

April 24 – 30, 2026

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SESSION STATUS

At 3:16 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, the House stands adjourned until Monday, May 4, 2026, at 12:00 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker

At 11:41 a.m. Wednesday, April 22, 2026, the Senate recessed until Monday, May 4, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore.

UPCOMING SESSION DAYS

House

May 4-6
June 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, 22-30
Sept. 28-30
Oct. 5-7, 19-21
Nov. 9, 10

Senate

May 4-6
June 1-3, 8-10, 22-26, 29-30

The Education Recap is a comprehensive weekly report on legislative and executive actions on education-related legislation in Pennsylvania state government, as compiled and edited by PLS. Additional information, including video, transcript and testimony, is available to [PLSGovTrac](https://www.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

LEGISLATORS VOICE SUPPORT FOR “WELCOMING SCHOOL” BILLS

By Julia Walters, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 27, 2026

The Pennsylvania Immigration & Citizenship Coalition (PICC), along with legislators and various organizations, held a press conference in the East Wing Rotunda to support the passage of [HB 2148](#) and [SB 1125](#).

Kate Firestone, membership director, PICC, emphasized that the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has been using “unprecedented and inhumane” tactics to arrest and detain individuals since January 2025. Firestone highlighted how President Donald Trump rescinded the federal “Sensitive Locations memo,” which pulled back immigration protections in sensitive areas such as schools, hospitals and places of worship. She emphasized that Pennsylvania schools should be safe and welcoming for all students, regardless of immigration status. She mentioned the fear in students and families who feel as if they are “open targets of those tactics,” resulting in family separation and deportation. Firestone added that Congress recently voted to fund ICE and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) with an additional \$140 billion “on top of” the \$75 billion of funding last year passed through the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). She emphasized how “we must take every measure possible,” so students can focus on learning and look toward their futures. “These Welcoming Schools bills would put us further in compliance with state and federal law,” Firestone said, “by requiring that Pennsylvania school districts implement clear and comprehensive procedures when responding to immigration enforcement at schools.”

[Rep. Joe Hohenstein](#) (D-Philadelphia), co-chair, Pennsylvania House & Senate Welcoming Caucus, stated he was proud to be the prime sponsor for House Bill 2148. Rep. Hohenstein recognized and thanked various organizations and communities that were the “impetus” for his bill. He described the goal of the Welcoming Caucus as upholding the standard that Pennsylvania “should be and can be a place where everyone can share their gifts, their talents and dreams of a better life.” Rep. Hohenstein emphasized that society is a “better place” when differences are celebrated rather than repressed. Rep. Hohenstein said that safety starts at school with the freedom to learn without fear or disruption. He acknowledged that the events over the past year regarding the federal administration and ICE tactics have caused many questions and concerns for Pennsylvanians. He noted that when schools do not uphold safety standards for students, it “breaks the trust” between institutions and families. Rep. Hohenstein said that his bill, as well as its companion, Senate Bill 1125, would require schools to adopt clear procedures and guidelines for ICE presence on school grounds, training and professional development for teachers and staff and protect student information. He mentioned that children possess a “natural curiosity” and should have designated safe spaces to explore differences. “For an eight-year-old, curiosity is the thing that reigns above all else,” Rep. Hohenstein said. “It’s our responsibility to cultivate, foster it and to give it safe space.” Rep. Hohenstein noted that children should lean into exploring differences between people rather than developing fears over differences. “Fear is the root of all hate, and fear grows out of trauma,” he explained. Rep. Hohenstein emphasized the importance of maintaining schools as “places of discovery and wonder” rather than fear and trauma. Rep. Hohenstein urged support for his bill in affirming student safety in the commonwealth.

Aaliya Wafa, student and member, Alliance for Refugee Youth Support and Education (ARYSE), stated she is currently a junior at the University of Pittsburgh (Pitt). She described how she and her family came to the United States in 2022 for educational opportunities and a “better life.” Wafa said she has felt Pitt is a safe space for her where she can freely learn, socialize with her peers and think about her future. Wafa expressed her concern for herself and other students who are now fearful of being separated from their support systems. “When we feel scared, it makes it hard for us to focus, to learn and to feel safe at school,” she said. Wafa reiterated that school should be safe and welcoming for all students. She emphasized the importance of schools knowing how to respond when ICE is present. Wafa explained that when students feel safe, they will learn more efficiently and become increasingly engaged.

Vincent Nguyen, student and Woori Center member, said he is the “proud” son of immigrants. He described the “first ever” cultural Spirit Day hosted at his school, North Penn High School in Montgomery County. Nguyen recalled the impact this day had on students. “Every culture the school had was represented by the students who were given the space and voice,” he said. “I walked into school that day and just watched people appreciate each other, their clothes, the fabrics, the meaning behind them.” Nguyen recalled feeling “connected” with his peers and described the “beautiful” moment. He noted that schools can provide that connection when students feel safe to engage and present as themselves. Nguyen reiterated the importance of school districts having “clear rules” on immigration enforcement action. He mentioned that when educators and staff are “left guessing” on policy procedure, it creates more uncertainty, tension and fear. Nguyen emphasized that all people, including students and children, are not limited to their citizenship status. He mentioned the 14th Amendment and how it prohibits discrimination regarding public education access without regard to immigration status.

Khara Timsina, executive director, Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh (BCAP), said BCAP helped over 8,000 Bhutanese individuals, as well as other immigrants and refugees, in 2025. He described how he left Bhutan “in fear” in 1990 when Bhutan imposed restrictive laws and discriminatory practices targeting ethnically Nepali individuals. Timsina noted the tactics used by the Bhutanese government caused fear in many who left the country to find peace. He recalled spending 18 years in a refugee camp in Nepal before he was able to take an opportunity to travel to the United States. Timsina criticized the presence of ICE agents in communities across the country. He mentioned individuals in his community in Brentwood who were deported to Bhutan and then were forced out of Bhutan again, with their current whereabouts unknown. Timsina expressed concern for students involved in BCAP’s afterschool programs. He stated that many have asked questions about the potential of family separation due to ICE deportations. Timsina emphasized, “Learning cannot take place in fear.” He thanked legislators for Senate Bill 1125 and House Bill 2148 and urged their passage in both chambers.

Olyvia Armstrong, member board of directors, PICC, thanked the legislators sponsoring the bills and stated they were “true champions” of the Welcoming Schools legislation and immigration communities in Pennsylvania. She noted both Senate Bill 1125 and House Bill 2148 bring the commonwealth “further in compliance” with federal and state education law, which prohibits discrimination and asserts that “everyone is entitled to public education.” Armstrong highlighted the student advocates present at the press conference and noted the importance of their voice being present and reflected in Pennsylvania’s policies. Armstrong mentioned the bills would make several changes, including requiring student data to be kept confidential, outlining standardized procedures and training for educators and staff related to ICE presence at schools and providing a procedure for school entity interactions with law enforcement. She praised the pieces of legislation for rejecting “all narratives that devalue, that criminalize and dehumanize any student, any child.” Armstrong reiterated that Senate Bill 1125 and House Bill 2148 ensure all community members have access to Pennsylvania’s rights. She highlighted PICC’s May Day Rally occurring on Friday, May 1, at 1 p.m. on the Main Capitol Steps. “We need to be doing multiple things to make sure that, not just our immigrant communities are safe, but everyone is safe,” Armstrong stressed.

Hatice Zeynep Emanet, civic engagement manager, Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), stated she is the daughter of immigrants and is an immigrant herself. She described her parents’ belief that hard work in the United States results in success. “The playing field, while imperfect, is more level than any other place that they’ve been before,” she explained. Emanet explained that the foundation of the “American Dream” is education and proper access. “An empty desk is not a victory for anyone,” she stated. Emanet highlighted the upcoming 250th anniversary of the nation and described how America’s founders had significant questions and concerns about self-governance. She focused on the present-day political climate and acknowledged that politicians in Washington, D.C. should not have the power to influence Pennsylvania students from attending school. Emanet noted that the Welcoming Schools bills do not attempt to establish federal immigration policy. She mentioned the legislation ensures that a “child sitting in a classroom has the right to be there.” Emanet added that the U.S. Supreme Court has “already” affirmed this in a 1982 ruling. “Every child, regardless of immigration status, has a constitutional right to a public education,” she continued. She urged calls to action by contacting legislators to support the passage of Senate Bill 1125 and House Bill 2148.

[Rep. Tarik Khan](#) (D-Philadelphia) thanked the present co-sponsors of House Bill 2148 for their commitment to student safety. He described schools as “sensitive” spaces where immigration enforcement should not occur. Rep. Khan criticized the U.S.’s “broken” immigration system. “People who actually came here legally are now undocumented or are now not considered legal because of the failures of our federal government,” he explained. He stated certain areas should be safe from immigration enforcement, such

as schools, hospitals and places of worship. Rep. Khan emphasized the importance of maintaining access to education as well as overall safety. He mentioned schools should be prepared if ICE appears on school grounds. Rep. Khan explained House Bill 2148 further and said it ensures ICE cannot remove individuals without a court-ordered warrant. He noted the legislation prepares school entities, so they are not “flat-footed” during potential ICE raids. Rep. Khan noted that the Trump administration is causing fear and uncertainty for many Pennsylvanians. “This is planned,” he stressed. “This is trying to make people feel intimidated to be Americans.” He mentioned his father, who came to the United States as an immigrant in the 1960s, told Rep. Khan he “didn’t recognize this country anymore.” Rep. Khan underscored the importance of protecting Pennsylvania citizens regardless of documentation or immigration status.

[Rep. Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz](#) (D-Berks) said that schools should not be a place of fear for students or their families. She said, “No parent should ever have to ask, ‘Is it safe to send my child to school today?’” Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz emphasized that safety should not depend on immigration status. She noted that a child goes to school to learn rather than to be afraid. Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz said this issue is “personal” for her as the daughter of immigrants. She acknowledged the sacrifice parents and families make to provide a better life for their children. Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz stated that when schools lack safety for students, it results in increased student absences, public distrust in education and disengagement in students. She criticized the federal government for implementing “bad policy.” Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz highlighted that communities thrive when people are properly protected. She called on legislators to support Senate Bill 1125 and House Bill 2148. “Our schools must be safe places for every child, no exceptions,” Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz stressed.

[Rep. Chris Rabb](#) (D-Philadelphia) praised the group of legislators present at the press event. He acknowledged there is an “increasing and diverse array of lawmakers who are on the right side of history.” Rep. Rabb stated the bills discussed today will help ensure children can attend school and be protected from the presence of ICE agents. “It’s really that simple, but it hasn’t been, because for too long, folks have had to hide in the shadows,” Rep. Rabb said. He recalled a constituent who, in 2018, was seeking sanctuary in a Philadelphia church. “They asked me for help,” Rep. Rabb said. “They asked me if I would chaperone their kids to school because they were afraid that ICE could take them.” Rep. Rabb stated he assisted the family with chaperoning the children to school. “I did so because I’m a father,” he said. “I did so because I’m a neighbor.” Rep. Rabb said legislators’ jobs are to “stand up” for Pennsylvanians and their safety. “We must not be terrorized by forces that seek to divide,” he added.

Judy Heath, member, Community for Change and Cheltenham Immigration Response Committee, recalled her career as a retired school social worker addressing students’ emotional and mental health challenges. She stated the Immigration Response Committee was “instrumental” in working with commissioners to develop “one of the first resolutions in Montgomery County” prohibiting civil immigration activities on county properties. Heath criticized the “inhumane” ICE tactics and mentioned that Pennsylvania schools need a more established protocol for ICE presence. Heath noted increased guidance and standardization of school policies is “vital” going forward. She mentioned the fear within families around sending their children to school. Heath noted the uncertainty for both parents and students while at school entrances, playgrounds and bus stops. Heath emphasized how students thrive when they are emotionally supported. She stressed that schools need heightened training and guidance to be able to navigate challenges with ICE. Heath thanked legislators and specified her appreciation for [Sen. Art Haywood](#) (D-Montgomery), her home district’s senator.

Maura McInerney, legal director, Education Law Center (ELC), said that safeguarding students and their safety is “fundamental” when discussing education. She said that both the United States Supreme Court and Pennsylvania’s Supreme Court both affirmed children’s rights to public education access in the commonwealth despite immigration status. She mentioned that communities across Pennsylvania are fearful of ICE intervention and that it impacts all students. McInerney noted ELC reports that show lower levels of school attendance since ICE presence has increased. “In Philadelphia schools, they saw a significant drop of 1,000 students not enrolling in school at the beginning of the school year,” she said. “Missing a significant time in school undermines academic achievement, and it actually undermines long term success.” McInerney noted that these challenges also affect student emotional and mental development and mentioned the “heightened distress” in students. She praised Senate Bill 1125 and House Bill 2148 for ensuring student safety by establishing “school safe zones” and upholding the right of all students to receive a public education in Pennsylvania.

Alex Domingos, advocacy and policy strategist, American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania (ACLU PA), criticized the “lawless behavior” of politicians at the federal level. He discussed the fear and uncertainty that affect daily actions such as “basic” routines of attending school. Domingos thanked legislators for their “practical” solutions for ensuring safety in schools for students and re-committing their dedication to equal education access. He noted the bills would provide a clear procedure for search warrants, protect student information and provide for teacher and staff development and training. Domingos urged the passage of both bills in the House and Senate chambers “without delay.”

[Sen. Katie Muth](#), prime sponsor for Senate Bill 1125, said she was “proud” to support a solution for the issue of ICE presence in Pennsylvania communities. She explained that ICE is not relegated to cities or urban areas, and they are affecting areas across the state. Sen. Muth expressed concern for children watching students “disappear.” She commended individual school districts for

independently adopting policies to address ICE's presence on school grounds. Sen. Muth said the passage of Senate Bill 1125 and House Bill 2148 would be more effective for school districts because it would standardize procedures and create clearer guidelines. She added that it would reduce political pressures that local areas can feel when implementing independent policies. Sen. Muth emphasized that schools should be safe havens for learning. "It should not be a place where you sit for hours upon end, living in fear and having anxiety," she added. Sen. Muth criticized ICE for detaining about 746 people per day in 2025. She urged those interested to call their local senators to encourage the bills' passage. Sen. Muth highlighted that all Pennsylvania students deserve "the chance to learn in a safe environment."



