



# GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

From Milliron and Goodman Government Relations, LLC, Harrisburg, PA

**Berks County  
Water & Sewer**  
ASSOCIATION

August 30, 2020 – Issue 123

## Gov. Wolf Calls on Legislature to Act Immediately on COVID-19 Recovery and Government Reform

On August 25, 2020, Governor Tom Wolf presented his fall legislative agenda for worker and family support and protections, COVID-19 recovery, and government reform. The initiatives were introduced to focus the General Assembly after a spring and summer of Republican efforts to curtail the administration's efforts to manage the pandemic and keep the public safe.

"House and Senate Democrats have been fighting for progress to protect families and businesses in these spaces since the beginning of the pandemic, but they have been stopped at every turn by the Republican majority focused on ignoring the public health crisis," Gov. Wolf said. "That must stop now. The legislature must come back and take immediate steps to provide funding to frontline workers and businesses, put in place protections for families and our workforce, and make these commonsense reforms that can provide confidence

in our government. Pennsylvanians need relief, they need reform, and they need it now."

Gov. Wolf called on the legislature to take immediate action on a series of proposals including: **Relief and Protection for Workers and Families**

Families and workers throughout Pennsylvania are still struggling from the effects of COVID-19. The legislature must act to help provide hazard pay for frontline workers, more child care options, and safe workplaces for all Pennsylvanians.

### **Hazard Pay for Frontline Workers**

\$225 million to increase hazard pay to Pennsylvania workers, using the overall structure of the current PA Hazard Pay Grant Program administered through the Department of Community and Economic Development. This funding would cover a \$3.00/hour increase for 208,000 frontline workers across the commonwealth.

### **Providing PPE to Frontline Workers**

The governor is proposing \$10 million for a PPE Reimbursement Program for employers to cover the cost of masks, face shields, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizers and soaps, and other industry-specific PPE in accordance with the Department of Health,

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations

Workers must have access to safety equipment and cleaning materials, and workspaces must be sanitized regularly to protect workers and customers. This program would provide grants of up to \$5,000 in reimbursements for Pennsylvania-based small businesses with fewer than 150 employees, and for counties who make PPE available to election workers.

### **Expanding Access to Child Care**

The governor is proposing a significant investment in child care, including \$250 million for families with school-aged children in need of child care because of blended or remote in-person instruction models. The governor is also proposing \$27 million to expand child care options in "deserts," where few providers currently exist.

The governor's proposal also includes \$50 million in grants to part-day school-age programs serving low-income communities to support necessary health and safety updates and infrastructure to facilitate remote learning for school districts not returning to in-person instruction.

### **Paid Parental Leave for All Pennsylvanians**

The governor announced the commonwealth's new paid parental leave proposal, which will offer six weeks of paid leave to commonwealth employees who have been employed for a year or more. This leave will be separate and apart from any accrued sick or paid time off that the employee may have earned. The governor also called on the legislature to pass paid family and sick leave.

### **Helping Schools Deliver the Promise of Education**

The governor is proposing \$3 million for institutions of higher education to partner with local education agencies (LEA) to support educators during the 2020-21 school year. The goal of these partnerships is to provide targeted professional development and reduce learning gaps.

## **Providing Housing and Utility Assistance**

The Pennsylvania Utility Commission (PUC) recently reported that at least 800,000 utility customers across the state are currently in active termination status and would be at risk of having their electricity, water, or gas shut off had the PUC not implemented a termination moratorium at the start of COVID.

The governor is proposing \$100 million in grants to be divided between the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and a new emergency water/wastewater program administered by PENNVEST to assist residential customers who would be subject to termination of service when the current PUC moratorium on terminations is eventually lifted.

The governor is proposing \$100 million to be used to expand the PA Housing Finance Agency CARES Rent Relief Program to provide additional financial assistance on behalf of low- to moderate-income renters experiencing difficulty making rent payments as a result of the pandemic. Assistance will continue to be made available in the form of a grant and funds will be paid directly to landlords or property owners.

The governor is also calling on the legislature to increase the current \$750 per month cap on assistance to renters, which has limited participation in the program, by instead linking assistance to the federal HUD index.

