

**UPDATE OF STATE HOUSE BILLS OF INTEREST  
2017-2018 LEGISLATIVE TERM**

**Pennsylvania Farm Bureau  
July and August 2018**

**Bills introduced or moved by the legislature during these months appear in red**

<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 13 Bizzarro</b>	Would amend the cruelty to animals law by increasing the grade of numerous offenses offense for violations currently graded as summary offenses and misdemeanors; creating comprehensive and qualitative criteria for dog tethering and offenses for failure to comply with any criteria; and increasing grade of offense and penalties, including imposition of felony penalties for summary and misdemeanor offenses violations resulting in bodily injury to animal.	<b>AMENDMENTS NEEDED</b>	<i>See discussion of legislation contained in HB 1238</i>
<b>HB 71 Godshall</b>	Would repeal the current statutory prohibition of Sunday hunting, and would empower the Game Commission to authorize Sunday hunting by regulation.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE GAME & FISHERIES Committee
<b>HB 92 Godshall</b>	Would reduce the size of the General Assembly from 203 to 150 members in the House and from 50 to 40 in the Senate, after the 2020 federal census reapportionment.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE STATE GOVERNMENT Committee
<b>HB 153 Knowles</b>	Would reduce the number of seats in the House of Representatives from 203 to 151, after the 2020 federal census reapportionment.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	Passed by the House Senate Passed Differing Bill Version (Provision to Reduce Senate Districts Removed)  In the HOUSE RULES Committee

<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 162 Maloney</b>	Would amend the state Construction Code Act to require the Department of Labor and Industry to contract with persons responsible for development of UCC standards to publish manuals that identify construction standards specifically apply to Pennsylvania.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	Passed by the House In the SENATE LABOR & INDUSTRY Committee
<b>HB 172 Marsico</b>	Would exclude school district construction projects from requirements to pay prevailing wages, but allow voters by referendum to approve subjection of school district construction projects to prevailing wage payment requirements.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the House LABOR & INDUSTRY Committee
<b>HB 174 Baker</b>	Would require all health insurance policies to include coverage for longer-term antibiotic treatment of patients documented with Lyme disease or related tick-borne illness and prohibit denial of coverage for longer-term antibiotic treatment on the basis that such treatment is unproven, experimental or investigational.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Passed by the House In the SENATE BANKING & INSURANCE Committee
<b>HB 176 Pickett</b>	Would amend the state Construction Code Act to exclude from regulation: (1) smaller structures used in roadside marketing of farm products; (2) small structures used in the processing of maple sap; (3) structures used to load, unload and sort livestock at livestock auction facilities.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	ACT 35 OF 1917
<b>HB 177 Pickett</b>	Would amend the state Construction Code Act to exclude structures used in the processing of maple sap from the Act's construction standards.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	<i>See discussion in House Bill 176</i>

<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 187 Sonney</b>	Would authorize development of wind power generation systems on farms with agricultural conservation easements granted under the state farmland preservation program, subject to limitations in the amount of area that may be utilized for wind power development.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Passed by the House Reported from Original Senate Committee ON THE SENATE TABLED CALENDAR
<b>HB 212 Snyder</b>	Would require PennDOT to develop standards to facilitate the construction and placement of signs for promotion of farm businesses (including farm market and produce stands) along state highways and to provide for exemption of farmers meeting established standards from requirements to obtain permits.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE TRANSPORTATION Committee
<b>HB 230 Sonney</b>	Would give counties optional authority to impose sales tax, earned income tax and occupancy tax at rates of up to 1% each for the purpose of reducing millage rates of real property tax.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE FINANCE Committee
<b>HB 246 Sainato</b>	Would amend the cruelty to animals law to establish a new offense of “aggravated cruelty to animals” for intentionally killing or seriously injuring a “companion animal” with for no justifiable purpose.	<b>AMENDMENTS NEEDED</b>	<i>See discussion of legislation contained in HB 1238</i>
<b>HB 251 Kauffman</b>	Would establish a special farmland preservation vehicle registration plate for passenger vehicles and small trucks, with a portion of proceeds from registration fees collected to be dedicated to the Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Fund.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE TRANSPORTATION Committee
<b>HB 253 Kauffman</b>	Would reduce the number of seats in the state Senate from 50 to 37, after the 2020 federal census reapportionment.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	Passed by the House  In the SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT Committee

