SENATE
TUESDAY, May 9, 2017

The Senate met at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Mike Stack) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend DR. BRAD F. MELLON, of Frederick Living Community, Frederick, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God, as we gather here today with the esteemed Members of the Senate, we pray that we will ever be mindful of the many opportunities we have to render service to our fellow citizens and our communities, that we keep in mind always the enduring values we hold dear, laying a foundation so the future generations can build with confidence. Help us to continue to strive for a better world, nation, and Commonwealth. We are thankful for this day that You have given, the blessings, opportunities, and even the challenges. We must never forget the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces around the globe. We honor their service. We pray for one another today for strength and guidance to meet each day's duties and to address each day's problems. May we always give of our best, and may we be continually assured of Your presence with us. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Dr. Mellon, who is the guest today of Senator Mensch.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled.)

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator McILHINNEY, from the Committee on Law and Justice, reported the following bills:

SB 403 (Pr. No. 401)

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in employees, further providing for commission members.

HB 27 (Pr. No. 350)

An Act amending Title 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, adding provisions for law enforcement activities by providing for release of law enforcement officer information when firearm discharged or use of force.

RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator McILHINNEY, from the Committee on Law and Justice, reported the following resolution:

SR 75 (Pr. No. 698)

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of the extent to which rape kits remain unprocessed in this Commonwealth and identify the reasons that the kits remain untested.

The PRESIDENT. The resolution will be placed on the Calendar.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Columbia, Senator Gordner.

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Wagner, and a legislative leave for Senator McGarrigle.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Gordner requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Wagner, and a legislative leave for Senator McGarrigle. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journal of the Session of March 20, 2017, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of March 20, 2017.

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that further reading of the Journal be dispensed with and that the Journal be approved.

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

The yeas and nays were required by Senator GORDNER and were as follows, viz:

YEA-50

A majority of the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

The PRESIDENT. The Journal is approved.

GUESTS OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Jefferson, Senator Scarnati.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Mr. President, I am very pleased to introduce today our guest speaker, Ambassador Dani Dayan. The ambassador serves as Consul General of Israel in New York. The ambassador represents the State of Israel to communities throughout New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Delaware. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1955, he is the first Hispanic Consul General of Israel in New York. The ambassador has established a reputation as an Israeli public figure, lecturer, and entrepreneur. He served as chairman of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea and Samaria, and as the council’s chief foreign envoy. Ambassador Dayan has contributed to numerous publications, including the New York Times, The Boston Globe, The Guardian, CNN, BBC, and Al Jazeera.

In 1982, at the age of 26, he founded the high-tech company Elad Systems. He served for several years as CEO and later as chairman of the board. Before establishing his own information technology company, he spent about 7 1/2 years in the Israel Defense Forces serving in the elite MAMRAM computerized data processing center, attaining the rank of major.

Ambassador Dayan holds degrees from several universities. He is fluent in Hebrew, English, and Spanish. Also joining the ambassador on the Senate floor today are Michael Alexander, Director of Regional Affairs, Consulate General of Israel in New York; and Sivan Aloni, Advisor to the Consul General, Consulate General of Israel in New York.

I ask that we offer Ambassador Dayan and his colleagues a warm Senate welcome, and I look forward to hearing his remarks.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Ambassador Dayan, we first welcome you to the Pennsylvania Senate. It is great to have you with us.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Ambassador, it would be our honor if you would please address the Pennsylvania Senate.

Our friend, Ambassador Dayan.

Ambassador DAYAN. It is a great honor and privilege to be here today as we mark the 69th anniversary of the reestablishment of the State of Israel. I say reestablishment because the Jewish State in the ancient Jewish homeland is 3,000 years old as it is 69 years young. I would like to share my deep appreciation to my friend, Lieutenant Governor Stack, to President pro tempore Scarnati, and Leaders Corman and Costa, for inviting me to speak to you from this esteemed podium.

Our first prime minister, David Ben Gurion, used to say, in Israel, if you do not believe in miracles, then you are not a realist. Today, ladies and gentlemen, we celebrate not one but a string of miracles. We celebrate the miracle of our ancient people that in 2,000 years of exile never forgot Jerusalem and Zion. We celebrate the miracle started by the vision of Theodore Herzl, the founder of modern Zionism, that converted that yearning into a political movement. We celebrate the miracle of the establishment of the modern State of Israel and our success to defend its existence against all odds. We paid a heavy price, we still do, but never asked a foreign country to send its soldiers to defend us. We were forced to build a mighty military, but make no mistake, we will never be war-loving Sparta; we will always be peace-loving Jerusalem.

We also celebrate today the miracle of the ingathering of the exiles of the Jewish people, welcoming to our shores millions of survivors of the Holocaust and refugees from Arab countries, the persecuted Soviet Jewry, and the endangered Ethiopian Jewish community. We reunified Jerusalem, our only capital since the days of King David and forever. For the first time in history, all religions enjoy full freedom of worship in the Holy City and the Holy Land. And we miraculously revolutionized our economy, putting Israel today in the global forefront of technology and innovation in medicine, science, agriculture, water, cyber security, autonomous vehicles, and more. We proudly share our knowledge and capabilities with countries in Africa and elsewhere. We were among the first to assist regions stricken by earthquakes and floods from Haiti to Turkey, from Nepal to Peru. I am proud to say that we are the only country in the world that as we talk now, extends humanitarian aid to the suffering Syrian people inside Syria, disregarding the fact that they are an enemy country.