REP. HILL-EVANS CELEBRATES YOUTHBUILD PA COALITION ADVOCACY DAY

By Zoe Buchmann, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | April 28, 2026

[Rep. Carol Hill-Evans](#) (D-York) joined the YouthBuild Pennsylvania Coalition to celebrate their advocacy and leadership day in the East Wing Rotunda.

Rep. Hill-Evans, chair, House State Government Committee, introduced the YouthBuild Pennsylvania Coalition, describing it as a workforce and education program supporting young people who have not completed high school. She explained that YouthBuild helps participants earn diplomas or general education diplomas (GED) while gaining hands-on job training, particularly in construction and other in-demand fields. She highlighted positive outcomes such as increased civic engagement, reduced involvement with the criminal justice system and improved employment prospects. She connected this work to broader demographic and economic needs in Pennsylvania. She highlighted her bill, [HB 455](#), which would create a state grant program to fund similar education and workforce training organizations serving youth ages 16 to 24. She emphasized that the legislation is intended as an investment in both young people and the state's long-term workforce needs and encouraged continued legislative support.

[Rep. Malcolm Kenyatta](#) (D-Philadelphia) voiced his support for YouthBuild Philadelphia, emphasizing the program's impact on students in his district. He praised participants for transforming their lives through education and job training and argued that their success serves as a powerful example that can inspire others facing similar challenges. He highlighted YouthBuild students as "the present" rather than the future, stressing their current contributions and potential. He credited Rep. Hill-Evans and her staff for consistently elevating and supporting the program, thanking both YouthBuild and its students for their ongoing work and example.

Jayden, student, YouthBuild Charter School, described YouthBuild as a turning point in his life, explaining that he previously felt his future was limited until joining the program. He said YouthBuild transformed his mindset, confidence and sense of identity by providing supportive staff, structure and a positive environment. He emphasized personal growth through the program, including becoming more confident, developing leadership skills and gaining technical training. He shared that he is nearing high school graduation and is pursuing certifications in welding and real estate, crediting YouthBuild with helping him recognize and develop his abilities. He added that YouthBuild is not just an educational program but a supportive space that helps young people build careers, self-belief and direction for their futures.

Ivan, student, YouthBuild Pittsburgh, described the program as a "second chance" that helped him reorient his life after struggling in traditional schooling. He shared that YouthBuild enabled him to earn his high school diploma with a 4.0 grade point average (GPA) while also receiving job training and certifications in fields such as construction and security. He emphasized that beyond academics and technical skills, the program taught him discipline, responsibility and leadership. He argued that YouthBuild benefits not only participants but also surrounding communities by preparing young people to become workers, leaders, and role models. He urged continued public investment in YouthBuild so more students can access education, training, and structured pathways into stable careers.

Rep. Hill-Evans expressed her pride in the students, teachers and mentors at YouthBuild. She encouraged continuing to advocate for programs such as YouthBuild and to bring up House Bill 455 in discussions with legislators.



Committee News

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

House Judiciary Committee

04/27/2026, 11:00 a.m., Room 140, Main Capitol

By Kyle Purchase, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider several bills.

[HB 99](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Christopher Rabb \(D-Philadelphia\)](#) - (PN 2448) Amends Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses), 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 61 (Prisons and Parole), in authorized disposition of offenders, further providing for sentence for murder, murder of unborn child and murder of law enforcement officer; in arson, criminal mischief and other property destruction, further providing for the offense of arson and related offenses; in jurisdiction of appellate courts, further providing for direct appeals from courts of common pleas; in post-trial matters, further providing for postconviction DNA testing and for disposition and appeal; in sentencing, further providing for sentencing procedure for murder of the first degree; and, in execution procedure and method, repealing provisions relating to issuance of warrant. Asserts that the Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction of appeals from final orders of the courts of common pleas in automatic review of sentences as provided by section 9546(d) (relating to relief and order). Provides a sentencing procedure for murder of the first degree, specifying that after a murder of the first degree is recorded, the court will sentence the defendant to life imprisonment. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as committed**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

Rep. Rabb explained he has introduced the bill numerous times and mentioned a former co-sponsor and state representative, Frank Ryan, to say the issue “transcends political ideology.” He criticized the death penalty as “irreversible and expensive,” and he believes “our government does not have the moral authority to put people to death.”

[Rep. Tim Bonner](#) (R-Mercer) said he understood the reasoning behind Rep. Rabb’s advocacy for abolishing the death penalty. Rep. Bonner provided a brief history by discussing the United States Supreme Court case, *Furman v. Georgia*, where the court determined the death penalty to be unconstitutional due to it being a “violation of the Fifth Amendment,” and not because it was determined to be “cruel and unusual.” Rep. Bonner explained his career as a prosecutor in death penalty cases, and those cases involve “aggravating circumstances.” He asked members if the death penalty should be a consideration in certain cases.

[Rep. Chris Pielli](#) (D-Chester) said he has “evolved over time” on the issue. He explained his vote to avoid being “hypocritical,” saying he believes the death penalty is “appropriate for some times,” but pointed out a “flawed” policy where innocent people are put to death.

[Chair Tim Briggs](#) (D-Montgomery) recalled his parents, who discussed the trial and execution of Elmo Smith, who was the last Pennsylvania inmate to be executed via the electric chair. He echoed the comments of Rep. Pielli and said, “People get executed when they’re innocent.” Chair Briggs provided the names of organizations that supported the bill before calling a vote.

[HB 888](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Russ Diamond \(R-Lebanon\)](#) - (PN 960) Amends Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses), 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 61 (Prisons and Parole), in authorized disposition of offenders, further providing for sentence for murder, murder of unborn child and murder of law enforcement officer; in arson, criminal mischief and other property destruction, further providing for the offense of arson and related offenses; in jurisdiction of appellate courts, further providing for direct appeals from courts of common pleas; in post-trial matters, further providing for postconviction DNA testing and for disposition and appeal; in sentencing, further providing for sentencing procedure for murder of the first degree; and, in execution procedure and method, repealing provisions relating to issuance of warrant. Asserts an individual who violates the provisions in subsection (a)(2) relative to arson and related offenses, murder of the first degree or second degree will be sentenced to life imprisonment without the right to parole. Provides automatic review of sentences under § 9546(d) (relating to relief and order). Removes certain provisions providing for capital unitary review and sentencing procedure for murder of the first degree. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as committed**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

Rep. Diamond said he approaches the issue from a “conservative point of view,” saying he believes “in the sanctity of all life, from conception to natural death.” He cited the last execution in Pennsylvania was in 1999 and noted a 2016 study that reported: “pursuing death costs an estimated \$816 million more than it would have cost to simply pursue life behind bars.” He pointed out instances of inmates who were exonerated and mentioned the irreversibility of a mistaken execution. “Being tough on crime and opposing the death penalty are not mutually exclusive concepts,” Rep. Diamond emphasized. He stated he expected bipartisan discussions on the issue should a policy change happen.

Chair Briggs agreed with the bipartisan approach and encouraged Rep. Diamond to discuss with Rep. Rabb. Chair Briggs expressed his belief that the vote on the floor would be bipartisan.

[HB 1944](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Paul Friel \(D-Chester\)](#) - (PN 2453) Amends Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses), in minors, further providing for safe harbor for violation of section 6308(a). Stipulates that an individual shall not be prosecuted for an offense under section 6308(a) (relating to purchase, consumption, possession or transportation of liquor or malt or brewed beverages) or 2705 (relating to recklessly endangering another person) if an individual can establish all listed stipulations. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Rep. Friel explained that House Bills 1944 and 1945 are aimed at closing a loophole in the law. He cited a recent incident at Bloomsburg University where a student was helping an intoxicated student seek medical attention but was charged with reckless endangerment.

[Rep. Emily Kinkead](#) (D-Allegheny) reiterated the incident at Bloomsburg and said, "We are setting up situations where someone walks away when otherwise they would have helped, and that's not what we should be doing."

[HB 1945](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Paul Friel \(D-Chester\)](#) - (PN 2454) Amends the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, further providing for drug overdose response immunity. Asserts that a person described in subsection (a) may not be charged or prosecuted for an offense under 18 Pa.C.S. § 2705 (relating to recklessly endangering another person). Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2028](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Ismail Smith-Wade-EI](#) (D-Lancaster) - (PN 2586) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), providing a chapter for permitted use of public space; and, in matters affecting government units, further providing for exceptions to sovereign immunity. Provides several definitions. Elaborates on the use of public spaces and private property. Stipulates that an individual experiencing homelessness shall not receive or be charged with a civil or criminal penalty or violation of soliciting, sharing, accepting or offering food, water, money or other donations in public spaces if the individual does not obstruct a public walkway or public street in a manner that pedestrians or vehicles cannot pass. Declares that an individual experiencing homelessness shall receive the same degree of protection for personal property stored in public spaces as personal property stored in a private dwelling, including protection against unreasonable search and seizure. Does not require the removal of vehicles from public or private spaces. Permits relocation of vehicles and retrieval of items in the vehicle. Provides affirmative defense. Authorizes the Attorney General to have the authority to bring a civil action on behalf of the commonwealth against any state or local government or government official that violates, or implements or enforces a rule, ordinance, regulation, law, policy or practice that violates this chapter. Stipulates that the court shall hold unlawful and set aside the rule, ordinance, regulation, law, policy or practice if it is in violation of this chapter. Permits private right of action. Allows courts to award appropriate equitable relief. Requires courts to award costs of litigation, as well as reasonable attorney fees, to the plaintiff. Does not hold the plaintiff liable to a defendant for costs or attorney fees in a nonfrivolous action. Establishes jurisdiction. Adds the chapter to acts that may impose liability. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as amended**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

[A03025](#), by Briggs, explains provisions relating to vehicles. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Rep. Smith-Wade-EI said he believed his bill represents a "moral choice, but a significant savings to the taxpayers of the commonwealth."

[Minority Chair Rob Kauffman](#) (R-Franklin) said the amendment "ever so slightly improves the flawed bill."

Chair Briggs expressed his belief that the amendment improves "a good bill."

Chair Kauffman voiced opposition to the bill, citing a broad definition for "homelessness." He noted potential unintended consequences of the bill and mentioned the states of California and Oregon that passed similar laws. Chair Kauffman stated his belief that the bill is "not a serious solution" to addressing homelessness.

Chair Briggs argued the bill is an "unfortunately necessary" bill. He mentioned constituent concerns about encampments, but believed the bill provides conversations to discuss "priorities as a society."

[HB 2190](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Dan Goughnour \(D-Allegheny\)](#) - (PN 2852) Amends the Public Employe Relations Act, in collective bargaining impasse, further providing for arbitration. Allows units of peace officers, as defined under 18 Pa.C.S. § 501 (relating to definitions), who are covered by this act to access binding arbitration. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as amended**.

[A03010](#), by Briggs, prohibits peace officers, covered under Act 195 of 1970, from striking at any time. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Rep. Goughnour summarized the origins of Act 195 of 1970 and how his bill aims to “modernize and strengthen Pennsylvania’s public safety labor framework.”

Chair Briggs thanked Rep. Goughnour for his bill and said there may be future conversations to be had on the floor.

[HR 480](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Jeanne McNeill](#) (D-Lehigh) - (PN 3168) Resolution designating July 15, 2026, as “Court Appointed Special Advocates Day” in Pennsylvania. The resolution was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Before adjourning, Chair Briggs brought up two bills under “other business.”

[HB 158](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Barbara Gleim \(R-Cumberland\)](#) – (PN 149) The Fairness in Women’s Sports Act provides for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creates causes of action for harms suffered by designation. Provides definitions. Prohibits an athletic team or sport designated for females, women or girls from being open to students of the male sex. Specifies that students are not restricted from participating in an interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic team or sport designed for the student’s sex or designated coed or mixed. Asserts that a government entity, licensing or accrediting organization or an athletic association or organization may not entertain a complaint, open an investigation or take other adverse action against a school or institution of higher education for maintaining a separate interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic team or sport for students of the female sex. Provides for cause of action, outlining deprivation of opportunity, retaliation, school’s cause of action and limitation. Asserts that if part of this act is found invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part shall remain in effect. Adds that if a part of this act is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **re-referred** to the House Health Committee, with Republicans voting in the negative, except Chair Kauffman, Rep. Bonner, [Rep. Stephanie Borowicz](#) (R-Clinton), [Rep. Joe Kerwin](#) (R-Dauphin), [Rep. Kate Klunk](#) (R-York), [Rep. Charity Krupa \(R-Fayette\)](#), [Rep. Andrew Kuzma](#) (R-Allegheny), [Rep. Robert Leadbeter](#) (R-Columbia), [Rep. Brenda Pugh](#) (R-Luzerne) and [Rep. Jim Rigby](#) (R-Cambria) not voting.

[HB 1849](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Clint Owlett \(R-Tioga\)](#) – (PN 2285) The Dads Defending Daughters Act provides for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creates causes of action for harm suffered by designation. Provides definitions. Requires interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic teams or sports that are sponsored by a public school entity, a public institution of higher education or any school or institution where students or teams compete against a public school entity or institution of higher education must be expressly designated as either male, men or boys, female, women or girls, or coed or mixed. Prohibits teams designated as females, women or girls from being open to students of the male sex. Provides protections for educational institutions from government entities, licensing or accrediting organizations or an athletic association or organization entertaining a complaint, opening an investigation or taking any other adverse action for maintaining separate interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic teams for students of the female sex. Provides for cause of action for deprivation of opportunity, retaliation and the school’s cause of action. Establishes limitations of later than two years after the day on which the harm underlying the cause of action occurs to bring a civil action. Provides for the severability of the act. Effective immediately. The bill was **re-referred** to the House Health Committee, with Republicans voting in the negative, except Chair Kauffman and Reps. Bonner, Borowicz, Kerwin, Klunk, Krupa, Kuzma, Leadbeter, Pugh and Rigby not voting.

Chair Kauffman asked what bills would be voted on.

Chair Briggs said, “We’re in the middle of a roll call.”