<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 260</b> <b>Kauffman</b>	Would fully repeal the state Prevailing Wage Act.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the House LABOR & INDUSTRY Committee
<b>HB 262</b> <b>Diamond</b>	Would amend the PA Constitution to eliminate authority to impose real property taxation.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the House FINANCE Committee
<b>HB 267</b> <b>Metcalfe</b>	Among other things, would create a crimes code offense of theft of secondary metal for the unlawful taking or possession of wire, pipe or cable, or copper, aluminum or metal valuable for recycling or raw material use, with grades of offense based on the value of the material unlawfully taken or possessed.	<b>SUPPORTS AND SEEKS FURTHER AMENDEMENTS</b>	ACT 8 OF 2017
<b>HB 275</b> <b>Mullery</b>	Would transfer authority for sale and issuance of antlerless deer licenses from county agencies to the Game Commission, and would direct the use of the PA Automated License System for application and issuance of licenses.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	Reported from Original House Committee  ON THE HOUSE TABLED CALENDAR
<b>HB 297</b> <b>Dush</b>	Would amend the Prevailing Wage Act to exclude from requirement for payment of prevailing wages work projects performed on dirt, gravel and low-volume roads.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE LABOR & INDUSTRY Committee
<b>HB 323</b> <b>Neilson</b>	Would amend the cruelty to animals law to impose extensive and qualitative standards and requirements, related to tethering of dogs, the failure to meet any of which is punishable as a summary criminal offense and subject the owner to potential forfeiture of the dog.	<b>AMENDMENTS NEEDED</b>	<i>See discussion of legislation contained in HB 1238</i>

<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 333 Nelson</b>	Would provide for a business expense deduction from state income tax for the cost of purchasing depreciable equipment and machinery up to the maximum annual business expense deduction for purchase cost currently authorized under federal income tax law (\$500,000).	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Passed by the House In the SENATE FINANCE Committee
<b>HB 459 DeLuca</b>	Would subject an employer who is found guilty of violating federal immigration law in employment of undocumented workers to a civil fine of \$5,000, as well as suspension of business or professional license.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE JUDICIARY Committee
<b>HB 466 Marshall</b>	Would provide to county sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who have completed minimum training and education requirements in criminal enforcement authority to respond to criminal offenses discovered in performance of their regular duties.	<b>AMENDMENTS NEEDED</b>	Reported from Original House Committee (Restricting Enforcement Authority)  ON THE HOUSE FLOOR CALENDAR
<b>HB 527 Cox</b>	Would increase the minimum level of total cost necessary for a public work project to be subject to requirement for payment of prevailing wages from \$25,000 to \$500,000, with annual adjustments in future minimum cost level for projects subject to prevailing wage to reflect the rate of inflation.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the House LABOR & INDUSTRY Committee
<b>HB 544 Moul</b>	Would amend the Recreational Use of Land and Water Act to expand the scope of recreational activities and structures and land improvements supporting recreation that are subject to landowner protection from liability.	<b>NO LONGER ACTIVELY SUPPORTING (Landowner Attorney Fee Provision Removed from the bill)</b>	Passed by the House  Reported from Original Senate Committee  ON THE SENATE FLOOR CALENDAR