On behalf of the State of Israel, I want to thank you all for your staunch friendship. This was demonstrated by the significant legislation that was passed through this Chamber last Session, sending a clear message that Pennsylvania stands with Israel. Now if a company wishes to discriminate against Israel, thanks to you it can no longer do business with your State government.

My friends, I would like to conclude quoting another former Israeli prime minister. In these days in which we witness a vicious, well-funded, orchestrated campaign to delegitimize Israel, let us remember the words of the late Menachem Begin, "We returned to our ancient homeland, the land of Israel, and we reestablished our sovereignty not through the right of the power but through the power of the right."

Thank you so much. Shalom from Jerusalem.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Thank you, Ambassador Dayan, for your great remarks and for your State of Israel, and your unfaltering friendship with Pennsylvania and America.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

2016 PENNSYLVANIA BITUMINOUS COAL QUEEN PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington, Senator Bartolotta.

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, today we have a very special guest from the 46th Senatorial District joining us on the Senate floor. I introduce to you Ms. Morgan Voithofer, the 2016 Bituminous Coal Queen. Morgan is an honor student in her se-
nior year at Carmichaels Area High School, where she takes advanced placement and college accredited courses. Based upon her academics, she was chosen as a recipient of the 2014 Outstanding Scholar of the Year Award, the 2016 Outstanding Physics Student Award, and the 2016 Spanish Student Award. Morgan is a member of the National Honor Society, Students Against Destructive Decisions, drama club, yearbook club, senior high chorus, Ladies Ensemble Choir, county chorus, and is the captain of the varsity cheerleading squad. Outside of school, Morgan takes voice lessons, is a member of St. Hugh’s Catholic Church choir, and sings the national anthem at many local events. She has competed and won various pageant titles, including Miss Rain Day 2014. During her tenure as Miss Rain Day, she sponsored two service projects, including Gifts for Golden Living and Humane Society Pet Supplies Drive.

Although Morgan participates in many activities, her true passion belongs to the theater. She has performed in several musicals, plays, and murder mystery fundraisers. In addition to all of these extracurricular activities, Morgan works as a Greene County day camp counselor in her free time. Upon graduation, Morgan plans to attend Duquesne University to major in pharmacy.

At this time, I recognize members of Morgan's family who are joining us on the Senate floor: Morgan's parents, Heather Tokarcik and Jason Voithofer; and her brother, Hunter, are here with us today. Also joining us are the Coal Queen Pageant representatives, Becky Mitchell and Lisa Allison. The Coal Queen's visit to Harrisburg is a tradition spanning over 60 years. I am very proud to be part of this tradition by having the opportunity of presenting Miss Morgan Voithofer, the 63rd annual Pennsylvania Bituminous Coal Queen to the Pennsylvania Senate. I ask my colleagues to give her a very warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guest of Senator Bartolotta, the Bituminous Coal Queen, Morgan Voithofer, please rise so that we may welcome you to the Pennsylvania Senate. Congratulations.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Miss Coal Queen, it would be our honor if you would address the Pennsylvania Senate, and you are following the ambassador of Israel, so let us see how you do.

Ms. VOITHOFER. Hello, everyone. I am beyond thrilled and grateful that I have been given the opportunity to speak with each and every one of you today. Being the 2016 Pennsylvania Bituminous Coal Queen has given me so many rewarding opportunities to meet new people, give back to my community, and grow more as an individual. When I was 3 years old, my mother took me to go see my first Coal Queen Pageant. I still remember to this day the excitement brought into my little world as I saw the crown placed on the lucky young lady’s head who achieved the same goal that I would 14 short years later. The Coal Show Festival in my hometown has always been a meaningful part of my life, as well as the rest of the lives in my community. It is a celebration of togetherness, friendship, and, most importantly, appreciation to the thousands of men and women who risk their lives in the coal industry every day so that every one of us can have a reliable source of energy to use on a daily basis.

My own grandfather, Matthew J. Voithofer III, worked a total of 36 years in the coal industry, as well as many other members in all generations of my family, and for that I am forever grateful. Last month, my family and I had the opportunity to go underground in Consol’s Enlow Fork Mine to see for ourselves just what working in a coal mine is like. The experience was absolutely unforgettable, eye-opening, and nothing like anyone could ever imagine it to be. I am so happy to be able to represent such a hardworking and persevering industry and proud to know so many loving people who are a part of it. The coal industry is a way of life that many Americans choose to live and love just for the sake of a better tomorrow.

I thank my parents, family, teachers, and friends for their constant love and support, pushing me to be my best and for helping me to become the person that I am today. I also thank Senator Bartolotta and Representative Snyder for inviting me to the Capitol to have the chance to speak with you. Their hospitality and constant support never goes without notice. I am proud to be the 2016 Pennsylvania Bituminous Coal Queen, and I would not change it for anything. Thank you.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Great job, Morgan, and you make us all proud in coal-built Pennsylvania. Thank you, Senator Bartolotta.

GUESTS OF SENATOR KIM L. WARD PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Westmoreland, Senator Ward.

