



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: WHAT'S UP IN HARRISBURG?

KRIS GAZSI
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND COUNSEL
PA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION

KGAZSI@PALEGISLATURE.US

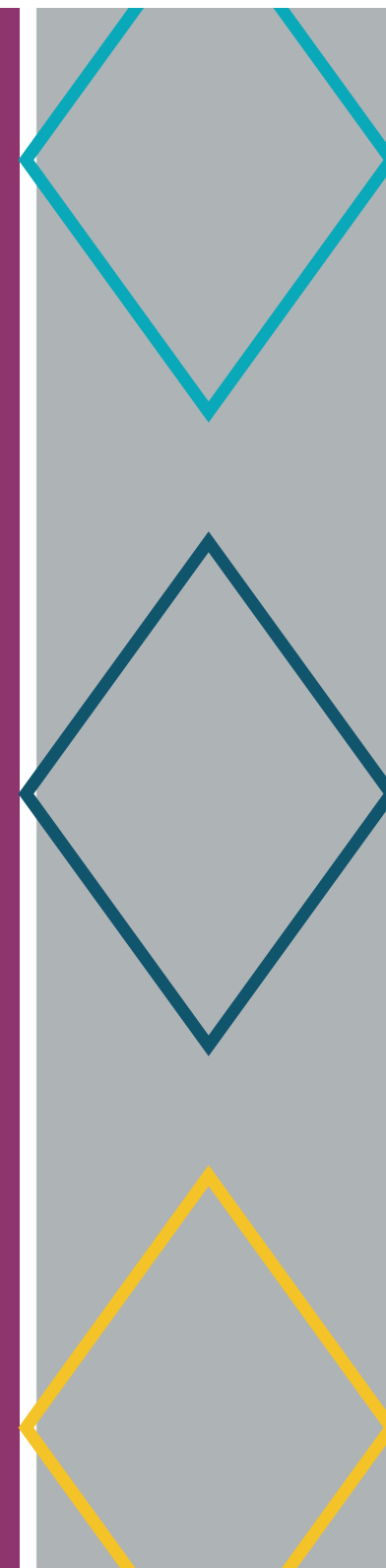
(717) 787-7680

LGC.STATE.PA.US

2026 Annual Conference
Tuesday, September 1, 2026

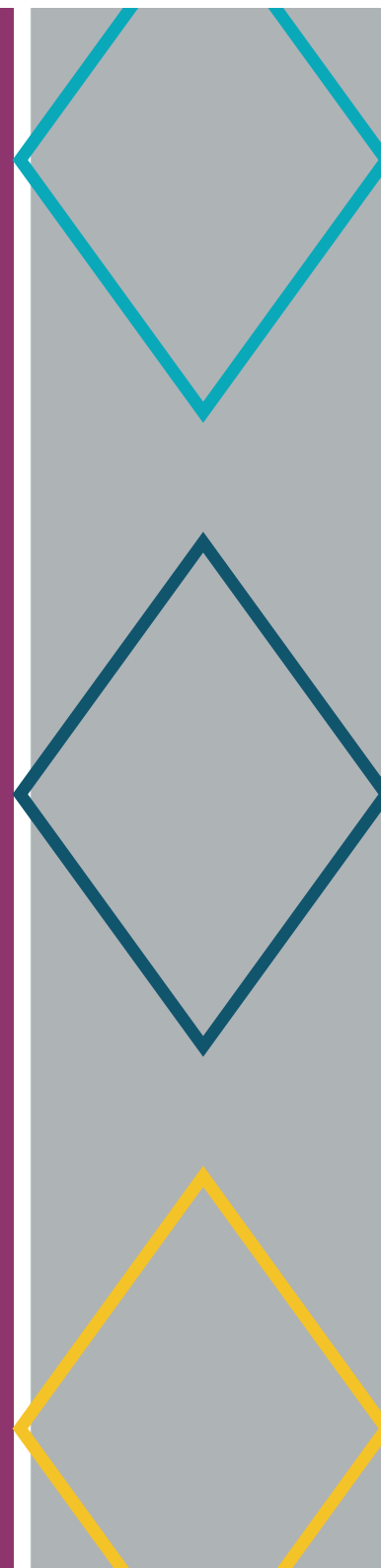
Local Government Commission

- A bicameral, bipartisan legislative service agency of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, whose ten Members, three from the majority party and two from the minority party in each chamber, collectively work by consensus for more effective and efficient local government.
- Provides research, drafting assistance, and inquiry responses to all members of the General Assembly.

