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## **News for Immediate Release**

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## Auditor General DePasquale Hails New Funding to Make Campuses Safer, Continues Work to Protect Students

**HARRISBURG** – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today praised Gov. Tom Wolf for his investment of nearly \$1 million in grants to address campus sexual assault at 38 colleges and universities, noting that the Department of the Auditor General is revisiting its latest performance audit on the issue.

"I'm very proud and supportive of Pennsylvania's leadership role in the 'It's On Us' campaign to help end sexual violence on campus," DePasquale said. "The grants announced by Gov. Wolf will help to raise awareness of how students can report sexual assault and the numerous resources designed to help survivors to recover."

DePasquale's 2015 performance <u>audit</u> examined the State System of Higher Education's ability to handle grievances and notices of discrimination related to sexual discrimination and sexual violence on campuses. The audit, which evaluated compliance with Title IX and the Clery Act, found the state system needed to make improvements in both areas.

"Title IX deals with a wide range of policies and procedures for preventing sexual violence and sexual discrimination in all aspects of college life," DePasquale said last summer when announcing plans to follow up on the 2015 audit. "The Clery Act requires an annual report on campus crime statistics for each state-owned university."

This follow-up special report will begin this year.

The Auditor General audits Pennsylvania's 14 state-owned and four state-related universities to review campus safety, background checks and compliance reporting for sexual misconduct.

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