Senator WARD. Mr. President, this is a very special day here in the Senate to have both the ambassador and the Coal Queen. So I am happy that some of these Project 18 students from Hempfield Area Senior High School in Westmoreland County are here to witness some different things happening on the floor. These students come every year. Of course, there are different students, they graduate, but they come every year. Their wonderful teacher, Mr. Ken Stough, brings them here with his wife and these wonderful, wonderful chaperones. The Project 18 class is just so valuable to the community and to these students. They teach them community service and they teach them about politics. They have people come in and speak to these classes, and these young folks have an opportunity to be exposed to their elected officials, volunteer on campaigns, if they would like to, and work in the community. It is very, very valuable. I welcome them here today.

This class is an elective class and they make this trip annually to Harrisburg. They meet with administration officials and discuss current statewide events. We talk about how legislation is done. I am always impressed with their knowledge of the issues and their enthusiasm. I am very, very happy they are here with us in the Chamber today, and I want to say that I have been going to speak to that class—I have not been for a couple of years—since probably 1996, and I am always amazed when I go there at the questions these young folks ask. The knowledge that they have, I can say that when I was in high school, and probably even today, for that matter, that I did not even have the knowledge to ask those kind of questions when I was in high school. So this class has been very valuable, I think, in helping them prepare and get to know about their government and how they can get involved and how they can make a difference in their lives. So everyone please join me in welcoming them.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Ward, the very bright Project 18 group and chaperones, please rise so that we may welcome you to the Pennsylvania Senate.
Looking at the list of the different things that they have done, Tom, of course, was an educator, but he also was a school board president, served on many boards, including the Caron Foundation. Betty herself has a degree in nursing. She served as a school nurse, a secondary counselor, supervisor of pupil services, volunteer at Kennedy House, and has also worked with the Berks County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees. They are truly a dynamic duo. When they are not donating their time to the community, Tom and Betty have a new interest, which is beekeeping, and they are learning a lot about that, and of course, they travel the world.

Please join me in welcoming my good friends, Tom and Betty Schmoyer, to the Senate today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Will Tom and Betty Schmoyer, the guests of Senator Schwank, please rise so that we may welcome you.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR JOHN C. RAFFERTY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. Senator Rafferty told me this next guest is going to tell a story that we will all be incredibly captivated about, and I told him he is going to have to live up to that because I have been on the edge of my seat. To introduce special guests, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Rafferty.

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, I am very honored to introduce to the Senate of Pennsylvania a gentleman I met 10 years ago and befriended. We have stayed in touch with one another, and I have watched his business grow dramatically over the past couple of years. Andrew Voudouris happened to be at a Chester County Economic Development dinner along with his brother, Steve, and it was a real pleasure to meet those two men. I spent the evening talking to Andrew. Andrew and his brother began a business out of their mother's garage in 2003, an e-commerce business selling customized computer parts. They would ship them out right away, so U-Haul trucks were up and down the road all of the time. As his brother Steve said, we were always replanting somebody's front yard because of all the U-Haul trucks. Well, the true entrepreneurs that they are, Andrew and his brother, Steve, began doing research on products that people could better obtain over the Internet than they could regularly, and they went for the Ford Mustang. They started a business called American Muscle that highlighted customized parts. These are aftermarket stock parts for cars, from wheels to fenders to engine parts, and they began this business headquartered in Chester County. In fact, they are in Senator Dinniman's district with their businesses.

It is a real pleasure to see the continued growth with Andrew and his brother, Steve, from a garage to now three warehouses, and they just opened a new warehouse in Las Vegas, Nevada, and are now also doing car parts for ExtremeTerrain, Jeep Wranglers, and looking for the possibility of expanding into another market for customized car parts. This is a multimillion-dollar business today. Over 300 employees are part of Turn5, which is the corporation name of which American Muscle and ExtremeTerrain are part of. Andrew and his brother, Steve, have done an amazing job in developing this business, really the American dream and the American success story that we are all...
proud of in this country. They developed their own idea. Let me tell you something, Andrew began when he was 14 years old. It is an amazing story. They are two terrific young men.

Andrew has with him today Rich Rydesky, who is his long-time accountant from the beginning of the business, so he is Andrew and Steve's right-hand man. Just wonderful gentlemen, good, solid people who have done a terrific job. I wish them well in their continued growth, as I know Senate Members do, and I ask that the Senate of Pennsylvania give their traditional warm welcome to Andrew and Rich and let them know how much we appreciate them being here today.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Rafferty, Andrew, Steve, and Rich, please rise so that we may welcome you. Those are our kind of cars.

(Appause.)

GUEST OF SENATOR RYAN AUMENT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Aument.

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to introduce my shadow for the day, Robert Misciagna. Robert is a junior at Columbia High School and the brother of five sisters. Robert's interest in politics was sparked by the 2016 presidential election, and since that time he has enjoyed healthy conversations and debate with family, friends, and teachers. Robert hopes to learn more about government and public service here today while he entertains a possible future in public service. Please join me in welcoming Robert to the Senate.

The PRESIDENT. Will the guest of Senator Aument, Robert Misciagna, please rise so that we may welcome you.

(Appause.)

GUEST OF SENATOR THOMAS H. KILLION PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Killion.

