

**MCA**  
**Summary of Legislation**  
**April 2017**

## **House Passes “First Step” Budget Bill**

The state House took the first big step toward an on-time budget for fiscal year 2017-18 by amending and passing HB 218, which is expected to be this year’s vehicle bill for the final budget agreement. As usual, the bill passed largely on partisan lines, with Democrats voting no. While the bill keeps much of the Governor’s proposal, released in February, in some Human Services areas, including the consolidation of four existing cabinet-level Departments, it hits hard on economic development programs.

Details of the House Republican plan can be found on the Caucus website:

<http://www.pahousegop.com/statebudget1718.aspx>

This bill is a long way from the finish line, but sets out the House Republican position, as guided by new Appropriations Committee Chairman Stan Saylor and the other Republican leaders, Speaker Mike Turzai, and Majority Leader Dave Reed. The bill now goes to the Senate for its consideration. Reaction to the House-passed budget bill has been relatively lukewarm in the Senate, though both chambers agree that dealing with the more than a billion dollars of structural deficit from this year’s budget, which is projected to grow over the next several years, needs to be a priority. As has been the case the past several years, though, significant differences in philosophy and focus of priorities exist between the two Republican-controlled chambers, as does their approach toward dealing with the Governor’s priorities. Much work remains.

## **Prevailing Wage Discussions**

Previous monthly updates have reported on both prevailing wage bills and a study committee regarding PLANCON (the state’s school construction reimbursement program). The two separate issues have reached a nexus as some committee members are suggesting that prevailing wage changes should be a part of the committee’s final recommendations. The PLANCON committee was created to address funding options so that state funding for a portion of local school construction might continue. The current Commonwealth budget proposals don’t include any funding for PLANCON and there is a moratorium in place for new applications. The committee is supposed to report back to the House and Senate with recommendations within the month, although an extension may be requested.

But any recommendations would still need to be introduced as legislation and passed just like any other bill. Proposing changes that repeal or narrow the prevailing wage law isn’t a new idea. Those kinds of bills are regularly introduced but haven’t moved very far in the past. The problem is including controversial issues in the committee’s recommendations would likely be a poison pill for the final report. That would not bode well for the future of PLANCON. There is a good chance that any recommendations addressing prevailing wage don’t make it into the committee’s recommendations though. The committee is split almost evenly between Democrats and Republican legislators plus the Education Secretary and 3 outside stake holder groups. A more daunting obstacle for helping school districts pay for construction is finding revenue in a Commonwealth budget that is already underfunded by hundreds of millions. The next public hearing of the committee is May 4<sup>th</sup> at the East Penn School District in the Lehigh Valley.

## **House Republicans Unveil Right to Work Package**

Back in March, Rep. Garth Everett (R-Lycoming) and several of his Republican colleagues in the House circulated a sponsorship memo listing a package of bills promoting “Right to Work” legislation. Those bills were introduced on May 1. Below are descriptions of those bills, and links to their texts. These bills pose a major threat to organized labor. It is likely the Governor would veto them, but it would be wise to push back on these bills locally, to be sure.

## **Pennsylvania Open Workforce Initiative Package**

[HB50](#) (Metcalf) This legislation would prohibit employment from being conditional upon membership or non-membership in a labor organization. Compulsory dues would be prohibited for non-union members and would

[HB51](#) (Rapp) This legislation prohibits labor organizations from collecting compulsory union dues from non-union public school employees.

[HB52](#) (Fred Keller) - This legislation prohibits labor organizations from collecting compulsory union dues from non-union state employees.

[HB53](#) (Bloom) - This legislation prohibits labor organizations from collecting compulsory union dues from non-union local government employees.

[HB54](#) (Knowles) - This legislation would prohibit employment from being conditional upon membership or non-membership in a labor organization. Compulsory dues would be prohibited for non-union members and would apply to only private sector employees.

