January 2020

To: All Members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly

This Annual Report of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee includes a summary of the five reports and performance audits completed by the Committee in the 2019 calendar year and a list of the current projects before the Committee. The report contains a list of all reports, categorized by subject matter, which the Committee has completed since 1981. The report also describes the duties and responsibilities of the Committee and provides information about the Committee’s staff and operations.

The Committee welcomes questions and comments regarding its activities and this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Mensch

Chairman
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SECTION I
BACKGROUND

Statutory Composition

The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) is a bipartisan, bicameral legislative service agency created by Act 1959-195, as amended, 46 P.S. §§70.1-70.6. The Committee has authority to perform “all duties and functions relating to the study of the revenues, expenditures and fiscal problems of the Commonwealth, its officers, boards, Committees, commissions, institutions and other State agencies.” The LBFC conducts studies and makes recommendations for the Pennsylvania General Assembly aimed at:

- The elimination of unnecessary expenditures.
- The preservation of economy in the government of the Commonwealth.
- The determination that state funds are being expended in accordance with legislative intent and law.
- Comparison of revenues and expenditures.

To carry out this mandate, the LBFC is authorized to conduct a wide range of research activities pertaining to the operation and performance of state government programs. The Committee is also charged to report its findings and recommendations “from time to time, to the members of the Legislature and . . . the standing Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives . . . ,” and the Governor and Auditor General. The LBFC’s enabling legislation specifies that agencies which are the subject of Committee examination be afforded an opportunity to comment on the LBFC’s report prior to its publication. If provided, such comments become part of the final report.

The primary purpose of the LBFC, therefore, is to assess the appropriateness (e.g., compliance with objectives and mandates of the General Assembly), efficiency, and effectiveness of state government programs and agencies.

Mission Statement:

To provide members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly timely, accurate, and unbiased information, analysis, and performance evaluation to inform their policy decisions.
SECTION II
ROLES AND RESOURCES

Committee Members

The LBFC consists of 12 members of the General Assembly—6 Senators and 6 Representatives. By law, the Committee is comprised equally of members from the majority and minority parties in each chamber of the General Assembly. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Majority and Minority Leaders of each chamber are designated by law as members of the Committee. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives appoint three additional members of their respective chambers, at least two of whom are to be from the Minority party. The President Pro Tempore, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Majority and Minority Leaders in both chambers may designate other members of their respective Chambers to serve as their designees on the Committee.

The Committee elects its own Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Committee Officers

Chair
Senator Robert Mensch

Vice-Chair
Senator James Brewster

Secretary
Representative Stephen Barrar

Treasurer
Representative Jake Wheatley
Senate Committee Members

Michele Brooks
Kristin Phillips-Hill
Christine Tartaglione
John Yudichak
Arthur Haywood
Changes in Committee Membership in 2019

- A special thanks to Representative Stephen Barrar, who has served with The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee since the 2007-08 session and became an officer in 2019.

- Senator John Yudichak (D) changed his party affiliation to Independent, and therefore, his appointment to the Committee was discharged as of November 19, 2019.

- LBFC welcomed Senator Arthur Haywood (D) on December 12, 2019, to the Committee.
Staff Resources

Qualifications
At the end of 2019, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee had a staff complement of thirteen. The staff includes individuals with the following degrees:

- Master of Business Administration, major in business.
- Three Masters of Public Administration, with majors in public administration, public budgeting and financial management, and public and non-profit management.
- Master of Public Health, major in community and behavioral health.
- Three Licensed Attorneys.
- Bachelor of Science, major in criminal justice.
- Three Bachelor of Arts, majors in policy and management studies, and political science.

2019 Staff Listing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Asare*</td>
<td>Analyst I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patricia Berger</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Bordner</td>
<td>Office Resource Manager</td>
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<td>Jason Brehouse</td>
<td>Project Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen Fickes</td>
<td>Project Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Hockenberry</td>
<td>Analyst II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomeka Jenrette</td>
<td>Receptionist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Jones</td>
<td>Counsel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Latta</td>
<td>Deputy Executive Director/Project Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebanta Mukherjee*</td>
<td>Analyst I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanika Mitchell-Saint Jean</td>
<td>Analyst II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stevi Sprenkle</td>
<td>Analyst II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Witkonis</td>
<td>Analyst II</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Joined the staff in 2019.

The following individuals left LBFC in 2019:

- Anna Amsbaugh resigned effective July 26, 2019.

The LBFC’s office and staff are located in the Finance Building within the Harrisburg Capitol Complex. LBFC’s organizational structure is shown on the following page.
Expenditures
During fiscal year 2018-19, the Committee spent $1,747,206.92.

LBFC News
Links to one-page summaries of released reports as well as the full reports can be found on the LBFC website (http://lbfc.legis.state.pa.us). The website also lists current LBFC members and staff as well as recent information on Committee and staff activities, including links to videos of Committee meetings.

- LBFC turned 60! The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee was established August 4, 1959. On October 21, 2019, the LBFC held a drop-in event in the East Wing of the Capitol to celebrate the LBFC’s anniversary. Visitors enjoyed cake and snacks as they viewed historical examples of the Committee’s reports from each decade and read through a timeline of events in and around the sixty years of LBFC’s operations. As a part of the celebration, the office collected non-perishable food items to donate to the Central PA Food Bank.
• LBFC seeks to improve and increase media coverage of our reports. Stephen Fickes, Project Manager, was interviewed by Fox43’s Jamie Bittner regarding the Committee’s recent report on the dairy industry.

• Patricia Berger, Executive Director, and Shanika Mitchell Saint-Jean, Analyst, attended the 2019 NLPES Conference in Park City, Utah. Patricia serves as the secretary on the NLPES Executive Committee. Shanika summarized key information from workshops she attended and shared it with LBFC staff.

• LBFC held a two-day in-house training October 28-29, 2019, provided by The United States Government Accountability Office – Center for Audit Excellence (GAO) for all
staff responsible for audit and study work. The continuing professional education training course was on Performance Auditing.

