

**UPDATE OF STATE SENATE 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;<br/>Prime Sponsor</u> | <u>Summary</u>   | <u>PFB Position</u>                    | <u>Status</u>   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <b>SB 9<br/>Stefano</b>                    | Would require an applicant for state or local government benefits proof of citizenship or lawful presence in the United States in order to obtain approval of benefits applied for.  | <b>NOT ADDRESSED<br/>IN PFB POLICY</b> | Reported from Original Senate Committee<br><br>In the SENATE APPROPRIATIONS Committee |
| <b>SB 12<br/>Tartaglione</b>               | Would amend the state Minimum Wage to increase the mandated minimum wage to \$12.00 on July 2017; impose incremental annual increases of \$1.00 in mandated minimum wage (to \$15.00) through 2020; and require increases in mandated wages for subsequent years based on the average annual percentage change in urban cost of living for the PA-MD-DE-NJ region. | <b>OPPOSES</b>                         | In the SENATE LABOR & INDUSTRY Committee  |
| <b>SB 30<br/>Eichelberger</b>              | Would give the Fish and Boat Commission authority to increase by regulation fishing and boating license and permit fees. Any proposed increase in fee would be subject to a formal process for public review and comment, review and comment by House and Senate Committees, and potential disapproval by the General Assembly (subject to veto by the Governor).  | <b>NOT ADDRESSED<br/>IN PFB POLICY</b> | Passed by the Senate<br><br>In the HOUSE GAME & FISHERIES Committee                   |
| <b>SB 66<br/>Greenleaf</b>                 | Would amend state income tax laws to allow for exclusion from taxable net profits of one-half of self-employment taxes required to be paid under federal law.  | <b>SUPPORTS</b>                        | In the SENATE FINANCE Committee   |

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| <b>SB 69</b><br><b>Eichelberger</b>    | Would amend the cruelty to animals law to, among other things, more clearly define “torture” in determining acts for which increased penalties would apply.   | <b>NO OBJECTION</b>                    | <i>Was part of the legislative package enacted under House Bill 1238</i>                 |
| <b>SB 135</b><br><b>Scavello</b>       | Senate counterpart to House Bill 602, would amend the Game & Wildlife Code to allow for the use of leashed tracking dogs while attempting to locate and recover a deer, bear or elk legally wounded or killed.  | <b>SUPPRORTS</b>                       | ACT 11 OF 2018   |
| <b>SB 138</b><br><b>Yaw</b>            | Would require that landowners subject to gas or oil leases annually receive information on joint ventures in place for gas or oil development on the landowner’s property. Would also provide the opportunity for owners receiving royalties to inspect lessee records related to development and operation of wells on the owner’s property.                           | <b>SUPPORTS</b>                        | Passed by the Senate<br>In the HOUSE<br>ENVIRONMENTAL<br>RESOURCES &<br>ENERGY Committee |
| <b>SB 139</b><br><b>Yaw</b>            | Would prohibit lessors of a gas or oil lease from retaliating, through discriminatory stoppage or reduction in well production or otherwise, against a person entitled to royalties who brings in good faith a legal action against the lessor to challenge the legal adequacy of the royalties being paid or the legality of deductions from royalties being assessed. | <b>SUPPORTS</b>                        | Passed by the Senate<br>In the HOUSE<br>ENVIRONMENTAL<br>RESOURCES &<br>ENERGY Committee |
| <b>SB 192</b><br><b>Stefano</b>        | Would give the Game Commission authority to increase fishing and boating license and permit fees by regulation. Any proposed increase in fee would be subject to a formal process for public review and comment, review and comment by House and Senate Committees, and potential disapproval by the General Assembly (limited by veto powers).                         | <b>NOT ADDRESSED<br/>IN PFB POLICY</b> | Passed by the Senate<br>In the HOUSE GAME &<br>FISHERIES Committee                       |