<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 557 Everett</b>	Would require landowners entering into gas leases to receive a minimum royalty payment of 12½ percent of the value of gas produced from wells subject to the lease, regardless of the amount of production costs for gas extraction and transportation.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee
<b>HB 588 Zimmerman</b>	Would require DEP to issue determinations on applications for erosion and sedimentation control permits (other than projects requiring federal NPDES permits) within a specified statutory timeframe. Would impose a shortened timeframe for DEP to issue determinations on permit applications prepared by licensed engineers.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee
<b>HB 596 Harper</b>	Would establish minimum state standards for construction, operation and decommissioning of water wells on properties, without express restriction on authority of DEP or municipalities establish a program for well permitting and for assessment of permit fees for compliance with standards.	<b>AMENDMENTS NEEDED (PFB Policy Directives Not Sufficiently Satisfied)</b>	In the House ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee
<b>HB 602 Jozwiak</b>	Would authorize the use of leashed blood-tracking dogs for the purpose of recovering any deer or bear legally wounded or killed in season.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	<i>ENACTED - See discussion of legislation contained in SB 135</i>
<b>HB 610 Cruz</b>	Would require registration of essentially all firearms.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE JUDICIARY Committee
<b>HB 729 Goodman</b>	Would increase the number of members to serve on the Game Commission from 8 to 9, with the area to be represented comprised of Berks, Lehigh, Northampton and Schuylkill Counties (separated from the existing territory of the eighth district).	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the House GAME & FISHERIES Committee

<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 790</b> <b>Pashinski</b>	Would amend the Noxious Weed Control Law to establish differing regulatory classes for noxious and invasive species, and provide for registration and regulation of persons propagating plant species determined to be within the scope of authorized classes.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	ACT 46 OF 2017
<b>HB 806</b> <b>Murt</b>	Would amend the Fish and Boat Commission authority to give waterway patrolmen authority to enforce trespass laws.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE GAME & FISHERIES Committee
<b>HB 853</b> <b>Greiner</b>	Would increase the minimum level of fines for summary offense violations of the animal cruelty law.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	<i>See discussion of legislation contained in HB 1238</i>
<b>HB 856</b> <b>Metcalf</b>	Would prohibit employment of any unauthorized alien, and require all employers to verify, as a condition of approval or continuation of state business authorization, that the employer actively participates in the federal e-verify program for affirming authorization status of workers employed. Businesses that violate the bill's requirements would be subject to multiple sanctions, including revocation of registrations and other state-issued and municipal-issued authorizations to conduct business.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE STATE GOVERNMENT Committee
<b>HB 862</b> <b>Grove</b>	Would exempt sales of Christmas trees produced by the Christmas tree farms from sales tax.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE FINANCE Committee
<b>HB 866</b> <b>Dunbar</b>	Would, among other things, amend laws governing reporting and payment of local income tax to provide a "safe harbor" of deemed compliance with estimated tax requirements for reporting and payment of estimated taxes based on the taxpayer's income tax liability in the previous tax year.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	ACT 18 OF 2018

<b><u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u></b>	<b><u>Summary</u></b>	<b><u>PFB Position</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
<b>HB 885 Murt</b>	Would authorize owners of land subject to an agricultural conservation easement to grant use of a corridor of the land for recreational trail use.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 897 Fee</b>	Would exempt from sales tax the purchase of building materials and supplies for the construction or repair of animal housing facilities.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE FINANCE Committee
<b>HB 904 Murt</b>	Would establish a special farmland preservation vehicle registration plate for passenger vehicles and small trucks, with a portion of proceeds from registration fees collected to be dedicated to the Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Fund.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE TRANSPORTATION Committee
<b>HB 953 Gabler</b>	Would prohibit future conversion of interstate roads for collection of tolls, including I-80.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE TRANSPORTATION Committee
<b>HB 959 Sturla</b>	Would require municipalities who utilize State Police in performing responsibilities of law enforcement to pay fees for services provided.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE TRANSPORTATION Committee
<b>HB 944 M. Keller</b>	Would amend the Public School Code to provide a more formalized process for providing recommendations and input in administration of viable curriculums for agricultural education in the Commonwealth.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Passed by the House  In the SENATE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 959 Sturla</b>	Would provide for the assessment of fees to be paid by those municipalities not employing their own police forces for engaging the Pennsylvania State Police in performing law enforcement activities within the municipality.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE TRANSPORTATION Committee



