

Malady & Wooten, LLP

Legislative Report

January 24, 2014

For questions, contact:

Drew Lyons

Phone: 717.236.9600

Email: dlyons@malady-wooten.com



Pennsylvania Golf Course Owners Association

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Session Schedule:

2013 HOUSE SESSION SCHEDULE

January 27, 28, 29

February 3, 4, 5

March 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 31

April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 28, 29, 30

May 5, 6, 7

June 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

2013 SENATE SESSION SCHEDULE

January 27, 28, 29

February 3, 4, 5

March 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 31

April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 28, 29, 30

May 5, 6, 7

June 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

2014-2015 BUDGET HEARINGS

Senate Appropriations

TUESDAY - 2/18/14

3:00 p.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

Budget Hearing - Department of Environmental Protection

House Appropriations

WEDNESDAY - 2/19/14

1:00 p.m., Room 140 Main Capitol

Budget Hearing - Department of Environmental Protection

House Appropriations

WEDNESDAY - 2/19/14

2:30 p.m., Room 140 Main Capitol

Budget Hearing - Department of Community & Economic Development

Senate Appropriations

MONDAY - 2/24/14

1:00 p.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

Budget Hearing - Department of Community & Economic Development

SENATE COMMITTEE DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM IN BEDFORD

BEDFORD, Jan. 22, 2014 – Focusing on tourism and economic development in rural areas, the state Senate Democratic Policy Committee held a roundtable discussion in Bedford today at the request of Sen. John Wozniak.

"I'm happy we could bring the policy committee to Bedford," Wozniak (D-Johnstown) said. "Our committee will take today's local input back to Harrisburg and to help amplify the viewpoints of local officials and business leaders."

Wozniak said that building a comprehensive strategy to strengthen tourism and fuel economic development is a worthy goal for any rural community.

Noting that more than 500,000 Pennsylvanians work in the leisure and hospitality sectors, Wozniak said that tourism remains a very important economic driver in Pennsylvania.

Sen. Lisa Boscola (D-Northampton), who chairs the committee, added, "The scenic region of Bedford County has a great reputation for its rural charm and attractiveness as a tourist destination. I hope to take the innovative ideas discussed today back to the legislature so we can help this region continue to grow and thrive."

General Manager of the Bedford Springs Resort Lee Bowden said tourism is evolving, and it is becoming more experience-based than it has been in the past. He said people still want golf and spa facilities, but they also want farm-to-table culinary experiences, archery lessons and hikes on unique trails.

Director of Bedford County Planning Commission Don Schwartz agreed that people are looking for a whole experience, and trails are a big business. Schwartz said recreational trails such as the Pike to Bike project are relatively low-impact on the community but are able to draw in tourists.

Melissa Jacobs, owner of the Jean Bonnet Tavern, said tourists from other areas of the state and the country bring fresh dollars to rural areas, and businesses are able to capitalize on that.

"Tourism dollars are more important in rural areas than urban areas because we have a smaller pool," Jacobs said. "We're able to stretch them more."

Boscola said early planning is crucial for the continued success of the state's rural communities because demographics are changing.

Democratic Leader Sen. Jay Costa (D-Allegheny) said he's disappointed that Governor Corbett's office doesn't seem to have a plan for community development.

"We need to make a decision," Costa said. "We can either manage the decline or make an investment to grow the community."

Several other senators from different areas of the state joined the panel discussion, including **John Blake** (D-Lackawanna), **Wayne Fontana** (D-Allegheny) and **Richard Kasunic** (D-Fayette/Somerset). Other participants included:

- **Tina Molski**, director of operations, REI East Coast Distribution Center;
- **David Kahley**, president, The Progress Fund;
- **Cheryl Johnson**, executive director, PICCC, Inc.;
- **Melissa Jacobs**, owner, Jean Bonnet Tavern;
- **Ed Silveti**, executive director, Southern Alleghenies Planning Development Association;
- **Lee Bowden**, general manager, Bedford Springs Resort & chairman, Downtown Bedford Inc.;
- **Don Schwartz**, director, Bedford County Planning Commission;
- **Bette Slayton**, president, Bedford County Development Association.

