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GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Bill Research Report
05-30-2021 - 22:28:42

HB 27	Mehaffie, Thomas(R)	(PN 471) The Public Health Emergency Leave Act requires each employer in the commonwealth to provide public health emergency leave to employees whose residence or employment is affected by a public health emergency. Requires the employer to provide the public health emergency leave in addition to any other leave benefits available to an employee by contract or policy. Further provides for notice of eligibility; use of leave; eligibility for leave; and overtime requirements. Also provides for enforcement and for the duties of the Department of Labor and Industry. Establishes the Public Health Emergency Tax Credit Program in the department to provide tax credit certificates to employers that provide public health emergency leave to employees. Effective immediately.
Bill History:		02-11-21 H Filed 02-11-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Labor and Industry
HB 41	Grove, Seth(R)	(PN 20) The Medical Service Agreement Act provides for direct primary care, medical service agreements and insurance, for medical service agreement requirements, for use of health savings accounts or flexible spending accounts, and for use of other health care practitioners. The bill establishes that in order to be considered a medical service agreement under this act, the medical service agreement shall be in writing, be signed by the patient or patient's legal representative or guardian, be signed by the physician, allow either party to terminate the medical service agreement upon written notice to the other party, describe the specific health care services that are included in the medical service agreement, specify the fee for the medical service agreement, specify the period of time under the medical service agreement, and include the following statement: This agreement does not provide comprehensive health insurance coverage. The agreement only provides for the health care services specifically described. Effective in 60 days.
Bill History:		01-06-21 H Filed 01-11-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
HB 42	Grove, Seth(R)	(PN 21) The Commonwealth Fraud Prevention and COVID-19 Related Liability Act provides for liability for false claims; adoption of the Federal False Claims Act; damages; costs; civil penalties; power of the Attorney General; civil investigative demands; and for COVID-19-

		related liability. The provisions relating to COVID-19-related liability shall take effect immediately and the remainder of the act shall take effect in 120 days.
	Bill History:	01-06-21 H Filed 01-11-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary
HB 63	Lawrence, John(R)	(PN 1025) The COVID-19 Vaccine Administration and Distribution Act establishes that a person authorized to administer a COVID-19 vaccine by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shall be permitted to administer vaccines. Enumerates professionals and requirements for those qualified to administer the vaccines in Pennsylvania. Requires proof of an observational period for those qualified to administer vaccines. Provides provisions regarding recordkeeping. Establishes no later than 14 days after the effective date and not less than each 14 days thereafter, the Department of Health shall publish vaccine data. Provides the Department of Health shall deliver COVID-19 vaccines intended for a mass vaccination site in an affected county to the health department of the affected county. The governing body of each affected county shall have sole authority to designate a location or locations for a mass vaccination site or sites within the county and shall coordinate with the appropriate agencies for the delivery and administration of COVID-19 vaccines at each mass vaccination site. This act shall expire 60 days after the termination of the governor's COVID-19 emergency declaration or December 31, 2022, whichever is earlier. Effective immediately. (Prior Printer Number: 937)
	Bill History:	04-13-21 S Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Health and Human Services 05-24-21 S Meeting set for 11:00 a.m., Senate Chamber, Senate Health and Human Services -- Senate Health and Human Services 05-24-21 S Removed from Agenda for 5/24/21, Senate Health and Human Services -- Senate Health and Human Services
HB 106	Mehaffie, Thomas(R)	(PN 547) Amends the Health Care Facilities Act providing for hospital patient protection. This legislation sets appropriate ratios for Pennsylvania hospitals dependent upon the acuity of the unit's patient needs. Effective in 180 days.
	Bill History:	02-19-21 H Filed 02-24-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
HB 161	Mullery, Gerald(D)	(PN 129) Amends the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, in medical professional liability, providing that the results of surveys or inspections as defined by the Health Care Facilities Act and conducted by the Department of Health may be utilized in civil actions involving the care of patients or residents to show history or course of conduct. Effective in 60 days.