<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 997 Reed</b>	Would establish a reduced safety zone of 50 yards from an occupied residential dwelling, camp, barn, stable or other building for setting and using submerged animal traps within a watercourse.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE GAME & FISHERIES Committee
<b>HB 999 Ryan</b>	Would fully repeal the Prevailing Wage Act.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE LABOR & INDUSTRY Committee
<b>HB 1018 Kauffman</b>	Would impose sanctions for revocation of a business or professional licenses of employers who “knowingly” hire an illegal alien.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE Committee
<b>HB 1041 Farry</b>	Would provide for immunity of humane society police officers from civil liability for damages resulting from conduct performed in the course of investigation or enforcement, except for /gross negligence or willful, wanton or reckless misconduct.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	<i>See discussion of legislation contained in HB 1238</i>
<b>HB 1053 Sturla</b>	Would require farmers and other persons whose lands are enrolled or who are applying for enrollment in clean and green to verify that the landowner has a current erosion and sedimentation control plan that meets the requirements prescribed in DEP regulations.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 1060 Sturla</b>	Would amend the Clean Streams Law to repeal the exemption from state or local stream fencing requirements currently provided farmers (subjecting farmers who fail to do so to criminal and civil penalties imposed under the Law).	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee

<b><u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u></b>	<b><u>Summary</u></b>	<b><u>PFB Position</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
<b>HB 1090 Benninghoff</b>	Would establish specific timeframes within which DEP must decide on applications for erosion and sedimentation permit, and would recognize in statute exemptions of agricultural plowing and tillage areas and animal heavy use areas from requirements to obtain erosion and sedimentation permits.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee
<b>HB 1091 Benninghoff</b>	Would allow persons whose permit applications to DEP have not been acted upon within the time frames prescribed for DEP in statute to seek and obtain remedial relief from DEP's inaction with the Environmental Hearing Board.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee
<b>HB 1213 Kampf</b>	Would eliminate authority of school districts and municipalities to file appeals to challenge tax assessment values of individual real property tax parcels, except when the parcel has gone through a countywide reassessment, been divided into smaller parcels, or a change in the productive use of the property has occurred.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Reported from Original House Committee  ON THE HOUSE FLOOR CALENDAR
<b>HB 1238 Stephens</b>	Comprehensively rewrites the cruelty to animals law to include, among other things, a broadened scope of actions and inactions to domestic animals subjecting animal owners to criminal culpability; establishing qualitative and undefined standards for tethering or dogs; and increasing penalties for many violations of the law. In addition, the legislation will give humane societies civil immunity for any "unintentional" damages or injuries they cause in animal cruelty enforcement.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	ACT 10 OF 2017

<b><u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u></b>	<b><u>Summary</u></b>	<b><u>PFB Position</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
<b>HB 1261 Topper</b>	Would amend the Prevailing Wage Act to exempt school districts and their instrumentalities from subsection to prevailing wage requirements.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE LABOR & INDUSTRY Committee
<b>HB 1328 Hanna</b>	Would amend the Recreational Use of Land and Water Act to expressly recognize snowmobile and ATV riding as “recreational uses” for which the protection from liability applies, and establish a clearer legal basis of landowner responsibility in warning recreational users of hazardous conditions and activities occurring on the property as condition for landowner protection.	<b>SUPPORTS AND SEEKS AMENDMENTS</b>	In the HOUSE TOURISM & RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT Committee
<b>HB 1383 Oberlander</b>	Would amend the Vehicle Code to provide for a special annual permit for transporting or operating oversize agricultural equipment, with more reasonable standards and conditions that are adaptable to farm operations and custom farm businesses.	<b>PFB SUPPORTS</b>	In the HOUSE TRANSPORTATION Committee.
<b>HB 1463 Pashinski</b>	Would amend the Dog Law to establish procedures for procurement of licenses through online sources, and give the Department of Agriculture discretionary authority to increase dog license fees by regulation.	<b>AMENDMENTS NEEDED</b>	In the HOUSE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 1486 Zimmerman</b>	Would exempt “high tunnel” agricultural structures meeting commonsense criteria established in the bill from stormwater management requirements that municipalities may impose under the state Storm Water Management Act.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	ACT 15 OF 2018

