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

THE SPEAKER (MIKE TURZAI) PRESIDING

PRAYER

HON. SID MICHAELS KAVULICH, member of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Let us bow our heads and pray:

The great President Abraham Lincoln once said, "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go." Father of all of us, in You we need nowhere else to go. You are omnipotent. You are always there. You always listen. You always love us.

But we need to be bold in our prayer. As You tell us in Hebrews 4, "Let us come boldly to the very throne of God and stay there to receive his mercy and to find grace to help us in our times of need." We as humans are always in times of Your need, Father. And while we in that humanness are our impatient creatures, constantly wanting a response now, You answer us in Your time. You are sometimes slow in our eyes, but You are always faithful if we put our trust in You.

So as we go through this day here in this glorious chamber and when we leave here and go out into the world, let us storm heaven with prayer. May we not be afraid to approach You, dear Father, because You are always there for us – not at a certain time, not by appointment; always.

And finally, may we live by the words of the evangelist Billy Graham, who inspired so many and who once said, "Heaven is full of answers to prayers for which no one ever bothered to ask."

Yahweh, we ask You to look down and shine upon us this day and every day of our lives. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

JOURNAL APPROVAL POSTPONED

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the approval of the Journal of Tuesday, January 24, 2017, will be postponed until printed.
HB 159, PN 123
By Rep. MARSICO

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in juvenile matters, further providing for definitions and for summary offenses.

JUDICIARY.

HOUSE RESOLUTION
INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 43  By Representatives KAUFER, STAATS, DRISCOLL, JAMES, METZGAR, BAKER, O’BRIEN, TOPPER, OBERLANDER, PICKETT, SANKEY, RYAN, KAUFFMAN, MURT, BARRAR, PHILLIPS-HILL, BARBIN, MACKENZIE, MILLARD, GROVE, ROTHMAN, RAPP, A. HARRIS, D. COSTA, TALLMAN, B. MILLER, SIMMONS, SAYLOR and KORTZ


Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, January 25, 2017.

HOUSE BILLS
INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 57  By Representatives PETRI, D. COSTA, DOWLING, PHILLIPS-HILL, MILLARD, MURT, STAATS, WATSON and DeLUCA

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in adoption, further providing for definitions, for hearing and for petition for involuntary termination, providing for notice if identity or whereabouts of parent or putative father unknown, further providing for consents necessary to adoption and repealing provisions relating to consents not naming adopting parents.

Referred to Committee on CHILDREN AND YOUTH, January 25, 2017.

No. 58  By Representatives PETRI, MILLARD, MURT, STAATS, WATSON and DeLUCA

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in adoption, further providing for report of intention to adopt, for consents necessary to adoption and for notice of hearing.

Referred to Committee on CHILDREN AND YOUTH, January 25, 2017.

No. 203  By Representatives LONGIETTI, GODSHALL, SAINATO, CALTAGIRONE, NEILSON, BIZZARRO, ROZZI, MURT, DRISCOLL, JAMES, CARROLL, ZIMMERMAN, PHILLIPS-HILL, PICKETT, GERGELY, V. BROWN, PETRARCA, BULLOCK, McNEILL, GABLER, THOMAS and SOLOMON

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in dispositions independent of letters, family exemption, probate of wills and grant of letters, further providing for payments to family and funeral directors.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, January 25, 2017.

No. 204  By Representatives JOZWIAK, KNOWLES, LONGIETTI, SAINATO, CORBIN, MURT, RYAN, MACKENZIE, SANTORA, FEE, WHEELAND, BARRAR, MUSTIO, PHILLIPS-HILL, WARD, DOWLING, METCALFE, DAY, V. BROWN, D. COSTA, WATSON, MILLARD, A. HARRIS, DUSH, SONNEY and MILNE

An Act amending Titles 51 (Military Affairs) and 74 (Transportation) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Department of Military Affairs, providing for Civil Air Patrol; and, in authority of Department of Transportation, further providing for authority of department.

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, January 25, 2017.

No. 205  By Representatives PHILLIPS-HILL, BARRAR, BLOOM, COX, CUTLER, DOWLING, GABLER, GROVE, HICKERNELL, IRVIN, JAMES, KAUFFMAN, MACKENZIE, McGINNIS, MENTZER, MILLARD, B. MILLER, PICKETT, REESE, ROTHMAN, SACCONE, SANKEY, SAYLOR, SIMMONS, TALLMAN, TOEPEL, TOPPER, WARD, ZIMMERMAN, STEPHENS, KLUNK and LAWRENCE

An Act amending Title 24 (Education) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preliminary provisions relating to retirement for school employees, further providing for definitions.

