COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007

SESSION OF 2007 191ST OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 101

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

THE SPEAKER (DENNIS M. O'BRIEN) PRESIDING

PRAYER

The SPEAKER. The prayer will be offered by Father Leonard Stoviak, guest of Representative Kula.

FATHER LEONARD STOVIAK, Guest Chaplain of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Ladies and gentlemen, let us pray:

At the beginning of today's work, we pause as men and women of faith to humbly entrust ourselves and our work to the source of all that is, to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to the God that Jesus invites us to call Father, to the God that most acknowledge to be Lord.

Unless we seek Your wisdom, we stand inadequate to the tasks entrusted to us by the people of this Commonwealth. So we ask for Your spirit to empower us with wisdom in our deliberations today. We rejoice in Your love for us and in the trust that You and Your people have placed in us. We embrace the trust and faith of these good people, who chose us and pledge to do our best in serving the needs of all. We are humbled by the responsibility, but strengthened and emboldened by their trust.

Guide us today, and, gracious God, bless this great Commonwealth and her leaders, bless her people and their service to others, and bless, in a special way, this august legislative body and our special, honored guests today.

In faith, hope, and love we pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

JOURNALS APPROVED

The SPEAKER. The Journals of Monday, June 25, and Tuesday, June 26 of 2007 are now in print. Will the House approve those Journals?

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

The SPEAKER. Those Journals are approved.

JOURNAL APPROVAL POSTPONED

The SPEAKER. Without objection, approval of the Journal of Tuesday, November 13, 2007, will be postponed until printed. The Chair hears no objection.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair turns to requests for leaves of absence. The Chair recognizes the majority whip, who requests that Representative SURRA from Elk County be placed on leave for today. The Chair hears no objection. The leave will be granted.

The Chair turns to the minority whip, who requests that Representative MAJOR from Susquehanna County, Representative GABIG from Cumberland County, and Representative BASTIAN from Somerset County be placed on leave for today. The Chair sees no objection. These leaves will be granted.

Members will report to the floor.

MASTER ROLL CALL

The SPEAKER. The Chair is about to take the master roll. Members will proceed to vote.

The following roll call was recorded:

PRESENT-195

Adolph	Freeman	Markosek	Rock
Argall	Galloway	Marshall	Roebuck
Baker	Geist	Marsico	Rohrer
Barrar	George	McCall	Rubley
Bear	Gerber	McGeehan	Sabatina
Belfanti	Gergely	McI. Smith	Sainato
Benninghoff	Gibbons	McIlhattan	Samuelson
Bennington	Gillespie	Melio	Santoni
Beyer	Gingrich	Mensch	Saylor
Biancucci	Godshall	Metcalfe	Scavello
Bishop	Goodman	Micozzie	Schroder
Blackwell	Grell	Millard	Seip
Boback	Grucela	Miller	Shapiro
Boyd	Haluska	Milne	Shimkus
Brennan	Hanna	Moul	Siptroth

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL—HOUSE

Brooks Buxton Caltagirone Cappelli Carroll Casorio Causer Civera

Clymer

Conklin

Creighton

Cohen

Costa

Cox

Cruz

Curry

Cutler

Daley

Dally

DeLuca

Denlinger

Dermody

DeWeese

DiGirolamo

Donatucci

Evans, D.

Evans, J.

Everett

Fabrizio

Fairchild

Fleck

Frankel

Eachus

Ellis

DePasquale

Harhart Harkins Harper Harris Helm Hennessey Hershey Hess Hickernell Hornaman Hutchinson James Josephs Kauffman Keller, M. Keller, W. Kenney Kessler Killion King Kirkland Kortz Kotik Kula Leach Lentz Longietti Mackereth Maher Mahoney Manderino Mann Mantz

Harhai

Moyer Smith, K. Mundy Smith M Murt Smith, S. Solobay Mustio Myers Sonney Nailor Stairs Nickol Steil O'Brien, M. Stern O'Neill Stevenson Oliver Sturla Pallone Swanger Parker Tangretti Pashinski Taylor, J. Payne Taylor, R. Payton Thomas Peifer True Perry Turzai Perzel Vereb Petrarca Vitali Vulakovich Petri Petrone Wagner Phillips Walko Pickett Wansacz Preston Waters Pvle Watson Ouigley Wheatley White Quinn Ramaley Williams Wojnaroski Rapp Raymond Yewcic Readshaw Youngblood Reed O'Brien, D., Reichley Roae Speaker

ADDITIONS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-8

Ross

Staback

Bastian Gabig

Surra Yudichak

LEAVES ADDED-1

Levdansky

Major

Reed

LEAVES CANCELED-1

Gabig

The SPEAKER. A quorum being present, the House will proceed to conduct business.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Here today, as the guests of Representative Rob Kauffman, are 11th and 12th grade students from Chambersburg Senior High School. They are accompanied by their teacher, Mr. Joshua Sherman. They are located in the House gallery. Please stand and be recognized, and welcome to the House chamber.

FORMER MEMBER WELCOMED

The SPEAKER. Please join the Speaker in welcoming back to Harrisburg our former colleague and member, Sheila Miller. She is in the gallery, and I believe she has a guest with her. Sheila.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Also to the left of the Speaker we have Jane Stoviak, the sister of the guest Chaplain today, and Rhenee Kapr and her husband, Frank, sister and brother-in-law of Representative Kula. Would you please stand and be recognized. Welcome to the chamber.

And to the left of the Speaker, as the guest of Representative Merle Phillips, we have the Reverend LeRoy Heller. Would you please stand and be recognized.

HON. DENNIS HASTERT PRESENTED

The SPEAKER. Ladies and gentlemen, if I can have your attention, please. We have a very special guest.

This morning I have the special honor of introducing another Speaker of the House, another Denny, to this chamber. While he has chosen to retire from the United States Congress by the end of the year, we are so pleased to have the Honorable Dennis Hastert here with us in the State House today.

He is the guest of the two caucus policy committees, and he is concerned, as many others are, about the decline of the Olympics sports sponsorships and the wane of the Olympic-caliber athletes because of the recent trend in downsizing or eliminating sports from our intercollegiate programs.

Mr. Speaker, we honor your place in history and the high office you achieved, and are grateful for your focus on worldwide Olympic sports in general, and on wrestling, where you were a champion, in particular.

Members of the House, please join me in welcoming the former Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Honorable Dennis Hastert, who hails from the great State of Illinois. And by happenstance, his mother's parents grew up in Bridesburg, in the great city of Philadelphia. So he truly is one of ours. Welcome to Pennsylvania.

SPEAKER HASTERT. Thank you. Thank you very much.

It is a great honor to be here. You know, I do not get to take the dais very often anymore. That is a joke.

But anyway, I was very warmly welcomed here today. I have had the ability and the honor of serving with a lot of your former colleagues in the U.S. Congress. Good people come from this place, and good ideas. I thank you for what you do. I thank you for ability to work across the aisle and do good things, and, Speaker, thank you for your wonderful hospitality.

God bless you. Thank you.

DAN GABLE INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Eachus.

Mr. EACHUS. Thank you.

I appreciate the attention of the members for just a moment.