Chair Kauffman replied, “We can’t vote on a re-referral that we don’t even know what the title of the bill is.” He added, “If I would have ever pulled that in the majority, you’ve lost your mind.”

Chair Briggs rebutted, “You called up a constitutional amendment like that.”

Chair Kauffman again asked what bills were being voted on.

Chair Briggs said they were [HB 158](#) and [HB 1849](#).

Chair Kauffman stated, “Once again, this majority refuses to let a vote on protecting our daughters and granddaughters in women’s sports.”

Rep. Klunk asked for a point of order and to speak on the motion.

Chair Briggs replied, "We're in the middle of a roll call."

Rep. Klunk argued her colleagues did not have an opportunity to speak on the motion and asked what bills are being voted on.

While Chair Briggs was reading the names of those who were not voting, Rep. Borowicz asked for a point of order and said, "We're a constitutional republic that you're going to stifle our voices and an important vote to protect women."

Chair Kauffman commented, "We might be better off being in the Russian Duma at this point."

Rep. Klunk demanded to bring the bill for a vote.

Chair Briggs reminded members that the vote was for the motion to re-refer.

Rep. Krupa asked for a point of order and argued that Chair Briggs was violating the Sunshine Act.

Chair Kauffman motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Rep. Krupa seconded it.

Chair Briggs said members were not recognized for the motion and announced the final vote.

Chair Kauffman said, "Some of us choose not to vote on things." He continued, "We don't know what we're voting on, we still have not got an explanation on what the bills are."



House Appropriations Committee

04/27/2026, 12:45 p.m., Room 140, Main Capitol

By Kyle Purchase, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider several bills.

Before beginning the agenda, [Chair Jordan Harris](#) (D-Philadelphia) congratulated the City of Pittsburgh and the western part of the commonwealth for hosting a successful National Football League (NFL) Draft.

[Minority Chair Jim Struzzi](#) (R-Indiana) said he appreciated the compliments. "We won't talk about first round draft picks," he remarked.

[HB 2042](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Tim Briggs \(D-Montgomery\)](#) – (PN 3205) Amends the Safety in Youth Sports Act, further providing for definitions and for the prevention of concussions and traumatic brain injuries. Adds an official recreational athletic event to the definition of "athletic activity." Defines "official recreational athletic event," "pre-adult participant" and "sponsoring organization." Redefines "return-to-learn." Adds "pre-adult participant or pre-adult participant's team throughout the act. Includes the Department of Health (DOH) or other nationally recognized brain injury organizations in educational materials. Revises informational meeting and return to play provisions. Asserts that a school entity or sponsoring organization must adopt a concussion return-to-learn protocol, as approved by DOH, to all students and pre-adult participants before the student or pre-adult participant participates in an athletic activity offered by the school entity or sponsoring organization. Provides for training course requirements approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) or other provider approved by DOH. Removes language providing for other youth athletic activities. Adds that a county, municipality or municipal authority that owns or leases a playing field or recreational facility used by a sponsoring organization subject to this section may condition or require any contract, agreement or memorandum of understanding to use the field or facility of the sponsoring organization's compliance with this section. Specifies that a county, municipality or municipal authority may also require the sponsoring organization to hold the informational meeting under subsection (b) as a condition or requirement of a contract, agreement or memorandum of understanding to use the field or facility. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 2854, 2614). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2118](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Carol Hill-Evans \(D-York\)](#) – (PN 3206) The Museum Unclaimed Loaned Property Act provides for museum unclaimed loaned property. Adds definitions. Provides the museum obligations to lenders, including recordkeeping for new

loaned property and recordkeeping for existing loaned property. Outlines the lender's obligations to museums, including required notices and documentation establishing ownership. Permits the lender to include the name, address and telephone number of up to two of the lender's designated agents with whom contact may be made on behalf of the lender. Directs a museum to update the records if there is a change in the identity or address of the lender's designated agent. Provides for liability, prejudice and surrender of loaned property. Authorizes a museum to terminate a loan for unclaimed loaned property in their possession and requires the search for the identity and last known address of the lender or the lender's designated agent, and outlines notices to include the lender's designated agent. Includes the lender's designated agent in provisions throughout the act. Provides for the return or disposition of unclaimed loaned property, requiring a written claim by the lender and proof of ownership. Adds that any costs incurred as a result of returning loaned property or the disposition of it shall be the responsibility of the valid claimant. Provides for the title of unclaimed loaned property, outlining the conditions and effects of the act. Adds that a lender and museum may bind themselves to different loan provisions by written contract. Outlines the effect on other rights. Provides for the expenses and conservation or protective measures, authorizes liens and outlines the conditions required to apply conservation or protective measures. Specifies that the amount of a lien shall be equal to the costs incurred by the museum for the conservation or protective measures and outlines liability conditions. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 2739). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2210](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Manuel Guzman \(D-Berks\)](#) – (PN 3054) Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in general provisions, further providing for definitions; and, in registration of vehicles, further providing for issuance of registration card, for registration card to be signed and exhibited on demand and for acknowledgement of littering provisions. Revises definitions to include the word "registration." Adds Section 1317 as an amended section. Specifies that the Department of Transportation (PennDOT) will issue a registrant a physical registration or electronic registration card. Specifies that the registrant will sign the physical registration card. Asserts that the surrender of an electronic registration card is not required. Provides for the privacy of information on the electronic registration product device. Provides language for the acknowledgement of the littering provisions. Stipulates that the individual viewing the electronic registration card in good faith will have immunity from civil or criminal liabilities. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 2904). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2401](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3077) The Capital Budget Act of 2026-2027 provides for the capital budget for fiscal year 2026-2027. Establishes overall limitations on debt to be incurred for capital projects. Provides that the maximum principal amount of additional debt to be incurred during the 2026-2027 fiscal year for capital projects shall total \$1,645,000,000, with \$1,200,000,000 for buildings and structures, \$20,000,000 for furniture and equipment, \$100,000,000 for transportation assistance projects and \$325,000,000 for redevelopment assistance projects. Effective immediately. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2403](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3079) An Act making appropriations from the Professional Licensure Augmentation Account and from restricted revenue accounts within the General Fund to the Department of State (DOS) for use by the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs in support of the professional licensure boards assigned thereto. Appropriates \$68,417,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, to DOS for the operation of the bureau for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Appropriates \$9,813,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, from the restricted receipts account of the State Board of Medicine for the operation of the board for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Appropriates \$2,423,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, from the restricted receipts account of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine for the operation of the board for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Appropriates \$461,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, from the restricted receipts account of the State Board of Podiatry for the operation of the board for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Appropriates \$1,270,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, from the Athletic Commission Augmentation Account for the State Athletic Commission for the support and operation of the commission for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Stipulates that each appropriation listed shall not be treated as an augmentation to DOS, a general government appropriation or any other appropriation, but shall be treated and accounted for as separate appropriations respectively. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2404](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3080) An Act making appropriations from the Workmen's Compensation Administration Fund to the Department of Labor and Industry (L&I) and the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to provide for the expenses of administering the Workers' Compensation Act, The Pennsylvania Occupational Disease Act and the Office of Small Business Advocate for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Appropriates \$81,302,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, from the fund to L&I for the payment of all salaries, wages and other compensation and travel expenses, for contractual services and other expenses necessary for the administration of the Workers' Compensation Act and the Pennsylvania Occupational Disease Act, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Appropriates \$550,000 from the restricted revenue account within the fund to the Office of Small Business Advocate in DCED for the operation of that office for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2405](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3081) An Act making an appropriation from a restricted revenue account within the General Fund to the Office of Small Business Advocate in the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Provides \$2,235,000 should be appropriated to the Office of Small Business Advocate in DCED for operation in the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2406](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3082) An Act making an appropriation from a restricted revenue account within the General Fund to the Office of Consumer Advocate in the Office of Attorney General (OAG). Provides \$7,805,000 should be appropriated to the Office of Consumer Advocate in OAG for operation in the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2407](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3083) An Act making appropriations from the Public School Employees' Retirement Fund and from the PSERS Defined Contribution Fund to provide for expenses of the Public School Employees' Retirement Board for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Provides \$65,537,000 should be appropriated from the Public School Employees' Retirement Fund to the Public School Employees' Retirement Board for salaries, wages and other compensation and travel expenses of employees and members of the Public School Employees' Retirement Board for contracted services and expenses for duties, functions and activities of the board from July 1, 2026, for paying all incurred bills and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year, June 30, 2026. Provides that \$1,499,000 or a necessary amount is to be appropriated from the PSERS Defined Contribution Fund to the Public School Employees' Retirement Board for contractual services and other expenses necessary for conducting duties, functions and activities related to the administration of the School Employees' Defined Contribution from July 1, 2026, for paying all incurred bills and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year, June 30, 2026. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2408](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3084) An Act making appropriations from the State Employees' Retirement Fund and from the SERS Defined Contribution Fund to provide for expenses of the State Employees' Retirement Board for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Provides \$43,176,000 should be appropriated from the State Employees' Retirement Fund to the State Employees' Retirement Board for salaries, wages and other compensation and travel expenses of employees and members of the State Employees' Retirement Board for contracted services and expenses for duties, functions and activities of the board from July 1, 2026, for paying all incurred bills and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year, June 30, 2026. Provides that \$2,879,000 or a necessary amount be appropriated from the SERS Defined Contribution Fund to the State Employees' Retirement Board for contractual services and other expenses necessary for conducting duties, functions and activities related to the administration of the State Employees' Defined Contribution from July 1, 2026, for paying all incurred bills and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year, June 30, 2026. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2409](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3085) An Act making appropriations from the Philadelphia Taxicab and Limousine Regulatory Fund to the Philadelphia Parking Authority for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Appropriates \$2,037,000 from the Philadelphia Taxicab and Limousine Regulatory Fund to the Philadelphia Parking Authority for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 2410](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3086) 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, 2026, to June 30, 2027. Makes a state appropriation of \$98,102,000 for the salaries, wages and all necessary expenses for the proper operation and administration of PUC. Makes a federal appropriation of \$5,383,000 for natural gas pipeline safety. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[SB 867](#), Prime Sponsor: [Sen. Christine Tartaglione \(D-Philadelphia\)](#) – (PN 968) Amends the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions and for Accessibility Advisory Board; in Uniform Construction Code, further providing for adoption by regulations and for revised or successor codes; in training and certification of inspectors, further providing for education and training programs; and establishing the Accessibility Advisory Board Administration Account. Provides definitions for "accessibility code" and "updated accessibility code sections." Stipulates that seven members of the Accessibility Advisory Board be appointed by the secretary. Increases term lengths to four years. Asserts that any member absent from three consecutive voting meetings may be dismissed, and that the vacancy will be filled in the same manner as the appointment of the absent member, unless the secretary, upon written request from the member, finds the member should be excused from a meeting. Directs the advisory board to review the accessibility code and submit a report to the secretary with sections of the accessibility code that are specified for adoption or modification. Specifies the review process. Directs the department to adopt the advisory board's decisions contained in the report without change within nine months of receiving the report. Asserts that the regulations will take effect 33

months after the commencement of the review. Establishes the Accessibility Advisory Board Administration Account within the State Treasury. Effective in 60 days. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 1104](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Leanne Krueger \(D-Delaware\)](#) – (PN 1225) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in rules of evidence, further providing for subpoena of records. Stipulates that if copies are requested in an electronic format, the total payment under this subparagraph may not exceed \$200. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as committed**, with Republicans voting in the negative, except [Rep. Charity Krupa](#) (R-Fayette), [Rep. Eric Nelson](#) (R-Westmoreland) and [Rep. Jeff Olsommer](#) (R-Wayne).

[HB 2176](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Jim Prokopiak \(D-Bucks\)](#) – (PN 2826) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, adding a section to provide for social media literacy education. Details what the standards adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4 (relating to academic standards and assessment) shall include. Permits the State Board of Education to review the existing state standards for health, safety and physical education, as specified in 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4, to revise the standards as necessary to implement the provisions of the section. Imposes duties on the Department of Education. Asserts that nothing in this section shall supersede or preempt any provision of a collective bargaining agreement between a school entity and an employee organization. Defines “department,” “nonpublic school” and “school entity.” Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as committed**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

[HB 2246](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Joe Webster \(D-Montgomery\)](#) – (PN 2937) Amends Title 27 (Environmental Resources), in water resources planning, further providing for state water plan to include section 3118.1 (relating to covered data centers) and adding a section to provide for covered data centers; and promulgating regulations. Provides for departmental powers in order to implement the provisions of the added section, subject to the provisions of section 501 of the Clean Streams Law. Outlines preapplication notification. Specifies additional permit considerations. Requires coordination. Provides for denial of a request if it is found that there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of adverse impact to adjacent water users, waters of the commonwealth, wetlands or any other water use. Requires monitoring. Directs forms created in accordance with this section to be published and made available on the department’s website. Outlines fees and regulations. defines “covered data center.” Effective in 60 days. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as committed**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

[HB 2411](#), Prime Sponsor: Rep. Harris – (PN 3087) An Act making appropriations from the restricted revenue accounts within the State Gaming Fund and from the restricted revenue accounts within the Fantasy Contest Fund and Video Gaming Fund to the Attorney General (AG), the Department of Revenue (DOR), the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) and the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Provides for appropriations from the State Gaming Fund of \$1,776,000 to the AG, \$8,434,000 to DOR, \$44,442,000 to PSP and \$63,557,000 to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board for salaries, wages and other necessary expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Provides appropriations from the Fantasy Contest Fund of \$280,000 to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and \$150,000 to DOR for salaries, wages and other necessary expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Provides for appropriations from the Video Gaming Fund of \$475,000 to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and \$250,000 to DOR for salaries, wages and necessary expenses, \$18,000,000 to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board for skill games administration and \$25,000,000 to DOR for skill games operations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Stipulates that the State Treasurer, Secretary of the Budget, Secretary of Revenue or the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board has no authority to transfer money within or between appropriations. Effective July 1, 2026, or immediately, whichever is later. The bill was **reported as committed**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.



House Education Committee

04/28/2026, 9:30 a.m., Room 140, Main Capitol

By Kyle Purchase, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider several bills.

