



DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
May 2, 2025

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Session Information

As of April 24, the House stands adjourned until Monday, May 5, 2025, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

As of April 2, the Senate stands recessed until Monday, May 5, 2025, unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore.

Session Days

Month	House	Senate
May	5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14	5, 6, 7, 12, 13
June	2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30	2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
July		
August		
September	22 (NV), 23 (NV), 24 (NV), 29, 30	
October	1, 6, 7, 8, 27, 28, 29	
November	17, 18, 19	
December	8 (NV), 9 (NV), 10 (NV), 15, 16, 17	

Upcoming Meetings, Hearings, and Press Conferences

MONDAY – 05/12/2025

10:00 a.m., House Education

State Capitol, Room 60, East Wing (live streamed)

Voting meeting to consider HB1401, HB1402, HB1403, HB1404, HB1405, HB1407, and any other business that may come before the committee.

News and Updates

[‘Swatting’ schools would bring harsher penalties under Senate-passed legislation](#) from *Altoona Mirror* 04/07/2025

‘Swatting’ schools would bring harsher penalties under legislation approved by the state Senate on Tuesday [April 1]. Republican supporters of the measure said the increased penalties are needed to combat a spate of hoax threats that have forced schools to close and prompted emergency responders to flood school buildings. Senate Bill 96 would make perpetrating hoax threats against schools a third-degree felony and require that anyone convicted of committing that offense be required to reimburse emergency response agencies for the cost of sending personnel and equipment to school campuses in response to the ‘swatting’ report. But Democrats argued that the measure is unduly harsh and would create the potential that people who hear rumors of planned school violence won’t notify authorities out of concern that they could be penalized if the rumors are untrue.

[Lawmakers aim to open the door for more teachers](#) from *Capitolwire*, 04/11/2025

The House Education Committee will meet later this month or early May to begin moving legislation intended to make it easier for would-be teachers to get the state certification needed to instruct a classroom. The push comes as the state continues to grapple with a shortage of candidates for teaching jobs. The state issued 7,677 new-teacher certifications in the 2023-24 school year. That was the most

since 2020-21. But there are still far fewer new teachers entering the field than the state saw a decade ago. The state issued 12,907 new-teacher certificates in 2013-14. The number of emergency permits issued to staff to fill teaching positions has ballooned as schools struggle to find candidates. There were 8,800 emergency permits issued in 2013-14. In 2023-24, there were 28,000 emergency permits issued – a nearly 220% increase.

[Why judges blocked the Trump admin's school DEI crackdown](#) NPR, 04/26/2025

Three federal judges, in Maryland, New Hampshire, and Washington, D.C., ruled Thursday [April 24] that the Trump administration had overstepped when it ordered the nation's schools to stop all diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs as well as classroom teaching the administration might consider discriminatory. For the moment, this means the U.S. Department of Education cannot make good on its threat to punish noncompliant districts by withholding vital federal funding, including dollars that help K-12 schools serve low-income students and children with disabilities.

Federal Updates

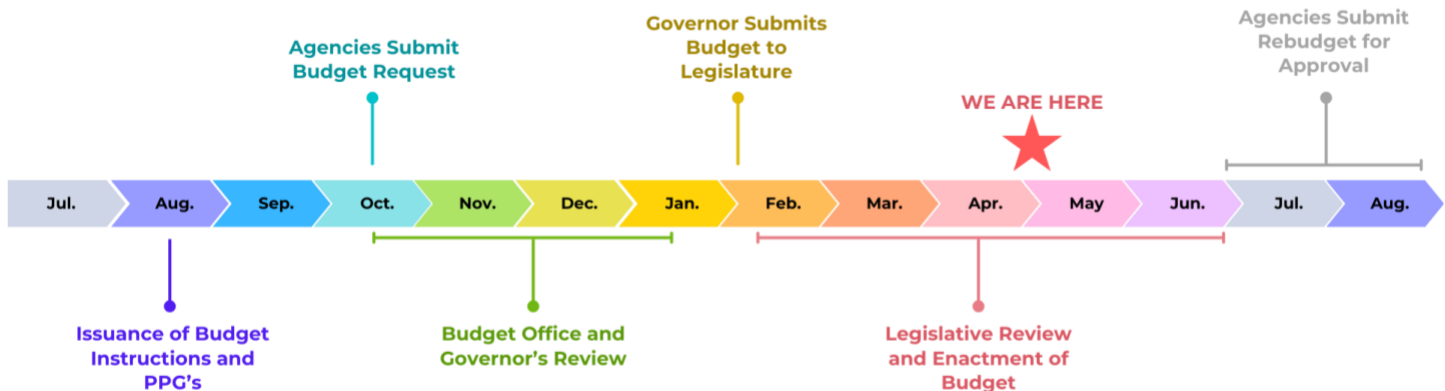
- **Race Discrimination:** On April 3, the U.S. Department of Education [announced](#) that it would require state education agencies (SEAs) to complete, within 10 days, a [certification](#) of their compliance with their antidiscrimination obligations in order to continue receiving federal financial assistance. SEAs are responsible for collecting certification responses from their local education agencies (LEAs). Pennsylvania Acting Secretary of Education Dr. Carrie Rowe advised LEAs that while the federal letter referenced DEI, it “did not identify those practices or define ‘illegal DEI,’ and there are no federal or state laws generally prohibiting efforts relating to diversity, equity, or inclusion.”
- **[The President's FY 2026 Discretionary Budget Request](#)**

The President released his FY2026 budget proposal on May 2, seeking to cut \$163 billion in non-defense discretionary funding (also referred to as a “skinny budget” because it does not list specific funding requests for all programs and initiatives). Sections of note include:

 - *Streamline K-12 Education Funding and Promote Parental Choice:* The Budget continues the process of shutting down the Department of Education. The budget maintains full funding for Title I and special education funding under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). To limit the Federal role in education, the Budget creates a new K-12 Simplified Funding Program that consolidates 18 competitive and formula grant programs into a new formula grant, and a Special Education Simplified Funding Program that consolidates seven IDEA programs into a single grant. The Budget also increases charter school funding by \$60 million.
 - *General Research and Education:* Funding for Artificial Intelligence and quantum information sciences research is maintained at current levels.