- LBFC has been awarded an NLPES Impact Award in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019.
# Report Development

## Overview of Key Steps in the LBFC Performance Audit Process

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Audit or study project is initiated by statute, resolution, or proposal by LBFC member or other member of the General Assembly, i.e., a discretionary project.</td>
<td>• Develop audit scope and objectives.</td>
<td>• Send engagement letter to agency.</td>
<td>• Audit or study objective refined, if necessary, and fieldwork plans developed.</td>
<td>• Final referenced copy of draft report prepared and reviewed by audit team.</td>
<td>• Confidential draft report sent to agency for their review.</td>
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<td>• Audit or study project is formally adopted by the LBFC officers and/or the full Committee.</td>
<td>• Develop preliminary survey work plans.</td>
<td>• Send engagement letter to standing committees with subject matter jurisdiction.</td>
<td>• Focused audit or study activities conducted at central office and field locations.</td>
<td>• Draft report reviewed by Executive Director and/or a project manager not previously involved in the audit for internal quality control review.</td>
<td>• Agency response received and final report printed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Audit or study is assigned to LBFC staff and is incorporated into staff project schedule.</td>
<td>• Develop preliminary audit survey questionnaire.</td>
<td>• Meet with prime sponsor of resolution or discretionary project.</td>
<td>• Data collection, analysis, and verification is carried out in all finding areas.</td>
<td>• Audit team makes necessary report adjustments.</td>
<td>• Prepare oral presentation and press release.</td>
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<td>• Establish agency reference file.</td>
<td>• Develop summary work papers.</td>
<td>• Conduct exit conference with agency, if requested.</td>
<td>• Committee meeting held. Discuss, release, and distribute report.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Conduct entrance conference.</td>
<td>• Develop draft findings.</td>
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<td>• Audit files archived.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Develop preliminary survey work plan (if required).</td>
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Statutory Charges

Under Act 1959-195, as amended by Act 1961-645, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) is empowered “to perform all duties and functions relating to the study of the revenues, expenditures, and fiscal problems of the Commonwealth, its officers, boards, Committees, commissions, institutions and other State agencies.” This includes, among others, the power to review Commonwealth revenues and expenditures to identify unnecessary expenditures, to promote economy in state government, and to ensure that state funds are expended as intended by law. If funds are found to be used for purposes unintended by law or if it is found that any other statutory restrictions or provisions are being violated, the LBFC is to report to the General Assembly, the Governor, and the Auditor General.

Otherwise, the Committee is charged to report “from time to time, to the members of the Legislature and . . . the standing Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives with respect to any of its findings or recommendations . . . .”

In addition to the general authority under its enabling statute, the LBFC has been granted authority under the following legislative actions:

**Act 2019-20 - Fiscal Code (SB147).** Allows for Sunday hunting, and within 180 days (Governor signed November 27, 2019) of the effective date of this subsection, the LBFC shall prepare a financial analysis of fees, fines, penalties, royalties, Federal and State appropriations and other sources of revenue received by the Game Commission and of expenditures.

**Act 2018-90.** requires the LBFC to study and evaluate the funding of certified organ procurement organizations operating in the Commonwealth. The report is due October 2020.

**Act 2017-55 (House Bill 178),** requires the LBFC to study the effectiveness of the provisions of subsections (a)(5), (c) and (d) and section 1125.1, (regarding the suspension of professional employees) including whether these provisions of law are being used effectively by school districts to improve school district efficiency and the impact of these provisions on programs offered to students, as well as the impact on programs that would have been offered to students if these provisions had not been enacted, if such information is available. The report is due December 2022 to the Governor, the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Education Committee of the Senate and the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Education Committee of the House of Representatives.

**Act 2016-86 (House Bill 1606),** requires LBFC to review the success of the rural regional college and rural regional college plan established pursuant to this act. The interim report was released June 2018, and the final report is due June 2022.

**Act 2016-20 (HB 1329),** requires certain hospitals to allow patients an opportunity to designate caregivers in patients' medical records and imposing duties on hospitals; requires the LBFC to conduct a study regarding the impact of the act on certain patient outcomes, including, but not limited to, hospital readmissions. The report is due April 2022.
**Act 2013-90**, an amendment to the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, requires the LBFC to conduct an annual study of the impact of tavern gaming on the State Lottery. The next report is due March 2020.

**Act 2007-45 and Act 2010-123**, requires the LBFC to annually submit a report to the Appropriations and Education Committees of the Senate and the House summarizing the financial and academic status of a third-class distressed school district and including an audit of its accounts for the immediately preceding school year.

**Act 2004-159**, amended the Fish and Boat Code to implement a new license fee structure and requires the LBFC to conduct a performance audit of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission every three years. The next report is due July 2022.

**Act 1995/1-17, enacted during the First Special Session on Crime**, amended the Uniform Firearms Act to require that the Pennsylvania State Police establish a system for conducting instant background checks on prospective firearms purchasers. The act also established a $2 instant background check fee and a $3 surcharge on each firearms sale. The act’s provisions require the LBFC to assess the adequacy of the fees charged by the PA State Police for their Instant Records Check System. The next report is due October 2020.

**Act 1986-93, 34 Pa.C.S.A. §522(b)**, as amended by Act 1998-166, requires the LBFC to conduct a performance audit to examine the Pennsylvania Game Commission’s (PGC) compliance with its strategic plan every three years. The next report is due February 2021.
Summaries of LBFC Reports Completed in 2019

The LBFC is charged with conducting informational and evaluative studies and performance audits as directed by the Committee and as mandated by the General Assembly. Further, the Committee is charged to:

. . . make reports, from time to time, to the members of the Legislature and, upon request, to the standing Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives with respect to any of its findings and recommendations…

Five reports were completed and released in 2019. Summaries of these reports are located on the following pages. Copies of reports can be obtained by contacting our office via:

Email: lbfcinfo@palbfc.us  
Telephone: 717-783-1600 or 717-787-5487 (fax)  
Website: http://lbfc.legis.state.pa.us

Report Released: March 2019

A Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

Background:
Act 2004-159 directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) to conduct a performance audit of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) on a three-year cycle. These periodic audits began in 2007, and this is the fifth audit completed under Act 2004-159. We reviewed PFBC operations over the past three fiscal years: July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2018.

Summary of Findings:

- Reserve fund balances have been “healthy” over the past three years. The PFBC has been able to sustain these reserve balances because of a Spending Reallocation Plan (SRP) it instituted in fiscal year (FY) 2014-15. The SRP kept spending in line with revenues, but it did so at the cost of not filling vacant positions and delaying other operating expenditures.

The PFBC is funded through two special funds: the Fish Fund and the Boat Fund. Although these funds are separate, with each having its own statutorily-defined purposes, collectively, the PFBC held $109.4 million in reserve as of June 30, 2018.
The PFBC needs to maintain reserve balances to ensure it can sustain operations in the advent of an emergency.

- **The largest revenue source to the Fish Fund and the Boat Fund—licenses and fees—was relatively flat over the past three years.** Licenses and fees accounted for 67 percent of all Fish Fund revenue and 49 percent of all Boat Fund revenue over the period. Revenue from these categories decreased by 1.5 percent to the Fish Fund, and increased by only 1.8 percent to the Boat Fund.

- **Over the three-year period, Fish Fund total expenditures increased by just 0.3 percent, and Boat Fund total expenditures decreased by 0.3 percent.** Ninety-six percent of Fish Fund expenditures, and 90 percent of Boat Fund expenditures are for personnel and operating expenses. Despite mandated increases for healthcare, retirement, and negotiated salary increases for employees covered by collective bargaining agreements, the PFBC held expenses below available revenues. Overall, agency spending by organizational unit was highest within the Bureau of Hatcheries (28 percent), followed by the Bureau of Law Enforcement (23 percent).

