The House convened at 11 a.m., e.d.t.

THE SPEAKER (MIKE TURZAI) 

PRESIDING

PRAYER

The SPEAKER. Representative Rothman has brought to us Rev. Michael Varvarelis of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral right here in Camp Hill, across the river.

Father Michael.

REV. MICHAEL VARVARELIS, Guest Chaplain of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Dear Lord, as I have the special honor and privilege to offer the opening prayer for the session of this blessed body of the House of Representatives of our great State of Pennsylvania, I would like to ask You to protect and guide each one of them and their families.

Lord, we, the citizens of this blessed State, are grateful for all the 203 bright, energetic, and motivated members of the House, who do their best for the common good of our State. As members of the House, they are leading our Commonwealth and keeping us safe, ensuring our progress while also introducing initiatives that benefit all of us, the residents of this great State of Pennsylvania.

On this special day, we Americans of Greek descent celebrate the 195th anniversary of the Greek independence. I wish to express to this honorable body, on behalf of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Camp Hill and the entire Greek community of the Greater Harrisburg area and our State, our deep appreciation for honoring today the victorious struggle of the Greek nation that happened in 1821.

Back then the Greeks trusted and believed in the principles of freedom, justice, and faith to You, O Lord. They regained their freedom after 400 years of slavery; then they were able to freely worship, to freely speak, to use their language, and to be able to protect, care, and provide for their families without the fear of their young sons being taken away to the army training camps of their oppressors. They regained their dignity. Thank You, Lord.

After hearing of the attacks on the innocent people in Brussels yesterday, our thoughts and prayers are with the families and the victims. Lord, strengthen them and provide them with Your grace, support, and comfort.

We pray and ask You, O Lord, to always protect our State and our homeland of America from any danger of terror, envy, and disorder. Please continue to guide our Representatives to always be proactive in keeping us safe, developing laws and necessary bills, and making decisions to ensure our progress and our future well-being. Bless this day to be a very meaningful and fruitful session, and all the sessions in the future to be always protective and rewarding.

Finally, we ask that You, Lord, bless each of the Representatives and their families. Guide their work in benefiting our people in our great State of Pennsylvania. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by members and visitors.)

The SPEAKER. Father, thank you for that really thoughtful prayer.

And as many of you may know, the original Gospels, of course, were written in Greek.

Both your historical and religious heritage are greatly appreciated here with us today. Thank you so much.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE, CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND TABLED

HB 1409, PN 3019 (Amended) By Rep. HARPER
An Act amending the act of November 10, 1999 (P.L.491, No.45), known as the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, in adoption and enforcement by municipalities, further providing for administration and enforcement.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

HB 1823, PN 3020 (Amended) By Rep. HARPER
An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, further providing for ordinances.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

BILL SIGNED BY SPEAKER

Bill numbered and entitled as follows having been prepared for presentation to the Governor, and the same being correct, the title was publicly read as follows:
SB 1064, PN 1402

An Act transferring roads between Hanover Township, Lehigh County, and the Department of Transportation.

Whereupon, the Speaker, in the presence of the House, signed the same.

HOUSE BILLS
INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 1921 By Representatives DAVIS, BOBACK, KINSEY, SANTARSIERO, COHEN, SCHLOSSBERG, McNEILL, ACOSTA, DAVIDSON, READSHAW, WATSON, DeLUCA, MURT, MAHONEY, MCCARTER, DRISCOLL and DONATUCCI

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for gambling policy in institutions of higher education.

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, March 23, 2016.

No. 1922 By Representatives DAVIS, BOBACK, KINSEY, SANTARSIERO, MULLERY, SAINATO, PASHINSKI, D. COSTA, COHEN, MATZIE, LONGIETTI, McNEILL, DAVIDSON, READSHAW, TALLMAN, DeLUCA, MURT, CONKLIN, MAHONEY, GIBBONS, MALONEY, BRIGGS, KIM, NEILSON, DONATUCCI and KORTZ

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth services, further providing for assistance to volunteer fire companies, ambulance service and rescue squads.

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, March 23, 2016.

