

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



State Update

State Budget

Shapiro expects budget negotiators will reach a deal 'very soon' as deadline passes

HARRISBURG — Gov. Josh Shapiro and Pennsylvania's politically divided legislature will miss Pennsylvania's legal deadline to pass a budget for the new fiscal year, amid closed-door talks to try to produce a compromise on a spending plan.

[Click here](#) for full article.

(Source: *Spotlight PA*, June 30, 2025.)

A message from House Republicans on Budget Talks: "Budget Talks Need to Look Beyond This Year's Spending"

The 2025-26 fiscal year is now underway, and the Commonwealth does not yet have a budget in place to guide spending over the next 12 months. Overall spending remains a key sticking point, as Gov. Josh Shapiro and majority Democrats in the House are pushing to spend far more than we anticipate collecting in revenues during the next year. Depleting the state's emergency and reserve funds, and relying on new taxes on skill games and legalizing recreational marijuana, is not sustainable budgeting. While we focus on getting spending under control this year, House Republicans are also focused on long-term solutions. We must enact policies to grow the economy, boost the energy industry, eliminate fraud and waste in the state's benefits programs, and ensure our students – the future leaders of our Commonwealth – get the kind of education they need to succeed.

[Watch Republican Leader Jesse Topper's comments on the issue here.](#)

(Source: *Pennsylvania House Republican Caucus*, July 2025.)

[Basic Ed Bill Actions](#)

- **[HB240 \(Chapter 4\)](#)** - 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)
 - **Action:** **06/27/2025 G - Signed by the Governor (becomes Act No. 4 of 2025)**
- **[HB354](#)** - (PN 2000) The “What Is Your Pennsylvania Story” Act provides for “What Is Your Pennsylvania Story” guidelines for school entities; and imposes duties on the Department of Education (PDE). Provides definitions and establishes the act’s purpose. Outlines student objectives. Directs PDE to develop and make available to school entities materials that a school entity may incorporate into social studies instruction. Prohibits a school from using the materials in a manner that impacts any curriculum requirements. Specifies what the materials may include. Expires the act on June 30, 2027. Effective in 30 days. (Prior PN: 308)
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Jared G. Solomon (D)
 - **Action:** **07/07/05 G - Signed by the Governor (becomes Act No. 30 of 2025)**
- **[HB865](#)** - An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Educational Assistance Program, further providing for definitions, for eligibility and for recoupment of grant payments; and, in Military Family Education Program, further providing for definitions, for eligibility, for limitations and for recoupment of Military Family Education Program grant payments.
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Arvind Venkat (D)
 - **Action:** **07/07/2025 G - Signed by the Governor (becomes Act No. 32 of 2025)**
- **[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)
 - **Action:** 07/01/2025 House - Second consideration 11
- **[HB1680](#)** - 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 proposed curriculum changes and online curriculum availability.
 - **Sponsor:** Rep. Jill N. Cooper (R)
 - **Action:** 06/30/2025 House - Referred to - House Education
- **[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)
 - **Action:** 06/30/2025 H - Laid on the table

Click the link below for the full Education Recap.

EDUCATION RECAP

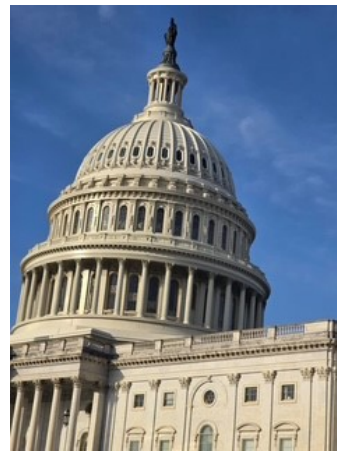
[Click here](#) for more.

(A weekly report on legislative and executive actions on education-related legislation in Pennsylvania state government.)

Federal Update

Trump administration withholds \$230 million for Pennsylvania schools

Pennsylvania education leaders are scrambling after the Trump administration said it would withhold more than \$230 million in congressionally approved funding for after-school programs, teacher training, literacy and education for migrant and non-English speaking students.



[Click here](#) for article.

(Source: *Pennsylvania Capital-Star*, July 2, 2025.)

Over 60 organizations sign White House pledge to invest in AI education

Some 67 tech companies and associations have signed a pledge supporting the Trump administration's goal of making artificial intelligence education accessible to all students, the White House announced Monday.

[Click here](#) for article.

(Source: *Education Dive*, July 2, 2025.)

WHAT IS TITLE II, PART A?

What is Title II? Title II, Part A, the Supporting Effective Instruction State Grant Program, is the most significant source of federal funding supporting professional learning for educators and leaders at the school, district and state levels. Authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title II is designed, among other things, to provide **all students** with greater access to effective educators.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Pennsylvania Principals Association

Position Statement on State and Federal Education Issues

The **Pennsylvania Principals Association (PA Principals Association)** stands in solidarity with national organizations such as the **National Association of Secondary School Principals (NAESP)** and the **National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)** in advocating for equitable, well-funded and inclusive education policies at both state and federal levels. In light of ongoing challenges and critiques directed at the education sector, we reaffirm our commitment to the following principles:

[CLICK HERE FOR POSITION STATEMENT.](#)

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