[HB 1877](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Joseph D’Orsie \(R-York\)](#) – (PN 2334) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, providing for Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy. Provides that the Department of Education shall establish criteria for awarding the Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy starting with the 2026-2027 school year to any student demonstrating proficiency in English and at least one other foreign language. Establishes qualifications for a student to be eligible for the award. Requires the State Board of Education to issue a report of the efficacy of the seal, rate of completion among graduating students and recommendations on improvements by August 31 of the year following the establishment of criteria and every August 31 thereafter to the chairperson and minority chairperson of the House and Senate Education Committees. Effective immediately. The bill was unanimously **reported as amended**.

[A02953](#), by D’Orsie, requires the Department of Education (PDE) to develop a toolkit for the seal and requires PDE, instead of the State Board of Education, to submit an annual report to the House and Senate Education Committees regarding the efficacy of the seal. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Rep. D’Orsie thanked his bipartisan co-sponsors on his bill and emphasized the importance of the skill of biliteracy and the potential economic impact it may have on individuals seeking employment or higher education.

[Rep. Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz](#) (D-Berks) echoed Rep. D’Orsie’s sentiments about the usefulness of biliteracy. “It’s more than just recognition,” she stressed. “It’s about opportunity.”

[Minority Chair Bryan Cutler](#) (R-Lancaster) mentioned he graduated with a fluency in Spanish and translated during his career as an X-ray technician. Chair Cutler said he would have “loved to have had this credential” on his own diploma.

[HB 2117](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Carol Hill-Evans \(D-York\)](#) – (PN 2738) Amends the Public School Code of 1949, further providing for definitions, for possession and use of asthma inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors, for school access to emergency epinephrine and for administration of epinephrine auto-injectors by school bus drivers and school crossing guards. Provides definitions. Changes language from “asthma inhalers” to “short-acting asthma medications” throughout the bill. Changes language from “auto-injectors” to “delivery systems” throughout the bill. Allows a school entity or nonpublic school to have trained school employe administer an epinephrine delivery system or short-acting asthma medication that meets the prescription on file for the school entity or nonpublic school to a student that the employe in good faith believes to be having an anaphylactic reaction or asthmatic episode. Allows a physician or certified registered nurse practitioner to prescribe epinephrine delivery systems or short-acting asthma medications and a pharmacist may dispense epinephrine delivery systems or short-acting asthma medications in the name of the school entity or nonpublic school. Asserts said physicians and certified registered nurse practitioners will not be held liable for any civil damages as a result of its use under subsection (a), except in any act or omission intentionally designed to harm or any grossly negligent acts or omissions by the physician, nurse practitioner or a pharmacist which results in harm to a student. Outlines provisions that apply to any individual who administers an epinephrine delivery system or short-acting asthma medication pursuant to this section. Effective in 90 days. The bill was **reported as committed**, with Rep. D’Orsie, [Rep. Marc Anderson](#) (R-York), [Rep. Barbara Gleim](#) (R-Cumberland) and [Rep. Brian Rasel](#) (R-Westmoreland) voting in the negative.

[Chair Peter Schweyer](#) (D-Lehigh) spoke on behalf of Rep. Hill-Evans. He noted the committee had voted on similar legislation before and regarded the bill as “common sense.”

Rep. Gleim expressed some concern about the bill’s language pertaining to a lack of definition for “responsible behavior.” She said there were “really good sections” of the bill, but she would vote no, given her concern.

Chair Cutler said he would vote in the affirmative, but echoed similar concerns mentioned by Rep. Gleim about the storage of medication and the training of employees. Kathryn Krueger, majority executive director, explained how medications and storage would be handled. Chair Cutler appreciated the explanation and believed more work could be done on the bill on the floor.

[HB 2307](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Emily Kinkead \(D-Allegheny\)](#) – (PN 3040) Amends the Public School Code, in reimbursements by commonwealth and between school districts, further providing for extraordinary special education program expenses. Adds a subsection providing for the 2026-2027 school year and each school year thereafter. Directs an equal amount to 2% of the special education appropriation to be distributed to school districts and charter schools for extraordinary expenses incurred in providing a special education program or service under section 1372(8)(vi) to one or more students with disabilities, as approved by the secretary of education, and details what shall apply. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Rep. Kinkead discussed the challenge of special education funding and said her bill proposes a “pretty simple fix” to that issue. She highlighted how much is contributed to the Special Education Fund (SEF) and stated her belief that increasing the amount would help more schools access the fund.

Rep. Gleim asked how many students are included in the 3A category. Krueger replied that she did not have specific numbers but said that total eligible expenses for students must be greater than \$75,000.

Chair Cutler echoed the sentiments of Rep. Kinkead regarding the costs of special education and cited examples of special education costs in his district. He noted he asked the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) and business officials to provide him with more information on costs.

[Rep. Carol Kazeem](#) (D-Delaware) expressed her appreciation for Rep. Kinkead’s bill and the need for helping schools to provide the “necessary tools and equipment” needed for children under the category. She said she thanks Rep. Kinkead, as “a parent of one that needs certain tools.”

[HB 2425](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Jacklyn Rusnock \(D-Berks\)](#) – (PN 3226) Amends the Public School Code, in career and technical education, providing for Career and Technical Education Curriculum Modernization Grant Program. Establishes the Career and Technical Education Curriculum Modernization Grant Program within the Department of Education to provide grants to school entities to purchase, implement and retain either a digital curriculum instructional platform or printed or written curriculum that meets the standards for modernizing career and technical education. Provides grant distribution amounts and process. Provides application timeline and requirements. Asserts that digital, printed or written instructional platforms purchased under the program will include common digital curriculum resources available. Provides definitions. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Rep. Rusnock elaborated on the importance of a career and technical education (CTE). She said her bill would aim to create a grant program to provide funding for career and tech centers, school districts and intermediate units that offer career and tech ed programs to assist with “modernizing” curriculum with the digital or printed platforms “that best suit their specific needs.”

Rep. Gleim asked how much would be needed for the grant. Chair Schweyer explained that there is no dollar amount, but the House Appropriations Committee chair requested him to pass the enabling legislation, and the Appropriations Committee would handle the funding amount. Rep. Gleim asked if the bill is for current certifications or new ones. Rep. Rusnock answered that it would be for current and then certifications moving forward.

Rep. Anderson asked if the bill allows autonomy for career technical centers (CTCs) regarding their curriculum. Krueger said it was her interpretation of the bill’s language that the bill would fund whatever the CTE school chooses to buy as a component of the curriculum. Rep. Rusnock agreed with the interpretation.

[HB 2436](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Ana Tiburcio \(D-Lehigh\)](#) – (PN 3246) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, further providing for state certificate fee reduction. Adds that all certificate fees shall be deposited into the Talent Recruitment Account established under section 1505-K, except for professional educator discipline fees collected. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Rep. Tiburcio provided a brief overview of the challenge of recruiting and retaining qualified educators in schools, expressing her belief that her bill would help. She noted the Talent Recruitment Account was established four years ago but has not been funded.

Chair Schweyer reiterated that the Talent Recruitment Account was created in 2022 but has “never been funded.” He noted he had discussions with the House Appropriations Committee to fund the account after the identification of a “potential source of funds.”

[HB 1045](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Carol Kazeem \(D-Delaware\)](#) – (PN 1134) Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, further providing for seizure recognition and related first aid training. Requires completion of seizure recognition and related first aid training beginning with the school year 2025-2026 and every two years thereafter. Provides that nothing in this section shall be construed to create, establish or expand any civil liability on the part of any school entity or any school entity employee. Stipulates the provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 8332 (relating to emergency response provider and bystander good Samaritan civil immunity) and 8337.1 (relating to civil immunity of school officers or employees relating to emergency care, first aid and rescue) shall apply to a school entity employee who provides treatment to a student experiencing a seizure in a manner consistent with the policy adopted by the school entity. Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as amended**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

[A02533](#), by Kazeem, updates the start year for training and requires training every three years. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

Rep. Kazeem first spoke on her amendment, where she cited the two main changes. She then spoke on her overall bill, aimed at addressing the seriousness of epilepsy in schools. “Due to this unpredictable nature of the condition, it is essential that school professionals know the procedures to identify and respond to seizures when it strikes so it does not result in serious, permanent injury or become fatal,” Rep. Kazeem stressed.

Rep. Anderson asked how “professional staff” is defined in the bill. Rep. Kazeem said it applies to anyone who has direct contact with students. Rep. Anderson mentioned his experience with epilepsy but criticized the bill as “another training for teachers.” He said he understands the intent of the bill and doesn’t believe the idea “isn’t great,” but expressed concern that the bill places “another burden” on teachers.

Chair Cutler expressed similar concerns to those of Rep. Anderson and noted that the committee had passed other “training” bills already. He said he would vote in the negative, but he would “love to see some kind of prioritization,” regarding the mandated trainings that the committee passed.

Chair Schweyer praised Rep. Kazeem for her work and understood why members may vote in the negative. “They certainly have expressed concern and support for the students as well, just maybe have a different approach, I appreciate that,” Chair Schweyer remarked.

Chair Schweyer called up two bills under “other business.”

[HB 1814](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Mandy Steele \(D-Allegheny\)](#) – (PN 2231) Amends the Public School Code, in pupils and attendance, providing for possession and use of cell phones. Provides that a student of a public school entity cannot possess or use a cell phone during the school day in an academic building of the public school entity. Establishes directions for possession of the cell phone at the beginning of the school day and repossession at the end of the school day. Provides for exceptions if a student is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance or rescue squad, a need for a cell phone due to an immediate family member’s medical condition or an administrator approves the possession and use of the cell phone by the student. Requires the public school entity to develop and update its written policies on cell phone use, which will be subject to Department of Education approval. Defines “public school entity.” Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as amended**, with Republicans voting in the negative, except [Rep. Jill Cooper](#) (R-Westmoreland).

[A03076](#), by Schweyer, directs school entities to adopt a policy related to student possession and use of mobile devices no later than the start of the 2027-28 school year. The amendment was **adopted**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

Chair Schweyer discussed the “complex” legislation and the history of the committee with public hearings and discussions with various stakeholders to address concerns about the bill and the need to address cell phone use in schools. He explained his amendment as his attempt to “thread the needle.” He elaborated on what his amendment and the bill do and don’t do.

[Rep. Milou Mackenzie](#) (R-Lehigh) expressed concern for the lack of liability on a school administrator if a phone that is taken is damaged. She said a cell phone is a “very valuable and sometimes expenditure for families,” and believes it “violates personal property rights.”

[Rep. Eric Davanzo](#) (R-Westmoreland) asked if the amendment addresses teachers being on the phone during class. Chair Schweyer said it does not.

Chair Cutler mentioned that a school in his district has a policy in place, and the school received a “total of two complaints.” Chair Cutler acknowledged the difficulty of the issue and appreciated Chair Schweyer’s attempt at the legislation but stated his concerns included “lumping” public and private school entities together and handling individual learning plans (IEPs) and 504s. He stated he understood the issue may be brought up during budget talks, but hoped certain concerns would be addressed later on.

Rep. Steele emphasized the importance of children being the “future of this country” and the need to address the effects of cell phones on students in school. She urged the committee to vote yes. “We’ve got a responsibility to protect all of them,” she said. “Given the overwhelming evidence of harm being inflicted on our children, we’ve got a moral responsibility to act.”

Rep. Anderson agreed with the sentiments stated by Rep. Steele but reiterated the concerns from Chair Cutler and teachers about IEPs and 504s. He said he would be a no on the bill as it is “currently written.”

Rep. Davanzo acknowledged the underlying issue, but suggested school districts make the best decision for themselves. He expressed hope to pass legislation that would work for everyone.

[Rep. Mary Isaacson](#) (D-Philadelphia) understood the various viewpoints on the matter and admitted she was on the “no side” after the first public hearing but changed her mind after the amendment was added. She expressed hope for the committee and the House to “get as much people’s fears and/or opinions aligned” in the bill.

[Rep. Roman Kozak](#) (R-Beaver) agreed it was an issue for students and children and admitted he has a “hard time” in meetings or on the House floor. “If you watch us, you’ll see people on their phones,” he said. Rep. Kozak echoed similar concerns about IEPs and 504s but hoped to continue to work on the bill.

Rep. Mackenzie said she “vehemently opposes” the bill and believes there is no “one size fits all approach” to the issue. She pointed out classes that use phones to find recipes, referencing a cooking class as an example. She suggested that the decisions be made by the teachers with guidance from administrators and school board officials.

Rep. Cooper said, “I know that it isn’t a perfect bill, but it is a great starting point.” She noted “flexibility” in Chair Schweyer’s amendment and noted exceptions could be made.

[SB 1014](#), Prime Sponsor: [Sen. Devlin Robinson \(R-Allegheny\)](#) – (PN 1421) Amends the Public School Code, in student supports, providing for bell-to-bell phone-free policy. Requires, no later than the start of the 2027-2028 school year, the governing body of each school entity to adopt a policy related to student possession and use of mobile devices during the school day while on school property. Outlines the content requirements of the policy. Adds that section 1314-A should not be construed to require a school entity to take possession of a student’s mobile device. Asserts that a school entity will not be held liable for damages if the school entity’s governing body adopts a policy permitting an employee to take possession of a student’s mobile device if the employee acted in good faith in accordance with the school entity’s policy. Provides for exceptions. Permits a school entity’s policy to allow a chief school administrator or designee to approve an exception not previously mentioned with the required exception details. Requires a public comment period before adoption of the policy, the amending of an existing policy and the posting of the policy on the school entity’s public website no later than five business days after adoption. Establishes reporting requirements. Provides definitions and adds the definitions of “chief school administrator” and “principal.” Removes the definition of “school property.” Effective immediately. The bill was **reported as amended**, with Republicans voting in the negative, except Rep. Cooper.

[A03075](#), by Schweyer, directs school entities to adopt a policy related to student possession and use of mobile devices no later than the start of the 2027-28 school year. The amendment was **adopted**, along a party-line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

Chair Schweyer explained that his amendment is “word-for-word” compared to the previous amendment.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Chair Schweyer said the committee would be having a public hearing in the Majority Caucus Room on May 5 at 9:30 a.m.