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, January 25, 2017.

No. 206  By Representatives PHILLIPS-HILL, BAKER, COX, DRISCOLL, GILLEN, MILLARD, NEILSON, PASHINSKI, READSHAW, WARD, WATSON and ZIMMERMAN

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, providing for study to determine drug abuse by parents within resource families; and establishing the Selection and Advisory Council.

Referred to Committee on CHILDREN AND YOUTH, January 25, 2017.

No. 207  By Representatives PHILLIPS-HILL, BOBACK, FARRY, GROVE, JAMES, WARD, WATSON and ZIMMERMAN

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, providing for instruction in the events and significance of September 11, 2001.

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, January 25, 2017.

No. 209  By Representatives PHILLIPS-HILL, BARRAR, BLOOM, BOBACK, GABLER, GILLEN, GROVE, IRVIN, KAUFFMAN, MACKENZIE, MENTZER, ROTHMAN, RYAN, SACCONE, SOLOMON, WARD and ZIMMERMAN

An Act establishing the Independent Office of the Repealer and providing for its power and duties.
An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in offenses against the family, further providing for the offense of endangering welfare of children.

No. 217 By Representatives KAUFFMAN, BAKER, STEPHENS, DRISCOLL, WATSON, D. COSTA, READSHAW, MOUL, MCNEILL, MILLARD, WARD, BIZZARRO and GILLEN

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers of Department of Transportation and local authorities, further providing for display of unauthorized signs, signals or markings.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 25, 2017.

No. 217 By Representatives KAUFFMAN, BAKER, STEPHENS, DRISCOLL, WATSON, D. COSTA, READSHAW, MOUL, MCNEILL, MILLARD, WARD, BIZZARRO and GILLEN

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, providing for digitized driver's licenses.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 25, 2017.

No. 214 By Representatives D. MILLER, CALTAGIRONE, SCHLOSSBERG, MURT, ROZZI, J. HARRIS, SCHWEYER, KINSEY, ORTITAY, BULLOCK, V. BROWN, DeLUCA, SOLOMON and JOZWIAK

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in professional employees, further providing for transferred programs and classes.

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, January 25, 2017.

No. 215 By Representatives BOBACK, MATZIE, KINSEY, WARD, V. BROWN, MACKENZIE, MCNEILL, GOODMAN, CORBIN, NEILSON, DRISCOLL, JAMES, SCHWEYER, READSHAW, SAINATO, ORTITAY, CONKLIN, SIMMONS, FARRY, DEASY, GILLEN and KORTZ

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, providing for a special license plate for female veterans.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 24, 2017.

No. 216 By Representatives KAMPF, RYAN, MILLARD, MURT and D. COSTA

An Act amending the act of August 21, 1953 (P.L.1273, No.361), known as The Private Detective Act of 1953, further providing for definitions and for application of act.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, January 25, 2017.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The majority whip requests leave of absence for Representative O'NEILL from Bucks County for the day. The minority whip, Representative Mike Hanna, requests leaves of absence for Representative Patty KIM of Dauphin County for the day, Representative John GALLOWAY of Bucks County for the day, and Representative Dan FRANKEL of Allegheny County for the day.

Without objection, those will be granted.

MASTER ROLL CALL

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

(Members proceeded to vote.)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. Representative Bob GODSHALL has requested to be placed on leave of absence. Without objection, that will be granted.

MASTER ROLL CALL CONTINUED

The following roll call was recorded:

PRESENT–196

Baker
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Bernstine
Bizzarro
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Boback
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Ellis
Emrick
English
Evankovich
Evans
Fabrizio
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Roebuck
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The SPEAKER. One hundred and ninety-six members being present on the House floor, a quorum is present.

Members, I would ask you to please take your seats. We are going to move to visitor recognition. I would ask all members to please take their seats. All members will please take their seats. Staff members, I would ask if you could to please take your conversations off the House floor to the anterooms.

Members, please take your seats. Located to the left of the rostrum, Representative Lynda Culver has guests here in our chamber. I would ask all members to please be seated to welcome our guests to the chamber. Members, please take your seats.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Guests of Representative Lynda Culver include Alex Boyer from Warrior Run High School and his mother, Denise Boyer. Please stand. Would you please give them a welcome.

A guest of Representative Briggs and Representative Mary Jo Daley is located to the left of the rostrum, and it is Olivia Moffat, who is a junior at Germantown Friends School and has been interning with the Department of Education. Thank you so much for being with us today, Olivia.