GOVERNOR CORBETT ANNOUNCES 118 GRANTS TO PROTECT, IMPROVE WATERSHEDS IN 40 COUNTIES

Harrisburg – Governor Tom Corbett announced today that the Department of Environmental Protection will invest more than \$20.65 million in watershed protection projects to improve watersheds, reduce stormwater runoff and acid mine drainage (AMD), and support educational programs, among other environmental efforts.

"Maintaining water quality and protecting Pennsylvania's resources is an important focus of my administration," Corbett said. "The millions invested in these grants demonstrate our continued commitment to protecting and preserving our environment and natural resources for generations to come."

This year, the Growing Greener program, funded by the Environmental Stewardship Fund, will award \$15,120,608 for 97 projects around the state. Four additional projects, funded by the Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Grant, will receive \$1,953,947. Two additional grants, totaling \$406,975, are funded by the AMD Set Aside Program.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Program, that was created through the federal Clean Water Act to help reduce water pollution from nonpoint sources, is funding 15 additional projects, totaling \$3,174,807.

These projects will reduce nonpoint source pollution in impaired streams by implementing agricultural and stormwater best management practices (BMPs); developing, repairing or installing passive systems to treat AMD; and supporting the establishment of riparian buffers, among other methods.

Two of the primary goals under Pennsylvania's Growing Greener Program are to invest in projects that protect watersheds from impairment due to nonpoint source pollution and to restore waterways damaged by non-point source pollution. Some examples of priority activities are restoration work to reduce pollutant load in impaired watersheds for which total maximum daily loads have been developed; projects in priority watersheds that would reduce the source of impairment; and priority activities that lead to water quality restoration and protection.

In this latest grant round, 162 eligible applicants requested about \$41.8 million. Applications came from counties, authorities and other municipalities; county conservation districts; councils of governments;

watershed organizations that promote local watershed conservation efforts; and other authorized organizations involved in restoring and protecting the environment.

For more information about Growing Greener or to see the complete list of grant recipients, email GrowingGreener@pa.gov, call 717-705-4500 or visit DEP's website at www.dep.state.pa.us, keyword: Growing Greener.

Media contact: Amanda Witman, 717-787-1323

Editor's note: The 90 organizations that were awarded grants are listed below, alphabetically by county, with the project name and funding amount.

Allegheny

- Borough of Jefferson Hills, Peters Creek Stream Restoration: \$84,000

Armstrong

- Armstrong Conservation District, Campbell Run Agricultural BMP: \$259,943
- Armstrong Conservation District, Cowannshannock Creek Watershed Streambank Stabilization: \$32,452
- Armstrong Conservation District, Shay Stream Streambank Restoration: \$8,350

Beaver

- Beaver County Conservation District, Brush Creek Restoration: \$48,728

Bedford

- Broad Top Township, Sandy Run AMD Treatment System: \$311,375
- Trust for Tomorrow, Yellow Creek Tributary Restoration: \$13,200

Bradford

- Bradford County Conservation District, Stephen Foster Lake Forebay Rehabilitation: \$202,613.50
- Wysox Creek Watershed Association, Inc., Parks Creek Watershed Rehabilitation: \$242,850

Bucks

- Bucks County Conservation District, North Branch Neshaminy Creek Agricultural BMP: \$173,477.93

Butler

- Stream Restoration, Inc., Slippery Rock Creek Streambank Stabilization Project: \$49,042
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Thorn Creek Restoration: \$31,529

Cambria

- ART WORKS in Johnstown!, Green Roof: \$212,500
- Clearfield Creek Watershed Association, Old Beldin Mine AMD Treatment System: \$42,350

Centre

- Stream Restoration, Inc., Pine Glen Active Treatment System: \$664,373
- Wildlife for Everyone Endowment Foundation, Halfmoon Creek Restoration: \$148,404

Chester

- City of Coatesville, Stormwater BMP: \$150,000
- Red Clay Valley Association, Inc., East Branch Red Clay Stream Restoration: \$159,000
- Stroud Water Research Center, Inc., Chester County Agricultural BMP Planning and Implementation: \$400,000
- Valley Forge Trout Unlimited, Inc., Friendship Drive Infiltration Trench: \$66,498