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|---|--|--|---|
| <b>SB 230<br/>Boscola</b>                     | Would increase the grade of offense and corresponding criminal penalties for second or subsequent violations of the animal cruelty law committed upon a dog or cat.  | <b>OPPOSES</b>                                       | In the SENATE<br>JUDICIARY Committee                              |
| <b>SB 246<br/>Leach</b>                       | Would prohibit and assess civil penalties for use of “nontherapeutic” antibiotics in animals for health or growth management. Would also require animal farm operations to file affidavits annually confirming that the operations have not administered antibiotics in violation of the prohibition in antibiotic use. Would also require that priority be given in use of appropriations for animal health or agricultural research to development of alternatives to use of antibiotics in animals. | <b>OPPOSES</b>                                       | In the SENATE<br>AGRICULTURE<br>& RURAL AFFAIRS<br>Committee      |
| <b>SB 333<br/>Yaw</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 \$185,000.  | <b>SUPPORTS AND<br/>SEEKS FURTHER<br/>AMENDMENTS</b> | In the SENATE<br>LABOR & INDUSTRY<br>Committee                    |
| <b>SB 335<br/>Fontana</b>                     | Would allow landowners whose private water supply is suspected to be polluted or diminished by the drilling, operation or alteration of a gas or oil well to request DEP to conduct testing of the water supply and require DEP to provide the landowner a copy of written reports of testing conducted.   | <b>SUPPORTS AND<br/>SEEKS FURTHER<br/>AMENDMENTS</b> | In the SENATE<br>ENVIRONMENTAL<br>RESOURCES &<br>ENERGY Committee |
| <b>SB 371<br/>Brooks</b>                      | Would exempt farm operations from regulation and permitting requirements in performance of activities to mitigate flood-related hazards.   | <b>SUPPORTS</b>                                      | In the SENATE<br>ENVIRONMENTAL<br>RESOURCES &<br>ENERGY Committee |

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| <b>SB 404<br/>Scavello</b>                    | Would amend current provisions governing eligibility of solar generation for renewable energy credit sales to utilities to limit eligibility of energy generation outside PA for credit sales.  | <b>SUPPORTS</b>                    | In the SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee             |
| <b>SB 416<br/>Rafferty</b>                    | Would establish by statute riparian buffer zones with a width of at least 100 feet and wider for special environmental conditions existing locally, would authorize and encourage municipalities to enact ordinances requiring establishment and restoration of riparian buffers within prescribed zones, and would give DEP authority to impose additional requirements in management of riparian buffers within such zones. | <b>OPPOSES</b>                     | In the SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY Committee             |
| <b>SB 453<br/>Brewster</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 Senate GAME & FISHERIES Committee                             |
| <b>SB 486<br/>Vogel</b>                       | Would give the Public Utility Commission authority and duty to establish and enforce safety standards for construction, operation and maintenance of pipelines used to transmit natural gas from wells to the points of access to common gas transmission or distribution lines.  | <b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b> | In the SENATE CONSUMER PROTECTION & PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE Committee |
| <b>SB 488<br/>Baker</b>                       | Would give the Public Utility Commission authority and duty to establish and enforce safety standards for construction, operation and maintenance of pipelines used to transmit natural gas from wells to the points of access to common gas transmission or distribution lines.  | <b>NOT ADDRESSED IN PFB POLICY</b> | In the SENATE CONSUMER PROTECTION & PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE Committee |

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| <b>SB 556<br/>Greenleaf</b>                   | Would amend the state income tax law by allowing, in joint tax filings made by spouses, offsets of losses incurred by one spouse of gains made by another spouse within the same class of taxable income.   | <b>SUPPORTS</b>            | In the SENATE<br>FINANCE Committee   |
| <b>SB 586<br/>Argall</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<br>Senate Committee<br><br>In the SENATE<br>APPROPRIATIONS<br>Committee |
| <b>SB 594<br/>Stefano</b>                     | Would exempt from state sales tax the purchase of protective equipment by a volunteer firefighter that will be used by the person in performance of emergency response activities by his or her fire company.   | <b>SUPPORTS</b>            | Reported from Original<br>Senate Committee<br><br>In the SENATE<br>APPROPRIATIONS<br>Committee |
| <b>SB 632<br/>Schwank</b>                     | Would require all grain dealers purchasing or brokering grain under deferred payment arrangements to obtain a bond equal to the dealer's highest monthly outstanding obligation owed to producers through purchases or brokerage arrangements or through holdings of grain under bailment; and would require issuance of grain receipts and tickets to producers that provide documentation of the amount of grain a dealer has received from producers. Producers would be also given authority to enforce their claims against the dealer bond in the event of default, and would be able to bring legal actions to compel compliance with requirements imposed under this legislation. | <b>SUPPORTS</b>            | In the SENATE<br>AGRICULTURE &<br>RURAL AFFAIRS<br>Committee                                   |