## **Providing Recovery for Small Businesses**

By providing hundreds of millions of dollars of additional grants and loans for Pennsylvania businesses, the legislature can take immediate action to help Pennsylvania's economic recovery. The legislature should also provide relief for bars and restaurants by canceling the alcohol tax and allowing businesses to buy at cost. Over time, this funding can be supplemented by legalizing recreational marijuana and dedicating a portion of the funding to historically disadvantaged businesses.

## **Grants and Loans for Businesses**

Gov. Wolf is proposing \$225 million in forgivable loans and grants to small businesses in Pennsylvania through the COVID-19 Relief Statewide Small Business Assistance Program. In addition, the governor is proposing \$100 million in forgivable loans and grants for the hospitality, leisure, and service industries, including restaurants and bars, salons, and barber shops. This funding will provide critical working capital financing to the commonwealth's small businesses adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Alcohol Tax Cancellation or Reduction**

The governor is calling on the General Assembly to pass legislation to revitalize Pennsylvania's hospitality, leisure, and service industry by offering alcohol-tax cancellation or reduction for six months, and allowing the hospitality industry to purchase alcohol at or near cost for six months.

### **Recreational Marijuana Legalization to Fund Ongoing Business Grants and Restorative Justice**

The governor is calling on the legislature to legalize recreational marijuana with the proceeds going to existing small business grant funding. Fifty percent of the funding would be earmarked for historically disadvantaged businesses. Along with the call to the General Assembly to pass legislation legalizing the sale and use of recreational marijuana, the governor proposes that a portion of the revenue be used to further restorative justice programs that give priority to repairing the harm done to crime victims and communities as a result of marijuana criminalization.

Also, the governor wants the General Assembly to pursue criminal justice reform policies that restore justice for individuals convicted of marijuana-related offenses.

### **Reforming Government, Protecting Elections**

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the heightened need for government reform. Gov. Wolf knows we need immediate reforms to our election and voting systems so that people can vote safely, and broader government reforms so Pennsylvanians

know that their state elected officials are working on behalf of them and not special interests.

### **Banning Gifts for Public Officials**

Gov. Wolf banned members of his administration from accepting gifts and believes that all public officials should be held to the same standard. Pennsylvania is one of 10 states with no specific law limiting gifts to public officials. Outside the executive branch, politicians in Harrisburg can take unlimited gifts from special interests. The governor wants the gift ban he put in place to be made permanent and expanded so all state elected officials are accountable to it.

### **Curbing Special Interest Influence**

Pennsylvanians need to have confidence that decisions made by their government are made on behalf of constituents, not rewards for the special interests with the deepest pockets.

- *Campaign Finance Reform* - Enacting new campaign finance laws that would place limits on contributions to candidates seeking elected office, implement aggregate limits for races, place sensible restrictions on Political Action Committees (PACs), and strengthen reporting and disclosure requirements across the board to restore confidence in government, and curtail the role of campaign spending in our political process.
- *Outside Income Transparency* - Requiring public officials to disclose sources, type of work, and amount of outside income received.

### **Ensuring Safe and Secure Elections**

The governor is asking the General Assembly for legislation to allow ballots to be counted as long as they are postmarked on Election Day and received by the Friday after the election.

Also, he is calling on the legislature to allow the pre-canvassing of ballots 21 days before the election, while providing counties flexibility to fill vacant poll worker positions earlier than the five days prior to an election currently allowed.

The funds for these initiatives would come from the \$1 billion in CARES Act funding that has been placed in reserves, as well as the revenue generated from the legalization of recreational marijuana, which will take an act of the General Assembly to become law.

"If we want our economy to become strong again, the legislature needs to take action now," Gov. Wolf said.

Source: Governor Wolf's Press Office, 8/25/2020

## PA House Majority Leader Benninghoff responds to Gov. Wolf's "fall legislative agenda"

Pennsylvania House Majority Leader Kerry Benninghoff (R-Centre/Mifflin) responded to Gov. Wolf's "fall legislative agenda" announcement with the following statement:

"Gov. Wolf has spent the last six months turning his back on the people's representatives in the General Assembly despite our numerous attempts to work with him to fight this pandemic. It is disingenuous for this governor to put forward an unaffordable legislative agenda and require taxpayers to bail him out of his unilateral mandates that have devastated their lives and livelihoods.

