

**Malady & Wooten, LLP**

Legislative Report  
November 8, 2013

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**Pennsylvania Golf Course Owners Association**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

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**Session Schedule:**

**2013 HOUSE SESSION SCHEDULE**

November 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

December 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 (NV)

**2013 SENATE SESSION SCHEDULE**

November 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

December 3, 4, 9, 10, 11

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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### Senate Democratic Policy Committee

THURSDAY - 11/14/13

10:00 a.m., Bedford Springs Resort, 2138 US 220 Business, Bedford

Roundtable discussion on economic development and tourism in rural areas

## BILL REPORT

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**\*ATTACHED TO THE REPORT\***

## STATE NEWS

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### PEDUTO SWEEPS ELECTION TO WIN PITTSBURGH MAYOR

Bill Peduto cruised to victory in the Pittsburgh mayoral race, officially earning the "mayor-elect" title he sought twice before and then avoided during the five months since his convincing Democratic primary win. Peduto won 84 percent of the vote, walloping two challengers who barely put up a fight.

### OCTOBER REVENUE COLLECTIONS BETTER THAN EXPECTED

Pennsylvania took in \$2.1 billion last month with all three of the major taxes – sales, personal income and corporation taxes – generating more than was anticipated for October. The state Department of Revenue's monthly revenue report shows overall collections for the fourth month of the fiscal year came in \$29 million, or 1.4 percent, more than anticipated, to support the state's \$28.4 billion budget bill that Gov. Tom Corbett signed on June 30.

### SLOTS OCTOBER REVENUE UP SLIGHTLY FROM LAST YEAR

Slots revenues at Pennsylvania casinos rose slightly in October compared to a year ago, helped in part by growth in Pittsburgh and the new Lady Luck Casino Nemacolin in Fayette County. Casinos brought in nearly \$189 million, up 0.31 percent from \$188.4 million in October 2012 through slots play last month at 12 sites.

## IN THE NEWS

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### Hospitality industry members honored at Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association annual awards gala

**Harrisburg, Pa. (November 5, 2013)** — On Sunday, November 3, the Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association honored several hospitality industry members for their leadership, service, dedication and commitment to food safety at the association's 76th Annual Awards Gala, hosted by the Hershey Lodge.

The Excellence in Food Safety award recognizes PRLA members who exceed the standards of excellence in food safety and sanitation. PRLA is pleased to announce the following recipients of the 2013 award: Appalachian Brewing Company (Harrisburg); Beechie's Place (Meadow Lands); Gettysburg College Dining Services (Gettysburg); Great Wolf Lodge (Scotrun); Hilton Harrisburg (Harrisburg); Isaac's Famous Grilled Sandwiches (Lancaster); Lynn Dairy Queens Inc. (Brownsville); Messiah College Dining Services (Grantham); Reba and Pancho's (Lewisburg); Red Robin (Hamburg); and Victory Brewing Company (Downingtown).

PRLA's Philadelphia and Brandywine chapters were honored for their efforts in growing the association's membership base over the past year. Chickie's & Pete's Joe Campbell earned recruiter of the year honors, and \$300 will be donated to the charity of his choice.

The evening concluded with the association's annual awards presentation. These awards are presented to association members who have made significant contributions to the industry, association and community.

John Graf, owner of the Priory Hospitality Group in Pittsburgh, took home the Wilmer S. Lapp Keystone Award for his service to both his industry and his community.

Philadelphia-based insurance brokerage and consulting firm The Graham Company was honored as the PRLA Allied Member of the Year.

Stephen Sikking, director of sales for the Best Western Premier Eden Resort & Suites in Lancaster, was honored as the PRLA Lodging Member of the Year.

Ross Morris, owner of Carlisle restaurants Andalusia, Café Bruges and Piatto, took home Restaurant Member of the Year.

CBS21 Chief Meteorologist Tom Russell served as the master of ceremonies for the gala.

The Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association was formed in 2012, when the Pennsylvania Restaurant Association and Pennsylvania Tourism & Lodging Association merged their memberships. PRLA serves as the unified voice of Pennsylvania's second largest industry—the hospitality industry— which employs approximately 960,000 people and generates revenues of more than \$42 billion annually.