First of all, in the back of the House we have a delegation from the National Wrestling Coaches Association, their corporate sponsors, and a number of very prominent coaches from the ranks of Pennsylvania. Gentlemen, if you will please rise and be recognized. Thank you.

I also have the honor today of being able to introduce a legend in wrestling, a United States Olympic champion, the coach of Iowa for 21 years, and as he proudly said in our bipartisan policy committee meeting on the importance of Olympic sports as it relates to our university system, Coach Dan Gable won 21 championships at the University of Iowa, in the 21 years in the Big 10 Conference. He was also a U.S. Olympic champion in 1972, and, Coach Gable, if you will please rise and be recognized by the House of Representatives. Coach Dan Gable, wrestling legend.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the courtesy of allowing me to introduce Coach Gable, and I would also like to thank Representative Turzai and the Republican policy committee. We had a bipartisan discussion today about our own State system as it relates to Olympic sports. Coach Gable and Speaker Hastert were a part of that discussion to help us guide our programs here in the Commonwealth. So I want to thank them personally and the National Wrestling Coaches Association and Mike Moyer for his efforts on our behalf.

Thank you.

REPRESENTATIVE ERIC BEDINGFIELD INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Ladies and gentlemen, to the left of the Speaker is State Representative Eric Bedingfield from the great State of South Carolina. He is the guest of Representative Sam Rohrer. Would you please stand and be recognized.

And at this time the Chair would recognize Representative Rohrer for additional remarks about our guest.

Mr. ROHRER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am glad to welcome one of our colleagues from another State, South Carolina, Eric Bedingfield, who the Speaker just recognized, District 28, South Carolina.

Representative Bedingfield was the legislator that took the lead in the successful passage of legislation, passed by the Governor of South Carolina earlier this year, that made South Carolina one of the more recent States that have officially notified the Federal government that they would not be participating in the implementation of the REAL ID Act. Representative Bedingfield is here today and will be joining Representative Josephs and myself and other members for a press conference in the rotunda at noon.

So we would like to thank him for being here. He has made himself available to help both the Senate and House members understand the experience of South Carolina in dealing with this most important issue.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE, CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND TABLED

By Rep. OLIVER

An Act providing for protection of abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned adults; establishing a uniform Statewide reporting and investigative system for suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment of adults; providing for protective services and for funding; and prescribing penalties.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

HB 1752, PN 2334

HB 361, PN 425

By Rep. OLIVER

An Act providing for education for parents relating to sudden infant death syndrome and sudden unexpected death of infants; establishing the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Education and Prevention Program; and providing for duties of the Department of Health.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 505 By Representatives FAIRCHILD, MELIO. COHEN, S. H. SMITH, DeWEESE, BAKER, BELFANTI, BENNINGHOFF, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAUSER, CIVERA, COX, D. EVANS, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FLECK, GALLOWAY, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, HANNA, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HESS, JAMES, KOTIK, MENSCH, MICOZZIE, R. MILLER, MUNDY, MUSTIO, NAILOR, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PAYNE, PERRY. PICKETT. RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY. SANTONI, SAYLOR, R. STEVENSON, SURRA. WANSACZ, WATSON, HUTCHINSON, WOJNAROSKI, CRUZ, O'NEILL, M. KELLER, LENTZ, MILNE, YOUNGBLOOD, GRUCELA, DALLY, MANTZ, SIPTROTH, MARSHALL, WALKO, CUTLER, MILLARD and METCALFE

A Resolution memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States to enact House Resolution 783, permitting the recitation of the 13 steps to fold an American flag, known as the "13-fold recital," at any national cemetery if requested by the family of the deceased.

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, November 14, 2007.

No. 506 By Representatives GEORGE, ARGALL, BELFANTI, BENNINGTON, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARKINS, HERSHEY, JOSEPHS, W. KELLER, MAHONEY, MANDERINO, MELIO, MUNDY, MYERS, M. O'BRIEN, PARKER, PETRARCA, PETRONE, RUBLEY, SCHRODER, SHIMKUS, K. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SURRA, TANGRETTI, J. TAYLOR, WALKO, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK and J. WHITE

A Resolution urging the Department of Environmental Protection and the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to exercise due diligence on behalf of the Commonwealth's energy consumers by identifying and evaluating measures taken in other states to manage the transition from electricity rate caps to no rate caps and minimize its impact upon the individual residential consumer, to make written suggestions on how certain laws may be changed to reduce the incidence of rate shock and the impact of rate shock and to submit the suggestions to the Chief Clerk for distribution among members of the House of Representatives.

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, November 14, 2007.

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 1275 By Representatives ROHRER, COX, YEWCIC, ARGALL, QUIGLEY, DENLINGER, PHILLIPS, STERN, BAKER. BARRAR, BASTIAN, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CREIGHTON, EVERETT, GABIG, GIBBONS, GILLESPIE, GOODMAN, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY. HESS. KAUFFMAN, MACKERETH, MAHONEY, MANTZ, McILHATTAN, MENSCH, MOUL, PERRY, PYLE, READSHAW, ROAE, ROCK, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SCHRODER, STEIL, SWANGER, MUSTIO and PICKETT

An Act providing for tax levies and information related to taxes; authorizing the imposition of a personal income tax or an earned income tax by a school district subject to voter approval; providing for imposition of and exclusions from a sales and use tax for education; establishing the Public Transportation Reserve Fund; providing for increase to the personal income tax and realty transfer tax, for certain licenses, for hotel occupancy tax, for procedure and administration of the tax, for basic education funding for 2006-2007 fiscal year, for expiration of authority to issue certain debt, for reporting by local government units of debt outstanding and for assumption of certain debt by the Commonwealth; establishing the Education Operating Fund and the School District Grant and Incentive Programs Fund; providing for disbursements from these funds and for transfers from the Property Tax Relief Fund to the Education Operating Fund; establishing the School Financing Authority and providing for its powers and duties; providing for certain rebates and assistance to senior citizens; adding provisions relating to school district fiscal efficiency; establishing the School Equity Capital Construction Fund and the School Equity Distribution Task Force; and repealing certain provisions of The Local Tax Enabling Act, sales and use tax provisions of the Tax Reform Code of 1971 and provisions relating to senior citizens property tax and rent rebate assistance in the Taxpayer Relief Act.

Referred to Committee on APPROPRIATIONS, November 14, 2007.

No. 1980 By Representatives BOYD, MENSCH, ARGALL, BENNINGHOFF, BUXTON, CUTLER, DALLY, FAIRCHILD, GINGRICH, HARPER, HICKERNELL, HORNAMAN, KAUFFMAN, MANN, MCILHATTAN, MICOZZIE, MILNE, MOUL, MUNDY, MUSTIO, NAILOR, NICKOL, RAPP, REED, REICHLEY, ROAE, SCHRODER, SONNEY, STEIL, TRUE and VULAKOVICH

An Act amending the act of July 8, 1986 (P.L.408, No.89), known as the Health Care Cost Containment Act, further providing for mandated health benefits.

Referred to Committee on INSURANCE, November 14, 2007.