		Bill History:	01-13-21 H Filed 01-14-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
	HB 171	DeLuca, Anthony(D)	(PN 138) The Health Care Practitioner Employment Agreement Act limits restrictive covenants in health care practitioner employment agreements. This legislation provides for an exception and shall not be construed to render void or unenforceable the remaining provisions of a contract or agreement, including a buyout clause that requires a health care practitioner to reimburse the employer for reasonable expenses incurred in recruiting the health care practitioner and establishing the health care practitioner's patient base. Establishes that the buyout clause may include an amount for liquidated damages provided that the amount is reasonable. Effective in 60 days.
		Bill History:	01-13-21 H Filed 01-14-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
	HB 173	DeLuca, Anthony(D)	(PN 140) Amends Title 40 (Insurance), in special provisions relating to particular classes of insurers, adding a chapter providing for nondiscrimination by payers in health care benefit plans. A health care payer shall be required to contract with and to accept as a health care benefit plan participant any willing provider of health care services. A health care payer may not discriminate against a provider of health care services which: (1) agrees to accept the health care payer's standard payment levels, and (2) meets and agrees to adhere to quality standards established by the health care payer. Effective in 60 days.
		Bill History:	01-13-21 H Filed 01-14-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance
	HB 192	Topper, Jesse(R)	(PN 161) Amends the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act providing for criminal background checks for expedited licensure applicants. Requires an applicant for an expedited license under the compact to submit to a criminal history background check conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police. Effective in 60 days.
		Bill History:	03-23-21 Third consideration 3:31pm 03-23-21 H Final Passage (Vote: Y:201/N: 0) 03-23-21 S Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure
	HB 222	Brown, Rosemary(R)	(PN 189) Amends the Tax Reform Code providing that the Department of Revenue (DOR) may issue a tax credit, not to exceed $5,000, for an automated external defibrillator to any single taxpayer for a single taxable year. Establishes that DOR may not allocate more than $10 million in tax credits for a single taxable year with not more than $5 million exclusively for small businesses. Provides for Pennsylvania S Corporation shareholder pass-through if the S corporation does not have an eligible tax liability against which the tax credit may be applied. Provides for reporting requirements by DOR to the General Assembly, for the administration and promulgation of

		regulations by DOR, and that the act shall only apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	01-22-21 H Filed 01-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Finance
HB 225	Mentzer, Steven(R)	(PN 1099) Amends the Insurance Company Law, in quality health care accountability and protection, establishing standards related to preauthorization of health care services and step therapy; and making an editorial change. The legislation establishes the responsibility of managed care plans to make updates to enrollment eligibility information within 30 days of receiving updated enrollment information, provides that prior authorization requests shall be accessible to health care providers and accepted by insurers and utilization review organizations electronically, and provides standards for preauthorization costs and for restrictions on preauthorization of health care services. The legislation provides provisions related to continuity of care, step therapy protocols, operational standards, access requirements in service areas, uniform preauthorization form and preauthorization exemptions, and data collection and reporting. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	04-01-21 H Filed 04-01-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance 05-24-21 H Press conference held
HB 241	Warren, Perry(D)	(PN 201) The Disaster Emergency Health Insurance Preauthorization Act provides a preauthorization for a health care service both approved prior to and in effect on the date of the governor's declaration of disaster emergency shall remain approved during the disaster emergency and for not less than 90 days from the date the disaster emergency terminates or expires subject to the terms and conditions of a health insurance policy. Further provides the Insurance Department shall enforce the provisions of the act. Also provides the act shall apply only to a health insurance policy in effect during the governor's March 6, 2020, proclamation of disaster emergency and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency and any other declaration of disaster emergency issued by the governor due to virus, bacterium or other microorganism after the effective date of the act. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	01-22-21 H Filed 01-25-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance
HB 245	Kaufer, Aaron(R)	(PN 213) Amends the Medical Practice Act reducing the amount of years of approved graduate medical training from three to two for graduates of unaccredited medical colleges. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	03-23-21 Third consideration 3:33pm 03-23-21 H Final Passage (Vote: Y:201/N: 0) 03-23-21 S Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure

HB 265	James, Lee(R)	(PN 236) Amends the Public School Code, in terms and courses of study, requiring hands-only CPR instruction. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	01-25-21 H Filed 01-26-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
HB 281	Ortitay, Jason(R)	(PN 252) Amends the Health Care Facilities Act, in licensing of health care facilities, providing for report of inventory by health care facility. Requires a health care facility licensed under this chapter to annually report to the department an inventory of the health care equipment that is maintained in the health care facility. Further requires the health care facility to report this inventory to the department within 24 hours of the declaration of an emergency, regardless of whether the declaration is due to a natural disaster or public health emergency. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	01-26-21 H Filed 01-27-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
HB 322	Rothman, Greg(R)	(PN 296) The Health Care Cost Transparency Act requires a health care provider operating in the commonwealth to publish the cost of health care procedures. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	01-27-21 H Filed 01-28-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
HB 325	Greiner, Keith(R)	(PN 299) Amends Title 63 (Professions and Occupations (State Licensed)), in powers and duties, providing that licensed professionals may receive advice from licensing boards concerning the meaning or interpretation of an act or regulation pertaining to the license. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	03-24-21 Third consideration 3:37pm 03-24-21 H Final Passage (Vote: Y:201/N: 0) 03-25-21 S Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure
HB 326	O'Neal, Tim(R)	(PN 388) Amends Title 51 (Military Affairs), in the governor as commander-in-chief, removing the public health duties from the power of the governor and providing that the Pennsylvania National Guard, in conjunction with the Department of Health (DOH) and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), may develop plans for the establishment and operation of community distribution and administration of pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and supplies, and vaccinees for a virus. Provides reporting requirements on the integration of the Pennsylvania National Guard into the commonwealth's vaccine distribution and administration plan. Effective immediately. (Prior Printer's Number: 301)
	Bill History:	02-26-21 G In the hands of the Governor 03-03-21 G Approved by the Governor (Act: 4) 03-03-21 G Earliest effective date

HB 350	Benham, Jessica (F)(D)	(PN 324) Amends the Insurance Company Law, in casualty insurance, providing a health insurance policy or government program covered under this law shall include coverage for and waive cost-sharing requirements related to medically necessary COVID-19 diagnosis, treatment and prevention. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	01-29-21 H Filed 02-03-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance
HB 368	Davis, Austin(D)	(PN 340) The COVID-19 Pandemic Front Line Employee Health and Safety Protection Act provides requirements for health care or emergency responder employers on protecting workers from COVID-19 exposure. Provides requirements and limitations for an employer in another sector to protect employees from COVID-19 exposure. Establishes the right to bring own personal protective equipment, duties of the Department of Health and employers regarding notification of illness in the workplace, and whistleblower protections. Permits the Department of Labor and Industry to impose civil penalties for violations. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	01-29-21 H Filed 02-03-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Labor and Industry
HB 599	Oberlander, Donna(R)	(PN 568) Amends the Unfair Insurance Practices Act adding that unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices includes altering the coverage provided by a health insurance policy, including, but not limited to, raising the premium, copayment, coinsurance or deductible or denying or otherwise failing to provide continued coverage for a health care benefit that was included in the insured's health insurance policy and when the insured has already received the health care benefit. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	02-19-21 H Filed 02-24-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance
HB 642	Sappey, Christina(D)	(PN 598) Amends Title 40 (Insurance) providing for telemedicine, authorizing the regulation of telemedicine by professional licensing boards and providing that a health care provider who engages in telemedicine in a manner that does not comply with the standards of care or rules of practice shall be subject to discipline by the appropriate licensure board. Establishes that a health care provider providing telemedicine services shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Provides that a health care provider shall verify the location and identity of the person receiving care and disclose the health care provider's identity, geographic location and medical specialty. Establishes that health insurance policies issued in the commonwealth shall provide coverage for medically necessary telemedicine delivered by a participating network provider who provides a covered service via telemedicine consistent with the insurer's medical policies. Provides for reimbursement of telemedicine services during the COVID-19 pandemic and