[HB55](#) (Kauffman) - This legislation would permit public employees to opt out of their union membership at any time during their contract. Currently, under the Public Employee Relations Act, employees can only opt out of their union membership 15 days prior to the expiration of their contract. This legislation would provide public employees the freedom to terminate their union membership at any time.

[HB1050](#) (Everett) - This legislation amends the Constitution of Pennsylvania, making the Commonwealth a Right-to-Work state.

## **Legislative Activity**

**The following bills of interest to the construction industry have been introduced and/or acted upon in the past month.**

### **Bidding / Contracting**

[SR 62](#) RE: Public Construction Laws (by Sen. Mike Folmer, et al)

A Resolution directing the Joint State Government Commission to establish an advisory committee to conduct a comprehensive study of the costs and efficiencies of the requirements under Pennsylvania's public construction laws.

**Introduced and referred to Senate State Government Committee, 4/6/2017**

### **Cosponsor memos filed**

SCO 822 (Folmer) - [Repeal of the Pennsylvania Separations Act](#). Repeals the Separations Act in Pennsylvania.  
**Filed, 4/19/2017**

### **Budget Related Bills**

[HB 218](#) RE: General Appropriation Act of 2017 (by Rep. Stan Saylor, et al)

Provides from the General Fund for the expenses of the Executive and Judicial Departments, the State Government Support Agencies and the General Assembly of the Commonwealth, the public debt and the public schools for the fiscal year July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018, for certain institutions and organizations, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017; to provide appropriations from the State Lottery Fund, the Tobacco Settlement Fund, the Aviation Restricted Account, the Hazardous Material Response Fund, The State Stores Fund, the Milk Marketing Fund, the Home Investment Trust Fund, the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund, the Tuition Account Guaranteed Savings Program Fund, the Banking Fund, the Firearm Records Check Fund, the Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority Fund, the Oil and Gas Lease Fund, the Home Improvement Account, the Cigarette Fire Safety and Firefighter Protection Act Enforcement Fund, the Commonwealth Financing Authority Debt Service Restricted Revenue Account, the Insurance Regulation and Oversight Fund, the Pennsylvania Racehorse Development Restricted Receipt Account, the Justice Reinvestment Fund and the Multimodal Transportation Fund to the Executive Department; to provide appropriations from the Judicial Computer System Augmentation Account to the Judicial Department for the fiscal year July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018; to provide appropriations from the Motor License Fund for the fiscal year July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018,

for the proper operation of several departments of the Commonwealth and the Pennsylvania State Police authorized to spend Motor License Fund money; to provide for the appropriation of Federal funds to the Executive Department of the Commonwealth and for the payment of bills remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. The bill is effective immediately and retroactive to July 1, 2017, if enacted after that date.

***NOTE: This bill was introduced BEFORE the Governor's budget address, and does not reflect the Administration's spending priorities. It will likely, however, serve as the vehicle for the budget, as the process moves along.***

**Reported as amended from House Appropriations Committee, read third time, and passed House, 4/4/2017 (114-84)**

**Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 4/6/2017**

[HB 785](#) RE: Capital Facilities Debt Limit Reduction (By Rep. Stan Saylor, et al)

Amends the Capital Facilities Debt Enabling Act adding language providing retirements of principal for funding bonds under section 312 relating to funding bonds shall be regular and substantial if made in annual or semiannual amounts whether by stated serial maturities or by mandatory sinking fund retirements computed in accordance with either a level annual debt service plan as nearly as may be or upon the equal annual maturities plan. Also adds language providing that beginning July 1, 2018, and each July 1 thereafter until the sum of the outstanding obligations for redevelopment assistance capital projects equals \$2.95 billion, the maximum amount of outstanding obligations for redevelopment assistance projects shall be decreased by \$50 million. Further provides for limitation on additional capital project releases financed by debt and for carry forward. Adds a chapter relating to capital budgets for particular fiscal years. Amendments to section 307 (c) relating to terms and conditions; section 317 relating to appropriation for and limitation on capital projects; and section 318 relating to administration of redevelopment assistance capital projects shall take effect in 60 days.

