



## Summary of Legislation October 29, 2018

### **“One Stop Shop” Bill Becomes Law; Governor Vetoes Two House GOP Initiatives**

As the voting portion of the 2017-18 legislative session drew to a close, a number of bills of interest to PEDA members became law, several more were left unfinished, and a handful were vetoed by Gov. Tom Wolf. Primary among the new laws signed by the Governor is Rep. Mike Pifer’s [HB 1284](#). The purpose of the bill, which PEDA supported, along with DCED, is to establish the **Pennsylvania Business One-Stop Shop** as a single online access point to aid business owners and potential business owners in identifying and securing the necessary permits, licenses, certifications, applications, forms and registrations associated with satisfying the legal requirements to establish and operate a business in the Commonwealth. PEDA believes the bill is a significant step toward meeting the goals of streamlining the permitting process, and looks forward to working with the Administration and the General Assembly to implement it, and hopefully expand its reach to other state agencies in the near future.

In addition to HB 1284, Gov. Wolf also signed [HB 645](#), regarding Housing Authorities, and [HB 1511](#), which increases available funding for tourism promotion.

The governor also vetoed [HB 83](#), and [HB 2157](#), sending the following veto messages with the bills:

**House Bill 83:** “This legislation restricts the state’s flexibility to restructure outstanding debt to reduce future liabilities for citizens of the commonwealth,” said Governor Wolf. “Maximizing the commonwealth’s ability to secure the least costly interest rate and repayment terms is essential to enable the commonwealth to reduce annual debt service payments whenever possible to enable savings to fund other essential commonwealth programs.”

**House Bill 2157:** “This legislation renders certain agricultural education programs ineligible for state and federal funding. Specifically, the Pennsylvania Department of Education is the single state agency that is federally authorized to approve these programs,” said Governor Wolf. “Last year, my administration distributed approximately \$57,000,000 in state Career and Technical Education funding to schools across the commonwealth. By removing program approval authority from the department, this bill would impair those schools’ ability to receive this funding and would eliminate funding for agricultural education programs approved under this bill’s provisions. In addition, the bill would require schools that currently receive Federal Perkins funding for Agriculture Education programs to forego such funds, costing those schools \$6,345,299.”

The House and Senate will convene for perhaps one day each in November, for what are traditionally non-voting sessions, other than to elect temporary leaders to preside between the constitutional end of session on November 30 and the convening of the 2019-20 session in January, and to hold closed-door caucus elections for their respective leaders for next session. It is anticipated that no more votes on bills will be held after the November 6 election. PEDA members are reminded to VOTE on election day!

### **Legislative Activity**

**The following bills of interest to PEDA were acted on by the General Assembly this past month.**

### **Budget Related Bills**

[HB 83](#) RE: [Repaying Pennsylvania's Debt More Responsibly](#) (by rep. John Lawrence, et al)

Amends the Capital Facilities Debt Enabling Act, in capital facilities, further providing for bonds, issue of bonds and notes, maturity and interest. The bill adds that retirements of principal for funding bonds authorized under section 312 shall be regular and substantial if made in annual or semiannual amounts whether by stated serial

maturities or by mandatory sinking fund retirements computed in accordance with either a level annual debt service plan as nearly as may be or upon the equal annual maturities plan. Provisions allowing the issuing officials to enter into agreements or contracts to insure or secure payment of principal, interest or the purchase price of bonds which will assist in managing the interest costs of the debt of the Commonwealth are repealed.

**Laid on the table, removed from the table, 10/2/2018**

**Read third time, and passed Senate, 10/17/2018 (49-0)**

**Signed in the House and in the Senate, 10/17/2018**

**Vetoed by the Governor, 10/24/2018**

[HB 599](#) RE: Results First Act (by Rep. George Dunbar, et al)

Establishes the Results First Project to be implemented and maintained by the Independent Fiscal Office. The purpose is for the IFO to receive periodic updates that incorporate new research and enhancements identified through work in participating states and practical technical assistance to implement this cutting-edge approach for identifying policy and budget options. Through this effort, Pennsylvania will lay the groundwork for a strong evidence-based approach that will identify the state government's vision, mission, philosophy, priority goals and benchmarks. The General Assembly will help state agencies to align the state agency's individual efforts and resources to achieve statewide priority outcomes. A data source may not be charged a fee to receive the results generated from data it submits.

