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May 25, 2022

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## Latest News

### **Reminder: Volunteer Fire Departments Turnout Gear Applications Due June 1**

MSA, DuPont Personal Protection, and the National Volunteer Fire Council are providing 52 volunteer fire departments with four sets of new, state-of-the-art turnout gear and helmets. Departments must be over 50% volunteer, serve a population of 25,000 or less, demonstrate a need for the gear, and be a member of the NVFC. The application deadline is **June 1**. [Click here](#) for more.

### **Today in History....**

On May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy announced to Congress his goal of sending an American to the moon by the end of the decade and asked for financial support of an accelerated space program. He made the task a national priority and a mission in which all Americans would share, stating that it would not be one man going to the moon — it would be an entire nation.

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## Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate will be in session today, May 25. Watch the session live [here](#).

Below is a summary of yesterday's legislative action of interest to townships.

The Senate Law and Justice Committee amended and reported out [SB 669](#), which would require municipalities to permit full-time police officers who have satisfied vesting requirements to purchase pension credit for prior part-time or full-time police service that the officers provided to another police department. PSATS opposes this legislation based on a standing resolution as an unfunded mandate.

The House passed [HB 2550](#), which would create the Traffic Signal Modernization Pilot Program to provide grants to municipalities for the installation of traffic signal technologies on existing signals, including sensors to monitor traffic and optimize the timing of signals, synchronization of multiple signals, and connectivity of signals.

The House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee approved a package of bills that would make it easier to clean streams of debris to prevent flooding. PSATS supports these bills, which would address PSATS resolutions.

[HB 2404](#) would allow municipalities to apply for continuous maintenance permits for streams within their jurisdiction for at least 10 years.

[HB 2405](#) would create county programs to remove obstructions and address flood-related hazards within streams through emergency maintenance permits in consultation with their county conservation district.

[HB 2406](#) would create a small stream maintenance project permit for the mitigation of flood-related hazards of less than 250 linear feet or an area of less than one acre in size, reviewed and issued by county conservation districts.

[HB 2407](#) would clarify that the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission has no authority for permitting or enforcement related to stream clearing or maintenance activities. This authority shall belong solely to the Department of Environmental Protection and county conservation districts.

[HB 2408](#) would eliminate the requirement for a permit when conducting maintenance activities on a culvert.

[HB 2409](#) would eliminate the requirement for a permit to remove flood-related hazards from streams that are deemed to be an emergency by a state or county.

[HB 2410](#) would clarify that permits are not required for stream maintenance activities conducted 50 feet or less upstream or downstream from a bridge or culvert.

[HB 2411](#) would require the state Department of Environmental Protection to provide an annual report on flooding and stream maintenance and restoration in Pennsylvania.

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## Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.



### [Duties Of A Zoning Hearing Board - 6/22/22 - Lehigh County](#)

Topics to be covered include procedures for deciding variances and special exceptions, handling hearing-related questions, Ethics Act requirements and much more. Attendees will also learn specific, practical tips that will leave them better prepared for their next meeting or hearing.

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### **Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors**

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