- 11-07-2013     **Rep. Stern will not run again**  
HOLLIDAYSBURG - The door on a new political year opened Wednesday with state Rep. Jerry Stern, R-Martinsburg, announcing he won't run for re-election in 2014. Stern, in his 22nd year in the General Assembly, said he prayed with his wife, Susan, and others in his family, and he said, "We are comfortable... - [Altoona Mirror](#)
- 11-05-2013     **Pa. Senate property tax bill alive and passable**  
Legislation calling for the complete phaseout of local school property taxes still has a strong chance of passing the state Senate, despite rejection in the state House of a similar approach, says a prime sponsor. "I've told everyone we've never been this close, but we have a lot of work... - [Pocono Record](#)
- 11-04-2013     **PhillyDeals: Why some hotels now oppose Phila. hotel tax breaks**  
Philadelphia has cut a lot of hotels tax breaks since the Convention Center went up 20 years ago. Now some of the hotel owners are yelling, That's enough! Seven high-end hotel operators signed a letter last week to protest planned tax breaks for the 700-room W and Element hotels project proposed for 1441... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 11-04-2013     **Research targets dangerous manure pit gas**  
Vapors from liquid manure storage tanks are unseen, lethal presences lurking on farms. The gases most recently were blamed for killing Colerain Township dairyman David Stoltzfus, who tumbled into an enclosed pit Oct. 16. Peach Bottom farmer Glenn Nolt and two of his sons, Cleason and Kelvin,... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)
- 11-04-2013     **Groups aim to preserve land alongside Susquehanna River**  
Since the 1990s, a brain trust of public and private groups has sought to preserve the river hills on both sides of the lower Susquehanna River in Lancaster and York counties. The Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape, a greenway corridor intended to boost recreational opportunities, protect views and bring... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)
- 11-04-2013     **Maryland eyes expanding wildlands**  
The call for the wild is being heard again across Maryland — though not everyone welcomes it. More

than a decade after the last addition to the state's network of wildlands, Department of Natural Resources officials have proposed a major expansion of the legally protected wilderness areas, including a section of... - [Baltimore Sun](#)

11-04-2013 **Nutter's Plan To Give Tax Break To Hotel Developer Upsets Some**  
PHILADELPHIA (CBS) – Mayor Nutter's plan to give a tax break to a developer who wants to build two new hotels in Center City has drawn protests from other hotels in town. The plan comes before City Council later this week. A city council committee on Thursday will debate Mayor Nutter's plan to... - [KYW News Radio 1060](#)

## WEEK IN REVIEW

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- 11-08-2013 **Pennsylvania legislature's web site gets a major up-do**  
Perhaps the web team behind the botched roll out of the Obamacare web site could get some tips from the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Legislative staffers unveiled the completely revamped site this week to rave reviews. Check it out here: [http:](http://) - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 11-08-2013 **State's lottery director will exit**  
The executive director of the Pennsylvania Lottery is leaving for a private-sector position with a subcontractor of the company the state contracts for lottery services. Todd Rucci, appointed executive director in September 2011, will stay until Nov. 22. Then he'll take a government and communication relations job with... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 11-07-2013 **Pa. assembly leaders meet, but no deal on highways**  
HARRISBURG, Pa. — The likelihood of a deal on transportation funding remained unclear after a lengthy negotiation Wednesday by most of Pennsylvania's highest-ranking legislative leaders ended inconclusively. The closed-door, 2½-hour meeting in the Capitol focused on a set of about a... - [AP](#)
- 11-07-2013 **State Senate mulls property tax freezes for seniors**  
HARRISBURG — With the idea of replacing property tax with sales tax stalled, lawmakers in the Pennsylvania Senate are mulling more modest reforms, including property tax freezes for senior citizens. While almost half of the state Senate has signed onto a bill creating the... - [Meadville Tribune](#)
- 11-06-2013 **Corbett hits Pa. campaign trail to seek 2nd term**  
PITTSBURGH (AP) - After months of saying he would run for a second term and fundraising for the effort, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett is kicking off a multi-day, cross-state event tour to raise his profile with a year to go until election day... - [AP](#)
- 11-06-2013 **Report: Pay probe sidelines possible candidate for PSU chief**  
A possible candidate for the presidency of Pennsylvania State University has become mired in allegations of receiving unauthorized income while at his current job in New York, the Albany (N.Y.) Times Union reported Tuesday. David R. Smith, president of the State University of New York Upstate... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 11-05-2013 **Pennsylvania's voter ID law is still without any power**  
Taxpayers have spent \$6 million in advertising for a voter ID law that Pennsylvanians don't have to obey for the fourth consecutive election on Tuesday, one that might not survive a lengthy legal challenge. More than \$1 million has gone toward television, radio and print... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 11-05-2013 **Issues abound, but Pa. turnout expected to be light**  
With many mayoral posts and school board seats on the line, as well as countywide offices and judgeships, Pennsylvania voters - at least some - head to the polls Tuesday with local issues in mind. Elections officials predict low turnouts. A Delaware County spokeswoman who... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

11-04-2013

**Triple-dipping loophole in state unemployment law finally closed**

By ERIC BOEHM, PA Independent State employees in Pennsylvania will no longer be able to take advantage of a lucrative loophole in the state's unemployment law. Before it was closed two weeks ago, the loophole allowed for a process called "triple-dipping," in which a state employee would retire... - [West Chester Daily Local News](#)

11-04-2013

**A quick look at Tuesday's Pennsylvania election**

Some basic facts about Tuesday's election in Pennsylvania: .. - [AP](#)