

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1999

SESSION OF 1999

183D OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 49

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

**THE SPEAKER (MATTHEW J. RYAN)
PRESIDING**

PRAYER

REV. WILLIAM A. MILLER, Chaplain of the House of Representatives and retired United Methodist minister, Myerstown, Pennsylvania, offered the following prayer:

O Lord, we ask that You will bless the leaders of our State of Pennsylvania and this land of ours, that we may be people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth. Bless our Governor, our Representatives, and our Senators of our State, the mayors of our cities and all in administrative authority, and grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties. Give the courage and the wisdom and foresight of Solomon to provide for the needs of all our people.

To the judges and officers of our courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served, and, Father, teach our people to rely on Your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens and to make wise decisions for the well-being of our society, that we may serve You faithfully in our generation and honor Your holy name.

For those of this body who may need a special prayer, we pause, and we ask for strength and courage and healing and wholeness as we commit them to Your love and care. This we ask in the name of our Lord God, the creator and preserver of all mankind. 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 Monday, October 18, 1999, will be postponed until printed. The Chair hears no objection.

JOURNALS APPROVED

The SPEAKER. The Journals for Monday, September 27, and Tuesday, September 28, 1999, are in print. Without objection, they will stand approved. The Chair hears no objections.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. We have a group of guests in the balcony. Among them is a former member of the House, Superior Court Judge Corry Stevens, who— Where is Judge— There he is. He sent me a note to introduce guests, but I cannot read his writing. So I welcome the group that is with Judge Stevens. It appears to be a mock trial group of students from Freeland, and with these students we find Dennis Clarke, the adviser, and Judge Corry Stevens, and we are always pleased to see the judge and his friends here in the hall of the House. Thank you.

We have a group of Cub Scouts from Pack 17 in Sayre, here with their leader, Mike Hudok, as the guests of Representative Chadwick. Would these guests please rise.

We are pleased to have with us today a guest page, Amanda Szymborski-Pratt, here today as a guest of Representative Sheila Miller. Miss Pratt is a constituent, though, of Representative Dante Santoni. She is a seventh grade student at Muhlenberg Middle School in Berks County. Would this young lady please rise.

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 1969 By Representatives BUXTON, TULLI, McNAUGHTON and MARSICO

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor, to grant and convey to the Capital Region Economic Development Corporation, a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation, certain lands situate in the City of Harrisburg, Dauphin County.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT,
October 19, 1999.

No. 1972 By Representatives O'BRIEN, BARRAR, BEBKO-JONES, BELARDI, BELFANTI, BLAUM, BROWNE, BUNT, DALEY, DeLUCA, DEMPSEY, EGOLF, FRANKEL, GEIST, GIGLIOTTI, GRUCELA, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HORSEY, KELLER, KENNEY, LEDERER, McCALL, MELIO, MICHLOVIC, R. MILLER, ORIE, PHILLIPS, RAMOS, READSHAW, SANTONI, SCHRODER, SEYFERT, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STABACK, STERN, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR, J. TAYLOR, TIGUE, TRELLO, WALKO, WILLIAMS, WILT, WOJNAROSKI and YOUNGBLOOD

An Act amending the act of May 28, 1995 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1009, No.14), known as the DNA Detection of Sexual and Violent Offenders Act, further defining "other specified offense."

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, October 19, 1999.

No. 1973 By Representatives DeWEESE, RYAN, GEORGE, VEON, PISTELLA, BEBKO-JONES, BELARDI, BLAUM, BUNT, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPABIANCA, CARN, M. COHEN, COLAFELLA, COSTA, COY, DeLUCA, DERMODY, DONATUCCI, EVANS, FARGO, GEIST, GODSHALL, GRUCELA, HALUSKA, HANNA, HARHAI, HASAY, HORSEY, JOSEPHS, LAUGHLIN, LEH, LESCOVITZ, MANN, MARKOSEK, McCALL, MELIO, MICHLOVIC, MYERS, OLIVER, ORIE, PETRONE, PRESTON, RAMOS, RIEGER, ROBERTS, ROBINSON, ROEBUCK, ROONEY, SCRIMENTI, SHANER, STABACK, STEELMAN, STETLER, STURLA, TRAVAGLIO, TRELLO, VAN HORNE, WILLIAMS, YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK and SURRA

An Act designating the East Wing of the Main Capitol Building as the K. Leroy Irvis Legislative Office Building and providing for its use.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, October 19, 1999.

No. 1974 By Representatives CLYMER, ARMSTRONG, BAKER, BATTISTO, EGOLF, FAIRCHILD, FARGO, FLEAGLE, GANNON, GEIST, GEORGE, GODSHALL, GORDNER, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HESS, KIRKLAND, LAUGHLIN, LYNCH, MAITLAND, MASLAND, McNAUGHTON, MELIO, METCALFE, R. MILLER, S. MILLER, MYERS, ORIE, PLATTS, ROHRER, RUBLEY, SATHER, SAYLOR, SCHULER, STEELMAN, STERN, STEVENSON, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TRUE, WASHINGTON, YOUNGBLOOD and ZIMMERMAN

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the offense of gambling by computer.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, October 19, 1999.

No. 1975 By Representatives SAINATO, LaGROTTA, VAN HORNE, HERMAN, READSHAW, SEYFERT, LEH, TIGUE, GORDNER, TRELLO, WOJNAROSKI, HERSHEY, WILLIAMS, LEDERER, SHANER, PESCI, ROBERTS, BROWNE, WALKO, EACHUS, M. COHEN, GRUCELA, PISTELLA, MICHLOVIC, TRAVAGLIO, SAYLOR, COLAFELLA, HASAY, STEELMAN, SEMMEL, HARHAI, LAUGHLIN, CASORIO and MARKOSEK

An Act amending the act of June 1, 1945 (P.L.1242, No.428), known as the State Highway Law, further providing for signs on State highways; and making editorial changes.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, October 19, 1999.

No. 1976 By Representatives L. I. COHEN, THOMAS, MASLAND, WALKO, E. Z. TAYLOR, M. COHEN, BELFANTI, BROWNE, CURRY, DeLUCA, FRANKEL, LEDERER, MELIO, RAMOS, RUBLEY, B. SMITH, STEIL, YOUNGBLOOD and YUDICHAK

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for hearing and deciding cases involving dissolution of marriage, custody, child support, spousal support, alimony, equitable division of marital property and related family law matters.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, October 19, 1999.

No. 1977 By Representatives L. I. COHEN, THOMAS, MASLAND, WALKO, E. Z. TAYLOR, M. COHEN, BELFANTI, BROWNE, CURRY, DeLUCA, FRANKEL, LEDERER, MELIO, RAMOS, RUBLEY, B. SMITH, STEIL, YOUNGBLOOD and YUDICHAK

An Act amending Titles 23 (Domestic Relations) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for procedures in domestic relations litigation; conferring powers and duties on the unified judicial system, the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Legislative Reference Bureau; establishing the Family Justice Account; and making editorial changes.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, October 19, 1999.

No. 1978 By Representatives SANTONI, CAPPABIANCA, BELARDI, GRUCELA, RAMOS, STEELMAN, WALKO, CURRY, DeWEESE, LEDERER, BATTISTO, HARHAI, ORIE and YOUNGBLOOD

An Act amending the act of November 20, 1968 (P.L.1075, No.329), referred to as the Public Television Network System Law, providing for the establishment of a Public Access, Educational Access and Governmental Access Television Advisory Council and defining its powers and duties; and establishing a Public Access, Educational Access and Governmental Access Capital Improvement Fund.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, October 19, 1999.

No. 1979 By Representatives HESS, PHILLIPS, STABACK, CIVERA, GEIST, GEORGE, SURRA, M. COHEN, READSHAW, HERSHEY, SEYFERT, SHANER and E. Z. TAYLOR

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, prohibiting the use of facsimiles of game or wildlife for law enforcement purposes.

Referred to Committee on GAME AND FISHERIES, October 19, 1999.

No. 1980 By Representatives STAIRS, ARGALL, BAKER, BELARDI, BENNINGHOFF, L. I. COHEN, COLAFELLA, CORRIGAN, DALEY, EGOLF, GEIST, HALUSKA, HARHAI, HORSEY, LUCYK, MELIO, PISTELLA, SATHER, SHANER, SOLOBAY, STABACK, E. Z. TAYLOR, TRELLO, WILT, WOJNAROSKI and YOUNGBLOOD

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for unauthorized publication of name or likeness; and establishing a right of action.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, October 19, 1999.

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 281 By Representatives KREBS, HANNA, MASLAND, VITALI, PLATTS, FREEMAN and STEELMAN

A Resolution amending House Rules 10, 21, 24, 43, 45 and 77.

Referred to Committee on RULES, October 19, 1999.

No. 284 By Representatives FREEMAN, VITALI, KREBS, STEELMAN and HANNA

A Resolution amending House Rules 21 and 24.

Referred to Committee on RULES, October 19, 1999.

No. 286 By Representatives STAIRS, BASTIAN, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, L. I. COHEN, DEMPSEY, EGOLF, GEIST, GORDNER, HARHAI, HERSHEY, HESS, KENNEY, LEDERER, MASLAND, McNAUGHTON, MELIO, METCALFE, R. MILLER, S. MILLER, PETRARCA, PIPPY, PLATTS, READSHAW, SATHER, SAYLOR, SCHULER, SEMMEL, SEYFERT, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TIGUE, TRUE, VAN HORNE, WALKO and YOUNGBLOOD

A Resolution reaffirming a commitment to preserving our American heritage.

Referred to Committee on RULES, October 19, 1999.

BILLS REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader. Mr. PERZEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the following bills be taken from the table:

HB 368;
HB 496;
HB 566;
HB 846;
HB 880;
HB 891; and
HB 944.

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

BILLS TABLED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader. Mr. PERZEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the following House bills be placed on the table:

HB 368;
HB 496;
HB 566;
HB 846;

HB 880;
HB 891; and
HB 944.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the minority whip, who requests that the gentleman from Washington County, Mr. DALEY, be placed on leave for the day. Without objection, leave will be granted. The Chair hears no objection.

MASTER ROLL CALL

The SPEAKER. The Chair is about to take today's master roll call. Members, please proceed to the floor. Members will proceed to vote.