		for conditions of reimbursement for telemedicine services provided under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Sections related to insurance coverage of telemedicine shall take effect upon publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. Provisions related to Medicaid and CHIP reimbursement shall take effect in 90 days. The remainder of the act shall take effect immediately.
	Bill History:	02-23-21 H Filed 02-24-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Insurance
HB 681	Ecker, Torren(R)	(PN 1187) The Health Care Practitioner Noncompete Agreement Act prohibits the enforcement of covenants not to compete in health care practitioner employment agreements. The bill provides for the duty of the employer and activities outside the scope of practice. Nothing in the act shall be construed to limit the period of time a party may agree to maintain information, limit the geographic area within which the information must be kept confidential, allow a health care practitioner to solicit individuals who are patients of the former employer but not prior patients of the health care practitioner, or create a separate right to the patient list of the employer. Provides for an exception. Effective in 30 days. (Prior Printer's Number: 640)
	Bill History:	05-26-21 H Voted favorably from committee on House Appropriations 05-26-21 H Reported as committed from House Appropriations 06-07-21 H Set on the House Calendar
HB 831	Boback, Karen(R)	(PN 813) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) establishing health care provider civil immunity, unless harm or gross negligence was intentionally designed, if all the following apply: a disaster emergency has been declared by the governor or local elected officials, and the health care provider was unable to provide care as a result of the health care provider's voluntary or mandatory response to the disaster. The bill provides a health care provider is not liable for civil damages due to an injury or wrongful death arising from the delivery or withholding of health care if the following apply: a disaster emergency has been declared by the governor or local elected officials, and the disaster caused a lack of resources rendering the health care provider unable to provide the required health care. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	03-05-21 H Filed 03-08-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary
HB 834	Brown, Rosemary(R)	(PN 816) Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, further providing for automatic external defibrillators and providing for a sudden cardiac event emergency action plan for athletic activities. The bill establishes that each school entity and nonpublic school shall have an automatic external defibrillator (AED) present at all interscholastic athletic events, including

		practices, sponsored by the school entity or nonpublic school. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	03-05-21 H Filed 03-08-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
HB 1011	Quinn, Chris(R)	(PN 1042) The Retaining Health Care Innovations Act provides legal authority for administrative flexibilities to continue despite the termination or expiration of the COVID-19 disaster declaration and requires the development of recommendations to retain innovations adopted during the pandemic. Administrative flexibilities provided to a health care facility, practitioner or proved and adopted under the authority of the disaster declaration shall be extended through the extension period or until the Joint State Government Commission issues a report in accordance with this act, whichever is later. Allows a health care facility to take advantage of administrative flexibilities during the extension period even if the emergency operations plan of the facility is closed. Requires the Joint State Government Commission to perform an analysis of the administrative flexibilities and issue a report to the General Assembly. Provides for the contents of report. Also requires the commission to establish an advisory committee and provides for its composition. Further provides nothing in the act shall require the commonwealth to maintain administrative flexibilities that would violate federal law or disqualify the commonwealth from receiving federal matching funds for Medicaid services. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	03-23-21 H Filed 03-24-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health 04-27-21 H Discussed during public hearing, House Republican Policy Committee -- House Republican Policy Committee
HB 1022	Schemel, Paul(R)	(PN 1057) Amends the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, in medical professional liability, establishing requirements to obtain informed consent. The legislation provides that a physician or qualified practitioner performing a surgery; administering radiation, blood transfusion or an experimental medication; or inserting a surgical device may rely on information provided by another qualified practitioner to obtain the informed consent of the patient or the patient's authorized representative. The legislation also provides a human research exception to the liability of obtaining informed consent. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	03-25-21 H Filed 03-26-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary
HB 1112	Neilson, Ed(D)	(PN 1150) Amends the Public School Code, in high schools, providing for CPR education in the health education curriculum. Effective in 60 days.

