

Pennsylvania Perspective for Monday, March 10, 2025

Pennsylvania

Gov. Shapiro Announces \$5M Investment to Address Nursing Shortage

During a visit to Temple University Hospital last week, Governor Josh Shapiro announced a \$5 million investment to strengthen Pennsylvania's nursing pipeline through the Nursing Shortage Assistance Program, addressing a projected shortage of 20,000 nurses. The Philadelphia Tribune has [more](#).

Shapiro Admin Faces GOP Resistance in Push for Home Repairs Funding

Despite high demand and bipartisan support, Republican concerns about state spending may prevent \$50 million for Pennsylvania's home repairs program from being included in this year's budget. Spotlight PA has [more](#).

PA House Dems Open to Voter ID Expansion as Part of Election Reforms

State House Speaker Joanna McClinton (D-Delaware/Philadelphia) indicated that Pennsylvania House Democrats are willing to consider stricter voter ID requirements as part of broader election reforms, provided they do not disenfranchise voters. The Philadelphia Inquirer has [more](#).

Voters to Elect Poll Workers Amid Candidate Shortage

Pennsylvania voters will elect poll workers for the next four years, but many positions may remain unfilled due to a lack of candidates, highlighting the challenges of this unique electoral process. Despite the importance of these roles, the demanding nature and low pay deter many potential candidates. Votebeat Pennsylvania has [more](#).

3K+ Apply for PA Student Teacher Stipends in Single Day

More than 3,000 aspiring educators in Pennsylvania applied for stipends within 24 hours, but many may not receive funding unless lawmakers approve Gov. Shapiro's proposed \$40 million budget for the program. The Pennsylvania Capital-Star has [more](#).

Lawsuit Challenges State LGBTQ Antidiscrimination Protections

Two public school districts and several parents have sued Pennsylvania to overturn antidiscrimination protections for LGBTQ individuals, arguing the regulations exceed legislative intent. The Associated Press has [more](#).

Chester Advocates for Environmental Justice to Revitalize Waterfront

The City of Chester is leading the fight for environmental justice by addressing severe pollution from multiple industries, aiming to transform the city into a vibrant waterfront community. Center Square Pennsylvania has [more](#).

Philadelphia

Sheriff's Office Delays Prevent Land Bank from Acquiring Lots for Community Projects



David F. Bonsick

Principal,
Cozen O'Connor
Public
Strategies

dbonsick@cozen.com
Phone: (717) 773-4214
Fax: (717) 703-5901



Beth A. Brennan

Senior
Principal,
Cozen O'Connor
Public
Strategies

bbrennan@cozen.com
Phone: (717) 773-4213
Fax: (717) 703-5901



Jim Davis

Executive Vice
President,
Cozen O'Connor
Public
Strategies

jdavis@cozen.com
Phone: (717) 703-5891
Fax: (717) 703-5901



Samuel Denisco

Senior
Principal,
Cozen O'Connor
Public
Strategies

sdenisco@cozen.com
Phone: (717) 773-4630
Fax: (717) 703-5901

Problems in the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office have prevented the Land Bank from acquiring tax-delinquent lots for community gardens and affordable housing, despite a bill passed to facilitate these purchases. The delays, linked to issues with an online auction platform, have frustrated City Council members and jeopardized various community projects. The Philadelphia Inquirer has [more](#).

Pittsburgh

O'Connor Narrowly Wins Democratic Endorsement, Triggering Recount

Allegheny County Controller Corey O'Connor narrowly secured the Allegheny County Democratic Committee's endorsement over incumbent Mayor Ed Gainey, prompting a recount to finalize the decision for the upcoming mayoral primary. The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review has [more](#).

SW PA Receives \$2.7M in Grants for Water Quality Improvements

Southwestern Pennsylvania has been awarded over \$2.7 million in Department of Environmental Protection grants to address water quality issues, with projects focusing on stormwater management and pollution reduction in Allegheny County and beyond. WESA has [more](#).

Federal

Beltway Briefing—The (Not-So) State of the Union?

Between President Donald Trump's Address to Joint Session of Congress, his fluctuating trade and tariff policies, and the threat of a government shutdown, politicians question whether the president's actions are more performance than policy. With no clear leader or unified message, how much longer will Democrats remain disorganized? And are Republicans stuck in a "team mentality," prioritizing loyalty over scrutiny of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE)? Listen to the latest episode featuring Public Strategies' Mark Alderman, Patrick Martin, and Towner French [here](#).

DOGE Cuts Federal Contracts in PA, Impacting Minority-Owned Businesses

DOGE has canceled dozens of federal contracts in Pennsylvania, affecting many minority- and women-owned businesses. These cuts have led to substantial reductions in business operations and staff layoffs, raising concerns about the true economic impact and transparency of DOGE's actions, as some savings claims appear to be inflated. The Philadelphia Inquirer has [more](#).

Rep. Perry Assures "Legitimate" Medicaid Recipients Will Not Lose Coverage

U.S. Representative Scott Perry of Pennsylvania stated that legitimate Medicaid recipients will not lose coverage due to Republican-proposed spending cuts, while suggesting that cuts could affect those who immigrated illegally. He emphasized the need to address fraud, waste, and abuse within the system to ensure taxpayer money is spent efficiently. The Hill has [more](#).



Joseph Hill

**Managing
Director, Cozen
O'Connor
Public
Strategies**

jhill@cozen.com
Phone: (215) 665-2065
Fax: (215) 665-2013



Kevin J. Kerr

**Principal,
Cozen O'Connor
Public
Strategies**

kkerr@cozen.com
Phone: (412) 620-6496
Fax: (412) 275-2390



Brianna A. Westbrook

**Government
Relations
Associate,
Cozen O'Connor
Public
Strategies**

bwestbrooks@cozen.com
Phone: (215) 665-4757
Fax: (215) 665-2013

Related Practice Areas

- Government Relations - Cozen O'Connor Public Strategies