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October 23, 2020

Latest News

FDA Approves First Treatment for COVID-19

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved the antiviral drug Veklury (remdesivir) for use in adult and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older for the treatment of COVID-19 requiring hospitalization. Remdesivir is only to be administered in a hospital or healthcare setting comparable to inpatient hospital care. Remdesivir is the first treatment for COVID-19 to receive FDA approval. [Click here](#) for more.

IFO: Retail Spending, Job Growth and Income Up

The Independent Fiscal Office has released its [Monthly Economic Update](#) for October 2020. Articles include June retail spending increases, personal income growth in the second quarter, Pennsylvania decrease in state GDP, and employment statistics.

Wolf Asks LCB to Waive Liquor License Fees and Local Share

The PLCB is reportedly evaluating its authority to waive fees and could act as early as next week. However, some legislators are questioning whether the PLCB has the authority to implement the proposal and waive statutorily established license fees without legislative action.

If the fees are waived, it appears that the host municipal share of these fees would be waived as well, which would impact townships that host these facilities. However, few details of the proposal were released. [Click here](#) for past municipal license fee disbursements.

Gov. Tom Wolf announced the proposal to waive liquor license fees to provide financial relief to restaurants and bars. Wolf is working with the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board to waive standard licensing fees through 2021, beginning January 1. More than 16,000 Pennsylvania restaurants and bars, clubs, catering clubs, and hotels would receive \$20 million in relief under the proposal. [Click here](#) to read more.

The governor's announcement comes just a few days after he vetoed **HB 2513**, which would have allowed all restaurants to operate at 50% indoor capacity or greater, reopened bar service, eliminated the requirement to purchase meals with alcoholic beverages, and allowed the Liquor Control Board to temporarily extend the licensed premises to outdoor dining areas upon request.

The state House attempted to override the veto on Tuesday, but fell a 3 votes shy of the needed two-thirds vote.

Deadline For In-Person Early Voting or Mail-in Ballot Near

Secretary of State Kathy Boockvar reminded Pennsylvanians the deadline to apply for a mail ballot or to vote in-person early at a county election office is 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 27, but voters should not wait and should apply as soon as possible. [Click here](#) for more details.

Learn

[Basic "Virtual" Training For Secretaries And Administrators - Oct. 26 & Nov. 2, 2020](#)

This virtual training class will be offered in two half-day sessions. This is your opportunity to learn from acknowledged experts about all the most important issues township secretaries and managers need to know, right from the comfort of your desk. Topics covered will range from budgeting, purchasing, advertising and meeting management all the way to human resource issues and public engagement. Attendance for both sessions qualifies for 6 PMGA Administration points. [Click here](#) to register.



[Flagger Training](#)

This instructor-led Flagger Training will be conducted for individuals who have flagging responsibilities on ANY ROAD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Others who would benefit from this course include: utility companies working on low volume roads, law enforcement personnel, municipal managers and elected officials (to understand the importance, and for budgeting purposes). This class is eligible for 2 PMGA Public Works points. Click here on a location below to register.



[10/27/20 - Washington County](#)

[11/2/20 - Lycoming County](#)

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