- **A potentially troubling trend is occurring with resident fishing license sales.** As the primary revenue generator for the Fish Fund, resident fishing license sales are significant to the PFBC. New revenue, primarily through a license fee increase, will be needed soon. Yet, historically, raising fees has led to an initial decline to resident sales after the fee is enacted. Although these declines were later erased by license sales growth over the life of the fee increases, our analysis shows that this “initial drop-then sustained license growth” may not be the case going forward because over the life of the past two license periods, there has been (and continues to be) a negative sales growth for resident license sales. Conversely, nonresident license sales have been steady, and in some categories, have even increased in recent years.

- **The PFBC operates and maintains a robust system of fish propagation and stocking.** Over the three-year period, nearly 140 million fish (of varying species) were propagated and stocked in Pennsylvania waterways. Hatchery operations are a significant expense to the PFBC but represent a tangible “return on investment” for licensed anglers. Reducing hatchery operations, as a means of controlling costs, seems ill-advised. We also reviewed the PFBC’s Cooperative Nursery Program, which provides various groups and schools with fish to raise and later stock in Pennsylvania waterways and found the PFBC did a good job of ensuring sponsors were inspected and meeting program guidelines.

- **The SRP has constrained law enforcement complement capacity.** Waterways conservation officers, who are sworn law enforcement officers, complete a number of important duties for the PFBC including public outreach, resource protection, and public safety. As a means of controlling costs, new training classes have been delayed, which has impacted complement levels. Recently, a new class of cadets will start with the
PFBC, which should help to ease this constraint.

- **Our report contains 10 recommendations.** We recommend that the General Assembly grant the PFBC greater autonomy to set its own fees. We further recommend that license fees for nonresidents should be increased before resident license fees are increased. We also include recommendations to improve the monitoring and reporting of the Cooperative Nursery Program. Finally, we encourage the PFBC to recruit potential cadets that have already completed municipal police officer training, while ensuring that these candidates are thoroughly vetted.

### The Impact of Tavern Gaming on the Pennsylvania State Lottery

**Background:**

Act 2013-90, an amendment to the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, requires the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) to conduct an annual study of the impact of tavern gaming on the State Lottery. Under the act, the Governor may request the General Assembly appropriate money from the General Fund to the State Lottery Fund up to the amount identified in the study. This is the fourth such report under this mandate.

**Summary of Findings:**

- **As of January 2019, the PLCB had approved 64 tavern gaming establishments, 50 of which are active.** This is far below the Governor’s Office initial estimates of 2,000 licensees. Expensive up-front license fees, intrusive background checks, and an unfavorable tax structure have been cited as some of the reasons for low participation among tavern owners.

- **In 2018, tavern games generated $1.64 million in state and host municipality tax revenue.** This is far below the Governor’s Office initial estimates of $93.6 million annually.

- **Tavern gaming has not had a material impact on the State Lottery.** The $1.64 million in tavern gaming revenue collected by the Commonwealth in 2018 represents about $2.52 million in patron losses as compared to about $1.56 billion in losses for persons participating in Lottery games, including iLottery play.

Because tavern gaming losses are less than two-tenths of one percent (0.16 percent) of the losses incurred in Lottery games, we concluded tavern gaming did not have a material impact on State Lottery sales in 2018.
A Performance Evaluation of the Department of Environmental Protection
Chapter 102 & Chapter 105 Permitting Programs

Background:

Senate Resolution 2017-226 directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a performance evaluation of two environmental permitting programs within the Department of Environmental Protection: the Chapter 102 Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program and the Chapter 105 Water Obstruction and Encroachment Program.

Summary of Findings:

- **Stakeholders, both regulated and regulator, expressed a wide variety of concerns about the management of the permit application process.** The two issues raised most frequently were inconsistencies in the interpretation of regulations and requirements of the permitting programs, between and among the regional offices and the CCDs, and the length of time for permit applications to be reviewed and disposed. Stakeholders also report a lack of communication from the DEP Central Office to the DEP regional offices, CCDs, and the regulated community.

- **DEP does not systematically collect, compile, analyze, and report data to measure the performance of the CCDs or DEP regional offices for all Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permitting programs.** LBFC staff conducted a file review of disposed DEP permits to gauge whether the CCDs and DEP are consistently adhering to the review process and internal controls established by DEP. We reviewed roughly 440 files and found that DEP internal controls, designed to ensure compliance with review requirements, are ineffective. For example, DEP requires its employees to complete certain checklists. The majority of those checklists were either incomplete or missing.

- **DEP does not document whether its Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permitting programs are protecting the environment.** One of the stated purposes of both permitting programs is protection of the environment, however, we found that DEP does not have policies and procedures in place for the Chapter 102 program to ensure continued environmental protection after a project is terminated, unless a complaint is filed. Additionally, DEP has no mechanisms in place to collect, compile, analyze, and report data that may be used to measure environmental effects for all types of permits in both programs. Further, DEP does not systematically monitor whether a Chapter 102 Notice of Termination (NOT) has been submitted and approved. The NOT represents a final inspection of the project site to ensure compliance with Commonwealth laws, regulations, and the approved permit application.

- **DEP has not sought an increase in fees to supplement funding for either permitting program.** DEP has traditionally funded the Chapter 102
and Chapter 105 programs with a combination of state general funds, federal funds, and program fees. We found that DEP has not sought an increase in fees to supplement funding for either permitting program. DEP is mandated, by regulation, to issue fee reports for the Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permitting programs. The reports may be used to request an increase in fees. DEP failed to issue a Chapter 102 fee report when it was last mandated to do so. DEP issued the Chapter 105 report, but did not propose an increase in fees.

- **DEP has undertaken three major initiatives to improve the program.** The Permit Decision Guarantee Program (essentially an update of the former Money-Back Guarantee Program) is designed to establish a standardized review process and processing times for permits. We found that DEP and the CCDs have not met PDG timeframe requirements when complete and technically adequate applications have been submitted. The percentage of complete and technically adequate permit applications reviewed and disposed within the maximum review days exceeded 90 percent in only one of five permit types.

  The Regional Project Coordination Office (RPCO) is designed to provide “synchronized and consistent reviews and approvals for general to complex projects.” The RCPO has been in place for almost two years and has only recently begun reviewing projects.

  DEP has developed an ePermitting system to streamline the process of permit application and approval. The roll-out of this program has been problematic.

- **Our report contains 16 recommendations.** The recommendations are designed to address conflicting interpretations of application requirements; provide effective administrative control and guidance; ensure protection of the environment; and ensure eligible applications are approved within the guaranteed time frames.
A Report on Standardized Tests in Public School

Background:
Act 2018-322 (SR 322) directed the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) to conduct a study and provide a report on standardized tests in public schools.