Senator KILLION. Mr. President, it is my pleasure this afternoon to introduce Jason Lang, director of parks and recreation for East Goshen Township, Chester County. In April, Jason was the recipient of one of the 2017 Governor's Awards for Local Government Excellence in recognition for a project that best exemplified the theme of "Health and Wellness." His "Fit and Fun in the Park" initiative began as a partnership between the elected board of supervisors and the department of parks and recreation. This was a community-driven effort with 12 community partners, including Paoli Hospital and the Chester County Office of Veterans’ Affairs. Eight unique health and wellness activities, which focused on improved cardiovascular health, mental health awareness, and improved access to municipal recreational activities, were offered to township residents. An estimated 1,500 residents participated. I was proud to honor him with a Senate citation last month for all of his great work on behalf of the township. Next month, East Goshen Township will join with West Goshen Township to celebrate their bicentennial, a very exciting time for Chester County.

Jason is in Harrisburg today to attend the Growing Greener Coalition's rally on the front steps of the Capitol in support of legislation that Senator Alloway, Senator McIlhinney, and my-
gallery from the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society. Their mission is better health through information technology. Here with us today is Dr. Thompson Boyd and a handful of his colleagues. Dr. Boyd has been very helpful to me as I have been drafting my telemedicine legislation. They have a wealth of knowledge when it comes to technology issues, what is occurring in other States, and on the Federal level. I thank them for coming to the Capitol today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Before we vote on the resolution, let us recognize Senator Vogel’s guests. Would Dr. Boyd and his delegation please rise, and let us welcome you to the Pennsylvania State Senate.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Since you are here, now let us vote on the resolution and see if your presence helps it pass.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?
A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

The PRESIDENT. Senator Wagner has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Senator YAW, by unanimous consent, offered Senate Resolution No. 110, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and commending the foundation for five decades of outstanding public service to the Chesapeake Bay and the surrounding region.

Which was read, considered, and adopted by voice vote.

**RECESS**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Columbia, Senator Gordner.

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for purposes of an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Judiciary to be held in the Rules room in the back of the Chamber, followed by a Republican caucus to be held in the Majority Caucus Room.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, at the conclusion of the meeting of the Committee on Judiciary, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber for a caucus as well.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of a meeting of the Committee on Judiciary, followed by Republican and Democratic caucuses to be held in their respective caucus rooms, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

**AFTER RECESS**

The PRESIDENT. The time of recess having expired, the Senate will come to order.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Centre, Senator Corman.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator White, and legislative leaves for Senator Browne and Senator Martin.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Corman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator White, and legislative leaves for Senator Browne and Senator Martin. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

**CALENDAR**

**THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

**BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE**

SB 143 (Pr. No. 95) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 6, 1989 (P.L.169, No.32), known as the Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act, in financial provisions, further providing for Underground Storage Tank Indemnification Board.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-50

Alloway DiSanto Leach Street
Argall Eichelberger Martin Tartaglione
Aument Farnese McGarrigle Tomlinson
Baker Folmer McIlhinney Vogel
Bartolotta Fontana Mensch Vulakovich
Blake Gordner Rafferty Wagner
Boscola Greenleaf Regan Ward
Brewster Haywood Reschenthaler White
Brooks Hughes Sabatina Williams
Browne Hutchinson Scarnati Yaw
Corman Killion Scavello Yudichak
Costa Langerholc Schwank
Dinniman Laughlin Stefano

NAY-0

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

SB 201 (Pr. No. 278) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, 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 pro-
viding for classes of income.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise to express my concern about this particular piece of legislation, as I have done already in the meeting of the Committee on Finance and later in the meeting of the Committee on Appropriations by voting against this measure. While I think it may be well-intentioned as it relates to tax policy, I think the problem is that it would likely result in about a $10-million or $11-million loss in revenue to this Commonwealth. Mr. President, we all know that we are in a very steep, difficult financial situation. We know that last month we were nearly a half-billion dollars short in terms of our projections. We are already facing, based upon the IFO, a $1.2-billion shortfall. We still have things to do with respect to gaming, gaming license fees, and borrowing that we promised we would do this year. For us to go down the path where we are going to start to pick and choose certain tax changes that we are going to make at this point in time, without it being part of a more comprehensive approach to how we move forward with respect to our tax policies in our Commonwealth, particularly this year, is a concern to me and I do not think it is appropriate that we vote this particular measure this year. So, I intend to vote "no" and ask some of my colleagues, if they are concerned about tax policy and doing it in a more comprehensive way, I encourage them to vote "no" as well.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Centre, Senator Corman.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Reschenthaler.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Corman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Reschenthaler. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-46

Alloway
Argall
Aument
Baker
Bartolotta
Blake
Boscola
Brewster
Brooks
Browne
Corman
Dinniman
DiSanto
Eichelberger
Folmer
Fontana
Gordon
Greenleaf
Haywood
Hutchinson
Killion
Langerhole
Laughlin
Leach

Martin
McGarrigle
McHinney
Mensch
Rafferty
Regan
Reschenthaler
Sabatina
Scarnati
Schwank
Stefano

Street
Tomlinson
Vogel
Vulakovich
Wagner
Ward
White
Williams
Yaw
Yudichak

NAY-4

Costa
Farnese
Hughes
Tartaglione

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

BILL AMENDED

SB 222 (Pr. No. 765) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in organization and jurisdiction of courts of common pleas, further providing for courts of common pleas.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

SCAVELLO AMENDMENT A1189

Senator SCAVELLO offered the following amendment No. A1189:

Amend Bill, page 3, line 8, by inserting a bracket before "6"
Amend Bill, page 3, line 8, by inserting after "6":

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the amendment?
It was agreed to.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration, as amended?