**Read second time and re-referred to House Appropriations Committee, 4/3/2017**

**Reported as committed from House Appropriations Committee, read third time, and Passed House, 4/4/2017 (117-81)**

**Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 4/6/2017**

[HB 1121](#) RE: Blight Demolition Bond Issuance Program (by Rep. Anita Kulik, et al)

Amends Title 64 (Public Authorities and Quasi-Public Corporations), in Commonwealth Financing Authority, further providing for indebtedness by establishing indebtedness incurred by the Authority under subsection (a) shall not, in aggregate, exceed \$500,000,000 for the program established in section 1559 (relating to Blight Demolition Bond Issuance Program); and establishing the Blight Demolition Bond Issuance Program to provide grants, to be awarded on a competitive basis and funded by the issuance of bonds, to combat the problem of neighborhood blight by demolishing blighted properties. The bill also lays out the application and approval process for grants to municipalities. No more than 5 percent of the funds made available for the program may be awarded to a particular municipality.

**Introduced and referred to House Urban Affairs Committee, 4/10/2017**

[HB 1122](#) RE: Municipal Property Maintenance Code Assistance Fund (by Rep. Michael O'Brien, et al)

Amends Title 53 (Municipalities Generally), in neighborhood blight reclamation and revitalization, establishing a grant program for municipalities to establish code enforcement programs and hire code enforcement personnel, providing for powers and duties of the Department of Community and Economic Development and for imposition of a \$1 fee on each construction building or permit and establishing the Municipal Property Maintenance Code Assistance Fund. The bill provides funding for individual municipalities, two or more municipalities, councils of governments, or a multimunicipal code enforcement entity for the purpose of municipal property maintenance code enforcement within counties or regions in order to prevent and eradicate blighted property conditions for a maximum of three consecutive years and establishes a competitive award process for grants. A municipality shall provide its own funds or in-kind contributions equal to the amount of the grant provided, and shall dedicate and expend those funds for the purpose for which the grant was issued. Also requires a report to the urban affairs standing committees on implementation and finances.

**Introduced and referred to House Urban Affairs Committee, 4/10/2017**

[HB 1178](#) RE: High-Performance Buildings Tax Credit (by Rep. Brian Sims, et al)

Amends the Tax Reform Code establishing the High-Performance Buildings Tax Credit, which would be available to a taxpayer, whether owner or tenant, for either the construction of a high-performance building or the

rehabilitation of a building which is not a high-performance building into a high-performance building. The total tax credit that is available to a taxpayer for a single eligible project shall be distributed in four equal amounts over four years. The amount shall be based on the number of gross square feet of floor space in the eligible building, that building's achievement of an appropriate standard, and the tier of achievement earned. In addition, no building may receive a tax credit unless it has earned achievement at or above the Tier I level. All the approved projects shall receive a base tax credit of \$35,000 plus an additional tax credit based on a formula outlined in the legislation. The Department of Revenue shall annually report to the House and Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committees on the credit. The addition of sections 1901-G, 1902-G, 1903-G, 1904-G and 1910-G shall take effect in 30 days and the remainder of the act shall take effect in 12 months.

**Introduced and referred to House Finance Committee, 4/12/2017**

[HB 1179](#) RE: Energy Star Rated Product Manufacturing Tax Credit (by Rep. Brian Sims, et al)

Amends the Tax Reform Code establishing an Energy Star rated product manufacturing tax credit for a taxpayer that manufactures Energy Star rated products. The credit shall be amount equal to 20 percent of the total amount of all capital, operation, and maintenance costs paid for manufacturing Energy Star related products in the taxable year to be applied against the taxpayer's qualified tax liability. The addition of sections 1801-H, 1802-H, 1803-H, 1804-H, 1805-H and 1806-CH shall apply to tax years beginning after December 31, 2016, and the act shall take effect immediately.