State Budget Update

Budget Process in Pennsylvania



Pennsylvania's 2025-26 budget negotiations remain ongoing:

- The Democratic-led House supports Governor Shapiro's proposal, including the \$75 million Basic Education Funding increase and \$526 million adequacy investment.
- The Republican-led Senate has raised concerns about:
 - Fairness of the adequacy formula (97% of funds went to 348 districts)
 - Reliance on one-time revenue sources like surplus funds and new taxes on marijuana and skill games
 - Need for performance-based funding reforms
- Charter school reforms and a statewide cyber charter tuition cap are also being debated as part of the education package.

State Legislative Actions

• **SB9: Fairness in Women's Sports Act, Sen. Judy Ward (R)**

The Fairness in Women's Sports Act requires all athletic teams at Pennsylvania public school entities and public institutions of higher education to be explicitly designated as male, female, or coed based on biological sex assigned at birth. The bill prohibits students of the male sex from participating on teams designated for females and establishes legal avenues for students or institutions to seek damages or injunctive relief if they feel they suffer harm or retaliation due to violations or reporting of the law.

03/31/2025 – Second consideration

05/06/2025 – Third consideration and final passage

05/07/2025 – Referred to House Education



• **SB10: Pennsylvania Award for Student Success Scholarship Program, Sen. Ward (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, establishing the Pennsylvania Award for Student Success (PASS)

Program and the Pennsylvania Award for Student Success Scholarship Fund. The program would provide publicly funded scholarships for eligible students to attend participating nonpublic schools. Eligibility is limited to students living within the attendance boundaries of low-achieving public schools and whose household income is below 250% of the federal poverty level. The bill creates scholarship accounts administered by the State Treasury, with funding amounts based on grade level and special education status, and defines allowable expenses. It also includes administrative oversight, reporting requirements, and limitations on state regulation of nonpublic schools that participate in the program.

04/28/2025 – Introduced

04/28/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

05/06/2025 – Reported as committed from Education and first consideration



- **SB96: New Felony Criminal Penalties for Reporting Emergency Threats towards School Facilities, Sen. Brooks (R)**

Amends Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses), in assault, further providing for the offense of terroristic threats. Removes language providing for restitution and adds language providing for the costs of responding to a threat which outlines what a person convicted of violating this section or adjudicated delinquent shall be sentenced to pay. Adds that a threat relating to a school entity or institution of higher education constitutes a felony of the third degree.

04/01/2025 – Voted favorably from Senate Appropriations and re-reported as committed

04/01/2025 – Third consideration and final passage (37-12)

04/03/2025 – In the House and referred to Judiciary



- **SB127: Holocaust Education Bill, Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, making instruction on the Holocaust, genocide, and human rights violations mandatory for all Pennsylvania school entities beginning in the 2026-27 school year. The instruction must be age appropriate, sequential, and integrated into social studies and language arts curricula. The bill requires the Department of Education to update curriculum guidelines, provide in-service training, and ensure public transparency by having school entities post curriculum summaries or resource links online. It repeals the previous optional Holocaust education provision and replaces it with these mandatory requirements.

05/06/2025 – Reported as committed from Education and first consideration



- **SB227: PSBA to be Considered a State-affiliated Entity, Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, to officially designate the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) as a “State-affiliated entity” under Pennsylvania’s Right-to-Know Law. The bill also reaffirms that school boards may appoint delegates to PSBA conventions, pay related expenses, and use school funds for PSBA membership dues and activities.

05/06/2025 – Reported as committed from Education and first consideration

05/07/2025 – Second consideration and re-referred to Appropriations

05/12/2025 – Re-reported as committed

05/12/2025 – Third consideration and final passage (29-21)

05/13/2025 – In the House and referred to Intergovernmental Affairs & Operations



- **SB246: Weapons in Schools: Providing for the notification of parents, guardians, and school employees, Sen. Coleman (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in student supports, requiring all Pennsylvania school entities, private schools, and nonpublic schools to notify parents, guardians, and school employees within 24 hours of specific incidents, including weapon possession, bullying, harassment, serious bodily injury, or property damage occurring on school property or during school activities. Notifications must be appropriately targeted to those affected, comply with student privacy laws, and not conflict with law enforcement reporting or emergency response plans.

05/06/2025 – Reported as amended by Education and first consideration

05/07/2025 – Second consideration

05/12/2025 – Referred to Appropriations and re-reported as committed

05/12/2025 – Amended on third consideration (48-2)

05/13/2025 – Third consideration and final passage (45-4)



- **SB315: Career and Technical Education Equipment Grant Funding, Sen. Culver (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in career and technical education, further providing for career and technical education equipment grants. Requires the Department of Education (PDE) to use data for the calculations under this section based on the most recent years for which data is available, as determined by PDE, and shall fix the data as of the first day of June preceding the school year in which the allocation occurs. Stipulates that if, after the data based on the first day of June is found by PDE to be incorrect, PDE shall revise the calculations accordingly.

04/01/2025 – Re-reported as committed from Appropriations

04/02/2025 – Third consideration and final passage (49-0)

04/03/2025 – In the House and referred to House Education



- **SB700: Literacy Achievement for All Pennsylvania Students, Sen. Robinson (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in evidence-based reading instruction, mandating all school entities adopt approved reading curricula by the 2030-2031 school year and implement universal reading screenings for students in grades K-3 starting in 2026-2027. The bill requires targeted intervention plans for students with reading deficiencies, parental notification of deficiencies, and structured professional development for educators. It establishes a grant program and restricted state account to fund implementation and mandates annual public reporting on student progress and curriculum adoption.

