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Legislative Bulletin

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE VOICE OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES

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ACTS AFFECTING COUNTY GOVERNMENT

As the legislative session draws to a close, the Pennsylvania General Assembly continues to advance legislation that affects county government operations, budgets, and services, presenting both opportunities and challenges for counties. On October 22, Governor Josh Shapiro signed several bills into law, addressing public meeting procedures, prevailing wage requirements, emergency communications and local infrastructure funding.

Act No. 66 of 2026 – Next Generation 911 Updates

On October 22, Governor Shapiro signed **Act No. 66 of 2026** (House Bill 453) into law. CCAP supported this legislation, which updates Pennsylvania's 911 emergency communications law under Title 35, Chapter 53 to reflect the continued modernization of Next Generation 911 (NG911) systems and align state law with federal regulatory standards.

The law clarifies the roles and responsibilities of telephone service providers as they transition to NG911 technology, updates requirements for geographic information system (GIS) mapping, and addresses emergency call delivery. It also provides liability protections for telecommunicators when transferring calls, gives the Pennsylvania State Police greater flexibility in applying training requirements to its police communications operators, and clarifies that the $1.95 prepaid

wireless 911 surcharge applies separately to each eligible device or service rather than as a single charge for multiple devices or lines purchased in one transaction.

These updates help clarify responsibilities and advance Pennsylvania's transition to a modernized NG911 system, strengthening the reliability of emergency communications across the Commonwealth.

Act No. 83 of 2026 – Bridge Funding Through Unconventional Gas Well Fees

On October 22, Governor Shapiro signed **Act No. 83 of 2026** (House Bill 2437) into law, amending the Oil and Gas Act to allow a portion of unconventional gas well fee revenues to fund bridge projects. CCAP supported this legislation to expand funding opportunities for counties and help address local infrastructure needs.

By broadening the allowable uses of these revenues, the law provides counties with greater flexibility to address deteriorating bridges before they reach critical risk levels. The expanded funding options strengthen counties' ability to maintain and improve local transportation networks while addressing essential infrastructure needs.

Act No. 91 of 2026 – Expanded Highway Maintenance Funding Uses

On October 22, Governor Shapiro signed **Act No. 91 of 2026** (Senate Bill 205) into law, expanding the eligible uses of highway maintenance funds under Title 75 (Vehicles). CCAP supported this legislation, which allows counties to use a portion of the $5 million in annual supplemental highway maintenance funding for the construction and maintenance of municipally owned bridges within their counties, in addition to county-owned infrastructure. The law also clarifies that proceeds from the existing 55-mill liquid fuels tax may be used for these purposes.

These changes provide counties with greater flexibility to direct existing transportation funding toward local bridge needs, helping address critical infrastructure challenges and support the maintenance of municipal bridges.

Act No. 101 of 2026 – Prevailing Wage Expansion

On October 22, Governor Shapiro signed **Act No. 101 of 2026** (Senate Bill 908) into law, expanding Pennsylvania's prevailing wage requirements to additional public construction projects and extending prevailing wage benefits to certain off-site custom fabrication workers. CCAP opposed this legislation, citing concerns about

the additional financial pressures broader prevailing wage requirements could place on county infrastructure projects and construction budgets.

With counties already facing rising construction and infrastructure costs, broader prevailing wage requirements increase financial pressures and may limit counties' ability to advance needed infrastructure improvements, public facilities and other essential capital projects. These increased costs place additional demands on already constrained county budgets and limit the purchasing power of taxpayer dollars.

Rather than expanding prevailing wage requirements, lawmakers should address the outdated prevailing wage threshold to better reflect current economic conditions. Modernizing the threshold would provide counties with greater flexibility to manage construction costs, support critical infrastructure investments and ensure limited taxpayer dollars are used as efficiently as possible.

This Act will take effect on December 21, 2026. The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry is responsible for administering the Act's assessment, enforcement and compliance requirements and is expected to release additional guidance in the coming weeks. For more information, please visit the **Department's website**. CCAP will continue to monitor developments and share updates as additional information becomes available.

Act No. 103 of 2026 – Sunshine Act Agenda Requirements

On October 22, Governor Shapiro signed **Act No. 103 of 2026** (Senate Bill 1150) into law, amending Pennsylvania's Sunshine Act to limit when public agencies may add items to a meeting agenda after a meeting has begun. CCAP opposed this legislation because of the operational challenges the new restrictions may create for county governing bodies.

For counties, the law limits the ability of governing bodies to address new business during a public meeting outside these exceptions. As a result, counties may need to postpone action until a subsequent meeting, potentially increasing administrative burdens, requiring additional meetings and delaying time-sensitive decisions. While CCAP recognizes the importance of transparency and public participation, these changes present significant operational challenges for county governments.

SUPPORT VETERANS WITH OPERATION GREEN LIGHT

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO) have compiled resources to help counties support veterans and raise awareness of services available to assist with the transition to civilian life.

From November 4–11, Operation Green Light encourages counties to illuminate county buildings in green to show appreciation for and support of veterans. Counties can find additional information, sample resolutions and other resources to participate in the initiative on **NACo's website**.

CCAP FALL CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

The 2026 CCAP **Fall Conference** will be held November 22–24 at The Hotel Hershey in Dauphin County. Throughout October, CCAP's policy committees are developing their 2027 work plans and identifying key issues to advance as part of the Association's 2027 county legislative priorities.

At the conference's business meeting, CCAP members will vote, both in person and virtually, on the proposed 2027 county legislative priorities and consider the Association's 2027 action plan and other organizational matters. Additional information on the voting items will be provided to members in advance of the conference.

CCAP in the News

- **Fabian Elected into Statewide Leadership Position**
- **Prison Board Discusses Inmate Processing Change**

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Association of Pennsylvania

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