No. 1923 By Representatives SANTORA, BENNINGHOFF, COHEN, D. COSTA, THOMAS, O’NEILL, COX, LONGIETTI, MILLARD, BAKER, MURT, SONNEY, DUSH, VEREB, KILLION, HABTART, KNOWLES, WHITE, BIZZARRO, HAHN, IRVIN, DAVIS, PICKETT, PAYNE, WHEELAND, READSHAW, NEILSON, DONATUCCI, STAATS, HICKERNELL, KOTIK, CALTAGIRONE, DiGIROLAMO, ELLIS, MARSICO, GOODMAN, GROVE, EVERETT, W. KELLER, REGAN and MAJOR

An Act designating a portion of State Route 2005 in Drexel Hill, Delaware County, as the Officer Dennis McNamara Memorial Highway.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, March 23, 2016.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The majority whip requests leaves of absence for the following members: Representative BOYLE of Philadelphia County for the day, Representative BRADFORD of Montgomery County for the day, Representative BRIGGS of Montgomery County for the day, Representative COHEN of Philadelphia County for the day, Representative DEAN of Montgomery County for the day, Representative Vanessa BROWN of Philadelphia County for the day, Representative Dom COSTA of Allegheny County for the day, Representative DeLUCA of Allegheny County for the day, Representative KINSEY of Philadelphia County for the day, Representative KIRKLAND of Delaware County for the day, Representative NEUMAN of Washington County for the day, Representative READSHAW of Allegheny County for the day, Representative ROEBUCK of Philadelphia County for the day, Representative SANTARSIERO of Bucks County for the day, and Representative THOMAS of Philadelphia County for the day. Without objection, those requests for leave will be granted.

MASTER ROLL CALL

The SPEAKER. The Chair is going to vote on the master roll. Members will proceed to vote.

The following roll call was recorded:

PRESENT–183

Acosta Fee Lewis Ravenstahl
Adolph Flynn Longietti Reed
Baker Frankel Mackenzie Reese
Barbin Freeman Mahler Regan
Barrar Gabler Mahoney Roae
Benninghoff Gayne Major Ross
Bizzarro Galloway Maloney Rothman
Bloom Gergely Markosek Rozzi
Boback Gibbons Marshall Saccone
Brown, R. Gillen Marsico Sainato
Bullock Gillespie Masser Samuelson
Burns Gingrich Matzie Sankey
Caltagirone Godshall McCarter Santora
Carroll Goodman McClinton Saylor
Causer Greiner McGinnis Schremel
Christiania Grove McNeill Schlossberg
Conklin Hahn Mentzer Schreiber
Corbin Hanna Metcalfe Schwoyer
Costa, P. Harhai Metzgar Simmons
Cox Harhart Mccarelli Sims
Cruz Harkins Millard Snyder
Culver Harper Miller, B. Sonney
Cutler Harris, A. Miller, D.斯塔
Daley, M. Harris, J. Milne Stephens
Daley, P. Heffley Moul Sturla
Davidson Helm Mullery Tallman
Davis Hennessey Murt Taylor
Dawkins Hickernell Mustio Tobash
Day Irvin Neilson Topeel
Deasy James Nesbit Toohil
Delissio Jozwiak O’Brien Topper
Delozier Kampf O'Neil Trout
Dermody Kauffer Oberlander Vetre
Diamond Kauffman Oritaj Vitali
Donatucci Kavulich Parker, D. Ward
Driscoll Keller, F. Pashinski Warner
Dunbar Keller, M.K. Payne Watson
Dush Keller, W. Peifer Wentling
Ellis Killion Petraca Wheatley
Emrick Kim Petri Wheeland
English Klunk Pickett White

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2016

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL—HOUSE 425

Evankovich Knowles Pyle Youngblood
Evans Kortz Quigley Zimmerman
Everett Kotik Quinn
Fabrizio Krueger Rader Turzai,
Farina Lawrence Rapp Speaker
Farry

ADDITIONS–0
NOT VOTING–0
EXCUSED–17

Boyle Costa, D. Hill Readshaw
Bradford Dean Kinsey Roebuck
Briggs DeLuca Kirkland Santarsiero
Brown, V. DiGirolamo Neuman Thomas
Cohen

LEAVES ADDED–2
Galloway Watson
LEAVES CANCELED–1
Hill

The SPEAKER. One hundred and eighty-three members being present today in the chamber, there is a quorum.

UNCONTESTED CALENDAR

RESOLUTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Ms. DONATUCCI called up HR 709, PN 2902, entitled:
A Resolution recognizing the month of March 2016 as "National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. ROTHMAN called up HR 721, PN 2914, entitled:
A Resolution designating March 25, 2016, as "Greek Independence Day" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. MACKENZIE called up HR 734, PN 2952, entitled:
A Resolution designating the month of March 2016 as "Greek-American Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania and recognizing the constructive role Greek Americans continue to play in the economic and cultural development of our nation and this Commonwealth.