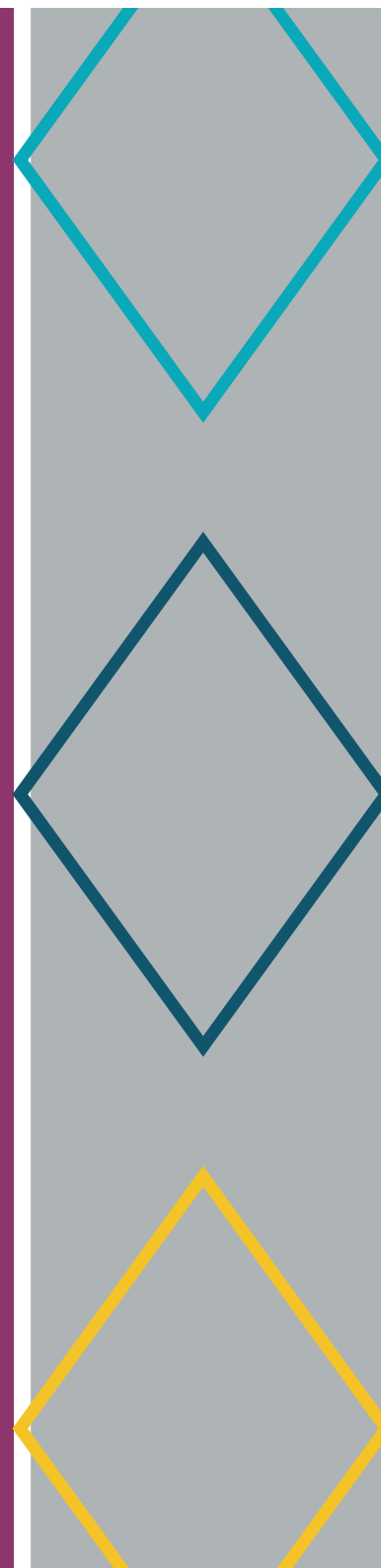


2025-2026 Legislative Session (so far)

- [Summaries of Acts Database](#)
- [Act 3 of 2025](#) - Amends Second Class Twp. Code to have ordinances take immediate effect by default.
- [Act 18 of 2025](#) - Amends Overdose Mapping Act to include EMS providers.
- [Act 45 of 2025](#) - 2025 Fiscal Code permits municipalities to expand LERTA programs for 20-year tax abatements.
- [Act 59 of 2025](#) - Amends Second Class Twp. Code for expedited vacancy filling. (LGC Bill)