- White Clay Watershed Association, New Garden Township Park Riparian Buffer Restoration: \$53,030
- YMCA of the Upper Main Line, Stormwater BMP and Dam Removal: \$152,300

Clearfield

- Clearfield County Conservation District, Little D AMD Passive Treatment System Construction: \$455,028
- Lawrence Township, Montgomery Creek Watershed AMD Passive Treatment System: \$413,439
- Stream Restoration, Inc., Alder Run AMD Treatment System: \$818,179

Columbia

- Nicholas Wolff Foundation, Inc., Camp Victory Wetlands Reclamation: \$165,448

Crawford

- Borough of Cochranon, Stormwater Management: \$49,016
- Crawford County Conservation District, Streambank Reforestation: \$25,000

Delaware

- Borough of Media, Stormwater Master Plan: \$127,192
- Pennsylvania Resources Council, Inc., Community Stormwater Management BMP Workshops: \$41,670
- Villanova University, Stormwater Facility Research: \$225,968

Elk

- Toby Creek Watershed Association, Inc., Kyler Hollow Passive Treatment System: \$260,000

Erie

- Edinboro Lake Watershed Association, Stormwater Management: \$78,000
- Environment Erie, ANEW Stormwater Education and Outreach: \$42,969
- Environment Erie, Municipal Stormwater Management: \$150,972

Fayette

- Fayette County Conservation District, Downers Run Watershed Agricultural BMP: \$36,648
- Mountain Watershed Association, Inc., Kalp AMD Treatment System Repair: \$305,819
- Stream Restoration, Inc., Jonathan Run Watershed AMD Treatment System: \$359,823
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Dunbar Creek Restoration: \$31,435
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Glade Run Watershed AMD Passive Treatment System Repair: \$320,917

Fulton

- Fulton County Conservation District, Big Cove Creek Streambank Restoration: \$105,000

Huntingdon

- Huntingdon County Conservation District, Manure Management Planning: \$25,095

Jefferson

- Headwaters Charitable Trust, Mill Creek Watershed: \$274,621

Lancaster

- American Rivers, Inc., Heistand Sawmill Dam Removal: \$49,985
- Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance, Logan Park Floodplain Restoration: \$239,200
- Cocalico Creek Watershed Association, Little Cocalico Creek Streambank Stabilization: \$38,325

- Conservation Foundation of Lancaster County, Meadow Spring Farm Stream Restoration: \$9,000
- Lancaster County Conservation District, Mill Creek Restoration: \$49,643
- Lancaster Farmland Trust, Conestoga River Watershed BMP Implementation: \$297,000

Lebanon

- Lebanon Valley Conservancy, Inc., Quittie Creek Nature Park Stream Restoration: \$444,126

Lehigh

- Lehigh County Conservation District, Perkiomen Creek Watershed Stream Restoration: \$18,221
- Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation, Lehigh River Waterfront Redevelopment Project: \$466,250
- Upper Macungie Township, Gateway Pines Sub-Basin Retrofit: \$7,504
- Upper Macungie Township, Riparian Buffer: \$58,125

Luzerne

- Borough of Harveys Lake, Harveys Lake Stormwater System: \$157,810
- Earth Conservancy, Bliss Bank Mine Land Reclamation: \$928,000
- Luzerne County Conservation District, Stream Stabilization: \$60,565

Lycoming

- Muncy Creek Watershed Association Inc., Little Muncy Creek Stabilization: \$13,999

Mifflin

- Mifflin County Conservation District, Hungry Run Watershed BMP: \$498,847

Montgomery

- Jenkintown School District, Water Harvest Irrigation System: \$78,500
- Upper Merion Township, Crow Creek Watershed Restoration: \$78,570

Montour

- Montour County Conservation District, Chillisquaque Creek Restoration: \$389,822

Northampton

- Bangor Borough, Messinger St. Emergency Stormwater Design: \$40,625
- Bethlehem Township, Monocacy Creek Spillway and BMP Retrofits: \$56,500
- Bethlehem City, Monocacy Creek Watershed Environmental Assessment: \$150,000
- Martins-Jacoby Watershed Association, Atlas Dam Removal: \$420,900
- Plainfield Township, Little Bushkill Watershed Management Plan: \$46,942