"The House Republican Caucus will return to session next week to begin working on Pennsylvania's priorities of getting people safely back to work and providing for their families, ensuring the best educational opportunities for our children, and finding the normalcy Pennsylvanians have long-desired."

Source: Rep. Benninghoff Press Release, 8/25/2020

## Corman Says 'Fall Agenda' Announcement Shows

## Governor Not Interested in Working with Legislature

Senate Majority Leader Jake Corman (R-34) issued the following statement after Governor Wolf revealed his "fall agenda" during a news conference.

"For more than six months, the Governor has lorded over Pennsylvania through Executive Order and today he wants to dictate to the legislature through press release. It appears as if the Governor is starting the fall campaign now after it's become clear that legislative Democrats are feeling the pressure of Governor Wolf's decisions to implement some of the most restrictive economic shutdown measures in the country and create an autocracy.

"Governor Wolf has not been in the Capitol in months. He has not even held a call with legislative leaders since July. The Governor is clearly not interested in governing. If he were, he would have reached out to legislative leaders at some point during the summer to discuss a fall agenda. Instead, he sends out a political document and takes partisan shots at elected officials.

"We continue to be open to productive discussions despite Governor Wolf's priority of providing campaign cover for House and Senate Democrats instead of governing."

Senate Republicans have shown through their **accomplishments** <https://www.pasenategop.com/senate-passed-legislation/> this year that they stand ready to confront the ongoing challenges of the state with a commitment to protecting public health and preserving civil liberties.

Source: Senator Corman Press Release, 8/25/2020

## A Chamber Calls on Governor to Add Targeted COVID-19 Liability

## Protections to his Fall Agenda

**P**A Chamber of Business and Industry President and CEO Gene Barr issued the following statement in response to Gov. Tom Wolf's press conference outlining his fall agenda.

"The re-opening of the economy and start of the school year has brought a wide range of challenges as restrictions and safety guidelines remain in place to combat the COVID-19 virus. Across the Commonwealth, businesses, nonprofits, child care and academic facilities and the medical community have invested tremendous resources, time and energy in order to adhere to these guidelines and operate in a safe manner. Those who have made this investment should proceed with confidence that they will not be targeted with unwarranted lawsuits brought by opportunistic plaintiffs' attorneys seeking to capitalize on this pandemic. Pennsylvania employers are already being targeted, including some for safety policies the governor himself has directed the business community to enforce. This ongoing litigation threat puts Pennsylvania at risk for additional economic and societal hardships.

"That's why local chambers from across the Commonwealth and associations representing a wide range of constituencies - including advocates for children, nonprofits, the United Way, pediatricians, colleges and universities, school districts and small businesses - have united in calling for limited COVID-19 liability protections. These protections will encourage best practices by safeguarding those operating in good faith to comply with safety requirements, while still holding bad actors accountable.

"Limited liability protections are a critical component to moving Pennsylvania forward through the next phase of this pandemic. We urge Governor Wolf to stand with Pennsylvania's business, nonprofit, local government, child advocacy, education and medical communities and support these commonsense protections."

**Source:** PA Chamber Press Release, 8/25/2020

## PA Senate Democrats & Small Businesses Rally behind Legislation Supporting Business Interruption Insurance Claims

**O**n August 27, 2020, state Senators Iovino, Street, Brewster, Schwank, and Hughes joined members of the Commonwealth's small business community via Zoom to advocate for bipartisan legislation that would help Pennsylvania businesses file claims on their business interruption insurance policies, a potential source of funds that could help prevent businesses from being forced to close their doors. Business interruption insurance is coverage that replaces income lost in the event that business is halted due to a disaster. Since the pandemic and resulting shutdown, many Pennsylvania small businesses have sought financial relief by filing claims on their business interruption insurance policies, only to be denied due to ambiguous insurance policy language.