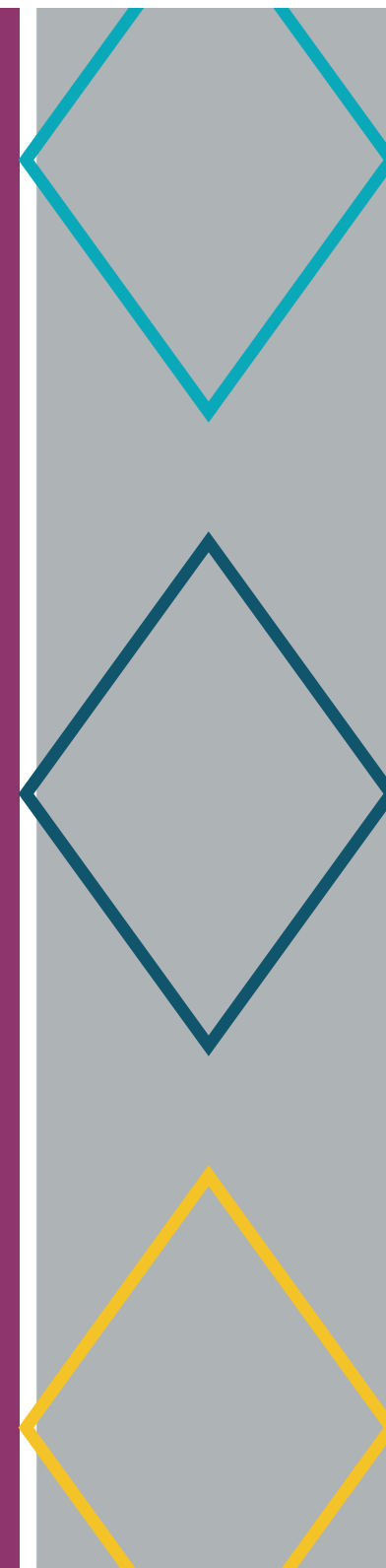


- [Act 7 of 2026](#) - Codifies the First Class Township Code in Title 73 of PA Consolidated Statutes. (LGC Bill)
- [Act 9 of 2026](#) - Amends Borough Code for expedited vacancy filling. (LGC Bill)
- [Act 15 of 2026](#) - Expands State Planning Board to include members from PHMC and PEMA.
- [Act 16 of 2026](#) - Amends PA Construction Code Act to update accessibility code.
- [Act 24 of 2026](#) - Amends Second Class Twp. Code to reschedule date for Annual Financial Report. (LGC Bill)
- [Act 25 of 2026](#) - Amends Second Class Twp Code to authorize Memorials for first responders. (LGC Bill)
- [Act 29 of 2026](#) - Requires Chief Assessors in counties to establish contact lists for real property.



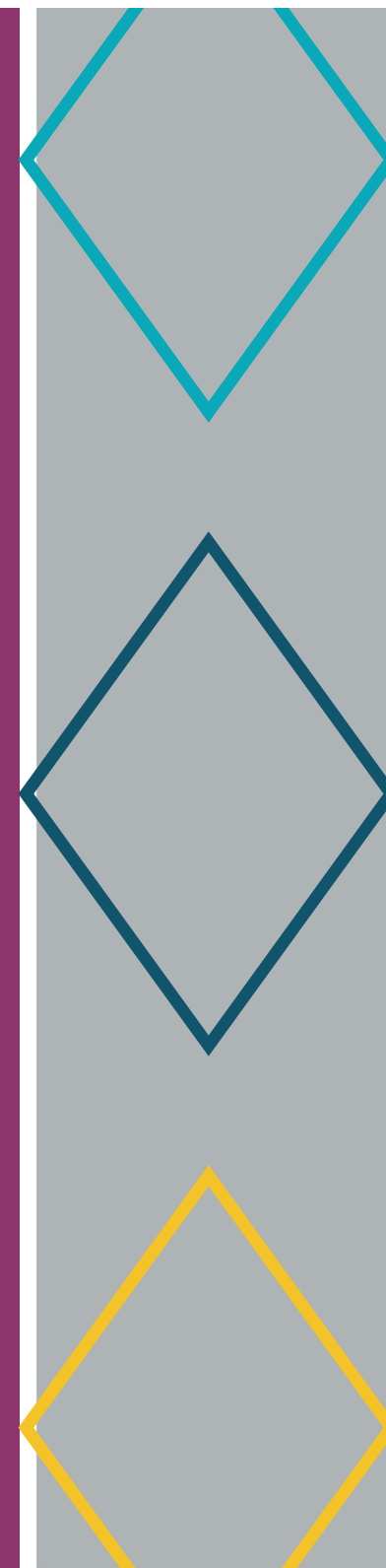
2025-2026 Legislative Session Outlook

- Time is running out!
 - House plans 11 legislative days before Election Day (one is ceremonial)
 - Senate plans 9 legislative days before Election Day
- Legislation that has passed the Senate
 - [Senate Bill 764](#) - Allowing municipalities to back out of a merger.
 - [Senate Bill 993](#) / [House Bill 1738](#) - Allowing for first responder memorials in Boroughs and 3rd Class Cities. (LGC Bill)
 - [Senate Bill 780](#) - Prohibiting unauthorized camping and providing for code enforcement in encampments.
 - [SB 1150](#) - Amending Sunshine Act to prohibit most agenda changes within 24 hours of meeting.
 - [SB 1269](#) - Providing for business operated electric fences and pre-empting local regulation.



