](#), [HB 1022](#), [HB 1505](#), [HB 1573](#), [HB 1576](#), [HB 1577](#) and [HR 142](#)

FRIDAY – 06/20/2025

10:00 AM, [House Republican Policy](#)

Public Hearing, 435 East Front Street, Admin Center, Montour County

Public hearing on Over-Regulation in Childcare

WEDNESDAY – 7/09/2025

TBA, State Board of Education

Board Meeting, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg

In the News

[06/06/2025 - House GOP Budget Proposal Threatens Pennsylvania Families, Seniors, and Children and the State Budget](#)

[06/09/2025 - PASSHE Provides Free Tuition to 29 Community College Transfer Students](#)

[06/11/2025 - DCED: ICYMI: New Op-Ed from Leading Tech Innovators Highlights How Governor Shapiro's Proposed Budget Will Further Boost Pennsylvania's Innovation Economy](#)

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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.

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