No. 2005 By Representatives DeLUCA, CALTAGIRONE, GEORGE, M. O'BRIEN, MACKERETH, SOLOBAY, HARKINS, BELFANTI, MUSTIO, WALKO, JOSEPHS and YOUNGBLOOD

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, further providing for conditions subject to which policies are to be issued; and providing for health insurance coverage for certain children of insured parents and for affordable small group health care coverage.

Referred to Committee on INSURANCE, November 14, 2007.

No. 2009 By Representatives CUTLER, BOYD, EVERETT, GINGRICH, GRELL, HICKERNELL, KAUFFMAN, MANTZ, MARSHALL, MILNE, MOUL, REICHLEY, ROAE, STERN, SWANGER, TRUE, WATSON, MACKERETH, ROCK, PERRY and MURT

An Act amending Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing, in ethical standards and financial disclosure, for restricted activities.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, November 14, 2007.

No. 2010 By Representatives CUTLER, BEAR, BOYD, COX, CREIGHTON, DENLINGER, GINGRICH, HERSHEY, HICKERNELL, MANTZ, MARSHALL, MILNE, MOUL, PYLE, ROAE, SONNEY, STERN, SWANGER, TRUE, MURT, ROCK, PERRY and MACKERETH

An Act amending Titles 24 (Education) and 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing, in retirement systems, for maximum single life annuities.

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, November 14, 2007.

No. 2011 By Representatives J. WHITE, SOLOBAY, KENNEY, HORNAMAN, CAUSER, SIPTROTH, PALLONE, CALTAGIRONE, MAHONEY, PYLE, K. SMITH, HARHAI, W. KELLER, MELIO, GIBBONS and LONGIETTI

An Act amending the act of May 2, 1947 (P.L.143, No.62), entitled "An act regulating the sale and resale for profit and the carrying on of the business of selling or reselling tickets or other devices for admission to places of amusement; providing for the licensing of persons reselling such tickets for profit; providing for the suspension and revocation of such licenses; imposing duties on licensees and owners or operators of places of amusement; imposing powers and duties on the Department of Revenue, county treasurers, district attorneys, and the receiver of taxes, and city solicitors in cities of the first class; making disposition of moneys collected and providing penalties," further providing for definitions; and providing for ticket purchasing software.

Referred to Committee on CONSUMER AFFAIRS, November 14, 2007.

No. 2012 By Representatives SONNEY, CAPPELLI, CUTLER, DENLINGER, FLECK, GABIG, GEIST, HORNAMAN, HUTCHINSON, MENSCH, PYLE, RAPP, ROHRER, R. STEVENSON and METCALFE

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for unlawful devices and methods.

Referred to Committee on GAME AND FISHERIES, November 14, 2007.

BELFANTI, No. 2013 By Representatives MUNDY, BRENNAN, CARROLL, CURRY, DeLUCA, FREEMAN, GOODMAN, HORNAMAN, JOSEPHS, KORTZ, MAHONEY, MARKOSEK, McILHATTAN, MELIO, MENSCH, MYERS, PARKER, PASHINSKI, PHILLIPS, PYLE, RAYMOND, READSHAW, ROAE, RUBLEY, SOLOBAY. SCHRODER, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, STABACK, SURRA, SWANGER, J. TAYLOR, WALKO, YOUNGBLOOD and D. O'BRIEN

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for accidents involving death or personal injury.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, November 14, 2007.

No. 2014 By Representatives SOLOBAY, REED. BELFANTI, CALTAGIRONE, EVERETT. FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, GEORGE, GERGELY, GODSHALL, HENNESSEY, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, LONGIETTI, HORNAMAN, KOTIK, MAHONEY. R. MILLER, M. O'BRIEN, READSHAW, REICHLEY, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, SONNEY, R. STEVENSON, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI and YOUNGBLOOD

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for an economic and environmental impact study.

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, November 14, 2007.

No. 2015 By Representatives SCAVELLO, THOMAS, BAKER, BELFANTI, CAPPELLI, CARROLL, COHEN, COSTA, CREIGHTON. DALLY, DePASOUALE, DONATUCCI, EACHUS, J. EVANS, FABRIZIO, GEORGE, GERGELY, GILLESPIE, GRELL, HARHART, HARPER, HELM, HENNESSEY, JAMES, KAUFFMAN, W. KELLER, KORTZ, KOTIK, MACKERETH, MARSICO, McGEEHAN, McILHATTAN, R. MILLER, MOUL, MURT, MUSTIO, NAILOR, OLIVER, O'NEILL, PASHINSKI, PAYNE, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, READSHAW, REICHLEY, SABATINA, SAYLOR, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, J. TAYLOR, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATERS, WATSON. YOUNGBLOOD and YUDICHAK

An Act regulating the right to practice prosthetics, orthotics and pedorthics; requiring the licensure of prosthetists, orthotists, orthotic fitters and pedorthists; and providing a penalty.

Referred to Committee on PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, November 14, 2007.

No. 2016 By Representatives MANN, BEAR, BELFANTI, BEYER, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, CREIGHTON, FABRIZIO, GEIST. GINGRICH, DALEY. DALLY, HARHART, HARKINS. HARPER. HENNESSEY. HORNAMAN, KOTIK, KULA, McILVAINE SMITH. PETRONE, ROSS, RUBLEY, SHIMKUS, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, SWANGER, THOMAS, YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK, GRUCELA, MUSTIO, STERN, MOYER and MACKERETH

An Act amending Title 62 (Procurement) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing a municipal authorities procurement code.

Referred to Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, November 14, 2007.

No. 2018 By Representatives FREEMAN, MOUL, WALKO, BAKER, BOYD, BRENNAN, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CARROLL, CAUSER, COSTA, CURRY, DeLUCA, DePASQUALE, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FRANKEL, GEIST, GEORGE, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HENNESSEY, KOTIK, KULA, LEACH, MAHONEY, MANN, McILHATTAN, M. O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, PETRONE, PRESTON, REED, SAINATO, SAMUELSON, SCAVELLO, SHAPIRO, SOLOBAY, STURLA. WOJNAROSKI, WHEATLEY. YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK and KORTZ

An Act providing for an annual revenue sharing program for municipalities relating to tax-exempt real property; establishing the Tax-exempt Property Municipal Assistance Fund; imposing powers and duties on the Department of Community and Economic Development; and making an inconsistent repeal.

Referred to Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, November 14, 2007.

No. 2019 By Representatives CLYMER, BEAR, CREIGHTON, FLECK, GILLESPIE, GRUCELA, HARHART, HERSHEY, KAUFFMAN, M. KELLER, W. KELLER, MACKERETH, MCILHATTAN, MILLARD, MILNE, PYLE, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, SONNEY, SWANGER and YOUNGBLOOD

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for definitions, for penalties for driving after imbibing alcohol or utilizing drugs, for ignition interlock, for accelerated rehabilitative disposition and for illegally operating a motor vehicle not equipped with ignition interlock; and making an editorial change.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, November 14, 2007.

