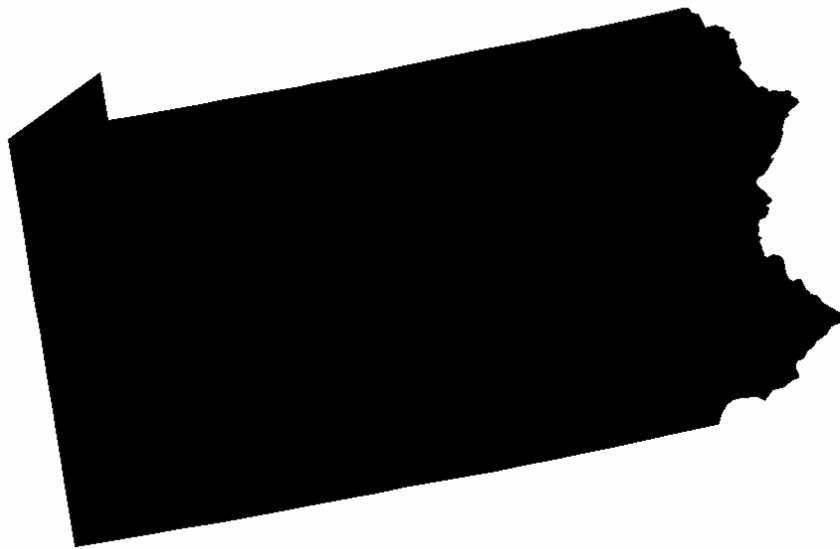


The Policy Project: A Guide to the Pennsylvania Policy Database



Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Joseph P. McLaughlin
J. Wesley Leckrone
Jason R. Bossie

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I. The Pennsylvania Policy Database

The Project:

The Pennsylvania Policy Database Project is the first state database that, when complete, will allow state policy makers, citizens, teachers, and students to research state policy issues using sophisticated, web-based search tools. The Pennsylvania project is designed to replicate the national Policy Agendas database constructed by Frank R. Baumgartner and Bryan D. Jones and available at www.policyagendas.org.

The national Policy Agendas database allows analysts to trace and analyze the history of virtually the entire range of national policy issues from the end of World War II to the present. Their project has coded into 19 major topics and 225 subtopics Congressional hearings, *Congressional Quarterly* reports, statutes, federal budgets, presidential executive orders, *New York Times* stories, and Gallup public opinion surveys. The database assists researchers in identifying source material across topics and provides tools for constructing descriptive and analytical tables and graphs.

The Pennsylvania Policy Database Project seeks to maintain consistency between the national database and the new Pennsylvania database so that researchers can view policy changes across governments. Consequently, the codebook presented in this manual is based very closely on the topics and subtopics used by the national project. We have only made changes or additions when state government undertakes an activity not engaged in by the federal government. Our datasets also closely mirror those of the national database: legislative hearings, statutes, budgets, gubernatorial executive orders, newspaper stories on state government, and public opinion surveys. We will also incorporate legislative bills into our datasets.

The Pennsylvania Policy Database Project is headquartered at Temple University and includes faculty and researchers at the Heinz School at Carnegie-Mellon University, the University of Pittsburgh, The Pennsylvania State University – State College, The Pennsylvania State University – Harrisburg, and the Fels School at the University of Pennsylvania.

This manual is designed as a detailed explanation of how to collect and code data. It also provides resources that explain the unique characteristics of Pennsylvania state and local governments.

II. Collecting and Coding: The Process

A. How to Collect and Code

There are two separate steps in creating a data entry for the Pennsylvania Policy Database. The first step is the collection of data. This entails creating an abstract that briefly describes the piece of data that you are examining and adding filters that allow researchers to refine their searches. The second step is conducted by a separate researcher who codes the abstract using the numerical codes from the Pennsylvania codebook.

The following sections describe how to collect and code the various types of data that will be incorporated into the Pennsylvania Database. Following the same logic as the national database, we included ten categories when collecting and coding.

How to Collect Newspaper Articles:

1. After accessing the Temple libraries from your Tuportal account, scroll your mouse over the “Find Articles” and click “A-Z”
2. Once on the “A-Z” page scroll down and click on the “Philadelphia Inquirer” which should take you to Newsbank.
3. At Newsbank you can locate a wide array of other newspapers. Fortunately, we can also conduct research on the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* which serves as another newspaper for our project.
4. The section “local” has every local story throughout the newspaper and actually includes local stories on the front page and the business section.
5. Click on the link “See all sections of LOCAL” to show approximately 20-some stories.
6. Most stories are fairly discernable from the first paragraph or two, but some need to be read further.

What to Collect and Code in Newspaper Stories:

Collecting

1. Include which paper you are abstracting. 1 is for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 2 for the *Pittsburgh Post Gazette* and 3 for the *Harrisburg Patriot*
2. Include the date of the article. When formatting an Excel spreadsheet, you can program a cell to look the way you want. By right clicking on a cell or number of cells, click the “format cells” button. On the “Number” tab, the “Date” section will allow you to select what type you want. Figure 1 has the first date selected so that it shows the month, day, and year. Be sure, however, that you type the correct year. Otherwise, Excel will treat the year as the current.
3. Include the day, the month, and year in three separate cells. This will allow the computer to conduct a more thorough search of dates. **THE FIRST DAY CODED WILL NOT ALWAYS BE JANUARY 1; ASK YOUR GRA ON WHAT DATE YOU SHOULD**

BEGIN ABSTRACTING STORIES FOR EACH YEAR. ALSO, DOUBLE CHECK with your calendar in case you have a LEAP YEAR.

4. Include the day of the week. I tend to abbreviate as follows: Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thr, Fri, Sat. You can copy and paste to make it faster. This allows a researcher to focus on particular days.
5. Include the page number of the article. For example, B03 is the location of the article.
6. Include the headline which can be found on the search page or within the article.
7. Abstract the first paragraph or two in one or two sentences that you think gives an accurate description of the WHOLE article.
8. NB – When abstracting be sure to label the exact name of a governmental agency. For example, be sure to note whether an article is discussing the State Health Department or the Philadelphia Health Department. These small words make the difference in the structure of the database and coding.
9. Include 5 filters to narrow research:
 - a. Executive – includes the governor and his staff and their policy concerns. Code 1 if relevant and 0 if not.
 - b. Legislative – includes the House and Senate and their agencies within the General Assembly. Code 1 if relevant and 0 if not.
 - c. Judicial – includes the various courts that create policy, mainly looking at the Supreme Court but can include cases from the Superior and Commonwealth Courts. Code 1 if relevant and 0 if not.
 - d. Bureaucracy – includes the various cabinet level departments, agencies, bureaus, and commissions that issue declarations or policy concerns. Code 1 if relevant and 0 if not.
 - e. Local – includes stories that pertain to particular towns, cities, counties, or regions of the state. For example, if state legislatures are implementing a research plan for Philadelphia, then we would code it 1. Code 1 if relevant and 0 if not.

Coding

10. Once the abstract was “collected,” it was examined by another researcher, who coded the article 3 because it is a health concern. We do not code minor topics, ONLY major topics when we look at the newspapers.
11. The code will be the major topic that you feel the articles falls under. Figure 1 should be a similar model to what you should follow.

Figure 1

| Paper | Day | Month | Year | Day | Page | Headline | Abstract | Exc. | Leg. | Jud. | Bur. | Loc. | Code |
|-------|-----|-------|------|-----|------|--|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1985 | Tue | B03 | 84 Rabies Worst in 37 Years for Pennsylvania | The State Health Department reported the worst outbreak of rabies in 37 years | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |

How to Read Legislative Bills

[Light face brackets] are used only in bills amending an existing law. They indicate that anything enclosed thereby appears in the existing law, but that it is proposed to omit it from the law as amended. The brackets and anything enclosed by them are carried along into the pamphlet law version of the bill, if the bill is finally enacted; thus, the reader of the pamphlet law can tell the exact date that the bracketed material was removed from Pennsylvania law.

Underscoring is used only in bills amending an existing law. It indicates that the underscored matter does not appear in the existing law, but that it is proposed to insert it in the law as amended. The underscored matter will be carried into the law if the bill is finally enacted.

Ellipses (* * *) are used only in bills amending an existing law. They indicate omitted law which is not proposed to be changed in the bill.

[Dark] face brackets are used only in bills that have been amended, either in committee or on the floor of either House. They indicate brackets inserted by such amendment and have the same effect as light face brackets.

~~Strike-out type~~ is used only in bills that have been amended either in committee or on the floor of either House. They indicate that anything so printed appeared in a previous print of the bill but is to be deleted, and will not appear in the text of the law if the bill is finally enacted.

CAPITAL LETTERS are used only in bills that have been amended, either in committee or on the floor of either House. They indicate that the matter in capital letters did not appear in the original print of the bill, but was inserted into the bill by amendment in either House. The matter in capital letters will be carried into the law, if the bill is finally enacted in ordinary print, unless it is also underscored, in which case it will be printed in italics.

~~Strike-out type~~ and CAPITAL LETTERS indicate only the amendments made to the bill at the last previous state of passage. All prior ~~strike-out amendments~~ are dropped entirely from the new print and all insert amendments previously shown in CAPITAL LETTERS are reset in lower case type. The one exception to this rule is a House bill amended more than once in the Senate or a Senate bill amended more than once in the House will, on the second and subsequent printings cumulate all amendments made in the latter House, so that all amendments in which concurrence by the House of origin is required will stand out.

The line immediately preceding the title of the bill shows the stage of passage at which the amendments appearing on that print were made. All preceding printer's numbers of each bill are shown in consecutive order in a line at the top of the first page of each bill.

How to Collect Statutes and Appropriations:

1. Go to the website: <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/> and on the PA General Assembly website, click on the “General Assembly” tab.
2. Under the category “Law Information” click on the link to “Legislation Enacted Since 1975.”
3. For STATUTES click on the “Acts on general legislation approved” and you will find the statutes from 1975-2005.
4. For APPROPRIATIONS click on the “Appropriation Acts approved” and you will find appropriations from 1975-2005.
5. If we want to code STATUTES for the year “1975” we click on the year and find 175 General Acts.
6. On this page, we find the act number, the date, the bill number, and the subject. We want to code SB_30 by clicking on the link.
7. On this page, we find the printer numbers and the links to the actual document. We want to code the Current PN, which would be 507. We click on the “Text” link beside that printer number.
8. We finally reached the bill that is now law, the statute.

What to Collect and Code in Statutes and Appropriations:

Collecting

1. Include the act number which can be found on the page of the year that is selected. It will be easier to have Excel copy the numbers for you instead of typing them individually. For example, type “1” in cell A2 and type “2” in cell A3 and highlight both cells. Select the bottom right hand corner of cell A3 and drag the small black box down a few cells. Excel will create a numbered list for you and you should see 3,4,5,6... below.
2. Include the day, the month, and year in three separate cells. This will allow the computer to conduct a more thorough search of dates.
3. Include the bill number, “SB_30” in the next cell C1. When creating this cell, copy and paste from the webpage to the cell. This will allow researchers to later click on the desired cell and go directly to the bill.
4. Write an abstract for the statute or appropriation. For example, with SB_30, we want a similar format so that the coders know what the bill is.
5. Since this act amends another act, we want to say, “amending the...” and include the name of the act that it amends. However, if the act is new, we would write, “an act...”
6. Now we want to know what act this is amending. Usually we want to scroll down to section 1, and it gives the short title such as the “Pennsylvania Election Code” so we now have “an act amending the Pennsylvania Election Code...”
7. After the quotations in the abstract of the bill, we find what we are going to code. Since most of the document is struck through after the quotations we include “extending certain dates with respect to reports of contributions.” However, it might be good to add additional words to help specify what type of contributions these are, such as “campaign contributions.”
8. Now our abstract reads, “amending the Pennsylvania State Election Code extending certain dates with respect to reports of campaign contributions.”

9. If this is a new act, usually we will include the name of the act at the very end and sometimes not. For example, “an act to facilitate vehicular traffic within and across the state by providing for the construction, reconstruction, operation, and maintenance of toll roads known as the Turnpike Organization, Extension, and Toll Road Conversion Act” where the short title is the “Turnpike Organization, Extension, and Toll Road Conversion Act.”

Coding

10. Once the abstract was “collected,” another researcher coded it 2012 because it deals with campaigns and elections. The format should look like Figure 2.

Figure 2

| Act | Day | Month | Year | Bill # | Abstract | Code |
|-----|-----|-------|------|-----------------------|--|------|
| 1 | 12 | 5 | 1975 | SB 30 | amending the State Election Code extending certain dates with respect to reports of campaign contributions | 2012 |

How to Find Bills:

1. Go to the website: <http://www.state.pa.us/>, and on the left hand side click the link “Research Legislative Bills.”
2. In this section, you can research bills by number, keyword, numerical index, etc. You will need to search the numerical index. Select the year you wish to find. For example, you want to Research the 1975-76 session for the House. Select the year in the scroll bar and click the House radio box.
3. Click on the particular bill that you want, which will take you to the bill. You want the current PRN number. Click on the text to the link.
4. You have reached the copy of the bill.
5. NB: This is the way you will find all House and Senate Bills and Resolutions.

What to Collect and Code in Bills:

Collecting

1. Include which chamber this bill is coming from. For example, the House would be coded as 1 and the Senate would be coded as 2.
2. Include the day, the month, and year in three separate cells. This will allow the computer to conduct a more thorough search of dates.
3. Include the bill number which can be found on the page of the year that is selected. You need to copy and paste the link of the bill, so that we can directly link to the original document.
4. Write an abstract for the bill. For example, with HB 56 from the 1975-76 Legislative Session, we want a similar format so that the coders know what the bill is.
5. Since this bill amends another act, we want to say, “amending the...” and include the name of the act that it amends. However, if the act is new, we would write, “an act...”
6. Now we want to know what act this is amending. Usually we want to scroll down to section 1, and it gives the short title such as the “Pennsylvania Human Relations Act” so we now have “amending the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act...”
7. After the quotations in the abstract of the bill, we find what we are going to code. Since most of the document is struck through after the quotations we include “prohibiting discrimination because of the marital status of any individual, providing for hearing examiners and hearings to be conducted by them, providing a penalty and making an editorial change.”
8. Now our abstract reads, “amending the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act prohibiting discrimination because of the marital status of any individual, providing for hearing examiners and hearings to be conducted by them, providing a penalty and making an editorial change.”
9. If this is a new act, usually we will include the name of the act at the very end and sometimes not. For example, “an act to facilitate vehicular traffic within and across the state by providing for the construction, reconstruction, operation, and maintenance of toll roads known as the Turnpike Organization, Extension, and Toll Road Conversion Act” where the short title is the “Turnpike Organization, Extension, and Toll Road Conversion Act.”

Coding

10. Once the abstract was “collected” as a separate step by another researcher, we coded it 299 since it deals with a civil rights issue dealing with discrimination on marital status but since no category on marital status arises we add it to the 299. Please, however, use the “99” categories of each major topic sparingly. The format should look like Figure 3.

Figure 3

| Chamber | Day | Month | Year | Bill # | Abstract | Code |
|---------|-----|-------|------|-----------|--|------|
| 1 | 19 | 3 | 1975 | <u>56</u> | amending the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act prohibiting discrimination because of the marital status of any individual, providing for hearing examiners and hearings to be conducted by them, providing a penalty and making an editorial change | 299 |

How to Collect House Committee Hearings:

1. The House Committee Hearings are located in the House Archives in the State Capital in Harrisburg.
2. In the basement of the Capital building, the archives have a department where the hearings are located in boxes. Similar to the Senate Hearings, these transcripts should give all the pertinent information for coding.

What to Collect and Code in House Committee Hearings:

Collecting

1. Include the location of the file, since we know that the House Hearings are located in the "PA House Archives."
2. Include the number on the box where the transcript is. The first box is box "1."
3. Include the file on the Box. The first one in the box is file "1."
4. Include the day, the month, and year in three separate cells. This will allow the computer to conduct a more thorough search of dates.
5. Include the chamber. 1 is for the House; 2 is for the Senate; 3 is for joint committees.
6. Include the name of the committee. This should also be found on the first page. We will include a list of committees for tracking purposes. Since this is the "Agriculture and Rural Affairs" committee we type that in cell E2.
7. Include the name of the subcommittee or special committee if there is one.
8. Include the number of pages in the document. Usually the document will tell how many pages there are since they are listed at the bottom of the page.
9. Include the city where the hearing was held. Most of the time the hearing will be held in Harrisburg, but they can be held all over the state.
10. Include the Bill that is the subject of the hearing. Sometimes a hearing may not focus on a bill(s), but it usually does.
11. Abstract the hearing briefly. Read over the first couple pages. Often at the outset, the committee chair will describe the purpose of the hearing and the bill to be discussed.

Coding

12. Once the abstract was "collected" as a separate step by another researcher, it was given the code 331 because this hearing falls under "prevention, communicable disease, and health promotion."
13. When completed your table should resemble Figure 4.

Figure 4

| Location | Box | File | Day | Month | Year | Chmbr | Comte | SubCmte | Pgs | City | Bill | Abstract | Code |
|-------------------|-----|------|-----|-------|------|-------|-------------------------------|---------|-----|-----------|--------|---|------|
| PA House Archives | 1 | 1 | 15 | 6 | 1989 | 1 | Agriculture and Rural Affairs | None | 185 | Lionville | SB 720 | On the increased spread of Lyme Disease and the establishment of the Ticke-Borne Commission | 331 |

How to Collect Senate Committee Hearings:

1. The Senate Hearings are located on a CD with approximately 60 files on each.
2. Once you select a file, the Senate hearing will appear.
3. From the first couple of pages, you should be able to locate the following categories to include.

What to Collect and Code in Senate Committee Hearings:

Collecting

1. Include the location of the file, since we know that the Senate Hearings on located on “Senate CD 3” since it is Disc 3.
2. Include the file on the Senate CD. The first one on Senate Disc 3 is file “10174.”
3. Include the day, the month, and year in three separate cells. This will allow the computer to conduct a more thorough search of dates.
4. Include the chamber. 1 is for the House; 2 is for the Senate; 3 is for joint committees.
5. Include the name of the committee. This should also be found on the first page. We will include a list of committees for tracking purposes. Since this is the “Senate and Labor Industry” committee we type that in cell E2.
6. Include the name of the subcommittee or special committee if there is one.
7. Include the number of pages in the document. Usually the PDF document will tell how many pages there are.
8. Include the city where the hearing was held. Most of the time the hearing will be held in Harrisburg, but they can be held all over the state.
9. Include the Bill that is the subject of the hearing. Sometimes a hearing may not focus on a bill(s), but it usually does.
10. Abstract the hearing briefly. Read over the first couple pages. Often at the outset, the committee chair will describe the purpose of the hearing and the bill to be discussed.