	Bill History:	04-05-21 H Filed 04-06-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
HB 1128	Neilson, Ed(D)	(PN 1176) Amends the Public School Code requiring the use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) instruction for school district employees and volunteers. Provides that each school entity shall assure that each AED location has at least five persons trained and certified in the use of an AED. Provides that each school entity, private school and nonpublic school shall develop safety procedures for responding to a medical emergency involving cardiac arrest. Provides that the Department of Education may receive donations for use of CPR and AED and shall distribute donations. Provides that every school entity, nonpublic school and private school shall have at least one AED in each occupied building on the school premises at all times. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	04-06-21 H Filed 04-07-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
HB 1173	Cephas, Morgan(D)	(PN 1229) Amends the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing that the Department of Human Services shall apply to the federal government for a waiver to permit a woman receiving medical assistance to be eligible for pregnancy-related and postpartum medical assistance for up to an additional 10 months following the birth of the child. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	04-13-21 H Filed 04-14-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
HB 1174	Cephas, Morgan(D)	(PN 1230) Amends the Maternal Mortality Review Act providing maternal deaths and severe maternal morbidity complications as reportable events by the Department of Health. Effective in 90 days.
	Bill History:	04-13-21 H Filed 04-14-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
HB 1176	Cephas, Morgan(D)	(PN 1232) Amends Title 63 (Professions and Occupations (State Licensed)), providing for administration. Establishes that the department will require each person applying for a license or certification issued by a health-related state board to complete training regarding implicit bias and cultural competence in accordance with the continuing education requirements of the health-related state board. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	04-13-21 H Filed 04-14-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Professional Licensure
HB 1241	Quinn, Chris(R)	(PN 1305) Amends the Administrative Code, in powers and duties of the Department of General Services and its departmental administrative and advisory boards and commissions, requiring automated external defibrillators to be located in each state building. Effective in 60 days.

	Bill History:	04-19-21 H Filed 04-20-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House State Government
HB 1280	Jozwiak, Barry(R)	(PN 1364) Amends the Patient Test Result Information Act providing a definition for chronic condition, repealing the definition of significant abnormality and provisions related to test results, providing for written notice by the diagnostic imaging entity to the patients regarding results of tests ordered as well as exceptions, and establishes the duty of the Department of Health to coordinate with state licensing boards on complaints received relating to entities performing diagnostic imaging services not under the jurisdiction of the department. Excludes specific cardiac testing from patient notification requirements. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	04-26-21 H Filed 04-26-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Health
HB 1359	Rothman, Greg(R)	(PN 1471) The Health Care Heroes and Public Health Preparedness Act establishes the Health Care Heroes and Public Health Preparedness Program and the Health Care Heroes and Public Health Preparedness Account to award grants to hospitals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and makes an appropriation of $650 million. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	05-05-21 H Filed 05-07-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations
HB 1440	Millard, David(R)	(PN 1555) Amends the Medical Practice Act providing definitions and establishing membership of medical imaging professionals, radiation therapists or radiologist assistants on the State Board of Medicine; establishing regulations and licensure of medical imaging professionals; repealing provisions relating to radiologic procedures and education and training required; and providing related and inconsistent repeals. Establishes regulation and licensure of medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	05-17-21 H Filed 05-17-21 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Professional Licensure
SB 25	Bartolotta, Camera(R)	(PN 219) Amends the Professional Nursing Law further providing for definitions; and providing for licensure as a certified nurse practitioner. The bill outlines the scope of practice for certified nurse practitioners. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	02-22-21 S Filed 02-22-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure
SB 169	Yaw, Gene(R)	(PN 210) Amends Title 35 (Health and Safety), in prescribing opioids to individuals, providing for prescribing opioids to individuals and further providing for definitions, for prohibition and for procedure; and making editorial changes. The bill defines minor as an individual less than