**Introduced and referred to House Finance Committee, 4/12/2017**

[HB 1180](#) RE: Energy Star-Related Glass or Window Technologies Tax Credit (by Rep. Brian Sims, et al)

Amends the Tax Reform Code establishing an Energy Star-related glass or window technologies tax credit for a taxpayer that manufactures Energy Star-related glass or window technologies. The credit would be in an amount equal to 20 percent of the total amount of all capital, operation, and maintenance costs paid for Energy Star-related glass or window technologies in the taxable year to be applied against the taxpayer's qualified tax liability. The addition of sections 1801-H, 1802-H, 1803-H, 1804-H, 1805-H and 1806-H shall apply to tax years beginning after December 31, 2016, and the act shall take effect immediately.

**Introduced and referred to House Finance Committee, 4/12/2017**

[HB 1181](#) RE: Green Roof Tax Credit (by Rep. Brian Sims, et al)

Amends the Tax Reform Code establishing a green roof tax credit.

**Introduced and referred to House Finance Committee, 4/12/2017**

[HB 1254](#) RE: Construction Materials Sales Tax (by Rep. Tom Caltagirone, et al)

Amends the Tax Reform Code, in sales and use tax, adding that "building machinery and equipment" includes traffic signal foundations, poles and mast arms.

**Introduced and referred to House Finance Committee, 4/20/2017**

[SB 651](#) RE: Capital Budget Project Itemization Act of 2017-2018 (by Sen. Pat Browne, et al)

provides for the capital budget for fiscal year 2017-2018; itemizing public improvement projects, furniture and equipment projects, transportation assistance projects, redevelopment assistance, flood control projects, Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund projects, Environmental Stewardship Fund projects, State forestry bridge projects, park and forest management projects, State ATV/ Snowmobile Fund projects, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission projects, Oil and Gas Lease Fund projects and Motor License Fund projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of General Services, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Transportation or the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, together with their estimated financial costs; authorizing the incurring of debt without the approval of the electors for the purpose of financing the projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of General Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Transportation or the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission; authorizing the use of current revenue for the purpose of financing the projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources or the Department of Transportation stating the estimated useful life of the projects; making a related repeal; and making appropriations.

**Introduced and referred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 4/21/2017**

## **Environmental Building Standards**

[HB 1090](#) RE: Erosion and Sediment Control Act (by Rep. Kerry Benninghoff, et al)

Outlines requirements for erosion and sediment control. A person proposing the following activities must obtain an erosion and sediment control permit from the department of a conservation district before commencing the activity: (1) Oil and gas activities that involve at least five acres of earth disturbance at any one time; (2) Timber harvesting or road maintenance activities involving at least 25 acres of earth disturbance at any one time; and (3) Activity that does not require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit under 25 Pa. Code 102.5 (relating to permit requirements) and which involves at least five acres of earth disturbance at any one time, provided that no permit shall be required for agricultural plowing or tilling activities or animal heavy use areas. The bill provides for review and issuance of permits and requires that a permit application be accompanied by a \$500 fee, plus an additional \$100 fee for each disturbed acre.

**Introduced and referred to House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, 4/7/2017**

[HB 1101](#) RE: Environmental Permitting Reform Act (by Rep. Steve Mentzer, et al)

Provides for environmental permitting reform; establishes a permit program to expedite decisions on approval or denial of permit applications; and imposes duties on the Department of Environmental Protection. The department shall review all permit decisions and permit decision delays during the immediately prior calendar year and submit a report of findings to the chairmen of the Environmental Resources and Energy committees of the Senate and House. Within a year of issuing that report, the department shall establish and implement a permit program. The department shall contract with third-party licensed professionals for the purpose of administering the permit program. The shall report annually to the legislature thereafter.

**Introduced and referred to House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, 4/7/2017**

[SB 144](#) RE: Alternative Systems (by Sen. Gene Yaw, et al)

Amends Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act authorizing the inclusion of alternative systems in the site planning process.