"To confront the most daunting economic challenge of our time, we need to put in place every available option to provide safety nets and recovery tools to support our businesses and our economy - and that includes business interruption insurance," said Senator Pam Iovino (D - Allegheny & Washington). "Businesses that have consistently paid their business interruption insurance premiums expect their insurance coverage to provide security during a time of need. They need to know that a lifeline they planned for is available and within reach, and this bipartisan bill would do just that."

Senator Iovino's legislation, **Senate Bill 1127** <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/billInfo/billInfo.cfm?sYear=2019&sInd=0&body=s&type=b&bn=1127>, is designed to clarify Pennsylvania law and specifically applies to businesses with business interruption coverage that contains a "civil authority" clause. These clauses provide protections when government action, typically taken in response to a natural disaster or similar life-threatening event, prevents the business from

operating. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has characterized the pandemic as a "natural disaster and a catastrophe of massive proportions." Also, the legislation would clarify that the presence of COVID-19 in a community constitutes "property damage."

Under this legislation, businesses would not receive additional payment beyond what their existing coverage permits. Insurance companies would not be mandated to immediately pay claims - the normal claims review process would take place before any payments are made.

Senate Bill 1127 was referred to the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee on April 30. The next step in the legislative process would be a Senate hearing.

"The economic damage caused by the pandemic is something our communities have never faced," said Senator Sharif Street (D - Philadelphia). Small businesses are the foundation of economic ecosystems throughout communities in the Commonwealth, we must do all we can to sustain them. As Democratic Chair of the Banking & Insurance committee I am committed to working with Chairman Scavello (R) to convene a hearing pending growing reports of businesses across communities having their insurance claims denied. This bill will ensure that we protect the small businesses that drive our economy which have been interrupted through no fault of their own. I'm proud to join Senator Iovino, a leader in this bipartisan effort. "

"Businesses that have paid insurance premiums to financially protect themselves when there is an interruption in operations - such as when the coronavirus pandemic struck - shouldn't have to struggle when a claim is made," said Senator Jim Brewster (D - Allegheny & Westmoreland). "Entrepreneurs and small business owners rely on insurance to cover these types of situations.

Covering losses from situations beyond the control of businesses is exactly why you buy and pay for insurance. There should be no problems when operations are suspended and claims are filed."

Lori Poe, who co-owns The Tandem Connection Bike & Running Shop in Washington County with her husband, said "if we were able to get some reimbursement from our insurance company for the business interruptions and loss of our second store, it would help us stay above water in the winter months when we are typically very slow. We appreciate Senator Iovino, her staff, and other legislators going to bat for the small businesses in our area."

"As President/CEO of the Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce, one of the largest regional chambers in the Commonwealth, I feel compelled to advocate and to support legislation that is specifically designed to add a 'lifeline' to our small business community devastated by the pandemic," said Chris Heck. "Financial relief should not be denied to those due to ambivalent insurance policy language. We support Senate Bill 1127, introduced by our PA Senator, Pam Iovino." "There's no doubt about it - small businesses in Pennsylvania are suffering," Senator Judy Schwank (D - Berks) said. "These businesses, which have done everything we've asked of them, should not be further penalized by their insurance carriers because of vague language."

Jack Goodrich, a Pittsburgh attorney who specializes in business interruption insurance claims, said that "all we want to do is protect the small business owners that are the backbone of this country. They paid their premiums for years and deserve compensation now for their business losses through no fault of their own."

"Small businesses all across Pennsylvania are bearing an undue share of the economic collapse caused by the coronavirus pandemic," said state Senator Vincent Hughes (D - Philadelphia & Montgomery). "Taking action on business interruption insurance is a must. We should be providing every option possible to help their survival and recovery because they are the backbone of our economy."

A downloadable video of today's virtual press conference can be accessed **here** <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/MG9FM6MSqr>.

Source: Senate Democratic Caucus, 8/27/2020

## SRBC Talks with Pa. House Speaker Bryan Cutler

Staff from the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) and Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Bryan Cutler had the opportunity recently to talk river basin issues during a virtual meeting hosted by SRBC on August 21, 2020.

