

# ATTORNEY GENERAL BUDGET HEARING WRAP

## Wednesday, February 26, 2025



### General Overview:

Pennsylvania Attorney General (AG) Dave Sunday and senior Office of Attorney General (OAG) staff testified before the House Appropriations Committee this morning. House Republicans directed questions toward the pressing issues of combating human trafficking, the law enforcement implications of the Governor's recreational marijuana proposal, and the significance of prosecuting cases of voter fraud and public corruption. Unfortunately, the House Democrat majority concluded the hearing by abandoning proper protocol and denying Republican members the opportunity to ask questions.

### Key Takeaways:

- AG Sunday articulated his commitment to keeping his office above politics and not using the criminal justice system to advance a political agenda.
- The AG echoed the committee's deep-seated concerns about human trafficking in Pennsylvania and discussed actionable ways to combat this scourge in the Commonwealth.
  - AG Sunday shared his office can use more tools to prosecute human traffickers and who use trafficking victims in the commission of other crimes.
  - Funding to combat human trafficking has been partly provided through private grants, but more state funding would allow for more resources.
  - Often, human trafficking cases come out of drug-related offenses.
- AG Sunday shared he has concerns with the governor's proposal for recreational marijuana, most notably the issue of driving under the influence.
- Committee members expressed dissatisfaction over the two-year statute of limitations on voter fraud cases in Pennsylvania. AG Sunday did not object to increasing the statute of limitations and committed to prosecuting voter fraud.
- AG Sunday reaffirmed his commitment to a robust consumer protection unit that protects seniors and defrauded citizens. Sunday also affirmed to committee members he will have a business-friendly office and keep their focus on bad actors.
- Committee members also shared concerns about crime levels in Philadelphia. AG Sunday stated his office is continuing to work with law enforcement to keep citizens and visitors safe.

### Notable Q&A:



Chairman Struzzi addresses the majority chair's breach of protocol in denying Republican members' ability to ask questions.



Rep. Eric Nelson inquires if AG Sunday believes the voter fraud statute of limitations should be increased from two years.



Rep. Thomas Kutz discusses combating Human Trafficking with AG Sunday.



Rep. Jeff Olsommer asks AG Sunday what his concerns are with the governor's recreational marijuana scheme.