



Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials

Legislative Action Alert

Taking care of the business of schools...everyday

Legislative Report Monday, December 19, 2011

- **House Must Finish Reapportionment.**—The House is in session today and tomorrow; the chamber must pass a Congressional Reapportionment bill. The final plan relative to legislative districts for the House of Representative and the State Senate was adopted last. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

The Senate has already commenced its holiday break. After the House recesses, both chambers will be in recess until January 3, the day on which the state constitution requires the General Assembly to convene in non-voting session. Both chambers will then reconvene on January 17.

There are no bills of interest on this week's agendas.

- **No Voucher Vote.**—Last week, by a vote of 90-105, the House defeated a 100-page amendment that dealt with charter school reform and EITC expansion. The amendment did not provide for a voucher plan or propose to change the charter school funding formula. Payment to charter schools would occur by direct payment of state funding to charter and cyber charter schools. The amendment would have established a charter school funding advisory committee to examine charter and cyber charter school financing, as well as create a state commission to authorize charter schools. [CLICK HERE](#) to see how your House member voted on the amendment.

Although the administration was pushing the House to send a voucher plan to the prior to the holiday recess, statements by House leadership indicate vouchers will not be considered until next year, if at all. House GOP leaders said there was simply not enough support among House members for a voucher plan and not enough time as the House concludes work on congressional redistricting and Marcellus shale.

Over the holiday break and throughout the upcoming months, PASBO encourages its members to visit their local legislators in their respective district offices and continue conversations about achieving meaningful reforms to the charter school funding formula.

- **Legislators not Seeking Reelection.**—The following members have announced they will not be seeking reelection in 2012: Rep. Ron Buxton (D-Dauphin), Rep. Tom Creighton (R-Lancaster), Rep. Jennifer Mann (D-Lehigh), Rep. Curt Schroder (R-Chester), Sen. Jeff Piccola (R-Dauphin), Rep. Ed Staback (D-Lackawanna), Rep. John Evans (R-Erie), Rep. Scott Boyd (R-Lancaster)

NOTE: Representatives Kenyatta Johnson (D-Philadelphia), Dennis O'Brien (R-Philadelphia), Jewell Williams (D-Philadelphia), Josh Shapiro (D-Montgomery), Doug Reichley (R-Lehigh), and Chelsa Wagner (D-Allegheny) won elections in the November 2011 election and thus will be leaving the House before the 2012 election