SRBC staff highlighted a few Commission activities: its partnership with the Lancaster County Planning Commission toward better understanding of water supply needs and sustainability, and the Commission's efforts with the Chester Water Authority to work collaboratively on ways to mitigate water use that is currently being diverted from the Octoraro reservoir and Susquehanna River to the Delaware River Basin.

Representative Cutler hails from the 100th Legislative District in Lancaster County, which stretches between the Susquehanna River and the Octoraro Creek, a region rich with issues related to water quality and quantity in the river basin. With family roots at his present home dating to the 1800s, Cutler hunts and fishes and has been a longtime supporter of organizations involved in creek restoration.

Speaker Cutler instills in his children many conservation principles. "We are borrowing our world from our children," said Cutler, "and we need to be better stewards."

When asked by Executive Director Andrew Dehoff what Cutler would like to see happen regarding an update to the State Water Plan or Chesapeake Bay restoration, the Speaker responded that his concerns include sediment behind the Conowingo Dam and the continued issue of legacy sediments in our local streams (the accumulation of sediment along stream corridors after centuries of intensive land use of upland areas).

Cutler, in turn, shared upcoming legislative challenges and his insights into budgetary shortfalls as a result of COVID-19 economic impacts.

In June 2020, Representative Cutler was elected by his colleagues to serve as the 139th Speaker of the House, having previously serving as the Majority Leader. At age 45, he is among the youngest to be elected House Speaker.

Source: SRBC Press Release, 8/25/2020

## Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant Program; Grant Opportunity

The Department of Environmental Protection's Energy Program Office announced an opportunity for innovative, advanced fuel and vehicle technology projects that result in cleaner alternative transportation to apply for grants under the Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant (AFIG) program.

All applications must be submitted **online** <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/GrantsLoansRebates/Alternative-Fuels-Incentive-Grant/Pages/default.aspx>. Hardcopy applications will not be accepted. Applications must be received by 4 p.m. on Friday, December 11, 2020.

For more information call the Energy Programs Office at (717) 705-0374 or visit the department's **website** <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/Energy/Transportation/Pages/Alternative-Fuels.aspx>. Additional information can be found in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

Source: Pennsylvania Bulletin, 8/29/2020  
<http://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pabull?file=/secure/pabulletin/data/vol50/50-35/1177.html>

## Pennsylvania Shares Update on COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring Dashboard, County

# Transmission Levels, Cases Traced to Businesses

On August 24, 2020, Governor Tom Wolf and Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine released a weekly status update detailing the state's mitigation efforts based on the COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System **Dashboard** <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>. Updates will be released each Monday.

The update includes the following:

- Level of community transmission as a basis for the recommendations for Pre-K to 12 schools to determine instructional **models** <https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/Pages/DeterminingInstructionalModels.aspx>.
- Cases that reported visiting a business among potential locations where exposures may have occurred.
- Updated travel recommendations.

The dashboard is designed to provide early warning signs of factors that affect the state's mitigation efforts. The data available on the early warning monitoring dashboard includes week-over-week case differences, incidence rates, test percent-positivity, and rates of hospitalizations, ventilations and emergency room visits tied to COVID-19. This week's update compares the period of August 14 - August 20 to the previous seven days, August 7 - August 13.

"Our percent positivity decreased significantly this week, representing the fourth straight week that the percent positivity has decreased," Gov. Wolf said. "This is a testament that our actions are working, but we still have more work to do. The virus is still circulating, and we must continue to wear masks, practice social distancing and avoid large gatherings to keep our numbers low, stop the spread and allow more freedom."

As of Thursday, August 20, the state has seen a seven-day case increase of 4,456; the previous seven-day increase was 5,598, indicating a 1,142-case decrease across the state over the past week.

The statewide percent-positivity went down to 3.4% from 4.0% last week. Counties with concerning percent-positivity include Perry (9.1%), Huntingdon (7.8%), Northumberland (7.3%), Indiana (7.1%), Union (5.9%), Susquehanna (5.7%), York (5.5%), Beaver (5.3%), and Blair (5.0%). Each of these counties bears watching as the state continues to monitor all available data.