05/06/2025 – Reported as committed by Education

05/06/2025 – First consideration



- **HB354: The “What is Your Pennsylvania Story” Act, Rep. Solomon (D)**

Establishes guidelines for the development and availability generally regarding “What is Your Pennsylvania Story”. Requires PDE to develop guidelines in a manner that provides professional educators who teach social studies with the information and strategies to be incorporated into instruction for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 to encourage students to share their stories. Adds that the act expires at the conclusion of the 2026-2027 school year.

04/07/2025 – Re-reported as committed from Appropriations

04/07/2025 – Third consideration and final passage (190-13)

04/09/2025 – In the Senate and referred to Senate Education



- **HB411: Providing a COLA to SERS and PSERS (formerly HB1416), Rep. Malagari (D)**

Grants a new supplemental annuity increase for certain retired members of the Public School Employees’ Retirement System (PSERS) and the State Employees’ Retirement System (SERS), beginning July 1, 2025. Eligible retirees – those who retired before July 2, 2001, and are not credited with Class T-D, D-4, or AA service – will receive a percentage-based increase to their current monthly pension amount, with hire percentages applied to earlier retirement dates (up to 24.5%). The cost of the increase will be amortized over ten years beginning in 2026.

04/08/2025 – Second consideration and re-committed to Appropriations

04/09/2025 – Re-reported as committed from Appropriations

04/09/2025 – Third consideration and final passage (131-72)

04/11/2025 – In the Senate and referred to Senate Education



- **HB819: AP Exam Cost Reduction, Rep. Malagari (D)**

Establishes the Access to Rigorous Courses of Study for all Students Grant Program to expand secondary students’ access to college-level courses such as AP, IB, dual credit, and career and technical education. The bill directs the Department of Education to set benchmarks, collect disaggregated participation data, and provide grants for educator training and exam fee subsidies, particularly for students from low-income backgrounds. School entities that offer fewer than eight rigorous courses become eligible for support, and the Department must report progress every five years to evaluate statewide access and equity.

04/08/2025 – Second consideration and re-committed to Appropriations

04/09/2025 – Re-reported as committed from Appropriations

04/09/2025 – Third consideration and final passage (131-72)

04/11/2025 – In the Senate and referred to Education



- **HB17: Mandating Cursive Handwriting, Rep. Dane Watro (R)**

Amends the Public School Code to require instruction in cursive handwriting alongside print and joined italics as part of English language instruction in all elementary public and private schools.

05/07/2025 – Reported as committed from House Education

05/07/2025 – First consideration



- **HB191: Requiring AEDs at School Athletic Events, Rep. Tim Brennan (D)**

Amends the Public School Code by updating and expanding requirements for CPR and AED instruction, access, and emergency planning in public schools. Mandates biennial CPR/AED training for staff and volunteers, the development of cardiac emergency response plans, and the presence of trained personnel and functional AEDs in every school building and at athletic activities. Also establishes a statewide AED program, allows for grant funding and donations, and sets minimum maintenance and reporting standards.

05/07/2025 – Reported as amended from House Education

05/07/2025 – First consideration



- **HB1326: Increasing Efficiency and Transparency in School Transportation, Rep. Friel (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in pupils and attendance, to improve transparency and accuracy in pupil transportation reporting. It allows school districts to use digital measurement tools for calculating transportation distances and prohibits the Department of Education from requiring manual reporting. Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, school entities must submit detailed data, including student counts, homelessness status, transportation costs by school type, and vehicle usage, and the Department must publish this information annually online and notify legislative committees when it becomes available.

04/24/2025 – Introduced

04/28/2025 – Referred to House Education

05/07/2025 – Reported as amended from House Education

05/07/2025 – First consideration



- **HB1401: Teacher Certification GPA Requirement, Rep. Young (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, setting a statewide minimum admission standard for Pennsylvania teacher preparation and alternative certification programs. It requires a 2.8 GPA for entry into initial or advanced educator preparation programs, with exceptions for up to 10% of candidates who may be admitted under alternative criteria.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

05/12/2025 – Reported as amended from House Education

05/12/2025 – First consideration



- **HB1402: Teacher Certification Fees, Rep. Schweyer (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, capping fees charged by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for issuing teaching certificates and conducting professional

educator discipline reviews at no more than \$50. This applies to both certification eligibility reviews under Section 1201 and discipline-related fees under Section 1216.1 of the Public School Code.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

05/12/2025 – Reported as amended from House Education

05/12/2025 – First consideration



- **HB1403: Professional Development for Teachers, Rep. Borowski (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, modifying continuing education requirements for inactive teaching certificates. It removes fees for obtaining inactive certification and allows educators to reactivate their certification either by completing 30 hours of continuing education within 18 months or by accepting a job offer from a school entity that commits to ensuring completion of those hours within the educator’s first two years of employment.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

05/12/2025 – Reported as amended from House Education

05/12/2025 – First consideration



- **HB1404: Second Career Certification, Rep. Curry (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, renaming Pennsylvania’s “intern certificates” as “second career certificates” and expands the eligibility and issuance criteria for instructional and career and technical education (CTE) certification pathways. The bill allows certain certificates to be issued on credential review and work experience even without occupational competency exams and extends the validity of postbaccalaureate second career certificates from three to five years.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