The following roll call was recorded:

PRESENT—199

Adolph	Fargo	Mann	Schuler
Allen	Feese	Markosek	Scrimenti
Argall	Fichter	Marsico	Semmel
Armstrong	Fleagle	Masland	Serafini
Baker	Flick	Mayernik	Seyfert
Bard	Forcier	McCall	Shaner
Barley	Frankel	McGeehan	Smith, B.
Barrar	Freeman	McGill	Smith, S. H.
Bastian	Gannon	McIlhattan	Snyder
Battisto	Geist	McIlhinney	Solobay
Bebko-Jones	George	McNaughton	Staback
Belardi	Gigliotti	Melio	Stairs
Belfanti	Gladeck	Metcalfe	Steelman
Benninghoff	Godshall	Michlovic	Steil
Birmelin	Gordner	Micozzie	Stern
Bishop	Grucela	Miller, R.	Stetler
Blaum	Gruitza	Miller, S.	Stevenson
Boyes	Habay	Mundy	Strittmatter
Browne	Haluska	Nailor	Sturla
Bunt	Hanna	Nickol	Surra
Butkovitz	Harhai	O'Brien	Tangretti
Buxton	Harhart	Oliver	Taylor, E. Z.
Caltagirone	Hasay	Orie	Taylor, J.
Cappabianca	Hennessey	Perzel	Thomas
Carn	Herman	Pesci	Tigue
Casorio	Hershey	Petrarca	Travaglio
Cawley	Hess	Petrone	Trello
Chadwick	Horsey	Phillips	Trich
Civera	Hutchinson	Pippy	True
Clark	Jadlowiec	Pistella	Tulli
Clymer	James	Platts	Vance
Cohen, L. I.	Josephs	Preston	Van Horne
Cohen, M.	Kaiser	Ramos	Veon
Colafella	Keller	Raymond	Vitali
Cornell	Kenney	Readshaw	Walko
Corrigan	Kirkland	Reinard	Washington
Costa	Krebs	Rieger	Waters
Coy	LaGrotta	Roberts	Williams
Curry	Laughlin	Robinson	Wilt
Dailey	Lawless	Roebuck	Wogan
Dally	Lederer	Rohrer	Wojnaroski
DeLuca	Leh	Rooney	Wright
Dermody	Lescovitz	Ross	Yewcic
DeWeese	Levdansky	Rubley	Youngblood
DiGirolamo	Lucyk	Sainato	Yudichak
Donatucci	Lynch	Samuelson	Zimmerman
Druce	Maher	Santoni	Zug

Eachus	Maitland	Sather	
Egolf	Major	Saylor	Ryan,
Evans	Manderino	Schroder	Speaker
Fairchild			

ADDITIONS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—4

Daley	Dempsey	Myers	Ruffing
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LEAVES ADDED—5

Buxton	McNaughton	Tulli	Vance
Marsico			

CALENDAR

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The following bills, having been called up, were considered for the second time and agreed to, and ordered transcribed for third consideration:

HB 1841, PN 2258; HB 1888, PN 2455; HB 1893, PN 2338; and HB 1953, PN 2441.

BILLS RECOMMITTED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the Appropriations Committee chairman.

Mr. BARLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the following bills be recommitted to the Committee on Appropriations.

HB 1841;
 HB 1888;
 HB 1893; and
 HB 1953.

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

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

BILLS PASSED OVER

The SPEAKER. The next two bills on page 2, HB 867 and HB 1569, are over.

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1848, PN 2418**, entitled:

An Act providing for a tax credit to employers who hire certain individuals; and making a repeal.

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

Mr. COY offered the following amendment No. A3572:

Amend Title, page 1, line 5, by inserting after "INDIVIDUALS" and for a tax credit for higher education expenses
 Amend Sec. 2, page 2, by inserting between lines 27 and 28 "Qualified institution of higher education." An educational institution which has the authority from a state to confer degrees for the satisfactory completion of programs in postsecondary education.

Amend Bill, page 6, by inserting between lines 15 and 16 Section 4. Credit for higher education.

(a) General rule.—A taxpayer is entitled to a credit against the tax imposed by Article III of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in accordance with this section.

(b) Eligibility.—A taxpayer is eligible for the credit under this section if any of the following apply:

- (1) The taxpayer is an individual who:
 - (i) is matriculated at a qualified institution of higher education; and
 - (ii) pays more than half of the taxpayer's tuition at that institution.
- (2) The taxpayer:
 - (i) is the parent of a child who is matriculated at a qualified institution of higher education; and
 - (ii) pays more than half of that child's tuition at that institution.
- (3) The taxpayer:
 - (i) is the spouse of an individual who is matriculated at a qualified institution of higher education; and
 - (ii) pays more than half of that individual's tuition at that institution.

(c) Amount of credit.—The amount of the credit under subsection (b) shall be the percent specified in section 302(a)(2) or (b)(2) of the Tax Reform Code of 1971 multiplied by up to \$5,000 of the amount spent by the taxpayer on:

- (1) tuition for the taxpayer under subsection (b)(1);
- (2) tuition for each child under subsection (b)(2); and
- (3) tuition for the spouse under subsection (b)(3).

Amend Sec. 4, page 6, line 16, by striking out "4" and inserting 5

Amend Sec. 5, page 6, line 25, by striking out "5" and inserting 6

Amend Sec. 6, page 7, line 8, by striking out "6" and inserting 7

Amend Sec. 7, page 7, line 19, by striking out "7" and inserting 8

Amend Bill, page 7, by inserting between lines 22 and 23 Section 9. Section 4 of this act shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1998.

Amend Sec. 8, page 7, line 23, by striking out "8" and inserting 10

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

AMENDMENT WITHDRAWN

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Mr.—
 The gentleman, Mr. Coy, advises the Chair that that amendment is withdrawn.

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

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

VOTE STRICKEN

The SPEAKER. Strike the board.

The Chair is advised that Mr. Browne, Miss Mann, Mr. Boyes, and one other person desire to speak on final passage. The Chair was unaware of that.

The Chair recognizes the lady, Miss Mann.

Conferences in the rear of the House, please break up. Conferences in the aisles and in the vicinity of the majority leader's desk, please break up. Members, please take your seats.

Miss Mann.

Miss MANN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I just wanted to take an opportunity and speak to the significance of HB 1848 and to ask for the support of the members.

This bill is really a success in bipartisan cooperation and an opportunity for us to work with our partners in the private sector where we can help employers who provide jobs to people who are coming off welfare, where we can reward those employers for doing so. I am proud to have participated in this legislation by offering an amendment that will also reward employers who provide health benefits, because they can also receive a tax credit for that as well.

Again, this is an opportunity for us to follow through. When we talk about people being self-sustaining and providing for themselves and being self-reliant, this is an actual mechanism, a tangible mechanism, that will encourage employers to help us to do that as we work to help other people as they work to become self-reliant.

So again, I just want to commend Chairman Boyes and Chairman Trello for their efforts on this legislation, which is very significant, and again encourage the support of my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman from Lehigh, Mr. Browne.

Mr. BROWNE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of HB 1848.

In 1988 the United States Congress designated the month of October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Since then, October has become a kickoff month for a year round of programs that highlight the abilities and skills of Americans with disabilities. The theme of this year's programs is "Think Ability," a theme that reinforces the fact that a mental and physical disability is not because of lack of talent but merely an impediment to the blossoming of talent and the harnessing of a resource.

Through HB 1848, Representative Boyes and Representative Trello are making very important improvements to our employee incentive program, improvements that will encourage a better public-private partnership to employ citizens of Pennsylvania who have a difficulty joining in our prosperity, changes that will make this legislation, this incentive payment program, a model for the rest of the country. One of these important changes is including and expanding the program to include not only TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) recipients but those individuals whose physical and mental disability have caused them an impediment to employment. With this change, we are recognizing the fact that even with unemployment rates at all-time lows, Pennsylvanians with disabilities continue to lag behind other Pennsylvanians in employment, with unemployment rates running as high as 52 percent. By adding citizens with disabilities to the employment incentive payment program, we will be offering a powerful incentive to our Tax Reform Code, provide employment for a group of individuals who have a desire to go to work to be a part of our growing economy but have not been part of our prosperity.

I ask for an affirmative vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. The Chair interrupts the deliberations for a moment to welcome to the House fourth grade students from Blossburg, Tioga County, here today as the guests of Representative Matt Baker. Would the guests in the balcony please rise.

CONSIDERATION OF HB 1848 CONTINUED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Mr. Trello, on final passage.

Mr. TRELLO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to relate to this Assembly that the wonderful relationship that the majority chairman, Karl Boyes, and myself have had over the past several years, it has been a wonderful journey working with not only Karl Boyes but the entire members of the committee, the Finance Committee.

This piece of legislation will go a long, long way in helping our friends in the business community and those of us that had a difficult time, through no fault of their own, seeking employment. This will provide them with an incentive to hire, it will make an incentive for people to go to work, and it will be a benefit to all the taxpayers of Pennsylvania.

I want to congratulate each and every member of the Finance Committee, especially my counterpart, Chairman Boyes of this Finance Committee, and I urge a positive vote on this major piece of legislation. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Mr. Boyes. The gentleman will yield.

There are too many conversations on the floor. Members, please take your seats or leave the floor.

Mr. Boyes.

Mr. BOYES. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Representative Pesci. Representative Rubley, Representative Mann,

Representative Browne, and my counterpart, Representative Trello, and all members of the House Finance Committee for their efforts to advance this legislation in committee and on the House floor. We truly would not be in a position to pass this legislation without their efforts.

A recent article in the New York Times, on October 10, 1999, summarizes the reasons why I believe we need to enact an extension of the employment incentive tax credits before the end of the year. The article is entitled, "As Benefits Expire, the Experts Worry." It details the problems States are confronting as welfare time limits are reached under the final phase of the welfare-to-work programs.

The basic premise of welfare-to-work is that we should move people from the welfare rolls into productive employment. This is intended to give welfare recipients an opportunity to move forward toward self-sufficiency. However, we realize that some may find it more difficult to make the transition into work and they will run up against the time limits in increasing numbers. That is where programs such as the employment incentive tax credit becomes important. However, the credit is due to expire for employees hired after December 31, 1999. It would expire at precisely the wrong time, when some recipients in the not too distant future could be facing a cutoff of benefits.

I believe it is essential to not only extend the credit but also to expand the credit to cover more individuals. Under current law, a welfare recipient must be receiving benefits on the day they are hired in order for their employer to be eligible for the credit. This type of provision would be of little assistance to someone who has reached their time limits and no longer receives benefits. This legislation would extend eligibility to those who receive benefits in the prior 12 months.

There are also other improvements to the existing tax credit. This legislation would address two major roadblocks to welfare recipients obtaining jobs — child care and transportation. Employers who provide these benefits would receive additional tax credits. Our chances for continued welfare reform success increase significantly when the employer provides or helps pay for these important services. Employers who provide certain benefits such as health insurance would be able to count that toward wages for the calculation of their credit.

And finally, another group for whom there exist impediments to employment would be included within the tax credit — persons with mental or physical disabilities who are receiving vocational rehabilitation services. People with physical or mental disabilities are often overlooked because employers view them as too much of a risk. With this incentive, they will finally get the chance to prove they work just as hard as their fellow Pennsylvanians.

I commend everyone who has provided assistance so that we can enact this legislation into law by the end of the year, including those Representatives who have withdrawn their amendments. With this legislation, we can extend and improve upon the existing incentives for employers to hire people they might not ordinarily hire. It will enable us to move into a new millennium with greater confidence, knowing that we did not let a program expire that holds a promise of helping people obtain employment.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The gentleman, Mr. Sainato.

Mr. SAINATO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak briefly on this legislation. I think this is something that is very important.

I would like to commend Chairman Boyes and Chairman Trello for their many hours of efforts in getting this very important piece of legislation on the House floor today.

As Chairman Boyes had said, this is something that is very important for many Pennsylvania residents. For many years in this House we have worked with welfare reform and trying to get welfare recipients into the workforce. This piece of legislation is an important aspect to that puzzle. It gets people off welfare, it gets them to be wage earners, it gives them something to be proud of, and I think it is something that we as legislators must always focus on — working to get people off welfare and onto the work rolls in this Commonwealth. This legislation goes a far way of achieving that goal — by giving businesses incentives to hire welfare recipients, by giving businesses incentives to hire the handicapped and those less fortunate. I think it is very important, Mr. Speaker; it is very important. That has been our goal for many years.

I am a member of the House Finance Committee, and I have seen the effort and work that was put in this piece of legislation. I feel happy that I was able to play a part in that role, and I think each and every one of us here today should support this legislation. It is a goal we all worked for — to get people off welfare and onto the work rolls. It is good for Pennsylvania, it is good for the taxpayers of Pennsylvania, and it is good for the citizens of Pennsylvania.