**Reported as committed from Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, and read first time, 4/25/2017**

## **Liability**

**NONE**

## **Local/State Government/Regulations**

[HB 409](#) RE: UCC Council (by Rep. Eli Evankovich, et al)

Amends the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions and for Uniform Construction Code Review and Advisory Council and providing for review of updated sections and adoption of updated sections into Uniform Construction Code; requires council members to be Pennsylvania residents; regulations promulgated as a result of council decisions shall remain in effect until September 30, 2018, and afterwards supersede any previous inconsistent council decisions or departmental regulations; in Uniform Construction Code, further providing for revised or successor codes; in adoption and enforcement by municipalities, further providing for administration and enforcement; in training and certification of inspectors, further providing for education and training programs by establishing a \$4 fee on each construction or building permit issued, with 47.5 percent of the fee going to both the Municipal Code Official Training Account and Construction Contractor Training Account, and five percent to the Review and Advisory Council Administration Account; no money from the fee shall be transmitted to DCED for administrative expenses; and, in exemptions, applicability and penalties, further providing for applicability to certain buildings.

**Reported as amended from House Labor and Industry Committee, read first time, and laid on the table, 4/3/2017**

**Removed from the table, 4/4/2017**

**Read second time, and rereferred to House Appropriations Committee, 4/5/2017**

**Reported as committed from House Appropriations Committee, 4/19/2017**  
**Read third time, and passed House, 4/25/2017 (110-82)**

[SB 269](#) RE: Uniform Construction Code Review and Advisory Council (by Sen. Lisa Baker, et al)  
Amends the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions, adding that the Uniform Construction Code Review and Advisory Council shall also gather information from construction trades and consumer representatives; repealing provisions providing for review; reconstituting the membership of the council and providing for removal of members; requiring members to participate in person, via teleconference, or via video conference; establishing technical advisory committees; providing for review of updated sections and adoption of updated sections into Uniform Construction Code; in Uniform Construction Code, further providing for revised or successor codes; in adoption and enforcement by municipalities, further providing for administration and enforcement; in training and certification of inspectors, further providing for education and training programs; and, in exemptions, applicability and penalties, further providing for applicability to certain buildings. Additionally, the fee collected shall be allocated as follows: 40 percent in the Municipal Code Official Training Account, 40 percent in the Construction Contractor Training Account, and 20 percent in the Review and Advisory Council Administration Account to be used by the Department of Labor and Industry.

**Reported as amended from Senate Labor and Industry Committee, and read first time, 4/25/2017**  
**Read second time, and rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 4/26/2017**

[SB 580](#) RE: Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health Act (by Sen. Christine Tartaglione, et al)  
Provides workplace health and safety standards for public employees and for powers and duties of the Secretary of Labor and Industry, establishes the Pennsylvania Occupational Safety and Health Review Board, provides for workplace inspections and imposes penalties.

**Introduced and referred to Senate Labor and Industry Committee, 4/5/2017**

## **Local/Property Tax Reform**

NONE

## **Mandate Waivers**

NONE

## **Mechanic's Lien**

NONE

## **Prevailing Wage**

[HB 1225](#) RE: Prevailing Wage Act Application (by Rep. Stephen Bloom, et al)  
Amends the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act stipulating that the act shall have no application during the time period after June 30, 2017, and before July 1, 2020. Effective June 30, 2017, or retroactively to June 30, 2017, if needed.

**Introduced and referred to House Labor and Industry Committee, 4/17/2017**

[HB 1226](#) RE: Definition of "Public Work" (by Rep. Stephen Bloom, et al)  
Amends the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act further providing for the definition of "public work" by increasing the threshold to \$100,000 and excluding work performed under 75 Pa.C.S. 9023 (relating to application of Prevailing Wage Act to locally funded highway and bridge projects).

**Introduced and referred to House Labor and Industry Committee, 4/17/2017**

[HB 1227](#) RE: Definition of "Public Work" (by Rep. Stephen Bloom, et al)  
Amends the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act stipulating that "public work" shall not include the replacement or repair of a structurally deficient bridge.