Located to the left of the rostrum—Members, members, I am not going to continue until we could ask you to please take your seats. We have a very special guest here, and I would like everybody to please take their seats. And if there are important conversations, I understand, but please take them off the House floor. That includes staff. Members, please take your seats.

This young man, located to the left of the rostrum, Zachary Foller, is in sixth grade at Dover Elementary School and he is here with his mother, Robyn. He comes as a guest of Representative Grove. Zach, we understand you have a birthday coming up. You are going to be 13 years old on Saturday, January 28. We are so pleased to have you. On behalf of the House of Representatives, we wish you a very happy birthday. Thank you so much for being with us today.

In the well of the House, guests of Representative Zimmerman include Wyatt Wright, who is a guest page. Please stand. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop 264 in Mohnton. His visit is helping to satisfy his Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge. And he is here with his mom and dad, David and Juliana, who are seated to our left. Thank you so much for being with us today.

A good friend of mine from back home is Ethan Harrell, who attends Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School and is from Franklin Park, Pennsylvania. He is an outstanding basketball player and a member of National Honor Society. And he is here today with his mother, Rayna. Please stand. Thank you so much for being with us today.

We are going to move to the uncontested calendar for resolutions. Representative Mackenzie will be recognized to speak on HR 37 after we take the vote, and Representative Murt will be recognized to speak first on HR 36 and then secondly on HR 38.

On the regular House calendar we have a resolution that Representative Krueger-Braneky has sponsored and she will be recognized to speak after that individual vote on HR 31.

UNCONTESTED CALENDAR

RESOLUTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Mr. READshaw called up HR 6, PN 12, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of January 2017 as "Radon Action Month" in Pennsylvania.

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ADDITIONS–0

NOT VOTING–0

EXCUSED–6
Mrs. BULLOCK called up **HR 8, PN 14**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the week of January 15 through 21, 2017, as "Healthy Weight Week" and recognizing Thursday, January 19, 2017, as "Women's Healthy Weight Day" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. ROZZI called up **HR 28, PN 24**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of January 2017 as "Glaucoma Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. CHRISTIANA called up **HR 30, PN 25**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of January 29 through February 4, 2017, as "Physician Anesthesiologist Week" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. NEILSON called up **HR 32, PN 27**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing January 27, 2017, as "International Holocaust Remembrance Day" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. NESBIT called up **HR 33, PN 28**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of January 2017 as "National Mentoring Month" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. MATZIE called up **HR 35, PN 29**, entitled:

A Resolution designating February 2, 2017, as "Rheumatoid Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. MURT called up **HR 36, PN 30**, entitled:


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Mr. MACKENZIE called up **HR 37, PN 146**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the week of January 30 through February 3, 2017, as "Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. MURT called up **HR 38, PN 147**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of January 2017 as "National Mentoring Month" in Pennsylvania.

* * *

Mr. ROEBUCK called up **HR 40, PN 149**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of January 2017 as "Financial Aid Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and commending the work of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency and the Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

* * *

Ms. DONATUCCI called up **HR 41, PN 150**, entitled:

A Resolution designating January 26, 2017, as "Kawasaki Disease Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolutions?

The following roll call was recorded:

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The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolutions were adopted.

STATEMENT BY MR. MACKENZIE

The SPEAKER. Representative Ryan Mackenzie is recognized.

Mr. MACKENZIE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I want to thank my colleagues for their support on the resolution recognizing January 30 through February 3 as "Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week" in the Commonwealth. Identify theft across all platforms is on the rise, and we need to remind the public to be vigilant and safeguard their identifying documents and make sure that they have proper protections set up on their computers and mobile devices.

Tax return theft is just one of the newer ways criminals are using personal information for their benefit, and a very common new way that they are going about doing this is by falsifying information coming to individuals who are preparing and filing their tax returns and saying that they need to pay a penalty or a fine or a fee for filing their taxes at this time; they might be overdue. And many people, just to get an issue like this off their plate quickly and they do not want to have a hassle with the IRS (Internal Revenue Service), pay these charges, a form of fraud that is being committed at increasing numbers and is a great risk to many of our citizens.

So I just want to thank the members for, again, this resolution recognizing January 30 through February 3 as "Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week" in the Commonwealth and helping us raise awareness on this topic.

Thank you again, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Mackenzie.

STATEMENT BY MR. MURT

The SPEAKER. Representative Tom Murt is recognized first to speak on HR 36.

Mr. MURT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the trafficking of human beings is one of the most heinous of crimes one can imagine. On the street, it is frequently called modern-day slavery or dead bondage. Human trafficking occurs around the world in the most developed as well as in Third World nations. Despite our collective affluence as a society, human trafficking is sadly alive and well in our nation and also in our Commonwealth.

Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing criminal endeavors in the world. After drugs, humans are the second most trafficked item on the planet. It is a $9 billion a year operation which uses force, physical restraint, violence, fraud, coercion, and threats to force victims into various forms of slavery.

Across the U.S. over 60,000 adults are enslaved as victims of human trafficking each year. The actual numbers are much higher due to a gross underreporting of the crime. This underreporting is due to the victims being kept physically and socially isolated from the general public. Frequently the victims are mistakenly believed to be prostitutes who have chosen the lifestyle or simply illegal immigrants whom society has chosen to ignore.

Victims are relocated frequently and, even when being rescued, are reluctant to cooperate with authorities. They have been taught to fear law enforcement and are unaware that they have rights under U.S. law. Sadly, the supply of human trafficking victims from around the world is seemingly endless.

Mr. Speaker, in our Commonwealth victims of sex and labor trafficking include U.S. citizens and also foreign nationals as well as children and adults. A recent human trafficking case in Pennsylvania involved girls between the ages of 15 and 17 who were forced into sexual activity at truck stops. Victims of labor trafficking are usually found in settings such as domestic servitude, agriculture, nail salons, factories, and in traveling sales crews selling candy and magazine subscriptions. Pennsylvania, although primarily a pass-through State for human trafficking, is also a destination.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to commercial front businesses and agricultural operations, traffickers utilize the many highways of our Commonwealth to move victims between locations in Ohio, New Jersey, and New York, and to connect with the I-95 corridor where victims are easily moved along the eastern seaboard from New York to Maryland, DC, Georgia, and Florida. In Pennsylvania, truck stops, especially along the Miracle Mile, are well known for playing host to sex trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, it is tragic and heartbreaking that in a civilized nation such as ours, forms of slavery still exist. It is past time to stop this crime and rescue the victims. One human selling another into slavery is a crime against humanity, one that we must stop. And, Mr. Speaker, this is why it is so important that we mark today as "National Human Trafficking Day" in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Murt.

CALENDAR

RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Ms. KRUEGER called up HR 31, PN 26, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the protests by the Silent Sentinels, whose nonviolent actions shifted the hearts and minds of American politicians and earned women across the nation the right to vote.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

The SPEAKER. Members, I would ask you to please take your seats. We will be having a vote on this resolution prior to that.

The Chair recognizes Representative Krueger-Braney to speak on HR 31. Members, please take your seats. All staff members will please take the conversations to the anterooms.
Representative Krueger-Braneky, the floor is yours. 

Ms. KRUEGER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise today to ask my fellow legislators for their support in honoring the 100th anniversary of the Silent Sentinels, whose nonviolent action shifted the hearts and minds of American politicians and was instrumental in earning women the right to vote. I also thank the 42 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle who added their support to this resolution.

A history lesson. On January 10, 1917, the Silent Sentinels began their protest for women's suffrage outside of the White House. This was not an ordinary protest, Mr. Speaker. This protest did not just last a day or a few days or a week or a month. This protest lasted 2 1/2 years, 2 1/2 years of women demanding the basic right to vote in front of the White House. The Silent Sentinels protested for 6 days a week outside of the White House until June 4, 1919, when the 19th Amendment was finally passed by Congress and went to the States for ratification.

These women were called the Silent Sentinels because their method of protest was simply that, silence. They did not chant. They did not shout. They stood silently outside the White House holding banners that made their points known. This act of protest was not always easy for them. The Silent Sentinels were subjected to scorn, violence, derision, and arrests. Over 100 women were subject to what has become known as the Night of Terror – a night in November 1917 when Silent Sentinels who were arrested and housed in the Lorton Reformatory were tortured, beaten, and abused.

But, Mr. Speaker, not even torture could stop these women. Their protests continued until the passage of the 19th Amendment by Congress and, finally, the ratification of this amendment by Tennessee in 1920. Tennessee was the 36th State to ratify and therefore cleared the way for the official adoption of the 19th Amendment, just 8 days later.