So I urge my colleagues to support this very important piece of legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—199

Adolph	Fargo	Mann	Schuler
Allen	Feese	Markosek	Scrimenti
Argall	Fichter	Marsico	Semmel
Armstrong	Fleagle	Masland	Serafini
Baker	Flick	Mayemik	Seyfert
Bard	Forcier	McCall	Shaner
Barley	Frankel	McGeehan	Smith, B.
Barrar	Freeman	McGill	Smith, S. H.
Bastian	Gannon	McIlhattan	Snyder
Battisto	Geist	McIlhinney	Solobay
Bebko-Jones	George	McNaughton	Staback
Belardi	Gigliotti	Melio	Stairs
Belfanti	Gladeck	Metcalfe	Steelman
Benninghoff	Godshall	Michlovic	Steil
Birmelin	Gordner	Micozzie	Stern
Bishop	Grucela	Miller, R.	Stetler
Blaum	Gruitza	Miller, S.	Stevenson
Boyes	Habay	Mundy	Strittmatter
Browne	Haluska	Nailor	Sturla
Bunt	Hanna	Nickol	Surra
Butkovitz	Harhai	O'Brien	Tangretti
Buxton	Harhart	Oliver	Taylor, E. Z.
Caltagirone	Hasay	Orie	Taylor, J.
Cappabianca	Hennessey	Perzel	Thomas
Carn	Herman	Pesci	Tigue
Casorio	Hershey	Petrarca	Travaglio
Cawley	Hess	Petrone	Trello
Chadwick	Horsey	Phillips	Trich
Civera	Hutchinson	Pippy	True
Clark	Jadlowiec	Pistella	Tulli
Clymer	James	Platts	Vance

Cohen, L. I.	Josephs	Preston	Van Home
Cohen, M.	Kaiser	Ramos	Veon
Colafella	Keller	Raymond	Vitali
Cornell	Kenney	Readshaw	Walko
Corrigan	Kirkland	Reinard	Washington
Costa	Krebs	Rieger	Waters
Coy	LaGrotta	Roberts	Williams
Curry	Laughlin	Robinson	Wilt
Dailey	Lawless	Roebuck	Wogan
Dally	Lederer	Rohrer	Wojnaroski
DeLuca	Leh	Rooney	Wright
Dermody	Lescovitz	Ross	Yewcic
DeWeese	Levdansky	Rubley	Youngblood
DiGirolamo	Lucyk	Sainato	Yudichak
Donatucci	Lynch	Samuelson	Zimmerman
Druce	Maher	Santoni	Zug
Eachus	Maitland	Sather	
Egolf	Major	Saylor	Ryan,
Evans	Manderino	Schroder	Speaker
Fairchild			

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—4

Daley	Dempsey	Myers	Ruffing
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The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

DELEGATION FROM POLAND PRESENTED

The SPEAKER. The Chair is pleased— Members, please take your seats. We have some honored guests with us today, and I would like them to see us on our best behavior.

I am going to ask the lady, Ms. Elzbieta Soltyssek, to introduce our guests, who are members of a Polish delegation, including the Governor of the Province of Silesia, Poland, and at least one member of the Polish Parliament. You may introduce the guests, Ms. Soltyssek.

Ms. SOLTYSSEK. Hello. My name is Elzbieta Soltyssek. Thank you very much for the floor.

I will introduce the members of our delegation. So the first person, of course, is Marek Kempski, Governor of the Silesia Province of Poland. He is my boss and the most handsome Governor among Polish Governors, so I am lucky. Okay. Then we have Wojciech Frank, member of the Polish Parliament. I can say I am fortunate that he is the most handsome member of the Parliament, okay? Then we have Mr. Aleksander Cwik. He is the chairman of the Social Economic Forum; Marek Palus, chairman of the Upper Silesia Fund; Piotr Kukurba, chairman of the Silesian Agency of Energy; Marcin Bilewicz, Elimar Brokerage House. And we have also Mariusz Handzlik, Counselor for Political Affairs of the Polish Embassy in Washington; and Don Rodzon, the best friend of Poland for ages, and he is a consultant of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Thank you very much for the floor.

The SPEAKER. These guests have been shepherded around the Capitol by Secretary Butler of Labor and Industry and members of his staff, so we are very pleased to have had them. Robert William, director of the Center for International Relations of L&I, is with us today. If he would put, yes, put his hand up — there; he cannot be seen — and he has taken the responsibility of showing our guests around.

We are very pleased that you saw fit to come to the House. Thank you very much.

The House will be at ease for a picture moment.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. The Chair is pleased to recognize Mr. Rick Huffman, the director of education at United High School in Indiana County. He is here as the guest of Representative Steelman and is here also in his capacity as a participant in the school-to-work program. Would the guest please rise — Mr. Huffman.

Today serving as a guest page with Representative Barrar is Nicole Polis, an eighth grade student at the Garnet Valley Middle School. She is here with her family: her father, John; mother, Kathy; and brother, James. They are seated over in the corner with the Polish delegation right now. Please stand up.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **SB 456, PN 1365**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the qualifications and appointment of deputy waterways conservation officers; authorizing certain cooperative agreements; further providing for changes in grading of certain offenses, for increased fines for certain convictions, for violations of regulations and permits, for acknowledgment of guilt, for disposition of nonresident offenders and for issuing agents; prohibiting the sales of certain fish, reptiles and amphibians; and further providing for the grading of and penalties for violations relating to boating registration, identification, issuing agents and accident reports.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration?

Mr. **GEORGE** offered the following amendment No. **A3507**:

Amend Sec. 5 (Sec. 925), page 9, line 4, by striking out said line and inserting

(a) General rule.—A person

Amend Sec. 5 (Sec. 925), page 9, line 17, by inserting a colon after “that”

Amend Sec. 5 (Sec. 925), page 9, lines 18 and 19, by inserting a bracket before “the” in line 18 and after “right.” in line 19 and inserting immediately thereafter

(1) The person charged has the right to withdraw the acknowledgment within ten days by entering a plea of not guilty before the appropriate issuing authority and to have a hearing before that issuing authority.

(2) If the person charged signs the acknowledgment and fails to withdraw it within the ten-day period, then he forfeits his right to a hearing.

Amend Sec. 5 (Sec.925), page 9, lines 28 through 30; page 10, lines 1 through 3, by striking out all of said lines on said pages and inserting

(d) Time period to withdraw acknowledgments of guilt.—Any person who signs an acknowledgment pursuant to this section may, within ten days of such signing, withdraw the acknowledgment by entering a plea of not guilty before the appropriate issuing authority.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

The SPEAKER. On the question of the adoption of the amendment, the Chair recognizes Mr. George. The gentleman will yield.

The conference— Members, please step outside for your conferences.

Mr. George, on the amendment.

Mr. GEORGE. Mr. Speaker, could I clarify what you just said? If they are not going to vote for this amendment, have them step outside. If they are going to vote for the amendment, please do not chase them out.

The SPEAKER. The hall would be empty.

Mr. George.

Mr. GEORGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today not to embellish, not to chastise, but simply to say that sometimes we are guilty in our haste for not really knowing what we think we understand. The reason that I feel this amendment is most important is that I have seen what has happened when this type of language that is in this bill, 456, was adopted in this House and it affected the Game Commission. So what we are here to do today, if this amendment does not pass, is that we are going to abolish the field citation, and let me say this to each and all, that the way people have felt, because it was not explained properly, they wanted an abolishment of the field citation, and the reason, Mr. Speaker, that they wanted the abolishment of the field citation was that there was no appeal that could be taken within a limited time to rectify a decision that may have been made in haste, because a field citation is not appealable.

So now what do we do for those people that call us, Mr. Speaker? We say, well, now what we are going to do is that no individual who has any authority in the Fish Commission is going to be able to come out and intimidate you and force you to accept a field citation, and what we are going to do is, we are going to make him take that citation to the district magistrate, and if you are found guilty, you will pay costs, which in many cases can be twice the price of the fine. Oh, but, you know, you can go to a district magistrate and you can take a day's work off and you can appeal to that district magistrate after you have filed a \$5 fee, and you can say to that district magistrate, I have proof that I am not guilty of the offense that is displayed on this citation, and, you know, as any of you know, you could win, and even after you win you have still spent money — loss of wages, loss of time, and all of the harassment that goes about taking it directly to a district magistrate. And incidentally, I have talked to many district magistrates and they said, what are you guys doing? In 1968 when we passed the law to change all of this in the committee and said that we are going to eliminate the backlog in the courts by establishing a district justice system, now we come in here and we send hundreds of people automatically to the district justice to fight and, in most cases, pay a fine with additional costs that were not applied previously. And what I want to do is, I do not want to hurt the Fish Commission, Mr. Speaker, but neither do I want to hurt these people whether they have in fact been guilty of an

offense under the code. What I want to happen— Mr. Speaker, if you will. I apologize.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will yield.

Sergeants at Arms, move the members and staff from behind the bar. Members will please take their seats.

Mr. George.

Mr. GEORGE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Please, Mr. Speaker, listen carefully whether you want to vote for it or not so that you can honestly answer these people in your area that are going to be given citations if in fact this amendment does not go in, because one of the constant criticisms of the current system is that allowing field citation acknowledgment is an acknowledgment of guilt to the persons who signed that acknowledgment, and therefore, you are done, and even though you have been lied to, you could lose your license under certain offenses, and that is true. But what better could we do for those we represent than to apply the commonsense approach that each one of you have by simply saying, do not abolish the field citation; basically put legal language in there to allow that citation to become appealed should you choose to do so within a 10-day limitation. So now what we are doing is we are not forcing an individual to accept because he signs a citation, a field receipt, to plead guilty; we simply ask him to acknowledge and that within 10 days, if he does not agree with that citation, he can march in to the district justice and have that case come up before that justice now as the bill does and then pay an excessive court cost if he is found guilty, he or she.

So I am asking for the best of the world. I am not asking you to hurt the commission; I am not asking you to hurt the people. I am simply saying, we are legislators; we understand law, at least we pretend we do, and we understand the problem that our people face, or we pretend we do. So simply just put a little language in there saying, hey, look, if an officer of the law comes out through the Fish Commission and says, you are guilty of too many fish, under the law, if you sign that, you could lose your license. But if in fact the man was insisting on a multitude of charges forcing you to accept the field citation and then admitting your guilt, this is the only way to do it.

So we are giving them the best, and I look and I know that the chairman of the committee is going to come up and he is going to say, oh, you know, that is not true, and then when we stand up to argue about the bill, then I am going to ask that chairman why the offenses are going in many cases from \$100 to \$200. A multitude of offenses are doubling, and then we sit here, maybe too busy to listen, to listen to a proposition that will deal fairly with both sides of the equation, and let them argue all they want, because what they are going to do with every offense where guilt is established is they are not only going to burden you with higher charges of the fine but excessive costs of prosecution, and that is the wrong way to go, and I ask that you support this amendment. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question of the adoption of the amendment, Mr. Smith. The gentleman from York, Mr. Smith.

Mr. B. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I oppose this amendment. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is the only law enforcement agency in Pennsylvania that utilizes field receipts as acknowledgment of guilt. What you have to understand, what Representative George is asking you to prolong is an officer in the field taking money from an offender

after telling him, I will give you a receipt. Picture in your mind if you were caught speeding and the officer says you were doing in excess of the speed limit, but you can pay me and I will give you a receipt. It is the wrong perception for 1999. We eliminated the field receipt as acknowledgment of guilt for the Game Commission last year. I have not received one complaint from anybody on elimination of field receipts for Game Commission violations—not one complaint.