Summary of Findings:

❖ **Standardized test defined.** A “standardized test” is “any form of test that requires all test takers to answer the same questions, or selection of questions from a common bank of questions, in the same way, and that is scored in a standard or consistent manner, which makes it possible to compare the relative performance of individual students or groups of students.”

❖ **The modern standardized testing movement in the United States began with the enactment of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA).** ESEA was followed by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) that reauthorized and amended ESEA by mandating annual testing in reading, math, and science subject to strict federal oversight. In 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) repealed NCLB and reauthorized and amended ESEA by shifting power back to states and local school districts to determine how to improve troubled public schools.

❖ **The origins of Pennsylvania standardized testing and state assessments can be traced back to the enactment in 1963 of the School District Reorganization Act (Act 1963-299).** In 1999, the foundation of Pennsylvania’s modern assessment system was laid when the State Board adopted Chapter 4 Academic Standards and Assessment regulations. The Pennsylvania state assessment system consists of six tests: PSSA, Keystone Exams, PASA, ACCESS for ELLs, CDT, and NAEP (all, except the CDT, are both state and federally mandated).

❖ **Pennsylvania’s school districts administer numerous other standardized tests.** These other exams (e.g., ACT, ASVAB, DIBELS, and SAT) are either voluntarily or mandatorily administered at the discretion of local school districts.

❖ **The majority of principals and teachers indicated they do not consider the PSSA exam or Keystone Exams to be effective indicators of student achievement, teacher evaluation, or school building performance.** Greater percentages of respondents, both principals and teachers, indicated they neither agree nor disagree regarding the effectiveness of Keystone Exams versus the PSSA exams in measuring performance.

❖ **Both principals and teachers indicated curriculum scope has been narrowed to prepare students for PSSA exams and Keystone Exams.** The majority of principals and teachers indicated students are taught test-taking skills and administered practice tests in relation to the PSSA exams and Keystone Exams.

❖ **PDE indicated, in general, Pennsylvania state standardized tests continue to meet their intended uses to assess whether students are learning required content.** However, the assessments have been used at times for additional purposes beyond their original intent (e.g., graduation requirements, measuring teacher effectiveness, school building performance) with varied levels of success.
It is unlikely a transition to a nationally recognized high school assessment would result in the need for realignment of state academic standards as each individual state is authorized to establish its own academic standards and employ assessments. A number of states using the ACT or SAT tests for high school assessment purposes have submitted for USDE peer review. Although the ACT or SAT may not align point for point with a state’s specific academic standards, the states using these tests maintain these tests are reasonably aligned for federal assessment purposes.

Pennsylvania’s VAAS can provide growth measures using ACT or SAT at the district and school levels using prior PSSA tests to set the expected scores of students. Teacher growth measures, however, cannot be provided using ACT or SAT.

Accommodations are tools and procedures that provide equal access to instruction and assessment for students with disabilities. Accommodations do not reduce expectations for learning. Generally speaking, accommodations do not impact the validity of assessments or the validity of the test as a growth measure as long as the state adheres to the recommended processes for developing the assessments and the state’s accommodation policies.

A small number of opt-outs could impact Pennsylvania’s Future Ready PA Index rating system. Federal law specifies that state and local laws are not preempted from allowing parents to have their children opt-out of assessments.

A Study of Pennsylvania’s Dairy Industry

Background:
Senate Resolution 384 (2018 session) directed the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) to conduct a study on the past, present, and future issues impacting dairy producers and the dairy industry. Our report reviews the historical context of milk regulation (federal and state), and the key difficulties confronting the dairy industry. We also make recommendations to improve the fairness, potential, and oversight of Pennsylvania’s milk market.

Summary of Findings:
Pennsylvania dairy producers are experiencing an ongoing crisis. Dairy producers (farmers) are paid on a “hundred weight” basis, which is approximately 11 gallons of milk. Dairy pricing has always been cyclical, but over the past five years—the longest period in recent memory—dairy producers have faced continuous low milk prices for their product.

Low dairy prices can be attributed to oversupply. It is difficult to identify any one factor that is leading to oversupply. Experts agree that there is too much supply for existing demand. Demand is weak as a result of declining consumption of fluid (beverage) milk, which is likely attributable, in part, to the upsurge of plant-based milks. International trade practices also contribute to the weak demand for dairy-related products. Supply is high because of modernization and efficiencies in production and processing. Additionally, in Pennsylvania, despite low producer prices, production actually increased as producers tried to recoup previous losses. Although this trend ceased in 2018, it also contributed to the oversupply of milk.

The dairy industry is very complex and involves a complicated interplay between federal and state orders, regulations, and laws.
Historically, dairy producers were subject to unfair business practices, which created instability in the market. To protect producers and ensure a steady supply of milk at fair prices, the federal government created a series of Federal Milk Marking Orders (FMMOs). Portions of Pennsylvania are covered by two separate FMMOs. Additionally, in 1937 Pennsylvania enacted the Milk Marketing Law (Law), which provides additional regulatory protections for milk transactions occurring within Pennsylvania’s borders. The Law is administered by the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board (PMMB), a three member board, which sets minimum milk prices at the producer, processor (wholesale), and retail level. Another important aspect of the PMMB, is the setting of the over-order premium (OOP), which is an additional fee payable to Pennsylvania dairy producers on fluid milk. Pennsylvania is the only state with this type of added premium on fluid milk sales. We found the PMMB provides an important and necessary function for Pennsylvania producers.

- **Pennsylvania’s dairy industry is important to the state’s economy.** The dairy industry is the number one segment of Pennsylvania’s agricultural economy. We calculated various economic impacts and found that every cow generates approximately $16,864 in direct economic benefits. Further, the industry supports more than 45,000 jobs, with total wages of over $1.8 billion.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. **Regulate Plant-based Milks as a Class V Milk Product.** Federal product identity requirements are not enforced—a significant unfairness to dairy producers. The Law may provide a pathway to correct this unfairness, and a fee would also provide needed revenue to fund the PMMB’s duties.

2. **Clarify Milk Date Coding Requirements.** Fluid milk in Pennsylvania currently has an unnecessary 17 day “sell-by” date—the second strictest of any state.

3. **License Milk Retailers to Capture More Detail About Milk Sales in Pennsylvania.** Actual data on retail sales would better inform future decision-making.


5. **Aid the Development/Construction of Cheese Plants.** Large leads in capacity are already held by Wisconsin and California, but if Pennsylvania can attract new plants, the potential exists to increase demand for milk.

6. **Further Develop Pennsylvania’s Identity and Uniqueness for Fluid Milk.** Recent efforts are a good first start, but a broader campaign is also necessary.

