

Oct. 31 – Nov. 6, 2025

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SESSION STATUS

At 2:15 p.m. on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, the House stands adjourned until Monday, November 17, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

At 1:16 p.m. on Monday, October 29, 2025, the Senate recessed to the Call of the President Pro Tempore.

UPCOMING SESSION DAYS

House

Nov. 17-19
Dec. 8-10 (NV), 15-17

Senate

Nov. 17-19
Dec. 8-10

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.plsgovtrac.com) users. For more information, contact sales@mypls.com.

Press Conferences

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

SHAPIRO ADMINISTRATION HIGHLIGHTS SAFE DRIVING AROUND SCHOOL BUSES

By Dominic Kenny, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | November 3, 2025

The Shapiro administration released the results of Operation Safe Stop during a press conference at the West Shore School District central office in New Cumberland today, warning against reckless driving near school buses.

Secretary of Transportation Mike Carroll, Department of Transportation (PennDOT), said drivers often ignore the warning lights on school buses and try to pass them, putting children in jeopardy. He shared the results of Operation Safe Stop, an initiative aimed at enhancing school bus safety by curtailing violations of Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law, which found 188 violations witnessed by school bus drivers and law enforcement. He noted that only a small percentage of commonwealth school districts participated in the program, inferring that the actual number of violations is much higher. "The bottom line is that every incident involves a risk to a school-age child," he said. "With every violation of the school bus stop law, there is a potential for a catastrophe." He warned about the increased risk of an accident during low-light periods. He urged drivers to follow safety laws and be alert when around school buses and other school zones.

Corporal Zeina Black, supervisor, Bus Safety Unit, Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), said PSP conducted inspections on over 23,000 school buses throughout the commonwealth, noting that each bus that transports students undergoes a thorough inspection. She said over 1.4 million children in Pennsylvania rely on school buses each day for transportation. "There is never an excuse for passing a stopped school bus," she said. "The consequences for violating Pennsylvania's school bus stopping law are severe."

Amy Lena, deputy secretary, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education (PDE), said keeping students safe at bus stops and in school zones always requires the undivided attention of all motorists. She urged drivers to keep their eyes on the road and always remain alert. She said DEP was proud to be a part of Operation Safe Stop.

Dr. Todd Stoltz, superintendent, West Shore School District, said school buses connect students to classrooms, competitions, field trips and new experiences. He added that all West Shore buses have been equipped with safety technology, including photo enforcement cameras and stop arms. He noted 22 citation-eligible events were witnessed in the first week of the program alone. "These enforcement measures aren't about punishment, they're about prevention," he said. "Every time those red lights flash, it's a signal to protect our most important passengers."



Committee News

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

No committee news this week.

Bullet.in.Points

[STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE: EDUCATION AND VOLUNTEER SERVICES](#)

The State Board of Medicine proposed an amendment relating to education and volunteer services. Additional information is available on the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Cosponsor Memos

HCO2839 - Ensuring Fair Access for 4-H Students

Sponsor

Rep. Eric Davanzo (R)

Summary

Aims to require all public schools in Pennsylvania to begin their school year after Labor Day.

Intro Date

10/31/2025

Last Action

10/31/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

HCO2843 - Designating December 16, 2025, as "Charles Blockson Day"

Sponsor

Rep. Gregory Scott (D)

Summary

Resolution that designates December 16, 2025, as "Charles Blockson Day" in Pennsylvania.

Intro Date

11/03/2025

Last Action

11/05/2025 H - Introduced HR365

HCO2848 - Penn State Campus Closers Impact Study

Sponsor

Rep. Joe McAndrew (D)

Summary

Resolution calling upon the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, with consultation of the Department of Education, the Department of Economic Development, the Department of Labor and Industry and any additional state agencies as determined to be necessary, to conduct a study to analyze the impact of the seven Penn State branch campus closers will have on students, businesses and the economy.

Intro Date

11/06/2025

Last Action

11/06/2025 H - Cosponsor memo filed

SCO1398 - Family Day Act – Designating the Fourth Friday in November as “Family Day”

Sponsor

Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

Summary

Designates the fourth Friday in November as “Family Day” in Pennsylvania.

Intro Date

11/05/2025

Last Action

11/05/2025 S - Cosponsor memo filed Cosponsor memo filed

Basic Ed Bill Actions

HB634 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in school safety and security, further providing for school safety and security coordinator.

Sponsor

Rep. Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz (D)

Summary

(PN 644) Amends the Public School Code, in school safety and security, further providing for school safety and security coordinator. Direct school safety and security coordinators to consider the implementation of a panic alarm system as part of the review of the school entity's policies. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

02/20/2025

Actions

02/19/2025 H - Introduced

02/20/2025 H - Referred to - House Communications and Technology

10/31/2025 H - Meeting Scheduled - 11/17/2025, 9:30 AM - Public Hearing (House Communications and Technology), Room 515, Irvis Office Building

HB2008 - An Act providing for School-Based Youth Court Pilot Program and for awarding grants; establishing the Youth Court Program Account; and making a transfer.