Coding

11. Once the abstract was “collected,” another researcher coded it 503 because this hearing falls under “employee benefits.”
12. When completed your table should resemble Figure 5.

Figure 5

| Location | File | Day | Month | Year | Chmbr | Comte | SubCmte | Pgs | City | Bill | Hearing Abstract | Code |
|-------------|-------|-----|-------|------|-------|---------------------------|---------|-----|------------|---------|--|------|
| Senate CD 3 | 10174 | 18 | 1 | 1972 | 2 | Senate Labor and Industry | None | 63 | Harrisburg | SB 1048 | hearing on Pennsylvania Workmen's Compensation Program to increase the maximum weekly benefit paid to injured workers from \$60 to the equivalent of two-thirds the state-wide average weekly wage | 503 |

III. Codebooks

A. Topics Codebook

| <u>Code</u> | <u>Category</u> |
|-------------|--|
| 1 | Fiscal and Economic Issues |
| 2 | Civil Rights and Liberties |
| 3 | Health |
| 4 | Agriculture |
| 5 | Labor, Employment, Immigration |
| 6 | Education |
| 7 | Environment |
| 8 | Energy |
| 10 | Transportation |
| 12 | Law, Crime, and Family |
| 13 | Social Welfare |
| 14 | Community Development, Housing Issues |
| 15 | Banking, Finance, Domestic Commerce |
| 16 | Defense |
| 17 | Space, Science, Technology, Communications |
| 18 | Foreign Trade |
| 19 | International Affairs and Foreign Aid |
| 20 | State Government Operations |
| 21 | Public Lands and Water Management |
| 24 | State Regulation of Local Government |

Coding Scheme

1. Fiscal and Economic Issues

100: General Fiscal and Economic Issues (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: the administration's economic plans, economic conditions and issues, economic growth and outlook, state of the economy, long-term economic needs, recessions, general economic policy, promote economic recovery and full employment, demographic changes, population trends, recession effects on state and local economies, distribution of income, assuring an opportunity for employment to every American seeking work.

101: Inflation, Prices, and Interest Rates

Examples: inflation control and reduction, anti-inflation programs, calculation of inflation statistics and price index statistics, consumer price index, food prices, cost of living, interest rates, bureau of labor reports on inflation, effects of inflation on business, general economic statistics.

103: Unemployment Rate

Examples: unemployment and employment statistics, economic and social impact of unemployment, national employment priorities, employment and labor market development, bureau of labor reports on unemployment.

See also: 502, 503 solutions to unemployment problems

104: Monetary Supply, Federal Reserve Board, and the Treasury

105: State Capital and Operating Budget and Debt

Examples: administration's yearly budget proposals, balanced budget act and enforcement, budget process, federal debt and deficit, deficit reduction and management proposals, budget projection including revenue estimates, increases in the public debt limit, concurrent budget resolutions, impact of budget reductions on industries, states and communities, move trust fund accounts off-budget, move trust fund accounts on-budget, public debt issues, including retirement of public debt, changes in fiscal year status.

For State: changes in rules governing passage of capital or operating budgets.

See also: 2017 State Operating Budget, 2018 State Capital Budget.

107: Taxation, Tax policy, and Tax Reform

Examples: state taxation of income, state and local income taxes, clarification of tax code, tax code reform, luxury and excise taxes, estate and gift taxes, corporate income taxes, collection procedures for federal taxes, administration tax proposals, income tax reform, tax treatment of charities, federal tax code reform and simplification, revenue acts, impact of taxes on business, multiple tax changes (excise and capital gains), general tax changes, charitable contribution deduction bills, domestic tax breaks for foreign businesses.

See also: 2009 IRS administration (Department of Revenue in PA)

108: Industrial Policy

Examples: manufacturing strategy, technological capacity of industry, assistance to specific industries, national industrial policy, industry revitalization and growth, decline in U.S. industrial productivity, plant closings and relocation, industrial reorganization, commission on productivity, industrialization centers.

See also: 1806 international business competition; 1403 economic development programs.

110: Price Control and Stabilization

Examples: economic stabilization programs, wage-price control and freezes, administered pricing programs, emergency price controls.

199: Other

2. Civil Rights, Minority Issues, and Civil Liberties

200: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: Civil Rights Commission appropriations, civil rights violations, Civil Rights Act, Equal Rights amendments, equal employment opportunity laws, discrimination against women and minorities, appropriations for civil rights programs, civil rights enforcement, coverage of the civil rights act, employment discrimination involving several communities (age, gender, race, etc. in combination), taking private property, impact on private property rights, employment discrimination due to race, color, and religion.

For State: Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission appropriations

201: Ethnic Minority and Racial Group Discrimination

Examples: minority set aside programs, minority contracting and business development, appointment of minorities to federal judgeships, school desegregation, minority discrimination by rental car agencies, FBI hiring and promotion of minorities, race based crimes, investigation of the Ku Klux Klan.

See also: 603 school desegregation

202: Gender and Sexual Orientation Discrimination

Examples: gender and sexual orientation discrimination in the military, social security inequities affecting women, employment barriers to women, female salary inequities, sex discrimination regulations, equal pay for women.

204: Age Discrimination

Examples: age discrimination in employment, mandatory retirement ages, age discrimination in selection of federal judges, EEOC problems in enforcing age discrimination laws, retirement age policies.

205: Handicap or Disease Discrimination

Examples: discrimination against the disabled, airline discrimination against blind people, employment of persons with disabilities, insurance discrimination of blind people, civil rights of institutionalized persons and the mentally retarded, travel problems of the handicapped, discrimination based on genetics or health conditions.

206: Voting Rights and Issues

Examples: state discriminatory barriers to voting registration, banning literacy tests, Voting Rights Act and enforcement, free mailing of voter registration forms, lowering the voting age to 18, abolition of poll taxes.

207: Freedom of Speech & Religion

Examples: amendments to the civil liberties act, religious freedom, physical desecration of the flag, school prayer, protection of women's abortion rights, religious speech protection, anti-obscenity legislation.

208: Right to Privacy and Access to Government Information

Examples: privacy of consumer and worker records, employee drug and polygraph testing, computer access and security, police wiretapping, privacy of medical records, access to government records and information, disclosure and confidentiality standards for government information, electronic funds transfer and financial privacy, security and privacy of criminal arrest records, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), dissemination of USIA films, programs or information within the US or at museums.

209: Anti-Government Activities

Examples: theory and practice of Communism, subversive activities control act, investigate the activities of the Black Panther Party, internal security laws, investigation of the Students for a Democratic Society, investigation of anti-Vietnam War protesters, investigation of the activities of the New Left, communist involvement in urban race riots, investigation of the Communist Party of Puerto Rico, investigation of student unrest at various universities, investigation of communist youth activities, establishing agencies to educate the public on the tactics of communist subversives, investigate the scope of Soviet activity in the U.S., investigate communist infiltration of education institutions and the U.S. military.

299: Other

Examples: right to livelihood, legal fees equity act, misuse of OEO funds, membership on the Commission on Civil Rights

3. Health

300: General

Examples: National Institute of Health (NIH) appropriations, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) appropriations, activities that provide little evidence of policy direction, commissions to study health issues, solvency of Medicare

For State: Pennsylvania Department of Health appropriations

301: Comprehensive health care reform

Examples: proposals to reform broader health system (rather than specific aspects of a program), including establishment of a national health care system, comprehensive Medicare reform, delegation of responsibilities to the states, changing responsibilities of states, regulation of state health care reform, initiatives in women's health, initiatives in rural health, federal assistance percentages, state share of Medicare or Medicaid payments.

See also: 334 for long term health care reform; 302 for insurance reform.

302: Insurance reform, availability, and cost

Examples: Access, eligibility, the uninsured, Medicare premiums, Medicare supplemental insurance (Medigap), establishment of tax free medical savings accounts, regulation of the individual insurance market, ERISA, coverage of veterans under Medicare, coverage of veterans under federal employee health plans (FEHB), regulation of HMOs and insurers with respect to general availability of coverage (e.g. patients' bill of rights), enrollment mix requirements for HMOs.

See also: 331-36 specific benefits; 334 long term care insurance, Medicare catastrophic coverage Act.

301: Regulation of drug industry, medical devices, and clinical labs

Examples: Generally about safety of products and procedures, approval processes, drug labeling and marketing, organ transplant allocations, safety of the blood supply, faulty cholesterol screening, prescription drug counterfeiting, pacemaker regulation, prescription drug labeling, over-the-counter drug safety, fatal allergic reactions to drugs, drug abuse in nursing homes, vitamin, mineral and diet supplements, regulation of drug marketing procedures, approval of drugs to combat specific diseases, FDA drug approval process, FDA regulation of medical devices, FDA approval of contraceptive devices, regulation of clinical trials, , inspection of x-ray equipment by PHS).

See also: 335 prescription drug costs; 398 research; 1520 for antitrust issues .

302: Facilities construction, regulation, and payments

Examples: Construction of hospitals, laboratories, health centers and nursing homes, including issues of undersupply in rural or urban areas (disproportionate share payments to hospitals) payments to hospitals for inpatient services under Medicare, emergency care facilities, regulation of standards and activities within these facilities, including personnel qualifications, HHS certification of long-term health care facilities, nursing home standards and regulation, Public Health Service (PHS) appropriations, PHS activities and regulation, medical lab reliability issues, Hospital Construction Act.

See also: 323 payments to providers; 325 teaching hospitals.

323: Provider and insurer payment and regulation

Examples: Reimbursement rates and methods for physicians, insurance companies, or specific procedures, peer review procedures, prospective payment system (PPS), appeals processes, payment rates for HMO services, regional adjustments, risk adjustment, reimbursement for chiropractors, foreign medical graduates, nurse practitioners, payment for outpatient services

See also: 325 workforce training programs; 302 insurer or managed care consumer protections.

324: Medical liability, fraud and abuse

Examples: Malpractice issues, fraudulent medical degrees, unfair sales practices, misuse of federal funds for mental health care, Medicare overbilling, conflicts of interest, misuse of federal funds for mental health care, medical malpractice insurance coverage, revocation of physician licenses, suspension of physician privileges, dispute resolution for medical malpractice claims, unfair sales practices in the diet and medical industries, liability protection for federal physicians.

See also: 325 for physician certification and licensing.

325: Health Manpower & Training

Examples: Issues of undersupply and oversupply of health personnel, including incentives to practice in underserved areas, certification and licensing procedures, coverage of services provided by training programs and medical schools, reimbursement rates for teaching hospitals, construction of teaching hospitals, collective bargaining, health manpower training, nurse training, public health training grants, physician training, medical libraries, nurse midwifery .

See also: 324 Malpractice issues, 323 compensation and regulation of health care providers.

331: Prevention, communicable diseases and health promotion

Examples: Cancer screening, health promotion programs, consumer guides, medical information, health education in schools, immunization, prevention programs for osteoporosis, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, federal response to AIDS, breast cancer treatment, skin cancer, renal disease, treatment of high blood pressure, Legionnaire's disease, communicable disease control, sickle cell anemia prevention, polio, Center for Disease Control funding.

See also: 208 right to privacy; 341-44 drug and tobacco programs.

332: Infants and children

Examples: Preventive services for children, prenatal care, child and juvenile health care, school health programs, child immunization, Comprehensive Child Immunization Act, reduction of infant mortality, promotion of breast feeding, prenatal care programs, child health care, sudden infant death syndrome, childhood malnutrition, fetal alcohol syndrome, child dental care.

See also: 207 for abortion related issues; 331 for health education programs.

333: Mental health and mental retardation

Examples: Federal role in providing services to the mentally ill, mental health services, quality of care for mentally ill, mentally ill and handicapped children, specialized housing for mentally retarded, mental health centers.

See also: 324 misuse of federal funds for mental health care, 322 review of hospital psychiatric programs.

334: Long-term care, home health, terminally ill, and rehabilitation services

Examples: Benefits and costs issues related to Medicare catastrophic costs, hospice, nursing homes, in home care, regulation of the sale of long-term health care to the elderly, long-term care insurance improvement, court appointed guardianships for the elderly and infirm, aging, gerontology research, National Institute of Aging, problems in financing long-term care, community alternative to institutional care, approaches to long-term care for the elderly, conferences on aging, comprehensive home health care, rehabilitation needs of persons with head injuries, life-sustaining treatments for the terminally ill.

See also: 322 nursing home standards; 333 long term care for the mentally ill; 1304 disability benefits; 1609 veterans' disability benefits; 323 payment for outpatient services; 336 provision of outpatient benefits.

For State: regulation of living wills and advance directives for health care

335: Prescription drug coverage and costs

Examples: Medicare prescription drug coverage, coverage of specific drugs under Medicaid, rising costs of drug coverage, coverage of clinical trials and experimental treatments.

See also: 321 regulation of drug industry .

336: Other or multiple benefits and procedures

Examples: Treatment for Alzheimer's, dental services, vision services, renal disease, breast cancer detection and treatment, durable medical equipment (e.g. wheelchairs).

341: Tobacco Abuse, Treatment, and Education

Examples: cigarette advertising and regulatory issues, ban on smoking in federal buildings, increase public awareness of smoking health risks, smoking prevention education programs, health effects associated with smoking.

342: Alcohol Abuse and Treatment

Examples: implementation of the national minimum drinking age act, alcoholic beverage advertising act, alcohol abuse among the elderly, prevention of adolescent alcohol abuse, health insurance coverage of alcohol abuse treatment, drunk driving victims protection, drunk driving enforcement aid for states, alcoholism prevention programs.

See also: 344 drug and alcohol abuse.

343: Controlled and Illegal Drug Abuse, Treatment, and Education

Examples: drug abuse education and prevention programs in schools, community based anti-drug programs, federal prison substance abuse treatment availability act, methadone treatment program, drug abuse treatment programs and insurance coverage, drug abuse by military personnel.

See also: 1203 drug trafficking; 321 drug safety.

344: Drug and Alcohol or Substance Abuse Treatment

Examples: extension of drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs, health coverage of drug and alcohol abuse treatment programs, drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs in schools, drug and alcohol abuse in the armed services, juvenile alcohol and drug abuse, entertainment industry efforts to curb drug and alcohol abuse.

See also: 342 alcohol abuse and treatment; 343 illegal drug abuse and treatment.

345: Provision and Regulation of Ambulance Services

398: Research and development

Examples: Alzheimer's research, research on women's health, government tax incentives for research and development, research grants to organizations and educational institutions, conferences on health-related issues, genetic engineering issues, medical research and regulatory issues, sleep disorders research, NASA-NIH biomedical research, fetal tissue transplant research, health policy research programs, medical applications of biotechnology research, research on increased life expectancy, human genetic engineering research, biomedical and behavioral research.

399: Other

Examples: health consequences of a nuclear attack.

4. Agriculture

400: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: DOA, USDA and FDA appropriations, general farm bills, farm legislation issues, economic conditions in agriculture, impact of budget reductions on agriculture, importance of agriculture to the U.S. economy, national farmland protection policies, agriculture and rural development appropriations, family farmers, state of American agriculture, farm program administration, long range agricultural policies, amend the Agriculture and Food Act, National Agricultural Bargaining Board.

For State: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture appropriations

401: Agricultural Trade

Examples: FDA inspection of imports, agriculture export promotion efforts, agricultural trade promotion programs, tobacco import trends, agricultural export credit guarantee programs, impact of imported meats on domestic industries, country of origin produce labeling, USDA agricultural export initiatives, value added agricultural products in U.S. trade, establish coffee export quotas, effects of Mexican produce importation, international wheat agreements, livestock and poultry exports, amend Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, reemphasize trade development, promote foreign trade in grapes and plums, prohibit unfair trade practices affecting producers of agricultural products, extend Agricultural Trade Development, enact the Agriculture Trade Act of 1978, establish agricultural aid and trade missions to assist foreign countries to participate in US agricultural aid and trade programs, Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act Amendments.

See also: 1800 general foreign trade; 1502 agricultural commodities trading.

402: Government Subsidies to Farmers and Ranchers, Agricultural Disaster Insurance

Examples: agricultural price support programs, USDA crop loss assistance, farm credit system financial viability, federal agriculture credit programs, agricultural disaster relief programs, subsidies for dairy producers, farm loan and credit issues, reforming federal crop insurance programs, credit assistance for family operated farms, federal milk supply and pricing policies, renegotiation of farm debts, USDA direct subsidy payments to producers, establishing farm program payment yields, peanut programs, wheat programs, evaluation of the supply and demand for various agricultural commodities, beef prices, cotton acreage allotments, shortages of agricultural storage facilities, agricultural subterminal storage facilities, financial problems of farm banks, Agricultural Adjustment Act, farm vehicle issues, Wool Act, Sugar Act, feed grain programs, cropland adjustment programs .

See also: 1404 farm real estate financing.

403: Food Inspection and Safety (including seafood)

Examples: FDA monitoring of animal drug residues, consumer seafood safety, budget requests for food safety programs, food labeling requirements, grain inspection services, regulation of health and nutrition claims in food advertising and labeling, sanitary requirements for food transportation, regulation of pesticide residues on fruit, food irradiation control act, regulation of artificial food coloring, federal control over the contamination of food supplies, meat grading standards, meat processing and handling requirements, improvement of railroad food storage facilities, shortage of grain storage facilities, food packaging standards, food buyer protection, regulation of food additives, federal seed act, definition and standards of dry milk solids.

See also: 401 inspection of food imports.

404: Agricultural Marketing, Research, and Promotion

Examples: soybean promotion, research, and consumer information act, USDA commodity promotion programs, cotton research and promotion, wheat marketing problems, livestock marketing, new peanut marketing system, establishing a national commission on food marketing, fruit and vegetable marketing, industrial uses for agricultural products, meat promotion program, national turkey marketing act, federal marketing quotas for wheat.

For State: actions related to the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board

405: Animal and Crop Disease and Pest Control

Examples: USDA regulation of plant and animal mailing to prevent the spread of diseases, control of animal and plant pests, pork industry swine disease eradication program, virus protection for sheep, grasshopper and cricket control programs on farmland, USDA response to the outbreak of citrus disease in Florida, eradication of livestock diseases, brucellosis outbreak in cattle, USDA integrated pest management program, toxic contamination of livestock, fire ant eradication program, proposed citrus blackfly quarantine, predator control problems, biological controls for insects and diseases on agricultural crops, eradication of farm animal foot and mouth diseases.

