



SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 411 Printer's No. 332

Prime Sponsor: Senator Dominic Pileggi
Committee: State Government

SYNOPSIS:

Amends the Right-to-Know Law (Law) to provide for certain exemptions, technical and clarification adjustments.

SUMMARY:

Revises the Law to:

- Ensure inmates access to records related to themselves and their incarceration, but otherwise limit their right to file requests;
- Add "campus police" to the definition of "local agency" so that they are covered by in the same manner as municipal police departments;
- Clarify that if a requested public record exists in a specific computer file format, the agency must provide the record in that format;
- Clarify that certain tax forms are "personal financial information" and not public;
- Expand the definition of "local agency" to include economic development authorities and industrial development authorities; PA Interscholastic Agency Association is also considered a local agency;
- Allow requests to be made to the head of an agency in addition to an agency's open-records officer;
- Clarify that an agency's bank account numbers, bank routing numbers, credit card numbers or passwords are not public;
- Conform the definitions of "state-affiliated entity" and "independent agency" to other statutes;
- Make changes to the time frame for the appeal process;
- Clarify that the OOR may conduct in-camera record reviews;
- Require the OOR to abstain from public comment on pending proceedings;
- Allow agencies to charge reasonable fees for processing commercial requests.

Effective Date: 60 Days.

AMENDMENT A02480 (PILEGGI)

This is a technical amendment.

AMENDMENT A02401

Provides for an increase in public access to budgetary, personnel and contract information pertaining to State-Related Universities (Penn State, Pittsburgh, Temple and Lincoln). The legislation does not affect existing, statutory exclusions related to privacy or similar legal protections required under law. Additionally, it clarifies that the state related institution must present the salaries of the faculty members in ranges of no more than \$75,000.

BILL HISTORY:

Referred to Senate State Government, February 5, 2015

Prepared by: Dando 6/23/2015