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July 1, 2022

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## Latest News

### **PennDOT Undecided on Appealing Bridge Tolling Plan End**

The Commonwealth Court granted a petition for summary relief and has determined that the state Department of Transportation's plans to toll and rebuild nine major bridges under the Major Bridge P3 Initiative across the state are void, having been approved in violation of the Public-Private Transportation Partnership Board. The injunction is due to a challenge by local governments against the tolling of a bridge crossing I-79. [Click here](#) to read the opinion.

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

On July 1, 1863, the Battle of Gettysburg began. As one of the largest military conflicts in North American history, the Union and Confederate forces collided at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The epic battle lasted three days and resulted in a retreat to Virginia by Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.

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## Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate are expected to be in session today, July 1. Watch the session live [here](#).

Yesterday was the deadline for completion of the 2022-2023 commonwealth budget, and the General Assembly and governor have now pushed past the required deadline in the Pennsylvania Constitution.

**The Senate passed the following bills yesterday:**

[HB 2157](#), which would reform the Fireworks Law to **allow municipalities to enact conditions and limitations on the use and sale of consumer fireworks** that do not conflict with state law. Specifically, municipalities could require permits for the use of consumer fireworks, except for certain holidays, and prohibit the use of consumer fireworks in a community if it is not possible to use these devices without being within 150 feet of a building or vehicle. The bill would address PSATS resolutions. HB 2157 will now go back to the House for concurrence on Senate amendments.

[SB 849](#) would **amend the Veterans Preference Act** to require service members to complete their first term of service with “other than a dishonorable discharge.” SB 849 will now go to the governor.

[HB 1952](#) would identify and fund legacy infrastructure projects in each county to celebrate the **United States Semiquincentennial**, spearheaded by the state commission, America250PA. HB 1952 will now go to the governor.

[HB 2097](#) would set the **minimum staffing for a Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance** in a county of the fifth, sixth, seventh, or eighth class as an emergency medical service (EMS) vehicle operator and an EMS operator that is an emergency medical technician (EMT) or above. The bill will now go back to the House for concurrence on Senate amendments.

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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.



### **Emergency Management Fall Exercise Forum**

This class provides an interactive opportunity to engage in tabletop exercises taught by knowledgeable professionals that reflect real-world experiences and situations.

[9/15/22 – West \(Westmoreland Co.\)](#)

[9/29/22 – PSATS \(Cumberland Co.\)](#)

[10/13/22 – East \(Montgomery Co.\)](#)

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**PSATS offices will be closed  
Monday, July 4, 2022 in observance of  
Independence Day!**

**The Morning News will return on Tuesday,  
July 5. Happy Independence Day  
everyone!**



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

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