05/12/2025 – Reported as amended from House Education

05/12/2025 – First consideration



- **HB1405: Veteran’s Service Experience for CTE Certification, Rep. Munroe (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, expanding eligibility for Pennsylvania’s Career and Technical Education (CTE) teaching certificates to include veterans with at least 8,000 hours (equivalent to four years full-time) of military experience in a relevant occupational area. This applies to both the Career and Technical Intern Certificate and the Instructional I Certificate.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

05/12/2025 – Reported as committed from House Education

05/12/2025 – First consideration



- **HB1407: Updated Teacher Certification Levels, Rep. Nelson (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, revising Pennsylvania's instructional certification structure by consolidating grade spans beginning in the 2027-28 school year. New certifications will be issued in three categories: Primary (PreK-6), Secondary (6-12), and Specialized Areas (PreK-12), replacing the current narrower grade band model.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

05/12/2025 – Reported as committed from House Education

05/12/2025 – First consideration



New Legislation

Curriculum & Instruction

- **HB684: Strengthening Pennsylvania's Structured Literacy Initiative (Act 135 of 2024), Rep. Ortity (R)**

Mandates that Pennsylvania school entities adopt evidence-based reading instruction curricula and conduct universal reading screenings for students in grades K-3 three times annually. Students identified with reading deficiencies must receive written notification to parents and individualized reading intervention plans. The bill also establishes a state-administered grant program to support professional development, instructional coaching, and implementation efforts, with required reporting and accountability measures to monitor school compliance and student progress.

04/30/2025 – Introduced

05/01/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1238: Limiting Student Use of Mobile Devices in K-12 Classrooms, Rep. Gleim (R)**

Prohibits students from using mobile devices during instructional time. Directs governing bodies of school entities to adopt a policy that restricts students from possessing or using mobile devices during instructional time. Provides for exceptions to limiting a student's use of a mobile device when the student: is a member of a volunteer fire company or EMS rescue squad, has a need for a mobile device due to a medical condition of the student or immediate family member, has a disability and the use of a mobile device is required by the student's IEP, is an English language learner and uses the device for translation, has permission from a teacher to use a mobile device for educational purposes, or is otherwise permitted to do so under the policy.

04/15/2025 – Introduced

04/17/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1288: Dual-Language Immersion Programs for K-12 Students, Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz**

Directs PDE to develop a toolkit and curriculum guidelines for instruction on foreign languages for all public school students beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. Requires each district to create a foreign language curriculum for grades K-12, using the foreign language toolkit and

curriculum guidelines developed by PDE and allowing the district to choose the foreign language that relates most to the demographics of the district for the curriculum.

04/22/2025 – Introduced

04/23/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1351: Adoption of Chapter 49 Regulations Related to Culturally Relevant and Sustaining Education (“CR-SE”), Rep. Scialabba (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, prohibiting the integration of culturally relevant and sustaining education (CRSE) into Pennsylvania’s educator preparation, induction, and continuing professional development programs. Also abrogates existing state regulations that require or support CRSE in educator certification processes, including those governing institutional approval, induction plans, and professional education.

04/28/2025 – Introduced

04/30/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1398: Prohibiting “No-Zero” Grading Policies, Rep. Gaydos (R)**

Establishes that classroom teachers must assign grades that reflect a student’s actual mastery of an assignment. It prohibits school district policies from requiring teachers to assign minimum grades regardless of student performance and permits districts to allow students a chance to redo failing assignments or exams for a revised grade.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **SB573: Blood Donation Education for Students, Sen. Boscola (D)**

Integrates blood donation education into the health courses already required in public schools to equip students with knowledge about the life-saving impact of blood donation.

04/09/2025 – Introduced

04/09/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB589: Interscholastic Sports for Physical Education Requirement, Sen. Dush (R)**

Enables school board directors to permit students to satisfy the physical education requirements by their participation in an interscholastic sport. This may be utilized twice per school year for seasonal interscholastic sports.

04/09/2025 – Introduced

04/09/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB645: Cursive Handwriting in Schools, Sen. Langerholc (R)**

Mandates the teaching of cursive handwriting in Pennsylvania public and charter schools at an appropriate grade level.

04/21/2025 – Introduced

04/21/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB663: Promoting Hearing Health Education in Pennsylvania’s Schools, Sen. Muth (D)**

Requires the Pennsylvania Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and experts in hearing impairment, to develop or identify a model curriculum on deaf and hard of hearing education by the 2025-2026 school year. The curriculum must be age-appropriate,

aligned with state academic standards, and address topics such as causes of hearing loss, prevention, assistive devices, and hearing-related stigma. School entities may adopt the model curriculum or create their own, and instruction may be delivered by educators or qualified community volunteers under supervision. Cyber charter schools may deliver the instruction online and are exempt from in-person curriculum requirements.

04/28/2025 – Introduced

04/28/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

Student Supports and Services

- **HB1121: Ensuring Access to Applied Behavior Analysis in Schools, Rep. Carroll (D)**

Requires schools to provide the accommodations needed for students to receive private-pay applied behavior analysis (ABA) services to students at school. Further requires ABA technicians undergo all necessary background checks to work in a school.

04/03/2025 – Introduced

04/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1283: The Integrated Student Supports Act, Rep. Hill-Evans (D)**

Establishes the Integrated Student Supports Program and Fund to reduce dropout rates and improve graduation rates in K-12 public schools by addressing academic and nonacademic barriers to learning. The bill requires the Pennsylvania Department of Education to designate a nonprofit provider of evidence-based student support services, and allows public school entities to apply for competitive, dollar-for-dollar matching grants to implement strategic plans developed by locally established advisory councils. All grant funding must be used exclusively for services delivered by the designated organization, with annual reporting on student outcomes required.

04/22/2025 – Introduced

04/22/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **SB631: Requiring Parental Consent for School Based Web Counseling Services, Sen. Langerholc (R)**

An Act requiring parental consent for virtual mental health services provided by a school entity. In-person counseling provided through school entities will be unaffected.