House Intergovernmental Affairs and Operations Committee

04/29/2026, 9:30 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building
Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee held a public hearing on daylight-savings time including [HB 119](#), [HB 153](#) and [HR 349](#).

[HB 119](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Russ Diamond \(R-Lebanon\)](#) – (PN 101) Amends the act entitled “An act for the establishment of a uniform standard of time throughout the commonwealth,” prohibiting the use of daylight-saving time. Establishes that on and after the first day of July, Eastern Standard Time will be the sole and uniform legal standard of time throughout the commonwealth. Effective in 60 days.

[HB 153](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Milou Mackenzie \(R-Northampton\)](#) – (PN 113) Amends the act entitled "An act for the establishment of a uniform standard of time throughout the commonwealth," observing daylight saving time year-round if authorized by the Congress of the United States. Makes the observation of daylight saving time permanent if the Congress of the United States authorizes states to observe daylight saving time year-round. Effective in 60 days.

[HR 349](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Joe McAndrew \(D-Allegheny\)](#) – (PN 2485) Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to require all states to permanently observe daylight saving time year-round.

Rep. Diamond argued that the twice-annual clock change produces measurable negative impacts on health, public safety and productivity. He explained the original energy-saving rationale for daylight savings time "never really materialized" and that permanent standard time "would allow us to maximize our exposure to morning sunlight, which is better for the human body than late evening sunlight." He noted federal limits on states adopting permanent daylight time along with an unsuccessful attempt back in the 1970s. He urged Pennsylvania to act without waiting for Congress by passing [HB 119](#).

Rep. Mackenzie detailed that the twice-annual clock change tradition adds unnecessary stress to our lives which can cause missed appointments, fatigue and safety risks. She stated he bill will allow Pennsylvania to follow permanent daylight-savings time if U.S. Congress permits states to do so. She highlighted strong constituent support for year-round daylight-savings time. She recalled the 1966 Uniform Time Act which established time zones, allows a state to be exempt from daylight-savings time but does not allow a permanent shift to daylight-saving time without certain conditions and an act of Congress. She expressed hope that passing legislation in Pennsylvania and other states would lead to change at the federal level.

[Tom Klein, policy associate, National Conference of State Legislatures \(NCSL\)](#), explained the difference between daylight-savings and standard time. He noted that states need congressional action before adopting permanent daylight-savings time for standard time but have clearer authority for adopting permanent standard time. He reviewed the current policy options states are using such as remaining on permanent standard time like Arizona and Hawaii do, passing contingent laws that adopt permanent daylight-savings time if Congress authorizes it and adopting regional contingencies requiring neighboring states to act. He summarized recent state legislature activity on this issue, noting several states have passed one of the three policy options and that federal legislation known as the Sunshine Protection Act has repeatedly stalled in Congress. He discussed how the adoption of a year-round daylight-savings time in 1974 had a sunset clause and was not extended due to public backlash for safety reasons.

[Chuck Farmer, vice president of research, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety \(IIHS\)](#), summarized IIHS research on crash risks around the clock changes and on longer-term lighting effects, noting 70% of fatal crashes and deaths occur in darkness. He detailed the research that compared fatal crash counts in the five weeks before and after the spring and fall clock changes from 2010-2019. He described the conclusion of about a 3.3% increase in the spring and a 2.4% decrease in fatal crashes after the fall time change. He said the seasonal shifts produce divergent effects for different road users, showing that pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities fall in the spring and rise in the fall, while motor vehicle occupant fatalities show the opposite trend. He cited the research often showed a net effect of zero, showing that improving lighting on roads would help with decreases in fatalities for pedestrians or those operating vehicles. He urged non-legislative solutions that include improved roadway and vehicle lighting, headlight alignment, and lower speeds-rather than relying solely on clock policy.

[Chair David Delloso](#) (D-Delaware) highlighted the appreciation for extended daylight in the Northeast, especially for evening activities. He recalled his experience as a truck driver and asked whether the crash trends Farmer described produced a short-term spike immediately after the clock changes and whether any effect tapers off. Farmer said IIHS did not analyze the short-term spike, noting other studies show short-term increases in crashes likely tied to disrupted sleep and rhythms. He emphasized IIHS focused on longer-term effects if legislation gets rid of daylight-savings time. Chair Delloso asked if there would be a one-time spike if permanent time change is made in either direction and would effects taper off. Farmer stated he did not have a definitive answer but assumed not changing the clock twice a year would be better than changing it, regardless of the direction. Klein reiterated NCSL's neutral role, noting he would not provide a policy opinion for the committee.

[Rep. Catherine Wallen](#) (R-Adams) asked if farmer opposition to daylight-savings time is because it would force them to work in the dark, affecting livestock routines. Farmer said his institute's work concerned roadway safety and could not comment on agriculture positions, noting there are advantages to some communities and disadvantages to others. Klein said he had not seen legislation related to agriculture and daylight-savings or standard time, so he could not provide a perspective.

[Minority Chair Craig Staats](#) (R-Bucks) asked why similar bills failed in Kansas and Georgia. Klein detailed the bills from both states. He explained that both states considered legislation this session but neither advanced to enactment, likely reflecting legislative calendars and differing political dynamics. Chair Staats asked if legislation passed previously in Georgia based on Klein's presentation. Klein discussed that a bill was passed in 2022 to observe daylight-savings time if Congress were to approve it year-round with this year's bill failing to change the daylight-savings to standard time. Chair Staats asked why Pennsylvania's pedestrian fatality trends differed from neighboring states. Farmer stated national pandemic-era increases in some states were likely multifactorial due to changes in traffic, enforcement and behavior. He noted that he had no definitive explanation for Pennsylvania's comparatively lower trend.

[Rep. Donna Scheuren](#) (R-Montgomery) asked whether eliminating daylight-savings time would disadvantage construction and delivery work that uses early off-peak hours. Farmer said that outcome was plausible, but his research did not examine that industry specifically. Rep. Scheuren emphasized this issue as a "worthy concern."

[Dr. Indira Gurubhagavatula, professor of medicine, University of Pennsylvania \(Penn\) Perelman School of Medicine](#), testified in support of permanent standard time and described the biological mechanisms linking light exposure to sleep and health. She cited research showing chronic insufficient sleep in Pennsylvania adults, highlighting health issues, tardiness and more fatal vehicle crashes or incidents that can last months after the time change. She described how evening light delays melatonin and sleep onset under daylight-savings time and noted the mismatch between later evening light and early required wake times produces chronic sleep restriction and social jet lag. She pointed to limited successive REM periods which is important for learning, emotional regulation and processing. She noted chronic insufficient sleep, health and mood issues and increased cancer risk under daylight-savings, especially in the western edges of time zones. She recognized the difficulties of older adults who cannot adapt easily to these time changes with more daylight and later sunsets. She acknowledged widespread support for permanent standard time, especially in rural areas for farm work and children waiting for school buses. She recommended locking clocks to year-round standard time and told the committee to support HB 119 for better sleep, better health and safer roads.

[Amy Goldman, co-founder, Regional Adolescent Sleep Needs Coalition \(RASNC\)](#), linked the daylight-savings time debate to school start time policy and HB 2152. She detailed this legislation would provide grant incentives for school entities that adopt later secondary school start times. She highlighted that later school starts and permanent standard time are complementary as it aligns with students' circadian rhythms by providing access to early morning light. She stated this permanent change would help the benefits of later bell times materialize. She cited the 2019 Joint State Government Commission (JSGC) report on school start times and statistics showing 84% of Pennsylvania high school students do not get adequate sleep. She noted 48 school entities across 23 counties have adjusted bell schedules in Pennsylvania. She stressed to the committee that both pieces of legislation should be passed together to restore biological alignment and provide opportunity for adequate rest for students that is supported by an evidence-based approach improving student health, safety and achievement.

[Rep. Lisa Borowski](#) (D-Delaware) thanked Goldman for her local work on start times as a member of her district. She asked about the effect of neighboring states' policies for families who travel across state borders. Goldman highlighted that legislation to enact permanent standard time could be accompanied by an amendment for contiguous states to conduct similar hearings and urge them to make the issue a regional effort. Gurubhagavatula detailed regional coordination can ease cross-border issues, noting New Jersey has pending legislation for permanent standard time. She recognized issues with schools competing in sporting or extracurricular activities in different states. She emphasized leading the issue with science. Goldman explained that districts in neighboring states have participated in Pennsylvania sleep-health coalitions and working on delaying secondary school state times. She encouraged outreach to contiguous states to create regional alignment.

[Joe Conti, president, Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters](#), described his experience working at the state Capitol. He detailed the statewide radio industry's role and said broadcasters are "agnostic" on whether the state decides to pursue permanent standard or daylight time. He urged uniformity across neighboring states and the commonwealth. He emphasized broadcasters' public-safety role and explained that variable time zones across adjacent markets would complicate emergency alerts and routine information delivery. He recommended the committee consider regional coordination in any statutory change.

Chair Staats highlighted that today's discussion demonstrated the issue of daylight-savings time is "more complicated than it appears on the surface" urged for continued dialogue.

Chair Delloso cited the range of constituency impacts such as public safety, school schedules, athletics, construction and agriculture that legislation on daylight-savings time must consider. He emphasized the information provided today gave more material for further committee consideration and regional discussions.



House Appropriations Committee

04/29/2026, 12:00 p.m., Room 140, Main Capitol

By Kyle Purchase, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider six bills.

[HB 41](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Scott Conklin \(D-Centre\)](#) – (PN 3295) Amends the Public School Code, in interscholastic athletics accountability, providing for playoffs and championships. Adds section 1606-A for playoffs and championships. Permits the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletics Association (PIAA) to establish separate playoffs and championships for athletics for boundary schools and nonboundary schools. Requires at least one joint meeting in each PIAA district and provides meeting requirements including for meetings to be made public, sworn testimony and what the meetings will discuss. Establishes the procedures for the board when deliberating and deciding any changes to playoffs and championships. Stipulates once the board chooses an option under paragraph (4), no cause of action or request for relief shall lie against the association under subsection (a). Defines “board,” “boundary school,” “nonboundary school” and “oversight committee.” Effective in 30 days. (Prior PN: 20). The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 72](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Lisa Borowski \(D-Delaware\)](#) – (PN 3296) Amends the Landlord and Tenant Act, adding Article V-C to provide for tenants’ rights in cases of violence. Adds and amends definitions. Revises definitions for “attesting third party” and “domestic violence.” Asserts that an eligible tenant shall be released from a lease by providing notice in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) and providing notice in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) does not constitute a breach of the lease. Changes “murdered” to “killed” under “eligible tenant.” Removes definitions for “murder” and “rape crisis center.” Revises definition for “victim.” Repeals definitions for “victim advocate” and “victim service provider.” Provides for the required notice, what is included in a valid notice and the effect of notice. Revises length of time for the notice and documentation. Outlines the construction of section 502-C. Establishes limitations. Requires the Office of Victim Advocate to develop and display on the office’s website a certification form with specified requirements. Revises required information. Provides for confidentiality. Allows tenants to obtain a change of locks, specifying that a tenant who changes or rekeys the locks request the landlord change or rekey the locks or other security devices for the dwelling unit at the tenant’s expense. Outlines applicability. Explains the rights of landlords. Provides for prohibition and civic relief. Provides for the prohibition of certain acts by landlords. Outlines confidential information. Provides for willful violations. Adds to and further specifies legal requirements throughout the act. Asserts that the addition of Article V-C of the act shall apply to leases entered into or extended on or after the effective date of this section. Effective in 180 days. (Prior PN: 60, 3175). The bill was **reported as committed**, with Republicans voting in the negative, except [Rep. Kristin Marcell](#) (R-Bucks).

[HB 344](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. G. Roni Green \(D-Philadelphia\)](#) – (PN 3169) Amends the Landlord and Tenant Act, in creation of leases, statute of frauds and mortgaging of leaseholds, providing for parking provisions in lease. Directs a landlord to say in the lease whether parking is provided for tenant and if a fee is required. Adds that a landlord’s failure to disclose that parking is provided as specified shall constitute a disclosure that the landlord does not provide parking. Prohibits landlords from changing or adding fees during the duration of a lease, except when parking availability changes or a change occurs in a passthrough parking fee charges by a third-party parking provider. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 830](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Jennifer O’Mara \(D-Delaware\)](#) – (PN 3063) Amends the Public School Code, in student supports, further providing for policy relating to bullying. Requires a bullying policy to require all incidents of alleged bullying to be investigated by the school entity and establish a procedure for investigating a report of an incident of alleged bullying. Adds that upon investigation and not later than 24 hours, determining that an incident of bullying occurred, the school entity shall notify the parents and legal guardians of the target and the aggressor. Adds that nothing shall be construed to prohibit a school entity from contacting a parent or legal guardian of a target or aggressor about the report prior to the determination that bullying occurred. Strikes definitions for “bullying,” “cyberbullying” and “school setting.” Effective in 60 days. The bill was **reported as committed**, with Republicans voting in the negative, except Reps. Marcell and [Ann Flood](#) (R-Northampton).

[HB 2218](#), Prime Sponsor: [Rep. Mandy Steele \(D-Allegheny\)](#) – (PN 2912) Amends the Public School Code, adding an article to provide for comprehensive school counseling services. Provides definitions. Requires each school entity to develop and implement a written comprehensive school counseling plan and outlines the general requirements that the plan must meet. Specifies the components and contents that the plan must contain. Requires sufficient time at each school entity to be allotted for the school entity’s counselor to carry out the duties stated in the school entity’s plan. Provides for direct and indirect services. Allows a school counselor to spend a portion of the school counselor’s working time during student contact days performing program planning and

school support, after applying subsection (b) and with a goal of no more than 20%. Outlines monitoring and support, including the posting of the plan, oversight and Department of Education duties. Asserts that nothing in this article shall be construed to supersede or preempt the rights, remedies and procedures afforded to school employees or labor organizations under federal or state law or any provision of a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between a school employer and an exclusive representative of the employees in accordance with the Public Employee Relations Act. Effective immediately. The bill was **reported as committed**, along a party line vote, with Republicans voting in the negative.

