



February 19, 2019

Legislative UPDATE

Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education

Five months into his job serving the State System, Chancellor Dan Greenstein appeared before the House Appropriations Committee last Tuesday, February 12th.

With passion and optimism, he fielded questions about System Redesign Phase 2, now well underway. The purpose of which is to transform the System to better serve our students and Commonwealth now and into the future. [Watch archived video >>](#)

In support of that effort, Gov. Wolf proposed a \$7 million increase for the State System. In his blog posted Monday, Greenstein said: "Given the economic challenges Pennsylvania continues to face, we are grateful that the Governor continues to see our state-owned universities as one of his priorities."

He further wrote: "This [budget hearing] process affords an opportunity to take a critical look at ourselves, to think together with legislators about our future, and to analytically make the case for public investment in higher education."

Read more [HERE](#) about System transformation, including the importance of embracing partnership with and commitment to both the Commonwealth and students.

Senate

Session & Committee Activity

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

The chamber stands in recess until March 18, at 1:00 p.m.

Senate budget hearings begin this week. Thursday, February 21st, 10:00 a.m., tune in to [PCN](#) or a Senate Caucus website when Chancellor Greenstein will appear before the Senate Appropriations Committee.

House of Representatives

Session & Committee Activity

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

The House convenes today at 1:00 p.m., and again Wednesday and Thursday at 11:00 a.m.. As of yet there are no bills of interest on the House Calendar.

On Tuesday, 11:00 a.m., the House Labor and Industry Committee meets to hold a public hearing on workforce development to identify policies and procedures to better align worker training and preparation programs with the needs of employers in an effort to enhance the success of workers seeking to enter or advance in the workforce. [Continue reading...](#)

The House Commerce Committee also is meeting on workforce programs; its scheduled to talk with DCED on Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.

Also Wednesday, the House Professional Licensure Committee meets at 9:30 a.m. to consider [HB 138](#), legislation amending the Physical Therapy Practice Act to establish that an applicant who is 90 days from completing the professional study of physical therapy may sit for the examination if the applicant verifies with the board that the applicant is 90 days from graduating from an accredited program as determined by the board.

Bill Tracking Report

The following information is updated during legislative session weeks.

In the House:

[HB 373](#): Act providing for public notice and access requirements for public works projects labor agreements. *Last Action*: 02-05-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Labor and Industry

[HB 431](#): Amends the Right-To-Know Law, in State-related institutions, further providing for reporting, for contents of report, for copies and posting and providing for contracts. *Last Action*: 02-11-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House State Government

[HB 506](#): Amends the Public Employe Relations Act, in employee rights, providing for conditions of a collective bargaining agreement; and, in scope of bargaining, further providing for maintenance of membership. *Last Action*: 02-12-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Labor and Industry

In the Senate:

[SB 219](#): Amends the Public School Code establishing the Health-Related Industries Educational Scholarship Program and the Health-Related Industries Educational Scholarship Program & the Health-Related Industries Educational Scholarship Fund. *Last Action*: 02-05-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education

[SB 295](#): Act providing for the establishment of sexual harassment and sexual violence online reporting

system by postsecondary institutions. *Last Action:* 02-14-19 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education

Co-sponsorship Memos:

[HCO1047](#): Creates the CareerBound program. *Last Action:* 02-04-19 H Filed

[HCO1063](#): Requires agencies to make meeting agendas available to the public prior to all public meetings. Also, shall require the agenda to be posted at the location of the meeting and on website. *Last Action:* 02-04-19 H Filed

[HCO1153](#): Requires employers to conduct annual interactive discrimination and harassment training for all employees, interns, and volunteers at little to no cost to employers. Also requires interactive training for supervisors and managers. *Last Action:* 2-11-19 H Filed

[SCO 579](#): Resolution establishing a Task Force on Global Education. *Last Action:* 02-06-19 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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