

WEEKLY SESSION NOTES

SENATE REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE – JOHN PIPPY, CHAIRMAN

Monday, June 15, 2009

[Senate Bill 287](#) (Browne) would amend the Public School Code to create an exception from certain reporting requirements for school districts and intermediate units. Under current law, all financial accounting and reporting of school districts and intermediate units must be in accordance with generally accepted accounting and reporting standards. Under the proposed changes included in the bill, the annual financial reports filed by school districts and intermediate units would be exempt from this requirement and the Department of Education would be required to establish a separate reporting standard for these reports. The standard would have to conform to fund level reporting criteria only. In addition, entity-wide statements, management discussions, and analyses and notes to the financial statement would not be a required component of the annual financial report. [Passed: 50-0.](#)

[Senate Resolution 132](#) (Brubaker) designates August 2009 as “Pennsylvania Produce Month.” [Adopted by Voice Vote.](#)

Executive Session

Nominations to Various Boards and Commissions. [Confirmed: 50-0.](#)

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

[Senate Bill 301](#) (Vance) would amend Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to expand the fee reductions for fishing licenses for members of the Pennsylvania National Guard and reserve components of the armed forces who have recently completed overseas deployments. Current law mandates that members of the Army and Air National Guard or reserve components of the armed forces must serve 180 days of deployment overseas within the previous 24 months to qualify for the fee reduction. This legislation would reduce the required days of deployment from 180 to 60 days. [Passed: 50-0.](#)

[Senate Bill 302](#) (Baker) would amend Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to expand the fee reductions for hunting licenses for members of the Pennsylvania National Guard and reserve components of the armed forces who have recently completed overseas deployments. Current law mandates that members of the Army and Air National Guard or reserve components of the armed forces must serve 180 days of deployment overseas within the previous 24 months to qualify for the fee reduction. This legislation would reduce the required days of deployment from 180 to 60 days. [Passed: 50-0.](#)

[Senate Bill 852](#) (Argall) would authorize the Department of General Services to convey 0.33 acres and an armory building in Pottsville, Schuylkill County to the Schuylkill YMCA for \$160,000. No portion of the conveyance could be used for a licensed gaming facility or it would

revert to the Commonwealth. The proceeds of the sale would be placed in the State Treasury Armory Fund. In the event the conveyance is not executed within six months, the property could be disposed of in accordance with Article 2406-A of the Administrative Code. [Passed: 50-0.](#)

[Senate Bill 862](#) (Corman) would authorize the Department of General Services to:

- convey 0.348 acres at the Rockview State Correctional Institution in Benner Township, Centre County to the Centre County Industrial Development Corporation in exchange for two parcels of land totaling 0.760 acres. No portion of the conveyance could be used for a licensed gaming facility or it would revert to the Commonwealth. The Centre County Industrial Development Corporation would bear all costs associated with the land conveyances. In the event the conveyances are not executed within one year of the effective date of the act, the authorization would expire; and,
- sell three parcels of land in Benner Township, Centre County totaling approximately 46.73 acres for a price to be determined through competitive bidding. The parcels could be offered for sale together or separately. The Department of General Services is authorized to reserve or grant any easement on the State Correctional Institution at Rockview as the Secretary of the Department of General Services determines is appropriate or desirable, including, without limitation, for access and utility service. The costs of the transfer would be paid for from the purchase price and the remainder would be placed in the General Fund. [Passed: 50-0.](#)

[Senate Resolution 139](#) (Kitchen) observes June 19, 2009 as “Juneteenth National Freedom Day” in Pennsylvania. **Adopted by Voice Vote.**

Executive Session

Robert W. Schlemmer – Pennsylvania Game Commission. [Confirmed: 49-1.](#)

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

[Senate Bill 112](#) (Greenleaf) would codify Title 61 (Penal and Correctional Institutions) into one body of law relating to prisons, inmate matters, and probation and parole. The codification would repeal obsolete acts, organize the subject matter, and modernize the terminology. [Passed: 50-0.](#)

[Senate Bill 888](#) (Orie) would designate Route 8 in the Borough of Etna, Allegheny County as the Chief Warrant Officer Michael J. Novosel Memorial Highway. The bill would also repeal Section 9 of Act 178 of 2002 which named an interchange after Chief Warrant Officer Novosel. [Passed: 50-0.](#)

[House Bill 370](#) (Hickernell) would designate the reconstructed bridge spanning Shawnee Run on State Route 462 in the Borough of Columbia, Lancaster County as the Herbert “Cubby” Spiese Bridge. [Passed: 50-0.](#)

[House Bill 985](#) (Kessler) would amend the Banking Code to protect employees in the banking industry from retaliation for making a good faith report of a violation of the law or for cooperating in an investigation. **[Passed: 50-0.](#)**

[House Bill 988](#) (Longietti) would designate the bridge in Sharpsville, Mercer County carrying State Route 3018 over the Shenango River as the Sgt. David W. Wallace III “WALLEYE” Memorial Bridge. **[Passed: 50-0.](#)**

(2009-079)