KILLION AMENDMENT A1109

Senator KILLION offered the following amendment No. A1109:

Amend Bill, page 2, line 27, by striking out "22" and inserting:

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the amendment?
It was agreed to.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration, as amended?

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 269, SB 288, SB 289, SB 303, SB 503, SB 504, SB 522 and SB 523 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL AMENDED

SB 560 (Pr. No. 614) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:
An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in wiretapping and electronic surveillance, further providing for definitions, for exceptions to prohibition of interception and disclosure of communications and for exceptions to prohibitions in possession, sale, distribution, manufacture or advertisement of electronic, mechanical or other devices; and providing for recordings by law enforcement officers.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?
Senator GREENLEAF offered the following amendment No. A1144:

Amend Bill, page 2, line 7, by inserting after "officer":

a sheriff or deputy sheriff

Amend Bill, page 2, line 8, by inserting after "officer":

a sheriff or deputy sheriff

Amend Bill, page 10, line 11, by striking out "ensured" and inserting:

assured

Amend Bill, page 11, line 3, by striking out "An" and inserting:

The Office of Attorney General, a district attorney's office or an

Amend Bill, page 11, by inserting between lines 4 and 5:

"Law enforcement officer." An officer of the United States, the

Commonwealth or a political subdivision thereof, another state or political

subdivision thereof or who is empowered by law to conduct investiga-
tions of or to make arrests for offenses enumerated in this chapter or

an equivalent crime in another jurisdiction, a sheriff or deputy sheriff

and any attorney authorized by law to prosecute or participate in the

prosecution of the offense.

Amend Bill, page 11, line 5, by striking out "resides in this Com-

Amend Bill, page 12, line 11, by striking out "Except as otherwise

provided under this chapter, the" and inserting:

The

Amend Bill, page 12, line 17, by striking out "under this chapter"

Amend Bill, page 12, lines 19 through 25, by striking out "and shall

be produced to the" in line 19, all of lines 20 through 24 and "proce-
dure" in line 25

Amend Bill, page 13, line 1, by striking out "60" and inserting:

20

Amend Bill, page 13, line 4, by inserting after "502":

of

Amend Bill, page 13, line 8, by inserting after "request":

under paragraph (1)

Amend Bill, page 13, by inserting between lines 11 and 12:

(3) The request shall include a statement describing the re-

quester's relationship to the incident or event that is the subject of the

audio or video recording.

Amend Bill, page 13, line 12, by striking out "(3)" and inserting:

(4)

Amend Bill, page 13, line 14, by striking out "specify" and inserting:

identify

Amend Bill, page 13, lines 16 and 17, by striking out all of line 16

and "individual" in line 17

Amend Bill, page 13, line 18, by striking out " Potential evidence in a criminal matter" and inserting:

Law enforcement review

Amend Bill, page 13, line 19, by striking out "Notice.--If" and inserting:

Determination.--Except as provided in this section, if

Amend Bill, page 13, line 21, by striking out "a criminal" where it

occurs the second time and inserting:

an

Amend Bill, page 13, line 23, by inserting after "information"

where it occurs the second time:

and the reasonable redaction of the audio or video recording would

not safeguard potential evidence, information pertaining to an investiga-
tion, confidential information or victim information

Amend Bill, page 13, line 24, by striking out "certify" and insert-
ing:

deny

Amend Bill, page 13, line 25, by striking out "certification" and inserting:

denial

Amend Bill, page 13, line 25, by inserting after "no":

reasonable

Amend Bill, page 13, lines 28 and 29, by striking out "a memoran-
dum of understanding" and inserting:

an agreement

Amend Bill, page 14, lines 2 and 3, by striking out all of line 2 and

"district attorney with jurisdiction" in line 3 and inserting:

issue the written denial to the requester

Amend Bill, page 14, line 7, by inserting after "reviewing":

of

Amend Bill, page 14, line 8, by striking out "under subsection (c)."

and inserting:

or to require the Attorney General or district attorney with juris-
diction to issue a denial permitted under subsection (a).

Amend Bill, page 14, lines 9 through 21, by striking out all of said lines

Amend Bill, page 14, line 22, by striking out "Duties of law en-
forcement agencies" and inserting:

Procedure

Amend Bill, page 14, line 27, by striking out "explain why the request

is denied" and inserting:

identify in writing the basis for denying the request

Amend Bill, page 14, line 28, by striking out "60" and inserting:

30

Amend Bill, page 14, line 29, by inserting after "period.":

If an agreement under subsection (b) is in effect between the law

enforcement agency and the Attorney General or district attorney with juris-
diction, then an agreement to a longer time period must be between the

requester and the Attorney General or district attorney with jurisdic-
tion.