04/11/2025 – Introduced

04/11/2025 – Referred to House Education

Student Health and Wellness

- **HB1078: Ensuring Our Students Receive Effective Eye Health Exams, Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz (D)**

Directs that each child of school age be given a vision screening by school health personnel or a screener or an eye health examination by an ophthalmologist or optometrist on an annual basis. Additionally, before students begin school in fourth and eighth grade, they will receive a comprehensive eye exam.

03/28/2025 – Introduced

04/01/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HR169: Resolution Designating the Month of September 2025 as Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Month, Rep. Merski (D)**

A Resolution designating the month of September 2025 as “Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Month” in

Pennsylvania.

04/01/2025 – Introduced

04/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **SB619: CPR Certification for Coaches and Afterschool Supervisors, Sen. Muth (D)**
Requires all coaches of athletic teams and supervisors of afterschool activities to be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and trained in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) and to renew their certifications every two years through the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or an equivalent course of instruction approved by the Department of Health.
04/11/2025 – Introduced
04/11/2025 – Referred to Senate Education
- **SB620: Updating AED and Emergency Preparedness Requirements to Protect Against Sudden Cardiac Arrest in Schools, Sen. Muth (D)**
Requires all public school buildings in the Commonwealth have at least one active, working automated external defibrillator (AED) and require that each building has a trained emergency response team and action plan in place. Also requires enhanced reporting about AED locations in school buildings and other important device information.
04/11/2025 – Introduced
04/11/2025 – Referred to House Education
- **SB720: Increasing the Effectiveness of Student Vision Examinations, Sen. Gebhard (R)**
Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, expanding school vision screening requirements by mandating comprehensive eye health and vision examinations by an ophthalmologist or optometrist upon school entry and in grades 4 and 8. Also requires such exams before 504 evaluations and Title I reading program enrollment. Parents must submit documentation of these exams, but schools are not required to provide or fund them.
05/02/2025 – Introduced
05/02/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

School Safety

- **HB1253: School Violence Reporting, Rep. Hanbridge (D)**
Strengthens reporting and safety requirements across public and nonpublic schools. The bill mandates biennial reporting of incidents involving violence, weapons, drugs, alcohol, and tobacco; requires updated memoranda of understanding between schools and law enforcement; and directs the School Safety and Security Committee to issue standardized protocols and model agreements. Schools or agencies failing to comply may be ineligible for certain state-administered grants.
04/15/2025 – Introduced
04/17/2025 – Referred to House Education
- **SB541: Alyssa's Law, Sen. Haywood (D)**
Requires all public schools be equipped with silent panic alarms that directly notify law enforcement in the event of a school-based emergency.

04/02/2025 – Introduced

04/02/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

Facilities and Transportation

- **HB1246: Protecting Students from Cold School Temperatures, Rep. Hanbridge (D)**

Provides that school entities maintain a temperature-controlled environment within the target range of 68 to 79 degrees Fahrenheit in all occupied areas of a facility “to the greatest extent possible”. Directs school entities to relocate students and staff from an area with a temperature below 63 or above 89 within two hours of the temperature measurement, report relocation within 24 hours. Requires the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct inspections of schools from which temperature-related relocations were required more than four times per school year.

04/15/2025 – Introduced

04/17/2025 – Referred to House Education

Charter and Cyber Schools

- **HB1081: Cyber Charter School Moratorium on Buildings, Rep. Prokopiak (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in charter schools, providing for moratorium on buildings. Prevents cyber charter schools and their management companies from owning, purchasing, or leasing property moving forward.

03/28/2025 – Introduced

04/01/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1115: Recovering Overpayments of Taxpayer Funds from Cyber Charter Schools, Rep. Friel (D)**

Limits cyber charter schools from accumulating an estimated ending unreserved, undesignated fund balance that exceeds 8% of total budgeting expenditures, a combined assigned fund balance and committed fund balance that exceeds 4% of budgeting expenditures, and a combined assigned, estimated ending unreserved, undesignated and committed fund balance that exceeds 12% of total budgeted expenditures.

04/02/2025 – Introduced

- **HB1197: Private Academic Schols Act, Rep. Zimmerman (R)**

Amends the Private Academic Schools Act of 1988 to permit the licensure of online schools. Also requires the State Board of Private Academic Schools to promulgate, within 18 months, any rules, regulations, policies, principles, and standards necessary to provide for the inclusion of online schools in the act, and prohibits the Board from issuing a license to an online school until those rules, regulations, policies, principles, and standards are in effect.

04/10/2025 – Introduced

04/15/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1209: Certification of Cyber Charter School Professional Educators, Rep. Abney (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in charter schools, providing for State certification for cyber charter school professional staff members. Requires 100% of all professional staff at a cyber charter school to hold appropriate state certification.

04/10/2025 – Introduced

04/15/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1372: Modernizing Our Cyber Charter School Law to Protect Kids and Taxpayers, Rep. Ciresi (D)**

Provides for sweeping reforms to Pennsylvania’s cyber charter school system. Establishes a standardized tuition rate for cyber charter schools (\$8,000 per student), limits cyber charter fund balances, enhances Department of Education oversight, and strengthens financial transparency and conflict-of-interest rules. The bill also restricts incentives for enrollment, requires annual audits, mandates more detailed reporting, and allows charter revocation for repeated noncompliance or low performance. It introduces new application, renewal, and amendment processes, and requires cyber charters to submit budgets and make them publicly accessible.

05/01/2025 – Introduced

05/02/2025 – Referred to House Education

School Governance and Finance

- **HB1220: Taxpayer Relief Act Update, Rep. Grove (R)**

Amending the Taxpayer Relief Act, in taxation by school districts, repealing provisions relating to local tax study commission and to adoption of further referendum. Repeals the Local Tax Study Commission. Additionally repeals the requirement in Act 1 for districts to have a Personal Income Tax (PIT) or earned income tax (EIT) increase approved by voter referendum.