Northumberland

- Northumberland County Conservation District, Carbon Run Passive Treatment System: \$90,339
- Rockefeller Township, Dirt and Gravel Roads Improvement: \$35,829

Philadelphia

- Frankford Friends School, Stormwater Retrofit and Outdoor Classroom: \$40,000
- Friends of the Wissahickon, Inc., Andorra Natural Area Stormwater Management: \$330,000
- Schuylkill River Development Corporation, Schuylkill Banks Trail: \$100,000

Potter

- Potter County Conservation District, Genesee Headwaters Streambank Stabilization: \$56,300
- Trout Unlimited, Inc., Cross Fork Sediment Reduction and Habitat Improvement: \$168,054

Schuylkill

- Schuylkill Conservation District, Dandelion Farm Best Management Practice Installation: \$144,000
- Schuylkill Conservation District, Mine Pool Treatment System Expansion: \$293,898
- Schuylkill Conservation District, Swatara Creek Floodplain Restoration: \$300,700
- Schuylkill Conservation District, Oneida #3 AMD Treatment System Optimization: \$157,505
- Schuylkill Conservation District, West Creek Flow Loss Assessment and Remediation Plan: \$302,006

Somerset

- Shade Creek Watershed Association, Coal Run AMD Repair: \$297,950

Susquehanna

- Susquehanna County Conservation District, Agricultural Spring Developments: \$59,744
- Susquehanna County Conservation District, DuBois Creek Restoration: \$55,000
- Susquehanna County Conservation District, Priority Watersheds Barnyard Project: \$205,523

Tioga

- Babb Creek Watershed Association, Inc., Klondike AMD Passive Treatment System Repair: \$253,447
- Tioga County Conservation District, Agricultural BMP on Tributaries to the Cowanesque River: \$196,478

Union

- Diversified Treatment Alternative, Pond Restoration and Create Wetlands: \$75,550
- Union County Conservation District, Agricultural BMP: \$178,130
- Union County Conservation District, Little Buffalo Creek Agricultural BMP: \$329,851
- Union County Conservation District, Multi-Species Cover Crop Program: \$150,000

Venango

- Cornplanter Township, Oil Creek Streambank Stabilization: \$120,000
- Iron Furnace Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Porcupine Run Fish Passage: \$132,227
- Venango Conservation District, Little Sandy Creek and Sugar Creek Streambank Stabilization: \$28,308

Westmoreland

- Jacobs Creek Watershed Association, Scottdale Borough Stormwater BMP: \$124,000
- Jacobs Creek Watershed Association, Mount Pleasant Stormwater BMP: \$545,399
- Loyalhanna Watershed Association, Inc., Crabtree Creek AMD Assessment: \$101,156
- Loyalhanna Watershed Association, Inc., Loyalhanna Creek Stream Improvement: \$190,750
- Saint Vincent College, Monastery Run Stream Improvement: \$209,526
- Sewickley Creek Watershed Association, Brinkerton Discharge Sludge Removal: \$119,400
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Beaver Run Agricultural BMP: \$129,945
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Delmont Urban Stormwater Retrofits: \$110,971
- Westmoreland County Conservation District, Stormwater Basin Retrofits: \$128,110

York

- Codorus Creek Watershed Association, South Branch Codorus Creek Restoration: \$22,500
- Izaak Walton League of America, Barshinger Run Restoration: \$59,925
- Izaak Walton League of America, East Branch Codorus Creek Restoration: \$60,500
- Izaak Walton League of America, Pine Run Restoration: \$70,000

- Izaak Walton League of America, South Branch Codorus Creek Restoration: \$58,905