Amend Bill, page 15, line 1, by striking out "considered" and insert-
ing:

denied

Amend Bill, page 15, line 26, by inserting after "petition":

for judicial review

Amend Bill, page 16, line 23, by inserting after "agency":

or Attorney General or district attorney with jurisdiction

Amend Bill, page 16, line 27, by striking out "The" and inserting:

If not the respondent named in the petition for judicial review, the

Amend Bill, page 17, lines 21 through 23, by striking out " WITH"

in line 21, all of line 22 and "UNDER SECTION 67A04," in line 23

Amend Bill, page 17, line 28, by striking out "of disclosing" and inserting:

in disclosure of

Amend Bill, page 18, line 6, by inserting after "victims":

law enforcement

Amend Bill, page 18, line 10, by inserting after "agency":
or sheriff

Amend Bill, page 19, lines 5 through 30, by striking out all of said lines and inserting:

(b) Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.--The
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency is authorized to
condition funding or a grant related to the implementation, use, mainte-
nance or storage of body worn cameras or recordings from body worn

 cameras on the following:

(1) Requiring the grantee to have a protocol, guidelines or
written policies related to the implementation, use, maintenance or
storage of body worn cameras.

(2) Requiring that such a protocol, guidelines or written poli-
cies are publicly accessible, including being retrievable on a municipal

website.

(3) Ensuring that the protocol, guidelines, or written policies
substantially comply with applicable recommendations by the commis-
sion.

Amend Bill, page 20, line 12, by striking out "and" and inserting:

or

Amend Bill, page 20, line 18, by striking out "no" and inserting:

reasonable

Amend Bill, page 20, line 19, by inserting after "will":

not
On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

The yeas and nays were required by Senator GREENLEAF and were as follows, viz:

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A majority of the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Without objection, the bill, as amended, was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

**SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

**BILL OVER IN ORDER**

**SB 9** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED**

**HB 16 (Pr. No. 1056)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 25, 1945 (P.L.1050, No.394), known as the Local Tax Collection Law, providing for payment of taxes; and further providing for notices of taxes.

Considered the second time and agreed to, Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for third consideration.

**BILLS OVER IN ORDER**

**SB 510 (Pr. No. 505)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, providing for the offense of threat against law enforcement officer or sheriff.

Considered the second time and agreed to, Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for third consideration.

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION**

**SB 592 (Pr. No. 670)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in duties and powers of boards of school directors, providing for posting of offers of employment for certain administrators; and, in intermediate units, providing for posting of offers of employment for certain staff.

Considered the second time and agreed to, Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for third consideration.

**BILLS OVER IN ORDER**

**SB 611, SB 614 and SB 627** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.
BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION 
AND REREFERRED

SB 630 (Pr. No. 704) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the licensure of limited lines travel insurance producers, for requirements for sale of travel insurance, for authority of limited lines travel insurance producers, for registration and training of travel retailers and for renewal of license.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for third consideration.

Upon motion of Senator CORMAN, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 646 and SB 648 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION 
AND RECOMMITTED

SB 651 (Pr. No. 737) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the capital budget for fiscal year 2017-2018, itemizing public improvement projects, furniture and equipment projects, transportation assistance projects, redevelopment assistance, flood control projects, Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund projects, Environmental Stewardship Fund projects, State forestry bridge projects, park and forest management projects, State ATV/Snowmobile Fund projects, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission projects, Oil and Gas Lease Fund projects and Motor License Fund projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of General Services, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Transportation or the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, together with their estimated financial costs; authorizing the incurring of debt without the approval of the electors for the purpose of financing the projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of General Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Transportation or the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission; authorizing the use of current revenue for the purpose of financing the projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources or the Department of Transportation stating the estimated useful life of the projects; making a related repeal; and making appropriations.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for third consideration.

Upon motion of Senator CORMAN, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was recommitted to the Committee on Appropriations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator GREENLEAF, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported the following bills:

SB 113 (Pr. No. 87)

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in incapacitated persons, providing for communication, visitation and interaction with other persons and for notice to closest relatives of certain events.

SB 121 (Pr. No. 104)

An Act amending Title 61 (Prisons and Parole) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in State intermediate punishment, further providing for findings and purpose, for definitions, for referral to State intermediate punishment program, for drug offender treatment program, for written guidelines and regulations, for reports and for construction.

SB 449 (Pr. No. 439)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, further providing for probable cause arrests in domestic violence cases.

SB 636 (Pr. No. 715)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in riot, disorderly conduct and related offenses, further providing for the offense of cruelty to animals.

HB 267 (Pr. No. 226)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in theft and related offenses, defining the offense of theft of secondary metal; and prescribing penalties.

SENATE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Senators TARTAGLIONE, BLAKE, FONTANA, SABATINA, GREENLEAF, BROWNE, BROOKS, DINNIMAN, AUMENT, BREWSTER, FARNESE, SCHWANK, HUTCHINSON, RAFFERTY, YUDICHAK, COSTA, MENSCH, HUGHES and BOSCOLA, by unanimous consent, offered Senate Resolution No. 111, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of May 2017 as "Older Americans Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator Tartaglione.

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, as we begin the month of May, I take time to recognize our legacies as both Americans and as Pennsylvanians - those individuals who have made this State and this nation what it is today. I am referring to those individuals whom we call older Americans. These individuals are the pillar of our communities, the go-getters of our State, and the pioneers of our nation. I am here today to ask that we honor them and their contributions, without which many of us may not be where we are today. We, as a nation, owe all older Americans a few moments of our time to pay them the respect that they deserve.