No. 2032 By Representatives HICKERNELL, SHIMKUS, BASTIAN, BEAR, BISHOP, BOYD, CAPPELLI, CARROLL, CAUSER, CUTLER, DENLINGER, FLECK, GEIST, GINGRICH, HANNA, HARHART, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, M. KELLER, KENNEY, LEACH, LENTZ, MACKERETH, MAJOR, MANN, R. MILLER, MURT, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PAYTON, RAPP, ROSS, SAYLOR, SIPTROTH, STERN, THOMAS, TRUE, VULAKOVICH, WATSON and YOUNGBLOOD

An Act providing for financial assistance to foster youth and youth adopted from the foster care system; reducing the long-term costs for taxpayers by enhancing opportunities for youth who are or have been in substitute care; assisting youth who are and have been in substitute care by making college accessible; and encouraging the adoption of youth from substitute care by assisting families with the financing of postsecondary education.

Referred to Committee on CHILDREN AND YOUTH, November 14, 2007.

NOVEMBER 14

BEVERLY CLAYPOOL CASELLA INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Pyle for the purpose of an introduction.

Mr. PYLE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I request the House come to order.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman is correct.

Members will please take their seats. Conferences in the rear of the House will break up.

Mr. PYLE. Anyone who spends more than 5 minutes in discussion with me will inevitably hear the saying, "Armstrong County's beauty is unparalleled, but still, in comparison, does not compare to the strength of its people."

I am honored today to bring one of Armstrong County's greatest treasures here to the hall of the House for recognition. Now, understanding this is not done very commonly – with 67 counties and 67 sets of row officers – why would we do this? The person I am about to present to you, I feel, is truly deserving of this honor. When this person first started working in the Register and Recorder's Office, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 10 Presidents ago, was in the Oval Office. Over the course of the next 51 years, this lady – and I use that term in its most literal sense – has treated everyone with equal gentility in the spirit of helping and compassion.

A devout Christian and pillar of her church, Mr. Speaker, I am deeply, deeply honored to present for recognition by this House, Miss Beverly Claypool Casella.

Bev has been something of a guidance to anyone seeking office in Armstrong County for many years regardless of party, Republican or Democrat, and in fact, this year takes her well-deserved retirement after 51 years.

Thank you very much for your compassion. It pales in comparison to what she has shown to thousands upon thousands of my Armstrong Countians.

I give to you, once again, Beverly Claypool Casella.

CALENDAR

RESOLUTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Ms. BISHOP called up HR 492, PN 2782, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the broad benefits of music education in the schools of this Commonwealth.

On the question, Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS-195

- Adolph Argall Baker Barrar Bear Belfanti Benninghoff Bennington Beyer
- Freeman Galloway Geist George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Gillespie Gingrich

Markosek Marshall Marsico McCall McGeehan McI. Smith McIlhattan Melio Mensch Rock Robuck Rohrer Rubley Sabatina Sainato Samuelson Santoni Saylor

Biancucci	Godshall	Metcalfe	Scavello
Bishop	Goodman	Micozzie	Schroder
Blackwell	Grell	Millard	Seip
Boback	Grucela	Miller	Shapiro
Boyd	Haluska	Milne	Shimkus
Brennan	Hanna	Moul	Siptroth
Brooks	Harhai	Moyer	Smith, K.
Buxton	Harhart	Mundy	Smith, M.
Caltagirone	Harkins	Murt	Smith, S.
Cappelli	Harper	Mustio	Solobay
Carroll	Harris	Myers	Sonney
Casorio	Helm	Nailor	Stairs
Causer	Hennessey	Nickol	Steil
Civera	Hershey	O'Brien, M.	Stern
Clymer	Hess	O'Neill	Stevenson
Cohen	Hickernell	Oliver	Sturla
Conklin	Hornaman	Pallone	Swanger
Costa	Hutchinson	Parker	Tangretti
Cox	James	Pashinski	Taylor, J.
Creighton	Josephs	Payne	Taylor, R.
Cruz	Kauffman	Payton	Thomas
Curry	Keller, M.	Peifer	True
Cutler	Keller, W.	Perry	Turzai
Daley	Kenney	Perzel	Vereb
Dally	Kessler	Petrarca	Vitali
DeLuca	Killion	Petri	Vulakovich
Denlinger	King	Petrone	Wagner
DePasquale	Kirkland	Phillips	Walko
Dermody	Kortz	Pickett	Wansacz
DeWeese	Kotik	Preston	Waters
DiGirolamo	Kula	Pyle	Watson
Donatucci	Leach	Quigley	Wheatley
Eachus	Lentz	Quinn	White
Ellis	Longietti	Ramaley	Williams
Evans, D.	Mackereth	Rapp	Wojnaroski
Evans, J.	Maher	Raymond	Yewcic
Everett	Mahoney	Readshaw	Youngblood
Fabrizio	Manderino	Reed	
Fairchild	Mann	Reichley	O'Brien, D.,
Fleck	Mantz	Roae	Speaker
Frankel			

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-8

tian	Levdansky
oig	Major

Bas

Gał

Ross Staback Surra Yudichak

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

* * *

Mr. KING called up HR 499, PN 2813, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the week of November 19 through 25, 2007, as "Family Caregiver Week" in Pennsylvania and commending the service and dedication family caregivers provide to older adults.

On the question, Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

Adolph

Argall

Baker

Barrar

Belfanti

Beyer

Bishop

Boback

Brennan

Brooks

Buxton

Cappelli

Carroll

Casorio

Causer

Civera

Clvmer

Cohen

Conklin

Costa

Cox

Cruz

Curry

Cutler

Daley

Dally

DeLuca

Eachus

Evans, J.

Everett

Fabrizio

Fleck

Frankel

Ellis

Boyd

Bear

2679

YEAS-195

Geist

Gerber

Grell

Hanna

Harhai

Harris

Helm

Hess

James

King

Kortz

Kotik

Kula

Leach

Lentz

Maher

Mann

Mantz

Adolph
Argall
Baker
Barrar
Bear
Belfanti
Benninghoff
Bennington
Beyer
Biancucci
Bishop
Blackwell
Boback
Boyd
Brennan
Brooks
Buxton
Caltagirone
Cappelli
Carroll
Casorio
Causer
Causer
Civera
Clymer
Cohen
Conklin
Costa
a
Cox Creighton Cruz Curry Cutler Daley
Creignion
Cruz
Curry
Cutler
Dalev
Dally
DeLuca
DeLuca
Denlinger
DePasquale
Dermody
DeWeese
DiGirolamo
Donatucci
Eachus
Ellis
Evans, D.
Evans, J.
Everett
Fabrizio
Fairchild
Fleck
Frankel

Freeman Markosek Galloway Marshall Marsico George McCall McGeehan Gergely McI. Smith Gibbons McIlhattan Gillespie Melio Gingrich Mensch Godshall Metcalfe Goodman Micozzie Millard Grucela Miller Haluska Milne Moul Moyer Harhart Mundy Harkins Murt Harper Mustio Myers Nailor Hennessey Nickol Hershev O'Brien. M. O'Neill Hickernell Oliver Hornaman Pallone Hutchinson Parker Pashinski Josephs Payne Kauffman Payton Keller, M. Peifer Keller, W. Perry Kenney Perzel Kessler Petrarca Killion Petri Petrone Kirkland Phillips Pickett Preston Pyle Quigley Quinn Ramaley Longietti Mackereth Rapp Raymond Mahoney Readshaw Manderino Reed Reichley Roae

Rock Roebuck Rohrer Rubley Sabatina Sainato Samuelson Santoni Saylor Scavello Schroder Seip Shapiro Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Smith, S. Solobay Sonney Stairs Steil Stern Stevenson Sturla Swanger Tangretti Taylor, J. Taylor, R. Thomas True Turzai Vereb Vitali Vulakovich Wagner Walko Wansacz Waters Watson Wheatley White Williams Wojnaroski Yewcic Youngblood O'Brien, D., Speaker

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-8

Bastian	Levdansky	Ross	Surra
Gabig	Major	Staback	Yudichak

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

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE (JENNIFER L. MANN) PRESIDING

* * *

Mr. SABATINA called up HR 503, PN 2817, entitled:

A Resolution urging public awareness of the dangers and prevention methods associated with Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus infections.