* * *

Mrs. BULLOCK called up HR 758, PN 3004, entitled:
A Resolution recognizing the week of March 7 through 11, 2016, as "National School Breakfast Week" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Ms. BOBACK called up HR 760, PN 3005, entitled:

* * *

Mr. BRIGGS called up HR 762, PN 3007, entitled:
A Resolution recognizing the month of March 2016 as "National Athletic Training Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolutions?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS–183

Acosta Fee Lewis Ravenstahl
Adolph Flynn Longietti Reese
Baker Frankel Mackenzie Reece
Barbin Freeman Mahler Regan
Barrar Gabler Mahoney Roae
Benninghoff Gainey Major Ross
Bizzarro Galloway Maloney Rothman
Bloom Gergely Markosek Rozzi
Boback Gibbons Marshall Saccone
Brown, R. Gillen Marsico Sainato
Bullock Gillespie Masser Samuelson
Burns Gingrich Matzie Sankey
Caltagirone Godshall McCarter Santora
Carroll Goodman McClintion Saylor
Causer Greiner McGinnis Schremel
Christiania Grove McNeill Schlossberg
Conklin Hahn Mentzer Schreiber
Corbin Hanna Metcalfe Schwyer
Costa, P. Harhai Metzgar Simmons
Cox Harhart Micasarellis Sims
Cruz Harkins Millard Snyder
Culver Harper Miller, B. Sonne
Cutler Harris, A. Miller, D. Staats
Daley, M. Harris, J. Milne Stephens
Daley, P. Heffley Moul Sturla
Davidson Helm Mullery Tallman
Davis Hennessey Murt Taylor
Dawkins Hickernell Mustio Tobash
Day Irvin Neilson Toepel
Deasy James Nesbit Tootil
DeLissio Jozwiak O’Brien Topper
Delozier Kampf O’Neill Truit
Dermody Kauffer Oberlander Verryl
Diamond Kaufman Ortitay Vitali
Donatucci Kavulich Parker, D. Ward
Driscoll Keller, F. Pazinski Warner
Dunbar Keller, M.K. Payne Watson
Dush Keller, W. Peifer Westling
Ellis Kilion Petrarca Wheatley
Emrick Kim Petri Wheeland
English Klunk Pickett White
Evankovich Knowles Pyle Youngblood
Evans Kortz Quigley Zimmerman
Everett Kotik Quinn Speaker
Fabrizio Krueger Rader Turzai,
Farina Lawrence Rapp
Farry

NAYS–0
NOT VOTING–0
EXCUSED–17

Boyle Costa, D. Hill Readshaw
Bradford Dean Kinsey Roebuck
Briggs DeLuca Kirkland Santarsiero
Brown, V. DiGirolamo Neuman Thomas
Cohen
The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolutions were adopted.

The SPEAKER. Members, please take your seats. We would appreciate if any conversations to be please taken to the anterooms.

At this time with respect to Greek Independence Day and Greek Heritage Month for which we have a number of guests, Representative Rothman will first speak on HR 721, followed by Representative Mackenzie, who will speak on HR 734. I would ask both members to please come up to the podium. Representative Rothman, followed by Representative Mackenzie.

STATEMENT BY MR. ROTHMAN

The SPEAKER. Representative Rothman, the floors is yours, sir.

Mr. ROTHMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My colleagues, thank you for your unanimous vote in honoring today, March 25, as Greek Independence Day. Mr. Speaker, Greek Independence Day is honored on March 25 following the Greek independence of 1821.

Mr. Speaker, we are joined today in the House by several members of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Camp Hill. I want to thank them all for being here to mark this occasion today.

Our nations, Greece and America, have a shared history, and we owe Greece a debt that might not ever be repaid. As we look around this very chamber, we are gathered as a legislative body, a democratically elected Republican body. This form of governance we owe to the wisdom of the ancient Greeks – Cleisthenes, the father of Athenian democracy, in particular.

Our Founding Fathers built this nation, our Founding Fathers built this State on the ideals and principles founded by the Greeks. Both of our nations fought for their independence only 50 years apart, and we both strive to perfect on the democratic experiments that began in Athens so long ago.

As we mark Greek Independence Day today, let us be mindful of our nations’ shared history and let us be thankful for the contributions of so many Greek-Americans across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and across our nation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Rothman.

STATEMENT BY MR. MACKENZIE

The SPEAKER. Representative Ryan Mackenzie.

Mr. MACKENZIE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would also like to extend my thanks to my colleagues for their vote on the Greek-American Heritage Month.