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| <b>SB 745</b><br><b>Eichelberger</b>   | Would give municipalities the option of meeting legal requirements for public notices by posting them electronically, instead of publishing them in newspapers.  | <b>SUPPORTS</b>   | In the SENATE<br>LOCAL GOVERNMENT<br>Committee   |
| <b>SB 792</b><br><b>Alloway</b>        | Would impose additional restrictions and requirements in the use and commercial application of lawn fertilizer on residential properties, including some potential uses of fertilizer on farms.  | <b>SUPPORTS</b><br><b>(Concerns</b><br><b>Addressed in</b><br><b>Senate</b><br><b>Amendments)</b> | Passed by the Senate<br>In the HOUSE<br>AGRICULTURE &<br>RURAL AFFAIRS<br>Committee      |
| <b>SB 799</b><br><b>Alloway</b>        | Would establish by statute a process for administration of nutrient credit trading through competitive bidding, administered by the State Conservation Commission. Amendments to the bill would also provide the Department of Agriculture greater discretion to direct the use of available monies under the state's Growing Greener program for implementation of conservation practices on farms. | <b>SUPPORTS</b>   | Passed by the Senate<br>In the HOUSE<br>ENVIRONMENTAL<br>RESOURCES &<br>ENERGY Committee |
| <b>SB 819</b><br><b>Aument</b>         | Would authorize performance of agritourism activities on farms preserved under the state farmland preservation program, and provides means for farmers to obtain timely approval of practices from county preservation boards.   | <b>SUPPORTS</b>   | Passed by the Senate<br>In the HOUSE<br>AGRICULTURE &<br>RURAL AFFAIRS<br>Committee      |
| <b>SB 820</b><br><b>Aument</b>         | Would provide to farmers engaged in agritourism enterprises on their farm limited protection from civil liability for injuries caused as a result of a person's participation in an agritourism activity.  | <b>SUPPORTS</b>   | Reported from Original<br>Senate Committee<br>ON THE SENATE<br>FLOOR CALENDAR            |

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| <b>SB 823<br/>Schwank</b>              | Would amend the Clean and Green Act’s provisions authorizing the use of clean and green land for “rural enterprises” with limited roll-back tax consequences to allow persons other than immediate family members under lease with the property owner to engage in a rural enterprise on clean and green land.                              | <b>SUPPORTS</b>                        | In the SENATE<br>AGRICULTURE &<br>RURAL AFFAIRS<br>Committee  |
| <b>SB 935<br/>Scarnati</b>             | Would limit the term of service of the Fish and Boat Commission’s Executive Director to 8 years.  | <b>NOT ADDRESSED<br/>IN PFB POLICY</b> | Passed by the Senate<br>Reported from Original<br>House Committee<br><br>ON THE HOUSE<br>FLOOR CALENDAR |
| <b>SB 1081<br/>Brewster</b>            | Would amend the Game Code by allowing for State Game Land hunting of deer during the two Sundays of combined deer season and bear during the one Sunday of bear season.   | <b>OPPOSES</b>                         | In the SENATE<br>GAME & FISHERIES<br>Committee  |
| <b>SB 1171<br/>Brooks</b>              | Would establish the Farm Animal Advisory Board ability to offer comment on environmental regulations and regulatory changes being considered by state agencies before they are formally proposed, and to offer suggestions for new regulations or regulatory amendments to be considered by state agencies in the future.                   | <b>PFB SUPPORTS</b>                    | Amended Version Passed<br>the Senate<br><br>In the HOUSE<br>AGRICULTURE &<br>RURAL AFFAIRS<br>Committee |
| <b>SB 1190<br/>Farnese</b>             | Would establish an animal abuser registry in each county and require persons residing in a county who have been convicted of a felony offense of cruelty to animals, a felony violation of a statute protecting animal welfare to register, or a second or subsequent conviction of the “neglect” provisions of the cruelty to animals law. | <b>OPPOSES</b>                         | In the SENATE<br>LAW & JUSTICE<br>Committee   |