See also: 704 for pollution effects of pesticides; 403 for pesticide residues on foods.

498: Agricultural Research and Development

Examples: condition of federally funded agricultural research facilities, USDA nutrition research activities, USDA agricultural research programs, regulation of research in agricultural biotechnology programs, organic farming research, potential uses of genetic engineering in agriculture, agricultural research services, research on aquaculture.

499: Other

Examples: methodologies used in a nationwide food consumption survey, agricultural weather information services, federal agricultural census, designate a national grain board, home gardening, redefinition of the term "farm", farm cooperative issues.

5. Labor, Employment, and Immigration

500: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: Department of Labor budget requests and appropriations, assess change in labor markets to the year 2000, human resources development act, recent decline in the number of manufacturing jobs, national employment priorities, employment security administration financing, current labor market developments.

For State: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry appropriations

501: Worker Safety and Protection, Occupational and Safety Health Administration (OSHA)

Examples: mine safety regulations, lead exposure risks during construction activities, improving OSHA safety and health programs, petrochemical plant worker safety, repetitive motion illnesses in the workplace, OSHA penalties and procedures for violations resulting in employee death or disability, investigation of a fatal fire at a chicken processing plant in North Carolina, construction safety standards, improve procedures for occupational health hazards identification, identification of high-risk diseases in the work place, worker protection at Superfund clean-up sites, drug and alcohol abuse in the work place, compensation for occupational diseases, safety at DOE nuclear facilities, black lung benefits and black lung disease.

502: Employment Training and Workforce Development

Examples: job training partnership acts (JPTA), job opportunities and basic skills training programs, federal aid for job retraining, job displacement programs among timber workers, workforce 2000 employment readiness act, elderly workers and job re-training, DOL bonuses to states for training and employment of long-term welfare recipients, displaced homemakers vocational and education assistance, national employment priorities act, work incentive programs, manpower and employment problems in Cleveland, manpower development and training act, public service jobs for unemployed, public service job programs, Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA).

For State: Job Ready Pennsylvania Program

503: Employee Benefits

Examples: underfunded pension plans and pension plan protection, emergency unemployment compensation, retiree health benefits, guarantees of retirement annuities, employee stock ownership plans, fraud and abuse in employee sponsored health insurance programs, minimum health benefits for employees, pension benefit guarantee corporation, voluntary employee leave sharing program, unemployment compensation system financing, worker compensation ratemaking reform, tax treatment of employee fringe benefits, disability insurance legislation, railroad employment benefits, welfare and pension plans disclosure act.

See also: 2004 federal employee benefits.

504: Employee Relations and Labor Unions

Examples: labor-management relations in the coal industry, striker replacement legislation, national rail strike, operations of the NLRB, federal agency guidelines for worker dispute resolution, unions and collective bargaining problems, FAA regulation of flight attendant work and rest periods, federal mediation of railway employee strike, labor law reform and unfair labor practices, terms of office for local labor union officers, harbor workers compensation act, investigation into the causes of labor disputes, notification of plant closures or layoffs, Longshoremen issues, amend the National Labor Relations Act, right to organize, employee organization efforts.

See also: 1202 illegal activities of labor unions; 1926 International Labor Organization

505: Fair Labor Standards

Examples: minimum wage regulation for federal contracts, increase the minimum wage rate, enforcement of wage and hour standards, require contractors to pay wages at the rate in locality where the construction occurred, fair labor standards act, application of the fair labor standards act in Puerto Rico, penalties on employers for overtime work requirements, Davis-Bacon Act (or Davis Bacon).

506: Youth Employment, Youth Job Corps Programs, and Child Labor

Examples: youth employment through conservation projects, increase youth participation in job training centers, youth employment regulation and protection, voucher system to promote youth service programs, youth involvement in community service programs, summer youth education and employment programs, job training for disadvantaged youths, summer camps and youth camps (all activities and issues associated with summer and youth camps).

See also: 501 child labor safety.

508: Parental Leave and Child Care

Examples: Family and Medical Leave Act, child care assistance programs, child care for low and moderate income families, meeting the child care needs of working parents, affordability of

insurance for day care centers, parental and medical leave, child care placement assistance for working parents, dependent care, dependent and Child care.

529: Migrant and Seasonal workers, Farm Labor Issues

Examples: migrant and seasonal worker housing, national office for migrant farm workers, migrant children's nutrition and education needs, improvement of migrant living and working conditions, social and economic problems of migrant workers, migrant workers and their effect on American labor, Mexican farm labor programs, migratory labor bills, health clinics for migratory farm workers, farm labor supply programs

530: Immigration and Refugee Issues

Examples: immigration of Cuban refugees to the U.S., refugee resettlement appropriations, HHS authority over immigration and public health, INS enforcement of immigration laws, legalization procedures for illegal immigrants, assessment of Haitian refugee detention by the U.S., immigration and education issues for aliens, adjusting visa allocations based on applicant job skills, DOL certification process for foreign engineers working in the U.S., denial of visas to political refugees, appropriations for the INS, citizenship issues, expedited citizenship for military service.

See also: 1524 tourism; 1929 passport issues

599: Other

Examples: discontinuance of monthly press briefings by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, worker alienation research, materialism and the American family work ethic, DOL automatic data processing system.

6. Education

600: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: Department of Education (DOEd) appropriations, state of education in the U.S., education programs development, education quality, national education methods, impact of education budget cuts, white house conference on education, National Institute of Education.

For State: Pennsylvania Department of Education appropriations

601: Higher Education

Examples: student loan reform, reauthorization of the higher education act, higher education student financial aid programs, violations of NCAA regulations by some colleges, direct loan programs for graduate students, student loan fraud and default, role and financial need of black colleges and universities, Montgomery GI bill, military education, veterans education assistance, foreign students at U.S. military academies, rising costs of operating higher education

institutions, improving the quality of higher education, Pell Grant eligibility changes, status of university endowments in light of federal aid reduction to higher education, national defense education act, Sea Grant and Space Grant programs.

For State: actions related to Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA), actions related to the Pennsylvania Higher Educational Facilities Authority (PHEFA), Pennsylvania's TAP 529 program

602: Elementary and Secondary Education

Examples: federal elementary and secondary education programs, school funding disparities, education choice programs, high school dropout intervention programs, certification standards for public school teachers, impact of federal budget cuts on school districts, elementary and secondary school student discipline problems, the safe schools act, construction assistance for school facilities, high school scholarship programs, elementary and secondary schools and supplemental educational centers, preschool issues.

For State: actions related to the State Public School Building Authority (SPSBA), regulation of school boards, state takeovers of local school districts, debates on public school choice and vouchers, regulation of charter schools, regulation of home schooling, creation of school districts.

603: Education of Underprivileged Students

Examples: Head Start programs, teaching disadvantaged students, Even Start Education Act, education needs of Hispanics, bilingual education needs, Department of Education grants to improve skills of economically disadvantaged students, effects of Head Start on later performance, adult literacy programs, combating adult illiteracy in the U.S., Head Start grant allocation formula, education for children from low income homes, enrichment programs for disadvantaged secondary school students.

See also: 201 school desegregation efforts.

604: Vocational Education

Examples: appropriations for vocational education programs, federal aid for vocational training, technical and vocational education programs, vocational aid program requirements, impact of proposed budget cuts on vocational education, vocational and occupational education.

606: Special Education

Examples: education programs for the deaf, DOEd grants for early intervention services for disabled infants and toddlers, appropriations for Education of the Handicapped Act, progress in implementing program for learning disabled youth, handicapped education, free public education for the handicapped, education assistance for the blind, Disabilities Education Act.

607: Educational Excellence

Examples: promotion of excellence in education, promotion of science and math education, education standards and testing, improvement of science education facilities, increase foreign language competency in U.S. schools, programs to promote teacher excellence, grants for improving computer education in schools, establish centers for gifted and talented students, use of telecommunications to share teaching resources, grants for library construction, federal library program developments, public library facilities.

609: Arts and Humanities

Examples: Appropriations for NEA, NEH, Department of Interior loans for performing arts at parks, national endowment for local arts development programs, federal role in funding arts programs, federal funding for the Kennedy Center, White House conferences on the arts and humanities, American folklife.

See also: 1707 public broadcasting; 1798 NSF funding.

For State: Appropriations for Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, state funding for cultural and arts institutions, state assistance to arts and cultural educational facilities, programs of Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

698: Research and Development

Examples: education research appropriations, Department of Education research and development programs, research on education technology.

699: Other

Examples: propriety of a videotape made by the Department of Education (DOEd), DOEd internal problems, review National Center for Education Statistics activities, dismissal of Education Appeal Board cases, retirement and lifelong learning, school land issues.

7. Environment

700: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: EPA, CEQ, ERDA budget requests and appropriations, implementation of the Clean Air Act, review of EPA regulations, Environmental Crimes Act, U.S. policies and international environmental issues, requirements for states to provide source pollution management programs, EPA pollution control programs, Comprehensive Environmental Response Act, environmental implications of the new energy act, environmental protection and energy conservation, adequacy of EPA budget and staff for implementing pollution control legislation.

For State: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection appropriations and budget requests

701: Drinking Water Safety

Examples: Clean Water Act, EPA water pollution abatement, pesticides in groundwater, lead contamination of drinking water, drinking water safety programs, comprehensive program to assess the quality of the nation's groundwater, drinking water availability, dioxin levels in drinking water, fluoridation of water, Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

703: Waste Disposal

Examples: interstate waste disposal, solid waste management, federal management of municipal waste, municipal sewage problems, EPA municipal sewage treatment construction grants program, recovery of energy from municipal solid waste, garbage and/or trash collection issues, waste treatment facility.

704: Hazardous Waste and Toxic Chemical Regulation, Treatment, and Disposal

Examples: EPA administration of the Superfund program, hazardous waste sites cleanup, hazardous materials transportation, international movement of hazardous waste, insurance company liability for cleanup costs of hazardous waste sites, DOT routing of ultra hazardous cargoes, hazardous waste landfills, possible sites for nuclear waste repositories, toxic substances control and regulation, advance notice of hazardous of hazardous material storage for firefighters, pesticides regulation.

705: Air pollution, Global Warming, and Noise Pollution

Examples: Clean Air Act, air quality issues affecting national parks, EPA regulation of chemical plant emissions, costs and effects of chronic exposure to low-level air pollutants, ambient air quality criteria, global warming, national action plan for reducing greenhouse emissions, ozone layer depletion, national program to control acid rain, effects of chlorofluorocarbons on the ozone layer, regulation of automobile emissions, EPA noise control programs, CAFE standards.

707: Recycling

Examples: recycling contaminated materials, beverage container recycling, state and local recycling efforts, promotion of recycling as a means of reducing solid waste, resource conservation and recycling.

708: Indoor Environmental Hazards

Examples: radon awareness and disclosure act, indoor air quality and radon abatement legislation, lead exposure reduction, childhood lead poisoning prevention, public schools asbestos inspections, management and control of asbestos in government buildings, EPA programs relating to indoor air contamination, airliner cabin air quality, health effects of exposure to low level radiation from video display terminals, EPA regulation of indoor disinfectants.

709: Species and Forest Protection

Examples: endangered species protection act, gray wolf restoration, protection of spotted owls, exotic bird conservation, protection of performance animals, regulation of trapping devices, bald eagle protection, regulation of laboratory animals, fish and wildlife protection and management programs, marine mammal protection, Bristol Bay fisheries protection, fishery conservation and management, salmon conservation issues, sport fish restoration programs, protection of certain tuna species, scientific findings on late-successional forest ecosystems, old growth forest protection, wilderness refuge protection, control of illegal trade in animals and plants, humane treatment of animals used in experiments.

See also: 1807 embargo on certain fish and fish products; 1902 international agreements on resource/wildlife conservation; 2101 national parks; 2103 public lands management; 2103 conveyance of fish hatcheries from federal to state governments.

710: Coastal Water Pollution and Conservation

Examples: preservation of wetlands, regulation of ocean dumping, pollution from cruise ships, marine plastic pollution control, marine sanctuaries appropriations, pollution in the Chesapeake Bay, protection of coral reef systems, Columbia river water pollution, coastal barrier improvement, coastal erosion and management, federal and state coastal zone protection policies, toxic pollution in the great lakes, regulation of the incineration of hazardous wastes at sea, oil spills.

See also: 2104 water resources development

711: Land and Water Conservation

Examples: land and water conservation fund amendments, USDA soil conservation promotion, soil conservation for watershed projects, topsoil conservation standards, water supply problems, federal-state water resources rights, beach erosion.

See also: 2104 water development projects

712: Regulation of Hunting, Fishing and Recreational Boating

Examples: Appropriations and budgets for Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and Pennsylvania Game Commission, Hunting regulation, hunting licensing, fishing regulation, fishing licensing, boating safety programs.

798: Research and Development

Examples: environmental research and development programs, EPA research and development appropriations, global climate change research, ocean research using satellite technology, marine biotechnology research, National Environmental Data System.

799: Other

Examples: abolishing the council on environmental quality, environmental consequences of nuclear war, EPA capability for forecasting future environmental problems, environmental impact statements, report of the Council on Environmental Quality.

8. Energy

800: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: Department of Energy (DOE) budget requests and appropriations, DOE and NRC budget requests and appropriations, national energy security policy, U.S. energy goals, U.S. energy supply and conservation, regulation of natural gas and electricity, impact of taxation on national energy policy, global energy needs, emergency plans for energy shortages, promotion of energy development projects, long-range energy needs of the U.S., energy capital requirements, establish the DOE, energy advisory committees.

See also: 2104 for energy and water development projects.

801: Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission Issues

Examples: Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Atomic Energy Commission budget requests and appropriations, nuclear power licensing reform, nuclear power plant fire safety legislation, U.S. nuclear power policy, safety of nuclear facility storage tanks for high level radioactive waste, revise the claims system for nuclear accidents, standardized design for nuclear power plants, NRC regulation of the TVA nuclear power program, new technologies for safer nuclear reactors, need for international nuclear safety standards, Three Mile Island nuclear plant accident, state of the atomic energy industry, atomic energy patents, fusion energy act, Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), protection of nuclear plants from attack.

See also: 501 nuclear worker safety; 1614 defense related nuclear waste; 704 nuclear waste.

802: Electricity and Hydroelectricity

Examples: Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) budget requests and appropriations, electric power plant construction, hydroelectric project licensing, hydroelectric power development, utility payment reform, FERC licensing of electric power plants, rural electrification programs, ability of rural electric cooperatives to provide adequate power, BPA electric power rates and ratemaking procedures, electric utility rate reform and regulation improvement, regional shortages of electric power, financial management of the TVA, electric utilities financial problems, regulation of electric power plants use of natural gas, vulnerability of U.S. electric power systems to accidents, increase in rural electric rates,

emergency sales of electric power, impact of inflation and recession on the electric utility industry.

803: Natural Gas and Oil (Including Offshore Oil and Gas)

Examples: natural gas regulation, natural gas pipeline safety issues, Trans-Alaska pipeline development, natural gas and oil exploration on federal lands, estimates of natural gas reserves in the U.S., state jurisdiction of the transportation of natural gas, offshore gas and oil leasing, outer continental shelf lease cancellation and compensation process, collection and dissemination of information on winter heating fuels, oil prices and demand, gasoline price increases, OPEC crude oil prices, oil shortages, increase in world oil prices, long-term outlook of the world oil supply, oil imports and foreign commission payments, administration's gasoline rationing program, oil imports and energy security, foreign oil production and consumption, oil shale mining claims and regulation, estimating domestic oil production, royalty and value calculation procedures for oil and gas produced on federal lands., petroleum storage facility fire prevention and safety, strategic petroleum reserve.

See also: 2103 mineral resources of the outer continental shelf; 710 oil spills; 1520 antitrust issues in oil and gas distribution.

805: Coal

Examples: DOE clean coal program, clean coal technologies, regulation of coal slurry pipelines, extent and recoverability of U.S. coal reserves, Great Plains coal gasification project, regulation of federal land leases for the extraction of coal, federal standards for surface coal mining, coal imports.

806: Alternative and Renewable Energy

Examples: hydrogen and renewable energy programs, promotion of solar and geothermal power, promotion of alternative fuels for automobiles, issues of ethanol gasoline, biomass fuel and wind energy programs, ocean thermal energy research, solar energy development program, assistance for the Synthetic Fuel Development Corporation, loans for alcohol fuel research, geothermal leases on federal lands, hydrogen programs.

807: Energy Conservation

Examples: energy efficiency in the U.S. government, home energy efficiency programs, community energy efficiency act, energy conservation in cities, energy conservation standards for household appliances, establish building energy performance standards, diesel fuel and gasoline conservation act, promotion of carpooling, daylight savings time extensions, motor vehicle fuel efficiency.

898: Research and Development:

Examples: national energy research and development policy, DOE energy technology research and development, energy storage research and development programs, role of national laboratories in energy research and development, hydrogen research and design programs .

899: Other

Examples: DOE and EPA use of consultants, energy materials and equipment allocation, standby energy authorities legislation, future requirements for energy data, establish the institute for long-range energy analysis.

10. Transportation

1000: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: Department of Transportation (DOT) and National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) requests and appropriations, budget requests and appropriations for multiple agencies (NTSB, FAA, CAB), surface transportation programs, national transportation policy, rural transportation needs, adequacy of transportation systems, Interstate Commerce Commission policies and procedures, impact of budget cuts on DOT programs, highway and mass transit programs, transportation assistance programs, high-speed ground transportation systems.

See also: 1003 budget requests and appropriations for FAA and CAB.

1001: Mass Transportation and Safety

Examples: mass transit grant programs, development of new urban public bus system, financial condition of the intercity bus industry, emergency subsidies to urban mass transportation programs, metrorail safety, public transportation.

For State: state aid to regional mass transit authorities, state oversight of mass transit authorities

1002: Highway Construction, Maintenance, and Safety

Examples: National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) budget requests and appropriations, federal aid for highway construction, highway safety and design, highway trust fund surplus, national maximum speed limit laws, pavement deterioration of highways in Florida, freeway problems in California, federal funding for bridge maintenance projects, highway user taxes, increase vehicle weight and width limitations on interstate highways, defense highway needs, control of advertising on interstate highways, infrastructure development, bridges, National Highway Academy, highway beautification programs, adding trees and plants along highways.