**Introduced and referred to House Labor and Industry Committee, 4/18/2017**

[HB 1236](#) RE: Prevailing Wage in KOZ Projects (by Rep. Ron Marsico, et al)

Amends the Keystone Opportunity Zone, Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone and Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone Act, in procedures for zones, adding that the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act shall not apply to a project in a keystone opportunity zone for construction, reconstruction or alteration.

**Introduced and referred to House Commerce Committee, 4/17/2017**

[SB 606](#) RE: "Maintenance Work" (by Sen. Mike Folmer, et al)

Amends the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act further providing for definitions by adding that "maintenance work" includes the following actions taken on roads: (1) Replacement in kind, or compliance with current Department of Transportation design criteria and standards, of guide rails, curbs, pipes, line painting and other related road equipment; (2) Repair of pavement service by laying bituminous material up to 3.5 inches thick or up to 420 pounds per square yard on asphalt pavement, cement concrete or other hard surface, including associated milling, and related work raising existing paved shoulders to new grade; or patching of cement concrete surface to include joint spalling and repair work; (3) Widening of existing alignment which does not result in additional lanes or new shoulders; and (4) Bridge cleaning, washing, resurfacing with blacktop, minor nonstructural repairs or improvements and painting, except when combined with complete bridge rehabilitation.

**Introduced and referred to Senate Labor and Industry Committee, 4/13/2017**

## **Professional Licensure**

NONE

## **School Construction**

NONE

## **Transportation**

NONE

## **Worker's Comp/ Unemployment Comp**

[SB 250](#) RE: Service and Infrastructure Improvement Fund (by Sen. Kim Ward, et al)

Amends the Unemployment Compensation Law, in contributions by employers and employees, further providing for contributions by employees and for Service and Infrastructure Improvement Fund by establishing the amount to be deposited into the Service and Infrastructure Improvement Fund for 2017 at an amount not to exceed \$15 million. The bill also adds expenditures for technological upgrades to the delivery system for unemployment compensation benefits as a designated purpose for the funds. Requires the Department of Labor and Industry to submit a report to the chairs of the House and Senate Labor and Industry Committees before closing an Unemployment Compensation Call Center. Effective immediately. Also requires the department to submit a report, no later than June 15, 2017, to the chairs of the House and Senate Labor and Industry Committees describing the department's plans to eliminate the department's reliance on transferring money into the Service and Infrastructure Improvement Fund for recurring operational costs. Effective immediately.

**Reported as amended from House Labor and Industry Committee, read first time, and laid on the table, 4/3/2017**

**Removed from the table, 4/4/2017**

**Read second time and rereferred to House Appropriations Committee, 4/5/2017**

**Reported as committed from House Appropriations Committee, read third time, and passed House, 4/18/2017 (189-4)**

**Received as amended in Senate and rereferred Senate Rules and Executive Noms Committee, 4/18/2017**

**Re-reported on concurrence as committed from Senate Rules and Executive Noms Committee, and Senate concurred in House amendments, 4/19/2017 (41-8)**

**Signed in the Senate, 4/19/2017**

**Signed in the House 4/24/2017**

**Approved by the Governor, 4/24/2017 (Act No. 1 of 2017)**

## Workforce Development

[HB 50](#) RE: Freedom of Employment Act (by Rep. Daryl Metcalfe, et al)  
Prohibits employment from being conditional upon membership or non-membership in a labor organization. Compulsory dues would be prohibited for non-union members and would apply to both public and private sector employees.

**Introduced and referred to House State Government Committee, 5/1/2017**

[HB 51](#) RE: Compulsory Union Dues (by Rep. Kathy Rapp, et al)  
Amends the Administrative Code prohibiting labor organizations from collecting compulsory union dues from non-union public school employees.

**Introduced and referred to House Labor and Industry Committee, 5/1/2017**

[HB 52](#) RE: Compulsory Union Dues (by Rep. Fred Keller, et al)  
Amends the Administrative Code prohibiting labor organizations from collecting compulsory union dues from non-union state employees.