I do also want to recognize many of our honored guests today, all the terrific Greek-Americans that are joining us. It is something that we see in our community, they honor and respect their heritage while also being proud Americans, and that is a great distinction and honor for them that they can marry those two traditions and be great members of our community. Many of them are entrepreneurs. Many of them are doing fantastic things to help and benefit our community. So we want to thank and welcome them who are here with us today.

On March 25, 1821, the people of Greece declared independence from the Ottoman Empire after nearly 400 years of oppressive rule. Following 12 years of immense struggle, the Greek people finally won their freedom, and their hard-fought victory inspired nations around the world during the early 19th century to rise up against tyranny. It is the drive and determination of those brave forebears of modern Greece that we celebrate today in HR 734, as well as the innumerable contributions Greek-Americans have made to the culture and vitality of the United States. Indeed, America owes much of its current structure of governance to the ancient Greek city-states where democracy was born.

As our nation’s Founders studied classical literature and sought to establish a government by and for the people, the writings and philosophies of ancient Greece served as a beacon of light along the way. I am very honored to represent a legislative district whose increasing diversity includes a sizable Greek-American constituency.

Also, I would like to particularly recognize the members of AHEPA that are here with us today. The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association is an organization with a philanthropic background which seeks to benefit Greek-Americans by providing scholarships and sports opportunities for young Americans. We also provide housing assistance for senior citizens and do many other great things in our community. We have members of AHEPA with us here today. And I am also the president of our local Lehigh chapter of AHEPA, so it is a great honor to recognize them as they join us here.

Again, I want to thank our colleagues for their recognition of Greek-American Heritage Month and HR 734. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Mackenzie.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Would all of our guests who are here to celebrate Greek-American Heritage Month or Greek Independence Day, if you could please rise. We certainly are very appreciative that you would be here today with us. Thank you very, very much. Thank you so much for being with us as guests today.

STATEMENT BY MS. DONATUCCI

The SPEAKER. Representative Donatucci is recognized to speak on HR 709. Representative Donatucci, the floors is yours.

Ms. DONATUCCI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to thank my colleagues for their support of HR 709, which recognizes March 2016 as "National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Nearly every one of us has been affected by some type of cancer. In fact, the American Cancer Society estimates about half of all men and one-third of all women in the United States will develop cancer during their lifetimes. While our journeys may be difficult, we are not alone. I lost my father to colon cancer in 1998, so I know how devastating the disease can be.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States, and nearly 50,000 people died from the disease last year. Though it still claims a staggering number of lives each year, it has become more apparent that
early detection and treatment are key in fighting this disease. We may be embarrassed to talk about it, but health experts recommend people age 50 and older begin regular screening, such as colonoscopies, to ensure good health. These screenings can detect polyps before they become cancerous and ensure a patient has a better overall health outcome. In fact, up to 60 percent of deaths from colorectal cancer could be prevented if people were regularly screened and appropriately treated. That is why it is so important to spread the word about early detection and its ability to save lives.

As we all know, in addition to regular screenings, there are several healthy habits we can undertake now to help prevent serious health conditions, including colon cancer. These include getting regular exercise, maintaining a healthy weight, quitting smoking, limiting alcohol intake, eating a healthy diet, and reducing the intake of red meat and cutting out processed meat. By adopting these habits, we can all do our part to prevent colon cancer and other diseases.

Today we stand with those Pennsylvanians fighting the disease and all those families affected by it. One day we hope we can live in a world where no one is afflicted by this debilitating illness.

Thank you again to my colleagues for your support of HR 709. And thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Donatucci.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE CANCELED

The SPEAKER. Representative Phillips-Hill is on the House floor and should be placed on the master roll.

STATEMENT BY MS. BOBACK

The SPEAKER. Representative Karen Boback is recognized to speak on HR 760.

Members, please take your seats. Members, please take your seats.

At this time Representative Boback has the floor.

Ms. BOBACK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you to my colleagues for your support of HR 709, which designates March 31, 2016, as "C.A.S.U.A.L Day" in PA. C.A.S.U.A.L. stands for Colon Cancer Awareness Saves Unlimited Adult Lives. On Thursday, March 31, 2016, the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute will sponsor the 13th annual C.A.S.U.A.L. Day to increase colon cancer awareness throughout northeastern Pennsylvania. C.A.S.U.A.L. Day was established by the family of Helen Phillips, who fought a courageous battle against colon cancer and died in the summer of 2002. Thank you for recognizing the important work of the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute in establishing this special day to bring awareness to and focus attention on the significance of saving lives through screening and early detection of colon cancer.