I would also respectfully point out to you the people that support elimination of field receipts as acknowledgment of guilt, and Representative George's amendment perpetuates these field receipts. The two largest sportsmen's organizations in Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and the Unified Sportsmen, support elimination of field receipts as acknowledgment of guilt. They support SB 456 as it passed the Senate, eliminating these field receipts. The entire Game and Fisheries Committee unanimously supported a bill several times that eliminated field receipts. The district justices of Pennsylvania have a judiciary committee. That judiciary committee supports elimination of field receipts.

It is the wrong perception for law enforcement officers to take money from offenders. Please oppose Representative George's amendment. Vote "no." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Northampton, Mr. Grucela, please.

Mr. GRUCELA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the George amendment. I believe it is a good amendment, and I believe, with all due respect to the committee chairman, I believe this amendment is about appeals, and the right to appeal is almost universal in our system of jurisprudence. Why would we deny these particular individuals? Any time you have extra time to think about a matter, I believe it is always in everyone's best interests. I believe that this amendment is only fair and just, and I would ask the members to act favorably upon the George amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. On the question of the adoption of the amendment, Mr. George.

Mr. GEORGE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I guess I am reminded of the story about a blind hog. If he roots, he might find an acorn, and I am going to keep on rooting here, because I think I have a right to insist when an argument is put forth in a very polished way to object to the way it was presented. To start with, the chairman of the committee insists it is the only entity that still has a field citation. That is because several months ago wrongly we allowed a vote to come up so that it was eliminated in the Game Commission.

Now again, and very quickly, it simply enhances, puts the effort of a legal appeal forward, allows these people that may be flustered and an officer intimidates or coerces them and they sign that field receipt, and then they go and they find out they should not have paid it, and then they go to the sportsmen's club and they come down here and say to Mr. Smith, help us; here is what they are doing. We are helping them if we take this amendment and we utilize it, because no longer is that individual momentarily emblazoned with the fact that he is guilty. He can go back in 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, up to 10 days and say, hey, look, I am not going to accept this field citation; I am going to go to court, and then if he is found guilty and he pays the costs, at least he had his day in court.

So what I am saying is, this enhances the system. It allows an individual to think and gives him time to think and then gives that individual a time to get that money back should he take it to the district justice. And more than that, Mr. Speaker, it will not be the constituent or the fisherman that has to be running to the D.J.; it will be the Fish Commission's employees that now they say they do not have enough people to do the job and do not have listed numbers and we cannot get ahold of them when we need them.

Now, the gentleman might say that two of the biggest sportsmen's organizations in the world have decided this is the way to go. Well, I am reminding you of the system, Mr. Speaker, that even in the committee system where 25 of us decide a bill is good but later 203 of us are the ones that make a decision whether it is good, and 10 or 12 people at a sportsmen's organization meeting making a decision for 8,000 people that cannot be reversed is not good government.

I ask that we accept this amendment.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE (J. SCOT CHADWICK) PRESIDING

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair returns to leaves of absence and recognizes the gentleman, Mr. Snyder, who requests a leave for the lady from Cumberland County, Representative VANCE. Without objection, the leave will be granted. The Chair hears no objection, and the leave is granted.

CONSIDERATION OF SB 456 CONTINUED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On the question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Luzerne County, Mr. Hasay.

Mr. HASAY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, when I first came here, I received nothing but complaints from these field receipts from constituents. The perception was when you are out there by the lake or in the stream and maybe you did something wrong, maybe you did not do something wrong, but then to get a field receipt, you take cash out of your wallet, you hand it to the fish warden, and he puts it in his pocket, and the perception was of my constituents back then, this guy is putting the money in his pocket and ripping up the ticket. I had a lot of complaints about that when we had that before. I also had calls from constituents, when they got a field receipt, admitted that they were guilty, then thought back about it and thought, I should have had a magistrate hear my case out; I probably would have been found not guilty. That does not give them a chance to think. They feel coerced into this, forced into this, get fearful of the fish warden, and therefore do not have an opportunity to hear their case through a magistrate's court.

So, you know, I rise to oppose my good friend from Clearfield, Mr. George's amendment because of those concerns and calls I used to get from constituents when we did field receipts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On the amendment, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from York County, Mr. Smith.

Mr. B. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I will be very brief.

The amendment does not enhance anything. It complicates the role of the waterways commission officer. I want citations for violation of Game Code to be the same as a traffic ticket. You do have your chance to plead your case, but it is the wrong perception as we go into the year 2000. This is the last agency in the State, the last law enforcement agency in the State, that issues field receipts as acknowledgment of guilt. This must be eliminated. By defeating Representative George's amendment, it will be eliminated.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On the question recurring,
Will the House agree to the amendment?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS-91

Battisto	Frankel	McCall	Solobay
Bebko-Jones	Freeman	McGeehan	Staback
Belardi	George	Melio	Steelman
Belfanti	Gigliotti	Michlovic	Stetler
Bishop	Grucela	Mundy	Sturla
Blaum	Gruitza	Oliver	Surra
Butkovitz	Haluska	Pesci	Tangretti
Caltagirone	Hanna	Petrarca	Thomas
Cappabianca	Harhai	Petrone	Tigue
Carn	James	Pistella	Travaglio
Casorio	Josephs	Preston	Trello
Cawley	Keller	Ramos	Trich
Cohen, M.	Kirkland	Readshaw	Van Home
Colafella	LaGrotta	Rieger	Veon
Corrigan	Laughlin	Roberts	Vitali
Costa	Lederer	Robinson	Walko
Coy	Lescovitz	Roebuck	Washington
Curry	Levdansky	Rooney	Waters
DeLuca	Lucyk	Sainato	Williams
DeWeese	Manderino	Samuelson	Yewcic
Donatucci	Mann	Santoni	Youngblood
Eachus	Markosek	Scrimenti	Yudichak
Evans	Mayernik	Shaner	

NAYS-106

Adolph	Fairchild	Lynch	Saylor
Allen	Fargo	Maher	Schroder
Argall	Feese	Maitland	Schuler
Armstrong	Fichter	Major	Semmel
Baker	Fleagle	Marsico	Serafini
Bard	Flick	Masland	Seyfert
Barley	Forcier	McGill	Smith, B.
Barrar	Gannon	McIlhatten	Smith, S. H.
Bastian	Geist	McNaughton	Snyder
Benninghoff	Gladeck	Metcalfe	Stairs
Birmelin	Godshall	Micozzie	Steil
Boyes	Gordner	Miller, R.	Stern
Browne	Habay	Miller, S.	Stevenson
Bunt	Harhart	Nailor	Strittmatter
Buxton	Hasay	Nickol	Taylor, E. Z.
Chadwick	Hennessey	O'Brien	Taylor, J.
Civera	Herman	Orie	True
Clark	Hershey	Perzel	Tulli
Clymer	Hess	Phillips	Wilt
Cohen, L. I.	Horsey	Pippy	Wogan
Cornell	Hutchinson	Platts	Wojnaroski
Dailey	Jadlowiec	Raymond	Wright
Daily	Kaiser	Reinard	Zimmerman
Dermody	Kenney	Rohrer	Zug
DiGirolamo	Krebs	Ross	
Druce	Lawless	Rublely	Ryan.
Egolf	Leh	Sather	Speaker

NOT VOTING-1

McIlhinney

EXCUSED-5

Daley
Dempsey

Myers

Ruffing

Vance

Less than the majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the negative and the amendment was not agreed to.

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

RULES SUSPENDED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the lady from Philadelphia, Representative Manderino, seek recognition to make a motion? The lady is recognized for that purpose.

Ms. MANDERINO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to move that the rules of the House be suspended in order to allow me to offer amendment 3675 to this Senate bill, which would delete the section of the bill that deals with nonpayment of fines and costs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Moved by the lady from Philadelphia, Representative Manderino, that the rules of the House be suspended so that she may immediately offer amendment A3675 to SB 456.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS-194

Adolph	Evans	Manderino	Saylor
Allen	Fairchild	Mann	Schroder
Argall	Fargo	Markosek	Schuler
Armstrong	Feese	Marsico	Scrimenti
Baker	Fichter	Masland	Semmel
Bard	Fleagle	Mayernik	Serafini
Barley	Flick	McCall	Seyfert
Barrar	Forcier	McGeehan	Shaner
Bastian	Frankel	McGill	Smith, B.
Battisto	Freeman	McIlhatten	Smith, S. H.
Bebko-Jones	Gannon	McIlhinney	Snyder
Belardi	Geist	McNaughton	Solobay
Belfanti	George	Melio	Staback
Benninghoff	Gigliotti	Metcalfe	Stairs
Birmelin	Gladeck	Michlovic	Stern
Bishop	Godshall	Micozzie	Stetler
Blaum	Gordner	Miller, R.	Stevenson
Boyes	Grucela	Miller, S.	Strittmatter
Browne	Gruitza	Mundy	Sturla
Bunt	Habay	Nailor	Surra
Butkovitz	Haluska	Nickol	Tangretti
Buxton	Harhai	O'Brien	Taylor, E. Z.
Caltagirone	Harhart	Oliver	Taylor, J.
Cappabianca	Hasay	Orie	Thomas
Carn	Hennessey	Perzel	Tigue
Casorio	Herman	Pesci	Travaglio
Cawley	Hershey	Petrarca	Trello
Chadwick	Hess	Petrone	Trich
Civera	Horsey	Phillips	True
Clark	Hutchinson	Pippy	Tulli

Clymer	Jadlowiec	Pistella	Van Horne
Cohen, L. I.	James	Platts	Veon
Cohen, M.	Josephs	Preston	Vitali
Colafella	Kaiser	Ramos	Walko
Cornell	Keller	Raymond	Washington
Corrigan	Kenney	Readshaw	Waters
Costa	Kirkland	Reinard	Williams
Coy	LaGrotta	Rieger	Wilt
Curry	Laughlin	Roberts	Wogan
Dailey	Lawless	Robinson	Wojnaroski
Dally	Lederer	Roebuck	Wright
DeLuca	Leh	Rohrer	Yewcic
Dermody	Lescovitz	Rooney	Youngblood
DeWeese	Levdansky	Ross	Yudichak
DiGiroIamo	Lucyk	Rubley	Zimmerman
Donatucci	Lynch	Sainato	Zug
Druce	Maher	Samuelson	
Eachus	Maitland	Santoni	Ryan,
Egolf	Major	Sather	Speaker

NAYS-4

Hanna	Krebs	Steelman	Steil
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NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-5

Daley	Myers	Ruffing	Vance
Dempsey			

A majority of the members required by the rules having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the motion was agreed to.

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

Ms. MANDERINO offered the following amendment No. A3675:

Amend Sec. 5 (Sec. 923), page 8, lines 25 through 30; page 9, lines 1 and 2, by striking out all of said lines on said pages

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On that question, the Chair recognizes the lady from Philadelphia, Representative Manderino.

Ms. MANDERINO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just by way of information, this deletes part (f) of section 923, which starts at the bottom of page 8. It deals with nonpayment of fines and costs, a notion of working off a debt in prison, which is an unconstitutional notion, and by taking this out of the bill it will assure that there is no constitutional challenge.

I ask for a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On the amendment, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from York County, Representative Smith.

Mr. B. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This is an agreed-to amendment. I support Representative Manderino on this amendment.