**Reported as committed from Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/15/2018**

[HB 2105](#) RE: Abolishing "Obsolete" Agencies (by Rep. Jonathan Fritz, et al)

Abolishes numerous state authorities, boards, commissions, committees, councils and representatives; and making related repeals. The following boards and commissions would be eliminated:

- Interstate Rail Passenger Advisory Council
- Pennsylvania Public Television Network Commission
- Canine Health Board
- Community Service Advisory Board
- Industrial Resource Center Strategic Advisory Board
- Small Business Advocacy Council
- Adult Basic and Literacy Education Interagency Coordinating Council (ABLE ICC)
- Advisory Committee on Probation
- Energy Development Authority
- Health Careers Leadership Council
- Joint Committee to Review Cost of Living
- Legislative Representative for Collective Bargaining
- Lobbying Disclosure Regulations Committee
- Pennsylvania Quality Leadership Awards Council
- Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Advisory Committee
- Voting Standards Development Board

**Reported as amended from House State Government Committee, read first time, and laid on the table, 9/25/2018**

**Removed from the table, 10/2/2018**

[HB 2413](#) RE: [Non-Resident Withholding Fixes, 1099-MISC](#) (by Rep. Keith Greiner, et al)

Amends the Tax Reform Code, in personal income tax, further providing for tax withheld, for withholding tax requirement for nonemployer payors, for information statement for nonemployer payors, for information statement for payees, for time for filing payor's returns, for payment of taxes withheld for nonemployer payors, for liability for withheld taxes, repealing provisions relating to payor's liability for withheld taxes, further providing for bulk and auction sales and transfers, notice, repealing provisions relating to payor's failure to withhold, providing for annual withholding return, further providing for amount of withholding tax and for treatment of nonresident partners, members, or shareholders, repealing provisions relating to withholding on income and to annual withholding statement, further providing for requirements concerning returns, notices, records and statements, for interest and for additions, penalties and fees.

**Reported as amended from House Finance Committee, read first time, and laid on the table, 10/9/2019**

[HB 2673](#) RE: Shale Gas Tax (by Rep. Maureen Madden, et al)

Amends Title 58 (Oil and Gas) authorizing an unconventional gas well fee of eight cents per unit severed and provides the moneys from the tax shall be allocated for the purpose of funding homestead and farmstead exclusions under the Taxpayer Relief Act.

**Introduced and referred to House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, 9/26/2018**

### **KOZ/CRIZ/Tax Credits**

[HB 645](#) RE: Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit Reporting (by Rep. Bernie O'Neill, et al)

Amends the Tax Reform Code, in neighborhood assistance tax credit, further providing for tax credit and for grant of tax credit and providing for reporting. The bill changes the dollar limit of tax credit granted for programs approved under the act from \$18 million to \$36 million and establishes that on the effective date of the subsection, no additional tax credits shall be granted under the article. The Department of Community and Economic Development shall issue a report within 12 months of the effective date and each five years thereafter including a funding evaluation of the neighborhood assistance program and recommendations for the tax credit, submitted to each Finance committee. The bill also excludes from the realty transfer tax a transfer of real estate by a housing authority created under the housing authorities law to a nonprofit organization which is utilizing the real estate for the purpose of rental assistance demonstration administered by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development under the consolidated and further continuing appropriations act.

**Reported as amended from Senate Finance Committee, and read first time, 10/3/2018**

**Read second time and Rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/15/2018**

**Reported as committed from Senate Appropriations Committee, and amended on Senate floor, 10/16/2018 S 1**

**Read third time and passed Senate, 10/17/2018 (49-0)**

**Received as amended in House and rereferred House Rules Committee, re-reported on concurrence as committed from House Rules Committee, and House concurred in Senate amendments, 10/17/2018 (175-5)**

**Signed in the House and in the Senate, 10/17/2018**

**Approved by the Governor 10/24/2018 (Act No. [100](#) of 2018)**

[HB 2638](#) RE: Military Installation Remediation Fund (by Rep. Todd Stephens, et al)