On the question, Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS-195

Freeman Markosek Galloway Marshall Geist Marsico McCall George Gerber McGeehan McL Smith Gergely Benninghoff Gibbons McIlhattan Bennington Gillespie Melio Gingrich Mensch Biancucci Godshall Metcalfe Goodman Micozzie Blackwell Grell Millard Grucela Miller Haluska Milne Hanna Moul Harhai Moyer Harhart Mundy Harkins Caltagirone Murt Harper Mustio Harris Myers Helm Nailor Hennessey Nickol Hershey O'Brien, M. Hess O'Neill Hickernell Oliver Hornaman Pallone Hutchinson Parker James Pashinski Creighton Josephs Payne Kauffman Payton Keller, M. Peifer Keller, W. Perry Perzel Kennev Kessler Petrarca Killion Petri Denlinger King Petrone Kirkland DePasquale Phillips Dermody Kortz Pickett DeWeese Kotik Preston DiGirolamo Kula Pyle Donatucci Leach Quigley Lentz Quinn Longietti Ramalev Evans, D. Mackereth Rapp Maher Raymond Mahoney Readshaw Manderino Reed Fairchild Mann Reichley Mantz Roae

Rock Roebuck Rohrer Rubley Sabatina Sainato Samuelson Santoni Saylor Scavello Schroder Sein Shapiro Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Smith. S. Solobay Sonney Stairs Steil Stern Stevenson Sturla Swanger Tangretti Taylor, J. Taylor, R. Thomas True Turzai Vereb Vitali Vulakovich Wagner Walko Wansacz Waters Watson Wheatley White Williams Wojnaroski Yewcic Youngblood O'Brien, D., Speaker

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-8

Bastian	
Gabig	

Levdansky Ross Staback

Surra

Yudichak

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

THE SPEAKER (DENNIS M. O'BRIEN) PRESIDING

GUEST INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. The Chair would like to draw the attention of the members to the left of the Speaker. As the guest of the Speaker, we have Fran Petriccione. Would you please stand and be recognized. Welcome to the floor of the House.

Members will take their seats.

Major

The Chair is about to take up a condolence resolution. The Sergeants at Arms will clear the aisles. Conferences along the wall will break up. Members will take their seats.

RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Mr. CONKLIN called up HR 504, PN 2828, entitled:

A Resolution honoring the life and extending condolences for the supreme sacrifice of United States Navy Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy, a Navy SEAL who tragically lost his life in service to our country in Kunar Province, Afghanistan, on June 28, 2005.

On the question, Will the House adopt the resolution?

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Conklin on the resolution.

Mr. CONKLIN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On behalf of the family of Michael Murphy, who were unable to make it here today, I would like this body to honor another fallen hero.

Michael Murphy is the beloved son of Maureen and Dan Murphy. He is the brother of John Murphy.

For those of you who have not heard the story of Michael Murphy, better known to his friends as Murph, it has made national attention for another hero that has fallen. Michael Murphy, with his fellow soldiers, was in Afghanistan. When there was no room for anyone to be able to survive, Michael Murphy gave his own life by going into open gunfire to radio for help for the rest of his comrades. Michael Murphy was able to crawl back, but was unable to survive that day. One soldier was able to survive, but Michael Murphy gave much more than that - he gave the families closure. The families of those other soldiers, who were waiting for their sons and daughters to come home that day, were able to find the location of their loved ones, and be able to put rest to those souls.

I am asking this body to once again honor another one of our heroes.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Members and guests will please rise as a sign of respect for United States Navy Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy.

(Whereupon, the members of the House and all visitors stood in a moment of silence in solemn respect to the memory of Lt. Michael P. Murphy.)

On the question recurring, Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS-195

	Г	N 1 1	D 1
Adolph	Freeman	Markosek	Rock
Argall	Galloway	Marshall	Roebuck
Baker	Geist	Marsico	Rohrer
Barrar	George	McCall	Rubley
Bear	Gerber	McGeehan	Sabatina
Belfanti	Gergely	McI. Smith	Sainato
Benninghoff	Gibbons	McIlhattan	Samuelson
Bennington	Gillespie	Melio	Santoni
Beyer	Gingrich	Mensch	Saylor
Biancucci	Godshall	Metcalfe	Scavello
Bishop	Goodman	Micozzie	Schroder
Blackwell	Grell	Millard	Seip
Boback	Grucela	Miller	Shapiro
Boyd	Haluska	Milne	Shimkus
Brennan	Hanna	Moul	Siptroth
Brooks	Harhai	Moyer	Smith, K.
Buxton	Harhart	Mundy	Smith, M.
Caltagirone	Harkins	Murt	Smith, S.
Cappelli	Harper	Mustio	Solobay
Carroll	Harris	Myers	Sonney
Casorio	Helm	Nailor	Stairs
Causer	Hennessey	Nickol	Steil
Civera	Hershey	O'Brien, M.	Stern
Clymer	Hess	O'Neill	Stevenson
Cohen	Hickernell	Oliver	Sturla
Conklin	Hornaman	Pallone	Swanger
Costa	Hutchinson	Parker	Tangretti
Cox	James	Pashinski	Taylor, J.
Creighton	Josephs	Payne	Taylor, R.
Cruz	Kauffman	Payton	Thomas
Curry	Keller, M.	Peifer	True
Cutler	Keller, W.	Perry	Turzai
Daley	Kenney	Perzel	Vereb
Dally	Kessler	Petrarca	Vitali
DeLuca	Killion	Petri	Vulakovich
	King	Petrone	Wagner
Denlinger DePasquale	Kirkland	Phillips	Walko
1	Kortz	Pickett	Wansacz
Dermody			
DeWeese	Kotik	Preston	Waters
DiGirolamo	Kula	Pyle	Watson
Donatucci	Leach	Quigley	Wheatley
Eachus	Lentz	Quinn	White
Ellis	Longietti	Ramaley	Williams
Evans, D.	Mackereth	Rapp	Wojnaroski
Evans, J.	Maher	Raymond	Yewcic
Everett	Mahoney	Readshaw	Youngblood
Fabrizio	Manderino	Reed	
Fairchild	Mann	Reichley	O'Brien, D.,
Fleck	Mantz	Roae	Speaker
Frankel			

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL—HOUSE

EXCUSED-8

Bastian	Levdansky	Ross	Surra
Gabig	Major	Staback	Yudichak

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

BILL ON FINAL PASSAGE POSTPONED

The House proceeded to consideration on final passage postponed of **HB 848**, **PN 2807**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, further providing for the sale of unused and unnecessary lands and buildings; providing for State reimbursement for mobile classroom facilities; and making editorial changes.

