



Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors

National Society of Professional Surveyors

Fall 2026 Pennsylvania Affiliate Report

Report Date: October 14, 2026

Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors (PSLS) 2026 Officers/Directors:

President: Troy Leighty, PLS

President Elect: Don Groesser, PLS

Vice President: Brian Yorkiewicz, PLS

Secretary: Timothy Rojahn, PLS

Treasurer: Terry McMillen, Jr., PLS

Immediate Past President: Dylan Sites, PLS

NSPS Director: Michael Given, PLS

Association Management Consultant: Miller Wenhold Association Management (Executive Director –Kelly Ameen)

PSLS Member Report: Total of 769 Members as of September 18, 2026

Annual Surveyors' Conference and Board of Directors Meetings: The 2026 Annual PSLS Membership & Board of Directors meeting was held on January 12, 2026 to swear in the new officers. The 2026 PSLS Surveyors Conference was held January 11-14, 2026, at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA. PSLS offers the Webinar Wednesday program to help professionals keep current on new and existing technology, information, and other topics of interest during a one-hour period beginning at noon on the second or third Wednesday of each month. Education events can be found at: [EDUCATION | Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors \(psls.org\)](https://www.psls.org/education)

Pennsylvania Land Surveyors' Foundation: Each year the Pennsylvania Land Surveyors' Foundation gives over \$10,000 to deserving Pennsylvania residents who are attending associate and baccalaureate surveying engineering and surveying technology degree programs. The Foundation awarded the first half of \$20,500 in scholarships to five recipients for the fall semester of 2026 and the second half of the scholarships will be awarded at the PSLS Surveyors Conference on January 11, 2027. To date the Foundation has provided over \$442,900 in scholarships to students.

PSLS Legislative Updates:

First, we are working on the State Plane Coordinate System Law (HB 513), which was introduced by Representative Eric DaVanzo on February 4th, 2025 and was referred to the House Intergovernmental Affairs and Operations Committee. On December 15th, 2025 it was voted out of committee by a vote of 25-1. On June 3, 2026 it was referred to the Senate State Government Committee. It hit the Senate floor on June 30, 2026 for first consideration, July 11, 2026 for second consideration and has been re-referred to Appropriations on July 11, 2026. Our goal is to get this signed into law prior to the end of this Legislative Session which is the end of November. This legislation will replace the current Pennsylvania Coordinate System Law, P.L. 1223, No. 161, Cl.76. An update of this law is necessary to provide users with a new framework of planar coordinates that are aligned to the new geometric reference frame (AKA horizontal datum) in development by the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) and to allow those users of the State Plane Coordinate System (SPCS) to update/modernize their data while maintaining compliance with applicable Federal guidelines. There is a plan in place by NGS to modernize the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), which is the official definition of positional parameters including latitude, longitude, height, scale, gravity, and orientation throughout the United States. The new datum is known as the North American Terrestrial Reference Frame of 2022 and the Final definition and acceptance is expected to occur in 2025.



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Second, we are working on the Right-of-Entry. This legislation may be introduced by PSLS in the beginning of the 2026-2027 Legislative Session. This will grant surveyors and their subordinates the limited right-of-entry to the lands of others which are necessary to perform their work. This legislation will be similar to the West Virginia Law as referenced here: <https://codes.findlaw.com/wv/chapter-61-crimes-and-their-punishment/wv-code-sect-61-3b-1/>, with the following modifications: (E) Entry where no physical damage is done to property (1) in the performance of surveying to ascertain property boundaries, and (2) in the performance of necessary work of construction, maintenance and repair of a common property line fence, or buildings or appurtenances which are immediately adjacent to the property line and maintenance of which necessitates entry upon the adjoining owner's property.

Third, PSLS will be working on updating the Registration Law (Act of 1945). Once again, this may be introduced in the beginning of the 2026-2027 Legislative Session. This will be drafted with recommended revisions and explanations to the current NCEES Model Law.

Fourth, we will be supporting Senate Bill 399 (Statute of Repose), introduced by Senator Laughlin on March 6th, 2025 which amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidation Statutes, in limitation of time, further providing for construction projects. This will change the civil action or proceeding brought against any person lawfully performing or furnishing the design, planning, supervision or observation of construction, or construction of any private or public improvement to real property must be commenced within six years, not twelve years, after completion of construction of such improvement to recover damages for:

If an injury or wrongful death shall occur more than [ten] four and within [12] six years after completion of the improvement a civil action or proceeding within the scope may be commenced within the time otherwise limited, but not later than [14] eight years after completion of construction of such improvement.

PSLS will be supporting this legislation along with many other special interest groups. The key is getting both labor and trial lawyers on-board.

Fifth, we will be amending HB 873, which is an Act providing for an Erosion and Sediment control permit, for compliance, for annual report and for duties of DEP. This was introduced by Representative Zimmerman on March 11, 2025. This has been referred to the Environmental and Natural Resource Protection Committee.

Sixth, we will be opposing Licensure exemption (SB 215), which was introduced by Senator Lisa Baker, on February 3rd. This is the same piece of legislation, SB 1226, which she introduced near the end of the last legislative session. We were successful in preventing that Bill from coming out of the Committee. This legislation will provide a licensure exemption under the Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law for employees, contractors and agents of public utilities, electric cooperatives and telecommunications companies. Utilities, electric co-ops, and telecommunications companies utilize both employees and contractors for field work including, but not limited to vegetation management, pole attachments, line construction and asset management. Under current law, utility and telecommunications company employees are already exempted. This legislation would extend the exemption to their contractors and agents and include the related industries of electric co-ops and cable and broadband service providers. This exemption is critical to the rapid and efficient deployment of much-needed broadband services to underserved areas of the Commonwealth.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Given

Michael J. Given, PLS
NSPS Director Pennsylvania