



September 18, 2026

# Legislative Bulletin

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA  
THE VOICE OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES

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## PREVAILING WAGE ACT EXPANSION MAY MOVE THIS FALL

[Senate Bill 908](#), introduced by Senator Frank Farry (R-Bucks), which would expand the scope of Pennsylvania's Prevailing Wage Act, is expected to receive consideration in the House when the General Assembly returns to session the week of September 28. This bill passed out of the Senate in June and was subsequently referred to the House Labor and Industry Committee, where it awaits consideration.

Counties have significant concerns with [Senate Bill 908](#). At a time when counties are already facing rising infrastructure and operating costs, the bill would place additional strain on limited local resources and taxpayer dollars. Expanding prevailing wage requirements would increase the cost of essential public projects and could ultimately force counties to delay, scale back, or forgo important infrastructure investments.

Under the Prevailing Wage Act, prevailing wages must be paid on public construction projects exceeding \$25,000, a threshold that has remained

unchanged since the 1960s. As a result, the current threshold now applies to virtually all public construction projects across the Commonwealth, regardless of size or complexity. If adjusted for inflation the threshold would exceed \$250,000.

Counties continue to urge the General Assembly to address a longstanding concern by modernizing the Prevailing Wage Act threshold to better reflect current economic conditions and inflation. Updating the threshold would help ensure that limited taxpayer dollars are used as efficiently as possible while preserving counties' ability to invest in essential infrastructure, public facilities, and community services.

Counties stand ready to work with the General Assembly and the Administration on meaningful reforms that provide greater flexibility for local governments, promote fiscal stewardship, and maximize the value of public investment.

CCAP will continue to closely monitor SB 908 as it moves through the legislative process.

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## PUC ADVANCES STUDY TO ADDRESS DATA CENTER IMPACTS

On September 10, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) [approved a motion](#) by Vice Chair Kimberly Barrow directing PUC staff to develop proposed updates to Pennsylvania's emergency electric load control regulations. The updates would provide greater clarity regarding the Governor's Executive Order, including the criteria and circumstances under which customers may be curtailed during pre-emergency and emergency conditions.

The PUC motion also directs the Commission to hold a technical conference this fall to examine cost responsibility associated with large computational loads, including data centers. The Commission's actions come amid growing concerns about the balance between rapidly increasing electricity demand and the resources available to serve that demand across the PJM Interconnection. These actions follow the [Governor's Executive Order](#), which called for the PUC to examine data center curtailment procedures and measures addressing the allocation of costs associated with data center development.

For more information on the PUC's work related to data centers and the electric grid, please visit the [PUC's website](#).

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## SUPREME COURT BLOCKS MAIL-IN BALLOT RESTRICTIONS

On Monday, September 14, the U.S. Supreme Court denied the administration's emergency application to lift a nationwide preliminary injunction blocking the USPS rule affecting mail-in voting ahead of the midterm elections ([USPS v. California, No. 26A305](#)). The Court did not rule on the actual merits of the case, but indicated that if the issue was fully litigated, the government's argument for the USPS rule would likely fail. The Court may still rule on the case in the future, leaving open the possibility that the agency could try to implement it for future elections. For the 2026 midterms, however, the rule will not take effect.

President Trump's [Executive Order 14399](#) directs the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to compile information for use in voter citizenship verification and directs the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to pursue new requirements

for mail-in ballots. The decision by the Supreme Court allows states to send mail ballots under the same process they have already been using.

With the midterm elections approaching, counties are reminded of CCAP's [election toolkit](#), a resource created in collaboration with Penn State Extension and the Department of State. This toolkit provides counties with materials to support public education and outreach on the election process and serves as a valuable resource leading up to Election Day.

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## **PACDAA AND DDAP 12TH ANNUAL RECOVERY ADVOCACY DAY**

On September 15, the Pennsylvania Association of County Drug and Alcohol Administrators (PACDAA), in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP), hosted its 12th annual Recovery Advocacy Day at the State Capitol. The event brought together individuals in recovery, community members, local officials, agencies, and organizations that provide substance use disorder and recovery services. Speakers shared personal experiences and highlighted the importance of continued support for recovery services and programs across Pennsylvania.

DDAP Secretary Dr. Latika Davis-Jones spoke at the event, emphasizing the critical role of partnerships between state agencies, local communities, and service providers in expanding resources and support for individuals in recovery and reducing the stigma surrounding substance use disorder. Advocates from across Pennsylvania also shared their personal recovery stories, demonstrating how access to treatment and recovery services can have a lasting impact on individuals, families, and communities.

Local officials and recovery service providers also highlighted the importance of continued investment in these programs to ensure individuals and families have access to the services and support they need. The event underscored the ongoing need for collaboration among state and local partners to strengthen Pennsylvania's recovery system and support communities across the Commonwealth.



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## S. SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE ADVANCES 2026 FARM BILL

On September 16, the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee advanced the Agricultural Act of 2026, which is also the [2026 Farm Bill](#). The bill now moves to the full Senate, where it is expected to be considered when Congress returns in November following the midterm elections.

The latest proposal would modify the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) cost-sharing provisions enacted under [H.R. 1](#). Specifically, the bill would delay implementation of the SNAP benefit cost share by one year but would not delay changes to the administrative cost share.

For additional information on the bill and its potential impacts, please refer to the [analysis](#) prepared by the National Association of Counties (NACo).



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