On the question recurring, Shall the bill pass finally?

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

The Chair recognizes Representative Haluska.

Mr. HALUSKA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I just wanted to clear up a couple things about the bill. I had some questions over the last couple days.

Basically, what this bill does is just sets some parameters up for school districts to get rid of unused buildings that they are not going to use. Basically, what it does is prevent them from selling them on pennies to a dollar to people that just want to come and take the good things out of the building, then they become a blighted structure that sits in a lot of our communities.

So this bill, along with the Godshall amendment and the Freeman amendments, is a much better bill than the one we sent over to the Senate last term, and I would appreciate an affirmative vote.

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-132

Adolph	Galloway	Mann	Sainato
Argall	Geist	Markosek	Samuelson
Barrar	George	Marsico	Santoni
Belfanti	Gerber	McCall	Schroder
Bennington	Gergely	McGeehan	Seip
Beyer	Gibbons	McI. Smith	Shapiro
Biancucci	Godshall	McIlhattan	Shimkus
Bishop	Goodman	Melio	Siptroth
Blackwell	Grucela	Mensch	Smith, K.
Boyd	Haluska	Micozzie	Smith, S.
Brennan	Hanna	Moyer	Solobay
Buxton	Harhai	Mundy	Stairs
Caltagirone	Harkins	Murt	Sturla

Cappelli	Harper	Myers	Tangretti
Carroll	Harris	O'Brien, M.	Taylor, J.
Casorio	Helm	Oliver	Taylor, R.
Cohen	Hennessey	Pallone	Thomas
Conklin	Hershey	Parker	Vereb
Costa	Hutchinson	Pashinski	Vitali
Cruz	James	Payne	Wagner
Curry	Josephs	Payton	Walko
Daley	Keller, W.	Perzel	Wansacz
DeLuca	Kenney	Petrarca	Waters
DePasquale	Kessler	Petri	Watson
Dermody	Killion	Petrone	Wheatley
DeWeese	King	Phillips	White
DiGirolamo	Kirkland	Preston	Williams
Donatucci	Kortz	Quinn	Wojnaroski
Eachus	Kula	Ramaley	Yewcic
Evans, D.	Leach	Raymond	Youngblood
Fabrizio	Lentz	Readshaw	-
Fairchild	Longietti	Roebuck	O'Brien, D.,
Frankel	Mahoney	Sabatina	Speaker
Freeman	Manderino		

NAYS-63

Baker	Fleck	Millard	Roae
Bear	Gillespie	Miller	Rock
Benninghoff	Gingrich	Milne	Rohrer
Boback	Grell	Moul	Rubley
Brooks	Harhart	Mustio	Saylor
Causer	Hess	Nailor	Scavello
Civera	Hickernell	Nickol	Smith, M.
Clymer	Hornaman	O'Neill	Sonney
Cox	Kauffman	Peifer	Steil
Creighton	Keller, M.	Perry	Stern
Cutler	Kotik	Pickett	Stevenson
Dally	Mackereth	Pyle	Swanger
Denlinger	Maher	Quigley	True
Ellis	Mantz	Rapp	Turzai
Evans, J.	Marshall	Reed	Vulakovich
Everett	Metcalfe	Reichley	

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-8

Bastian	Levdansky	Ross	Surra
Gabig	Major	Staback	Yudichak

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.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1025**, **PN 2724**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, further defining "occupational disease."

On the question, 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.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. 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

Rock

Roebuck

Rohrer

Rubley

Sabatina

Sainato

Santoni

Scavello

Schroder

Shapiro

Shimkus

Siptroth

Smith, K.

Smith, M.

Smith, S.

Solobay

Sonney

Stairs

Steil

Stern

Sturla

Swanger

Tangretti

Taylor, J.

Taylor, R.

Thomas

True

Turzai

Vereb

Vitali

Wagner

Walko

Waters

Watson

White

Wheatley

Williams

Yewcic

Wojnaroski

Youngblood

O'Brien, D.,

Speaker

Wansacz

Vulakovich

Stevenson

Savlor

Seip

Samuelson

Adolph Argall Baker Barrar Bear Belfanti Benninghoff Bennington Beyer Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Boback Boyd Brennan Brooks Buxton Caltagirone Cappelli Carroll Casorio Causer Civera Clymer Cohen Conklin Costa Cox Creighton Cruz Curry Cutler Daley Dally DeLuca Denlinger DePasquale Dermody DeWeese DiGirolamo Donatucci Eachus Ellis Evans, D. Evans, J. Everett Fabrizio Fairchild Fleck Frankel

Markosek Freeman Marshall Galloway Geist Marsico George McCall Gerber McGeehan McI. Smith Gergely McIlhattan Gibbons Gillespie Melio Gingrich Mensch Godshall Metcalfe Goodman Micozzie Grell Millard Grucela Miller Haluska Milne Hanna Moul Harhai Moyer Harhart Mundy Harkins Murt Harper Mustio Harris Myers Helm Nailor Hennessey Nickol Hershey O'Brien, M. O'Neill Hickernell Oliver Hornaman Pallone Hutchinson Parker Pashinski James Josephs Payne Kauffman Payton Keller, M. Peifer Keller, W. Perry Kenney Perzel Kessler Petrarca Killion Petri King Petrone Kirkland Phillips Kortz Pickett Kotik Preston Kula Pvle Leach Quigley Lentz Quinn Longietti Ramaley Mackereth Rapp Maher Raymond Mahonev Readshaw Manderino Reed Reichley Mann Mantz Roae

Hess

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-8

Ross

Staback

Bastian Gabig

Levdansky Major

Surra Yudichak

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 House proceeded to third consideration of HB 1033, PN 2664, entitled:

An Act designating September 11 of each year as "Pennsylvania Emergency Responders' Day."

On the question, 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.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. 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

A. J. 1. 1.	F	Maulaaala
Adolph	Freeman	Markosek
Argall	Galloway	Marshall
Baker	Geist	Marsico
Barrar	George	McCall
Bear	Gerber	McGeehan
Belfanti	Gergely	McI. Smith
Benninghoff	Gibbons	McIlhattan
Bennington	Gillespie	Melio
Beyer	Gingrich	Mensch
Biancucci	Godshall	Metcalfe
Bishop	Goodman	Micozzie
Blackwell	Grell	Millard
Boback	Grucela	Miller
Boyd	Haluska	Milne
Brennan	Hanna	Moul
Brooks	Harhai	Moyer
Buxton	Harhart	Mundy
Caltagirone	Harkins	Murt
Cappelli	Harper	Mustio
Carroll	Harris	Myers
Casorio	Helm	Nailor
Causer	Hennessey	Nickol
Civera	Hershey	O'Brien, M.
Clymer	Hess	O'Neill
Cohen	Hickernell	Oliver
Conklin	Hornaman	Pallone
Costa	Hutchinson	Parker
Cox	James	Pashinski
Creighton	Josephs	Payne
Cruz	Kauffman	Payton
Curry	Keller, M.	Peifer
Cutler	Keller, W.	Perry
Daley	Kenney	Perzel
Dally	Kessler	Petrarca
DeLuca	Killion	Petri
Denlinger	King	Petrone
DePasquale	Kirkland	Phillips
Dermody	Kortz	Pickett
DeWeese	Kotik	Preston