Amends the Transit Revitalization Investment District Act adding a new chapter establishing a remediation program and creates a funding mechanism that redirects state and local tax revenues associated with the rehabilitation and redevelopment of certain former military installations affected by pollution and which are located within a qualified municipality. Provides definitions of "qualified authority," "qualified former military installation" and "qualified municipality". Further provides that remediation project costs that qualify for funding include the cost or remediation relating to perfluorated compounds present in drinking water related to the presence of a qualified military installation and the transportation infrastructure and economic costs within a qualified municipality to encourage redevelopment of the former installation. Also provides for establishment of the Military Installation Remediation Fund.

**Reported as amended from House Commerce Committee, read first time, and laid on the table, 9/24/2018**

**Removed from the table, 9/25/2018**

**Amended on House floor, read second time, and rereferred to House Appropriations Committee, 10/10/2018**

**Reported as committed from House Appropriations Committee, read third time, and passed House, 10/11/2018 (165-10)**

**Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Transportation Committee, reported as amended from Senate Transportation Committee, and read first time, 10/15/2018**

**Read second time, rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, and reported as committed from Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/16/2018**

**Read third time, and passed Senate, 10/17/2018 (39-10)**

**Received as amended in House and rereferred House Rules Committee, re-reported on concurrence as committed from House Rules Committee, and House non-concurred in Senate amendments, 10/17/2018 (95-86)**

### **Local/State Government Regulations**

[HB 2681](#) RE: [Community Solar Legislation](#) (by Rep. James Santora, et al)

Amends the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act further providing for definitions and for interconnection standards for customer-generator facilities; and providing for community solar generating systems. The bill

establishes that a community solar generating system may be built, owned or operated by a third-party entity under contract with a subscriber organization, and the price paid for a subscription in a community solar generating system shall not be subject to regulation by the commission. The bill also states an electric distribution company may not remove a customer from its otherwise applicable customer class in order to participate in a community solar facility.  
**Introduced and referred to House Consumer Affairs Committee, 10/3/2018**

## **Local/Property Taxes**

[HB 1511](#) RE: Hotel Occupancy Tax (by Rep. Marguerite Quinn, et al)

Amends the Tax Reform Code, in hotel occupancy tax, applying the state sales and the local hotel occupancy tax to the full price paid by the consumer at point of sale for booking a hotel room. Establishes the Tourism Promotion Fund as a restricted revenue account within the Treasury Department, into which tax collected by intermediaries will be deposited and disbursed upon appropriation for tourism promotion purposes. Further provides of the amount collected \$10 million shall be transferred to the fund. Requires the Department of Community and Economic Development to promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to achieve the purpose of promoting tourism in the Commonwealth. Also provides money from the fund may not be used for the promotion or marketing operations of a tourism entity or for special events or grants until 30 days after the publication of the guidelines and rules and regulations in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. Also sets limits on disbursements for various purposes.

**Read second time, and rereferred to House Appropriations Committee, 9/25/2018**

**Reported as committed from House Appropriations Committee, read third time, and passed House, 10/1/2018 (158-26)**

**Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Community, Economic & Recreational Development Committee, 10/2/2018**

**Reported as amended from Senate Community, Economic & Recreational Development Committee, and read first time, 10/3/2018**

**Amended on Senate floor, and rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/15/2018**

**Reported as committed from Senate Appropriations Committee, read third time, and passed Senate, 10/16/2018 (43-6)**

**Received as amended in House and rereferred House Rules Committee, re-reported on concurrence as committed from House Rules Committee, and House concurred in Senate amendments (137-44)**

**Signed in the House and Senate, 10/17/2018**

**Approved by the Governor, 10/24/2018 (Act No. [109](#) of 2018)**

## **Minimum Wage**

NONE

## **Permitting**

[HB 1284](#) RE: Pennsylvania Business One-Stop Shop Act (by Rep. Michael Pifer, et al)

Requires the Department of Community and Economic Development to establish the **Pennsylvania Business One-Stop Shop** as a single online access point to aid business owners and potential business owners in identifying and securing the necessary permits, licenses, certifications, applications, forms and registrations associated with satisfying the legal requirements to establish and operate a business in the Commonwealth. Requires a Commonwealth agency, at the request of the department, to provide technical assistance and guidance for the implementation of additional features or resources of the One-Stop Shop. Also requires a Commonwealth agency to cooperate in good faith with the department for the development of additional features or resources. Requires the department to submit an annual report no later than January 1 of each year to the chairmen and minority chairmen of the House Commerce Committee and the Senate Community, Economic and Recreational Development Committee. Effective immediately.

