

PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION



14 universities.
Infinite opportunities.

April 9, 2018

Legislative UPDATE

Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education



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Senate

Session & Committee Activity

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

The Senate stands in recess until Monday, April 16, 2018 at 1:00 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore.

House of Representatives

Session & Committee Activity

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

The House stands convenes today, April 9, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. The following two bills of interest are on the voting calendar:

[HB 1527](#) Amends the mandated reporting provisions of the Child Protective Services Law to specifically require mandated reporters to report suspected child abuse whenever they personally witness an act of child abuse against an identifiable child.

[HB 2124](#) Amends the Public School Code, establishing that an institution of higher education that receives Federal education loan information or other student loan information regarding a student enrolled at the institution shall provide the following to the student on an annual basis prior to the student's acceptance of the Federal education loan or other student loan disbursed by the institution of higher education: an estimate of the total amount of Federal education loans or other student loans which are disbursed by the institution of higher education taken out by the students; the potential total payoff amount of the Federal education loans and other student loans; monthly repayment amounts; number of years used in determining the potential payoff amount; information on how the student can access online repayment calculators; and percentage of the borrowing limit the student has reached.

Regarding the student debt letter legislation, the Office of the Chancellor has expressed appreciation for recent revisions to the bill and the sponsor's commitment to students. However, while supportive of the intentions for the legislation, the Office of the Chancellor believes it is duplicative of requirements already in place and would put an additional strain on university resources that could otherwise be invested in teaching and learning.

In committee activity, the House Democratic Policy Committee held an informational hearing on [HB 962](#), legislation amending the Uniform Crime Reporting Act to require crime statistics and security policies and procedures in institutions of higher education to be placed on the institution's website. Also provides for a new chapter entitled "Pennsylvania Safe Campuses" and requires reporting and programs designed to combat sexual assault and intimate partner violence on college campuses in the commonwealth. Testimony was provided by Temple University and a panel of victim advocates. [READ >>](#)

The State System appropriately complies with similar existing federal and state reporting requirements employs, as well as trains employees and volunteers to serve as victim advocates. All universities have employees who are trained to provide assistance to all alleged victims and responding to complaints. Universities have advocates/advocacy committees that assist both the complainant and respondent. These advocates—employees and volunteers—are available to students throughout the Title IX process, which is articulated to students through the university website, student handbook, and other media.

There are no committee meetings of interest scheduled as of yet for this week.

State System

Bill Tracker Report

Tracking information is updated during legislative session weeks.

Actions in the Senate:

[HB 126](#) Creates The Epinephrine Auto-Injector Entity Act providing for the use and stock of epinephrine auto-injectors by recreation camps, colleges and universities, day-care facilities, youth sports leagues, amusement parks, restaurants, places of employment, and sports arenas. Requires completed training by employees of eligible institutions before administration and provides Good Samaritan protections. Also allows training to be conducted by a health care practitioner employed or contracted by an authorized entity. Last Action: 03-27-18 Re-referred to Senate Appropriations

[SB 1078](#) Amends Title 65 (Public Officers), in open meetings, adding that an executive session may be held to discuss, plan or review matters and records that are deemed necessary for emergency preparedness, protection of public safety and security of all property in a manner that if disclosed would be reasonably likely to jeopardize or threaten public safety or preparedness or public protection. Last Action: 4-16-18 Set on the Senate Calendar

[SB1090](#) Amends Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in offenses involving danger to the person, providing for antihazing and prescribing penalties; in forfeiture of assets, further providing for asset forfeiture; and making a related repeal. The bill adds a chapter to Title 18 on antihazing, defines the offense of hazing, and provides for aggravated hazing, organizational hazing, and institutional hazing. Institutions and secondary schools shall adopt policies against hazing and appropriate penalties for hazing. Title 42 is amended to provide for asset forfeiture for aggravated hazing. Last Action: 4-16-18 Set on the Senate Calendar

[SR 292](#) Resolution directing the JSGC to study the issue of immunization policies for students at institutions of higher education conduct an analysis of compliance, examine the need for updating policies & report findings & recommendations to the Senate. Last Action: 03-28-18 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education

Actions in the House:

[HB 1755](#) Amends the Public School Code, in sexual violence education at institutions of higher education, providing for scope of article, providing for affirmative consent to sexual activity and making an editorial change. Last Action: 03-26-18 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education

[HB 2115](#) Amends the Community & Economic Development Enhancement Act, in transfers of functions; transferring function, duties & entities to DCED; providing for State Apprenticeship & Training Council; providing for membership to the council. Last Action: 04-04-18 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Labor and Industry

- [HB 2156](#) Amends the Public School Code, providing for Career and Technical Education Partnership Tax Credit Program. Last Action: 04-06-18 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
- [HB 2157](#) Amends the Public School Code, in terms & courses of study, providing for Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence; in vocational education, for utilization of credits; and for classification of program code. Last Action: 04-06-18 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
- [HB 2159](#) Amends the Public School Code, in transfers of credits between institutions of higher education, providing for definitions, duties of public institutions, Transfer & Articulation Oversight Committee, and duties of department. Last Action: 04-06-18 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
- [HB 2166](#) Amends the Public School Code, in reimbursements by Commonwealth & between school districts, providing for career and technical education innovation and career preparation. Last Action: 03-26-18 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
- [HB 2204](#) Amends the Public School Code, in vocational education, providing for a workforce development program clearinghouse. Last Action: 04-04-18 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
- [HB 2209](#) An Act providing for duties of the Dept. of the Auditor General; est. a performance audit pilot program; providing for performance audit of State agencies, for duties of State agencies & for progress report by State agencies. Last Action: 04-02-18 H Introduced and referred to committee on House State Government

Co-sponsor Memos:

- [HCO3164](#) Establishes a comprehensive online career resource center to provide information on the value and impact of career and technical education, career pathways, data and statistics on employment opportunities. Last Action: 03-28-18 H Filed

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.

Jennifer Hoover
Director of Governmental Relations
jhoover@passhe.edu
(717) 720-4021



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