1003: Airports, Airlines, Air Traffic Control and Safety

Examples: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) budget requests and appropriations, aviation safety issues, financial condition of the airline industry, uses of satellite technology in aviation, FAA delay in procurement of air traffic control

equipment, development of new commercial aircraft, commercial air service restrictions, airline compliance with FAA safety regulations, nationwide airport expansion needs, FAA regulation of aircraft noise, FAA air traffic controller standards, airlines fares and services, airplane crash liability standards, problems with airline computer reservation systems, air traffic control computer failures, oversight of CAB practices and procedures, CAB regulation of charter air carriers, rates and fares of foreign air transportation, federal airport construction aid, civil aviation academy.

For State: state aid to local airports, state regulation of airport authorities

1005: Railroad Transportation and Safety

Examples: AMTRAK budget requests and appropriations, federal railroad safety inspection and enforcement programs, development of high speed passenger rail transportation, growth of regional railroads, sales of short line and regional railroads, ICC rail rate regulation, AMTRAK passenger safety issues, freight rail industry regulation, Northeast Rail Service Act, shortage of railroad cars for commodity transportation, revitalization of Northeast Corridor rail properties, railroad deregulation.

1006: Truck and Automobile Transportation and Safety

Examples: trucking industry regulation, establish a national system of licensing for truck and bus drivers, truck safety audit and investigation procedures, prohibition of tandem trucks, size and weight limitations for trucks on interstate, impact of federal regulations on independent truckers, long and short haul trucking provisions, regulation of freight forwarders, ICC regulation of the trucking industry, motor vehicle safety issues, auto industry development of airbags, motor vehicle information programs, automobile safety belt usage, automobile crash testing and standards, economic status of automobile manufacturing, all-terrain vehicle safety, trucking industry deregulation, efforts to reduce drunk driving.

See also: 705 automobile emissions regulation, automobile CAFE standards.

For State: non-commercial drivers licensing, non-commercial vehicle inspection, vehicle registration

1007: Maritime Issues

Examples: U.S. Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, and Federal Maritime Commission budget requests and appropriations, cargo liability limits and the carriage of goods by sea, cargo preference laws, revitalization of the maritime industry, commercial fishing vessel safety, navigation safety issues, cruise ship safety, commercial shipbuilding industry, navy policies on transportation of military cargo by Merchant Marine, financing construction of merchant ships, maritime freight industry regulation, intercoastal shipping act, regulation of ocean shipping rates, Great Lakes pilotage, small boat safety, Coast Guard operation of ocean weather stations, navigation rules on inland waterways, designation and naming of channels, designation and naming of vessels).

See also: 1902 international fishing and wildlife agreements; 1915 Panama Canal ; 2104 port development and construction.

1010: Public Works (Infrastructure Development)

Examples: budget requests and appropriations for public works and civil works projects, transportation infrastructure improvements, civil works and energy projects, public works investment needs, local public works employment projects, local public works capital development and investment act, Public Works Acceleration Act.

See also: 800 energy projects; 2104 water projects.

1098: Research and Development

Examples: surface transportation research and development, DOE requests for transportation research and development funding, research and development in ground transportation.

1099: Other

Examples: metric signing on highways.

12. Law, Crime, and Family Issues

1200: General (includes combinations of multiple subtopics)

Examples: emerging criminal justice issues, administration of criminal justice, revision of the criminal justice system, role of the U.S. commissioner in the criminal justice system.

1201: Executive Branch Agencies Dealing With Law and Crime

Examples: Judiciary, Department of Justice (DOJ), FBI, ATF, Border Patrol and Customs budget requests and appropriations, U.S. federal marshals witness protection program, review of FBI programs, improving criminal justice information systems at the state and local level, computerizing criminal records for nationwide law enforcement access, law enforcement assistance programs, ATF gang information network, debt collection by the DOJ, Secret Service protection of government officials.

See also: 1800 U.S. Customs appropriations.

For State: Pennsylvania Board of Pardons, Office of the Attorney General

1202: White Collar Crime and Organized Crime

Examples: Asian organized crime activities in the U.S., racketeering control, organized crime in Atlantic City, organized crime in labor unions, white collar crime in the oil industry, RICO penalties, gambling and organized crime, president's commission on organized crime, credit card

counterfeiting and fraud legislation, corporate criminal liability, prosecution of organized crime labor racketeering cases, cigarette bootlegging, general money laundering.

See also: 1203 drug related money laundering.

1203: Illegal Drug Production, Trafficking, and Control

Examples: Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) appropriations, national drug control strategy, federal interagency cooperation in drug control border drug interdiction, international narcotics control strategy, heroin trafficking in China, status of DEA drug interdiction programs, U.S.--South American drug control strategy and cooperation, airborne drug trafficking deterrence, U.S. military involvement in drug interdiction, Coast Guard drug confiscation and search policies, drug trafficking and money laundering, money laundering detection and penalties, federal seizure of drug related property, drug trafficking in New York City, crack-cocaine trafficking in Delaware, legalization of drugs, the relationship between drug trafficking and crime, criminal penalties for drug trafficking.

See also: 1202 general money laundering (non-drug related).

1204: Court Administration

Examples: Judiciary budget requests and appropriations, federal courts administration act, restructuring district courts, construction of new federal courthouse, administration of the federal courts, reorganization of federal courts, reducing the workload of the Supreme Court, reform grand jury procedures, time limits for federal criminal cases, capital punishment procedures, effectiveness of the pretrial services agency, oversight of the Legal Services Corporation, jurisdiction of lawsuits made by foreigners on US companies, criminal fine collection efforts, conditions for pre-trial release, bail guidelines and bail reform, establish and office of the public defender, Supreme Court issues, criminal records, legal services issues, confer jurisdiction upon Court of Claims (with no specific references to other subject matter) .

See also: 1205 parole issues; 1210 criminal sentencing requirements and civil suit guidelines.

1205: Prisons

Examples: Federal Bureau of Prisons appropriations and budget requests, Federal Bureau of Prisons programs, halfway house contracts, alternatives to traditional incarceration for criminal offenders, prisoner 'boot' camp proposals, prison overcrowding, prison construction plans and policy, prison violence, shortcomings of the correction system, reform of the present parole system, national correction standards, penal reform.

For state: Pennsylvania Department of Corrections appropriations and budget requests, Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, state regulation and inspection of county prisons, crime victim's notification of prisoner release or parole

1206: Juvenile Crime and the Juvenile Justice System

Examples: violent crime involving youth, juvenile justice and delinquency prevention act, juvenile court system, youth criminal activity, homeless and runaway youth assistance programs, crime and violence in schools, adolescent drug use and related criminal activity, juvenile delinquency prevention programs, correlation of unemployment and the crime rate for youth, alternatives to juvenile incarceration, detention and jailing of juveniles, institute for juvenile justice, institute for continuing studies of juvenile justice, Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

1207: Child Abuse and Child Pornography

Examples: child abuse prevention, national child search system, regulation of child pornography, violence against children, sexual exploitation of children, problems and incidence of missing children, federal efforts to relocate missing children, sexual abuse of children in day care homes, parental kidnapping of their children.

1208: Marriage and Family Issues

Examples: court-ordered child support, battered women and child custody legislation, state of child welfare services, adoption and foster care programs, domestic violence, federal family planning programs, impact of drugs on children and families, aid for abandoned infants and children, teenage pregnancy issues, teenage suicide prevention, family services support for adoption, family economic problems, consequences of divorce, elderly abuse, domestic violence.

For State: laws regulating marriage, marriage licenses, divorce laws, birth certificates, licensure of marriage and family therapists

1209: Police, Fire, and Weapons Control

Examples: Federal financial assistance to state and local law enforcement, rights of police officers during internal investigations, police misconduct, neighborhood crime reduction programs, arson prevention, handgun control, revise federal gun control laws, seven-day waiting periods for handgun sales, control of explosives, establishment of a national police academy.

For State: State Police

1210: Criminal and Civil Code

Examples: revisions of the federal criminal code, federal crime sentencing disparities, hate crimes sentencing enhancement act, federal rape law reform, judicial sentencing in narcotics cases, sentencing in capital cases, criminal penalties for assaults on firemen and policemen, proposals to abolish the death penalty, apply federal law to crimes committed on aircraft, civil penalty guidelines and limitations, criminal justice statistics, habeas corpus reform.

For State: tort law, tort law reform

1211: Riots and Crime Prevention

Examples: programs to prevent crimes against women, crimes against the elderly, deterring auto theft, violent crime control, national crime survey, federal criminal diversion programs,

compensation programs for victims of violent crime, causes of urban riots and civil disturbances.

See also: 1208 domestic violence.

1212: Probate and Estate Law

Examples: regulation of wills, death certificates

1213: Property and Real Estate Law

Examples: laws affecting deeds and property titles, eminent domain, liens, restrictive covenants, laws affecting landlord and tenants, state regulation of local property laws

1299: Other

13. Social Welfare

1300: General

Examples: Health and Human Services (HHS) and Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) appropriations and budget requests, administration's welfare reform proposals, effectiveness of federal and state public welfare programs, social services proposals, public assistance programs, effects of economic and social deprivation on the psychology of underprivileged persons, social security and welfare benefits reforms.

See also: 300 HHS appropriations specific to health; 300 HEW appropriations specific to health; 600 HEW appropriations specific to education.

1301: Food Stamps, Food Assistance, and Nutrition Monitoring Programs

Examples: USDA grants to states for women, infant and children (WIC) supplemental food program, childhood hunger relief, child nutrition programs, consumer nutrition awareness, food stamp abuse and fraud, approach to the U.S. hunger problem, USDA school breakfast/lunch program, malnutrition problems among the elderly, food assistance for low income families, coordinate USDA and HHS programs for nutrition monitoring, USDA food programs for the homeless, administration task force on food assistance, food stamp reductions, special milk program eligibility for public schools, national nutrition policy study, food assistance for the elderly, national school lunch act.

See also: 349 the role of diets in disease prevention.

1302: Poverty and Assistance for Low-Income Families

Examples: Economic Opportunity Act antipoverty programs, programs to alleviate long-term welfare dependency, examine proposals to reform AFDC program, needs of disadvantaged children from low-income families, efforts of Southern states to reduce poverty, mandatory work and training programs for welfare recipients, promotion of economic self-sufficiency for single mothers receiving AFDC benefits, HHS low-income energy assistance programs, budget cut impact on AFDC programs.

See also: 1204 legal assistance for the poor.

1303: Elderly Issues and Elderly Assistance Programs (Including Social Security Administration)

Examples: contributions into the social security fund, Older Americans Act, revise social security retirement earnings test, social security system filing problems, SSA procedures for handling claims for denied benefits, improve social security benefits for older women, social services for the elderly, management of the social security trust funds surplus, reduction of social security benefits, elderly assistance programs under the older Americans act, problems and needs of elderly women, cost of living adjustments for social security benefits, impact of budget cuts on the elderly, social security financing issues, energy cost assistance for the elderly, needs of rural elderly.

See also: 1301 elderly nutrition assistance programs; 1408 elderly housing.

For State: Adult Day Care programs.

1304: Assistance to the Disabled and Handicapped

Examples: residential living programs for the mentally retarded and developmentally disabled, revision of aid to handicapped, Americans with Disabilities Act, technologies for assisting disabled persons, HHS grants for persons with chronic disabilities, needs of the elderly blind, rehabilitation assistance for disabled, programs for the deaf and hearing impaired, independent living programs for the handicapped, federal aid for the mentally ill and retarded, aid to physically handicapped, Randolph-Sheppard Act for the blind.

See also: 205 handicapped access to federal buildings.

1305: Social Services and Volunteer Associations

Examples: domestic volunteer service programs, youth volunteer programs, community volunteer programs, providing volunteer services for the elderly, ACTION agency older Americans volunteer programs, federal management of volunteer services, national meals-on-wheels programs, state social services programs, boy scouts of America , older worker community service programs, boys and girls clubs.

See also: 1929 Peace Corps.

For State: licensure of social workers

1399: Other

14. Community Development and Housing Issues

1400: General

Examples: Housing and Urban Development (HUD) budget requests and appropriations, housing and the housing market, HUD policy goals, building construction standards, future of the housing industry, national housing assistance legislation, administration and operation of national housing programs, housing safety standards.

For State: Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development budget requests and appropriations

1401: Housing and Community Development

Examples: HUD housing and community development programs, HUD loans for neighborhood revitalization efforts, HUD block grants, neighborhood development and preservation, housing and urban development, National Housing Act, making repairs and improvements to a residence.

See also: 1403 urban economic development; 1405 rural economic development.

1402: Zoning and Growth Management

Examples: Open space laws, enactment of growth boundaries, state regulation of zoning codes

1403: Urban Economic Development and General Urban Issues

Examples: urban enterprise zones, local partnership act, economic development needs of urban areas, community reinvestment act, urban revitalization, economic problems in various cities, national urban policy, effects of budget cuts on cities, federal role in dealing with urban decline, reducing urban sprawl, New York City financial bailout, model cities programs.

See also: 2001 intergovernmental relations.

1404: Rural Housing and FmHA Housing Assistance Programs

Examples: management of FmHA rural housing assistance program, FmHA home loan appeals procedure, shortages of low-income rural housing, housing credit needs in rural areas, FmHA management problems, agriculture real estate loans, FmHA farm loans.

See also: 1405 rural economic development.

1405: Rural Economic Development

Examples: credit assistance and availability for rural economic development, investment in rural areas, rural conditions, Appalachian Regional Development Commission, Economic Development Administration assistance, rural development oversight, economic and social problems of rural America, rural community development, rural telephone assistance.

See also: 802 rural electric development.

1406: Low and Middle Income Housing Programs and Needs

Examples: housing affordability problems of low and moderate income families, federal housing assistance programs, low-income housing shortages, condominium conversion trends and housing affordability, rent control, deficiencies in public housing projects, budget renewal for HUD's Section 8 program, alleged mismanagement of HUD programs, tenant-management initiatives in public housing projects, HUD management of multi-family housing programs, security in public housing, neighborhood preservation, slum clearance and related problems, multifamily housing projects, housing affordability and availability.

See also: 200 fair housing initiatives and discrimination in housing; 1408 elderly housing.

1407: Veterans Housing Assistance and Military Housing Programs

Examples: VA home loan guaranty program, use of national service life insurance funds to underwrite mortgage loans to veterans, VA mortgage foreclosures, veterans emergency housing act, low cost rental housing for veterans, sale of permanent war housing to veterans, substandard housing of military personnel, housing in military areas, defense housing act.

1408: Elderly and Handicapped Housing

Examples: Elderly housing needs, housing shortages and the elderly, alternative approaches to housing for the elderly, condominiums and the elderly, housing facilities for the elderly and handicapped, adequacy of federal response to housing needs of older Americans.

1409: Housing Assistance for Homeless and Homeless Issues

Examples: permanent housing for the homeless, federal aid for the homeless, Homeless Outreach Act, assistance for homeless veterans, lack of housing for homeless and low-income groups, use of emergency assistance funds for housing for homeless families, extent and causes of homelessness in the U.S.

See also: 603 education of homeless children.

For State: State regulation of homeless shelters

1410: Secondary Mortgage Market

Examples: FHA mortgage insurance fund, soundness of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation and FANNIE MAE, abuses of FHA mortgage programs, mortgage marketing and mortgage credit, FHA to insure loans for residential mobile home purchases, examine the secondary mortgage market for industrial mortgages, FHA mortgage foreclosure procedures.

See also: 1504 consumer mortgages.

1411: General State Economic Development

Examples: legislation affecting site development, Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority, grants for industrial site development projects.

1499: Other

Examples: architectural competition, cellulose home insulation.

15. Banking, Finance, and Domestic Commerce

1500: General

Examples: Department of Commerce (DOC) and National Bureau of Standards (NBS) budget requests and appropriations, financial system structure and regulation, DOC reorganization plan, national materials policy, regulatory sunshine act, federal regulation of the economy, Interstate Commerce Act.

See also: 1800 Federal Trade Commission

For State: budget requests and appropriations for Pennsylvania Department of Banking

1501: State Banking System and Financial Institution Regulation

Examples: Regulatory burden on financial institutions, FDIC and Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) policies, interstate banking efficiency, RTC procedures for disposal of assets of failed savings and loan banks, FDIC bank insurance fund, banking regulation reform, failed federally insured savings and loan associations, need for financial service industry restructuring, financial institution fraud investigations, savings and loan crisis, FSLIC acquisition of insolvent savings and loan associations, uniform standards for saving institution advertising, standards for U.S. commercial bank foreign loan transactions, Federal Reserve regulation on check clearing systems--limit length of time that banks can hold checks, financial institution deregulation, electronic fund transfer act, interest rate regulation on savings accounts, national credit union administration, operation of federal intermediate credit banks, Reconstruction Finance Corporation, Federal Credit Union Act, Banking Holding Company Act.

See also: 104 federal reserve board issues; 1525 Truth-in-Lending Act; 1202 prosecution of financial institution crimes.

For State: licensing and regulation of pay-day lenders, licensing and regulation of pawnbrokers, licensing and regulation of check cashers, licensing and regulation of motor vehicle financing companies, licensing and regulation of money transmitters

1502: Securities and Commodities Regulation

Examples: Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) budget requests and appropriations, regulation of commodity markets, federal securities regulations, securities laws violations, regulation of commercial bank involvement in the securities market, SEC regulation of corporate bonds, examine stock market volatility problems, municipal bond market regulation, commodity futures trading commission, growth of money market mutual funds, pension fund investment policies, protection for securities investors, amend the Securities Exchange Act, regulation of mutual fund investment companies, financial services industry reform, commodities .

For State: Pennsylvania Securities Commission budget requests and appropriations, licensure of securities-related businesses

1504: Consumer Finance, Mortgages, and Credit Cards

Examples: mortgage financing reform, consumer credit protection, real estate settlement procedures, consumer access to credit records, consumer information on credit card interest rates, consumer information on mortgage settlement costs, fraud and abuse among credit repair agencies, adjustable rate mortgages, regulation of credit card solicitations, inaccurate credit bureau information reporting procedures, Credit Control Act.

See also: 1410 government mortgage programs.

1505: Insurance Regulation

Examples: fraud and abuse in the insurance industry, insurance industry financial status, effectiveness of state regulation of insurance companies, insurance company failures, automobile insurance affordability and availability, no-fault motor vehicle insurance, life insurance industry regulation, sales of commercial life insurance on military bases, product liability insurance rates.

See also: 1523 flood and earthquake insurance.

For State: budget requests and appropriations for Pennsylvania Insurance Department, licensing of insurance companies

1507: Bankruptcy

Examples: reform of consumer bankruptcy laws, professional fees in bankruptcy cases, bankruptcy code reform, depositor treatment in bankruptcy proceedings of uninsured financial institutions, bankruptcy regulation for farm families, municipal bankruptcy act.