04/14/2025 – Introduced

04/15/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1354: Private School Students Participating in Extracurricular Activities at their Resident Public Schools, Rep. Barger (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, requiring Pennsylvania public school districts to allow resident private school students to participate in district extracurricular activities, such as athletics or clubs, if the private school does not offer the same activity and the student meets all participation requirements.

04/28/2025 – Introduced

04/30/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HB1392: School Savings Contracting, Rep. Gaydos (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, repealing Section 528, thereby removing additional procedural requirements school entities must follow before contracting with third-party providers for non-instructional services.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **HB1395: Prohibiting School Directors from Serving in a District Where their Immediate Family member is Currently Employed, Rep. Gaydos (R)**

Updates eligibility rules for Pennsylvania school board directors by prohibiting individuals from serving as school directors in a district where an immediate family member is employed. It also reinforces existing restrictions against holding certain public offices or being employed by the same district, career and technical school, intermediate unit, or community college in which the

individual serves. This bill applies only to school directors elected or appointed after its effective date.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **HR170: Study on Regionalizing School District Property Tax Revenue, Rep. Friel (D)**

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a comprehensive study of the financial impacts of pooling all school district property tax revenue at the intermediate unit level and distributing that money to school districts based on their average daily membership.

04/01/2025 – Introduced

04/03/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **SR68: Eliminating the U.S. Department of Education, Sen. Keefer (R)**

A Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to fully cooperate with Federal efforts to eliminate the United States Department of Education, reaffirming Pennsylvania's sovereign authority over its educational system and recognizing the need for State-led education solutions to improve outcomes for Pennsylvania students.

04/02/2025 – Introduced

04/02/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB606: Increasing Transparency in the School Board Hiring Process, Sen. Stefano (R)**

An Act amending the Public School Code, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, requiring public school boards and intermediate unit boards in Pennsylvania to publicly post offers of employment for key administrative positions, specifically superintendents, assistant or associate superintendents, principals, and executive or assistant executive directors. The job offer details, including salary and contract terms, must be posted on the entity's public website at least two weeks before the board formally approves the contract.

04/09/2025 – Introduced

04/09/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB625: Cash Entry for School Sponsored Activities, Rep. Dush (R)**

Amends the Public School Code, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, requiring all Pennsylvania school entities, nonpublic schools, and affiliated associations (such as PIAA) to accept cash as a valid form of payment for admission to school-sponsored activities, including athletic events, field trips, and graduations.

05/12/2025 – Introduced

05/12/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB679: Education Support Professional Living Wage, Sen. L. Williams (D)**

Amends the Public School Code, in preliminary provisions, establishing a minimum hourly wage of \$20 or the regional living wage (whichever is higher) for education support professionals in public school entities, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year. It mandates supplemental wage payments for employees earning less under existing contracts and provides for state reimbursement to school entities making those payments through 2029-2030. The bill directs the Department of Labor and Industry to annually determine and publish living wages by region and

prohibits public school boards from entering contracts that pay education support staff below the established wage threshold.

04/28/2025 – Introduced

04/28/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB698: Requiring Appraisal Before School Districts Purchase Real Estate, Sen. Coleman (R)**
Clarifies and expands the authority of school boards to acquire and dispose of school buildings and property. Removes the requirement for Department of Education approval when state reimbursement is not sought and establishes fair market value purchasing procedures. For purchases over \$10,000, school boards must determine value using input from two sources, such as the county assessor, a licensed broker, or appraiser, and make related documentation publicly accessible under the Right-to-Know Law.
04/30/2025 – Introduced
04/30/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

Teacher and Staff Certification

- **HB1206: Student and Teacher Support Act – “Chaplain Bill”, Rep. Zimmerman (R)**
Amends the Public School Code, providing for school chaplains. Allows public school entities to employ, or approve as a volunteer, a certified school chaplain.
04/10/2025 – Introduced
04/15/2025 – Referred to House Education
- **HB1265: Enhancing Teacher Certification Flexibility, Rep. Anderson (R)**
Amends the Public School Code, in certification of teachers, further providing for instructional certificate grade spans and age levels and duties of the department. Distinguishes certificates for early childhood, elementary/middle, middle/secondary, and specialized areas of education issued after December 31, 2027. Simplifies the existing certification categories for elementary, middle, and high school to two overlapping certification categories, K-8 or 6-12.
04/17/2025 – Introduced
04/17/2025 – Referred to House Education

School Choice and Vouchers

- **HB1258: Providing Pennsylvania Students with the Freedom to Excel, Rep. D’Orsie (R)**
Amends the Public School Code, in pupils and attendance, providing for personalized education program; establishing the Student Freedom Account Program, allowing parents access to public funds in the form of education savings accounts to use for qualified education expenses outside the public school system, including private schools, tutoring, and home-based personalized education programs. The bill outlines eligibility, required instructional subjects, evaluation processes, participation in public school extracurriculars, and funding amounts based on state averages and special education categories. Public school districts lose a portion of their state subsidies for students enrolled in this program, and funds can be carried over year to year or used for postsecondary education within two years of high school graduation.
04/16/2025 – Introduced
04/17/2025 – Referred to House Education

- **SB706: Equitable Distribution of EITC Dollars by Region, Sen. Brooks (R)**

Requires the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to equitably allocate educational tax credits among business firms headquartered in each region of the state. If any region's approved tax credits go unclaimed, the department must reallocate them to other regions. The bill allows the department to develop implementation guidelines.

