February 4, 2019

Legislative UPDATE
Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education

On Tuesday, February 5, at approximately 11:30 a.m., Governor Wolf will deliver his budget address before a joint session of the Legislature. Tune into PCNTV, https://www.governor.pa.gov/ or https://www.legis.state.pa.us/ to watch the address live.

In addition to seeking more education funding, "Wolf is expected to ask for more money to continue his PAsmart initiative that began this year with $30 million. It provides grants to schools and other outfits that train workers for careers in science, technology, engineering and math fields that do not require college degrees," reports The Morning Call.

Budget hearings begin next week. The State System will appear before the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on February 12th and 21st, respectively. A complete list of budget hearings is available. CLICK HERE for the House budget hearing schedule. CLICK HERE for the Senate budget hearing schedule.

Senate

Session & Committee Activity

The chamber stands in recess until 1:00 p.m. today. There are no meetings of interest scheduled.

Last Wednesday, Senator Hughes was joined by legislators, including co-sponsors Reps. Harris and Roebuck, to announce the reintroduction of the PA Promise initiative. Senate Bill 111 would create the Promise Act, establishing the Promise Program and the Promise Fund. The intent of the bill is to improve college access and affordability for Pennsylvania students. Read more >>
The House convenes today at 1:00 p.m.

Last week standing committee assignments were announced. Composition of the House Appropriations and Education Committees are as follows; there are no meetings of interest scheduled:

**House Appropriations**

- Majority—chair Rep. Stan Saylor
  - Brown, Rosemary M.
  - Culver, Lynda Schlegel
  - Delozier, Sheryl M.
  - Dunbar, George
  - Fritz, Jonathan
  - Gabler, Matt
  - Greiner, Keith J.
  - Grove, Seth M.
  - Hahn, Marcia M.
  - Heffley, Doyle
  - James, R. Lee
  - Keller, Fred
  - Lawrence, John A.
  - Ortitay, Jason
  - Quinn, Christopher B.
  - Rothman, Greg
  - Struzzi, James B., II (freshman)
  - Topper, Jesse
  - Warner, Ryan
  - Wheeland, Jeff C.
  - White, Martina A.

- Minority—chair Rep. Matt Bradford
  - Bullock, Donna
  - Cephas, Morgan
  - Comitta, Carolyn T.
  - Davis, Austin A.
  - Donatucci, Maria P.
  - Fiedler, Elizabeth
  - Flynn, Marty
  - Gainey, Ed
  - Kim, Patty
  - Kinsey, Stephen
  - Krueger, Leanne
  - McCartar, Stephen
  - Sanchez, Benjamin V. (freshman)
  - Schweryer, Peter

**House Education**

- Majority—chair Rep. Curt Sonney
Bill Tracking Report

The following information is updated during legislative session weeks.

In the House:

HB 283 Simmons, Justin: Amends the Right-to-Know Law, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in procedure, further providing for written requests; and, in judicial review, further providing for fee limitations. Last Action: 01-30-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House State Government

HB 297 Mako, Zachary: Amends the Public School Code, in preliminary provisions, providing for career information and recruitment. Last Action: 01-30-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education

HB 319 Ryan, Frank: Amends the PA Prevailing Wage Act, providing for definitions; for referendum for prevailing wage rates, for subsequent public referenda & for election interference prohibited; & repealing related provisions of the Public School Code. Last Action: 02-01-19 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Labor and Industry

In the Senate:

SB 111 Hughes, Vincent: Act providing for the Promise Program and establishing the Promise Fund. Last Action: 01-30-19 S Press conference held

Co-sponsorship Memos:
Rothman, Greg: Eliminates the ability of public sector unions to negotiate maintenance of membership clauses in collective bargaining agreements. The elimination of such clauses effectively allows union members to resign their membership at any time. **Last Action:** 01-30-19 H Filed

Gleim, Barbara: Raises the prevailing wage threshold from $25,000 to $150,000 for projects subject to the Prevailing Wage Law. **Last Action:** 01-30-19 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.

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