

House Commerce Committee

06/08/2026, 10:00 a.m., Room 523, Irvis Office Building

By Derek Danneker, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider two bills and a resolution.

HB 2207, Prime Sponsor: Rep. Paul Friel (D-Chester) – (PN 2901) Amends Title 12 (Commerce and Trade), in small business first, further providing for capital development loans. Increases the cap for ag loans from \$400,000 to \$2,000,000. Effective in 60 days. The bill was unanimously reported as committed.

Rep. Friel said his bill is designed to support agriculture and small farms by aligning the small farmers' lending limits with loans for other small businesses under the Small Businesses First Program. He explained that under his legislation, the lending cap would be increased from \$400,000 to \$2 million. He added that the program will continue to maintain that the loan cannot exceed 50% of total capital for a project.

Minority Chairman Lawrence (R-Chester) thanked Rep. Friel for his work. He stated the Chester County Economic Development Council brought the issue to their attention. He noted the bill has the support of the Chester Delaware County Farm Bureau and the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

HB 2388, Prime Sponsor: Rep. Nate Davidson (D-Dauphin) – (PN 3223) The Pennsylvania Common Cents Act provides for rounding of certain payment sums paid by physical legal tender. Provides definitions. Provides the manner in which agencies that accept face-to-face, in-person sales or collections of physical legal tender must use to determine the total price of collections. Stipulates that the act does not apply to a payment method utilizing a payment other than physical legal tender, such as a check, debit card, credit card or electronic or digital payment. Effective immediately. The bill was unanimously reported as amended.

A03476, by Conklin, expands procedures for rounding and provides exceptions for exact change and payments in cash. The amendment was unanimously adopted.

On the amendment, Rep. Davidson said the bill originally had a narrower scope, which included taxes, doe licenses and water utilities, but the business community approached him because they wanted some clarity in their space.

Chair Lawrence said that after speaking with stakeholders, another amendment may be needed on the floor, but he will vote for it to move out of committee.

On his bill, Rep. Davidson thanked committee staff for their work. He said the legislation is necessary to help people understand how to handle transactions without the use of the penny. He noted that certainty is important for people who do not have banks or prefer not to use financial institutions.

Chair Lawrence described how he has talked to several people about how pennies are hard to find. He said a uniform approach to penniless transactions is a preferable choice.

HR 536, Prime Sponsor: Rep. Robert Matzie (D-Beaver) – (PN 3442) Resolution designating the week of October 11 through 17, 2026, as “Credit Union Week” in Pennsylvania. The resolution was unanimously reported as committed.