Even in Tennessee, Mr. Speaker, this vote was passed by just one vote. That one vote was a young male Representative who was staunchly against women's suffrage and the plight of the Silent Sentinels – against it, that is, until his very own mother sent him a letter on the morning of the final vote telling him, "Hurrah, and vote for suffrage." With his "yes" vote the Silent Sentinels got what they had been fighting for so long and what women across America deserved, the right to vote and to exercise our voice in the American political process.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue today to fight for full women's equality across this country and to exercise our right to protest when necessary, it is an honor to stand before this great chamber as one member of the highest number of female Representatives this House has ever seen. However, our work is not yet done. Let us not forget that Pennsylvania has one of the largest State legislatures in the country, and yet women only account for less than 19 percent of this General Assembly. And even now there are those who would seek to crack down on those First Amendment rights to peaceful protest that the Silent Sentinels exercised 100 years ago. We cannot permit that. The Silent Sentinels fought for a right that we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude for, and there are times in our history when we must put our bodies on the line for that which we believe in. Even today, Mr. Speaker, sometimes we are called to protest, to put our bodies on the line for the things that we believe in.

With that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow legislators to honor the sacrifice of the Silent Sentinels by voting "yes" on this resolution. Thank you.
The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

BILLs REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE, CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND TABLED

HB 103, PN 81  By Rep. TAYLOR
An Act designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 980 over the Chartiers Creek in Canonsburg Borough, Washington County, as the Officer Scott L. Bashioum Memorial Bridge.

TRANSPORTATION.

HB 112, PN 88  By Rep. TAYLOR
An Act designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 2014 over Lycoming Creek, City of Williamsport, Lycoming County, as the Alexander M. McFadden Memorial Bridge.

TRANSPORTATION.

RESOLUTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Mr. REED called up HR 17, PN 20, entitled:

A Resolution requesting the Congress of the United States to urge the Food and Drug Administration to reverse its directive allowing OxyContin to be prescribed to children 11 to 16 years of age.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HR 17, PN 20, requesting the Congress of the United States to urge the Food and Drug Administration to reverse its directive allowing OxyContin to be prescribed to children 11 to 16 years of age, be recommitted to Human Services.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

* * *

Mr. RABB called up HR 39, PN 148, entitled:

A Resolution honoring the life and legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS–196

NAYS–0

NOT VOTING–0

EXCUSED–6

The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

GUEST INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Located to the right of the rostrum, the Chair welcomes Zach Goldberg, who is an intern in Representative Rabb's district office. If you could please rise and raise your hand. We welcome you and thank you for being here with us today. Thank you so much.
ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR. PYLE

The SPEAKER. Representative Jeff Pyle is recognized.

Mr. PYLE. Mr. Speaker, thank you.

Mr. Speaker, being early in the session, I wish to announce that the Coal Caucus will have its first organizational meeting of the session. It will take place on the Lieutenant Governor’s patio at the call of the Chair. It should last no more than 5 or 10 minutes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, sir.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. To the new members of the General Assembly, the Chief Clerk's Office will be holding today on the House floor, at the conclusion of today's session, an orientation with respect to floor personnel and procedures. We would ask each of the new members of the General Assembly to attend this particular presentation. Again, it will occur immediately after the conclusion of our work here on the floor.

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 17
- HB 23
- HB 31
- HB 44
- HB 103
- HB 112
- HB 128
- HB 152
- HB 159

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR. PYLE

The SPEAKER. Representative Jeff Pyle. This will be our last order of business. Sir, you are recognized.

Mr. PYLE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Coal Caucus will organize on the dais outside the Lieutenant Governor's Office immediately. The meeting will last 5 to 10 minutes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, sir.

REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Mr. MURT submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

We all remember that special person who went that extra mile in helping us become better students, better workers, and even better legislators. We have all had mentors who have helped us advance in high school, in college, and in our careers. This is never as important as when we are children, when mentoring can help a child break out of their shells and reach for greatness. Mentoring gives young people someone who cares about them and who assures them they are not alone in dealing with life’s challenges.

Research confirms that quality mentoring can have a powerful and positive effect on young people in a variety of personal, academic, and professional situations. Students who meet regularly with mentors are 52 percent less likely than their peers to skip a day of school and 37 percent less likely to skip a class. In addition to better school attendance and a better chance of going on to higher education, mentored youth maintain better attitudes toward school. Young adults who face an opportunity gap but have a mentor are 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college than those who did not have a mentor.

Ultimately, mentoring connects a young person to personal growth and development and to social and economic opportunity.

Unfortunately, one out of three children does not have a mentor. My hope is that by declaring January "Mentoring Month in Pennsylvania," we will not only help more students connect with mentors, but encourage more people with expertise to offer their services as mentors.

The future of our Commonwealth depends on it.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Representative Margo Davidson moves that the House be adjourned until Monday, February 6, 2017, at 1 p.m., e.s.t., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to, and at 11:37 a.m., e.s.t., the House adjourned.