Sponsor

Rep. Carol Kazeem (D)

Summary

(PN 2562) The School-Based Youth Court Pilot Program Act provides for School-Based Youth Court Pilot Program and for awarding grants; establishes the Youth Court Program Account; and makes a transfer. Provides definitions. Directs the Department of Education (PDE) to establish an Education and Justice Resource Center, outlining responsibilities. Establishes the School-Based Youth Court Pilot Program within PDE, detailing guidelines and procedures. Asserts that money in the account will be used to award grants and the administration of this act. Outlines court membership, including a judge and a peer tribunal. Provides training requirements, procedural and sanction details. Establishes a code of conduct and asserts the youth court may operate as an after-school program or within existing school curriculum. Outlines grant awards, stipulating that the amount of a grant may not exceed \$250,000. Provides grant procedures. Requires PDE to develop an application and provides submittal details. Specifies reporting requirements. Establishes the Youth Court Program Account as an account in the General Fund and describes appropriation information. Effective July 1, 2025, or immediately, whichever is later.

Intro Date

11/03/2025

Actions

11/03/2025 H - Introduced

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

SB246 (Chapter 44) - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in student supports, providing for parental and employee notification of weapon incidents.

Sponsor

Sen. Jarrett Coleman (R)

Summary

(PN 1030) Amends the Public School Code, in student supports, adding a section to provide for parental and employee notification of weapon incidents. Directs schools to notify parents, guardians and school employees of an incident involving the possession of a weapon on any school property that constitutes a violation of Section 1317.2, 18 PA.C.S. § 912 (relating to possession of weapon on school property) or locally established policies of the school's governing body relating to weapons. Stipulates that the notification be made within 24 hours of the incident. Permits schools to limit notification to parents and guardians of students enrolled in or attending, or school employees assigned to, the school building where the incident occurred. Directs the school to notify parents, guardians and school employees if the school building at which the incident occurs shares a campus with other school buildings. Provides guidelines to be followed if the incident occurs at a school-sponsored activity or on a public conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity. Prohibits notification from containing personally identifiable information about a compliant student. Provides definitions. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 199, 752, 764, 1009)

Intro Date

02/13/2025

Actions

10/22/2025 S - Laid out for discussion

10/29/2025 H - Signed in House

10/30/2025 G - Presented to the Governor

11/06/2025 G - Approved by the Governor

11/06/2025 G - Act No. 44 of 2025

Higher Ed Bill Actions

HB1935 - An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, further providing for the offense of terroristic threats.

Sponsor

Rep. Tim Briggs (D)

Summary

(PN 2434) Amends Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses), in assault, further providing for the offense of terroristic threats. Allows the court to order restitution in the amount equal to the cost of supplies, equipment and materials, including the salary, overtime pay or other wages of affected employees and first responders. Requires the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing to provide a sentencing enhancement for courts to consider in cases of terroristic threats against a school entity or an institute of higher education. Provides definitions. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

10/08/2025

Actions

10/08/2025 H - Introduced

10/08/2025 H - Referred to - House Judiciary

11/06/2025 H - Meeting Scheduled - 11/12/2025, 11:00 AM - Voting Meeting (House Judiciary), Room 140, Main Capitol

Upcoming Events

MONDAY – 11/17/2025

9:30 AM, [House Communications & Technology](#)

Public Hearing, Room 515, Irvis Office Building

Public hearing on [HB 634](#).

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

Joint Informational Meeting, Room 60, East Wing

Joint informational meeting on cell phones in schools.

12:00 PM, [PA Center for International Exchange and Partnership](#)

Press Conference, East Wing Rotunda, Main Capitol

The Pennsylvania Center for International Exchange and Partnership (PCIEP) will hold a press conference promoting study abroad programs to U.S.-based colleges and universities.

3:00 PM, [Higher Ed Labor United](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Rotunda

Higher education union workers will hold a press conference to advocate for larger investments in higher education.

In the News

[11/03/2025 - Shapiro Administration, Law Enforcement Highlight Safe Driving Around School Buses through Operation Safe Stop](#)

[11/03/2025 - PSEA president issues statement on HACC Faculty strike](#)

[11/03/2025 - PASSHE Leads Effort to Strengthen College Credit Transfer](#)

[11/04/2025 - New Report Reveals Pennsylvania's Early Childhood Education System in Crisis](#)

[11/06/2025 - Hearing Confirms Cuts to Pennsylvania's Public Cyber Charter Schools Would Be Devastating for Our Most At-Risk Students](#)

[11/06/2025 - Shapiro Administration Announces First-Ever School District Pilot Program to Increase Access to Learner's Permit Testing](#)

[11/06/2025 - Governor Shapiro Signs Bills into Law](#)

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

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

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Provided by Pennsylvania Legislative Services
409 N. 2nd Street, Suite 212
Harrisburg, PA 17101
Phone: 717.236.6984
www.mypls.com