Mr. Speaker, in the balcony we have the children of Helen Phillips – Maura Phillips Staback and Michael Moran – who were instrumental in developing C.A.S.U.A.L. Day, and we also have the president of Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, Karen Saunders. We welcome all of you and we thank you for your support of this special day.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Boback.
The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

STATEMENT BY MS. BOBACK

The SPEAKER. On unanimous consent, Representative Karen Boback is recognized on HR 761.

Ms. BOBACK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

May I ask the ladies of the House to please join me at the podium at this time.

The SPEAKER. Would everybody please take their seats. All members, please take your seats and please take any conversations to the anteroom.

Representative Boback, you may proceed.

Ms. BOBACK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank my colleagues for their support of HR 761, recognizing Hannah Callowhill Penn, and this is her special day in Pennsylvania.

William Penn, founder of the Province of Pennsylvania, married Hannah in 1696. When William Penn became incapacitated by a stroke in 1712, Hannah Penn governed the Province of Pennsylvania in his name and handled all of his financial and legal affairs for the next 6 years until his death in 1718.

Following Penn's death, Hannah continued to govern Pennsylvania from England for another 8 years. At the time of William Penn’s death, the colony was in financial debt. Hannah Callowhill Penn, through her strong leadership and fiscal management, was successful in restoring financial stability to the colony before her death in 1726.

As we honor March 2016 as Women's History Month,
I thank you for joining me in support of this resolution recognizing the leadership, achievements, and contributions to the Commonwealth by the first woman who actually governed Pennsylvania, Hannah Callowhill Penn. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Boback.

RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Mr. MURT called up HR 712, PN 2905, entitled:

A Resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the deadly Scud missile attack on February 25, 1991, during Operation Desert Shield and honoring the lives lost during the attack.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS–183

Acosta, Fee, Lewis, Ravenstahl
Adolph, Flynn, Longietti, Reed
Baker, Frankel, Mackenzie, Reese
Barbin, Freeman, Maher, Regan
Barrar, Gabler, Mahoney, Roae
Benninghoff, Gainey, Major, Ross
Bizzarro, Gergely, Maloney, Rothman
Bloom, Gibbons, Markosek, Rozzi
Boback, Gillen, Marshall, Saconne
Brown, R., Gillespie, Marsico, Sainato
Burns, Godshall, Masser, Samuelson
Caltagirone, Goodman, McCarter, Sankey
Carroll, Greiner, McClinton, Santora
Cauer, Grove, McGinnis, Schemel
Christian, Hahn, McNeill, Schlossberg
Conklin, Hanna, Mentzer, Schreiber
Corbin, Harhai, Metcalfe, Schwyer
Costa, P., Harhart, Metzgar, Simmons
Cox, Harkins, Mccarelli, Sims
Cruz, Harper, Millard, Snyder
Culver, Harris, Miller, Sonney
Cutler, Harris, Miller, Staats
Daley, M., Heffley, Milne, Stephens
Daley, P., Helm, Moul, Sturla
Davidson, Hennessey, Mullery, Tallman
Davis, Hickernell, Murt, Taylor
Dawkins, Hill, Mustio, Tobash
Day, Irvin, Neilson, Toepel
Deasy, James, Nesbit, Toohil
DeLissio, Jozwiak, O'Brien, Topper
Delozier, Kampf, O'Neill, Truitt
Dermody, Kauffer, Oberlander, Vebre
Donatucci, Kavulich, Parker, D. Ward
Driscoll, Keller, F., Pashinski, Warner

NAYS–0

NOT VOTING–0

EXCUSED–17
Mr. Speaker, from the birth of our Republic, the citizen soldiers of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have given their lives to defend liberty around the world. During the Revolution, they defended Philadelphia even when massively outnumbered and were pushed to Valley Forge, where they waited out the British during the brutal winter of 1777.

More than 420,000 Pennsylvanians served in Union Forces during the Civil War, including 8600 African-American volunteers. Three days after the Confederates fired on Fort Sumter, President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation calling out the State militias. That same day, Gov. Andrew Curtin received a telegram from the Secretary of War requesting that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provide 16 Pennsylvania regiments. Pennsylvania was one of the largest contributors of manpower during the Spanish-American War with nearly 17,000 Pennsylvanians serving in the Pennsylvania Volunteers, and countless more in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy.

