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News From Around PA

The PA Supreme Court has refused to reconsider the case brought by Philadelphia against its own public transit system -- **SEPTA**. The city argues that SEPTA must adhere to its LGBTQ-inclusive Fair Practices ordinance, while SEPTA argues that as a state agency it has "sovereign immunity" from complaints handled by the Philly Human Relations Commission. The high court agrees, bringing the almost ten year lawsuit to an end.

Two dozen Drexel University alumni gathered to discuss ways the newly formed **LGBTQA Alumni Network** could become involved on campus. The new network is simply an extension of Drexel's "affirmation and visibility of LGBT communities" at the school.

After last week's delay of a similar resolution in the **PA Senate**, the PA House passed, by a vote of 182-11, a resolution designating June a "LGBT Pride Month."

Upper Dublin Township (Montco) is considering a new ordinance which would extend special protections to homosexuals, bisexuals and transgenders and create a human relations commission to enforce it. Next township meeting is July 11th.

Governor Wolf has signed into law legislation that chips away at the **Keystone Exams** requirement. It would eliminate the statutory requirement for the development and implementation of Keystone Exams in English Composition, Algebra II, Geometry, U.S. History, Chemistry, Civics and Government, and World History, and allow career and technical education students to meet their graduation requirements without demonstrating proficiency on the three currently implemented Keystone Exams (Algebra, Literature and Biology) if they complete grade-based requirements

for the associated academic content area.

At the urging of Senator Bob Casey, the **US Dept. of Health and Human Services** has restored a question on sexual orientation in an assessment survey.

News from National Scene

"Ten Commandments Judge" **Roy Moore** has announced his run for the US Senate. However, in the upcoming August 15th primary, the Senate Leadership Fund has put its weight behind the newly appointed Luther Strange, who was given the position by scandal-ridden Alabama Governor Robert Bentley shortly after Senator Jeff Sessions was confirmed to be US Attorney General. In addition, the Senate Leadership Fund has warned off potential contributors to Strange's competitors.

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