

# Connections

## Insurance Dept. Awaits Info On Health Insurance Exchange

The Morning call reports that the state Insurance Department is awaiting a report from a consulting firm before giving it's suggestion to Governor Corbett on whether or not PA should create it's own health insurance exchange - a system for consumers and small businesses to shop for and compare insurance in one place. The state has to have a plan by the end of next year or the federal government will impose a system as part of President Obama's healthcare reform law. The Insurance Department expects to have a recommendation to Governor Corbett within the next few weeks.

## Study Shows PA #1 In Deficient Bridges

According to Luzerne County's Citizens' Voice, a D.C.-based group called Transportation for America released a report stating that one in nine bridges in the country are structurally deficient. For an example in Pennsylvania, the Scranton/Wilkes Barre region ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the population category of 500,000 to 1 million with 26.1% of their bridges structurally deficient. The group collected its information from the Federal Highway Administration's 2010 National Bridge Inventory. The article goes on to say that PA ranked #1 for its overall percentage of structurally deficient bridges.

## Top Agenda Items

According to several news reports, the Marcellus Shale impact fee and school vouchers are among top contenders for consideration in the legislature this week. Senate Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati called for the impact fee to be considered this month. Another top agenda item is House Majority Leader Rep. Turzai's call for liquor store privatization.

\*\* The Senate and the House both reconvene session at 1:00 p.m. today.

## Legislative Session Days 2011

<p>2011 HOUSE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE  October 24, 25, 26, 31  November 1, 2, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23  December 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14</p>	<p>2011 SENATE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE  October 24, 25, 26, 31  November 1, 14, 15, 16  December 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14</p>
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## Committee Calendar

### MONDAY - 10/24/11

#### House Judiciary

10:30 a.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building

Public hearing on: HB 1552 Cutler Amends Title 42 re personal injury actions

#### House Labor and Industry

11:00 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building

To consider: HB 283 Keller, M Amends Separation Act re min. bid requirement HB 1602 Killion Amends Mechanics'

Lien Law re subcontractors

#### House Appropriations

Off the Floor, Room 140 Main Capitol

Agenda To Be Announced

### TUESDAY - 10/25/11

#### House Consumer Affairs

9:00 a.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building

Public hearing on: HB 60 Harper Amends Title 66 re standby charge prohibited

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## House Gaming Oversight

9:00 a.m., Room B31 Main Capitol

To consider: [HB 120](#) O'Brien, M Amends Title 4 re prohibited acts & penalties [HB 121](#) O'Brien, M Amends Title 4 re child endangerment protect. [HB 2005](#) Clymer Amends Title 4 re PGCB gen & specific powers [HB 2010](#) Clymer Amends Title 4 re PGCB established [HB 2012](#) Day Amends Title 4 re PGCB & principal licensing

## House State Government

9:00 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building

To consider: [HB 858](#) Metcalfe Act prohibiting employment of illegal aliens [HB 474](#) Cox Act re Interstate Compact on Birth Certificate [HB 738](#) Metcalfe Act re safe neighborhoods [HB 857](#) Metcalfe Act re Commonwealth Citizenship Act [HB 798](#) Creighton Amends Title 18 re immigration status; records [HB 799](#) Creighton Act re Commonwealth & US Dept. of Justice [HB 809](#) Perry Act re verification of lawful presence in US [HB 355](#) Readshaw Amends Admin. Code re immigration matters [HB 810](#) Perry Act re financial penalties on municipalities [HB 856](#) Kauffman Amends Title 18 re smuggling of human beings [HB 801](#) Creighton Act re law enforcement; immigration status [HB 41](#) Marsico Act re identification of lawful presence in US [SB 9](#) Scarnati Act requiring ID of lawful U.S. presence [SB 637](#) Ward Amends Title 62 re employment verification

## Senate Republican Policy Committee

9:00 a.m., Room 156 Main Capitol

Public hearing on the uninsured and healthcare clinics

## Senate Environmental Resources and Energy

9:30 a.m., Room 8E-B, East Wing

To consider: [SB 152](#) White, D Amends PA Infrastructure Investment Auth. Act [SB 532](#) Rafferty Amends Solid Waste Mgmt Act re licensing [SR 143](#) Pippy Resolution LB&FC study of rec. water trails [SR 202](#) Kasunic Resolution re utilizing acid mine water [HB 608](#) Brooks Amends Surface Mining Conserv. & Reclamation