[SB 507](#), Prime Sponsor: [Sen. Rosemary Brown \(R-Monroe\)](#) – (PN 1158) Amends the Medical Practice Act, further providing for definitions, for midwifery and for nurse-midwife license; and providing for certified midwife license. Amends the definition of “medical training facility” and replaces the definition of “midwife or nurse-midwife,” defining “midwife” as an individual who is licensed as a nurse-midwife or a certified midwife. Permits nurse-midwives and certified midwives to use the title midwife or an appropriate abbreviation of the title. Provides conditions for a nurse-midwife to be authorized to practice midwifery. Permits nurse-midwives to prescribe, dispense, order or administer a controlled substance for a woman’s medication-assisted treatment of opioid use disorder or for primary gynecologic health conditions. Allows nurse-midwives working with a physician or physician group to perform and sign the initial assessment of methadone treatment evaluations in accordance with federal and state law and regulations, subject to the requirement that any order for methadone treatment shall only be made by a physician. Specifies that a certified midwife license shall authorize the licensee to practice midwifery in this commonwealth as provided in this act. Directs the board to promulgate regulations within two years of the effective date. Stipulates that an applicant for a certified midwife license must have completed an approved academic and clinical program of study in midwifery. Outlines authorization. Provides for collaborative agreements. Asserts that a licensed certified midwife is subject to the same provisions as a certified nurse-midwife under the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

Bullet.in.Points

No Bullet.in.Points this week.

Cosponsor Memos

HCO3458 - Mandatory Reporting Means Mandatory: Closing Reporting Gaps in Title 23

Sponsor

Rep. Nikki Rivera (D)

Summary

Closes reporting gaps to ensure law enforcement is notified as soon as possible about sexually explicit deepfake images generated by AI under Title 23 that prioritizes the wellbeing and safety of all children first.

Intro Date

04/29/2026

Last Action

04/29/2026 H - Introduced HB2474

HCO3459 - Resolution Designating May 4, 2026, as Aerospace Day in Pennsylvania

Sponsor

Rep. Joe Webster (D)

Summary

A resolution to recognize May 4, 2026, as "Aerospace Day" in Pennsylvania.

Intro Date

04/29/2026

Last Action

04/29/2026 H - Cosponsor memo filed

HCO3467 - Study on Medical Student Choice in Primary Care**Sponsor**

Rep. Arvind Venkat (D)

Summary

Resolution that builds upon the findings of two prior House resolutions that directed the Joint State Government Commission to examine how the commonwealth's medical schools are addressing the growing need for primary care physicians in Pennsylvania.

Intro Date

04/30/2026

Last Action

04/30/2026 H - Cosponsor memo filed

SCO1754 - Ensuring Safe Transportation for Pennsylvania Schoolchildren**Sponsor**

Sen. Dawn W. Keefer (R)

Summary

Aims to require school districts to provide resident students attending non-traditional schools with transportation under the same terms and conditions — including the identical mode of transportation — as provided to students attending the district's own brick-and-mortar schools.

Intro Date

04/29/2026

Last Action

04/29/2026 S - Cosponsor memo filed

Basic Ed Bill Actions

HB41 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in interscholastic athletics accountability, providing for playoffs and championships.

Sponsor

Rep. Scott Conklin (D)

Summary

(PN 3295) Amends the Public School Code, in interscholastic athletics accountability, providing for playoffs and championships. Adds section 1606-A for playoffs and championships. Permits the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletics Association (PIAA) to establish separate playoffs and championships for athletics for boundary schools and nonboundary schools. Requires at least one joint meeting in each PIAA district and provides meeting requirements including for meetings to be made public, sworn testimony and what the meetings will discuss. Establishes the procedures for the board when deliberating and deciding any changes to playoffs and championships. Stipulates once the board chooses an option under paragraph (4), no cause of action or request for relief shall lie against the association under subsection (a). Defines "board," "boundary school," "nonboundary school" and "oversight committee." Effective in 30 days. (Prior PN: 20)

Intro Date

01/10/2025

Actions

04/28/2026 H - Re-committed to House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Re-reported as committed House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Laid out for discussion

04/29/2026 H - Third consideration and final passage

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

Sponsor

Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)

Summary

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

Intro Date

01/17/2025

Actions

12/16/2025 H - Reported with request to re-refer to House Judiciary

12/16/2025 H - Re-referred to House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Voted favorably from committee with request to re-refer to House Health House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Reported with request to re-refer to House Health House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Re-referred to House Health

HB455 - An Act providing for grants to organizations that host or offer education, workforce training or skills development to young adults; establishing the Building a Better Future Grant Program; imposing duties on the Department of Labor and Industry; and making an appropriation.

Sponsor

Rep. Carol Hill-Evans (D)

Summary

(PN 437) The Building a Better Future Grant Program Act provides for grants to organizations that host or offer education, workforce training or skills development to young adults; establishes the Building a Better Future Grant Program within the Department of Labor and Industry (L&I) to provide grants to eligible organizations offering skill developments, educational services and any other relevant labor market opportunities to individuals aged 16 to 24 who have been disconnected from educational opportunities; imposes duties on L&I; and makes an appropriation of \$5 million from the General Fund to provide grants for this program as well as allowing L&I to appropriate any reserved moneys from the department as necessary. Provides definitions. Requires eligible organizations to enroll individuals aged 16 to 24 who can attest they come from low-income households and attest two additional specified disadvantages. Directs L&I to provide guidelines for the grants specifying requirements as well as supply program and fiscal reports to L&I. Asserts L&I may not award more than \$1 million to any single organization receiving the grant and that up to 5% of the money available for grants may be given to a statewide non-profit that supervises multiple eligible organizations. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

02/03/2025

Actions

02/03/2025 H - Introduced

02/03/2025 H - Referred to House Labor and Industry

04/28/2025 H - Discussed during public hearing House Democratic Policy

04/28/2026 H - Press Conference Held - YouthBuild Coalition Advocacy Day

HB830 - 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, further providing for policy relating to bullying.

Sponsor

Rep. Jennifer O'Mara (D)

Summary

(PN 3063) Amends the Public School Code, in student supports, further providing for policy relating to bullying. Requires a bullying policy to require all incidents of alleged bullying to be investigated by the school entity and establish a procedure for investigating a report of an incident of alleged bullying. Adds that upon investigation and not later than 24 hours, determining that an incident of bullying occurred, the school entity shall notify the parents and legal guardians of the target and the aggressor. Adds that nothing shall be construed to prohibit a school entity from contacting a parent or legal guardian of a target or aggressor about the report prior to the determination that bullying occurred. Strikes definitions for "bullying," "cyberbullying" and "school setting." Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 861)

Intro Date

03/10/2025

Actions

04/28/2026 H - Re-committed to House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Re-reported as committed House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Laid out for discussion

04/29/2026 H - Third consideration and final passage

HB1045 - 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 seizure recognition and related first aid training.

Sponsor

Rep. Carol Kazeem (D)

Summary

(PN 3290) Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, further providing for seizure recognition and related first aid training. Requires completion of seizure recognition and related first aid training beginning with the school year 2026-2027. Changes training requirements from every two to every three years. Asserts a school nurse or professional employe of a school entity will complete a Department of Health-approved (DOH) online course for student seizure trainings. Provides that nothing in this section shall be construed to create, establish or expand any civil liability on the part of any school entity or any school entity employe. Stipulates the provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 8332 (relating to emergency response provider and bystander good Samaritan civil immunity) and 8337.1 (relating to civil immunity of school officers or employees relating to emergency care, first aid and rescue) shall apply to a school entity employe who provides treatment to a student experiencing a seizure in a manner consistent with the policy adopted by the school entity. Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1134)

Intro Date

03/25/2025

Actions

04/22/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/28/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Education), Room 140, Main Capitol

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB1077 - 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, establishing the Commission on Children's Vision and providing for duties of Commission on Children's Vision.

Sponsor

Rep. Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz (D)

Summary

(PN 3089) Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, establishing the Commission on Children's Vision and providing for duties of Commission on Children's Vision. Establishes the Commission on Children's Vision, administratively housed in the Department of Health. Strikes language regarding concurrent authority of the Department of Education and Health. Outlines the membership requirements, changing the language to include the chief of division of the school health program, no fewer than three school nurses, no fewer than six vision care professionals and representatives from community organizations that connect children to eyeglasses. Directs the commission to hold meetings at the call of the chairperson. Asserts that members may not receive compensation or reimbursement for their service. Replaces the General Assembly with the Department of Education and the Department of Health regarding the provision of data, research and other information to the commission. Directs the commission to work with vision care professionals in developing a statewide plan to provide follow-up vision examinations and glasses to all children who need follow-up vision examinations and glasses. Requires the commission to develop a model for statewide programs to provide vision screenings, eye examinations, follow-up eye examinations and glasses to students who need them for little to no cost. Directs the commission to provide support and coordination for statewide and local activities. Requires the commission to review data and research, and make findings and recommendations related to students' vision care. Strikes the investigation and review requirement under the duties of the commission. Establishes reporting requirements by December 31 of each year to the General Assembly. Adjusts language to direct the Department of Health to provide staff support to the commission as determined by the secretary of health. Adds that every six years the commission shall be reconstituted in accordance with subsection (c) and hold public hearings to review the status of children's access to vision screening, eye examinations and eyeglasses in the state. Strikes private schools and nonpublic schools from the definition of "school entity." Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 1195)

Intro Date

04/01/2025

Actions

03/25/2026 H - Laid on the table

04/28/2026 H - Removed from table

04/29/2026 H - Placed on HVS

04/29/2026 H - Second consideration

04/29/2026 H - Re-committed to House Appropriations

HB1752 - 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 Keystone Exam alternative feasibility study.

Sponsor

Rep. Gina H. Curry (D)

Summary

(PN 3064) Amends the Public School Code, in preliminary provisions, providing for Keystone Exam alternative feasibility study. Directs the secretary of education to contract for an independent study to determine whether the ACT, SAT or Smarter Balanced assessments may be administered in lieu of the current statewide, standardized Keystone Exams in literature, algebra I and biology for high school students, consistent with federal requirements under 20 U.S.C. § 6311(b) (relating to state plans). Directs the secretary to submit, within one year after the effective date of this subsection, a report containing the results of the study and recommendations to the governor, the chairperson and minority chairperson of the House and Senate Education Committees and the State Board of Education. Outlines what the study shall include. Provides definitions. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 2159)

Intro Date

07/22/2025

Actions

04/28/2026 H - Removed from table

04/29/2026 H - Placed on HVS

04/29/2026 H - Laid out for discussion

04/29/2026 H - Second consideration

04/29/2026 H - Re-committed to House Appropriations

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)

Summary

(PN 2231) Amends the Public School Code, in pupils and attendance, providing for possession and use of cell phones. Provides that a student of a public school entity cannot possess or use a cell phone during the school day in an academic building of the public school entity. Establishes directions for possession of the cell phone at the beginning of the school day and repossession at the end of the school day. Provides for exceptions if a student is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance or rescue squad, a need for a cell phone due to an immediate family member's medical condition or an administrator approves the possession and use of the cell phone by the student. Requires the public school entity to develop and update its written policies on cell phone use, which will be subject to Department of Education approval. Defines "public school entity." Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

08/20/2025

Actions

08/20/2025 H - Referred to House Education

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB1877 - 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 Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy.

Sponsor

Rep. Joseph D'Orsie (R)

Summary

(PN 3292) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, providing for Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy. Provides that the Department of Education shall establish criteria for awarding the Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy starting with the 2026-2027 school year to any student demonstrating proficiency in English and at least one other foreign language. Removes information regarding section 2604-B(b)-(2)(v), 22 Pa. Code § 4.24, 4.51 and 4.51c. Asserts the Department of Education (PDE) will establish qualifications and a toolkit for school entities to award a seal for the 2026-2027 school year known as the Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy to any student graduating from high school who demonstrates proficiency in English and at least one other world language. Amends language from "Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy" to "seal" throughout the bill after its first mention. Amends language from "foreign language" to "world language." Removes details requiring the State Board of Education to issue a report of the efficacy of the seal, rate of completion among graduating students and recommendations on improvements by August 31. Adds procedure for the 2026-2027 school year to a school entity that awards the seal. Asserts that by December 1, 2027 and each December 1 thereafter, the department will issue a report to the chairs and minority chairs of the Senate and House Education Committees respectively on the efficacy of the seal. Adds definitions. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 2334)

Intro Date

09/25/2025

Actions

04/22/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/28/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Education), Room 140, Main Capitol

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB2117 - 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 definitions, for possession and use of asthma inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors, for school access to emergency epinephrine and for administration of epinephrine auto-injectors by school bus drivers and school crossing guards.

Sponsor

Rep. Carol Hill-Evans (D)

Summary

(PN 2738) Amends the Public School Code of 1949, further providing for definitions, for possession and use of asthma inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors, for school access to emergency epinephrine and for administration of epinephrine auto-injectors by school bus drivers and school crossing guards. Provides definitions. Changes language from “asthma inhalers” to “short-acting asthma medications” throughout the bill. Changes language from “auto-injectors” to “delivery systems” throughout the bill. Allows a school entity or nonpublic school to have trained school employe administer an epinephrine delivery system or short-acting asthma medication that meets the prescription on file for the school entity or nonpublic school to a student that the employe in good faith believes to be having an anaphylactic reaction or asthmatic episode. Allows a physician or certified registered nurse practitioner to prescribe epinephrine delivery systems or short-acting asthma medications and a pharmacist may dispense epinephrine delivery systems or short-acting asthma medications in the name of the school entity or nonpublic school. Asserts said physicians and certified registered nurse practitioners will not be held liable for any civil damages as a result of its use under subsection (a), except in any act or omission intentionally designed to harm or any grossly negligent acts or omissions by the physician, nurse practitioner or a pharmacist which results in harm to a student. Outlines provisions that apply to any individual who administers an epinephrine delivery system or short-acting asthma medication pursuant to this section. Effective in 90 days.