**Introduced and referred to House Labor and Industry Committee, 5/1/2017**

[HB 53](#) RE: Collective Bargaining Agreement Limitation Act (by Rep. Stephen Bloom, et al)  
Provides no collective bargaining agreement made after the effective date by any political subdivision nor any extension of an existing collective bargaining agreement may require payment of a fair share fee to the exclusive representative of a nonmember of the exclusive representative. Repeals the Public Employee Fair Share Law.

**Introduced and referred to House State Government Committee, 5/1/2017**

[HB 54](#) RE: Freedom of Employment Act (by Rep. Jerry Knowles, et al)  
Prohibits employment from being conditional upon membership or non-membership in a labor organization. Compulsory dues would be prohibited for non-union members and would apply to only private sector employees.

**Introduced and referred to House State Government Committee, 5/1/2017**

[HB 55](#) RE: Public Employee Opt Out (by Rep. Rob Kauffman, et al)  
Amends the Public Employee Relations Act to permit public employees to opt out of their union membership at any time during their contract.

**Introduced and referred to House Labor and Industry Committee, 5/1/2017**

[HB 1050](#) RE: Right to Work Amendment (by Rep. garth Everett, et al)  
A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania providing for a citizen's right to work. Constitutional amendments require approval in two consecutive legislative sessions and then approval by the voters through a referendum.

**Introduced and referred to House State Government Committee, 5/1/2017**

[SB 587](#) RE: Statutory Construction of Wage and Hour Laws Act (by Sen. Lisa Baker, et al)  
Provides for statutory construction of Pennsylvania wage and hour laws. The following apply: (1) The Minimum Wage Act of 1968, shall be construed in pari materia with 29 U.S.C. Ch. 9 (relating to portal-to-portal pay) and sections 7 and 13 and the other provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (52 Stat. 1060, 29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.), including regulations in effect on or after the effective date; and (2) The minimum cash wage for tipped employees shall be \$2.83 per hour. If the minimum cash wage for tipped employees set forth in the Fair Labor Standards Act is increased above this rate, the rate shall be increased by the same amounts and effective the same date as the increases under the Fair Labor Standards Act. The bill provides for construction, inconsistent repeals, and abrogates regulations.

**Introduced and referred to Senate Labor and Industry Committee, 4/7/2017**

## Upcoming meetings of Interest

Some House Committee meetings and session can be viewed online at: <http://www.pahousegop.com/>

Senate Committee meetings and session can be streamed at: <http://www.pasenategop.com/>

**THURSDAY - 5/4/17**

**Public School Building Construction & Reconstruction Advisory Committee**

**12:00 p.m., East Penn School District Administration Building, 800 Pine Street, Emmaus**

Public hearing on funding for school construction and maintenance

**TUESDAY - 5/9/17**

**House Labor and Industry Committee**

**9:30 a.m., Room B31 Main Capitol**

Public hearing on: HB 1014 (F. Keller) - Amends the Unemployment Compensation Law, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in contributions by employers and employees, further providing for relief from charges; in compensation; and providing for applicability. Defines "Willful Misconduct" and "Voluntary Quit".

**WEDNESDAY - 5/10/17**

**House Local Government Committee**

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

To consider:

[HB 913](#) RE: Fees for Storm Water Management Activities (by Rep. Garth Everett, et al)

[HB 914](#) RE: Fees for Storm Water Management Activities (by Rep. Garth Everett, et al)

[HB 915](#) RE: Fees for Storm Water Management Activities (by Rep. Garth Everett, et al)

[HB 916](#) RE: Fees for Storm Water Management Activities (by Rep. Garth Everett, et al)

**And others**

**2017 SENATE SESSION SCHEDULE**

**May 8, 9, 10, 22, 23, 24**

**June 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30**

**2017 HOUSE SESSION SCHEDULE**

**May 8, 9, 10, 22, 23, 24**

**June 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30**

*Copies of all bills of interest can be accessed via the Internet at:*

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/session.cfm>