Rock Roebuck Rohrer Rubley Sabatina Sainato Samuelson Santoni Saylor Scavello Schroder Seip Shapiro Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Smith, S. Solobay Sonney Stairs Steil Stern Stevenson Sturla Swanger Tangretti Taylor, J. Taylor, R. Thomas True Turzai Vereb Vitali Vulakovich Wagner Walko

> Wansacz Waters

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL—HOUSE

DiGirolamo	Kula	Pyle	Watson
Donatucci	Leach	Quigley	Wheatley
Eachus	Lentz	Quinn	White
Ellis	Longietti	Ramaley	Williams
Evans, D.	Mackereth	Rapp	Wojnaroski
Evans, J.	Maher	Raymond	Yewcic
Everett	Mahoney	Readshaw	Youngblood
Fabrizio	Manderino	Reed	-
Fairchild	Mann	Reichley	O'Brien, D.,
Fleck	Mantz	Roae	Speaker
Frankel			-
	Ν	JAYS-0	
	NOT	VOTING-0	

EXCUSED-8

Bastian	Levdansky	Ross	Surra
Gabig	Major	Staback	Yudichak

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 House proceeded to third consideration of HB 1129, PN 2773, entitled:

An Act providing for sexual violence awareness education programs for new students matriculating to institutions of higher education or private licensed schools that receive public funding and for duties of the Department of Education.

On the question, 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.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. 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-168

Adolph	Geist	McCall	Rubley
Argall	George	McGeehan	Sabatina
Baker	Gerber	McI. Smith	Sainato
Barrar	Gergely	McIlhattan	Samuelson
Belfanti	Gibbons	Melio	Santoni
Bennington	Gillespie	Mensch	Saylor
Beyer	Gingrich	Micozzie	Scavello
Biancucci	Godshall	Millard	Schroder
Bishop	Goodman	Miller	Seip
Blackwell	Grell	Milne	Shapiro
Boback	Grucela	Moyer	Shimkus
Boyd	Haluska	Mundy	Siptroth
Brennan	Hanna	Murt	Smith, K.

Buxton	Harhai	Mustio	Smith, M.
Caltagirone	Harhart	Myers	Solobay
Cappelli	Harkins	Nailor	Sonney
Carroll	Harper	Nickol	Stairs
Casorio	Harris	O'Brien, M.	Steil
Causer	Helm	Oliver	Sturla
Civera	Hennessey	Pallone	Tangretti
Clymer	Hershey	Parker	Taylor, J.
Cohen	Hornaman	Pashinski	Taylor, R.
Conklin	James	Payne	Thomas
Costa	Josephs	Payton	True
Creighton	Keller, W.	Peifer	Turzai
Cruz	Kenney	Perzel	Vereb
Curry	Kessler	Petrarca	Vitali
Daley	Killion	Petri	Vulakovich
Dally	King	Petrone	Wagner
DeLuca	Kirkland	Phillips	Walko
DePasquale	Kortz	Pickett	Wansacz
Dermody	Kotik	Preston	Waters
DeWeese	Kula	Pyle	Watson
DiGirolamo	Leach	Quigley	Wheatley
Donatucci	Lentz	Quinn	White
Eachus	Longietti	Ramaley	Williams
Evans, D.	Mackereth	Raymond	Wojnaroski
Evans, J.	Maher	Readshaw	Yewcic
Fabrizio	Mahoney	Reed	Youngblood
Fairchild	Manderino	Reichley	-
Frankel	Mann	Roae	O'Brien, D.,
Freeman	Markosek	Roebuck	Speaker
Galloway	Marsico		-
-			
	NA	YS-26	
Bear	Everett	Mantz	Rapp
Benninghoff	Fleck	Marshall	Rock
Brooks	Hess	Metcalfe	Rohrer
Cox	Hickernell	Moul	Stern
Cutler	Hutchinson	O'Neill	Stevenson
		5 Helli	Stevenson

NOT VOTING-1

Perrv

Swanger

Surra

Yudichak

Smith, S.

Denlinger

Ellis

EXCUSED-8

Bastian	Levdansky	Ross
Gabig	Major	Staback

Kauffman

Keller, M.

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 House proceeded to third consideration of HB 1622, PN 2720, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 18, 1984 (P.L.1004, No.204), entitled "An act extending benefits to police chiefs or heads of police departments of political subdivisions of the Commonwealth who have been removed from bargaining units by the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board," further providing for salary of nonunion police officers.

On the question,

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.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

The Chair recognizes Representative Vitali.

Mr. VITALI. You looked like you hesitated. You did not quite recognize me, initially.

The SPEAKER. The Chair was reading something.

Mr. VITALI. I see. Okay.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Would the maker of the bill stand for brief interrogation?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman, Representative Readshaw, indicates he will stand for interrogation. The gentleman is in order and may proceed.

Mr. VITALI. Could we just have a brief explanation of how this bill works?

Mr. READSHAW. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

How this bill works is, currently the police chiefs are not involved in binding arbitration, and what has happened, as obviously the police officers in any municipality outside of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, they may not receive the same incremental pay raises as their officers of whom they command. So this just assures that the police chiefs, in fact, get the same incremental raise as the fellow officers.

Mr. VITALI. If I may continue with interrogation?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman is in order and may proceed.

Mr. VITALI. Have any of the associations of municipalities, like the County Commissioners or the Township Board of Supervisors or any group, borough groups, any group who might be affected by this, have any of them weighed in on this? Have any of them stated a position on this bill?

Mr. READSHAW. I believe the township – excuse me – the Township Supervisors and the Boroughs Associations have forwarded negative comments about the legislation.

Mr. VITALI. Now, which groups opposed it? The Boroughs Association?

Mr. READSHAW. The Boroughs Association and the Township Supervisors.

Mr. VITALI. Opposed it. Okay.

Do you have any idea what this might cost? Is there any way to quantify how this legislation might cost our local townships and boroughs?

Mr. READSHAW. It has been researched and decided that there will be minimal fiscal impact since in most municipalities, in fact, all municipalities, it would only affect one person, and that being the chief of police.

Mr. VITALI. Do you know the— If that is the case, if there really is not a fiscal impact here, have they outlined the reasons why they oppose this?

Mr. READSHAW. Basically, the reason for opposition has been, as they have stated in letters I am assuming that everyone has received, that they interpret it, no doubt, as a mandate. They would like to maintain their individualism in making these decisions at a local level.

Mr. VITALI. Okay. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. Representative Samuelson.

Mr. SAMUELSON. Thank you.

I rise also to interrogate the maker of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Does Representative Readshaw indicate that he will stand for interrogation? The gentleman does. The gentleman is in order and may proceed.