Intro Date

01/07/2026

Actions

04/22/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/28/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Education), Room 140, Main Capitol

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as committed House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB2148 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, requiring certain school entities to adopt policies and procedures relating to access to school property by individuals or certain enforcement officials; and providing for training, reporting to governing bodies of school entities and for department guidelines.

Sponsor

Rep. Joseph C. Hohenstein (D)

Summary

(PN 2774) Amends the Public School Code, requiring certain school entities to adopt policies and procedures relating to access to school property by individuals or certain enforcement officials; and providing for training, reporting to governing bodies of school entities and for department guidelines. Provides several definitions. Declares that beginning with the 2025-2026 school year and each year thereafter, each school entity shall provide assurance of continued access to the school entity's school zones to each student, parent, guardian and school personnel, regardless of immigration status. Outlines required policies and resolutions and the publication of resolutions. Lists policy requirements. Asserts that the school entity shall notify the parent or guardian of any student subject to a request for access or entry to a school entity or school zone by an immigration enforcement agency or an enforcement agency within 48 hours of the request. Provides for training and details the content of training. Further requires training for professional development. Mandates the submission of incident reports and lists what the report must include. Directs the Department of Education to develop and publish guidelines. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

01/16/2026

Actions

01/16/2026 H - Introduced

01/20/2026 H - Referred to House Education

04/27/2026 H - Press Conference Held - Welcoming Schools Ensuring PA Schools are Safe Places for All Students

HB2152 - 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 Grant Program; and, in terms and courses of study, providing for delaying secondary school start times.

Sponsor

Rep. Jill N. Cooper (R)

Summary

(PN 2879) Amends the Public School Code, in school safety and security, further providing for School Safety and Security Grant Program; and, in terms and courses of study, providing for secondary school start times. Includes costs associated with the planning, implementation or operation of a later school start time for which the committee shall provide grants to school entities. Specifies that a school entity that applies for funding under this paragraph must adopt a policy under section 1504.1 to implement an instructional day start time that occurs at least 15 minutes later than the current start time for its secondary schools. Permits the governing body of a school entity to adopt a policy to implement an instructional day start time at the secondary school level that occurs at least 15 minutes later than the current start time for its secondary level. Directs the governing body to inform its community prior to adopting the new start time. Allows school entities that adopt a policy under subsection (a) to use funding under section 1306-B(j)(33) to alleviate costs associated with the planning, implementation or operation of a later school start time. Defines "department," "school entity" and "secondary school." Effective in 60 days. (Prior PN: 2779)

Intro Date

01/21/2026

Actions

02/04/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Education

02/04/2026 H - Reported as amended House Education

02/04/2026 H - First consideration

02/04/2026 H - Laid on the table

04/29/2026 H - Discussed during public hearing House Intergovernmental Affairs and Operations

HB2176 - 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 social media literacy education.

Sponsor

Rep. Jim Prokopiak (D)

Summary

(PN 2826) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, adding a section to provide for social media literacy education. Details what the standards adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4 (relating to academic standards and assessment) shall include. Permits the State Board of Education to review the existing state standards for health, safety and physical education, as specified in 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4, to revise the standards as necessary to implement the provisions of the section. Imposes duties on the Department of Education. Asserts that nothing in this section shall supersede or preempt any provision of a collective bargaining agreement between a school entity and an employee organization. Defines "department," "nonpublic school" and "school entity." Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

01/30/2026

Actions

04/15/2026 H - Re-committed to House Appropriations

04/27/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Appropriations

04/27/2026 H - Re-reported as committed House Appropriations

04/27/2026 H - Laid out for discussion

04/27/2026 H - Third consideration and final passage

HB2218 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for comprehensive school counseling services.

Sponsor

Rep. Mandy Steele (D)

Summary

(PN 2912) Amends the Public School Code, adding an article to provide for comprehensive school counseling services. Provides definitions. Requires each school entity to develop and implement a written comprehensive school counseling plan and outlines the general requirements that the plan must meet. Specifies the components and contents that the plan must contain. Requires sufficient time at each school entity to be allotted for the school entity's counselor to carry out the duties stated in the school entity's plan. Provides for direct and indirect services. Allows a school counselor to spend a portion of the school counselor's working time during student contact days performing program planning and school support, after applying subsection (b) and with a goal of no more than 20%. Outlines monitoring and support, including the posting of the plan, oversight and Department of Education duties. Asserts that nothing in this article shall be construed to supersede or preempt the rights, remedies and procedures afforded to school employees or labor organizations under federal or state law or any provision of a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between a school employer and an exclusive representative of the employees in accordance with the Public Employee Relations Act. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

02/12/2026

Actions

04/28/2026 H - Re-committed to House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Re-reported as committed House Appropriations

04/29/2026 H - Laid out for discussion

04/29/2026 H - Third consideration and final passage

HB2307 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in reimbursements by Commonwealth and between school districts, further providing for extraordinary special education program expenses.

Sponsor

Rep. Emily Kinkead (D)

Summary

(PN 3040) Amends the Public School Code, in reimbursements by commonwealth and between school districts, further providing for extraordinary special education program expenses. Adds a subsection providing for the 2026-2027 school year and each school year thereafter. Directs an equal amount to 2% of the special education appropriation to be distributed to school districts and charter schools for extraordinary expenses incurred in providing a special education program or service under section 1372(8)(vi) to one or more students with disabilities, as approved by the secretary of education, and details what shall apply. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

03/19/2026

Actions

04/22/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/28/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Education), Room 140, Main Capitol

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as committed House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB2314 - An Act providing for a public education campaign focused on educating the public about artificial intelligence and improving AI consumer literacy.

Sponsor

Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)

Summary

(PN 3066) The Artificial Intelligence Public Education Campaign Act provides for a public education campaign focused on educating the public about artificial intelligence and improving AI consumer literacy. Provides definitions. Directs the Office of Attorney General (OAG) to conduct a public education campaign to provide information to the general public about artificial intelligence and to improve AI consumer literacy. Stipulates that the campaign will target the general public and populations identified by the office as having lower rates of AI consumer literacy. Provides for the contents of the campaign. Stipulates that the General Assembly may appropriate funding to effectuate the campaign. Directs OAG to submit a report on the campaign within one year of its commencement. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

03/24/2026

Actions

04/23/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/29/2026, 10:00 AM - Voting Meeting (House Communications and Technology), Room B31, Main Capitol

04/29/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Communications and Technology

04/29/2026 H - Reported as committed House Communications and Technology

04/29/2026 H - First consideration

04/29/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB2425 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in career and technical education, providing for Career and Technical Education Curriculum Modernization Grant Program.

Sponsor

Rep. Jacklyn Rusnock (D)

Summary

(PN 3226) Amends the Public School Code, in career and technical education, providing for Career and Technical Education Curriculum Modernization Grant Program. Establishes the Career and Technical Education Curriculum Modernization Grant Program within the Department of Education to provide grants to school entities to purchase, implement and retain either a digital curriculum instructional platform or printed or written curriculum that meets the standards for modernizing career and technical education. Provides grant distribution amounts and process. Provides application timeline and requirements. Asserts that digital, printed or written instructional platforms purchased under the program will include common digital curriculum resources available. Provides definitions. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

04/17/2026

Actions

04/22/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/28/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Education), Room 140, Main Capitol

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as committed House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB2436 - 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 State certificate fee reduction.

Sponsor

Rep. Ana Tiburcio (D)

Summary

(PN 3246) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, further providing for state certificate fee reduction. Adds that all certificate fees shall be deposited into the Talent Recruitment Account established under section 1505-K, except for professional educator discipline fees collected. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

04/21/2026

Actions

04/22/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/28/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Education), Room 140, Main Capitol

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as committed House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB2460 - 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 hunting and trapping education; and imposing duties on the Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

Sponsor

Rep. Anita Astorino Kulik (D)

Summary

(PN 3274) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, adding a section to provide for hunting and trapping education; and imposing duties on the Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Provides for the development of a model program of age-appropriate hunting and trapping education, which shall be made available to each school entity. Outlines the firearm safety instruction under the model program. Prohibits firearms and ammunition from being brought into a school building as part of the firearm safety instruction. Allows school entities to provide firearm safety instruction. Stipulates that upon request by a parent or legal guardian of a student, the student shall be excused, without penalty or loss of academic credit, from attending the firearm safety instruction under the model program. Asserts that a student who completes the firearm safety instruction under the model program is deemed to have completed the commission's basic hunter-trapper education course that is required to obtain a hunting license under state law. Requires the commission, in consultation with the department, to prescribe procedures necessary to implement and administer the model program. Stipulates that any training hours offered by the commission for school entities that result in a school staff member becoming a certified hunter education instructor, or for the purposes of administering any other program offered by the commission, shall count towards continuing professional education under sections 1205.1, 1205.2 and 1205.3. Adds that any costs incurred by a school entity as a result of this section shall be reimbursed by the commission. Provides definitions. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

04/24/2026

Actions

04/24/2026 H - Introduced

04/27/2026 H - Referred to House Game and Fisheries

04/30/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 05/06/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Game and Fisheries), Room 515, Irvis Office Building

HB2474 - An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for exclusions from child abuse and for persons required to report suspected child abuse.

Sponsor

Rep. Nikki Rivera (D)

Summary

(PN 3323) Amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations), in child protective services, further providing for exclusions from child abuse and for persons required to report suspected child abuse. Provides exclusions from child abuse for unlawful dissemination of intimate images and sexual abuse of children. Requires reporting by a mandated reporter via the statewide toll-free telephone number under section 6332 or electronic submission under section 6305 with reasonable cause to suspect child abuse material or artificially generated child sexual abuse material as the terms are defined. Provides the section applies whether or not material was created, displayed or exhibited to others by a minor. Establishes the department should transmit a copy of the report upon receipt to the appropriate law enforcement agency and an additional report to the appropriate county agency. Effective in one year.

Intro Date

04/29/2026

Actions

04/29/2026 H - Introduced

04/29/2026 H - Referred to House Judiciary

04/29/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 05/04/2026, 11:00 AM - Voting Meeting (House Judiciary), Room 140, Main Capitol

HR368 - A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a comprehensive study of changes in commercial property values in this Commonwealth, assess the fiscal impact on local governments and school districts and make recommendations.

Sponsor

Rep. Joe Webster (D)

Summary

(PN 2587) Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) to conduct a comprehensive study of changes in commercial property values in this commonwealth, assess the fiscal impact on local governments and school districts and make recommendations. Outlines what the study must do. Directs LBFC to transmit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and post the report on LBFC's website, within one year after the adoption of this resolution.

Intro Date

11/07/2025

Actions

11/07/2025 H - Introduced

11/12/2025 H - Referred to House Local Government

04/23/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/29/2026, 10:00 AM - Voting Meeting (House Local Government), Room 60, East Wing

04/29/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Local Government

04/29/2026 H - Reported as amended House Local Government

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 1539) 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 (AEDs), providing for AED and CPR instruction and procedure, establishing the Automated External Defibrillator Program and providing for availability and specifications of automated external defibrillators. Asserts that the School Safety and Security Fund may only be used for the grant programs authorized under this article, and no money in the fund may be transferred or diverted to any other purpose by administrative actions. Establishes exceptions. Includes the purchase of AEDs and training in the specific purposes for which the committee shall provide grants to school entities. Defines "automated external defibrillator." Requires each school entity and nonpublic school to make available instructions on CPR and AED usage to its employees and volunteers on school property at least once every two years, detailing what applies. Revises what applies to AED instruction and outlines requirements for AED locations and training. Provides continuing education requirements. Requires completion of training under this section to be documented and provides for the documentation. Specifies what applies to a cardiac emergency response plan. Asserts that the school safety and security committee established under section 1302-b shall award grants to nonpublic schools to satisfy the training requirements under subsections (a) and (c) and that this subsection shall expire three years from the effective date of this subsection. Adds and revises definitions. Provides a procedure for a biennial bid for the cost of AEDs, other equipment, and necessary supplies. Permits the General Assembly to appropriate funds to carry out the provisions of this section. 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 the Department of Education to offer discounts or loans for AEDs as necessary. Permits a school entity or nonpublic school to accept donations for use in providing instruction to students, school employees and volunteers in the principles and techniques of CPR and operating an AED. Further provides for resources. Outlines and revises content requirements for reports to be published on PDE's publicly accessible website no later than Dec. 31, 2027. Allows PDE to adopt other guidelines as necessary to implement this section. Adds more definitions. 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, volunteers or employees. Requires school entities and nonpublic schools to ensure each AED is properly tested and maintained. Adds definitions. Specifies that school entities and nonpublic schools shall comply, as applicable, with the addition of sections 1423.1 and 1423.3 of the act no later than three years after the effective date of this section. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 912, 934, 1427, 1538)

Intro Date

06/06/2025

Actions

03/24/2026 H - Re-referred to House Appropriations

03/25/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Appropriations

03/25/2026 H - Re-reported as amended House Appropriations

04/27/2026 H - Laid out for discussion

04/27/2026 H - Third consideration and final passage

SB759 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in grounds and buildings, providing for certified point-of-use filter required; establishing the Safe Schools Drinking Water Fund; and imposing duties on the Department of Environmental Protection.

Sponsor

Sen. Devlin J. Robinson (R)

Summary

(PN 815) Amends the Public School Code, in grounds and buildings, providing for certified point-of-use filter required; establishing the Safe Schools Drinking Water Fund as a separate fund in the State Treasury; and imposing duties on the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Requires school entities to ensure that all drinking water outlets in each school building within the school entity are equipped with certified point-of-use filters. Directs school entities to remove and replace existing drinking water fountains without certified point-of-use filters with bottle-filling stations or drinking fountains equipped with certified point-of-use filters at the rate of at least one per one hundred students and staff. Requires school entities to set up a filter maintenance and oversight schedule for all certified point-of-use filters. Directs school entities to ensure that all new drinking water outlets purchased for installation at a school building do not leach more than one microgram of lead. Requires DEP to develop a grant program. Directs the department guidelines for the grant program. Asserts that school buildings built before 2014 and school buildings that include students in prekindergarten shall receive preference for grants. Provides required information for the grant application. Directs grant awardees to maintain and post required information on their publicly accessible website. Requires grant awardees to designate an employee to serve as the contact person for communications with the department and the public regarding the certified point-of-use filter installation. Directs grant awardees to publish maintenance schedules at each drinking water outlet. Requires grant awardees to post “not for drinking” at every non-drinking water outlet. Permits the department to award up to \$10 million in grants each fiscal year for three fiscal years. Stipulates that DEP, in consultation with the Department of Education (PDE) and the Department of Health (DOH), shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this. Mandates DEP, PDE and DOH to share information, databases and analyses. Provides definitions. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

05/22/2025

Actions

05/22/2025 S - Introduced

05/22/2025 S - Referred to Senate Institutional Sustainability and Innovation

01/23/2026 S - Discussed during public hearing Senate Democratic Policy

04/29/2026 S - Meeting Scheduled - 05/08/2026, 10:00 AM - Public Hearing (Senate Institutional Sustainability and Innovation), Upper St. Clair Library, 1820 Laughlin Run Road, Upper St. Clair, Pennsylvania

SB1014 - 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 bell-to-bell phone-free policy.