See also: 1204 bankruptcy courts.

1520: Corporate Mergers, Antitrust Regulation, and Corporate Management Issues

Examples: unfair competition in the tourism industry, meatpacking industry concentration, intellectual property antitrust protection, Sherman Antitrust Act, vertical price-fixing restrictions, price fixing agreements, monopoly problems in regulated industries, limited partnership regulations, foreign acquisition of U S. firms, corporate management structure, hostile corporate takeovers, seed-money corporations, Clayton Act.

See also: 1501 banking deregulation; 1003 airline deregulation; 1005 railroad deregulation; 1006 trucking deregulation; 1706 telephone deregulation; 1526 sports regulation; 803 oil industry deregulation; 1505 insurance industry regulation.

1521: Small Business Issues and the Small Business Administration

Examples: Small Business Administration (SBA) budget requests and appropriations promoting small business exports, small business credit availability problems, health insurance cost burden on small businesses, government assistance to small business, federal set aside contracts for small business, small business competitiveness under current liability laws, problems of small businesses complying with EPA regulations, SBA loans to small businesses, impact of deregulation on small trucking businesses, SBA implementation of small business programs for veterans, promotion of women in small business, impact of product liability costs on small business, increases in small business failures, impact of federal regulations on small business, access to capital for small business, government competition with small business.

See also: 1523 small business disaster loan programs; 201 SBA minority business programs; 1609 VA small business loans.

1522: Copyrights and Patents

1523: Domestic Disaster Relief

Examples: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) budget requests and appropriations, aid for flood disasters, national flood insurance reform, earthquake preparedness, FEMA disaster planning and relief operations, FEMA civil defense programs, FEMA--national fire academy training programs, SBA disaster loans, interest rates on disaster loans, emergency credit extension to farmers in disaster areas, hurricane protection projects, early warning systems, drought relief, establishment of a national fire academy.

For State: Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) budget requests and appropriations

1524: Tourism

Examples: White House conference on tourism, promotion of tourism in the U.S. , using tourism to promote development of rural economies, problems for foreign visitors, status of U.S. tourism industry, national tourism programs, regulation of travel agents.

See also: 530 immigration and refugee issues; 1929 passport issues.

1525: Consumer Safety and Consumer Fraud

Examples: Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) budget requests and appropriations, deceptive mailings and solicitations, consumer reporting reform, auto repair fraud, state consumer protection standards, federal standards for product liability, child car seat safety, infomercials and consumer protection, deceptive ads in the diet industry, telemarketing fraud, debt collection and consumer abuse, penalties for consumer product tampering, the consumer protection advocacy movement, Truth-in-Lending Act, labeling of alcoholic beverages, regulation of deceptive practices in the funeral industry, cosmetic safety, false and misleading advertising, consumer affairs, control of flammable fabrics.

See also: 708 protection from indoor radiation hazards; 1504 fraudulent land sales.

1526: Sports and Gambling Regulation

Examples: regulation of greyhound racing, health and safety standards for boxing, promotion of professional standards for boxing, regulation of gambling on vessels, regulation of televised college football, prohibit TV hometown blackouts when games are sold out, regulation of interstate horse racing, status of amateur sports in the U.S., antitrust immunity for professional sports teams, President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports .

1527: Regulation of Services

Examples: regulation and licensing of occupations such as funeral directors, beauticians, barbers, cosmetologists, funeral directors, real estate brokers, public accountants, regulation of the sale of alcohol, operations of the Liquor Control Board.

1599: Other

Examples: conversion to the metric system, emergency chlorine allocation, daylight savings time, uniform time standards.

16. Defense

1600: General

Examples: Department of Defense budget requests and appropriations (DOD), Department of the Air Force, Army, or Navy appropriations, armed services bills covering multiple subtopics, DOD operations and maintenance, defense production act, reorganization of the DOD, status of the national military establishment, establishment of the DOD, funding for defense activities of DOE, termination or designation of special defense areas.

See also: 1701 NASA\DOD issues.

1602: U.S. and Other Defense Alliances, U.S Security Assistance

1603: Military Intelligence, CIA, Espionage

1604: Military Readiness, Coordination of Armed Services Air Support and Sealift Capabilities, and National Stockpiles of Strategic Materials

1605: Arms Control and Nuclear Nonproliferation

1606: Military Aid and Weapons Sales to other Countries

1608: Manpower, Military Personnel and Dependents (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines), Military Courts

Examples: DOD authorization requests for armed forces personnel strength levels, military personnel issues, child care programs at military installations, armed forces staffing requirements, imminent danger pay for those serving in the Persian gulf, DOD morale, welfare, and recreation programs, DOD officer promotion procedures, shortage of affordable housing for military families, benefits for military retiree spouses, special pay to encourage personnel retention, survivor benefit plans, defense officer personnel management act, status of army manpower, selective service system funding, unionization of military personnel, enlistment bonuses for service in a critical skill, increase flight pay for military aviators, recruiting and retention of military personnel, life insurance for military personnel, various personnel issues during W.W.II, Americans missing or prisoner in Asia, POW's in Vietnam, live sightings of U.S. prisoners of war, retired military personnel issues, military court martial, transportation of armed forces, air travel of armed forces, mail for armed forces, mail for servicemen, defense department overseas teachers pay and issues.

See also: 601 GI Bill and military academies.

For State: Pennsylvania's Military Family Relief Assistance Program

1609: VA Issues

Examples: veterans programs budget requests, veteran's benefit claims, VA national cemetery system, veteran's job training, illness of Persian Gulf veterans, disabled veterans compensation, VA board of appeals adjudication procedures, VA benefits eligibility, compensation for veterans, cost of living adjustments for veterans, delays in processing veterans claims, problems faced by Vietnam era veterans, federal services for women veterans, VA life insurance programs, reorganization of veteran's food service operations, military retiree benefit plans, small business loans to veterans, consolidation of the veterans administration, veterans readjustment assistance act, retired pay, veterans pay, veterans transportation issues.

See also: 300 series for veterans health care (.3 denotes military or veterans health); 601 veterans education benefits; 1407 veterans housing; 1409 homeless veterans; 2008 designating/naming Veterans Administration hospitals and medical centers.

1610: Military Procurement and Weapons System Acquisitions and Evaluation

1611: Military Installations, Construction, and Land Transfers

Examples: military construction budget requests and appropriations, military construction programs, DOD commissary system, military lands withdraw, national war college restoration act, Fort Hood land acquisition, expansion of U.S. military bases in Spain, construction of bridges by the military, management of military clubs, military land conveyances, military real estate projects, national defense facilities act, military housing supplies, disposal of military property, construction of ordinance facilities, DOD real estate acquisitions, disposal of synthetic rubber facilities, sale of military stores to civilian employees, war plants disposal.

1612: National Guard and Reserve Affairs

Examples: reserve officer personnel management, army reserve force structure, deactivation problems of reserve units participating in Desert Storm, management of military reserve vessels, management of reserve air fleet, national guard tort claims, survivor benefits for reservists, reserve members payments for life insurance, national guard retirement credit, reserve pay, flight training for ROTC, status of reserve facilities, promotion system for reserve officers, composition of the naval reserve.

See also: 601 ROTC college education.

1614: Military Nuclear and Hazardous Waste Disposal, Military Environmental Compliance

Examples: environmental crimes at rocky flats nuclear weapons facility, radioactive and chemical contamination at nuclear weapons facility, disposal of defense related wastes, hazardous waste identification at military bases, navy shipboard waste disposal policy, nuclear site decontamination, DOD compliance with the clean air act, DOE nuclear weapons hazardous waste management, army disposal of chemical weapons stockpile, DOD shipment of toxic chemicals by rail, radioactive spills at an air force base, uranium mill tailings radiation control act, environmental impacts of MX missile siting.

See also: 704 nonmilitary hazardous waste disposal.

1615: Civil Defense (war related)

Examples: radiological emergency planning, civil reserve air fleet, federal civil defense act, effects of limited nuclear warfare, federal fallout shelter construction, civil defense air raid shelter program, civil defense for national survival, civil air patrol, dept. of the army appropriations for civil functions.

See also: 1523 FEMA domestic (weather related) disaster relief.

1616: DOD Civilian Personnel, Civilian Employment by the Defense Industry, Military Base Closings

Examples: assist workers affected by defense spending cuts, assist communities affected by DOD facilities closures, peacetime conversion of defense industry, base closure recommendations, maintenance of the U.S. defense industrial base, defense industry employment, protection of DOD civilian employees, closure of overseas military bases.

For State: Pennsylvania Base Development Committee to retain and promote Pennsylvania's military installations

1617: Oversight of Defense Contracts and Contractors

1619: Direct War Related Issues

1620: Relief of Claims Against U.S. Military

1698: Research and Development

1699: Other

17. Space, Science, Technology and Communications

1700: General

Examples: Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Office of Science and Technology Policy budget requests and appropriations, science and engineering personnel requirements for the 1990s, U.S. technology policy, FCC oversight review, reorganization of the FCC, national engineering and science policy, automation and technological change, FCC regulation of multiple subtopics (TV, telephone, cable, etc.).

See also: 1798 NSF research funding.

1701: NASA , U.S. Government Use of Space, Space Exploration Agreements

1704: Commercial Use of Space, Satellites

1705: Science Technology Transfer, International Scientific Cooperation

Examples: technology transfer improvements act, technology transfer barriers and limitations, science cooperation between U.S. and Latin America, U.S.-East European cooperation in science research, U.S. policy of cooperation with foreign countries on science and technology, international science cooperation, technology transfer from the U.S. government to private industry, U.S.-Japan agreement to conduct more joint science and technology research, Department of Commerce technology transfer activities, international support for supercollider program, university and industry cooperation for technological advancements, create a national scientific information data processing center.

See also: 1803 restrictions on exports of high technology.

1706: Telephone and Telecommunication Regulation

Examples: national communications infrastructure, mobile communications, telephone network reliability, unauthorized switching of consumers to long distance carriers, international communications regulation, FCC regulation of 1-900 numbers, telecommunication development in rural areas, AT&T regulation, FCC regulation of telephone rates, review FCC awarding of cellular licenses, regulation of interstate telecommunications, telecommunications research and policy development, FCC regulatory practice in telecommunications, dial-a-porn regulation.

See also: 208 telephone privacy; 1525 telephone marketing fraud.

For State: Public Utility Commission regulation of telephone and cell phones

1707: Broadcast Industry Regulation (TV, Cable, Radio)

Examples: Public Broadcasting Corporation budget requests and appropriations, FCC regulation of cable, reallocation of radio frequencies from federal to private sector use, FCC regulation of radio, use of TV in the classroom for educational purposes, regulation of violence on TV, closed caption regulation of TV, competitive problems in the cable industry, requirements for transferring radio/TV broadcast licenses, oversight of Board for International Broadcasting, FCC network acquisition approval, national public radio financial problems, establish the committee on film classification, regulation of films and broadcasts demeaning ethnic, racial or religious groups, FCC authority to regulate subscription TV, TV and movie rating system, newspaper industry regulation, Newsmen's Privilege Act.

See also: 1929 Radio Free Europe program

For State: Franchising laws

1708: Weather Forecasting and Related Issues, NOAA, Oceanography

Examples: NOAA budget requests and appropriations, modernization of the national weather service, weather forecasting and warning technologies, NOAA and NASA global change research program, NOAA ocean research vessels, geological surveys of the U.S., agriculture weather information service, tornado forecasting and detection, status of the federal oceanographic fleet, adequacy of the national weather service severe storm forecasting, ocean and marine resources programs, U.S. marine and atmospheric science programs, arctic weather reporting stations.

See also: 710 protection of marine environments.

1709: Computer Industry and Computer Security

Examples: high-performance computer development, computer viruses, superconductivity research, security standards for government computers, lease of computer software.

1798: Research and Development

Examples: National Science Foundation (NSF) budget requests and appropriations, mission of NSF, alleged abuses of federal research grants to universities, federal cooperation with universities for science research, electric and magnetic field research, telecommunications equipment research, metals research and development, DOE superconducting supercollider program, improving research facilities for science in U.S. universities, HDTV research, robotics research.

1799: Other

Examples: establish a systematic approach to value engineering, consider various proposals for defining U.S. time zones, sightings of UFOs, establish a national science academy.

18. Foreign Trade

1800: General

Examples: Federal Trade Commission (FTC), U.S. International Trade Commission, International Trade Administration, or U.S. Custom Service budget requests and appropriations, world steel trade trends and structures, various tariff and trade bills, oversight hearings on U.S. foreign trade policy, U.S. trade relations with socialist economies, trade reform act, trade expansion act, tax and trade regulations, customs court issues, trading with enemy acts .

See also: 401 foreign agricultural trade.

1802: Trade Negotiations, Disputes, and Agreements

1803: Export Promotion and Regulation, Export-Import Bank

Examples: export development administration, compliance with U.S. trade laws related to the Arab boycott, export promotion programs, EX-IM bank export financing programs, restrictions on high technology exports, oil export controls, EPA regulation of waste exports, trade factors affecting U.S. timber exports, tax incentives to encourage exports, encourage formation of export companies, national security export licensing, export control to the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact countries.

1804: International Private Business Investments, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)

Examples: foreign acquisition of U.S. owned companies, foreign direct investment in the U.S., improve federal coordination of information on foreign investments in the U.S., reciprocal foreign investment protections, promotion of U.S. business investment in developing countries, U.S. private investments in South Africa, review foreign bank takeovers, evaluation of the

overseas private investment corporation, investors involvement in illegal payments to foreign officials, activities of American multinational corporations abroad, foreign investment and American jobs, removal of tax barriers as an incentive for increased foreign investments, trade fairs.

1806: Productivity and Competitiveness of State Businesses, U.S. ~~Balance of Payments~~

Examples: international competitiveness of the U.S. automobile industry, national competitiveness act fostering technological development, report of the competitiveness council policy, U.S. industrial trade competitiveness, federal role in supporting hi-tech competitiveness, U.S. international economic competitiveness, foreign competition in the banking industry, international competitive status of the U.S. electronics industry, Buy American Act.

See also: 108 domestic industry productivity.

1807: Tariff and Import Restrictions, Import Regulation

1808: Exchange Rates and Related Issues

1899: Other

19. International Affairs and Foreign Aid

1900: General (Department of State and U.S. Information Agency appropriations)

1901: U.S. Foreign Aid

1902: International Resources Exploitation and Resources Agreement

1905: Developing Countries Issues (for financial issues see 1906)

1906: International Finance and Economic Development

1907: China

1908: Soviet Union and Former Republics

1909: Eastern Europe

1910: Western Europe , Common Market Issues

1911: Africa

1912: South Africa

1914: Latin America (South America, Central America , Mexico , Caribbean Basin , Cuba)

1915: Panama Canal Issues and Other International Canal Issues

1919: Asia, Pacific Rim , Australia , and Japan

1920: Middle East

1925: Human Rights

1926: International Organizations other than Finance: United Nations (UN), UNESCO, International Red Cross

1927: Terrorism, Hijacking

Examples: FAA antiterrorist measures, U.S. protection of witnesses of terrorist acts, security of nuclear plants from terrorist attacks, impact of international terrorism on travel, legal

mechanisms to combat terrorism, political killings in foreign countries and the international response, West Germany's political response to terrorism, international aircraft piracy.

1929: U.S. Diplomats, U.S. Embassies, U.S. Citizens Abroad, Foreign Diplomats in the U.S., Passports

1999: Other

20. State Government Operations

2000: General (includes budget requests and appropriations for multiple departments and agencies)

Examples: budget requests for various agencies and independent commissions, budget requests for DOL, HHS, and DOE, appropriations for VA, HUD, and independent agencies, budget requests for DOC, DOS, and DOJ, appropriations for the GSA, budget requests for legislative branch programs, supplemental appropriation bills, appropriations for the Treasury, Postal Service, and general government appropriations

2001: Intergovernmental Relations

Examples: federal, state, and local sector role in economic development, exchange of funds from federal to state governments, performance of the advisory committee on intergovernmental relations, general revenue sharing authorization, state implementation of federal bloc grants, general revenue sharing, federal grant management reform, problems with state and local government finances, federal v. state claims to offshore resources.

See also: topic code 24 state regulation of local government.

2002: Government Efficiency and Bureaucratic Oversight

Examples: quality improvement strategies, reinventing government--restructuring the public sector, performance standards for federal agency programs, role of the council on competitiveness in regulatory review, agency jurisdiction overlap and reform, financial soundness of government corporations, need to improve government printing practices, government management problems, rule making committees in the development of federal regulations, federal agency use of advisory committees, oversight of the OMB, federal agency internal accounting standards, effort to reduce federal paperwork, allowing industry to comment on proposed federal regulations, decreasing agency reports to Congress, legislative oversight of federal agency programs, proposal to terminate DOE and transfer its functions, government waste and abuse, investigation into mismanagement of the GSA, government reorganization plans, conflicts of interest in regulatory agencies, applying economic analysis to public programs, Inspectors General, executive reorganization or executive branch reorganization, government goals, Administrative Conference Act, government printing office, recycled paper and products for government printing.

See Also: appropriations for departments and agencies see topical field.

2003: Postal Service Issues (Including Mail Fraud)

2004: Government Employee Benefits, Civil Service Issues

Examples: federal employee collective bargaining rights, civil service retirement benefits, federal agencies use of temporary employees, White House personnel authorization act, federal employees leave policy, federal and military wage policies, whistle blower protection for federal employees, federal personnel awards, executive personnel exchange, reform of federal employee health benefits, personnel management policies of the Senior Executive Service, tort protection for federal employees, reform pay system for federal workers, early retirement program for federal workers, government personnel training programs, federal employee contribution requirement, personnel performance appraisal system, payroll deductions for federal employees, oversight of the civil service retirement system, cost of living allowances for federal employees, authorize additional GS-16, GS-17, and GS-18 positions, civil service pension fund and interest earnings, manpower utilization in the federal government, Presidential compensation, federal employee management relations, congressional pay and congressional wages, combinations of legislative, executive, and judicial pay, reduction in force, merit systems protection board.

See also: 200 discrimination in the federal government employment; 2003 postal employees; 2012 political activities of federal employees.

2005: Nominations and Appointments

Examples: nominations and appointments for all departments and agencies.

