COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Association of Pennsylvania

Acts Affecting County Government
2026

The following is a list of acts and vetoes affecting county government that **passed in 2026**. Included are the bill number and printer's number (bill version) and the date the act was signed into law. Copies of each act are available from the Legislature's website by clicking on the link.

Act 15 (SB 848, P.N. 940, May 5, 2026): Amends the Administrative Code of 1929 to revise the membership and organization of the State Planning Board. Specifically, the bill restructures the board's appointment provisions, updates agency references, adds the Director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) and the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) as ex officio members, and increases the quorum requirement from 13 to 14 members.

Act 21 (SB 146, P.N. 1888, July 13, 2026): Amends Title 51 (Military Affairs) and related provisions of the Fiscal Code to establish the Veterans' Trust Fund Board and strengthen the administration, oversight, and accountability of the Veterans' Trust Fund. The bill defines the board's responsibilities, revises its membership and governance structure, establishes reporting and audit requirements, and updates the process for administering grants and distributing funds to organizations serving veterans.

Act 23 (SB 604, P.N. 612, July 12, 2026): Authorizes the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Counseling Compact, an interstate licensure agreement that allows licensed professional counselors to practice across participating states, including through telehealth, while preserving each state's authority to regulate the profession and enforce disciplinary actions. The bill establishes Pennsylvania's participation in the compact's licensure, information-sharing, and oversight framework to improve access to behavioral health services and facilitate license portability.

Act 27 (HB 96, P.N. 3767, July 13, 2026): Amends the Real Estate Tax Sale Law to establish a process allowing property owners to designate an individual to receive notifications regarding delinquent real estate taxes. The bill requires the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to develop a designation form and requires county tax claim bureaus and taxing districts to provide delinquent tax notices to both the property owner and the designated individual when a completed form has been submitted. The bill also clarifies provisions related to tax sales of unseated lands and redemption claims. The legislation affects counties by creating new administrative responsibilities for county tax claim bureaus to accept, maintain, and issue delinquent tax notifications to designated individuals, with the goal of helping prevent unintended tax sales, particularly for vulnerable property owners.

Act 29 (HB 858, P.N. 1806, July 20, 2026): Amends Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes by creating a new chapter requiring each county's chief assessor to establish and maintain a property contact information list for certain non-owner-occupied properties. The bill requires property owners to provide contact information within 30 days of purchasing a property and to update that information when it changes, while municipalities must provide contact information to the county when a property owner is cited for a municipal ordinance or code violation. The bill authorizes municipalities to request the information for property maintenance and code enforcement purposes, allows counties to impose fines of up to $500 for knowingly providing false or outdated information, and includes confidentiality protections for participants in Pennsylvania's Address Confidentiality Program. The bill creates new administrative responsibilities for county assessment offices to collect, maintain, update, and share the required property owner information and administer the enforcement provisions established under the bill.

Act 42 (SB 130, P.N. 79, July 20, 2026): Amends Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes by establishing notification requirements related to burial benefits for deceased service members. The bill requires licensed funeral directors, funeral entities, and, in certain circumstances, cemetery companies to notify the county director of veterans affairs within 96 hours after receiving the remains of a deceased service member who was a legal resident of the county at the time of death. The bill also requires families of deceased service members to be provided with the contact information for the county director of veterans affairs. The bill requires county directors of veterans affairs to receive and respond to these notifications, which could increase coordination with funeral providers and outreach to eligible veterans' families regarding available burial benefits and services.

Act 44 (SB 349, P.N. 286, July 20, 2026): Amends Title 27 (Environmental Resources) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes by establishing statewide requirements for the decommissioning of solar energy facilities. The bill requires new solar energy facility agreements to include decommissioning plans and financial assurance to ensure the removal of facilities at the end of their useful life, establishes timelines and funding requirements for decommissioning, directs the Department of Environmental Protection to develop standard decommissioning forms, and requires compliance with federal laws prohibiting the use of forced labor in the production of solar equipment. The bill also preempts local ordinances that materially impede the statewide requirements governing solar facility decommissioning. The bill requires county recorders of deeds to receive and maintain decommissioning plans and financial assurance documents for qualifying solar energy facilities.

Appropriations Bills

Act 1A (HB2400, P.N. 3765, July 13, 2026): General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2026–2027, establishing an enacted budget totaling approximately $50.8 billion. The bill appropriates funding for Commonwealth agencies and programs and includes provisions delaying certain Medical Assistance (Medicaid) managed care payments, transferring more than $500 million from special funds, and providing for the expedited deployment of $775 million from the Motor License Fund over the next two fiscal years for road and bridge projects across the

Commonwealth. The budget also includes dedicated funding for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and crisis walk-in centers, increased support for intellectual disabilities and autism services, targeted investments in long-term care and workforce initiatives, and continued funding for economic development programs.