7. **Expand the Size of the Milk Marketing Board.** Expanding to five members would allow more inclusivity from all segments of the dairy industry.

8. **Change the Name of the Milk Marketing Board.** Milk Control Board better suits the duties of the Board.

9. **Improve the Transparency and Distribution of the PMMB’s Over-Order Premium.** Many producers are unsure how much of the OOP they actually receive. Further, some of the OOP may be “stranded” because the milk originated, or was sent for processing, outside of Pennsylvania’s borders.
SECTION IV
2019 PROJECTS READY FOR RELEASE, IN PROCESS, OR ASSIGNED

Senate Resolution 20 (Baker) - A Senate Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of the impact of venue for medical professional liability actions on access to medical care and maintenance of health care systems in this Commonwealth and requesting that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court delay action on the proposed amendment to Pa.R.C.P. No. 1006. This report is currently in process and due for completion and release in early February 2020.

Act 2019-20 (Senate Bill 712) Fiscal Code - The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee shall evaluate the environmental impact and any impact upon residents of this Commonwealth from any regulation impacting single-use plastics, reusable plastics, auxiliary containers, wrappings or polystyrene containers and submit a full report of its findings to the General Assembly. This report is currently in process and due for completion and release in July 2020.

Senate Resolution 48 (Phillips-Hill) - A Senate Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a review of the compliance of telecommunication carriers with the high-speed broadband deployment mandates of the Public Utility Code and to report findings and recommendations to the Senate. This report is currently in process and due for completion and release in spring 2020.

Senate Resolution 105 (Stefano) - A Senate Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of the statutory cap on the Pennsylvania State Police complement and issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the Senate. This report is currently in process and due for completion and release in spring 2020.

HR 507 (Hahn) - A House Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study and issue a report analyzing the current Pennsylvania health and human services hotlines and their cost to the Commonwealth. This report is currently in process and due for completion and release 210 days after its adoption on November 19, 2019.
SECTION V
REPORTS COMPLETED SINCE 1981
(Sunset & Non-Sunset)

1981

1. Annual Report of the Pennsylvania Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/81

2. Funds of the Commonwealth - Fifth Edition - 3/81

3. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 3/81


7. Nuclear Power Plants, Survey of Pennsylvania State Agencies Regarding Activities Intended to Protect Persons and Property From Dangers Associated With - 8/81


9. MAMIS and the Timeliness of Medical Assistance Payments to Service Providers - 12/81

1982

10. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Annual Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/82

11. Electric Light Usage in State Office Buildings - 1/82


13. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 3/82

14. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Performance Audit, Planning Guide for the (Developed by Price Waterhouse) - 4/82
15. Relations Between the Department of Public Welfare and Service Providers: Information and Comments From Medical Service Providers in Pennsylvania - 11/82

16. The Motor Carriers Road Tax Identification Marker (IM) Requirements: Administration and Enforcement Practices and a Discussion of Violations - 12/82

1983

17. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Annual Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/83


19. State Board of Examiners of Architects, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/83

20. State Board of Auctioneer Examiners, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/83


22. State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/83

23. State Board of Funeral Directors, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/83

24. State Board of Landscape Architects, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/83

25. State Board of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, Dealers and Salesmen, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/83

26. State Real Estate Commission, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/83


28. Supplement to # 27 above (Results of LB&FC Questionnaire to Counselor and District Administrator Staff of the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation) - 2/83

29. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 3/83

30. Governor's Veterans Outreach and Assistance Centers (GVOAC) Program, Report on an Analysis of Services Provided by the - 6/83

32. State Board of Barber Examiners, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 7/83
33. State Board of Cosmetology, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 7/83
34. Crime Victim's Compensation Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 7/83
35. Hazardous Substances Transportation Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 7/83
36. Pennsylvania Savings Association Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 7/83
37. Citizens Advisory Council to the Department of Environmental Resources, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 11/83
38. Environmental Quality Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 11/83
39. Labor Relations Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 11/83
40. Securities Commission, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 11/83
41. State Board of Private Trade Schools, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 11/83

1984

42. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Annual Report Submitted to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/84
43. State Farm Products Show Commission, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 2/84
44. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Interim Report Supplement #1 - Report on Study Activities and Methodologies Conducted by Project Consultant Firms During the Preliminary Survey Phase of the Performance Audit - 2/84
45. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Interim Report Supplement #2 - Report on Background Information on the Department of Transportation Developed by Project Consultant Firms During the Preliminary Survey Audit Phase of the Performance Audit - 2/84
47. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Volume II of an Interim Report: Commentary of the Department of Transportation in Response to the "DOT Performance Audit Interim Report" - 2/84
48. State Workmen's Insurance Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 2/84
49. PA Bridge Inspection Programs and Activities, LB&FC Staff Assessment of - 3/84
50. Milk Marketing Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 3/84
51. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation: Audit Follow-Up Report by Price Waterhouse on Electronic Data Processing Security and Control Improvements Accomplished by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation - 3/84

52. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/84

53. Report #1 - Report by Price Waterhouse on the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Equipment Management/Procurement Process


55. Report #3 - Report by Price Waterhouse on the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Organizational and Functional Framework

56. Report #4 - Report by Day and Zimmerman, Inc., on the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Productivity Improvement Efforts and Performance Measures

57. Report #5 - Report by Northwest Institute of Research on Certain Aspects of Driver License Suspension Procedures

58. Report #6 - Report by Deloitte Haskins & Sells on the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Monetary Relationship with Contractors

59. Report #7 - Report by Deloitte Haskins & Sells on the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Audit Planning and Risk Assessment

60. Report #8 - Report by the LB&FC Staff on Selected Issues Relating to Programs and Operations of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

61. State Dental Council and Examining Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 8/84

62. State Board of Medical Education and Licensure, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 8/84

63. State Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, A Sunset Performance Audit of - 8/84

64. State Board of Podiatry Examiners, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 8/84


66. State Board of Chiropractor Examiners, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 12/84

67. Human Relations Commission, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 12/84
68. State Board of Pharmacy, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 12/84
69. State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 12/84
70. Board of Probation and Parole, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 12/84
71. State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 12/84

1985

72. Annual Report of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Submitted to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/85
73. Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, A Sunset Performance Audit of the - 2/85
74. Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/85
75. Housing Finance Agency, A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania - 2/85
A Sunset Performance Audit of the PA Liquor Control Board (Volumes I - IV) - 2/85
76. Volume I - LB&FC Staff Sunset Performance Audit Report
77. Volume II - Report by Price Waterhouse on State Store and Warehouse Distribution Operations of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board
78. Volume III - Report by Deloitte Haskins & Sells on Financial Projections and Certain Other Factors Concerning the Continuation, Termination or Modification of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board State Store System
79. Volume IV - Report by Deloitte Haskins & Sells on an Examination and Evaluation of the Licensing Function of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board
80. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Nurse Examiners - 2/85
81. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators - 2/85
82. A Sunset Performance Audit of State Board of Optometrical Examiners - 2/85
83. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Psychologist Examiners - 2/85
A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Volumes I and II were Released 2/85 and Volume III was Released 5/85)
84. Volume I - LB&FC Staff Sunset Performance Audit Report
85. Volume II - Report by Touche Ross & Company on Review of Rate-Making Process