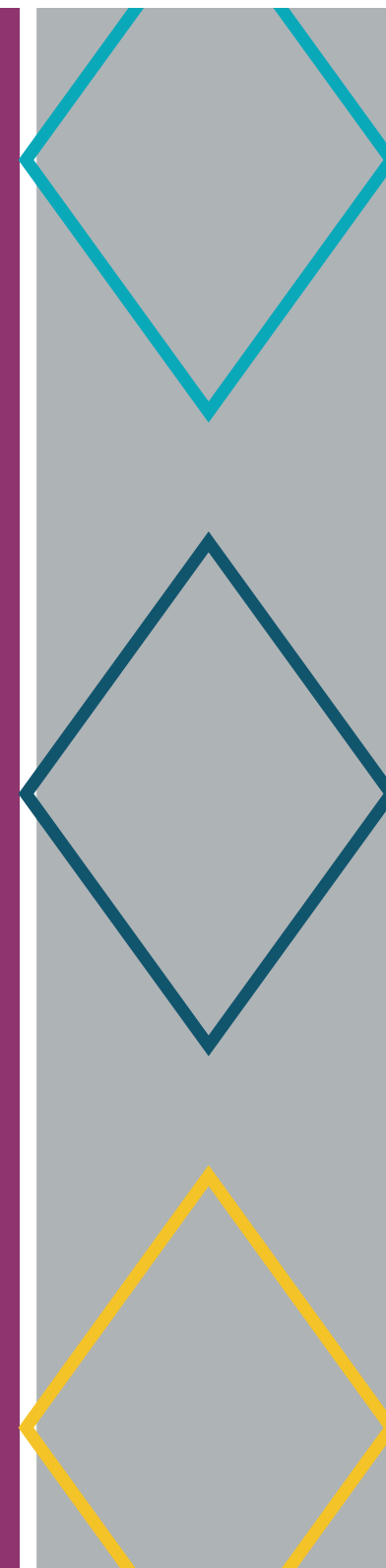
2025-2026 Legislative Session outlook

- Legislation that has passed the Senate (continued)
 - [Senate Bill 871](#) / [House Bill 1194](#) - Permitting irrevocable letters of credit in lieu of bonding for contracts in Second Class Townships. (LGC Bill)
 - [Senate Bill 975](#) / [House Bill 1787](#) - Amending Borough and Third Class City Codes to reschedule date for Annual Financial Report. (LGC Bill)
 - [Senate Bill 1053](#) - Treating EMS volunteers as employees for the purpose of Workers Compensation. (See also [House Bill 2087](#))
- Legislation that has passed the House
 - [House Bill 273](#) - Providing grants for local code enforcement, and for counties to conduct code enforcement activities.
 - [House Bill 316](#) - Expanding power to deny development permits when one of the principals of an LLC has an unresolved serious violation of state law.
 - [House Bill 375](#) - Requiring conspicuous signage for proposed land subdivision.
 - [House Bill 393](#) - Permitting all Second Class Townships to increase dedicated tax levies for Fire and EMS services.



2025-2026 Legislative Session outlook

- Legislation that has passed the House (continued)
 - [House Bill 1048](#) - Permitting local governments to replace private sewer laterals.
 - [House Bill 1282](#) - Providing local notice of changes to FEMA flood maps.
 - [House Bill 1532](#) - Providing for the use of Specific Plans under the MPC.
 - [House Bill 2177](#) - Establishing legal baseline for sufficient summaries of proposed ordinances for Boroughs, Third Class Cities and Counties. (LGC Bill)
 - [House Bill 2179](#) - Establishing legal baseline for sufficient summaries of proposed ordinances for Second Class Townships. (LGC Bill)
 - [House Bill 2396](#) - Providing for transitional planning for voter-initiated mergers and consolidations. (LGC Bill)



Major Outstanding Issues

- Skill Games
- Local Data Center Regulations
 - [House Bill 2496](#) - Authorizing municipalities to enact a 180-day pause in the consideration of Data Center related land use proposals.