**Reported as committed from Senate Community, Economic & Recreational Development Committee, and read first time, 9/24/2018**

**Read second time, and rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 9/25/2018**

**Reported as committed from Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/15/2018**

**Read third time, and passed Senate, 10/17/2018 (49-0)**

**Signed in the House and Senate, 10/17/2018**

**Approved by the Governor, 10/24/2018 (Act No. [107](#) of 2018)**

[HB 2670](#) RE: On-Lot Septic Systems (by Rep. Jonathan Fritz, et al)

Amends the Delaware River Basin Compact, in pollution control, adding language providing that in matters relating to on-lot septic systems, the Delaware River Basin Commission may report its investigation findings to the water pollution abatement agencies of the signatory parties. Further provides nothing contained in the compact shall be construed as affecting or intending to affect or in any way to interfere with the law of the respective signatory parties relating to on-lot septic systems.

**Introduced and referred to House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, 10/1/2018**

## **Sales/Use Taxes**

NONE

## **Workforce Development**

[HB 2157](#) RE: Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence (by Rep. Seth Grove, et al)

Amends the Public School Code adding language requiring the Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence to issue guidelines and update the guidelines every five years to identify the circumstances when a student who successfully completes an academic course, program or activity for credit may apply the credit toward completion of an agriculture education program. Requires the Department of Education to issue guidelines and update the guidelines every five years to identify the circumstances when a student who successfully completes a course, program or activity in science, technology, engineering or mathematics for credit may apply the credit toward the completion of a course, program or activity offered by any area vocational-technical school, technical institute or vocational school or department. Also requires the department to establish a standard application form for a public school entity seeking approval to establish or renew a classification of program code.

**Reported as committed from Senate Education Committee, and read first time, 9/25/2018**

**Read second time, and rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/15/2018**

**Reported as committed from Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/16/2018**

**Read third time and passed Senate, 10/17/2018 (46-3)**

**Signed in the House and Senate, 10/17/2018**

**Vetoed by the Governor, 10/24/2018**

[HB 2206](#) RE: WIB Membership (by Rep. James Roebuck, et al)

Amends the Workforce development Act, in local workforce investment areas and boards, adding that membership shall include at least one local administrator of a career and technical center.

**Reported as committed from Senate Labor and Industry Committee, and read first time, 10/2/2018**

[SB 714](#) RE: Pennsylvania Career Readiness Council Act (by Sen. John Blake, et al)

Provides for the powers and duties of the **Pennsylvania Career Readiness Council**, to be established in the Department of Community and Economic Development, and tasked with developing a plan to improve the Commonwealth's career readiness preparation system and produce an annual report to the General Assembly, the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House detailing their progress made including recommendations. Provides for the composition of the council and that **within three years shall operate exclusive of appropriations from the General Fund and DCED**. If that qualification is not met the executive director shall transmit notice to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, and the act shall expire.

**Read second time, and Rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 9/25/2018**

## **Upcoming Meetings of Interest**

Some House Committee meetings and session can be viewed online at: <http://www.pahousegop.com/>

Senate Committee meetings and session can be streamed at: <http://www.pasenategop.com/>

### **2018 FALL SENATE SESSION SCHEDULE (Subject to change)**

November 14

### **2018 FALL HOUSE SESSION SCHEDULE**

November 13

## **Commonwealth Financing Authority Meeting Schedule (Subject to Change)**

**Wednesday, November 14**

**10:30 AM**

Forest Room, CKB Meeting Center, 1st Floor (plaza) Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, Harrisburg

**For more information:**

<https://dced.pa.gov/programs-funding/commonwealth-financing-authority-cfa/>

*Copies of all bills of interest can be accessed via the Internet at:*

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/session.cfm>