			18 years of age and excludes a minor who is married or has been married, pregnant or has been pregnant, a member of the armed forces of the United States, or legally emancipated. The bill changes the name of the chapter from prescribing opioids to minors to prescribing opioids to individuals. Effective in 180 days.
		Bill History:	02-18-21 S Filed 02-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure
	SB 225	Phillips-Hill, Kristin (F)(R)	(PN 453) Amends the Insurance Company Law by providing for responsibilities of managed care plans and amending section 2111 by adding language requiring the plans to make updates of its enrollment eligibility information within 30 days of receiving updated enrollment information and to establish rules pertaining to the timely filing of health care provider claims that require a health care provider's filing duty to commence whichever occurs last: when the patient is discharged, when the patient presents complete and accurate insurance information, or when authorization or approval is confirmed by the medical care plan. Adds sections providing for preauthorization standards and for preauthorization costs. Also adds a new subsection to section 2117 relating to continuity of care. Further provides for step therapy protocols, required disclosure, operational standards, preauthorization and adverse determinations, appeals, access requirements in service areas, uniform preauthorization form, preauthorization exemptions, and data collection and reporting. Effective in 60 days.
		Bill History:	03-18-21 S Filed 03-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Banking and Insurance 05-24-21 S Press conference held
	SB 231	Aument, Ryan(R)	(PN 201) Amends Title 35 (Health & Safety), in Commonwealth services, further providing for general authority of governor, providing for notification of suspensions, modifications and waivers and establishing the Disaster and Recovery Task Force. Provides that no state of disaster emergency may continue for longer than 30 days unless renewed by the governor with majority approval by each chamber of the General Assembly by concurrent resolution. Further provides that the Office of the Governor shall notify the individuals under subsection (c) no later than provided under subsection (b) when a specific statute or regulation is suspended, modified or waived under the authority of the order. Requires the Disaster and Recovery Task Force to be established within five days of the effective date of a disaster emergency declaration. Effective immediately.
		Bill History:	02-16-21 S Filed 02-16-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Prepared.
	SB 273	Baker, Lisa(R)	(PN 255) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary), in particular rights and immunities, providing for COVID-19-related liability. Provides that a school entity, child care facility,

		manufacturer, distributor, labeler and donor, or business or government service shall not be civilly liable for damages or personal injury relating to an actual or alleged exposure to COVID-19, absent a showing, by clear and convincing evidence, of gross negligence, recklessness, willful misconduct or intention infliction of harm. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	02-24-21 S Filed 02-24-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Judiciary
SB 285	Boscola, Lisa(D)	(PN 271) Amends Title 35 (Health and Safety) providing for COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Provides that for the purposes of providing COVID-19 approved vaccines during the COVID-19 disaster emergency, eligible health care providers who receive training in COVID-19 approved vaccines shall be authorized to administer the vaccines. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	02-26-21 S Filed 02-26-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services
SB 330	Brooks, Michele(R)	(PN 337) Amends Title 42 (Judiciary), in particular rights and immunities, establishing immunity from a medical professional liability claim, medical liability action or other civil claim of negligence for any act or omission during the course of rendering health care during a state of disaster emergency for health care practitioners, health care providers and volunteer practitioners upon qualifications, including providing health care services outside or exceeding the normal scope of practice or specialty. Provides immunity for practitioners and providers that cancel, discontinue or otherwise alter health care services or are unable to provide the required level or manner of care due to a lack of resources attributable to the state of disaster emergency. Establishes immunity from a products liability claim for any person or entity that manufactures, distributes or uses health care equipment, including atypical or novel utilization of health care equipment in response to the state of disaster emergency. No vicarious liability shall attach to the employer of an individual who is immune under these provisions. Provides provisions shall not apply to a claim or cause of action that merely coincides in the time of the disaster emergency when the action or claim is not associated with the state of disaster emergency. Provisions are not applicable to any criminal action, intentional tort or incident of gross negligence. Provides for definitions. Effective immediately.
	Bill History:	03-10-21 S Filed 03-10-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Judiciary
SB 359	Schwank, Judy(D)	Amends the Human Services Code, in medical assistance, providing for pregnancy-related and postpartum medical assistance.
	Bill History:	03-12-21 S Filed 03-12-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Health and Human Services

