

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



## State Update

### STATE BUDGET

#### *Shapiro: State budget 'close' after long delay*

Gov. Josh Shapiro said he believes lawmakers “are close” on finalizing the overdue state budget.

“This was a busy weekend,” Shapiro said during a press conference Monday afternoon.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *ABC27, WHTM*, Aug. 25, 2025.

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#### *Bills that could prevent Pennsylvania budget delays are going nowhere*

In Pennsylvania, missing the state budget deadline has gone from an exception to a near-expectation.

The cost of lawmakers’ habitual tardiness isn’t just political; it’s personal for those who rely on state dollars.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *WTF*, August 25, 2025.

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## *Life goes on: Why Pennsylvania lawmakers are in no hurry to make a budget deal nearly two months after the deadline*

Since most things continue to work, most people don't even realize that there's anything even wrong, reducing the pressure on Harrisburg even further, said Sam Chen, a political strategist who worked for former Gov. Tom Corbett, among other prominent Pennsylvania politicians.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *WHYY*, August 23, 2025.

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## *PA budget stalls again: What will it take to break the cycle of delays?*

Millions of state dollars for schools, counties, nonprofits and other human service providers are on hold because Gov. Josh Shapiro and the leaders of the General Assembly have not reached an agreement on Pennsylvania's spending plan.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *WTF*, August 21, 2025.

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## **Basic Ed Bill Actions**

- **HB1814** - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in pupils and attendance, providing for possession and use of cell phones.
  - **Sponsor: Rep. Mandy Steele (D)**
  - **Action: 08/20/2025 - Referred to - House Education**
- **SB969** - An Act amending Title 24 (Education) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Educational Freedom for Families Program and the Teacher Excellence Incentive Fund; and imposing duties on the Department of Education and the State Treasurer.
  - **Sponsor: Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)**
  - **Action: 08/15/2025 - Referred to - Senate Education**
- **SB973** - 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 early human life development education.
  - **Sponsor: Sen. Michele Brooks (R)**
  - **Action: 08/15/2025 - Referred to - Senate Education**

**[Click the link below for the full Education Recap.](#)**

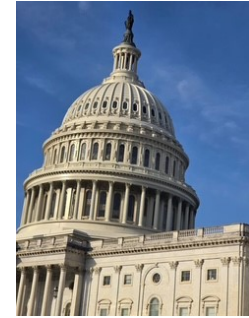
## **EDUCATION RECAP**

**[Click here](#) for more.**

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

# Federal Update

## Proposal would remove federal data collection for special education racial disparities



Even if the federal collection was eliminated, states would still need to collect and interpret data for significant disproportionality, experts say.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *K-12 DIVE*, Aug. 22, 2025.

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## *Education Department rescinds EL equal access guidance*

The guidance helped districts and states serve English learners, but isn't aligned with Trump administration priorities, a department spokesperson said.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *K-12 DIVE*, Aug. 21, 2025.

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## *Education Department plans return of laid-off OCR staffers*

The U.S. Department of Education said it [plans to bring back](#) more than 260 Office for Civil Rights staff that it cut as part of its March reduction in force, returning groups of employees to the civil rights enforcement arm in waves every two weeks Sept. 8 through Nov. 3.

[Click here](#) for full article.

Source: *K-12 DIVE*, Aug. 21, 2025.

## 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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