## House Judiciary

10:00 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building

To consider: [HB 1156](#) Markosek Amends Title 18 re phishing offenses [HB 1552](#) Cutler Amends Title 42 re personal injury actions [HB 1709](#) Roae Amends Title 23 re child custody, conviction

## House Local Government

10:00 a.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building

To consider: [SB 834](#) Eichelberger Amends Title 16 re fiscal security

## House Tourism and Recreational Development

10:00 a.m., Room 60, East Wing

Informational meeting on Pennsylvania's heritage areas

## Senate Education

10:00 a.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

Public hearing on implementation and compliance with criminal history provisions in Act 24 of 2011 from PDE, PSEA and PSBA

## Senate Local Government

10:00 a.m., Room 8E-A, East Wing

To consider: [SB 477](#) Browne Amends PA Municipal Planning Code re removal [SB 1026](#) Erickson Amends act re nonunion police officers [HB 715](#) Hickernell Amends Local Tax Collection Law re treasurer [HB 1441](#) Ross Amends Title 45 re electronic publication [SB 1276](#) Smucker Amends County Code re county classification

## Senate Judiciary

11:30 a.m., Room 8E-B, East Wing

To consider: [SB 433](#) Leach Amends Title 15 re benefit corporations [SB 903](#) Rafferty Amends Title 18 re arson & other offenses [SB 1019](#) Argall Amends Title 61 re corrections manager salary [SB 1092](#) Greenleaf Amends Title 20 re powers of attorney [SB 1183](#) Orié Amends Titles 18/23/42/44/61 re sex offenders

## Senate Game and Fisheries

12:00 p.m., Room 8E-A, East Wing

To consider: [SB 1037](#) Browne Amends Title 34 re authorized agents [SB 1049](#) Kasunic Amends Title 30 re license & permit issuance [SB 1066](#) Alloway Amends Title 34 re hunting on private property [HB 735](#) Gillespie Amends Title 34 re unlawful acts; licenses [HB 860](#) Kula Amends Title 34 re hunting under the influence

## House Appropriations

Off the Floor, Room 140 Main Capitol

Agenda To Be Announced

**WEDNESDAY - 10/26/11**

## House Aging and Older Adult Services

9:30 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building

Informational meeting to hear from the Department of Aging and representatives of the Pennsylvania Adult Day Services Association (PADSA) on the state of adult day services in PA, and also on: [HB 1196](#) Watson Act re adult day resource & referral system

## House Finance

9:30 a.m., Room 39, East Wing

To consider: [HB 1503](#) Saylor Amends Title 12 re angel investment tax credit [HB 1864](#) Bloom Amends Tax Reform Code re inheritance tax

## House Insurance

9:30 a.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building

To consider: [HB 1908](#) Micozzie Act re towing standards, violations

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## Senate Public Health and Welfare

9:30 a.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

Public hearing concerning navigating possible changes in the western Pennsylvania health care delivery system

## House State Government (Note location change)

10:00 a.m., Room B31 Main Capitol

Informational meeting on establishing English as the official language of Pennsylvania: [HB 361](#) Swanger Act re English as the official language of PA [HB 888](#) Perry Act re English as official PA language

## House Professional Licensure

10:00 a.m., Room 60, East Wing

To consider: Reg. 16A-4320; Reg. 16A-4624; Reg. 16A-5725; Reg. 16A-6514

## House Appropriations

Off the Floor, Room 140 Main Capitol

Agenda To Be Announced

## THURSDAY - 10/27/11

### House Game and Fisheries

9:00 a.m., Room 140 Main Capitol

Public hearing on Sunday hunting, focusing on: [HB 1760](#) Evans, J Amends Title 34 re hunting on Sunday

### House Consumer Affairs

9:30 a.m., Room B31 Main Capitol

Informational meeting on natural gas utility recovery of purchased gas cost and whether statutory changes are needed to promote competition.