Pennsylvanians died in the foxholes of France, on the shores of Iwo Jima, and have stood guard at the Korean Demilitarized Zone, and fought valiantly during the Tet Offensive, and they are still giving their lives fighting against Middle East tyrants.

On February 26, 1991, during Operation Desert Storm, troops from the 14th Quartermaster group, an Army Reserve unit based in Farrell, Pennsylvania, in Mercer County, and made up of many Pennsylvanians, were asleep in their barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. The unit was stationed 200 miles behind the front lines, handling what was supposed to be one of the Army’s safer duties, setting up water purification centers. That night as the occupants of the corrugated-metal warehouse that had been converted into temporary housing were eating dinner and relaxing, an Iraqi missile struck the barracks and killed 28 soldiers; 13 of them were from the 14th Quartermaster Detachment based in Farrell, Mercer County. Nearly one-fifth of all Americans killed during Operation Desert Storm died in that scud missile attack. Overall, the attack wounded 99 soldiers, 43 from the quartermaster detachment alone.

What makes this even more tragic is that by February 25, the Iraqis were in full retreat. They had fired hundreds of scuds during the war with few finding their marks. This one, however, launched as the war sped to a close, scored a direct hit.

As we mark the 25th anniversary of this tragic day, let us celebrate the brave men and women from our Commonwealth who died bringing freedom to a land that knew little but tyranny and oppression. Like those who fought at Gettysburg, charged San Juan Hill, awoke to horror at Pearl Harbor, and died in Southeast Asia, we must also honor this sacrifice made in the struggle for liberty by the men and women of the 14th Quartermaster Detachment based in Farrell, Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Murt. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT BY MR. LONGIETTI

The SPEAKER. Representative Longietti.

Mr. LONGIETTI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I will certainly never forget that day in 1991 when the scud missile attack killed the folks from the 14th Quartermaster Detachment in Farrell. Farrell, the city of Farrell is located in my legislative district, and it affected all of us. And I recall just a few years ago there was a gathering put together at the quartermaster detachment where families came back and fellow soldiers came back from different parts of the country and joined a number of us from the legislature along with Lt. Col. Larry Sheetz, who is now our county veterans director, to remember, to remember the sacrifice that was made and to remember the families that were involved.

So I just want to thank my colleague for giving me the opportunity to join in support of this resolution. May we never forget.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Longietti.

BRIAN ROONEY PRESENTED

The SPEAKER. Members, I would ask that everybody please take their seats. We are going to be honoring another employee who has given 35 years to this institution, who is retiring as of today, a very, very good friend.

So I would ask all the members, please take your seats.

I would ask the Sergeants at Arms to please close the doors of the House.

It is my honor and pleasure to recognize an outstanding, outstanding public servant – all of you know him – Brian Rooney. Brian will be retiring this month, after these some 35 years of service.

He began his career with the House in June 1981 as a page to former Chief Clerk John J. Zubeck. Several months later he moved to positions of responsibility in the Calendar & Amendment Room. He went on to serve as a legislative clerk and assistant supervisor before being promoted to the supervisor
of the bill room in September 2004. He served in that capacity until being promoted to Legislative Services manager in September of 2012, the position he presently holds.

As you see Brian up here every single day on time, staying till the very end, always with a smile, absolutely on top of all of the logistical aspects of the work that we do for the citizens of Pennsylvania, which you know the paperwork we produce, and while we are used to seeing Brian here on the floor performing these duties, I am not sure how he is able to manage that incredible scope that falls underneath his aegis in that position.

When people ask Brian what he does for a living, he tells them he is the manager of the process everyone learns in school known as "How a Bill Becomes a Law." And it is true, that is exactly what he does. We are going to miss him immensely.

They handle the legislation, you know, from its inception, when we get it typed up and introduce it over here at the desk, until it reaches the Governor's desk for signature. Every action taken on every bill that comes before this House is recorded by Brian and his team. So when you go onto the computer to see the action on a bill, those are the people that are making it official for this great institution. He personally prepares and updates each day’s House calendar in conjunction with the majority and the minority staff.

Brian, you have had enormous responsibility throughout your tenure and you have done an outstanding duty to the citizens of Pennsylvania for the official work that is done by these elected officials and past elected officials representing the citizens of Pennsylvania. Mere words cannot thank you for this service, your dedication, loyalty, and the skill level to make it all function so flawlessly, and it is flawless. The information on the screens and such on-time capabilities is in large part what you have done since you have come to this position and the great rapport you have with your staff.

We are going to miss you. We are going to miss your sense of humor, your ability to just relate to people, and your professionalism.