On the question recurring,
Will the House agree to the amendment?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS-198

Adolph	Fairchild	Manderino	Schroder
Allen	Fargo	Mann	Schuler
Argall	Feese	Markosek	Schmenti
Armstrong	Fichter	Marsico	Semmel
Baker	Fleagle	Masland	Serafini
Bard	Flick	Mayernik	Seyfert
Barley	Forcier	McCall	Shaner
Barrar	Frankel	McGeehan	Smith, B.
Bastian	Freeman	McGill	Smith, S. H.
Battisto	Gannon	McIlhattan	Snyder
Bebko-Jones	Geist	McIlhinney	Solobay
Belardi	George	McNaughton	Staback
Belfanti	Gigliotti	Meljo	Stairs
Benninghoff	Gladeck	Metcalfe	Steelman
Birmelin	Godshall	Michlovic	Steil
Bishop	Gordner	Micozzie	Stem
Blaum	Grucela	Miller, R.	Stetler
Boyes	Gruitza	Miller, S.	Stevenson
Browne	Habay	Mundy	Strittmatter
Bunt	Haluska	Nailor	Sturla
Butkovitz	Hanna	Nickol	Surra
Buxton	Harhai	O'Brien	Tangretti
Caltagirone	Harhart	Oliver	Taylor, E. Z.
Cappabianca	Hasay	Orie	Taylor, J.
Carn	Hennessey	Perzel	Thomas
Casorio	Herman	Pesci	Tigue
Cawley	Hershey	Petrarca	Travaglio
Chadwick	Hess	Petrone	Trello
Civera	Horsey	Phillips	Trich
Clark	Hutchinson	Pippy	True
Clymer	Jadlowiec	Pistella	Tulli
Cohen, L. I.	James	Platts	Van Horne
Cohen, M.	Josephs	Preston	Veon
Colafella	Kaiser	Ramos	Vitali
Cornell	Keller	Raymond	Walko
Corrigan	Kenney	Readshaw	Washington
Costa	Kirkland	Reinard	Waters
Coy	Krebs	Rieger	Williams
Curry	LaGrotta	Roberts	Wilt
Dailey	Laughlin	Robinson	Wogan
Dally	Lawless	Roebuck	Wojnaroski
DeLuca	Lederer	Rohrer	Wright
Dermody	Leh	Rooney	Yewcic
DeWeese	Lescovitz	Ross	Youngblood
DiGiroIamo	Levdansky	Rubley	Yudichak
Donatucci	Lucyk	Sainato	Zimmerman
Druce	Lynch	Samuelson	Zug
Eachus	Maher	Santoni	
Egolf	Maitland	Sather	Ryan,
Evans	Major	Saylor	Speaker

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-5

Daley	Myers	Ruffing	Vance
Dempsey			

The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the amendment was agreed to.

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

RULES SUSPENDED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the lady from Berks County, Representative Miller, for the purpose of making a motion.

Mrs. MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise to also request that the rules of this House be suspended in order to immediately offer amendment 3677.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Moved by the lady from Berks County, Representative Miller, that the rules of the House be suspended so that she may offer amendment A3677 to SB 456.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—194

Adolph	Evans	Manderino	Saylor
Allen	Fairchild	Mann	Schroder
Argall	Fargo	Markosek	Schuler
Armstrong	Feese	Marsico	Scrimenti
Baker	Fichter	Masland	Semmel
Bard	Fleagle	Mayemik	Serafini
Barley	Flick	McCall	Seyfert
Barrar	Forcier	McGeehan	Shaner
Bastian	Frankel	McGill	Smith, B.
Battisto	Freeman	McIlhattan	Smith, S. H.
Bebko-Jones	Gannon	McIlhinney	Snyder
Belardi	Geist	McNaughton	Solobay
Belfanti	George	Melio	Staback
Benninghoff	Gigliotti	Metcalfe	Stairs
Birmelin	Gladeck	Michlovic	Stern
Bishop	Godshall	Micozzie	Stetler
Blaum	Gordner	Miller, R.	Stevenson
Boyes	Grucela	Miller, S.	Strittmatter
Browne	Gruitza	Mundy	Sturla
Bunt	Habay	Nailor	Surra
Butkovitz	Haluska	Nickol	Tangretti
Buxton	Harhai	O'Brien	Taylor, E. Z.
Caltagirone	Harhart	Oliver	Taylor, J.
Cappabianca	Hasay	Orie	Thomas
Carn	Hennessey	Perzel	Tigue
Casorio	Herman	Pesci	Travaglio
Cawley	Hershey	Petrarca	Trello
Chadwick	Hess	Petrone	Trich
Civera	Horsey	Phillips	True
Clark	Hutchinson	Pippy	Tulli
Clymer	Jadlowiec	Pistella	Van Horne
Cohen, L. I.	James	Platts	Veon
Cohen, M.	Josephs	Preston	Vitali
Colafiglia	Kaiser	Ramos	Walko
Cornell	Keller	Raymond	Washington
Corrigan	Kenney	Readshaw	Waters
Costa	Kirkland	Reinard	Williams
Coy	LaGrotta	Rieger	Wilt
Curry	Laughlin	Roberts	Wogan
Dailey	Lawless	Robinson	Wojnaroski
Dally	Lederer	Roebuck	Wright
DeLuca	Leh	Rohrer	Yewcic
Dermody	Lescovitz	Rooney	Youngblood
DeWeese	Levdansky	Ross	Yudichak
DiGirolamo	Lucyk	Rubley	Zimmerman
Donatucci	Lynch	Sainato	Zug
Druce	Maher	Samuelson	
Eachus	Maitland	Santoni	Ryan,
Egolf	Major	Sather	Speaker

NAYS—4

Hanna	Krebs	Steelman	Steil
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NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—5

Daley	Myers	Ruffing	Vance
Dempsey			

A majority of the members required by the rules having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the motion was agreed to.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration as amended?

Mrs. MILLER offered the following amendment No. A3677:

Amend Title, page 1, line 9, by inserting after "amphibians;"

providing for issuance of reduced fee fishing licenses to certain owners or possessors of land open to public fishing;

Amend Sec. 8, page 15, line 1, by striking out "a section" and inserting sections

Amend Sec. 8, page 16, by inserting between lines 25 and 26

§ 2708.1. Farmlands open to public fishing.

(a) Fishing agricultural lands without license.—Unless the privilege to fish has been denied, any person domiciled within this Commonwealth who has reached his 16th birthday and, except for payment of any fee, meets the requirements prescribed in section 2701 (relating to resident fishing licenses) and, as a primary means of gaining a livelihood, is regularly and continuously engaged in cultivating the soil for general farm crop purposes, commercial truck growing, commercial orchards or commercial nurseries, as either the owner, lessee or tenant of these lands, or as a member of the family or household, or regularly hired help of the owner, lessee or tenant, shall be eligible to fish on lakes and ponds located wholly within said lands and in rivers and streams open to free public fishing flowing through these lands, including the woodlands connected therewith and operated as a part thereof, without a fishing license as required in this title. Any person eligible to fish on these lands without securing the required license may also, by and with the written consent of the owner or lessee thereof, fish upon any lands other than those publicly owned which lie immediately adjacent to and are connected with the lands upon which these persons may lawfully fish without securing a license.

(b) Reduced fee license.—A resident owner or possessor of land comprising greater than 80 contiguous acres farmed under a conservation plan which does not conflict with the act of June 22, 1937 (P.L. 1987, No. 394), known as The Clean Streams Law, and which meets the requirements of 25 Pa. Code Ch. 102 (relating to erosion control) and which has a stream, creek or river of at least 200 linear feet in length flowing through or a lake or pond of at least 1/2 acre in area on this land if that person permits free public fishing, shall, if that person desires to fish in waters located off that property, be issued a resident fishing license at one-half the regular fee upon application to the commission. The license shall be issued to the owner or possessor or an immediate family member of either the owner or possessor living in the same household so designated by the owner or possessor in the case of a single owner or possessor and to the individual so designated in the case of more than one owner or possessor. No person shall be issued a fishing license under this subsection unless the person is 16 years of age or older, has met the requirements prescribed in section 2701 and has not been denied the privilege to fish. A person entitled to receive a fishing license under this subsection shall certify to the commission in the form and manner

prescribed by the commission that the land tract that person owns or possesses is presently in the ownership or possession of that person and that the waters described are open to free public fishing.

(c) Definition.—As used in this section, the term “person” shall be limited to any person cultivating, as a primary means of gaining a livelihood, any lands for general or specialized crop purposes, truck farming or fruit orchard or nursery being regularly maintained, as either the owner, lessee or a member of the family of the owner or lessee assisting with the cultivation of the land, or a domiciled member of the household of the owner or lessee or an employee of the owner or lessee, regularly and continuously assisting in the cultivation of the land.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On that question, the Chair recognizes the lady from Berks County.

Mrs. MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Amendment A3677 to SB 456 benefits two very important groups in Pennsylvania. Previously introduced last session as HB 1512, I am offering this amendment to provide an incentive for farm families who agree to open their property to the public for free fishing. This amendment will benefit anyone who enjoys fishing by creating additional access to our Commonwealth's waterways.

Currently, if a farmer in Pennsylvania has a stream flowing through his or her property, they must purchase a fishing license in order to fish in that stream. This is not the case, however, with farm ponds, which do not require a license to be purchased by the farmer in order to fish in his or her pond. This amendment will encourage more farmers to allow the public to access streams along their property by giving something back to the farmer. As busy as most farm families are today, the few moments of leisure time they have to spend fishing on their property should not require them to purchase a license first, especially if they are opening their lands to the public for free fishing.

This amendment also says they can fish on the adjacent property with the permission of the landowner. Similar language is found in the Game Code for farmers who provide public access for hunting.

For those farmers who provide this public access for fishing, this amendment further provides that a reduced-fee fishing license can be purchased in order for the farmer who opens his land to public fishing to be able to fish himself or herself at other locations in the Commonwealth. To qualify for this reduced-fee fishing license, there are some criteria which the farmers must meet. First, they have to be a full-time farmer. They must at least have 80 acres of land. They must have 200 linear feet of stream and/or a farm pond that is at least a half acre in size which is open to the public for free fishing.

This incentive is open to general crop farmers, owners, lessees, or tenants of general farms, truck farms, commercial orchards, and commercial nurseries who open their land to public fishing. It applies only to individuals age 16 or older who meet the State's licensing requirements, and it does not apply to individuals whose fishing privileges have been revoked. This amendment not only holds valuable benefits for farm families in Pennsylvania who agree to share their waterways with others, the measure also allows greater numbers of Commonwealth residents to experience the beauty and tranquility of rural Pennsylvania.

Senator Edward Helfrick sponsored legislation back in the 1980s which provided for the reduced-fee license for farmers who opened their land to public hunting, and I feel it is fitting today to add this language, which also provides a similar benefit for farmers who open their land to public fishing, into Senator Helfrick's legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On the amendment, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from York County, Mr. Smith.

Mr. B. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to interrogate Representative Miller.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The lady indicates that she is willing to stand for interrogation. You are in order and may proceed.

Mr. B. SMITH. For the purposes of legislative intent, would you explain line 29 where you talk about “immediately adjacent to,” where the person can fish without a license?

Mrs. MILLER. Yes, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for the opportunity of explaining this for the record.

Many times streams separate farm properties, and what I wanted to do in this language is to basically model the Game Code, which does allow the farmer to hunt on an adjacent property. In this case, we are applying this to the Fish Code so that if a stream separates two farm properties and the farmer has permission from the adjacent landowner, that in the act of fishing if he would cross from one side of the stream to the other, that he would not be in violation of the Fish Code.