Not County Specific

- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Inc., Local Government Watershed Forums: \$27,636
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Inc., Incentives for New and Established Forested Buffers: \$375,000
- Chester County Conservation District, Mushroom Resource Conservationist: \$163,421
- Nature Abounds, Pennsylvania Senior Environmental Corps: \$356,884
- Northwest Pennsylvania Eminent Community Institute, Management and Continuation of the Northwest PA Greenways: \$200,000
- Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, TreeVitalize: \$200,000
- Stream Restoration, Inc., Blacks Creek Watershed Analysis: \$49,667
- Stroud Water Research Center, Inc., Berks County Agricultural BMP: \$400,000
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Better Roads, Cleaner Streams Program: \$26,000
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Morrison Cove Nutrient and Sediment Reduction: \$100,000
- Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, PA Stream Access and Riparian Conservation: \$250,000
- Wildlands Conservancy, Inc., Lehigh River Watershed Landowner Outreach: \$59,090

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

House Environmental Resources and Energy (PUBLIC HEARING)

WEDNESDAY - 1/29/14

9:00 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building

Public hearing on:

HB 1565 Hahn, Marcia

Amends the Clean Streams Law further providing for potential pollution.

BILL REPORT

ATTACHED TO THE REPORT

STATE NEWS

GOV. CORBETT PREVIEWS PART OF 2014-15 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Governor Corbett held a press conference to preview a section of his 2014-15 budget proposal. He was joined by Department of Public Welfare (DPW) Secretary Bev Mackereth, Victim Advocate Jennifer Storm, representatives from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, members of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR), and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV). "The 2013-14 budget included the most funding for domestic violence and rape crisis in the history of the Commonwealth," said Gov. Corbett. "I'm pleased to announce our continued commitment to saying 'no more' to domestic violence and rape. The 2014-15 budget proposal will increase funding for domestic violence and rape crisis centers by \$2.2 million, or an additional ten percent."

GAME COMMISSION UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Following the retirement of Carl Roe, after eight years as the agency's executive director, Washington County native Matt Hough was tapped as the new leader of the nearly \$100 million agency charged with non-aquatic wildlife management. The decision by the agency's board of commissioners to install Hough was considered to be a conservative choice, and by Hough's admission a temporary one. Since 2010 he's worked in Harrisburg as Roe's deputy.

STUDY: PA IS IN TOUGH FINANCIAL SHAPE

Pennsylvania state government's financial health is the 42nd worst among states, according to a George Mason University study that analysts predict will become political fodder in the governor's race. The study released last week by the Mercatus Center at George Mason said, "states with the worst fiscal condition have had years of poor financial management."

IN THE NEWS

When gas prices rise, tourism goes down

PATTON, Jan. 21 – State Rep. Gary Haluska today said rising gasoline prices and government fuel mandates have hurt Pennsylvania's tourism-related businesses, employees and customers. He called for lower gas taxes at the state and federal level and a relaxation of fuel standards to reduce costs.

"The tourism industry is particularly sensitive to rising gas prices and other related costs," he said. "Renewable fuel standards and fuel efficiency are important, but they need to be balanced with the ability of people to afford to drive their vehicles and businesses that depend on travel and motorized sports and recreation to survive. We're just beginning to recover from the worst economic recession in nearly 80 years. We need to get our economy back in shape before we start increasing costs for everyone again."

Haluska has been critical of Pennsylvania's lack of funding for and promotion of Pennsylvania's tourism industry. State tourism funding has fallen from \$44 million in 2000 to about \$3 million today, even though tourism and related industries employ nearly 450,000 people in the state.

"Now the governor has added a 28-cents-per-gallon gas tax hike to the mix," he said. "When gas prices go up, people cut back on nonessential driving; they postpone day drips and weekend getaways."

Haluska also pointed out that rising gas prices and more costly fuel standards also result in a reduction in motorsports recreation. In addition to higher gas prices for recreational vehicles such as ATVs, snowmobiles and boats, more restrictive fuel standards from the federal government have increased the ethanol content in gasoline, which damages the smaller engines in recreational vehicles.

"ATV riding, snowmobiling and boating are popular activities in Pennsylvania and are important to local economies," he said. "The new fuel mandates make it more expensive to own and operate these types of vehicles. That's not helping tourism or motorized recreation."

Haluska, who voted against the gas tax increase, said state and federal gasoline taxes should be reduced and fuel standard mandates should be revised or eliminated – at least temporarily.

"The cost of new gas taxes and stricter fuel standards always trickles down to the customer and small business person, increasing their costs and impacting their lives and livelihood," he said. "Now is the worst time for that to be happening."