86. Volume III - Supplemental Report by LB&FC Staff on PUC Activities in Response to Changes in the Telephone Industry

87. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/85

88. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Commission on Charitable Organizations - 6/85

89. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Conservation Commission - 6/85

90. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Crime Commission - 6/85

91. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency - 6/85

92. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Harness Racing Commission - 6/85

93. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Horse Racing Commission - 6/85

94. A Report on Low-Bid Rejections in the Department of Transportation Contract Award Process - 6/85

95. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing - 6/85

96. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Transportation Commission - 6/85

97. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Public Welfare - 6/85


99. Audit of the Budget of the Pennsylvania Game Commission - 11/85

100. Information about the Sunset Performance Audit Process (Update) - 11/85

1986


103. Report on a Study of Issues Related to Truck Safety Enforcement in Pennsylvania - 1/86

104. Report on a Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Program - 1/86
105. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/86
106. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Private Academic Schools - 6/86
107. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Private Business Schools - 6/86
108. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Private Correspondence Schools - 6/86
109. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Education - 6/86
111. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission - 6/86
113. Report on an Evaluation of the Commonwealth's Liability for and Response to Unsafe Road Conditions - 6/86
114. Interim Report on a Study of Pennsylvania's Certificate of Need Program - 8/86
115. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Ethics Commission - 9/86
116. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission - 9/86
117. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Industrial Board - 9/86
118. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority - 9/86
119. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Minority Business Development Authority - 9/86
120. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Veterans' Commission - 9/86
121. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation - 9/86
122. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Civil Service Commission - 11/86
123. Report on an Audit of the FY 1985-86 Budget of the Pennsylvania Game Commission - 11/86
124. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency - 12/86
125. Interim Report on a Study of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program - 12/86
126. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Parkway Commission - 12/86
1987

127. Annual Report of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Submitted to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/87

128. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Department of Aging - 2/87

129. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Art Commission - 2/87

130. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission - 2/87


133. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Planning Board - 2/87

134. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board for Certification of Sewage Enforcement Officers - 2/87

135. A Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board for Certification of Sewage Treatment Plant and Waterworks Operators - 2/87

136. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission - 2/87


138. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/87

139. Interim Report on a Performance Audit of the Administration of Pennsylvania's Subsidized Child Day Care Program - 6/87


141. Interim Report on a Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania State Lottery - 6/87

142. Report on Follow-Up Study of Truck Safety Enforcement in Pennsylvania - 6/87

143. Report on a Study of the Feasibility of State Funding of an Anti-Rejection Medication (Cyclosporine) for Pennsylvania-Resident Organ Transplant Patients - 7/87

144. Follow-Up Study Concerning the Legal Status of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission - 7/87

145. Performance Audit of the Weatherization Programs in Pennsylvania - 7/87
146. Report on a Performance Audit of the Administration of Pennsylvania's Subsidized Child Day Care Program - 9/87

147. Follow-Up to Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Performance Audit of the Emergency Medical Services Funding Provisions of Act 1985-45 - 9/87

148. Supplement to #147 Above (Response of the PA Department of Health to the Follow-Up Report) - 9/87

149. Report on a Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania State Lottery - 9/87

150. Follow-Up Monitoring of Truck Safety Enforcement - 9/87


152. Interim Report on a Performance Audit of the PA Department of Corrections - 10/87


154. Interim Report on a Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department - 12/87

155. Report on an Evaluation of Commonwealth Truck Weight Enforcement Efforts - 12/87

1988

156. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Annual Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/88


160. Report on a Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections - 4/88

161. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/88


164. Report on a Performance Audit of the Environmental Hearing Board - 6/88

165. Report on a Performance Audit of the PA Department of Corrections - Volume II - 6/88
166. Study of Computer "Viruses" and Their Potential for Infecting Commonwealth Computer Systems - 9/88

167. Report on the PA Job Service Coordination With Other Related Agencies and Proposed Job Service Act - 9/88


1989

172. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Annual Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/89

173. Report on Salary Levels and Their Impact on Quality of Care for Client Contact Workers in Community-Based MH/MR and Child Day Care Programs - Volume I - 2/89

174. Report on Salary Levels and Their Impact on Quality of Care for Client Contact Workers in Community-Based MH/MR and Child Day Care Programs - Volume II - Comments from Provider Agencies - 2/89

175. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Office of Consumer Advocate - 2/89


177. An Examination of the Pennsylvania Logo Signing Program - 3/89


181. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/89
182. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania MILRITE Council - 6/89

183. A Report on a Follow-Up Audit of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission - 9/89


185. Interim Report on a Performance Audit of the PA Department of Transportation - Volume I - Planned Areas of Audit Review - 10/89

186. Interim Report on a Performance Audit of the PA Department of Transportation - Volume II - Status of Recommendations 1983-84 PennDOT Performance Audit and Subsequent LB&FC PennDOT Evaluations - 10/89


1900

188. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Annual Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly - 1/90


190. Report on a Study of the Need for and Availability of Transportation Services for Persons with Disabilities - 4/90

191. An Evaluation of Pennsylvania Department of Health Drug Abuse Treatment Programs - 4/90

192. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/90

193. A Performance Audit of the PA Department of Transportation - 6/90

194. A Sunset Performance Audit of the Public Employee Retirement Study Commission - 6/90

195. Report on an Audit of the FY 1989-90 Budget of the PA Game Commission - 11/90


198. Report on Drug Law Enforcement Efforts in Pennsylvania - 12/90

199. Report on a Performance Audit of Select Commonwealth Management Controls for Drug Treatment and Prevention Programs - 12/90
1991

200. 1991 Annual Report to the General Assembly - 1/91

201. Report on a Sunset Performance Audit of the Public Utility Commission - 2/91

202. Report on a Sunset Performance Audit on the State Board of Optometry - 2/91


205. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/91

206. Performance Audit of the Health Department's Administration of the PA Head Injury Program - 6/91

207. Private Adoption Processes in Pennsylvania - 6/91

208. Study of the Administration of Commonwealth Veterans Programs - 10/91

209. Review of the Financial Health of Pennsylvania Hospitals Serving Disproportionately High Volumes of Medical Assistance Patients - 10/91

210. Sunset Performance Audit of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure - 10/91

211. Performance Audit of the Health Department Administration of the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund - 11/91