Now, Brian, I know you have some great family members here today. I had the honor to meet with them earlier. We are going to begin with your lovely wife, Kathie. Kathie, if you could stand, please. Brian, your oldest boy, Steve, and, Steve, if you could stand, and he is with his wife, Janelle, and their son, Lucas. Steve was in our armed services. Which one, Brian, did he serve in? He was in the United States Navy. Thank you for your service to our country. Thank you very much. And your other two boys, Brian, and, Brian, great to have you here today.

Brian also served, and he was in the United States Army. Brian, thank you so much for your service. And then we have Chris; this good man, Chris, is his youngest. Great to have you here too, Chris. Thank you so much. We also have his nephew, Jimmy, and his niece, Morgan. They are enjoying the day today with Brian.

And, Brian, at this time, if you wanted to say a few words, you are— Oh, the Parliamentarian has said that Representative Neal Goodman, I think, would like to say a few remarks, and if he wants to be joined by his fellow – you can come up here, Neal, please – his fellow members from Schuylkill County, please feel free.

The SPEAKER. Representative Goodman, you may proceed.

Mr. GOODMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On behalf of the people of Schuylkill County and my colleague, Jerry Knowles, and myself, it is a great honor to be here today, Mr. Speaker, because today we say goodbye to a longtime friend, Brian Rooney, who is retiring after nearly 35 years of service in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Brian, who is not only a constituent of mine but a good friend, is proof that hard work and dedication pay off. As the Speaker mentioned, Brian started as a page back in 1981 and he rose quickly through the ranks and today is Legislative Services manager, a position he held since 2012. Brian supervises the office that accepts amendments, assigns bill numbers, and prepares the calendar and voting schedule, as the Speaker mentioned. Brian and the people around him play a critical role in the day-to-day operations of the House.

Mr. Speaker, as a former staff member for 12 years myself, I know firsthand the dedication and hard work of our staff on both sides of the aisle. They are the ones working behind the scenes that keep this institution running smoothly. The public rarely sees how much time and effort they put into their jobs, but we all know as members that we could not do our job if it was not for the dedication of these professionals.

Many of us know Brian for his work here in Harrisburg, but sometimes he finds the time, and I do not know how, to devote to his hometown of Shenandoah, Pennsylvania. He coached midget football and Little League for many years. He also served as member of the Phoenix Firehouse, the Glover's Hill social club, and the Shenandoah Valley High School Quarterback Club. As the Speaker mentioned, he is also a devoted family member, and I know his family personally and I can tell you they come from good stock and are fine people, all of them.

So, Brian, on behalf of my colleagues in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, we extend to you our heartfelt congratulations upon your well-deserved retirement and hope that you will not be a stranger, and in your retirement, we wish you Godspeed in all your future endeavors, and do not hesitate to stop by every once in a while and see us.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Brian, we present you with this gavel.

(Commemorative gavel was presented.)

The SPEAKER. And please feel free to take the rostrum to say any words you may want to express. Thank you.

Mr. ROONEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Those were very kind words. I just want to say how much of an honor it is to work for you under your leadership and both sides of the aisle.

For 35 years now I have been looking at a lot of old pictures, House floor pictures, just pictures that we have taken over the years up here, and I have come to realize I work with a lot of great people, past and present. I mean, when you think about...
how many people have crossed through here, either as a staffer or as a Representative or a leader, there are a lot of great people. And there is one other thing I realized, at one time I had a lot of hair. But I learned that you surround yourself with good people, you get good work, and they make you look good.

A few years back Assistant Chief Clerk Linda Lehman asked me to do her a favor, and I said, "Sure. What is it?" She said, "I have these two guys. I want you to supervise them." And I said, "Okay." I said, "What are their names?" And she said, "Dave Spizzirri and Lynn Bias." And I said, "Sure; no problem. Is there a problem?" She said, "Yeah. They don't know how to tell time." And I said, "They don't know how to tell time?" And she said, "Yeah. They're always leaving at 4:15." I gave you up.

But I have to thank the guys that do make me look good, and Spizz and Lynn are two of them. But over here you have got Ricky Breski, Jason Nace, Al Hunt, and Dave Binkley you never see, but he is the workhorse down in the office.

Coming across the aisle, Billy Jones. Billy and I have been together for 34 years, side by side. Whatever you ask him he does. He filled in probably at every spot up here at one time or another. I would say, "Hey, Billy, we need you to do the roll call clerk's job today," and he says, "Okay. Show me the money."

Pauly Brungard, he is the new message clerk. Pauly's dad, he is following in Pauly's dad's shoes and good guys.