2006: Currency, Commemorative Coins, Medals, U.S. Mint

Examples: appropriations for the U.S. Mint. minting of commemorative coins, replacement of one dollar bills with coins, statehood commemorative coins, gold medal awards for Olympic athletes, design of new U.S. currency, George Washington commemorative coin act, Susan B. Anthony dollar, additional mint facilities in Denver , increasing coin production, coin to commemorate the Louisiana purchase , congressional gold medals, Congressional Medals for non-military actions.

See also: 104 monetary policy.

2007: Government Procurement, Procurement Fraud and Contractor Management

Examples: appropriations for the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, government procurement system, federal acquisition improvement, arbitration of service contract disputes, DOE contractor management, penalties for federal procurement fraud, GSA auditing of contractor bills, timeliness of federal payments to private vendors, efforts by federal agencies to circumvent the competition in contracting act, federal contract auditing policies, fraud in federal

procurement programs, federal consulting service contracts, commission on government procurement, federal contract renegotiation act, omnibus contracting legislation.

See also: 1610 military procurement; 1617 military contractor oversight.

2008: Government Property Management

Examples: federal facilities construction, GSA management of public building leases, GSA's capital improvement program, construction projects for federal courthouses, restrict smoking in federal buildings, operating costs of presidential libraries, government office space contract management, DOE property sale authorization, sale of a federal building to San Francisco, donation of surplus federal property to state and local governments, construction of a social security office, relocation assistance and property acquisitions, foreign service buildings act, post office buildings, donated surplus property to states and local governments, motor vehicles provided to officers and members of the federal government.

See Also: 2100 conveyance of real property.

2009: Department of Revenue Administration

Examples: IRS tax system modernization, IRS employee misconduct, taxpayer assistance and treatment, settlement of disputes between tax payers and IRS, IRS collection of delinquent income taxes, IRS benefit plans regulations, IRS internal management and quality of service, IRS processing of income tax returns, reorganization of the IRS, taxpayers bill of rights, investigation or inspection of tax records by federal agencies or congressional committees.

See also: 107 taxation.

2010: Gubernatorial Impeachment & Scandal

Examples: access to materials of the Nixon Administration, CIA involvement in Watergate, pardon of Nixon, transcripts of recorded presidential conversations, statement of information provided by Nixon, legal issues associated with the impeachment of Nixon, Kissinger's role in wiretapping, 1972 presidential campaign activities, special prosecutor and Watergate grand jury legislation, Whitewater, Clinton impeachment, Lewinsky scandal, Travelgate (White House Travel Office).

2011: State Government Branch Relations and Administrative Issues, Legislative Operations

Examples: line-item veto proposals, pocket veto issues, constitutional roles of the president and Congress in declaring and waging war, limits on presidential war powers, amendment to permit legislative vetoes, Supreme Court ruling on the legislative veto, presidential claim of executive privilege for withholding information from Congress, continuity of federal government during an emergency, joint committee on the organization of Congress, operation of Congress, reorganization of Congressional committees, honoring retiring House members, presidential

transition funding, TV broadcasts of Senate hearings, operation of the Senate Office of Sergeant at Arms, Congressional page system, investigation of a Senator, electronic voting equipment in the Senate, transmittal of executive agreements to Congress, require the president to submit annual social reports to Congress, House rules for debate, creation of a joint committee on the budget, president's emergency powers, impeachment of federal officers other than the President, legislative reference service, legislative research, Library of Congress issues, depository libraries, congressional investigations, franking privilege, Legislative Reorganization Acts.

2012: Regulation of Elections, Political Campaigns, Political Advertising, PAC regulation, Voter Registration, Government Ethics

Examples: appropriations for the Federal Election Commission and the Office of Government Ethics, federal election campaign reform, lobbying regulations for former federal employees, regulation of political campaign ads, televising debates on political issues, revising the presidential election campaign fund system, regulation on foreign corporation lobbying, campaign finance reform, political activities of federal employees, financial or business interests of Senate employees, lobbying regulations, polling, independent counsel (other than presidential investigations), Hatch Act (specifically dealing with political activities of federal employees), electoral college reform.

For State: regulation of the conduct of state elections, state regulation of the conduct of local elections

2013: Census

Examples: census bureau budget requests and appropriations, census bureau's population estimates and impact on state funding, census undercounting, census data collection techniques, management of the census, federal statistics collection, counting welfare payments as income on the census, reductions in force at the census bureau.

2014: District of Columbia Affairs

2015: Relief of Claims Against the State Government

Examples: Refunds and settlements for individuals and corporations.

2016: State Lottery Operations

2017: State Operating Budget

2018: State Capital Budget

2030: State Holidays and Observances

Examples: activities of federal holiday and commemorative commissions, enactment of MLK, Jr. birthday as a national holiday, provide for uniform annual observances of legal public holidays on Mondays, establish Veteran's Day as a holiday.

2031: State Commemorative Legislation and Resolutions

Examples: naming of roads, bridges, and other public facilities after well known Pennsylvanians.

2099: Other

Examples: government check cashing problems, former members of Congress organization, review winning papers in a high school essay contest, federal audio-visual materials, commemorative legislation, catalog of federal assistance programs, bicentennial celebration, free guide service at U.S. Capitol, Direct Democracy

21. Public Lands and Water Management

2100: General

Examples: Budget Requests and Appropriations for the Department of Interior (DOI) and the Bureau of Land Management, proposed plan for the Department of Natural Resources, earth resources and drilling technology, resources planning, resource recovery act, activities and programs of the DOI, conveyance of certain real property of the U.S. government, conveyance of certain real property to states.

2101: State Parks, Memorials, Historic Sites, and Recreation

Examples: Budget requests for the National Park Service and Smithsonian Museums, concessions management at National Parks, Wounded Knee Park and Memorial, park protection legislation, management of Yellowstone Park, National Park Service feasibility study, threats to national parks, establishment of Barrier Island National Park, inclusion of Alaska Lands in the national park system, national forest recreation facilities, national park management issues, river systems recreation assessment, aviation heritage national historic preservation act, community recreation enhancement, recreational boating safety, national African American museum, historical park designation, designation of scenic trails, maintenance on monuments and memorials, granting of federal charters to organizations, proposals for a national visitors center, military parks and memorials, land conveyance for national parks or national memorials, Wild and Scenic Rivers, land conveyance for monuments, national seashore issues, National Historic Preservation Act, National Register of Historic Places, Smithsonian Institution issues.

See also: 2103 public lands management.

For State: Budget requests and appropriations for Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, creation of Pennsylvania Heritage Parks

2102: Native American Affairs

Examples: Budget proposals and appropriations for Indian programs, Indian health programs, Indian water claims, federal recognition of Indian tribes, assistance to Indian tribal courts, management of Indian irrigation projects, economic aid for Indian reservations, law enforcement on Indian reservations, Indian participation in government contracting, Indian health care programs, Native Hawaiian children educational problems, Alaskan natives claims settlement, land conveyance involving Native American lands or Native American groups, Indian Child Welfare Act, Indian gambling and casinos, Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

(Special Note: This covers many subject areas that would normally be coded in other subtopics (housing, medical programs, transportation systems, etc.).

2103: Natural Resources, Public Lands, and Forest Management

Examples: Budget requests and appropriations for the Forest Service and the Bureau of Mines, national forest timber sales programs, timber supply stability, forest health and clear-cutting, Colorado wilderness act, wilderness area designation, management of Pacific-Northwest old forest growths, mine reclamation, various public lands bills, forest fire prevention and control, modification of public land boundaries, management of livestock grazing on public lands, grazing fees on public lands, public land conveyance bills, enforcement of federal mining standards, wild horse control on public lands, deep seabed mineral resources, development of mineral resources on public lands, mineral exploration and development, conveyance of lands to school districts, conveyance of sewage systems on public lands, protection of archeological resources on public lands, conveyance of fish hatcheries, conveyance of public lands, payments to states from receipts derived from national forests located within such states, protecting the shores of publicly owned property.

See also: 709 animal and forest protection; 803 oil and gas leasing; 805 coal leasing; 1611 military land conveyances; 2101 land conveyance for national parks/monuments.

For State: state land conveyances.

2104: Water Resources Development and Research

Examples: Budget requests and Appropriations for civil works programs and the Army Corps of Engineers, budget requests and appropriations for energy and water development projects, Army Corps of Engineers water resources development programs, Mississippi water development, water resources development, appropriations for dam construction, Missouri River Basin irrigation project, Colorado River Basin salinity control program, federal flood control programs, River and Harbor Flood Control Act, energy and water development projects, watershed projects, dredging in the Missouri River, deep water port construction, safety of dams and other water storage and control structures, Upper Snake River irrigation projects, various reclamation projects, reservoir construction, navigation and flood control projects, interstate water compacts, connecting bodies of water, Small Reclamation Projects Act, Bureau of Reclamation, general reclamation projects, saline water conservation .

See also: 711 water and soil conservation; 802 hydroelectricity; 1007 navigation and maritime issues.

2105: U.S. Dependencies and Territorial Issues

2199: Other

24: State Regulation of Local Government

2400: General

2401: State Regulations on Creation of Local Governments and Authorities and Provisions for Local Government Home Rule

Examples: incorporation or dissolutions of local governments, regulation of annexation, rules for consolidation of local governments

2402: State Authorizations or Restrictions on Local Government Structure and Powers and the Election of Local Government Officials

Examples: amending Borough Code providing residency requirements for certain township officials, amending Second Class Township Code providing for compensation of township supervisors, authorizing townships to create parks and recreation areas through eminent domain.

2403: State Authorizations or Restrictions on Taxation Powers of Local Governments

Examples: authorizations or restrictions on school district taxes, authorization or restrictions on local property taxes.

2404: State Authorizations or Restrictions on Local Government Debt

2499: Other

Written by: Frank Baumgartner and Bryan Jones
Revised by Adler and Wilkerson (Updated April 2005)

Edited and adapted to state politics by Joseph McLaughlin, Wesley Leckrone and Jason Bossie (March 1, 2006)

IV. Pennsylvania Government

A. Pennsylvania Government Structure

AN INTRODUCTION TO PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNMENT

This document provides an overview of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government. Many state offices and agencies that are not described in this overview can be found on the state website at www.state.pa.us or in the *Pennsylvania Manual*, published every two years by the Pennsylvania Department of General Services, which is available in most libraries.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

There are 253 members of the General Assembly-50 Senators and 203 members of the House of Representatives. The General Assembly is the third largest legislative body in the United States, after Congress and the New Hampshire General Assembly. Members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly are chosen by popular vote of the people on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in every even-numbered year. Senators are elected for a term of four years and Representatives for a term of two years. All 203 members of the House and half of the Senate (25 members) are elected every two years (see Article II, Section 3). Senators must be at least 25 years old and Representatives at least 21 years old. They must be citizens and inhabitants of the state for four years, living in their respective districts for one year. They must reside within their district during their term of office (see Article II, Section 5).

LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A session of the General Assembly means that both the Senate and the House of Representatives are convened for the transaction of business. The General Assembly is a continuing body during the term for which its representatives are elected. It meets at noon on the first Tuesday of January and then regularly throughout the year. In national assessments of state legislatures, the Pennsylvania General Assembly is regarded as a full-time and professional legislature.

SPECIAL SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: Under the Constitution, the Governor can convene the General Assembly "on extraordinary occasions" by proclamation (see Article IV, Section 12). The Governor can also call special sessions on petition of a majority of the members of both the House and Senate. The Senate can be convened by the Governor for the transaction of executive business. When the General Assembly is convened in a special session, its members can only consider legislation on those subjects designated in the Governor's proclamation (see Article III, Section 12).

Verbatim records of debate and voting in the Pennsylvania House and Senate are published as the *Pennsylvania Legislative Journal*, which is available in university libraries.

PRESIDING OFFICERS

THE SENATE: The Lieutenant Governor is President of the Senate by authority of the Constitution (see Article IV, Section 4). The Senate elects from its members a President Pro Tempore to preside in the absence of the President. If both the President and the President Pro Tempore are absent, then the Majority Leader, or someone designated by the Majority Leader, presides. When this happens, the Majority Leader is vested with all the powers of the President (except as specifically prohibited by the Constitution or laws). This authority, however, does not extend beyond the day's adjournment.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: The presiding officer is the Speaker of the House, who is nominated at a party caucus and chosen by a majority vote of the members of the House of Representatives. The Speaker may appoint a Speaker Pro Tempore.

COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES: Standing committees, as permanent units of the General Assembly, serve as the workshops of the legislature. It is their duty to carefully study all bills referred to them and to prepare bills to be reported with a favorable recommendation to each house. The Constitution requires that "no bill shall be considered unless referred to a committee" (see Article III, Section 2). During an average session, more than 4,000 bills, representing a wide range of subjects, are introduced in both houses. Many of these bills are controversial and require long debate and consideration of many amendments. Without an effective committee system, it would be impossible for the General Assembly to attend to its business of enacting new laws, amending present ones, appropriating money, investigating governmental operations, and seeing to other duties.

Standing committees do not hold public hearings on every bill. Each committee decides whether or not to hold hearings on any particular legislation. All committee hearings in which bills are considered or testimony is taken are open to the public under the "Sunshine Act" (Act 84 of 1986) This does not apply to party caucuses or any Senate or House Ethics Committee. The records of the proceedings of all committee meetings and records of votes taken on any measure are open to the public.

| Standing Committees in General Assembly (2005) | |
|---|--|
| House of Representatives | Senate |
| Aging and Older Adult Services | Aging & Youth |
| Agriculture and Rural Affairs | Agriculture & Rural Affairs |
| Appropriations | Appropriations |
| Children and Youth | Banking & Insurance |
| Commerce | Communications & Technology |
| Committee on Committees | Community & Economic Development |
| Consumer Affairs | Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure |
| Education | Education |
| Environmental Resources and Energy | Environmental Resources & Energy |
| Ethics | Ethics and Official Conduct |
| Finance | Finance |
| Game and Fisheries | Game & Fisheries |
| Health and Human Services | Judiciary |
| Insurance | Labor & Industry |
| Intergovernmental Affairs | Law & Justice |
| Judiciary | Local Government |
| Labor Relations | Public Health & Welfare |
| Liquor Control | Rules & Executive Nominations |
| Local Government | State Government |
| Professional Licensure | Transportation |
| Rules | Urban Affairs & Housing |
| State Government | Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness |
| Tourism and Recreational Development | |
| Transportation | |
| Urban Affairs | |
| Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness | |

Other Committees

SELECT COMMITTEES: A select committee is established by the Senate or the House for a special purpose and for a limited time. When the select committee's function has been carried out and a report made, it is dissolved.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES: Differences of opinion over legislation between the two houses of the General Assembly are committed to conference committees for settlement. This usually happens when a bill passes one house with amendments that are unacceptable to the other house.

The house that disagrees with the amendments will ask for a conference, and the presiding officer then appoints the conference members, or "managers." Three members of the House and three from the Senate are named to the committee—two from the majority party and one from the minority. After deliberation, an identical report is signed by at least two of the committee members from each house and must be accepted or rejected as a whole by both chambers. Conference committee reports are not subject to amendment.

If accepted by both houses, the bill is signed by the presiding officers and sent to the Governor. Sometimes, however, the conference committee fails to reach an agreement. Unless all differences are finally adjusted, the bill fails.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: A committee of the whole is the entire membership of the Senate or House sitting as a committee. Its purpose is to permit more informal debate than could be held under ordinary restricted rules of procedure. The presiding officer appoints some other member to preside over a committee of the whole. This procedure has been very rarely used in the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

BILLS, ACTS, AND RESOLUTIONS

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BILL AND AN ACT: A "bill" is the constitutional designation of a proposed law introduced into either house (see Article III, Section 1). The term "act" refers to a bill that has been passed by both houses and becomes law, whether by approval of the Governor, lack of action by the Governor in the time allotted by the Constitution, or by passage over the Governor's veto by a two-thirds vote of both houses.

TAX BILLS MUST ORIGINATE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: The constitutional provision stating that "all bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives" is an adaptation of the English practice (see Article III, Section 10). The principle is to make the purse strings controlled by the body closest to the people. However, the Senate may amend tax bills (see Article III, Section 10).

RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE GENERAL

APPROPRIATION BILL: The Constitution says that the general appropriation bill can only authorize funds for the ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments; for interest on the public debt; and for public schools (see Article III, Section 11). All other appropriations, which are the legislative authorizations necessary to allow an expenditure of state government funds, must be made by separate bill, each covering only one subject. This section was added to the Constitution to end the practice of putting an unpopular measure into the general appropriation bill in order to compel members to vote for it rather than defeat the general bill.

NON-PREFERRED APPROPRIATIONS: A vote of two-thirds of the members in each house is necessary for an appropriation to be made to any charitable or educational institution not under the absolute control of the Commonwealth (see Article III, Section 30). This is known as a "non-preferred" appropriation. Bills providing funds for four state-related universities – Temple University, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Pittsburgh, and Lincoln University – are among the non-preferred appropriations.

FORBIDDEN APPROPRIATIONS: The Constitution forbids appropriations to any person or community for charitable, educational, or benevolent purposes or to any denominational or sectarian institution, corporation, or association (see Article III, Section 29).

RESOLUTIONS: A resolution is a form of written proposal used to make declarations, articulate policies, or announce decisions when some other form of legislative action is not required. For example, a statute, or law, cannot be enacted by resolution. Resolutions can be recognized by the use of the word "resolved" in its acting or declaratory clause. Three kinds of resolutions can be acted upon by the General Assembly. A simple resolution is passed by one house only. A concurrent resolution must pass both houses, and if it commits the state to action, it must be sent to the Governor for consideration. A joint resolution, which usually proposes an amendment to the Constitution, requires action by both houses but is not sent to the Governor.

CONSTITUTIONAL VS. SIMPLE MAJORITIES: A constitutional majority is the number of affirmative votes required by the Constitution for a body to take a particular action. For example, to pass legislation in the General Assembly, a majority of the members elected is required. In the Senate, with 50 members, 26 votes are a constitutional majority. When a two-thirds vote is required, 34 votes are needed. In the House of Representatives, with 203 members, 102 votes make up a constitutional majority, and 136 are needed for a two-thirds vote.

A simple majority requires a quorum to be present and is a majority of that group. A simple majority is enough to carry any proposition unless otherwise specified by Constitution, statute, or rule. Therefore, the smallest legal vote in the Senate could be 14 to 12; while the smallest vote in the House could be 52 to 50. These votes could amend legislation but not approve it on final passage, where a constitutional majority would be required.

