



June 19, 2017

Legislative UPDATE

Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education

"State lawmakers are beginning the third-full week of June, and they're starting to position bills that will eventually be part of the state budget, whenever it gets completed," Capitolwire reports.

["A 'get out of town' budget appears inevitable, lawmakers say,"](#) The Associated Press reports (via The Morning Call).

["With deficit looming, Pa. lawmakers consider leasing state assets....,"](#) PennLive reports (via John Micek's Monday Morning Coffee report).

Senate Majority Leader Jay Costa addresses the PA Press Club at 12:30 p.m. today. Statewide television coverage of the luncheons is provided by [PCN](#).

Senate

Session & Committee Activity

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

The Senate convenes this afternoon through Thursday. The following bills of interest are on the chamber's bill calendar:

- [HB 126](#) An Act providing for the use of epinephrine auto-injectors by certain entities and organizations, including colleges and universities; and conferring powers and imposing duties on the Department of Health.
- [SB 9](#) An Act requiring the identification of lawful presence in the United States as a prerequisite to the receipt of public benefits. The definition of "public benefit" includes postsecondary education.
- [SB 168](#) Provides for notice and disclosure of proposed collective bargaining agreements and related documents and for open records.

[SB 503](#) Amends Title 65 (Public Officers) eliminating the exemption of collective bargaining from the Sunshine Act.

[SB 504](#) Amends the Right-to-Know Law, in procedure, further providing for exceptions for public records, adding that the exception for records pertaining to strategy relating to labor relations shall not apply to negotiations.

The full Senate could consider the following bills of interest as soon as the Senate Appropriations Committee considers their fiscal impact:

[SB 53](#) Amends The Higher Education Scholarship Law further providing for eligibility for State scholarship, allowing allow college students erolled in online courses to be awarded State grants.

[SB 273](#) Prohibits funds for sanctuary campuses.

[SB 634](#) Amends the Public School Code, requiring public institutions of higher education to adopt and make public uniform standards for determining and awarding academic credit for prior learning.

House of Representatives

Session & Committee Activity

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

The House also convenes Monday through Thursday. The House Calendar includes the following bills of interest:

[HB 25](#) An Act providing for school-to-work pilot programs; establishing the CareerBound Program; providing for a tax credit; and imposing powers and duties on the Department of Labor and Industry. The legislation enumerates and allows Pennsylvania institutions of higher learning to participate in CareerBound.

[SB 560](#) Amends Titles 18 & 42 to expand the scope of permissible audio and video recording by law enforcement officers and to allow for public access to those recordings.

The following bill waits action by the House Rules Committee:

[HB 1095](#) An Act requiring the identification of lawful presence in the United States as a prerequisite to the receipt of public benefits. "Public benefits" include, but is not limited to, postsecondary education and any other similar benefit for which payments or assistance are provided to an individual, household or family eligibility unit by an agency of the Commonwealth or local government.

On Monday at 10:00 a.m., Executive Vice Chancellor Peter Garland will offer remarks before the House Democratic Policy Committee regarding college affordability. He'll discuss the conundrum of lagging state funding, personnel and operating cost pressures facing all of the State System's universities and declining enrollment against the System's commitment to holding true to its mission: providing a high-quality, high-value education for the Commonwealth's students. Testimony will also

be presented by Ken Mash, president, Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties, and Mark Price, PhD, labor economist, Keystone Research Center. The hearing will stream live at www.pahouse.com/live.

In other committee activity, the House Education Committee also meets Monday to consider a variety of bills, including:

[HB 1448](#) Amends the Public School Code providing for higher education accountability and transparency by establishing the Department of Education shall make available on the department's publicly accessible Internet website a search tool that allows an individual to compare institutions of higher education that meet certain criteria selected by the individual, including the offering of a particular major or program of study.

It is anticipated the legislation will be reported as amended by the House Education Committee and considered on second consideration by the full House on Wednesday. As amended, the bill would require Pennsylvania's Department of Education to make information available related to the federal College Navigator website and high priority occupations in one place on the department's website and would require school entities to distribute the information to high school students. The amendment would also provide that that the department would only have to create a comparison tool if the United States Department of Education would discontinue the College Navigator website.

State System

Bill Tracker Report

This tracking information is updated during legislative session weeks. Bills of interest on which action has occurred since the last Legislative UPDATE include:

Executive Action:

[SB 1](#) Amends Titles 24 (Education), 51 (Military Affairs) & 71 (State Government), extensively revising pension provisions; providing for defined contribution plan; for health insurance; for military leaves of absence; for retirement. Last Action: 06-08-17 H Signed in the House

Actions in the Senate:

[HB 410](#) An Act providing for performance-based budgeting; establishing the Performance-Based Budget Board & providing for its powers & duties; conferring powers & imposing duties on the IFO; & providing for performance hearings & reviews.

Actions in the House:

[HB 1386](#) Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, providing for instructional certificate grade spans and age levels. Last Action: 06-12-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education

[HB 1526](#) Act to provide from the General Fund for the expenses of the Executive, Legislative & Judicial Departments, the public debt & the public schools for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Last

Action: 06-12-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations

- [HB 1554](#) Supplement to the act to accept grant of Public Lands, by the US, to several states, for endowment of Agricultural Colleges making appropriations for carrying the same into effect; & providing for basis for payments of appropriation. Last Action: 06-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations
- [HB 1555](#) Supplement to the University of Pittsburgh - Commonwealth Act making appropriations for carrying the same into effect; & providing for a basis for payments, for method of accounting & for certain information disclosure. Last Action: 06-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations
- [HB 1556](#) Supplement to Temple University - Commonwealth Act making an appropriation for carrying the same into effect; providing for a basis for payments; for method of accounting & for certain fiscal information disclosure. Last Action: 06-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations
- [HB 1557](#) Supplement to Lincoln University - Commonwealth Act making an appropriation for carrying the same into effect; & providing for a basis for payments, for method of accounting & for certain fiscal information disclosure. Last Action: 06-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations
- [HB 1562](#) Amends the Pennsylvania Web Accountability and Transparency Act, further providing for definitions, for searchable budget database and for administration; establishing an advisory committee; and providing for reports to the General Assembly. Last Action: 06-15-17 H Filed

Co-sponsorship memos:

- [HCO2176](#) Requires school employees become mandated reporters under the adult protective services law and made aware of the number to call to protect adult students. Last Action: 06-06-17 H Filed
- [HCO2221](#) Requires that all fees, fines, and penalties imposed by state agencies, departments, and boards be deposited in the General Fund. Last Action: 06-13-17 H Filed
- [HCO2226](#) Requires the design, construction, and renovation of state-owned or leased buildings to comply with specified and high-performance building standards. Last Action: 06-15-17 H Filed
- [SCO 941](#) Gives undocumented PA resident students who complete at least two years of high school & graduate or obtain an equivalency certificate eligibility for resident tuition rates at state and state supported schools. Last Action: 06-12-17 S 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.

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