<b><u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u></b>	<b><u>Summary</u></b>	<b><u>PFB Position</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
<b>HB 1518 Causer</b>	Would provide for the appointment of active farmers to serve as alternative farmer representatives to the serve on Agricultural Lands Condemnation Approval Board at proceedings in which the regular farmer member is unable to participate.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Passed by the House IN THE SENATE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 1530 Everett</b>	Would statutorily establish legal abandonment of subsurface mineral and gas and oil rights (other than for coal and coal bed methane) upon the failure of the subsurface owner to perform activities or to file and record a claim of property interest for 20 continuous years.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	In the House ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee
<b>HB 1603 Miller</b>	Would amend the Game and Wildlife Code to make the violation of “trespass on private property while hunting” a primary offense, without condition that the hunter also be in the act of another violation of the Code. The bill would also increase penalties for violation of trespass provisions.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Reported from Original House Committee ON THE HOUSE FLOOR CALENDAR
<b>HB 1646 Miller</b>	Would establish separate and more severe driver penalties under the Vehicle Code’s “careless driver” provisions for recklessly causing injury through vehicle operation to a “vulnerable highway user.” The scope of persons considered to be “vulnerable highway users” would include pedestrians, motorcycle and motorized bicycle drivers, drivers of animal-drawn vehicles, and agricultural vehicle drivers. Persons convicted would be subject to fines up to \$10,000, depending on severity of injury caused, plus one-year suspension of dirver’s license.	<b>NOT ADDRESED IN PFB POLICY</b>	Reported from House Committees. ON THE HOUSE FLOOR CALENDAR

<u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>PFB Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>HB 1647 Cruz</b>	Would establish an animal abuser registry in each county and require residents in a county who have been convicted of a felony offense of cruelty to animals or felony violation of a statute protecting animal welfare to register.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE JUDICIARY Committee
<b>HB 1727 Conklin</b>	Would expressly authorize the employment of humane officers by counties, with power to enforce the Dog Law and cruelty to animals law.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 1917 Ryan</b>	Would increase the minimum initial and continuous education requirements that humane society police officers must receive as condition for enforcement authority, including on-farm biosecurity and safety training.	<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Passed by the House Reported from Original Senate Committee  ON THE SENATE FLOOR CALENDAR
<b>HB 1989 Cruz</b>	Would amend the Food Safety Act by making any raw agricultural food product having residue of a pesticide applied on the product after harvest a “misbranded” product in violation of the Act unless the product bears a clear and conspicuous label identifying the pesticide.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 1999 Ortitay</b>	Would repeal authority for persons holding tax credits, such as REAP tax credits, to sell those credits.	<b>OPPOSES</b>	In the HOUSE FINANCE Committee
<b>HB 2034 Marshall</b>	Would require identification of percentage of molybdenum in liming materials marketed.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	Passed by the House  In the SENATE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 2222 Moul</b>	Would give DEP exclusive power over regulation of groundwater, including groundwater withdrawal and retention.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE STATE GOVERNMENT Committee

<b><u>Bill Number &amp; Prime Sponsor</u></b>	<b><u>Summary</u></b>	<b><u>PFB Position</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
<b>HB 2497 Fee</b>	Would provide for annual commitments of moneys from the Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Fund to provide grants of up to \$3,000 for succession planning of farms preserved under the state farmland preservation program.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS Committee
<b>HB 2534 Nesbit</b>	Would establish annual hauling permits authorizing bulk transportation of agricultural liming material, seed and fertilizer in vehicles up to 95,000 in gross weight.	<b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b>	In the HOUSE TRANSPORTATION Committee