

Connections

PA Gaming Control Board still being probed

A second grand jury is being convened in Pittsburgh to continue examining the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and suspected issues with regulation and enforcement. The initial grand jury report from May 2011 recommended no charges, however, that report seemed to be an indication of a continuing investigation.

The original grand jurors finished an 18-month term in the spring and issued a report "condemning practices at the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board." The new grand jurors will pick up where the last grand jury left off, reviewing testimony and a larger report is expected. The Gaming Control Board has stated that they admit there were mistakes made but that nothing illegal had taken to place.

PA's older power plants feeling the pressure of new rules

New federal regulations are putting the pressure on Pennsylvania's 168 fossil-fueled power plants, many of which currently don't have pollution controls. In a report recently released by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, only 78 of those 168 plants have modern pollution control technology.

The new federal regulations require a number of states, including Pennsylvania, to cut the emissions of certain pollutants, including sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. The states that are targeted are areas where the wind is most likely to carry the pollutants across state lines. With the new regulations in place, it is estimated that about \$280 billion will be saved that are annually spent on treating lung issues and heart attacks in the U.S. that are caused but such pollutants.

House releases Fall Session Schedule

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives has released its session days for the fall. The House returns on Monday, September 26, 2011. The House returns a week later than the Senate but plans to be in session during the first week in October, which the Senate does not have scheduled as session days. The House also has additional days scheduled for November and will conclude the Fall session in mid December.

Legislative Session Days 2011

2011 HOUSE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE September 26, 27, 28 October 3, 4, 5, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 31 November 1, 2, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23 December 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14	2011 SENATE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE September 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 October 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 31 November 1, 14, 15, 16 December 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14
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Committee Calendar

TUESDAY - 7/26/11

House Urban Affairs (CANCELLED)

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

Informational meeting on Act 47, Municipalities Financial Recovery Act

House Liquor Control (CANCELLED)

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

Public Hearing on: [HB 11](#) Turzai re Amends Liquor Code further providing for enforcement; providing for privatization of sales of wine & spirits through abolition of State Liquor Stores, through establishment of a franchise & license system & through imposition of a tax.

House Democratic Policy Committee (PUBLIC HEARING)

**2:30 p.m., Whitemarsh Township Administration Building,
616 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill**

Public hearing on Growing Greener

WEDNESDAY - 7/27/11

House Democratic Policy Committee (PUBLIC HEARING)

10:00 a.m., Chancellor Center, Board Room, 30 North Chancellor Street, Newtown

Public Hearing on Marcellus Shale, hosted by Rep. Santarsiero

House Education (INFORMATIONAL)

10:00 a.m., Temple University, President's Conference Space, First Floor, 1810 Liacouras Walk, Philadelphia

Informational meeting on School Choice

House Liquor Control

2:00 p.m., Room 140 Main Capitol

Public Hearing on: [HB 11](#) Turzai re Amends Liquor Code further providing for enforcement; providing for privatization of sales of wine & spirits through abolition of State Liquor Stores, through establishment of a franchise & license system & through imposition of a tax.

THURSDAY - 7/28/11

House Democratic Policy Committee (PUBLIC HEARING)

10:00 a.m., Saint Joseph's University, Mandeville Hall's Teletorium, Corner of 54th Street and City Avenue, Philadelphia

Public Hearing on State Budget Cuts, hosted by Rep. DeLissio

House Education (INFORMATIONAL)

10:00 a.m., Temple University, President's Conference Space, First Floor, 1810 Liacouras Walk, Philadelphia

Informational meeting on Charter Schools

TUESDAY - 8/2/11

House Consumer Affairs (INFORMATIONAL)

1:00 p.m., Room G-50, Irvis Office Building

Informational meeting on the status of competitive energy markets in PA

WEDNESDAY - 8/3/11

House Consumer Affairs (INFORMATIONAL)

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

Informational meeting on the status of competitive energy markets in PA

House Aging and Older Adult Services (INFORMATIONAL)

1:00 p.m., Columbia Cottage Assisted Living Facility, 103 N. Larkspur Drive, Palmyra

Informational meeting on issues impacting the assisted living community

House Labor and Industry (PUBLIC HEARING)

1:00 p.m., Room 205, Ryan Office

Public hearing on: [HB 927](#) Delozier re Act regulating child labor

THURSDAY - 8/4/11

Public Employee Retirement Commission

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

Commission Meeting and legislative review of: [HB 418](#) Krieger re Amends Title 71 (State Government) further providing for mandatory and optional membership; [HB 1676](#) Boyd re Amends Title 71 (State Government), in retirement for State employees & officers; [HB 1677](#) Boyd re Amends Title 24 (Education), in retirement for school employees

House Aging and Older Adult Services (INFORMATIONAL)

1:00 p.m., Country Meadows of Hershey Retirement Community, 451 Sand Hill Road, Hershey

Informational meeting on issues and challenges facing long-term careproviders



TUESDAY - 8/9/11

House State Government (PUBLIC HEARING)

1:00 p.m., Room 140 Main Capitol

Public Hearing on: [HB 153](#) Smith, S re joint proposal to reduce the size of the legislature [HB 55](#) Mustio re providing for terms and legislative districts [HB 56](#) Mustio re providing for terms and legislative districts [HB 57](#) Mustio re providing for terms and legislative districts [HB 183](#) Godshall re reducing the size of the General Assembly [HB 876](#) Kauffman re providing for legislative districts [HB 936](#) Reese re reducing the size of the General Assembly

House Labor and Industry (PUBLIC HEARING)

1:00 p.m., Room 418 Main Capitol

Joint public hearing with Senate Labor & Industry Committee on: [HB 1754](#) Miller re providing for ineligibility for compensation in unemployment

Senate Labor and Industry (PUBLIC HEARING)

1:00 p.m., Room 418 Main Capitol

Joint public hearing with Senate Labor & Industry Committee on: [HB 1754](#) Miller re providing for ineligibility for compensation in unemployment