Actions Open to the Governor

OPTIONS WHEN A BILL IS PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR FOR SIGNING:

When a bill is sent to the Governor, one of four things can happen:

- a) The Governor can sign it, whereupon it becomes a law.
- b) The Governor can veto the bill. In this case, the General Assembly can choose to vote on it again. A two-thirds vote of all members in both houses will override the veto.
- c) The Governor can hold it for a time without taking action-either signature or veto-(10 days while the General Assembly is in session or 30 days after final adjournment), after which it will automatically become law. The Governor's refusal to sign a bill may indicate disapproval of the measure but with an acknowledgement that a veto is either useless or politically unwise. It may also indicate that the Governor is undecided about the bill's constitutionality.
- d) The Governor can employ a line-item veto. This means that any portion of a bill that appropriates money for a particular use can be disapproved while allowing for remaining parts of the bill to become law. Those items vetoed by the Governor can still be restored by a legislative override.

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND EXECUTIVE POWER: The executive branch of Pennsylvania government, consisting of both elected and appointed officials, is headed by the

Governor, who holds the state's highest office. Citizens look to the Governor as a leader who will set the agenda for state government, see that current problems are dealt with effectively and that plans for the future are put into place. The Constitution grants supreme executive power to the Governor (see Article IV, Section 2). Among the Governor's numerous duties are: the appointment of executive officials, presentation of an annual budget, management of the executive branch, veto power over legislation, commander-in-chief of the Commonwealth's military force, and the power to pardon.

The Governor also has the power to issue executive orders, which are rules, regulations, or policies issued unilaterally that affect executive branch operations or activities. The Governor of Pennsylvania has the constitutional and statutory power to issue executive orders addressing such things as civil defense disasters, public emergencies, to respond to federal programs and requirements, and to create advisory, coordinating, study or investigative commissions.

The Governor is elected every four years and is limited to two consecutive terms. The Governor must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the Commonwealth for a minimum of seven years.

The Attorney General, Auditor General, and State Treasurer, all of whom are elected to administer agencies independent of the Governor, are also executive-branch officials. The Lieutenant Governor, an elected official, and the appointed members of the Governor's cabinet constitute the rest of the executive branch of government. Cabinet members manage the operations of state government agencies and provide their expertise as advisors to the Governor.

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: The Constitution provides for the Lieutenant Governor to be elected jointly with the Governor (see Article IV, Section 4) for a four year term. If the Governor cannot fulfill the duties of office, the Constitution grants executive power to the Lieutenant Governor (see Article IV, Section 13). The Lieutenant Governor also serves as the President of the Senate and the Chair of the Board of Pardons.

OTHER ELECTED EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICIALS: Citizens of the Commonwealth also elect an Attorney General, Auditor General and State Treasurer. They serve four year terms and cannot serve for more than two consecutive terms.

THE GOVERNOR'S CABINET: Cabinet members are the Governor's regular advisors and meet at the Governor's call. They also administer major departments of state government. The Administrative Code establishes the departments that the cabinet members head and outlines their powers and duties. The Governor's cabinet includes, in the order of creation: the Secretary of the Commonwealth (established in 1777); Adjutant General (1793); Secretary of Education (1837); Insurance Commissioner (1873); Secretary of Banking (1891); Secretary of Agriculture (1895); Secretary of Health (1905); State Police Commissioner (1905); Secretary of Labor and Industry (1913); Secretary of Public Welfare (1921); Secretary of Revenue (1927); Secretary of Transportation (1970); Secretary of Environmental Resources (1970); Secretary of General Services (1975); Secretary of Aging (1978); Secretary of Corrections(1984) and Secretary of Community and Economic Development (1996).

The formation of additional cabinet-level agencies can come as a result of a request from the Governor or through the initiative of the General Assembly. In either case, any proposed additions to the cabinet must be approved by the General Assembly. The reverse is true also. The elimination of a cabinet-level agency must be approved by the General Assembly, whether the action is proposed by the Governor or the General Assembly.

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

JUDICIAL POWER IN THE STATE CONSTITUTION: The fifth article of the Constitution vests judicial power of the Commonwealth in a "unified judicial system consisting of the Supreme Court, the Superior Court, the Commonwealth Court, Courts of Common Pleas, community courts, municipal and traffic courts in the City of Philadelphia" and other courts as provided by law and justices of the peace.

THE UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM: Pennsylvania's unified judicial system means that every court in the Commonwealth is under the supervision of the state Supreme Court. The judicial system may be thought of as a pyramid, with the Supreme Court at the apex. Below it are the two appellate courts, Superior Court and Commonwealth Court, followed by the Courts of Common Pleas. The base of the pyramid is the minor judiciary of the community courts, district justices, the municipal and traffic courts of Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh's police magistrate courts.

The Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts oversees the unified judicial system and is responsible for the prompt and proper disposition of the business of all courts. A court administrator heads the office and is appointed by the Supreme Court.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUPREME, SUPERIOR, AND COMMONWEALTH COURTS: Aside from differences in jurisdiction, the primary distinction is that the Supreme Court is part of the constitutional framework of Pennsylvania's state government. Both the Superior and Commonwealth Courts were established by an act of the General Assembly. The Supreme Court is Pennsylvania's highest court and holds the Commonwealth's supreme judicial power. It makes the final judgment on interpreting the Constitution in regard to statutes enacted by the General Assembly.

THE SUPREME COURT

THE JURISDICTION OF THE SUPREME COURT: The Supreme Court has original but not exclusive jurisdiction over:

- a) all cases of habeas corpus (any of several common law writs issued to bring a party before a court or judge);
- b) all cases of mandamus (a command by a superior court for the performance of a specified official act or duty) or prohibition to courts of inferior jurisdiction; and
- c) all cases of quo warranto as to any officer of statewide jurisdiction (requiring demonstration of the authority by which an individual exercises a public office).

The Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction of appeals from final orders of the Courts of Common Pleas in cases of:

- a) felony murder;
- b) the right to public office;
- c) matters decided in the orphans' court division;
- d) certain actions or proceedings in equity;
- e) direct criminal contempt in the Courts of Common Pleas and other contempt proceedings relating to orders appealable directly to the Court;
- f) suspension or disbarment from the practice of law and other related disciplinary orders or sanctions;
- g) supersession of a District Attorney by an Attorney General or a court;
- h) matters in which the right or power of the Commonwealth or any political subdivision to create or issue indebtedness is in question; and
- i) rulings of unconstitutionality by a Court of Common Pleas.

The Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction of appeals from all final orders of the Commonwealth Court, provided the matter was originally commenced in that court and not as an appeal from another court, an administrative agency, or justice of the peace. (One exception is an appeal to a final order of the Commonwealth Court that was made on an appeal from the Board of Finance and Revenue.) The Supreme Court can review certain final orders of the Superior and Commonwealth Courts if any party to the matter petitions the court and an appeal is granted by any two justices. In addition, the Court can assume full jurisdiction over any matter involving an issue of immediate public importance pending before any court or justice of the peace in the Commonwealth, either on its own motion or upon petition of any party.

THE COMPOSITION AND ELECTION OF THE SUPREME COURT: There are seven judges on the Supreme Court, including a Chief Justice chosen on the basis of longest continuous service, or seniority. Justices are elected by the voters for a term of 10 years, after which they are eligible for retention election.

SUPERIOR COURT

THE JURISDICTION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT: The Superior Court has exclusive jurisdiction over appeals from the Courts of Common Pleas, except for those types of appeals under exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme or Commonwealth Courts. The Superior Court has original jurisdiction to entertain, hold hearings on, and decide applications for wiretapping and electronic surveillance.

THE COMPOSITION AND ELECTION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT: The Superior Court is composed of 15 judges, with one serving as President Judge, who in addition to judicial duties, is responsible for assigning cases. Like the members of the Supreme Court, they are chosen in a municipal election. The terms and conditions for their re-election are also the same as for justices of the Supreme Court.

COMMONWEALTH COURT

THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT: The Commonwealth Court is primarily an appellate court, but it does have some original jurisdiction. It has exclusive appellate jurisdiction of:

- a) final orders of the Courts of Common Pleas in certain specific cases;

- b) final orders of Commonwealth agencies including appeals from the Environmental Hearing Board, Public Utility Commission, Unemployment Compensation Board of Review, and any other Commonwealth agency having statewide authority, with certain specific exceptions;
- c) awards of arbitrators in disputes between the Commonwealth and a state employee; and
- d) any other matter as set by statute.

The Commonwealth Court also has original jurisdiction of:

- a) all civil actions or proceedings against state government, including, with some exceptions, any state officer acting in an official capacity;
- b) all civil actions by state government or an officer of it except eminent domain;
- c) all civil actions under certain provisions of the Insurance Department Act of 1921;
- d) election matters relating to statewide offices; and
- e) any other matter as determined by statute.

THE COMPOSITION AND ELECTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT: There are nine judges on the Commonwealth Court, with one serving as President Judge. The Supreme Court also designates six senior judges to sit with the Commonwealth Court. The judges of the court elect a President Judge for a term of five years. A judge of the Commonwealth Court is elected to serve a 10-year term. At the end of a term, a judge may run for retention and serve another 10 years.

COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS

THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS: Except where an exclusive original jurisdiction is vested in another court, the Courts of Common Pleas have unlimited original jurisdiction of all civil and criminal actions and proceedings.

Their jurisdiction includes:

- appeals from final orders of the district's minor judiciary (also called justice of the peace);
- appeals from state agencies, such as matters relating to motor vehicle violations, liquor code violations, birth and death records, inheritance and estate taxes, occupational disease, and public employee disputes; and
- petitions for review of awards by arbitrators in disputes between local government agencies and their employees.

There are sixty judicial districts in Pennsylvania. At least one Court of Common Pleas must be in each judicial district, and each judicial district has a President Judge. Courts with eight or more judges elect a President Judge for a non-successive, five-year term. In courts with fewer judges, the judge with the longest continuous service is appointed President Judge.

All districts have a trial division within the Court of Common Pleas, and larger counties have other divisions as well. The divisions are administrative units composed of judges who are

responsible for specific types of court business. Each division is presided over by an administrative judge who assists the President Judge.

"MINOR JUDICIARY" COURTS: Minor courts are the first level of courts in Pennsylvania. In counties other than Philadelphia, these courts are presided over by District Justices, formerly known as justices of the peace. District Justices oversee many of the offenses that would typically bring people to courts: landlord-tenant disputes, nonjury trials concerning civil claims under \$8000, trespassing violations, arrest warrants, and presiding over preliminary arraignments and preliminary hearings, among other things. There are 550 District Justices offices in Pennsylvania. The minor judiciary also includes community courts, Philadelphia Municipal Court, Pittsburgh police magistrate courts, and the Philadelphia Traffic Court.

THE STATE BUDGET

Pennsylvania's general fund budget provides for the operating expenses of the Commonwealth during a fiscal year that extends from July 1 to the following June 30. The fiscal year is designated by the years in which it begins and ends, e.g., FY 2006-2007 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007. The Governor's proposed general fund budget for FY 2006-2007 totals \$54.2 billion, including \$16.9 billion in federal funds. Education and health and welfare programs consume most of the Commonwealth's operating budget. Summaries of the Commonwealth's general fund Budget and of the budget process can be found at www.state.pa.us. Click on "Links to State Agencies," then "Budget."

The Governor proposes the general fund budget in February; the House and Senate Appropriations Committees normally hold several weeks of hearings on the budget in February and March; and the budget must be enacted before the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1. Pennsylvania, like virtually all of the states, requires the state and local governments to balance their operating budgets; they cannot spend more revenues than they have available during a fiscal year. If the Commonwealth or its local governments do incur operating deficits (which happens on occasion), they are required to eliminate those deficits in their adoption of the next year's operating budget. The federal government is not required by the U.S. Constitution to balance its budget, and in fact, it frequently does not. Although some critics have urged the adoption of a balanced budget requirement for the federal government, many experts argue that the federal government's ability to manage the national economy and to deal with wars and other emergencies would be impaired if it were prohibited from incurring deficits.

Pennsylvania also has a capital budget that authorizes the borrowing of funds to construct buildings and other improvements and to acquire such structures or land when the life of the project will exceed five years and \$100,000 in cost. These projects are listed in a capital project itemization act and are normally paid for by the issuance of 20-year bonds. Funds to repay the bonds are included in the general fund operating budget. The federal government does not have a capital budget but includes such projects in its operating budget.

Text on the structure of Pennsylvania government was adapted from (Feb. 2006): *Creating a Commonwealth: A Guide to Your State Government* (available at www.legis.state.pa.us), *The Pennsylvania Manual* and the *Book of the States*.

B. State Agencies

- Governor of Pennsylvania
- Governor's Offices
 - Governor's Advisory Commission on African American Affairs
 - Governor's Advisory Commission on Asian American Affairs
 - Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs
 - Governor's Commission for Children and Families
 - Governor's Green Government Council
 - Governor's Regional Offices
 - Governor's Sportsmen's Advisory Council
 - Office of Inspector General
 - Office of Public Liaison
 - Pennsylvania Rural Development Council
 - Council on The Arts
 - Right-to-Know Law Notice.
- Office of Lieutenant Governor
- Office of the First Lady
- Agencies, Authorities, Boards, Commissions, Councils, Departments, and Offices
 - Administration
 - Administration
 - Governor's Annual Workforce Report
 - Human Resources and Management
 - Office for Information Technology
 - Policies and Procedures
 - Aging
 - Agriculture
 - Attorney General
 - Auditor General
 - Banking
 - Board of Claims
 - Board of Pardons
 - Budget
 - Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement

- [Bureau of State Employment](#)
- [Capitol Police](#)
- [Civil Service Commission](#)
- [Commission on Crime and Delinquency](#)
- [Community and Economic Development](#)
- [Conservation and Natural Resources](#)
- [Consumer Advocate](#)
- [Corrections](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Environmental Protection](#)
- [Fish and Boat Commission](#)
- [Game Commission](#)
- [General Counsel](#)
- [General Services](#)
- [Governor's Advisory Commission on African American Affairs](#)
- [Governor's Advisory Commission on Asian American Affairs](#)
- [Governor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs](#)
- [Governor's Green Government Council](#)
- [Governor's Sportsmen's Advisory Council](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Historical and Museum Commission](#)
- [Independent Regulatory Review Commission](#)
- [Insurance](#)
- [Juvenile Court Judges' Commission](#)
- [Labor and Industry](#)
- [Liquor Control Board](#)
- [Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error Fund - \(Mcare\)](#)
- [Military and Veterans Affairs](#)
- [Milk Marketing Board](#)
- [Office of Administrative Law Judge](#)
- [Office of Health Care Reform](#)
- [Office of Inspector General](#)
- [Office of Management and Productivity](#)

- [Office of Public Liaison](#)
- [Office of the State Fire Commissioner](#)
- [Office of the Victim Advocate](#)
- [Office of PA Open for Business](#)
- [Patient Safety Authority](#)
- [Pennsylvania Commission for Women](#)
- [Pennsylvania Council on the Arts](#)
- [Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency](#)
- [Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council, \(PHCCCC\)](#)
- [Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency, \(PHEAA\)](#)
- [Pennsylvania Higher Educational Facilities Authority \(PHEFA\)](#)
- [Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, \(PHFA\)](#)
- [Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission](#)
- [Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority, \(PENNVEST\)](#)
- [Pennsylvania Lottery](#)
- [Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System](#)
- [Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement System,\(PSERS\).](#)
- [Pennsylvania Rural Development Council](#)
- [Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System, \(SERS\)](#)
- [Philadelphia Regional Port Authority](#)
- [Pennsylvania State Police](#)
- [Port of Pittsburgh Commission](#)
- [Probation and Parole](#)
- [Public Employee Retirement Commission \(PERC\)](#)
- [Public Television Network](#)
- [Public Utility Commission](#)
- [Public Welfare](#)
- [Revenue](#)
- [Securities Commission](#)
- [Sexual Offenders Assessment Board](#)
- [State, Department of](#)
- [State Ethics Commission](#)

- State Library
- State Public School Building Authority (SPSBA)
- State Tax Equalization Board
- State Treasurer
- Transportation
- Turnpike Commission

C. Local Governments

Under the principle of “Dillon’s Rule,” local governments in the United States are creatures of state government and possess no independent sovereignty. Many states, including Pennsylvania, grant at least some local governments “home rule,” which generally means they can adopt legislation and exercise powers not specifically reserved to the state government nor specifically prohibited to local governments. The Pennsylvania Constitution states:

“Municipalities shall have the power and right to frame and adopt home rule charters...A municipality which has a home-rule charter may exercise any power or perform any function not denied by this Constitution, by its home rule charter or by the General Assembly at any time.” (Article IX, Section 2).

According to a 2001 article by Beverly A. Cigler, since 1972, when Pennsylvania enacted the home-rule charter law, only 71 local governments have adopted home rule.¹ Furthermore, Pennsylvania, like other states, can override local legislation, even for home rule jurisdictions, on matters that the General Assembly considers of statewide concern. As one example, Pennsylvania regulates local government taxation and debt.

The General Assembly has divided Pennsylvania local governments by population size to allow it to enact laws affecting one or just a few similar local governments without violating a constitutional requirement that legislation affecting local governments be “uniform” and “general” in application (Article IX, Section 1). Thus, for example, legislation affecting Philadelphia is written to affect “cities of the first class” even though there is only one city of the first class, Philadelphia

The following section is from the 2002 *Census of Governments* and provides an overview of local government in Pennsylvania.

¹ Cigler, Beverly A., with Richard D. White, Jr. 2001. Pennsylvania. *In Home Rule in America A Fifty-State Handbook*. Dale Krane, Platon N. Rigos, and Melvin B. Hill, Editors. Washington DC: CQ Press.

D. Census of Government

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania ranks 2nd among the states in number of local governments, with 5,031 as of June 2002.

COUNTY GOVERNMENTS (66)

The entire area of the state is encompassed by county government except for Philadelphia County. Philadelphia County is substantially consolidated with the City of Philadelphia for governmental purposes and functions primarily as a city. Philadelphia is counted as a municipal government, rather than as a county government, for census purposes.

The governing body of each county government is a board of county commissioners. Any county may adopt a home-rule charter that provides for its government. Pennsylvania counties are divided into the following nine classes according to population size:

First class—1,500,000 inhabitants or more (Philadelphia; see above)

Second class—800,000 to 1,499,999 inhabitants (Allegheny)

Second class A—500,000 to 799,999 inhabitants (Delaware and Montgomery)

Third class—225,000 to 499,999 inhabitants

Fourth class—150,000 to 224,999 inhabitants

Fifth class—95,000 to 149,999 inhabitants

Sixth class—45,000 to 94,999 inhabitants and those having 35,000 to 44,999 inhabitants that, by ordinance or resolution of the board of county commissioners, elect to become a county of the sixth class.