I want to thank Lori and Zach for their candy bars. I am sure nobody saw the candy bars they made, but they have my face on them anyway.

Jordan Davis, he is the new Brian Rooney. He is going to take over as manager for Legislative Services. And for 15 years I sat next to Gina Renyo here. So she asked me, whoever gets promoted, make sure they are young and good-looking.

This guy right here, you know, he has been here a short time, he is a great leader, Dave Reddecliff. I have had a lot of great chief— All my Chief Clerks I have worked for were great people. My Assistant Chief Clerks that I worked for were all great. In one way or another they all helped me out, moving up the ladder. And one Chief Clerk in particular was Ted Mazia. He called me up one day in a stern voice, and he said, "If I send one more person down for a free Thanksgiving Day turkey, I'm paying for them."

But Jess and the girls from downstairs and all of the Speaker's staff and leaders' staff, I cannot tell you how much I appreciate their help. I worked with Lori Lochetto I do not know how many years now. It has just been a privilege working with Lori.

But I just want to say thanks for everything. And I have a beautiful family. I love them very much. But there is a little—I will cut it short because they have me on the clock. Do you see that? They said 45 minutes. I did not think I was going to be able to talk that much. But I am just so proud of my family.

And I want to leave you with a part of an Irish prayer: "Until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand."

Happy Easter.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, members, for honoring this good man.

He said, "Oh my goodness, I saw that clock and I forgot to mention our outstanding Parliamentarian," and one of his good friends, Clancy. Clancy, thanks for helping put this together with Kelly Fedeli and the team. Thank you.
The House proceeded to second consideration of HB 1787, PN 2733, entitled:

An Act designating a portion of State Route 1013 in Philadelphia County as the Michael R. Goodwin, Sr. Memorial Highway.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?
Bill was agreed to.

BILL REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE, CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND TABLED

HB 791, PN 3024 (Amended) By Rep. HENNESSEY

An Act authorizing public school districts to implement senior local tax reduction incentive volunteer exchange programs.

AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

The SPEAKER. The clerk will read the following report from the Committee on Committees. It is a supplemental report.

The following report was read:

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT
In the House of Representatives, March 23, 2016
Resolved that,
Representative McClinton, Philadelphia County, is elected a member of the Professional Licensure Committee.
Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Mike O'Brien
Chairman
Committee on Committees

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?
Resolution was adopted.

BILLS RECOMMENDED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that the following bills be recommitted to the Committee on Appropriations:

HB 1171;
HB 1685;
HB 1711;
HB 1762; and
HB 1787.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?

BILLS REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that the following bills be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar:

HB 220;
HB 443;
HB 869;
HB 967;
HB 1353;
HB 1589; and
HB 1740.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILL ON CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS AS AMENDED

The House proceeded to consideration of concurrence in Senate amendments to the following HB 934, PN 2648, as further amended by the House Rules Committee:

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Public Welfare Code, in public assistance, providing for the establishment of KEYS, for copayments for subsidized child care, for medical assistance payments for institutional care, for other medical assistance payments, for mileage reimbursement and paratransit services for individuals receiving methadone treatment and for other computations affecting counties; providing for children's health care; in children and youth, further providing for payments to counties for services to children, for provider submissions and for limits on reimbursements to counties; repealing provisions relating to Medicaid managed care organization assessments; in Statewide quality care assessment, further providing for definitions, for implementation, for restricted account and for expiration of article; providing for managed care organization assessments; in departmental powers and duties as to supervision, further providing for definitions; in departmental powers and duties as to licensing, further providing for definitions, for fees, for provisional license and for violation and penalty; repealing provisions relating to registration provisions; in family finding and kinship care, further providing for definitions, for kinship care program and for permanent legal custodianship subsidy and reimbursement; abrogating regulations; repealing provisions relating to children's health care in the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921; and making editorial changes.

On the question,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments as amended by the Rules Committee?

BILL TABLED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 934 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.
BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 934 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of HB 1246, PN 1640, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in personal income tax, further providing for classes of income.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

BILL TABLED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 1246 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 1246 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 1246 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 1246 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 1246 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 1246 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HB 1246 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, all remaining bills and resolutions on today’s calendar will be passed over. The Chair hears no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Representative Tedd Nesbit moves that the House be adjourned until Monday, April 4, 2016, at 1 p.m., e.d.t., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.
I wish everybody a happy Easter.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to, and at 11:56 a.m., e.d.t., the House adjourned.