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Presented by *Greenlee Partners*

December 15, 2025



***The House
will convene for a
non-voting session
at 12pm.***

HISTORIC FUNDING

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) has awarded \$4 million in Cultural and Historical Support Grants to 177 museums and county historical societies across 59 counties. The program supports organizations with operating budgets over \$100,000 and at least one full-time professional staff, with awards ranging from \$4,000 to \$50,000 based on each group's budget size. PHMC says the funding is meant to strengthen general operations for museums and historical groups that do not receive support through other state programs.

THE SEQUEL

The U.S. Senate is preparing itself for another shutdown battle this January over extending healthcare subsidies as part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The previous shutdown was lifted on the promise that there would be bipartisan compromise on the matter. However, talks of extending ACA subsidies have stalled, leaving many to believe that healthcare premiums will increase by double digits and that another government shutdown is on the horizon.

RECLASSIFICATION PUSH

President **Donald Trump** is weighing a move to shift marijuana from its current federal classification as a high-risk drug to a lower category early next year. This change would ease regulations, expand medical research opportunities, and reduce tax burdens for

cannabis businesses. The proposal stops short of legalizing marijuana nationwide, though it aligns with steps already taken in more than two dozen states and reflects increasing political engagement from the cannabis industry.

CHA-CHING

Ahead of America's 250th anniversary, the U.S. Mint announced that it will be pressing new designs for coins (but not pennies) as part of the Semiquincentennial Circulating Coin Program. The dimes, quarters, and half-dollars with designs highlighting American iconography and different eras of American history will only be available in 2026.

SLOP ERA

Merriam-Webster has named “slop” its 2025 Word of the Year, reflecting growing public awareness of low-quality digital content generated by artificial intelligence. The word is used to describe mud or something of little value, but the term has evolved to also mean mass-produced AI content that appears polished but lacks substance or accuracy. Dictionary officials say the surge in interest shows people are becoming more critical of fake images, misleading videos, and AI-written material spreading online, signaling a broader push for content that feels more genuine and trustworthy.



Happy Birthday

- Former State Representative **Stephen Kinsey**
- Former State Representative **William C. Kortz II**
- **Dominic Pileggi**, Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Delaware County
- **David Anderson**, Senior Advisor of Government Relations, The Washington Center
- **Hans van Mol**, District Office Director, Speaker Joanna McClinton
- **Dan E. Stambaugh**
- **Lucy Kepp**



Committee Meetings

- (H) Intergovernmental Affairs and Operations – 10:00AM – To consider: HB 469, HB 513, HB 562, HB 802, HR 157, SB 686
- (H) Communications and Technology – 1:00PM - Public hearing on HB 1925



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