Haluska said he supports long-term, legislative actions that would reduce costs for small businesses and encourage more people to contribute to Pennsylvania's \$40 billion travel and tourism industry.

"These steps, plus a renewed commitment to tourism in the governor's budget, would be welcome," he said.

01-23-2014 **[Toll agrees to buy part of Philmont golf club](#)**


Toll Bros., the Horsham builder that specializes in fancy townhome developments and suburban McMansions, has agreed to buy 52 acres of the century-old Philmont Country Club, located less than 10 miles from Toll's offices in Huntingdon Valley, adjoining Northeast Philadelphia.... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

01-21-2014 **[In brief: Senate panel will focus on rural areas](#)**

BEDFORD — The state Senate Democratic Policy Committee will hold a public roundtable discussion on tourism and economic development challenges in rural areas on Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Omni Bedford Springs Resort. At least a half-dozen state senators, along with economic leaders from... - [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#)

- 01-21-2014 **Urban, suburban stormwater runoff replacing farm and sewage plants as top problem affecting Chesapeake Bay**
Chesapeake Bay runoff pollution from Lancaster County and Pennsylvania agriculture: Improving. Nutrient pollution from sewage plants: Improving. Stormwater runoff: Getting worse. Indeed, polluted storm rain and snowmelt streaming from urban and suburban backyards, streets and parking lots has emerged as THE pressing issue in... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)

WEEK IN REVIEW

- 01-24-2014 **Process for picking a university president is in for a change at Pa. state universities**
Picking a president to lead a university is one of the most important decisions that its trustees can make – except in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. View full sizeGuido Pichini, chairman of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's board of governors, said he thinks the way the... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 01-24-2014 **Pa. state senator proposes changes to Penn State**
HARRISBURG, Pa. — A legislative proposal would decrease the size of Penn State's board of trustees from 30 to 23 members... - [AP](#)
- 01-23-2014 **Corbett raises \$7.5 million for reelection campaign**
HARRISBURG — Republican Gov. Tom Corbett may be struggling in public opinion polls, but that didn't stop donors from giving him \$7.5 million for his campaign. That's the cash-on-hand figure Corbett released on Wednesday for the Jan. 31 filing deadline, campaign manager Mike Barley said. Corbett raised \$6.8... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 01-23-2014 **5 state universities seek to lower out-of-state tuition rates**
Faced with declining enrollment and competition from private universities, several of the state's 14 universities are seeking permission to reduce tuition for out-of-state students. The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education board of governors is expected to vote today on a pilot project that would lower out-of-state... - [Reading Eagle](#)
- 01-22-2014 **Corbett offers broad-based energy plan**
Gov. Tom Corbett on Tuesday went to the heart of Marcellus shale drilling to quietly announce details of a state energy plan. His "Energy = Jobs" plan, which his office outlined in a 72-page report and at a website connected to the governor's homepage, looks to... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 01-22-2014 **Pennsylvania receives poor grades in tobacco report**
Pennsylvania did not score well for its efforts to limit tobacco use, receiving two C's and two F's in the American Lung Association's annual State of Tobacco Control report. "We made some progress in protecting our citizens from tobacco-caused diseases through our prevention and cessation initiatives," said Deb Brown,... - [Reading Eagle](#)
- 01-21-2014 **Attorney General Kathleen Kane says appeal of Voter ID ruling rests with Gov. Tom Corbett**
*This post was updated to reflect a comment from Gov. Tom Corbett's spokesman. Attorney General Kathleen Kane wants to clear up any confusion about her role in any appeal of Commonwealth Court Judge Bernard McGinley's Friday ruling that declared the state's voter ID law unconstitutional.... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 01-20-2014 **Study says Pa. is in tough financial shape**
HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania state government's financial health is the 42nd worst among states, according to a George Mason University study that analysts predict will become political fodder in the governor's race. The study released last week by the Mercatus Center at George Mason said,... -

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

01-20-2014

A wish list from the counties

Harrisburg lawmakers now have another blueprint to follow as they begin their work in this gubernatorial election year. The County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, an advocacy group representing all 67 counties, has put together a list of 10 legislative priorities that will... - *Levittown Intelligencer*