

PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION



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**December 11, 2017**

## **Legislative UPDATE**

**Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education**

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The state House of Representatives and Senate are in voting session concurrently this week. A revised legislative session schedule indicates it is the last week of voting session for both chambers in the calendar year. Much of the chambers' work is expected to focus on abortion, paycheck protection, budget process bills, UC funding and CHIP reauthorization. More amendments to the severance tax bill may also be debated.

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### **Senate**

## **Session & Committee Activity**

[Senate Session Days](#) | [Watch Session Live](#) | [Senate Calendars](#) | [Senate Committee Meeting Schedule](#)

The Senate convenes today at 1:00 p.m.

The chamber may consider the following bills of interest:

### **HB 1448**

Amends the Public School Code to require the PA Department of Education to make information available on its website about the College Navigator Website and High Priority Occupations; requires school entities to annually provide this information to high school students; and provides for the creation of a comparison search tool for institutions of higher education if the College Navigator Website is discontinued. If PDE is required to create a new search tool, each institution is required to provide the information required for the comparison tool, as available, to PDE by January 1 of each year. If the information is available in an institution's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) report, the institution may comply with the reporting requirements by sending an electronic copy of the IPEDS report to PDE. PDE is required to update the comparison tool as soon as practicable after receiving information from each institution of higher education.

### [SR 228](#)

A Concurrent Resolution establishing a Global Education Task Force to issue a report no later than 18 months after the adoption of the resolution. The report would offer recommendations on assessing, measuring, improving upon and developing global competence skills among students to ensure they succeed and thrive in the workforce; identifying current best practices in schools and barriers to educating students; a plan to close the global education gap and ensure global-ready graduates; workforce development practices to ensure primary and secondary students are globally competent and ready to compete in the workforce; courses to be added to the current global competence education; advantages and disadvantages of regionalizing and customizing global education; and program funding methods. The chancellor of the State System or a designee would serve on the task force.

The Senate Appropriations Committee is scheduled to meet off the floor this afternoon to consider and report [HB 1448](#) to the floor.

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## House of Representatives

# Session & Committee Activity

[House Session Days](#) | [Watch Session Live](#) | [House Calendars](#) | [House Committee Meeting Schedule](#)

The House convenes at 1 p.m. this afternoon.

The voting calendar includes final consideration of a Joint Resolution ([HB 110](#)) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in taxation and finance, providing for spending limitations on the Commonwealth, and legislation ([SB 166](#)) establishing the Protection of Public Employee Wages Act. The chamber is also expected to adopt [HR 627](#), a Resolution recognizing the Northeast Wildlife DNA Laboratory at East Stroudsburg University for being a leader in tick testing and prevention of Lyme disease and tick-borne illness. Anticipated action also includes action on a legislative package regarding the budget process:

[HB 1941](#) Amends The Administrative Code, in Commonwealth budget procedures, further providing for lapsing of funds.

[HB 1942](#) Amends The Administrative Code, in Commonwealth budget procedures, further providing for transmission of budget information to the General Assembly.

[HB 1943](#) Amends The Administrative Code, in Commonwealth budget procedures, providing for definitions and further providing for budget implementation data, for electronic access of information and for lapsing of funds.

[HB 1944](#) Amends The Administrative Code, in Commonwealth budget procedures, further providing for submission of budget to General Assembly and for transmission of budget information to the General Assembly.

[HB 1945](#) Amends The Administrative Code, in Commonwealth budget procedures, further providing for submission of budget to General Assembly.

There are no committee meetings of interest currently scheduled.

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## State System

# Bill Tracker Report

Tracking information is updated during legislative session weeks.

## In the Senate:

[SB 999](#) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary & Judicial Procedure), in particular rights and immunities, providing for contracts or agreements for nondisclosure of certain conduct. *Last Action:* 12-07-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Judiciary

## Co-sponsor Memos:

[HCO2730](#) Requires each agency designate an employee as the agency's regulatory compliance officer. *Last Action:* 12-06-17 H Filed

[HCO2737](#) Protects students from being charged a "rape tax" if they are victims of rape or sexual assault on a college campus. *Last Action:* 12-07-17 H Filed

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This update is provided as a courtesy of the Office of the Chancellor as a preview of upcoming legislative activity and a review of action on legislative issues of interest to the State System. The Legislative UPDATE is distributed during legislative session weeks.

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