## Community Transmission

As of Friday's data, Union County was the one county in the substantial level with several known sources of outbreaks fueling community transmission. The departments of Education and Health will speak with school district representatives in Union County to discuss the implications of this level of transmission.

For the week ending August 20, 21 counties were in the low level of transmission, 45 counties in the moderate level, with one with substantial transmission:

- **Low** - Bedford, Bradford, Cameron, Clarion, Clinton, Elk, Forest, Fulton, Greene, Jefferson, Juniata, McKean, Pike, Potter, Somerset, Sullivan, Tioga, Venango, Warren, Wayne, Wyoming
- **Moderate** - Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Berks, Blair, Bucks, Butler, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Clearfield, Columbia, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Fayette, Franklin, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lawrence, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mercer, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Snyder, Susquehanna, Washington, Westmoreland, York
- **Substantial** - Union

## Business Visits

The Department of Health is providing weekly data on the number of individuals who responded to case investigators that they spent time at business establishments (restaurants, bars, gym/fitness centers, salon/barbershops) and at mass gatherings 14 days prior to the onset of COVID-19 symptoms.

Of the 5,649 confirmed cases reported between August 9 and August 15, 45 percent (2,541) provided an answer to the question as to whether they spent time at a business establishment.

Of those who did provide an answer, 13 percent, or 320, answered yes, they visited a business establishment 14 days prior to onset of symptoms:

- 50 percent (159) of those who said yes reported going to a restaurant;
- 23 percent (75) of those who said yes reported going to some other business establishment;
- 17 percent (55) of those who said yes reported going to a bar;
- 8 percent (26) of those who said yes reported going to a gym/fitness center; and
- 12 percent (38) of those who said yes reported going to a salon/barbershop.

Of the 5,649 confirmed cases, 48 percent (2,710) answered the question as to whether they attended a mass gathering or other large event. Of the 48 percent, nearly 12 percent (326) answered yes to whether they attended a mass gathering or other large event 14 days prior to onset of symptoms.

Compared to data reported on **August 14** <https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/pennsylvania-shares-update-on-covid-19-early-warning-monitoring-dashboard-cases-among-businesses-age-groups/>, this week's data saw an increase in people who reported visiting a restaurant (50 percent vs. 47 percent), people who reported going to some other business (23 percent vs. 19 percent), and people going to a salon/barbershop (12 percent vs. 9 percent). Numbers went down for this week's data for going to a bar (17 percent vs. 24 percent), going to a gym/fitness center (8 percent vs. 10 percent). The number of those who attended a mass gathering

or other large event remained the same (nearly 12 percent).

Case investigator notes included frequent mentions of visits to bars and restaurants among positive cases. To better understand this emerging trend, on July 13 contact tracers began asking more specific questions on the types of businesses visited and if individuals attended a mass gathering, defined as more than 250 people in attendance outdoors or more than 25 indoors.

The numbers above highlight business settings and mass gatherings as possible sites for transmission. With less than half of those asked about what types of businesses they visited or if they attended a mass gathering responding to the question, the department is reminding Pennsylvanians that it is essential that people answer the phone when case investigators call and to provide full and complete information to these clinical professionals.

## Travel Recommendations

Also today, the Department of Health updated its travel recommendations <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>, originally announced on July 2, to remove Arizona from the list of states recommended for domestic travelers returning from to quarantine for 14 days upon return to Pennsylvania. No new states were added.

It is important that people understand that this recommendation is in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania. A concerning number of recent cases have been linked to travel, and if people are going to travel, we need them to take steps to protect themselves, their loved ones and their community, and that involves quarantining.

Gov. Wolf continues to prioritize the health and safety of all Pennsylvanians through the COVID-19 pandemic. Pennsylvanians should continue to take actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, regardless of in what county they live. This includes wearing a mask or face covering anytime they are in public. COVID-19 has been shown to spread easily in the air and contagious carriers can be asymptomatic.

**Source:** Governor Wolf's Press Office, 8/24/2020

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***This newsletter provides general information, not legal advice as to any specific matter. It should not be used as a substitute for appropriate legal advice.***