Mr. B. SMITH. That completes my interrogation, Mr. Speaker. I would like to comment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On the amendment, the gentleman is in order.

Mr. B. SMITH. I support Representative Miller's amendment. I think it is equally important for the farming community to have the right to fish free on their own streams and streams going through their property and to get a reduced fee. They are entitled to the same right and privilege as opening their land to hunting.

I support this amendment. It makes this bill even better. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On the question recurring,
Will the House agree to the amendment?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—198

Adolph	Fairchild	Manderino	Schroder
Allen	Fargo	Mann	Schuler
Argall	Feese	Markosek	Scrimenti
Armstrong	Fichter	Marsico	Semmel
Baker	Fleagle	Masland	Serafini
Bard	Flick	Mayermik	Seyfert
Barley	Forcier	McCall	Shaner
Barrar	Frankel	McGeehan	Smith, B.
Bastian	Freeman	McGill	Smith, S. H.
Battisto	Gannon	McIlhattan	Snyder
Bebko-Jones	Geist	McIlhinney	Solobay
Belardi	George	McNaughton	Staback
Belfanti	Gigliotti	Melio	Stairs
Benninghoff	Gladeck	Metcalfe	Steelman
Birmelin	Godshall	Michlovic	Steil
Bishop	Gordner	Micozzie	Stern
Blaum	Grucela	Miller, R.	Stetler
Boyes	Gruitza	Miller, S.	Stevenson
Browne	Habay	Mundy	Strittmatter
Bunt	Haluska	Nailor	Sturla
Butkovitz	Hanna	Nickol	Surra

Buxton	Harhai	O'Brien	Tangretti
Caltagirone	Harhart	Oliver	Taylor, E. Z.
Cappabianca	Hasay	Orie	Taylor, J.
Cam	Hennessey	Perzel	Thomas
Casorio	Herman	Pesci	Tigue
Cawley	Hershey	Petrarca	Travaglio
Chadwick	Hess	Petrone	Trello
Civera	Horsey	Phillips	Trich
Clark	Hutchinson	Pippy	True
Clymer	Jadlowiec	Pistella	Tulli
Cohen, L. I.	James	Platts	Van Home
Cohen, M.	Josephs	Preston	Veon
Colafella	Kaiser	Ramos	Vitali
Cornell	Keller	Raymond	Walko
Corrigan	Kenney	Readshaw	Washington
Costa	Kirkland	Reinard	Waters
Coy	Krebs	Rieger	Williams
Curry	LaGrotta	Roberts	Wilt
Dailey	Laughlin	Robinson	Wogan
Dally	Lawless	Roebuck	Wojnarowski
DeLuca	Lederer	Rohrer	Wright
Dermody	Leh	Rooney	Yewcic
DeWeese	Lescovitz	Ross	Youngblood
DiGirolamo	Levdansky	Rubley	Yudichak
Donatucci	Lucyk	Sainato	Zimmerman
Druce	Lynch	Samuelson	Zug
Eachus	Maher	Santoni	
Egolf	Maitland	Sather	Ryan,
Evans	Major	Saylor	Speaker

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—5

Daley	Myers	Ruffing	Vance
Dempsey			

The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the amendment was agreed to.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration as amended?

Bill as amended was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

The gentleman, Mr. Haluska.

Mr. HALUSKA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would just like to call to the attention of all the members, I got a draft yesterday of the abbreviated code regulations and proposed legislative fine changes. I would like everybody to know that in SB 456, basically what you are doing to the majority of the fines that the Fish Commission now has, you are doubling these fines. Ones that are \$100 obviously are \$200 now. A lot of the fines in here that were normally \$10 for some of the boating regulations are now \$50. And it also goes, if you show up at the side of the stream without your fishing license and you cannot produce it at that moment, your fine is also doubled. So I just want everybody to know I am not going to vote for this bill for that specific reason.

I think hunters, fishermen, do not mind those incremental increases whether it be licensing or fines, but when you go ahead and wholesale double the majority of the fines, I think that is a

pretty drastic step, and I do not want to have those people in my office asking me why in the world the Fish Commission had to raise 300 more thousand dollars this year because they wanted to double their fines after we just raised the fishing license about a year and a half or 2 years ago.

So those are my comments. I just want to let everybody know what kind of a drastic increase is going to happen to a lot of these fines. Thank you.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would like to welcome Eric Bashore, a student at Penn-Bernville Center in Representative Sheila Miller's district in Berks County. Eric is here today being honored for his winning poster in the School Bus Safety Week poster contest, sponsored by the Department of Transportation. Eric; his parents, Mary and Gary Bashore; Mrs. Deborah Miller, his art teacher; and Mrs. Bonnie Benfer, principal of the Penn-Bernville Center, are seated in the gallery. Would they please rise. Welcome to the hall of the House.

CONSIDERATION OF SB 456 CONTINUED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On final passage, the gentleman from York County, Mr. Smith.

Mr. B. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I think it is important for all the members to realize, this does increase fines, but we are talking about fines for violations; we are talking about lawbreakers; we are talking about increasing the fines for violating the Fish and Boat Code.

I think the other thing that you must realize, because Representative Haluska is correct, in some cases, in many cases, it doubles them, but in a number of cases, we have not done this, we have not increased some of these, for 70 years. Some of these are 70 years old. Now, I know we move slowly, but I think that is overdoing things.

I think we have made this bill even better with the amendments of Representative Miller. We have made this bill better by eliminating field receipts.

I think you should know, this bill passed the Senate unanimously, 49 to nothing. I think you should know also, this bill passed the Game and Fisheries Committee unanimously.

I think it is very important that you vote "yes" on SB 456. I would appreciate your support. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On final passage, the gentleman from Clearfield County, Mr. George.

Mr. GEORGE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the previous two speakers talked about the increase of fines. There are 130 increases — some of them from \$25 to \$50; some of them from \$100 to \$200. But more significant than even that, more significant than now that a certain fine could be \$200 and the costs could be \$84 or a fine could be \$50 and the costs would be more than the fine, there is also a tremendous raise in boat licensing, in boat registration. In all of these things where we insist that our taxpayers and our citizens should be able to take advantage of our recreational facilities, we are increasing all of these registrations and licensing from \$10 to \$50. You know, some time ago we allowed a raise in the gas tax, then we allowed a raise in license fees, and today, Mr. Speaker, we come in for the kill.

We are going to raise it again, and then we are going to have to wait a year or so until the people realize what we have done today.

So I am going to vote against this bill, Mr. Speaker.

On the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—109

Adolph	Flick	McIlhattan	Semmel
Allen	Gannon	McIlhinney	Serafini
Argall	Geist	McNaughton	Smith, B.
Armstrong	Gladeck	Metcalfe	Smith, S. H.
Baker	Gordner	Micozzie	Snyder
Bard	Gruitza	Miller, R.	Staback
Bastian	Habay	Miller, S.	Stairs
Battisto	Hanna	Nailor	Steil
Benninghoff	Harhart	Nickol	Stern
Birmelin	Hennessey	O'Brien	Stetler
Boyes	Herman	Oliver	Stevenson
Browne	Hershey	Orie	Strittmatter
Butkovitz	Hess	Perzel	Sturla
Carr	Hutchinson	Petrone	Surra
Cawley	Keller	Phillips	Taylor, E. Z.
Chadwick	Kenney	Pippy	Taylor, J.
Clymer	Krebs	Platts	Trich
Cohen, L. I.	Lederer	Raymond	Tulli
Cornell	Leh	Reinard	Waters
Dailey	Levdansky	Rieger	Wilt
Dally	Lynch	Rohrer	Wogan
DiGirolamo	Maher	Rooney	Wojnaroski
Donatucci	Maitland	Ross	Youngblood
Druce	Major	Rubley	Zimmerman
Fairchild	Marsico	Sather	
Feese	Masland	Saylor	Ryan,
Fichter	McGeehan	Schroder	Speaker
Fleagle	McGill	Schuler	

NAYS—89

Barley	Eachus	Lawless	Santoni
Barrar	Egolf	Lescovitz	Scrimenti
Bebko-Jones	Evans	Lucyk	Seyfert
Belardi	Fargo	Manderino	Shaner
Belfanti	Forcier	Mann	Solobay
Bishop	Frankel	Markosek	Steelman
Blaum	Freeman	Mayernik	Tangretti
Bunt	George	McCall	Thomas
Buxton	Gigliotti	Melio	Tigue
Caltagirone	Godshall	Michlovic	Travaglio
Cappabianca	Grucela	Mundy	Trello
Casorio	Haluska	Pesci	True
Civera	Harhai	Petrarca	Van Horne
Clark	Hasay	Pistella	Veon
Cohen, M.	Horsey	Preston	Vitali
Colafella	Jadlowiec	Ramos	Waiko
Corrigan	James	Readshaw	Washington
Costa	Josephs	Roberts	Williams
Coy	Kaiser	Robinson	Wright
Curry	Kirkland	Roebuck	Yewcic
DeLuca	LaGrotta	Sainato	Yudichak
Dermody	Laughlin	Samuelson	Zug
DeWeese			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—5

Daley	Myers	Ruffing	Vance
Dempsey			

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk return the same to the Senate with the information that the House has passed the same with amendment in which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

* * *

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1570, PN 2309**, entitled:

An Act relating to bloodborne pathogen standards governing exposure to certain persons.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.
The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia County, Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'BRIEN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, seldom do we have an opportunity to vote on a piece of legislation like this. This bill is designed to protect health-care workers who are at risk every day. HB 1570 requires retractable needles or other safe needle technology to be used when dealing with injection of infectious bodily fluids. There are over 800,000 accidental needle sticks every year. We had committee hearings where we received very compelling testimony, and that testimony in and of itself is justification for the passage of this legislation. Every one of those tragic, accidental sticks is preventable.

We must do everything we can to reduce the risks of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) or hepatitis B and C or other bloodborne pathogens. These accidental sticks take place when someone uses a needle and tries to recap it or when they have the sharps boxes in the health-care facilities and one happens to be sticking up. It may not even be the careless nature of that health-care worker's performance; it may be someone else.

But OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) tells us that 76 percent of these accidental sticks could be prevented. When someone is stuck, it requires many tests, and often they have to take HIV cocktails, and if you know anything about those, they have serious side effects.

Further, there are two health-care workers that die each week. The costs could be anywhere from \$30,000 to a half a million dollars for each stick. The initial tests run from \$2,700 to \$4,300 each.

I can go on and on and talk about compelling reasons to vote for this, but the most compelling reason is that the health-care workers themselves are asking us to do it. Other States have

already enacted legislation like this. Safe needles save lives, and I ask for your support.