### House Health

9:30 a.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building

Informational meeting on Telemedicine

### House Democratic Policy Committee

10:00 a.m., Lycoming College, Mary Lindsay Welch Honors Hall, Corner of East Fourth and Basin Streets, Williamsport

Public hearing on the Marcellus Shale

## TUESDAY - 11/1/11

### House Consumer Affairs

9:00 a.m., Room B-31 Main Capitol

Informational meeting on Chapter 14 - Public Utility Commission

### Senate Education

9:00 a.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

Public hearing on Special Education Funding and Accountability

### Senate Communications and Technology

9:30 a.m., Room 8E-A, East Wing

Public hearing on eHealth Collaborative

## WEDNESDAY - 11/2/11

### House Game and Fisheries

9:30 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building

To consider: [HB 881](#) Pyle Amends Title 34 re dogs killing big game

## THURSDAY - 11/3/11

### House Professional Licensure

10:00 a.m., Room 60, East Wing

Public hearing on: [HB 1774](#) Saylor Amends Title 22 re Private Detective Act; lic.

### Senate Appropriations

1:00 p.m., Millersville University, Student Memorial Center, 21 South George Street, Millersville

Public hearing to consider the impact of Fiscal year 2011-2012 General Appropriations Act and other various topics

## MONDAY - 11/14/11

### House Children and Youth

10:30 a.m., Room 60, East Wing

Informational meeting for members to be provided with a general overview of child welfare services in Pennsylvania. Topics will include the roles of the County Children and Youth Agency (CYA), the Court of Common Pleas, DPW's Office of Children, Youth and Families, and private providers of children and youth services

## TUESDAY - 11/15/11

### Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure & Senate Communications and Technology

10:00 a.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

Joint public hearing on Act 183

## THURSDAY - 11/17/11

### House Professional Licensure

9:30 a.m., Room 60, East Wing

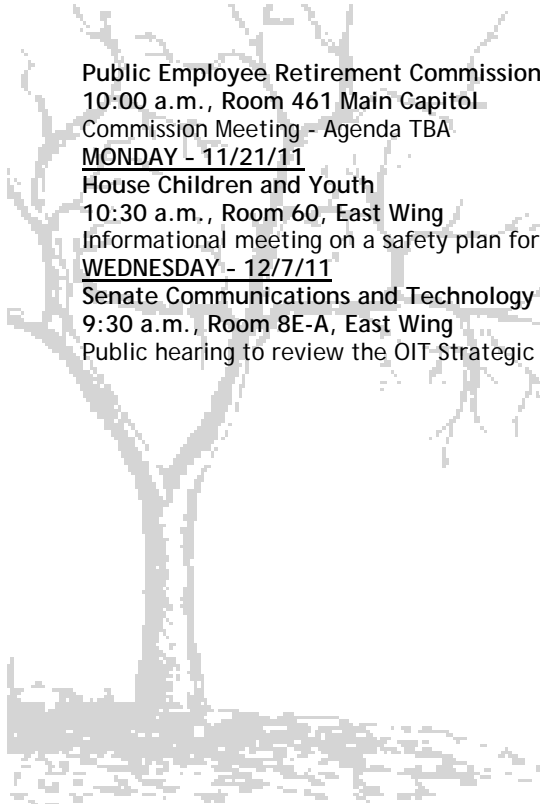
Public hearing on: [HB 1717](#) Mustio Act re right to practice naturopathic medicine

House and Senate Local Government, House Urban Affairs, and Senate Community, Economic and Recreational Development

9:30 a.m., Room 140 Main Capitol

Joint public hearing on Act 47 of 1987, the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act

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Public Employee Retirement Commission

10:00 a.m., Room 461 Main Capitol

Commission Meeting - Agenda TBA

MONDAY - 11/21/11

House Children and Youth

10:30 a.m., Room 60, East Wing

Informational meeting on a safety plan for dependent children

WEDNESDAY - 12/7/11

Senate Communications and Technology

9:30 a.m., Room 8E-A, East Wing

Public hearing to review the OIT Strategic Plan