212. Evaluation of Adoption Processes for Children With Special Needs - 11/91

213. Fiscal Year 1990-91 Budget Audit of the Pennsylvania Game Commission - 11/91

214. Sunset Performance Audit of the Agricultural Farm Operations Advisory Committee - 11/91

215. Sunset Performance Audit of the Noxious Weed Control Committee - 11/91

1992

216. 1992 Annual Report to the General Assembly - 1/92


218. Performance Audit - Certificate of Need Program - Volume II (Technical Appendices) - 4/92
220. Performance Audit - Capitol Preservation Committee - 4/92
221. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/92
222. Performance Audit - Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board - Volume I - 5/92
223. Performance Audit - Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board - Volume II - 5/92
226. Fiscal Year 1991-92 Budget Audit of the PA Game Commission - 11/92
227. Performance Audit - Rail Freight Advisory Committee - 12/92
228. Performance Audit - Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education - 12/92
229. Performance Audit - Dog Law Advisory Board - 12/92
230. Performance Audit - Prof. Engineers and Prof. Land Surveyors Registration Board - 12/92
231. Performance Audit - Wild Resource Conservation Committee - 12/92

1993

232. 1993 Annual Report to the General Assembly - 1/93
234. Performance Audit - Pharmaceutical Assistance Review Board - 4/93
235. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/93
236. Performance Audit - State Board of Accountancy - 4/93
237. Performance Audit - Office of Small Business Advocate - 4/93
238. Evaluation of Pennsylvania's Tourism Promotion Programs - 6/93
239. Performance Audit - State Real Estate Commission - 9/93
240. Performance Audit - State Workmen's Insurance Board - 11/93
1994


243. Performance Audit - State Board of Funeral Directors (Volumes I and II) - 1/94
   Volume I - Performance Audit

244. Volume II - An Evaluation of Pre-Need Funeral Regulation in Pennsylvania

245. Performance Audit - State Board of Vehicle Manufacturers, Dealers and Salespersons - 3/94

246. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/94

247. Commonwealth Programs and Initiatives for Pregnant and Parenting Teens - 4/94


251. State Lottery Funding of Programs and Services for Older Pennsylvanians - 6/94

252. Affordability and Availability of Auto Insurance in Southeastern PA - 11/94


1995

256. 1995 Annual Report to the General Assembly - 1/95


258. Costs and Consequences of the June 1994 Fire in the Transportation and Safety Building - 3/95

259. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/95

260. Dropout and Truancy Prevention Programs and Efforts - 4/95

261. PA Minority Business Development Authority (PMBDA), Pursuant to HR 25 - 5/95

262. Status of Siting a Regional Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility in Pennsylvania - 5/95
263. BP&OA Disciplinary Actions Since the Lyness Decision - 10/95

264. Funds of the Commonwealth: A Report on the State’s Special Funds - 10/95

265. Pennsylvania Game Commission, FY 1994-95 Budget Audit - 11/95

266. A Status Report on Pennsylvania’s Weights and Measures Program - 12/95

1996

267. Performance Review of the Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Programs - 1/96

268. Annual Report to the General Assembly - 1/96

269. A Review of Juvenile Justice Programs and Services in Pennsylvania - 1/96

270. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/96

271. Study of the Medical Professional Liability Catastrophe Loss Fund - 6/96

272. Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation - 6/96

273. Review of the Certificate of Need Program - 11/96

274. A Review of the Commonwealth’s Early Intervention Programs - 11/96


1997

276. Annual Report to the General Assembly - 1/97


278. The Fiscal Impact on Counties of the Pennsylvania Voter Registration Act - 3/97

279. Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission Performance Audit Report I
    Implementation of Act 61 Turnpike Improvement & Extension Projects - 4/97

280. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/97

281. State Farm Show Complex Performance Audit - 6/97

282. Review of County 911 Expenditures - 6/97

283. Toll-Free Telephone Program at the Center for Local Government - 6/97
284. Turnpike Commission, Performance Audit Report II - 7/97
286. Performance Audit of the Children’s Trust Fund - 11/97
287. The Commonwealth’s Year 2000 Computer Problem - 12/97

1998

290. A Performance Audit of the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund - 2/98
292. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 4/98
293. Study on Civil Service Reform - 4/98
294. A Performance Audit of the Department of Community and Economic Development - Community Development Programs - 7/98
295. An Audit of the PA Fish and Boat Commission’s Budget - 7/98
298. Independent Evaluations in the Birth to Age Three Early Intervention Program – 9/98
299. A Reexamination of Pennsylvania’s Weights and Measures Program – 11/98

1999

300. 1998 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/99
301. Salary Levels and Their Impact on Quality of Care for Client Contact Workers in Community-Based MH/MR Programs – 2/99
302. The Distribution of State Aid to Volunteer Firefighters’ Relief Associations – 2/99
303. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 3/99
305. Salary Levels and Their Impact on Quality of Care for Child Care Workers in Licensed Child Day Care Programs – 6/99

306. Commonwealth Efforts to Assure Quality of Care in the Changing Health Care Environment – 6/99


308. A Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing – 10/99


2000

310. 1999 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/00

311. Ben Franklin/IRC Partnership, Sunset Audit of the - 1/00

312. PA Voter Registration Act, Status of State and County Efforts to Implement the - 2/00

313. Pennsylvania Game Commission Compliance With Its Strategic Plan - 2/00

314. Commonwealth Funding of Mental Retardation Programs - 3/00

315. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest - 3/00

316. Child Support Statewide Collections and Disbursement Unit, Performance Audit of the - 6/00

317. Crashes Involving Large Trucks on Pennsylvania Highways, State Government Efforts to Reduce - 7/00

318. Business and Consumer Bankruptcies, Representation of State Interests in - 7/00

319. Factors Affecting Motor Fuel Prices and the Competitiveness of PA’s Motor Fuels Market - 10/00

320. Department of Community and Economic Development’s Economic Development Programs - 10/00

321. Adequacy of Fees Charged in Pennsylvania’s Instant Check System for Firearms Purchases - 12/00

322. Long-Term Care Pharmacy Dispensing Costs - 12/00

323. Study of Costs and Services in Pennsylvania’s County Adult Probation System - 12/00
2001

324. 2000 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/01

325. The Accuracy of State Sales Tax Charges on Selected Consumer Items – 1/01

326. The Feasibility of Retrofitting High Rises, College Dorms, and Certain Other Buildings With Fire Sprinklers – Volume I – 1/01

327. The Feasibility of Retrofitting High Rises, College Dorms, and Certain Other Buildings With Fire Sprinklers – Volume II – 1/01