Seventh class—20,000 to 44,999 inhabitants and those having 35,000 to 44,999 inhabitants that have not elected to become a county of the sixth class.

Eighth class—fewer than 20,000 inhabitants

SUBCOUNTY GENERAL PURPOSE GOVERNMENTS (2,564)

The 2,564 subcounty general purpose governments in Pennsylvania consist of 1,018 municipal (borough, city, and town) governments and 1,546 township governments. These two types of governments are distinguished primarily by the historical circumstances surrounding their incorporation. In Pennsylvania, boroughs, cities, towns, and townships have similar powers and perform similar functions.

Municipal Governments (1,018)

The term "municipality," as defined for census statistics on governments, applies only to the boroughs, cities, and

one incorporated town (Bloomsburg) in Pennsylvania.

Townships, to which the terms "municipality" and "municipal corporation" are applied by Pennsylvania statutes, are counted for census purposes as township rather than municipal governments (see below). To change from a borough or township to a city requires a minimum population of 10,000 and a referendum. Any municipality may adopt a home-rule charter that provides for its government. The following classes, based on population size, apply to cities as of June 2002:

First class—1,000,000 inhabitants or more (Philadelphia)

Second class—250,000 to 999,999 (Pittsburgh)

Second class A—80,000 to 249,999 inhabitants and that by ordinance elect to become second-class A city (Scranton)

Third class—fewer than 249,999 inhabitants including those with a population of 80,000 to 249,999 that have not elected to become a second-class A city.

All cities, boroughs, and incorporated towns exist outside the area of any governmentally active township.

Township Governments (1,546)

Townships, although not differing in legally authorized powers from the types of municipal governments described above, are counted for census purposes as a separate type of local government.

The entire area of the state is encompassed by townships except for areas within the boundaries of cities, boroughs, or incorporated towns. Pennsylvania townships are divided into two classes. Townships of the first class are those having a population density of 300 or more per square mile that have elected to choose first-class township status. All other townships are second-class townships. Change from second to first class is subject to referendum.

The governing body of each township is an elected board of commissioners in first-class townships and an elected board of supervisors in second-class townships. Any township may adopt a home-rule charter that provides for its government.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEMS (516)

School District Governments (516)

The following types of school districts in Pennsylvania are counted as separate governments for census purposes and are classified by population size:

First class—1,000,000 inhabitants or more (Philadelphia)
First class A—250,000 to 999,999 inhabitants (Pittsburgh)
Second class—30,000 to 249,999 inhabitants
Third class—5,000 to 29,999 inhabitants
Fourth class—fewer than 5,000 inhabitants
Community colleges

Each of the above classes of school districts has an elected or appointed board of school directors to administer school affairs. All of the above school districts may issue bonds and levy school taxes. Voter approval may be required for bond issues.

Community colleges in Pennsylvania also are counted as governments. The community colleges may be established with the approval of the state board of education by a school district; a county, city, borough, town, or township; a board of school directors; or any combination thereof. Each is administered by a board of trustees. If sponsored by a first-class city, the board is appointed by the mayor from names submitted by a nominating panel. In second-class cities, the board is appointed by the mayor with the approval of the city council. Otherwise, the board is selected by a majority vote of the governing body of the local sponsor. The sponsoring local government may levy an additional tax for community college purposes.

Dependent Public School Systems (0)

Pennsylvania has no dependent public school systems.

Other Educational Activities

Area vocational-technical schools and institutes are classified for census purposes as joint educational service agencies of participating school districts and are not counted as separate governments. They are administered by boards of directors of the participating school districts. These schools provide vocational and technical education services for all school districts that elect to participate and that pay their proportionate share of the costs.

Intermediate units, which provide special educational services, are classified for census purposes as joint educational service agencies of the participating school districts and are not counted as separate governments. Each intermediate unit is governed by a board elected by a convention of school board members of component school districts. The state board of education approves and funds the budgets of the intermediate units.

The "joint schools" are joint activities of two or more school districts and are not counted as governments. Each is controlled by the boards of the participating districts or by a joint school committee, the members of which are chosen by and from the boards of the constituent districts. Their fiscal requirements are met by participating districts.

Consortiums of school districts may be formed under the intergovernmental cooperation act to jointly provide programs and services to member districts. They are governed by boards appointed by member school districts. The York County High School and Lancaster County Academy were formed under this law. These schools are classified as joint educational service agencies of the participating school districts and are not counted as separate governments.

School districts that do not provide special education services themselves may provide such jointly with other school districts. Such programs are classified as joint educational service agencies of the participating school districts and are not counted as separate governments.

Recreation, fair, or park boards may be created by school districts by the school district alone or jointly with another government. These boards are classified as dependent agencies of the creating government or governments and are not counted as separate governments.

Municipal authorities, often called "school building authorities," finance construction of school buildings. They are described below under "Special District Governments."

SPECIAL DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS (1,885)

Pennsylvania statutes authorize the creation of a variety of special districts or authorities that are counted as governments. These are discussed in detail below.

Convention Center Authorities in Third-Class Counties

These authorities may be created by a third-class county or a third-class county and its county seat. The board consists of seven members appointed by the county or by the county and county seat. An alternative board consists of nine members appointed by the county, county seat, and Governor. The authorities may issue bonds and fix and collect fees. The county may impose an excise tax on hotels for the benefit of the authority.

Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission

This interstate commission was created by special acts of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania legislatures to build, operate, and maintain toll bridges across the Delaware River north of Philadelphia. The commission consists of five members appointed by the Governor of New Jersey and confirmed by the state senate and five appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania who serve at the Governor's pleasure. The commission may issue bonds and fix and collect tolls.

Delaware River Port Authority

This authority is counted under "New Jersey—Special District Governments."

East Fork Road District

This district was created by a special act to provide and maintain roads, fire protection, planning, and related functions. A board of commissioners, appointed by the court of common pleas, governs the district. The district may levy ad valorem taxes and issue bonds.

Housing Authorities

County or city housing authorities may be established by resolution of the county or city governing body or by the Governor on petition of taxpayers. Housing authorities are governed by five-member boards appointed by the county commissioners or the mayor with the approval of the city council with these exceptions: In cities of the first class, the mayor appoints two members, the city controller appoints two, and these four in turn appoint an additional member. In cities of the second class, the mayor appoints two additional members for a total of seven. The authorities may issue bonds and fix and collect rentals and charges.

Industrial and Commercial Development Authorities—1967 Law

Industrial and commercial development authorities organized under this law are established by ordinance of any county, city, borough, town, or township to finance industrial and commercial development projects. A board appointed by the governing body of the establishing government governs each authority. Authorities created under this law may fix and collect rentals and issue revenue bonds. Industrial development authorities established under the municipal authorities law are described below under "Municipal Authorities."

Metropolitan Transportation Authorities

State law authorizes these authorities in each metropolitan area. Each authority's board consists of one member (who may be a state official serving in an ex officio capacity) appointed by the Governor, two members per county served appointed by the county commissioners (except in the case of a first-class city, by the mayor), and one member appointed by each of the majority and minority leaders in the senate and the house of representatives. The senate and house appointees serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. The authorities may fix and collect fees and rents and issue revenue bonds. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) was established under this law to provide bus and rail transit and commuter rail service in the Philadelphia area.

Municipal Authorities

Pennsylvania law permits the governing body of a county, city, borough, town, township, or school district government, either singly or jointly, to establish a municipal authority by resolution or ordinance. A board appointed by the establishing government or governments governs each authority.

Municipal authorities may provide any of various types of governmental facilities, most commonly facilities for water supply and sewerage but also facilities for airports, school buildings, flood control, parks, recreation, hospital financing, parking, solid waste disposal, mass transit, marketing, and industrial development. An authority may fix and collect rentals or other charges and may issue revenue bonds. Authorities organized under this law are known by a variety of names.

Neighborhood improvement district management associations that are created as municipal authorities are dependent agencies of the creating government. See "Subordinate Agencies and Areas," below.

Parking Authorities

Authorities to provide parking facilities are created by resolution or ordinance of cities (except first-class cities), boroughs, or first-class townships. Each authority is governed by a five-member board appointed by the city mayor, the president of the borough council, or the president of the board of township commissioners. The authorities may lease parking facilities, impose rates and charges, and issue revenue bonds.

Parking authorities in first-class cities are state dependent. See "Subordinate Agencies and Areas," below.

Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority

This authority was created by 1986 legislation to construct, operate, and maintain a convention center in Philadelphia. A board of nine members governs the authority: four are appointed by the Governor, two by the mayor of Philadelphia, two by the Philadelphia city council, and one by the other eight. The authority may fix rentals, admissions fees, and other charges, receive the proceeds of city hotel occupancy taxes, and issue revenue bonds.

Philadelphia Regional Port Authority

This authority was created by 1989 legislation to construct, maintain, and operate port facilities along the Delaware River. The authority consists of 11 members: four appointed by the Governor, three recommended by the mayor of Philadelphia and the governing bodies of specified counties (counties located in whole or in part within 20 miles of the city and having the Delaware River as a border) and appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the president of the senate, one appointed by the minority leader of the senate, one appointed by the speaker of the house, and one appointed by the minority leader in the house of representatives. The authority may fix and collect fees and rentals for use of its facilities and may issue revenue bonds.

Port Authorities in Counties of the Second Class

These authorities may be formed in second-class counties to operate port facilities and transportation systems in the

county by which they are organized and in adjoining counties to the extent necessary for an integrated transportation system. A board appointed by the board of county commissioners and including one of their members governs each authority. In addition, when the transportation system is extended into adjoining counties, a representative may be appointed by each additional member county to vote on matters affecting rates and services within that county. The authorities may impose fees and rentals for the use of facilities and may issue revenue bonds. The Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAAC, formerly PAT) was established under this law to provide bus and rail transit in the Pittsburgh area.

Port Authorities in Third-Class Cities

Port authorities to operate port facilities and transportation systems are created by resolution of the governing body of a third-class city. Each authority has a governing board consisting of the Governor and the secretary of the department of transportation as ex officio members plus nine members appointed by the city mayor, one member appointed by the Governor, and one member appointed by the secretary of the department of transportation. The authority governing body may fix and collect fees and rentals for its facilities and may issue bonds. The Erie Western Pennsylvania Port Authority was created under this law.

Public Auditorium Authorities

These authorities may be formed by resolution of second-class counties and/or second-class or second-class A cities. The authorities acquire, own, and operate auditoriums, stadiums, and similar facilities. Each authority is governed by a board appointed by the creating governments. These authorities may fix and collect fees and issue revenue bonds.

Residential Finance Authorities

Authorities of this type may be established by resolution of the county commissioners of a second-class county (Allegheny). The authorities provide mortgage credit for the construction or the renovation of housing. A board appointed by the county commissioners governs each authority. The authority may make mortgage loans, fix charges in connection with its loans, and issue revenue bonds.

Southwestern Pennsylvania Convention Center Design Commission

This commission was created by special act. It is governed by a 15-member board consisting of members appointed by the central city, central county, Governor, regional planning commission, and local convention and visitors bureau. The chair of the Sports and Exhibition Authority of

Pittsburgh and Allegheny County also serves as a member. The commission receives funding from a regional sales tax created with voter approval at the county level.

Sport and Exhibition Authorities

Joint sport and exhibition authorities may be established by local resolution of a second-class county and second-class city within the second-class county. Each authority is governed by a seven-member board with three members appointed by each of the city and county and one member appointed jointly. The authorities may issue bonds and fix and collect fees. The creating governments also may issue bonds for the authority. The Sports and Exhibition Authority of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County was created under this act.

Sports and exhibition authorities created by a single government are subject to acquisition by the creating government at any time. These authorities are not counted as separate governments. See "Subordinate Agencies and Areas," below.

SUBORDINATE AGENCIES AND AREAS

Shown below are various governmental designations in Pennsylvania that have certain characteristics of governmental units but that are classified in census statistics as subordinate agencies of the state or local governments and are not counted as separate governments. Legal provisions for some of the larger of these are discussed below (see "Public School Systems," above, regarding educational agencies of this nature).

Allegheny Regional Asset District (county). This district was created by special act and county ordinance in 1993. The district funds and develops the region's civic, recreational, library, sports, cultural, and other assets. The district is governed by an appointed board of seven voting members: four appointed by the board of county commissioners, two by the mayor of Pittsburgh, and one by vote of five of the other six members. In addition, one nonvoting member is appointed by the Governor. The district is funded by one-half of the revenues generated by a special 1 percent sales tax and hotel tax levied by Allegheny County. The district is authorized to issue revenue bonds.

Conservation districts (county). These districts are established by the board of county commissioners to provide soil conservation services. The districts are governed by boards consisting of six members appointed by the county board of commissioners, plus one member of the county board. The districts receive their revenue from state and county appropriations and contributions for benefits provided.

Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (state). This agency was established to provide mortgage credit for low- and moderate-income housing. The agency board

consists of 14 members including six appointed by the Governor with the consent of the senate and one person appointed by each of the majority and minority leaders in the senate and the house of representatives, plus the secretaries of banking, commerce, and community affairs and the state treasurer. The agency may fix and collect fees and issue revenue bonds.

Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (state). This authority was established to finance the construction of industrial development projects. The authority board consists of seven members appointed by the Governor with the consent of the senate, plus the secretaries of agriculture, banking, commerce, community affairs, and labor and industry. The authority may issue revenue bonds.

Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority (state). This authority, established by special act in 1991, was created to assist the city of Philadelphia with its finances and to help maintain its access to financial markets. The governing body consists of five members appointed by the Governor and leaders of the state general assembly. The secretary of the budget for the commonwealth and the director of finance for the city are ex officio members of the board. The authority has the power to issue bonds to assist the city. The city may pledge any available revenues, including tax revenues for the repayment of the bonds. The city is required to develop a financial plan aimed at restoring fiscal health and to submit the plan to the authority for approval.

Port of Pittsburgh Commission (state). Established by special act in 1992, the geographic area covered by the commission includes ten counties in western Pennsylvania. The commission develops port facilities in the area to enhance commerce and industry. In addition, the commission is to develop and promote recreational facilities in the port district. The governing body of the commission consists of 15 members appointed by the Governor and leaders of the state general assembly. The commission has the power to fix and collect fees and rentals for port facilities and port-related projects. The commission may issue bonds secured by its revenues.

Redevelopment authorities (county and municipal). Any city or county may establish a redevelopment authority by resolution or ordinance. A five-member board, appointed by the mayor or the county governing body, governs each authority. Redevelopment authorities may issue revenue bonds. Redevelopment proposals are subject to the approval of the sponsoring government.

State authorities (state). A number of statewide authorities have been created by acts of the general

assembly to finance the construction of public facilities for the purposes indicated by the authority names. The largest of these are as follows:¹

Higher Educational Facilities Authority
Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
State Public School Building Authority

Each of the governing bodies of these authorities consists of members appointed by the Governor, state officials serving in an ex officio capacity, or a combination of the two. These state authorities receive their revenue primarily from rentals, tolls, or charges and may issue revenue bonds.

Other examples include:

State²

Automobile Theft Prevention Authority
Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority
Commonwealth Mental Health Research Foundation
Delaware River Bridge and Tunnel Commission
Delaware River Joint Bridge Commission of Pennsylvania and New York
Department of transportation districts
Flood control districts
Health districts
Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority
Parking authorities in first-class cities
Patient Safety Authority
Pennsylvania Civil Disorder Authority
Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority
Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority
Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency
Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority
Pennsylvania Minority Business Development Authority
Pennsylvania Nursing Home Loan Agency
Pennsylvania Parent Assistance Authority
Pennsylvania Public Television Network Commission
Pocono Mountain Memorial Parkway Commission
Underground Storage Tank Indemnification Board

County³

Historic districts
County authorities in counties of the second class and second class A
Institution districts
Recreation, park, and fair boards
Sports and exhibition authorities (single county, second class)
Transportation development districts (county)
Veterans housing authorities

¹Since 1975, the Pennsylvania Department of General Services has performed the functions of the General State Authority.

²The Delaware River Joint Bridge Commission of Pennsylvania and New York has never been ratified by New York.

³Institution districts are still authorized by law but have been abolished in many counties.

Municipal⁴

Business improvement districts (1973 law)
Historic districts
Institution districts in first-class cities
Municipal libraries
Neighborhood improvement district management associations (except in first-class cities)
Recreation, park, and fair boards (boroughs, second- and third-class cities, and incorporated towns)
Sewer districts in first-class cities
Shade tree commissions in third-class cities, boroughs, and incorporated towns
Sports and exhibition authorities (single city, second class)
Transportation development districts (municipal)
Veterans housing authorities

⁴Although institution districts are authorized in first-class cities (Philadelphia), none exist. Neighborhood improvement district management associations may be created as municipal authorities or as nonprofit corporations. The nonprofit corporations may be private and, in such case, would be excluded from Governments Division reporting. Neighborhood improvement districts are taxing areas governed by neighborhood improvement district management associations.

Township⁵

Fire and water districts in first-class townships
Historic districts
Neighborhood improvement district management associations
Recreation, park, and fair boards
Sewer districts and sanitary sewer districts in first-class townships
Shade tree commissions in first-class townships
Transportation development districts (municipal)
Joint recreation, park, or fair boards may be created by counties, municipalities (boroughs, second- and third-class cities, and incorporated towns), townships, and school districts.
Local development districts are state planning areas, typically governed by planning and development commissions.
Pennsylvania laws also provide for various types of local areas for election areas and administration of justice.

⁵Business improvement districts were authorized under 1973 legislation that applied only to boroughs, cities, and incorporated towns.

Major Topics Codes

| <u>Code</u> | <u>Category</u> |
|-------------|--|
| 1 | Fiscal and Economic Issues |
| 2 | Civil Rights and Liberties |
| 3 | Health |
| 4 | Agriculture |
| 5 | Labor, Employment, Immigration |
| 6 | Education |
| 7 | Environment |
| 8 | Energy |
| 10 | Transportation |
| 12 | Law, Crime, and Family |
| 13 | Social Welfare |
| 14 | Community Development, Housing Issues |
| 15 | Banking, Finance, Domestic Commerce |
| 16 | Defense |
| 17 | Space, Science, Technology, Communications |
| 18 | Foreign Trade |
| 19 | International Affairs and Foreign Aid |
| 20 | State Government Operations |
| 21 | Public Lands and Water Management |
| 24 | State Regulation of Local Government |