



MANDATED SWIMMING POOL LIFEGUARDS

POSITION: The Pennsylvania Tourism & Lodging Association opposes legislation that would require lodging establishments to have lifeguards on duty.

BACKGROUND: Lodging operators in the Commonwealth have no higher concern or commitment than that of safeguarding guests and employees. Currently, Pennsylvania law does not require lodging establishments to provide lifeguards at swimming pools

On November 21, 2007, Representative John Evans (R-Erie) introduced legislation mandating that hotels, motels, resorts and campgrounds have lifeguards on duty during hours open to guests and for private functions. House Bill 2062 was referred to the House Tourism & Recreational Development Committee.

House Bill 2062 was a government mandate on lodging facilities that is not needed. Requiring these businesses to have a lifeguard on duty will place an undue burden on operators to secure and maintain qualified persons to act as lifeguards, In today's tight labor market, it is very difficult to hire lifeguards.

STATUS: The House Tourism & Recreational Development Committee did not consider the bill due to PTLA's effective lobbying efforts. The bill "died" in committee when the 2007-2008 legislative session ended on November 30, 2008.