SB 398	Pittman, Joe(R)	(PN 386) Amends the Medical Practice Act providing for the addition of a physician assistant to the State Board of Medicine, repealing and replacing provisions related to the physician countersignature on patient files, and establishing the responsibility of supervising physicians for the medical services that a physician assistant renders. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	03-11-21 S Filed 03-11-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure
SB 425	Gordner, John(R)	(PN 616) Amends the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, in medical professional liability, establishing requirements to obtain informed consent. The legislation provides that a physician may delegate the task of obtaining informed consent to a qualified practitioner or rely on information provided by another qualified practitioner to obtain the informed consent of the patient or the patient's authorized representative. Allows a patient to speak to a physician rather than a delegated qualified practitioner to answer a question concerning the procedure, risks, or alternatives to the procedure or to obtain informed consent. The legislation also provides a human research exception to the liability of obtaining informed consent. Effective immediately. (Prior Printer Number: 429)
	Bill History:	05-26-21 H Set on the House Calendar 05-26-21 Second consideration 3:25pm 05-26-21 H Rereferred to House Appropriations
SB 444	Boscola, Lisa(D)	(PN 446) Amends the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act providing for criminal background checks for expedited licensure applicants. Requires an applicant for an expedited license under the compact to submit to a criminal history background check conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police. Effective in 60 days.
	Bill History:	03-18-21 S Filed 03-18-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure
SB 671	Hutchinson, Scott(R)	(PN 740) The Retaining Health Care Innovations Act provides legal authority for administrative flexibilities to continue despite the termination or expiration of the COVID-19 disaster declaration and requires the development of recommendations to retain innovations adopted during the pandemic. Administrative flexibilities provided to a health care facility, practitioner or provider and adopted under the authority of the disaster declaration shall be extended through the extension period or until the Joint State Government Commission issues a report in accordance with this act, whichever is later. Allows a health care facility to take advantage of administrative flexibilities during the extension period even if the emergency operations plan of the facility is closed. Requires the Joint State Government Commission to perform an analysis of the administrative flexibilities and issue a report to the General Assembly. Provides for the contents of report. Also requires the commission to establish an advisory committee and provides for its

			composition. Further provides nothing in the act shall require the commonwealth to maintain administrative flexibilities that would violate federal law or disqualify the commonwealth from receiving federal matching funds for Medicaid services. Effective immediately.
		Bill History:	05-24-21 S Reported as committed from Senate Health and Human Services 05-24-21 S First consideration 06-07-21 S Set on the Senate Calendar
	SB 705	Vogel, Jr., Elder(R)	Act relating to telemedicine; authorizing the regulation of telemedicine by professional licensing boards; and providing for insurance coverage of telemedicine.
		Bill History:	05-21-21 S Filed 05-21-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Banking and Insurance
	SR 61	Collett, Maria (F)(D)	(PN 545) Resolution designating February 7 through February 14, 2021, as "Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week" and further designating February 14, 2021, as "Emersyn's Day" in Pennsylvania.
		Bill History:	04-09-21 S Filed 04-09-21 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Rules and Executive Nominations