This year's theme, "Age Out Loud," was designed to give older Americans a new voice, one that reflects what today's older Americans have to say. More than ever before, older Americans
are working longer, trying new things, and engaging in their communities. They are taking charge, striving for health and wellness, focusing more on their independence, and advocating for themselves and for others. What it means to age is aged, and it is crucial that we recognize this. Therefore, Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to support this resolution and declare the month of May 2017 as "Older Americans Month" in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?
A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators SCAVELLO, FARNESE, ARGALL, BREWSTER, MARTIN, DINNIMAN, GREENLEAF, EICHELBERGER, VOGEL, BROWNE, SABATINA, RESCHENTHALER, FONTANA, RAFFERTY, BARTOLOTTA, YUDICHAK, WARD, COSTA, MENSCH and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered Senate Resolution No. 112, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the week of May 7 through 13, 2017, as "National Travel and Tourism Week" and May 9, 2017, as "Travel Rally Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Monroe, Senator Scavello.

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, I am honored to join my colleague, Senator Farnese, in offering this resolution recognizing May 7 through 13, 2017, as "National Travel and Tourism Week," and May 9 as "Tourism Day" in Pennsylvania. This year, "Tourism Day" is officially being called the "Travel Rally Day." National Travel and Tourism Week and Travel Rally Day are designed to draw attention to and recognize the economic, social, and cultural impacts of travel and tourism in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Tourism is Pennsylvania's second-largest industry, supporting over 489,000 jobs and generating over $41 billion in total economic impact from 193 million visits by leisure and business travelers. Many small businesses are involved in the tourism industry. The hotels, the restaurants, the bed and breakfasts, and attractions are run by these small businesses that constitute an important and vital segment of local economies across the Commonwealth. Travel and tourism provide an opportunity for Pennsylvania to showcase its spectacular natural scenery and culture to all travelers. Therefore, we are pleased to be able to offer this resolution in recognition and celebration of the importance of travel and tourism in the lives of Pennsylvanians. I ask for a unanimous vote.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?
A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators VULAKOVICH, COSTA, AUMENT, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, BLAKE, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER, BROOKS, BROWNE, DINNIMAN, EICHELBERGER, FARNESE, FOLMER, GREENLEAF, HUGHES, MARTIN, MENSCH, RAFFERTY, REGAN, RESCHENTHALER, SABATINA, SCAVELLO, TARTAGLIONE, VOGEL and YUDICHAK, by unanimous consent, offered Senate Resolution No. 113, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing May 12, 2017, as "Military Spouse Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Vulakovich.

Senator VULAKOVICH. Mr. President, I rise today to offer this resolution recognizing May 12, 2017, as "Military Spouse Day" in Pennsylvania. Each year Military Spouse Appreciation Day is observed on the Friday before Mother's Day. This special observation was created by President Ronald Reagan in 1984 as a way for our nation to recognize the sacrifices and contributions made by military spouses and their role in supporting our men and women in uniform. Today's military spouses, both men and women, are often called upon to endure long separations from their loved ones. These husbands and wives often single-handedly take care of their children and homes, as well as their own career.

When our military deploys overseas, those men and women know they carry the thoughts and prayers of their families and friends. That care and concern provides our soldiers with strength as they face the dangers involved with military duty. To assist military spouses, there are several entities, including spouse clubs, for each branch of the service. While these clubs provide guidance and support, nothing takes away from the angst a spouse goes through as they must simply wait - wait for phone calls, wait for news, and wait for their loved one's return.

Today we say thank you to all military spouses for the sacrifice that they make and the support that they provide for their soldier. If you know a spouse of a soldier who is deployed, please take the time to offer a personal touch, whether it is simply going out of your way to say hello, sending a card, offering to mow their lawn, or watch their children. Ultimately, they just need to know that we care. Mr. President, I ask for an affirmative vote. Thank you.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?
A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following resolutions, which were read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Ella M. Mellott, Mary B. Stauffer and to Robert M. MacFeat by Senator Aument.
Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Travers family, Jemille Houston, Robert Donatelli, Belinda Miller, Air Products and Chemicals and to Hope Lutheran Church of Cherryville by Senators Boscola, Browne, and Scavello.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Warren Charles Munsch and to Mildred Kutz Stoudt by Senator Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Marcia Blockson by Senator DiSanto.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Blair County Arts Festival by Senator Eichelberger.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Adam Joseph Lander and to Butler County Motor Company by Senator Hutchinson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Kevin M. Skaer by Senator Killion.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Rotary Club of Johnstown by Senator Langerholc.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Christopher Buck, Rebecca Dewey and to Michael's Restaurant and Jewish Delicatessen by Senator Leach.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Kiki Jefferson by Senator Martin.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dina Kolinsky by Senator McGarrigle.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Madeleine Neiman by Senator Mensch.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to D'Andre Swift by Senator Sabatina.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Monroe County Beekeepers Association by Senator Scavello.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Gabriel N. Shchika by Senator Schwank.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Leah Stark by Senator Stefano.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to L. Dennis Martire by Senator Tartaglione.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Daniel Batista, Andrew Kovacs and to Amanda Milnes by Senator Tomlinson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jonah Warner by Senator Vogel.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Hope Enterprises by Senator Yaw.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Christopher John Williams and to Kyle Spencer Rich by Senator Yudichak.

**CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION**

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following resolution, which was read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late V. Elaine Gilmore by Senator Mellhinney.

**BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION**

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now proceed to consideration of all bills reported from committees for the first time at today's Session.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

**SB 113, SB 121, SB 403, SB 449, SB 636, HB 27 and HB 267.**

And said bills having been considered for the first time, Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for second consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY**

The following announcements were read by the Secretary of the Senate:

**SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017**

9:30 A.M. LAW AND JUSTICE (S) and LIQUOR CONTROL (H) (joint public hearing on pricing)  
Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.

9:30 A.M. TRANSPORTATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 431 and 444, Senate Resolution No. 76; and House Bills No. 93, 103, 199 and 834)  
Room SE-A East Wing

9:30 A.M. URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (to consider Senate Bills No. 586 and 667; and House Bills No. 595 and 758)  
Room 461 Main Capitol

**CANCELLED**

**FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2017**

12:00 P.M. EDUCATION (public hearing on Erie City School District and implementation of the Financial Watch & Recovery Status System)  
Central Tech H.S.

**MONDAY, MAY 15, 2017**

1:00 P.M. EDUCATION Subcommittee on Support Services and Transportation (public hearing on current practices and issues in pupil transportation)  
Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2017**

9:00 A.M. EDUCATION (H) and EDUCATION (S) (joint public hearing on education savings accounts)  
Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2017**

11:00 A.M. STATE GOVERNMENT (public hearing on an overview of various election topics impacting Pennsylvania)  
Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.

**PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I take a moment on the floor to explain the position I took on Senate Bill No. 560 and the amendment offered by my friend and colleague from Montgom-
In 1689, John Locke, an English philosopher and physician, put into words the importance of property rights in his Second Treatise of Government when he wrote, being all "equal and independent, no one ought to harm anyone else in his Life, Health, Liberty, or Possessions."

Thomas Jefferson slightly rephrased Locke's words in the Declaration of Independence by substituting the pursuit of happiness for property rights and declared, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Like Pennsylvania's Constitution, which would follow later, Jefferson added, "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed...That whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."

Mr. President, the advocates of Senate Bill No. 76 believe their safety and happiness are at risk and they are calling upon us as their elected representatives to institute a new government principle that provides for the total elimination of school property taxes, Senate Bill No. 76. These same principles were what helped to spur the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787. The year before, Daniel Shays, a Continental Army captain who fought in the Battle of Bunker Hill, found himself deep in debt and feared the tax man would seize his meager Massachusetts farm. Daniel Shays knew that local jails were filled with people also in debt and did not think this was the liberty he had been promised. So he donned his old army uniform and began drilling with his neighbors in their local tax rebellion, which consisted of fellow veterans determined to protect their properties. George Washington, writing to General Henry Knox, his old artillery commander, about Shays' Rebellion, said, "...if three years ago, any person had told me that at this day, I should see such a formidable rebellion against the laws & constitutions of our own making as now appears I should have thought him a bedlamite--a fit subject for a mad house."

Shays' Rebellion failed, but the protection of property became a key goal of the Constitutional Convention, and when some felt property rights were not adequately protected by the draft of the Constitution presented to the States for approval, they pressed for clarification, which led to the Bill of Rights, which includes the Fifth Amendment, which states, in part, "No person shall be...deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

Property rights were again strengthened after the Civil War with the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment, which states, and I quote, "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.
In 1874, Pennsylvania incorporated similar protections into its Constitution which remain today in Article I, Section 1: "All men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent and indefeasible rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing and protecting property and reputation, and of pursuing their own happiness."

Mr. President, we have had years of conversations on property rights and property taxes throughout the history of this great nation and this great Commonwealth. Meanwhile, school property taxes have continued to rise as the tax base has gotten smaller, hurting young people trying to buy their first homes and senior citizens fighting to stay in their homes as they struggle to pay school property taxes. Many attempts have been made to lessen property tax burdens, but all of them have fallen short. We have had Special Sessions on property taxes. Bills have been and will continue to be introduced. However, Mr. President, there is just one bill that provides for the total elimination of school property taxes, Senator Argall's Senate Bill No. 76. For all of us who ran on a promise of eliminating school property taxes, and there are quite a few of us who have promised to eliminate school property taxes, it is time to either support Senate Bill No. 76 or to offer an alternative that gets us to the much-needed and long-overdue goal of total elimination of school property taxes. Mr. President, again, I say no tax should have the power to leave you homeless.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Rafferty.

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, I acknowledge that this week has importance in the history of the world. This was the week in May 1945 when the document of unconditional surrender was signed by the Allies, the Russians, and the Nazi government, where the Nazi government acquiesced and said, yes, we lost the war, and unconditionally surrendered to Allied forces. It is a very important day because we honor all those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the victory of World War II and all of the men and women who fought in World War II and came back and continued to make this country great. We owe them a deep debt of gratitude. It is an obligation that I do not think we will ever adequately give to those individuals or that we can ever adequately restore to them, but they unselfishly gave of themselves for us to be here today and defeated one of the most evil regimes in the history of the world.

So, thank you, Mr. President, for allowing me to do this. Very briefly, as we have a tradition here in the Senate of including all of our Senate staff as part of our family, happy birthday to Rob Green.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Happy birthday to Rob, as well. Thank you to the Senator for his important remarks.

BILL SIGNED

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Mike Stack) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bill:

HB 224.