



Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials

## Legislative Action Alert

*Taking care of the business of schools...everyday*

### LEGISLATIVE REPORT MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2011

- **A Significant Week Ahead.**—The Senate is scheduled to be in their last three days before recessing until January. The House is scheduled four days this week and two days next week. [CLICK HERE](#) for session and committee information.

Topping the must-do list is a bill relative to Congressional reapportionment. The Legislative Reapportionment Commission also needs to approve the plan for legislative districts. Meetings are scheduled today to address both of these issues.

The Governor is still pushing to have school reform, including vouchers, and Marcellus Shale legislation passed before the recess.

- **House to Vote on Vouchers.**—[SB 858](#) (Waugh,) which amends the School Code with language that was included in the omnibus School Code amendment that passed with the budget, was positioned last week for second consideration. PASBO anticipates the bill will be amended on Tuesday to include language relative to school reform, including vouchers and possibly charter and cyber charter schools, with a final vote to occur on Wednesday. As of Monday morning, Rep. Fleck (R-Huntingdon) has filed an amendment that addresses the authorization and funding of cyber charter schools.

Other education-related bills on which the House is expected to vote include: [SB 560](#) (Mensch), which establishes the State Military College Legislative Appointment Program, and [SB 743](#) (Rafferty), which amends the School Code to allow a private driver training instructor to provide classroom instruction in driver education.

- **Action on Prevailing Wage Reform Expected.**—Two Prevailing Wage bills are on the House voting calendar. [HB 1329](#) (Keller, F) would raise the threshold from \$25,000 to \$185,000, provide for an annual adjustment for inflation. [HB 1685](#) (Bear) requires the Department of Labor and Industry to utilize the most recent version of the Federal occupational classifications to establish the craft/classification of workmen. Only one bill is expected to be brought up for a vote, with an omnibus amendment containing the provisions of the other bill to be considered.
- **Assessment Task Force Holds Third Meeting.**—Today at 11:00 a.m. the Reassessment Task Force will meet pursuant to [House Resolutions 343](#) (J. White) and [344](#) (Neuman). The purpose of the Task Force is two-fold: (1) to develop a set of uniform standards for county assessment contracting, develop standards for disclosing the county's system of property valuation and assessment, a self-evaluation tool and a standard time frame; and (2) to develop criteria and procedures for data submission, verification and collection to address insufficient sample data and /or to assure and disclose sample data relied on to develop a county's performance measure.