05/05/2025 – Introduced

05/05/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

Patriotic and Religious Displays

- **SB250: Displaying the Preamble of the Constitution of Pennsylvania in Schools, Sen. Dush (R)**

An Act requiring the display of the preamble of the Constitution of Pennsylvania in the entrance of every state-funded school building and state-funded institution of higher education. (*"We, the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and humbly invoking His guidance, do ordain and establish this Constitution."*)

04/09/2025 – Introduced

04/09/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB544: Historical Display of the "Creation of Law in Our Schools" Act, Sen. Mastriano (R)**

An Act requiring the display in public school buildings of certain historical documents relating to the foundation of law. Requires schools to prominently display the Ten Commandments, Declaration of Independence, Pennsylvania Constitution, and the U.S. Constitution.

04/09/2025 – Introduced

04/09/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

- **SB598: Displaying the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States in Schools, Sen. Dush**

An Act requiring the display of the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States in the entrance of every educational facility that accepts state tax dollars. (*"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."*)

04/09/2025 – Introduced

04/09/2025 – Referred to Senate Education

Previously Introduced Legislation with No New Action

- HB25:** Extending School Budget Deadlines in State Budget Impasses, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)
- HB46:** Increasing Access to PreK for PA Kids, Rep. Tarik Khan (D)
- HB51:** Property Tax Pension Obligation Disclosure Act (Formerly HB215), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
- HB63:** Exemption from In-Person School Safety and Security Drills (Formerly HB2613), Rep. Marla Brown (R)
- HB82:** School Bus Driver Epinephrine Auto-injector Training and Grant Program (Former HB1950), Rep. Kristin Marcell (R)
- HB130:** Education Money to Follow the Child, Rep. Milou Mackenzie (R)
- HB158:** Protect Women's Sports (Formerly HB216), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
- HB190:** Addressing Eating Disorders in School, Rep. Ortitay (D) (passed House, awaiting Senate action)
- HB192:** Increasing Access to school counselors, psychologists, social workers, and nurses, Rep. Manuel Guzman (D)
- HB201:** Allowing Intermediate Units to Own Facilities for Instructional Use, Rep. Ciresi (D) (passed House, awaiting Senate action)
- HB203:** Making Veterans Day a School Holiday, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)
- HB215:** One Certified Librarian per Public School Building, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)
- HB227:** The Honesty in Teaching Act (Formerly HB211), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
- HB228:** State Board of Education Academic Standards Review Schedule (Formally HB213), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
- HB233:** Charter Board Representation, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D)
- HB236:** Removing Obscene Material from Our School Libraries (Formerly HB209), Rep. Barbara Gleim (R)
- HB248:** Parental Notification and Consent for Student Participation in School-Related Clubs and Organizations, Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)
- HB249:** Establishing Uniform Criteria for School Guidance Directors, Rep. Stephenie Scialabba (R)
- HB252:** Parental Notification and Consent for Student Access and Use of a Mental Health Services Digital Platform, Rep. Stephanie Scialabba (R)
- HB332:** Media Literacy (Formerly HB473), Rep. Tim Briggs (D)
- HB338:** Cyber Charter School Attendance Accountability, Rep. Clint Owlett (R)
- HB339:** Mental Health Check-ins in Schools, Rep. G. Roni Green (D)
- HB342:** Teaching Mindfulness in Schools, Rep G. Roni Green (D)
- HB356:** Safety and Violence Education (SAVE) Students Act, Rep. Brian Munro (D)
- HB370:** Require School Year to Begin after the Labor Day Holiday, Rep. Jose Giral (D)
- HB381:** Keystone Exam Alternative Feasibility Study, Rep. Jason Ortitay (R)

- [**HB387**](#): Parental Notification of Students Involved in School Incidents, Rep. Keith S. Harris (D)
- [**HB391**](#): School Bus Video Monitoring, Rep. Jose Giral (D)
- [**HB396**](#): Emergency Certification for CTE Educators (part of the Emergency Services Legislative Package), Rep. Seth M. Grove (R)
- [**HB423**](#): The Future Voters Act, Rep. Brandon J. Markosek (D)
- [**HB447**](#): School Vaccination and Exemption Announcements, Rep. Russ Diamond (R)
- [**HB477**](#): Requiring Background Checks for School Board Candidates, Rep. Jeanne McNeill (D)
- [**HB480**](#): School District Cyber Education Programs, Rep. Ryan A. Bizzarro (D)
- [**HB495**](#): Charter School Enrollment Caps, Rep. Carol Kazeem (D)
- [**HB581**](#): Parental Rights in Education (Former HB319), Rep. Borowicz (R)
- [**HB606**](#): Early Human Life Development Education, Rep. Hamm (R)
- [**HB653**](#): Alyssa's Law (Former SB1206), Rep. Brown (R)
- [**HB655**](#): Strengthening Student Data Security (Former HB1987), Rep. Ryncavage (R)
- [**HB656**](#): Volunteer Training for the Administration of Emergency Seizure Treatment in Schools, Rep. Barton (R)
- [**HB666**](#): Learning Loss Mitigation, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB667**](#): Let Teachers Teach – Regulation of Administrative Meetings, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB679**](#): Educator Professional Development Cooperation and Support, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB681**](#): Eliminating School BMI Screenings, Rep. Otten (D)
- [**HB682**](#): Protecting the Learning Climate (AC in Every School), Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB683**](#): Class Size Regulation, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB687**](#): Ineligibility for School Directors with Tax Delinquencies, Rep. Moul (R)
- [**HB688**](#): Moratorium on New Cyber Charter Schools, Representative Probst (D)
- [**HB725**](#): Temporarily Raising Maximum School Age Due to COVID-19, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB726**](#): Survey on School Infrastructure Capital Costs, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB727**](#): Replacement of Keystone Exam with the American College Testing (ACT) Test, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB748**](#): Litterbug Education, Rep. Mackenzie (R)
- [**HB768**](#): Compensation for School Board Members, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB769**](#): Requiring School Libraries, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB772**](#): Keeping Our Youngest Students in School, Rep. Webster (D)
- [**HB773**](#): Free Tuition at PASSHE Institutions for School Board Members, Rep. Webster (D)