On the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—198

Adolph	Fairchild	Manderino	Schroder
Allen	Fargo	Mann	Schuler
Argall	Feese	Markosek	Scrimenti
Armstrong	Fichter	Marsico	Semmel
Baker	Fleagle	Masland	Serafini
Bard	Flick	Mayernik	Seyfert
Barley	Forcier	McCall	Shaner
Barrar	Frankel	McGeehan	Smith, B.
Bastian	Freeman	McGill	Smith, S. H.
Battisto	Gannon	McIlhattan	Snyder
Bebko-Jones	Geist	McIlhinney	Solobay
Belardi	George	McNaughton	Staback
Belfanti	Gigliotti	Melio	Stairs
Benninghoff	Gladeck	Metcalfe	Steelman
Birmelin	Godshall	Michlovic	Steil
Bishop	Gordner	Micozzie	Stern
Blaum	Grucela	Miller, R.	Stetler
Boyes	Gruitza	Miller, S.	Stevenson
Browne	Habay	Mundy	Strittmatter
Bunt	Haluska	Nailor	Sturla
Butkovitz	Hanna	Nickol	Surra
Buxton	Harhai	O'Brien	Tangretti
Caltagirone	Harhart	Oliver	Taylor, E. Z.
Cappabianca	Hasay	Orie	Taylor, J.
Carn	Hennessey	Perzel	Thomas
Casorio	Herman	Pesci	Tigue
Cawley	Hershey	Petrarca	Travaglio
Chadwick	Hess	Petrone	Trello
Civera	Horshey	Phillips	Trich
Clark	Hutchinson	Pippy	True
Clymer	Jadlowiec	Pistella	Tulli
Cohen, L. I.	James	Platts	Van Horne
Cohen, M.	Josephs	Preston	Veon
Colafella	Kaiser	Ramos	Vitali
Cornell	Keller	Raymond	Walko
Corrigan	Kenney	Readshaw	Washington
Costa	Kirkland	Reinard	Waters
Coy	Krebs	Rieger	Williams
Curry	LaGrotta	Roberts	Wilt
Dailey	Laughlin	Robinson	Wogan
Dally	Lawless	Roebuck	Wojnaroski
DeLuca	Lederer	Rohrer	Wright
Dermody	Leh	Rooney	Yewcic
DeWeese	Lescovitz	Ross	Youngblood
DiGirolo	Levdansky	Rubley	Yudichak
Donatucci	Lucyk	Sainato	Zimmerman
Druce	Lynch	Samuelson	Zug
Eachus	Maher	Santoni	
Egolf	Maitland	Sather	Ryan,
Evans	Major	Saylor	Speaker

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—5

Daley	Myers	Ruffing	Vance
Dempsey			

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

THE SPEAKER (MATTHEW J. RYAN)
PRESIDING

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman, Mr. Chadwick, for presiding temporarily.

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1450, PN 1714**, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, authorizing police officers to record certain oral communications; providing for authority to purchase surveillance devices; and providing for windshield obstructions and wipers.

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

The SPEAKER. May I have the attention of the House. HB 1450, PN 1714, on page 4 of today's calendar, there is an indication on my marked calendar that the following members have amendments to offer: Mr. Carn, Mr. George, Mr. Vitali, Mr. Coy, and Mr. Michlovic. All of these amendments have a common problem. That problem is, we have a two-title bill; you are amending that two-title bill with a subject that is not relevant to the underlying bill. Our rules as originally interpreted by the gentleman, Mr. DeWeese, some few years ago and my interpretation of the rules for the past 5 or 6 years have all found that these amendments are not proper.

Now, I would ask the — and I am going to rule that way — I now would ask Mr. Carn, does he desire to offer his amendment or make any statement on it in lieu of offering?

Mr. CARN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Although personally I do not agree that it should not happen, but I am going to withdraw this amendment at this time, because again, this issue of gun safety locks is an issue that we have got to take up on this floor of the House at some time, but I will listen to the Speaker today and withdraw the amendment.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The gentleman, Mr. George.

Mr. GEORGE. Mr. Speaker, thank you.

Mr. Speaker, if you will allow me a slight flexibility here, my amendment was geared to hopefully be able to rectify the problem that just came to the attention of many of us, I am sure, including yourself, that now the new license plate, whether it be the regular plate or the vanity plate, it has the "www" (World Wide Web) on the bottom to let all the people in Pennsylvania know our Web page number, but the problem is, that license plate holder in some cases might cover a portion of that "www," and even though it does not cover the validation number and even though it does not cover the sticker and even though, Mr. Speaker, it does not cover any of the numbers on the plate, we are told that people are going

to be fined if they have those carriers or those license holders on their automobile.

So, Mr. Speaker, hopefully the Transportation Committee, under your directions, will come out very quickly so that we can just quit hurting the people in Pennsylvania by adding fines and costs and prosecution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The gentleman, Mr. Vitali.

Mr. VITALI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

What this amendment would have done would have been to effectively put a \$10 cap on the amount of money that a vehicle emission inspection person could charge when a vehicle is exempt, and the amendment was being offered because my constituents have complained and others have complained that exorbitant prices are being charged for just the exemption fee, which really is a quick, quick paperwork procedure. So it would have capped it at \$10.

We will have the opportunity to consider this again, because I will be offering it and have drafted it to other bills. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The gentleman, Mr. Coy. Mr. Coy withdraws his amendment.

The gentleman, Mr. Michlovic.

Mr. MICHLOVIC. Mr. Speaker, my amendment would have required the registration of assault weapons and also listed assault weapons as a hazardous material, requiring certain certifications to do that. The amendment was drafted to both titles. However, I am withdrawing it for other reasons, and so it will be withdrawn.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration?

Bill was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—198

Adolph	Fairchild	Manderino	Schroder
Allen	Fargo	Mann	Schuler
Argall	Feese	Markosek	Scrimenti
Armstrong	Fichter	Marsico	Semmel
Baker	Fieagle	Masland	Serafini
Bard	Flick	Mayernik	Seyfert
Barley	Forcier	McCall	Shaner
Barrar	Frankel	McGeehan	Smith, B.
Bastian	Freeman	McGill	Smith, S. H.
Battisto	Gannon	McIlhattan	Snyder
Bebko-Jones	Geist	McIlhinney	Solobay
Belardi	George	McNaughton	Staback
Belfanti	Gigliotti	Melio	Stairs
Benninghoff	Gladeck	Metcalfe	Steelman
Birmelin	Godshall	Michlovic	Steil
Bishop	Gordner	Micozzie	Stem
Blaum	Grucela	Miller, R.	Stetler
Boyes	Gruitza	Miller, S.	Stevenson
Browne	Habay	Mundy	Strittmatter
Bunt	Haluska	Nailor	Sturla
Butkovitz	Hanna	Nickol	Surra
Buxton	Harhai	O'Brien	Tangretti

Caitagirone	Harhart	Oliver	Taylor, E. Z.
Cappabianca	Hasay	Orie	Taylor, J.
Carn	Hennessey	Perzel	Thomas
Casorio	Herman	Pesci	Tigue
Cawley	Hershey	Petrarca	Travaglio
Chadwick	Hess	Petrone	Trello
Civera	Horsey	Phillips	Trich
Clark	Hutchinson	Pippy	True
Clymer	Jadlowiec	Pistella	Tulli
Cohen, L. I.	James	Platts	Van Horne
Cohen, M.	Josephs	Preston	Veon
Colafella	Kaiser	Ramos	Vitali
Cornell	Keller	Raymond	Walko
Corrigan	Kenney	Readshaw	Washington
Costa	Kirkland	Reinard	Waters
Coy	Krebs	Rieger	Williams
Curry	LaGrotta	Roberts	Wilt
Dailey	Laughlin	Robinson	Wogan
Daily	Lawless	Roebuck	Wojnaroski
DeLuca	Lederer	Rohrer	Wright
Dermody	Leh	Rooney	Yewcic
DeWeese	Lescovitz	Ross	Youngblood
DiGirolamo	Levdansky	Rubley	Yudichak
Donatucci	Lucyk	Sainato	Zimmerman
Druce	Lynch	Samuelson	Zug
Eachus	Maher	Santoni	
Egolf	Maitland	Sather	Ryan,
Evans	Major	Saylor	Speaker

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—5

Daley	Myers	Ruffing	Vance
Dempsey			

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority whip, who requests the gentleman, Mr. TULLI; the gentleman, Mr. McNAUGHTON; and the gentleman, Mr. MARSICO, be placed on leave for the balance of today's session. Without objection, leave will be granted. The Chair hears no objection.

GUEST INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. The Chair is pleased to welcome to the hall of the House today Mr. Dan Fraley. He is the director of Veterans Affairs for Bucks County and a Lower Southampton supervisor. The Bucks County delegation is sponsoring this. The gentleman is to the left of the Chair. Would he please rise.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1599, PN 1943**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of February 1, 1966 (1965 P.L.1656, No.581), known as The Borough Code, further providing for compensation of auditors.

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

The **SPEAKER**. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Mr. Vitali. Is the gentleman withdrawing this amendment? The gentleman withdraws his amendment.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Mr. Santoni, who offers the following amendment— The amendment is withdrawn.

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

The **SPEAKER**. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—195

Adolph	Fairchild	Major	Schroder
Allen	Fargo	Manderino	Schuler
Argall	Fcese	Mann	Scrimenti
Armstrong	Fichter	Markosek	Semmel
Baker	Fleagle	Masland	Serafini
Bard	Flick	Mayernik	Seyfert
Barley	Forcier	McCall	Shaner
Barrar	Frankel	McGeehan	Smith, B.
Bastian	Freeman	McGill	Smith, S. H.
Battisto	Gannon	McIlhattan	Snyder
Bebko-Jones	Geist	McIlhinney	Solohay
Belardi	George	Melio	Staback
Belfanti	Gigliotti	Metcalfe	Stairs
Benninghoff	Gladeck	Michlovic	Steelman
Birmelin	Godshall	Micozzie	Steil
Bishop	Gordner	Miller, R.	Stern
Blaum	Gruccela	Miller, S.	Stetler
Boyes	Gruitza	Mundy	Stevensom
Browne	Habay	Nailor	Strittmatter
Bunt	Haluska	Nickol	Sturla
Butkovitz	Hanna	O'Brien	Surra
Buxton	Harhai	Oliver	Tangretti
Caltagirone	Harhart	Orie	Taylor, E. Z.
Cappabianca	Hasay	Perzel	Taylor, J.
Cam	Hennessey	Pesci	Thomas
Casorio	Herman	Petrarca	Tigue
Cawley	Hershey	Petrone	Travaglio
Chadwick	Hess	Phillips	Trello
Civera	Horsey	Pippy	Tricht
Clark	Hutchinson	Pistella	True
Clymer	Jadlowiec	Platts	Van Home
Cohen, L. I.	James	Preston	Vcon
Cohen, M.	Josephs	Ramos	Vitali
Colafella	Kaiser	Raymond	Walko
Cornell	Keller	Readshaw	Washington
Corrigan	Kenney	Reinard	Waters
Costa	Kirkland	Rieger	Williams
Coy	Krebs	Roberts	Wilt
Curry	LaGrotta	Robinson	Wogan

Dailey	Laughlin	Roebuck	Wojnaroski
Dally	Lawless	Rohrer	Wright
DeLuca	Ledcrer	Rooney	Yewcic
Dermody	Leh	Ross	Youngblood
DeWeese	Lescovitz	Rubley	Yudichak
DiGirofamo	Levdansky	Sainato	Zimmerman
Donatucci	Lucyk	Samuelson	Zug
Druce	Lynch	Santoni	
Eachus	Maher	Sather	Ryant,
Egolf	Maitland	Saylor	Speaker
Evans			

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—8

Daley	Marsico	Myers	Tulli
Dempsey	McNaughton	Ruffing	Vance

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The **SPEAKER**. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Mr. Vcon, who requests that the gentleman, Mr. BUXTON, be put on leave for the balance of today's session. Without objection, leave will be granted. The Chair hears no objection.

RESOLUTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Mrs. TAYLOR called up **HR 276, PN 2422**, entitled:

A Resolution urging the Governor to proclaim October 13, 1999, as "Emergency Nurses Day" in this Commonwealth; and urging all citizens of Pennsylvania to join in its observance.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—194

Adolph	Fairchild	Major	Schroder
Allen	Fargo	Manderino	Schuler
Argall	Fcese	Mann	Scrimenti
Armstrong	Fichter	Markosek	Semmel
Baker	Fleagle	Masland	Serafini
Bard	Flick	Mayernik	Seyfert
Barley	Forcier	McCall	Shaner
Barrar	Frankel	McGeehan	Smith, B.
Bastian	Freeman	McGill	Smith, S. H.
Battisto	Gannon	McIlhattan	Snyder
Bebko-Jones	Geist	McIlhinney	Solohay
Belardi	George	Melio	Staback
Belfanti	Gigliotti	Metcalfe	Stairs
Benninghoff	Gladeck	Michlovic	Steelman
Birmelin	Godshall	Micozzie	Steil
Bishop	Gordner	Miller, R.	Stern
Blaum	Gruccela	Miller, S.	Stetler
Boyes	Gruitza	Mundy	Stevensom
Browne	Habay	Nailor	Strittmatter

Bunt	Haluska	Nickol	Sturla
Butkovitz	Hanna	O'Brien	Surra
Caltagirone	Harhai	Oliver	Tangretti
Cappabianca	Harhart	Orie	Taylor, E. Z.
Carn	Hasay	Perzel	Taylor, J.
Casorio	Hennessey	Pesci	Thomas
Cawley	Herman	Petrarca	Tigue
Chadwick	Hershey	Petrone	Travaglio
Civera	Hess	Phillips	Trello
Clark	Horsey	Pippy	Trich
Clymer	Hutchinson	Pistella	True
Cohen, L. I.	Jadlowiec	Platts	Van Horne
Cohen, M.	James	Preston	Veon
Colafella	Josephs	Ramos	Vitali
Cornell	Kaiser	Raymond	Walko
Corrigan	Keller	Readshaw	Washington
Costa	Kenney	Reinard	Waters
Coy	Kirkland	Rieger	Williams
Curry	Krebs	Roberts	Wilt
Dailey	LaGrotta	Robinson	Wogan
Dally	Laughlin	Roebuck	Wojnaroski
DeLuca	Lawless	Rohrer	Wright
Dermoddy	Lederer	Rooney	Yewcic
DeWeese	Leh	Ross	Youngblood
DiGirolamo	Lescovitz	Rubley	Yudichak
Donatucci	Levdansky	Sainato	Zimmerman
Druce	Lucyk	Samuelson	Zug
Eachus	Lynch	Santoni	
Egolf	Maher	Sather	Ryan,
Evans	Maitland	Saylor	Speaker

STATEMENT BY MAJORITY LEADER

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, Mr. Perzel.

Mr. PERZEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of the members who did not have the opportunity of seeing the Daily News yesterday, I think they all ought to take a really close look at it. There is an awful lot said in there about what is going on.

The Daily News reported that the Philadelphia School District has been paying dead people but not paying the living, breathing, teaching school employees in the district. The district has paid out more than a half a million dollars to employees who are either in the grave or retired. At the same time, hundreds of employees, workers at the school district, have not been paid for weeks or are being underpaid. In one example, one employee got a check for \$62,000; the other got a check for 4 cents, Mr. Speaker.

More than 4,000 employees have not been paid bonuses that they were due, and I say that in a little bit of jest because they tell us they are hundreds of millions of dollars in the hole but they are paying bonuses, but they did not even pay them after they promised them they would pay them. Fifty vendors, including suppliers of school textbooks and computers, have cut off dealing with the district because they say they have not been paid. The school district blames its problems on computer glitches.

The employee in charge of the financial services of the school district, Herbert Schectman, is quoted by the Daily News as saying he believes the district is doing a good job. Here is what he told the Daily News: "We are paying as many people properly as we can and we are...proud of it, quite frankly. We think we are doing an excellent job," end of quote.

Mr. Speaker, it would be easy for me to say that I am appalled, because I have often been critical of what the school district has been doing. But Philadelphia's city controller — a Democrat — has called the district's financial operation insane. You can say a lot about Philadelphia's government, Mr. Speaker, but Mr. Saidel said it right, and I am going to quote that also: "We don't pay ghost employees and we don't pay dead people," end of quote. Now, I do not know what that says about the school district, if that is what he is saying about the city of Philadelphia.

Why am I telling you all this today? This is the same school district that keeps coming back here telling you that it needs more money. Its only solution is, send us more money. It pays dead people, yet it says, send us more money.

This is the same school district where kids graduate who cannot read their diploma. According to the Inquirer 2 weeks ago, 75 percent of the kids in the 10th and 11th grades are not reading or writing at grade level. In 1995, 4 years ago, 19,000 kids started the ninth grade; fewer than 9,000 received diplomas in 1999, Mr. Speaker; 10,000 kids are missing. The kids are capable of learning. The district has been failing in its job.

This is the same school district where metal detectors went into storage rather than the hallways and a vice principal ended up being shot.

In 500 school districts, Mr. Speaker, if you miss 10 days of school, you are not reimbursed by the State for the amount of money you are supposed to get, but in Philadelphia it is a little harder to get the kids to school, so we have all made an exception, and it is 100 days, Mr. Speaker. So sometime in March, if a kid shows up, they will still get the full funding, and I say that because

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-9

Buxton	Marsico	Myers	Tulli
Daley	McNaughton	Ruffing	Vance
Dempsey			

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

* * *

Mr. LYNCH called up **HR 279, PN 2465**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of October 17 through 23, 1999, as "Forest Products Week" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

The SPEAKER. This is a resolution under rule 35. We have in the past taken this on a voice vote. Without objection, those in favor of the passage of this resolution will say "aye"; opposed, "no." Any negative votes will stand or make themselves known.

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

according to the last audit, they still owed over \$20 million, based on them never showing up, even after the 100 days.

Mr. Speaker, the minority leader gave us a soliloquy about a week or two ago, and in that he said smaller class size would be the end-all of everything that is happening in our schools today. The average number of kids per teacher in Philadelphia is 19, but that does not go to how many kids are showing up. When you take the number of kids that actually show up for school, the teacher-student ratio is 16. Now, if you cannot do a better job down to 16, I do not know what number the minority leader would suggest we go to so that we can try to do a better job. Our side of the aisle asked for accountability so we could make sure that the kids showed up. Before we said maybe then we could cut class size, we asked for accountability.

This is the same Philadelphia that boasted several months ago that it has a \$200-million surplus. From what I can see — this same city, Mr. Speaker, where the city council and mayor have worked together, hand in hand, for years — not one dime of that surplus has gone to the city's schools.

This is the same city whose commitment to education in terms of the proportion of tax dollars that are allocated to public schools is dead last among the 24 urban school districts. Erie, Pittsburgh, Williamsport, Reading, Scranton, all give more proportionately to their school students than Philadelphia does.

This is the same city where the Democratic candidate for mayor has publicly threatened to create a crisis in the Philadelphia city schools to try to force taxpayers from the other 500 districts to pay more money to that district. These are the same taxpayers who are already providing Philadelphia with about 60 percent of the school funding.

If the former city council president was truly committed to the children of Philadelphia, he would have, while council president, made sure that the city's commitment to its fair share was met. Instead, he threatens a crisis, to make hostages of the 213,000 students and nearly 11,000 teachers of the Philadelphia public schools. Instead, the dead are being paid, while workers who want to help children are not being paid. Instead, textbook vendors have been cut off from the city by not being paid, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if it were me and that were happening, I would be ashamed.

But I did want to mention one thing, Mr. Speaker, that I believe with all my heart that over the course of the next year, year and a half, that our side of the aisle will prevail and we will be in the majority, but I did get a notice in the mail to come see the majority leader for the next millennium, the next century, and it says, obviously, from Mr. Veon, but I wondered, Mr. Speaker — I know this will never occur — but with Bud George being the Speaker, whether Mr. Veon and Mr. DeWeese will have to have one heck of a fight to find out who is going to get that job.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

STATEMENT BY MR. COHEN

The SPEAKER. The gentleman, Mr. Cohen.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, the last time I looked at the ballot for Philadelphia, the Republican nominee was Sam Katz and not John Perzel.

The Philadelphia School District obviously has problems, and I think Mr. Perzel has a very good suggestion that the city of Philadelphia give some of its surplus to the Philadelphia public

schools. That is a very, very good suggestion. I would suggest, though, that the State of Pennsylvania set a good example for the city of Philadelphia and other municipalities by giving some of our surplus to the public schools.

Mr. Speaker, we are not only people who are capable of commenting on the Philadelphia public schools and other public schools in the Commonwealth; we are people capable of taking action on these problems. I think it would be much more appropriate that we take action that we have the power to take than just merely commenting negatively, as Mr. Perzel has done. Obviously, the Philadelphia public schools have a real computer glitch, and I think we ought to look at that computer glitch and figure out how we avoid similar computer glitches here. Obviously, the Philadelphia public schools have many, many problems, and we ought to really take action to solve those problems instead of just grandstanding against them a couple of weeks before a municipal election.

The SPEAKER. Any further comments? Does the majority leader or minority leader have any further business?

There will be no further votes.

The Chair will hold the desk open for a brief period of time so that committees that are meeting, which I will announce in a moment, can make reports of the committees.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR. COHEN

The SPEAKER. Mr. Cohen, do you have an announcement with respect to your caucus?

Mr. COHEN. Yes, I do, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, there will be informal discussions in the Democratic caucus room immediately upon recess.

The SPEAKER. Mr. Perzel, is there any need for a Republican caucus? The Chair thanks the gentleman.

There will be no further business other than some housekeeping that the Chair will conduct.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES, CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND TABLED

HB 1436, PN 1690

By Rep. GANNON

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing a system to create and maintain confidentiality of the addresses of victims of domestic violence; providing for the powers and duties of the Secretary of the Commonwealth; and prescribing penalties.

JUDICIARY.

HB 1724, PN 2486 (Amended)

By Rep. GANNON

An Act establishing community reparative disposition programs for offenders and community reparative disposition boards; providing for the powers and duties of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and for expungement of criminal arrest records in certain circumstances; and making an appropriation.

JUDICIARY.

HB 1826, PN 2487 (Amended) By Rep. GANNON

An Act establishing the Victims of Domestic Violence Employment Leave Act.

JUDICIARY.

HB 1970, PN 2457 By Rep. GANNON

An Act amending the act of February 14, 1990 (P.L.62, No.11), known as the Noncontrolled Substances Reporting and Registration Act, further providing for chemicals subject to registration and for penalties.

JUDICIARY.

HB 1971, PN 2458 By Rep. GANNON

An Act amending the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, further defining "designer drug"; further providing for prohibited acts; and making an editorial change.

JUDICIARY.

SB 647, PN 1414 (Amended) By Rep. HERMAN

An Act establishing a Uniform Construction Code; imposing powers and duties on municipalities and the Department of Labor and Industry; providing for enforcement; imposing penalties; and making repeals.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

SB 798, PN 1415 (Amended) By Rep. GANNON

An Act amending the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), entitled The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, further providing for schedules of controlled substances; and providing for penalties.

JUDICIARY.

BILLS REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader. Mr. PERZEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that SB 647 and HB 1724 be removed from the table.

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. Do the majority or minority leaders have any further business? Corrections to the record? Further reports of committee?

Hearing none, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington County, Mr. Solobay.

Mr. SOLOBAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do now adjourn until Wednesday, October 20, 1999, at 11 a.m., e.d.t., unless sooner recalled by the Chair.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to, and at 12:52 p.m., e.d.t., the House adjourned.