328. Medical Assistance Payments to Hospitals – 3/01

329. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest – 3/01

330. A Review of Pennsylvania’s Tourist Signing Programs – 5/01


332. A Follow-Up Study of the Need for Additional Pennsylvania State Troopers – 6/01

333. A Review of Traffic Congestion Trends and Related Mitigation Efforts – 9/01

334. A Follow-Up Performance Audit of the Statewide Child Support Collections and Disbursements Unit – 9/01

335. A Financial and Management Review of the PIAA – 12/01

336. Commonwealth Regulation of Taxicab and Limousine Services – 12/01

2002

337. 2001 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/02

338. Legislative Budget and Finance Committee Statistical Digest – 3/02

339. Assessing the Reliability of Pennsylvania’s Electric Transmission and Distribution Program – 6/02

340. Funding and Service Delivery Levels in Pennsylvania’s Vocational Rehabilitation Program – 6/02

341. Performance Audit: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation – 7/02
342. Approaches Used in Other States to Provide School Property Tax Relief and Possible Options for Pennsylvania – 7/02

343. 2002 Review of PIAA Finances and Management – 11/02

2003

344. 2002 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/03

345. PA Game Commission Compliance With Its Strategic Plan – 2/03

346. Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services in a Managed Care Environment – 6/03

347. Providing Prescription Drug Coverage for Low and Moderate Income Senior Citizens – 6/03

348. The Status of “Project Link-to-Learn” and Other Educational Technology Initiatives – 6/03

349. Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission’s Implementation of Chapter 30 – 6/03

350. A Review of Large Truck Crashes Involving Fires on Pennsylvania Highways – 6/03

351. An Assessment of the Need for an Adult Protective Services Program – 10/03


353. Volume 2 - Supplemental Information Compiled for Purposes of the HR 15 Merger Study – 11/03

354. The Status of DCNR’s Efforts to Improve the PA State Park Reservation and Revenue System – 12/03

2004

355. 2003 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/04

356. The Feasibility of Placing Public School Employees Under the Commonwealth’s Jurisdiction for the Purpose of Providing Health Benefits – 2/04

357. Commonwealth and Local Government Efforts to Ameliorate Blight – 3/04

358. Pennsylvania’s Response to Current and Projected Shortages in the Nursing Workforce – 4/04

359. Transferring Enforcement of Fish, Boat, and Game Laws to a Single Executive Branch Agency – 4/04
360. Study of the Pittsburgh Development Fund (PDF) – 5/04

361. Review of the Effectiveness of the Civil Service System in County Government – 10/04

362. An Examination of Costs and Test Prices in the “Drive Clean Pennsylvania” Emissions Inspection Program – 10/04

363. Feasibility and Potential Structure of a County-Based DUI Victim Impact Panel Program – 11/04

364. PUC Filing and Reporting Requirements on Local Exchange Carriers – 11/04

2005

365. 2004 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/05

366. Pennsylvania’s Workers’ Compensation System Compared to Nearby States – 2/05

367. DCNR Implementation of the Grants Portion of the Snowmobile and All-Terrain Vehicle Program – 2/05

368. Long Term Care for the Elderly in Pennsylvania – 4/05

369. Quality Assurance for Specialized Clinical Services – 4/05

370. The Feasibility of Regionalizing Pennsylvania’s Volunteer Fire Companies – 6/05

371. Review of the Operation and Structure of County Conservation Districts – 6/05

372. A Study of the Potential Economic, Social, and Other Impacts of Expanding Sunday Hunting in Pennsylvania – 6/05


374. Considerations for Regulating Surplus Accumulation and Community Benefit Activities of Pennsylvania’s Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans – 6/05

2006

375. 2005 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/06

376. The Adequacy of Fees Charged in Pennsylvania’s Instant Check System for Firearms Purchases – 2/06

377. State Funding Formulas in Pennsylvania – 2/06
379. Reimbursement for Educational Services for Adjudicated Youth in Private Residential Facilities – 3/06
380. PA Game Commission Compliance With Its Strategic Plan – 3/06
381. A Program and Operational Review of the PA State Police’s Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement – 6/06
382. Pennsylvania’s Mental Health System for Children and Youth – 6/06
383. Potential Costs and Impacts of HB 130 (Early Retirement Incentives) and HB 131 (COLA Increases) – 6/06
384. Motorcyclist Injuries and Fatalities Since the 2003 Repeal of the Mandatory Helmet Law – 6/06
385. The Cost to Pennsylvania’s Economy Resulting From School Starting Before Labor Day – 9/06
386. Commonwealth Services for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired – 9/06

2007

387. 2006 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/07
388. Performance Audit of the Public Utility Commission – 2/07
389. Various Aspects of Colorectal Cancer Screening – 2/07
390. Medicaid Reform Efforts in Other States and Their Applicability to Pennsylvania – 3/07
392. An Assessment and Cost Review of Personal Care Homes in Pennsylvania – 4/07
393. A Study of the Cost-Effectiveness of Consolidating Pennsylvania School Districts – 06/07
394. Performance Evaluation of Pennsylvania’s Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Program – 06/07
396. Lessons Learned From Three Mental Health Diversion and Post-Release Programs – 10/07
397. A Comprehensive Study and Review of Veteran Services in Pennsylvania – 10/07
399. Growth in Medicaid Enrollment and Expenditures – 12/07

2008

400. 2007 Annual Report to the General Assembly – 1/08
402. Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission – 3/08
403. A Review of the Commonwealth’s Strategic Sourcing Initiative in Procuring Goods and Services – 5/08
404. Feasibility of Requiring Shared-ride Services During Evenings and Weekends and for Intercounty Travel – 5/08
407. Economic Impact of the Proposed Greater Hazleton Air Cargo Airport – 6/08
408. A Performance Audit of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation – 6/08
410. State Efforts to Fund Assisted Living Services – 6/08
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422. PA Film Production Tax Credit and Industry Analysis – 6/09
423. An Evaluation of the Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) Program – 7/09
424. Preliminary Report on Pennsylvania’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program – 7/09
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428. Statewide Complement Levels of Probation and Parole Officers – 2/10
429. Examination of Current and Future Costs and Revenues From Forest Products and Oil, Gas, and Mineral Extraction on Pennsylvania Game Commission Lands – 2/10
430. The Deer Management Program of the Pennsylvania Game Commission – 2/10
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437. Fiscal Impact of Preferential Assessment of Farm and Forest Land (Clean and Green Program) – 9/10

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439. A Performance Audit of Pennsylvania’s Medical Assistance Transportation Program for Methadone Maintenance – 2/11

440. Cost and Funding Models of a State-led Virtual Learning Program – 2/11

441. The Impact of Slots Gaming on the Pennsylvania State Lottery – 4/11


443. Adequacy of Fees Charged in Pennsylvania’s Instant Check System for Firearm Purchases – 5/11

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452. Pennsylvania Game Commission Compliance With Its Strategic Plan – 2/12

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521. An Interim Report on the Establishment of the Northern Pennsylvania Regional College – 6/18

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