[HB774](#): School Board Member Training, Rep. Webster (D)

[HB776](#): Civics Education Graduation Requirement, Rep. Webster (D)

[HB778](#): Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives, Rep. Shusterman (D)

[HB779](#): Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives, Rep. Shusterman (D)

[HB780](#): Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives, Rep. Shusterman (D)

[HB781](#): Early Childhood Education Teacher Incentives, Rep. Shusterman (D)

[HB792](#): Study and Report on Holocaust Curriculum and Instruction, Rep. Marcell (R)

[HB793](#): Providing for Holocaust Education Curriculum Transparency in Our Public Schools (former HB1986), Rep. Marcell (R)

[HB795](#): Requiring Public School Instruction Relating to Victims of Communism, Rep. Mackenzie (R)

[HB803](#): Requiring Naloxone (Narcan) in High Schools

[HB806](#): Safeguarding Free Speech for Student Journalism, Rep. Shusterman (D)

[HB819](#): AP Exam Cost Reduction, Rep. Malagari (D)

[HB823](#): Trauma Informed Active Shooter Drill Practices, Rep. Smith-Wide-El (D)

[HB827](#): Tutoring Program, Rep. Freeman (D)

[HB829](#): Full Day Kindergarten, Rep. Scott (D)

[HB830](#): Parental Notification of Bullying in Schools, Rep. O'Mara (D)

[HB854](#): School Board Member Conflicts of Interest, Rep. Roae (R)

[HB860](#): Freedom to Read Act, Rep. Friel (D)

[HB892](#): Requiring Classroom-to-Workforce Coordinators in Each School District, Rep. Webster (D)

[HB900](#): Abolishing Property Taxes, Rep. Diamond (R)

[HB906](#): School District Financial Transparency Act, Rep. Mackenzie (R)

[HB976](#): Equity in Education, Rep. Gaydos (R)

[HB1040](#): LGBTQ+ Inclusive Curriculum (former HB1998), Rep. Hohenstein (D)

[HB1045](#): School Professional Seizure Recognition and First Aid Training, Rep. Kazeem (D)

[HB1054](#): Requiring Holocaust Education in Schools, Rep. Webster (D)

[HR138](#): Study on the State of Civic Education, Rep. Brennan (D)

[HR146](#): Dissolution of Power from the U.S. Department of Education to the States, Rep. Gleim (R)

[HR18](#): Career and Technical Education Month in Pennsylvania, Rep. Kristin Marcell (R)

[HR38](#): National Library Week, Rep. Jason Ortity (R)

[HR80](#): School Meal Quality and Quantity Study, Rep. Cepeda-Freytiz (D)

[HR91](#): Designating March 2025 as "Music in Our Schools Month", Rep. Pashinski (D)

[**HR92**](#): School Transportation Consolidation Study, Rep. Webster (D)

[**HR114**](#): Recognizing Civic Learning Week, Rep. Parker (D)

[**SB27**](#): Moratorium on New Cyber Charter Schools, Sen. Williams (D)

[**SB28**](#): Black Studies in K-12 Curriculum, Sen. Sharif Street (D)

[**SB77**](#): Mental Health Days for Students (Former SB387), Sen. Judy L. Schwank (D)

[**SB116**](#): Addressing Pennsylvania's Long-Term Care Workforce Crisis (Former SB1104 and HB2115), Sen. David G. Argall (R)

[**SB128**](#): Improving Curriculum Transparency in K-12 Schools (Former SB340), Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

[**SB139**](#): Roman's Law - Delayed School Enrollment for Children with Autism, Developmental Delays, or Intellectual Disabilities (Former SB1157), Sen. David G. Argall (R)

[**SB220**](#): Changes to Teacher Certification Levels, Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill (R)

[**SB229**](#): Limiting Access to Smartphones and Social Media in Schools, Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

[**SB230**](#): Parental Control of Student Exposure to Sexually Explicit Content in Schools, Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

[**SB239**](#): Mandate Waivers for Public Schools, Sen. Coleman (R)

[**SB254**](#): Pennsylvania STEM Partnership Program, Sen. Mastriano (R)

[**SB259**](#): Carbon Monoxide Detectors, Sen. Fontana (D)

[**SB304**](#): Education Opportunity Accounts for Military Families (Former SB263), Sen. Mastriano (R)

[**SB354**](#): Special Education Cyber / Charter School Funding, Sen. Brown (R)

[**SB378**](#): The Student Data Privacy and Protection Act (Former SB565), Sen. Phillips-Hill (R)

[**SB402**](#): Volunteer Training for the Administration of Emergency Seizure Treatment in Schools, Sen. Argall (R)

[**SB422**](#): First in Math, Sen. Boscola (D)

[**SB433**](#): Allowing Intermediate Units to Own Facilities for Instructional Use, Sen. Comitta (D)

[**SB452**](#): School Corridor Funding (former SB989), Sen. Street (D)

[**SB459**](#): Imagination Library in PA, Sen. Comitta (D)

[**SB463**](#): Allowing PA Whole Milk in Schools, Sen. Brooks (R)

[**SB470**](#): Firefighter Training Pilot Program for High School Students, Sen. Brooks (R)

[**SB479**](#): January 6 Day in Schools, Sen. Haywood (D)

[**SB496**](#): Protecting LGBTQ Students from Discrimination, Sen. Williams (D)

[**SR8**](#): Establishing an Advisory Commission to Develop a Comprehensive Plan for Public Education (Former SR227), Sen. Judy L. Schwank (D)