Sponsor

Sen. Devlin J. Robinson (R)

Summary

(PN 1647) Amends the Public School Code, in student supports, providing for bell-to-bell mobile device policy. Requires, no later than the start of the 2027-2028 school year, the governing body of each school entity to adopt a policy related to student possession and use of mobile devices during the school day while on school property. Outlines exceptions and provides for the policy content and notification requirements. Adds that a policy may allow a principal of a school building to approve an exception not authorized under subsection (c), outlining the exception guidelines. Requires the governing body of a school entity, that adopted a previous policy before the effective date of the section, to amend the existing policy as needed to comply with the requirements of this section no later than the start of the 2027-2028 school year. Requires annual notification of parents of the policy at the beginning of the school year. Adds definitions. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 1352, 1227, 1421)

Intro Date

10/10/2025

Actions

02/04/2026 H - Referred to House Education

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - Re-reported as amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

SB1125 - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for welcoming schools.

Sponsor

Sen. Katie J. Muth (D)

Summary

(PN 1369) Amends the Public School Code, providing for welcoming schools. Provides definitions. Requires school entities to develop policies and procedures for creating and promoting an inclusive learning environment in accordance with section 1304-F. Requires each board of directors or governing body of a school entity to adopt the policies and procedures by resolution, which must be adopted by majority vote at a public meeting, and provides for public inspection. Provides a procedure for the publication of the resolution and review and amendment of policies and procedures. Provides requirements for inclusive policies and procedures for school entities. Requires a school entity to notify the parent or guardian of any student subject to a request for access or entry to a school entity or school zone by an immigration enforcement agency or a law enforcement agency within 48 hours of the request. Requires a school entity to update existing policy if necessary. Stipulates that a school entity will provide school personnel with specified annual training. Provides training requirements for professional development. Requires the Department of Education (PDE) to post the listed materials on its public website. Asserts that the superintendent will submit a written incident report to the board of directors or governing body of the school entity, no later than five days after an enforcement action occurs at a school entity or school zone with specified information. Asserts that, within 30 days of the effective date, PDE will develop and publish guidelines to assist school entities in the implementation of this article. Requires PDE to review and update the guidelines as necessary but no less than annually. Asserts that guidelines under this section will be posted on PDE's public website. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

12/22/2025

Actions

12/22/2025 S - Introduced

12/22/2025 S - Referred to Senate Education

04/27/2026 S - Press Conference Held - Welcoming Schools Ensuring PA Schools are Safe Places for All Students

Higher Ed Bill Actions

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

Sponsor

Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)

Summary

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

Intro Date

01/17/2025

Actions

12/16/2025 H - Reported with request to re-refer to House Judiciary

12/16/2025 H - Re-referred to House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Voted favorably from committee with request to re-refer to House Health House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Reported with request to re-refer to House Health House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Re-referred to House Health

HB1849 - An Act providing for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creating causes of action for harm suffered by designation.

Sponsor

Rep. Clint Owlett (R)

Summary

(PN 2285) The Dads Defending Daughters Act provides for sport activities in public institutions of higher education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, female or coed; and creates causes of action for harm suffered by designation. Provides definitions. Requires interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic teams or sports that are sponsored by a public school entity, a public institution of higher education or any school or institution where students or teams compete against a public school entity or institution of higher education must be expressly designated as either male, men or boys, female, women or girls, or coed or mixed. Prohibits teams designated as females, women or girls from being open to students of the male sex. Provides protections for educational institutions from government entities, licensing or accrediting organizations or an athletic association or organization entertaining a complaint, opening an investigation or taking any other adverse action for maintaining separate interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic teams for students of the female sex. Provides for cause of action for deprivation of opportunity, retaliation and the school's cause of action. Establishes limitations of later than two years after the day on which the harm underlying the cause of action occurs to bring a civil action. Provides for the severability of the act. Effective immediately.

Intro Date

09/09/2025

Actions

12/16/2025 H - Reported with request to re-refer to House Judiciary House Education

12/16/2025 H - Re-referred to House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Voted favorably from committee with request to re-refer to House Health House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Reported with request to re-refer to House Health House Judiciary

04/27/2026 H - Re-referred to House Health

HB1877 - 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 Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy.

Sponsor

Rep. Joseph D'Orsie (R)

Summary

(PN 3292) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, providing for Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy. Provides that the Department of Education shall establish criteria for awarding the Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy starting with the 2026-2027 school year to any student demonstrating proficiency in English and at least one other foreign language. Removes information regarding section 2604-B(b)-(2)(v), 22 Pa. Code § 4.24, 4.51 and 4.51c. Asserts the Department of Education (PDE) will establish qualifications and a toolkit for school entities to award a seal for the 2026-2027 school year known as the Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy to any student graduating from high school who demonstrates proficiency in English and at least one other world language. Amends language from "Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy" to "seal" throughout the bill after its first mention. Amends language from "foreign language" to "world language." Removes details requiring the State Board of Education to issue a report of the efficacy of the seal, rate of completion among graduating students and recommendations on improvements by August 31. Adds procedure for the 2026-2027 school year to a school entity that awards the seal. Asserts that by December 1, 2027 and each December 1 thereafter, the department will issue a report to the chairs and minority chairs of the Senate and House Education Committees respectively on the efficacy of the seal. Adds definitions. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 2334)

Intro Date

09/25/2025

Actions

04/22/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/28/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Education), Room 140, Main Capitol

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as amended House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

HB2163 - 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

Rep. Maureen E. Madden (D)

Summary

(PN 2800) Amends the Dental Law, further providing for definitions, for general powers of the State Board of Dentistry, for penalties and for restricted faculty license. Revises definitions. Stipulates that in assessing the moral character of an individual with a criminal conviction, the board shall conduct an individualized assessment in accordance with 63 Pa.C.S. § 3113 (relating to consideration of criminal convictions) for certifications in dentistry, dental hygienists and dental assistants. Changes language in the provision for penalties to assert that it is unlawful for any restricted faculty licensee to practice dentistry outside the facilities owned or operated by a dental school, an affiliated academic health care center or a dental school-owned faculty practice in this commonwealth at which the individual is licensed to teach. Stipulates that in assessing the moral character of an individual with a criminal conviction, the board shall conduct an individualized assessment in accordance with 63 Pa.C.S. § 3113 (relating to consideration of criminal convictions) for a certification for a restricted faculty license. Revises training requirements. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

01/28/2026

Actions

04/21/2026 S - Voted Favorably From Committee Senate Appropriations

04/21/2026 S - Re-reported as committed Senate Appropriations

04/22/2026 S - Laid out for discussion

04/22/2026 S - Third consideration and final passage

04/27/2026 H - Signed in House

HB2237 - An Act amending the act of June 23, 1999 (P.L.159, No.22), known as the New Economy Technology Scholarship Act, further providing for annual report.

Sponsor

Rep. Mary Isaacson (D)

Summary

(PN 2930) Amends the New Economy Technology Scholarship Act, further providing for annual report. Establishes that the report will be published by September 1, following the end of the fiscal year, when funds have been allocated for the program. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

02/20/2026

Actions

03/24/2026 H - Reported as committed House Education

03/24/2026 H - First consideration

03/24/2026 H - Laid on the table

04/29/2026 H - Removed from table

05/04/2026 H - Placed on HVS

HB2436 - 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 State certificate fee reduction.

Sponsor

Rep. Ana Tiburcio (D)

Summary

(PN 3246) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, further providing for state certificate fee reduction. Adds that all certificate fees shall be deposited into the Talent Recruitment Account established under section 1505-K, except for professional educator discipline fees collected. Effective in 60 days.

Intro Date

04/21/2026

Actions

04/22/2026 H - Meeting Scheduled - 04/28/2026, 9:30 AM - Voting Meeting (House Education), Room 140, Main Capitol

04/28/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee House Education

04/28/2026 H - Reported as committed House Education

04/28/2026 H - First consideration

04/28/2026 H - Laid on the table

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 1539) 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 (AEDs), providing for AED and CPR instruction and procedure, establishing the Automated External Defibrillator Program and providing for availability and specifications of automated external defibrillators. Asserts that the School Safety and Security Fund may only be used for the grant programs authorized under this article, and no money in the fund may be transferred or diverted to any other purpose by administrative actions. Establishes exceptions. Includes the purchase of AEDs and training in the specific purposes for which the committee shall provide grants to school entities. Defines "automated external defibrillator." Requires each school entity and nonpublic school to make available instructions on CPR and AED usage to its employees and volunteers on school property at least once every two years, detailing what applies. Revises what applies to AED instruction and outlines requirements for AED locations and training. Provides continuing education requirements. Requires completion of training under this section to be documented and provides for the documentation. Specifies what applies to a cardiac emergency response plan. Asserts that the school safety and security committee established under section 1302-b shall award grants to nonpublic schools to satisfy the training requirements under subsections (a) and (c) and that this subsection shall expire three years from the effective date of this subsection. Adds and revises definitions. Provides a procedure for a biennial bid for the cost of AEDs, other equipment, and necessary supplies. Permits the General Assembly to appropriate funds to carry out the provisions of this section. 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 the Department of Education to offer discounts or loans for AEDs as necessary. Permits a school entity or nonpublic school to accept donations for use in providing instruction to students, school employees and volunteers in the principles and techniques of CPR and operating an AED. Further provides for resources. Outlines and revises content requirements for reports to be published on PDE's publicly accessible website no later than Dec. 31, 2027. Allows PDE to adopt other guidelines as necessary to implement this section. Adds more definitions. 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, volunteers or employees. Requires school entities and nonpublic schools to ensure each AED is properly tested and maintained. Adds definitions. Specifies that school entities and nonpublic schools shall comply, as applicable, with the addition of sections 1423.1 and 1423.3 of the act no later than three years after the effective date of this section. Effective immediately. (Prior PN: 912, 934, 1427, 1538)

Intro Date

06/06/2025

Actions

03/24/2026 H - Re-referred to House Appropriations

03/25/2026 H - Voted Favorably From Committee as Amended House Appropriations

03/25/2026 H - Re-reported as amended House Appropriations

04/27/2026 H - Laid out for discussion

04/27/2026 H - Third consideration and final passage

Upcoming Events

MONDAY – 05/04/2026

9:30 AM, [Youth Advocacy Day](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Rotunda

10:00 AM, [Early Childhood Providers](#)

Press Conference, East Wing Rotunda

12:30 PM, [PA Needs Teachers Coalition](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Rotunda

1:00 PM, [Solar 4 Schools](#)

Press Conference, East Wing Rotunda

TUESDAY – 05/05/2026

8:30 AM, [PASA and PASBO Discuss Budget Priorities](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Rotunda

9:30AM, [House Education](#)

Informational Meeting, Room 140, Main Capitol

Informational meeting on education workforce.

10:00 AM, [PA Families for Education Choice Rally](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Steps

1:00 PM, [Addressing the Youth Mental Health Crisis](#)

Press Conference, East Wing Rotunda

WEDNESDAY – 05/06/2026

9:30 AM, [House Game and Fisheries](#)

Voting Meeting, Room 515, Irvis Office Building

To consider [HB 2440](#), [HB 2450](#) and [HR 496](#)

10:00 AM, [Out of School Time Education and Awareness Day](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Steps

11:30 AM, [Leading Today Impacting Tomorrow CPA Youth Prevention Summit](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Rotunda

1:00 PM, [PA Literacy Coalition](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Rotunda

1:00 PM, [PA SCHOOLS WORK](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Steps

FRIDAY – 05/08/2026

10:00 PM, [Senate Institutional Sustainability and Innovation](#)

Public Hearing, Upper St. Clair Library, 1820 Laughlin Run Road, Upper St. Clair, Pennsylvania

Public hearing to consider [SB 759](#)

TUESDAY – 05/12/2026

1:00 PM, [Charter School Appeal Board](#)

Board Meeting, Virtual

WEDNESDAY – 05/13/2026

12:00 PM, [PA Schools Work Rally](#)

Press Conference, Main Capitol Steps

THURSDAY – 05/14/2026

11:00 AM, [2026 Student Lyme Disease Art Content](#)

Press Conference, East Wing Rotunda

WEDNESDAY – 05/20/2026

9:00 AM, [Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency – Audit Review](#)

Agency Meeting, PHEAA Board Room

THURSDAY – 05/21/2026

9:00 AM, [Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency – Board Meeting](#)

Agency Meeting, PHEAA Board Room

In the News

[04/27/2026 - ICYMI: Shapiro-Davis Administration Investing More Than \\$65 Million for Violence Prevention and Afterschool Programs to Keep Communities and Kids Safe](#)

[04/28/2026 - Senators Applaud Advancement of Bill to Create Phone-Free Schools in PA](#)

[04/28/2026 - Board of Governors appoints PASSHE university student voting members](#)

[04/30/2026 - Cook Votes 'Yes' on Bill to Split Public, Private School Playoffs](#)

[04/30/2026 - Shapiro Administration Invests Over \\$1 Million in Environmental Education Projects – Supporting Summer Camps, Field Research, and Classroom-to-Creek Learning Across Pennsylvania](#)

[04/30/2026 - Bartolotta Announces Environmental Education Grants Awarded to Local School Districts](#)

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

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

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