Mr. SAMUELSON. My question is, I thought I heard the gentleman say that this only affects one employee in each police department, yet I am reading a section of the bill that talks about the police chief and other ranking officers of the department. Who is defined in that category of other ranking officers?

Mr. READSHAW. In reference to the other ranking officers, Mr. Speaker, they currently receive the same benefits, since they are in a collective-bargaining process, as the other police officers do. So the reason I refer to any one individual, solely the police chief would be the only one not involved in that process.

Mr. SAMUELSON. Are you saying that the bill refers to the other ranking officers, yet the practice is that they already get the same benefits?

Mr. READSHAW. Could you repeat that, please. I did not hear you.

Mr. SAMUELSON. The bill, on page 3, has that reference to the other ranking officers in the department. Are you saying that those other ranking officers – the deputy chief, lieutenants, captains – would they be covered by a change in this law, or do they currently get the same as the collective-bargaining unit?

Mr. READSHAW. Mr. Speaker, those people that you made reference to are currently covered by the collective-bargaining process. So it goes back to we have one individual – namely, the chief of police – who is not currently covered under that.

Mr. SAMUELSON. Okay. That ends my interrogation.

Representative Belfanti.

Mr. BELFANTI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just a few points of clarification, if I may.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman is in order.

Mr. BELFANTI. In response to the first person who offered interrogation, please be advised that the Pennsylvania Police Chiefs Association as well as all of the lodges of the Fraternal Order of Police strongly support this legislation.

Secondly, insofar as the other ranking officers, I believe that Representative Readshaw adequately responded to that as I was standing up to speak. But be advised that this legislation would just put the police chiefs on par with other members of the collective-bargaining unit so that if they received a 2-percent salary increase, the chief, by some arbitrary instance of a township board of supervisors, could possibly be passed over for several years, making the lieutenants and the sergeants that are under his or her command have their salary and other benefits exceed that of the boss. In some instances, of course, this could be used as a maneuver to get a chief to quit or retire.

This also affects very, very few police chiefs, as the vast majority of municipalities in this State do give the chief the same compensation, or sometimes and quite often slightly more compensation, at the end of a collective-bargaining contract.

So, Mr. Speaker, I believe that the impact on the municipalities is very minuscule, but the issue of fairness to our top local ranking law enforcement officials is paramount, and I strongly urge a "yes" vote on HB 1622.

Thank you.

The SPEAKER. Representative Vereb.

Mr. VEREB. Mr. Speaker, if the maker could stand for brief interrogation, please. The SPEAKER. The gentleman indicates he will stand for interrogation. The gentleman is in order and may proceed. Mr. VEREB. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the intention of the drafting of this bill to provide further protection to our police chiefs and the command personnel in our police departments that are not covered by collective bargaining? Mr. READSHAW. Yes. Mr. VEREB. And that protection would certainly be by the same councils and supervisors that could potentially reduce the police chief's pay because of a decision that he or she may have made in the command structure in the previous years? Mr. READSHAW. Could you repeat that, please? Mr. VEREB. Does this bill serve as political protection to the police chief's and command personnel's salary? Mr. READSHAW. Yes, it would. Mr. VEREB. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly rise in support of the bill. 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-182 Markosek Adolph Reichley Frankel Marshall Argall Freeman Roae Galloway Marsico Roebuck Baker McCall. Barrar Geist Rublev McGeehan Sabatina Bear George McI. Smith Belfanti Gerber Sainato Gergely McIlhattan Bennington Samuelson Gibbons Melio Beyer Santoni Biancucci Gillespie Mensch Saylor Gingrich Micozzie Bishop Scavello Blackwell Godshall Millard Schroder Boback Goodman Miller Seip Boyd Grell Milne Shapiro

Brennan Brooks Buxton Caltagirone Cappelli Carroll Casorio Causer Civera Clymer Cohen Conklin Costa Creighton Cruz Curry Cutler Daley Dally DeLuca Denlinger DePasquale Dermody DeWeese

DiGirolamo

Helm

Hess

King

Kortz

Kula

Grucela Moul Haluska Moyer Hanna Mundv Harhai Murt Harhart Mustio Harkins Myers Harper Nailor Harris Nickol O'Brien, M. Hershey O'Neill Oliver Hickernell Pallone Hornaman Parker Hutchinson Pashinski James Payne Josephs Payton Keller, M. Peifer Keller, W. Perrv Kenney Perzel Kessler Petrarca Killion Petri Petrone Kirkland Phillips Pickett Preston

Shimkus Siptroth Smith. K. Smith, M. Smith, S. Solobay Sonnev Stairs Stern Stevenson Sturla Tangretti Taylor, J. Taylor, R. Thomas True Turzai Vereb Vulakovich Wagner Walko Wansacz Waters Watson Wheatley

•	Donatucci Eachus Ellis Evans, D. Evans, J. Fabrizio Fairchild Fleck	Leach Lentz Longietti Mackereth Maher Mahoney Manderino Mann	Pyle Quigley Quinn Ramaley Rapp Raymond Readshaw Reed	White Williams Wojnaroski Yewcic Youngblood O'Brien, D., Speaker		
		NA	YS-12			
	Benninghoff Cox Everett	Hennessey Kauffman Mantz	Metcalfe Rock Rohrer	Steil Swanger Vitali		
		NOT VOTING-1				
	Kotik					
		EXC	USED–8			
	Bastian Gabig	Levdansky Major	Ross Staback	Surra Yudichak		

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.

HB 1129 RECONSIDERED

The SPEAKER. Representative O'Neill and Representative Clymer move that the vote by which HB 1129, PN 2773, was passed on the 14th day of November be reconsidered.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS-188

Adolph	Freeman	McCall	Roebuck
Argall	Geist	McGeehan	Rohrer
Baker	George	McI. Smith	Rubley
Barrar	Gerber	McIlhattan	Sabatina
Bear	Gergely	Melio	Sainato
Belfanti	Gibbons	Mensch	Samuelson
Benninghoff	Gillespie	Metcalfe	Santoni
Bennington	Gingrich	Micozzie	Saylor
Beyer	Godshall	Millard	Scavello
Biancucci	Goodman	Miller	Schroder
Bishop	Grell	Milne	Shapiro
Blackwell	Grucela	Moul	Shimkus
Boback	Haluska	Moyer	Siptroth
Boyd	Hanna	Mundy	Smith, K.
Brennan	Harhai	Murt	Smith, M.
Brooks	Harhart	Mustio	Smith, S.
Buxton	Harkins	Myers	Solobay
Caltagirone	Harper	Nailor	Sonney
Cappelli	Harris	Nickol	Stairs
Carroll	Helm	O'Brien, M.	Steil
Causer	Hennessey	O'Neill	Stern
Civera	Hershey	Oliver	Stevenson
Clymer	Hess	Pallone	Sturla
Cohen	Hickernell	Parker	Swanger
Costa	Hornaman	Pashinski	Tangretti
Cox	Hutchinson	Payne	Taylor, J.

2686

Bishop

Boback

Brennan

Buxton

Cappelli Carroll

Casorio

Causer

Civera

Caltagirone

Boyd

Blackwell

Goodman

Grell

Grucela

Haluska

Hanna

Harhai

Harhart

Harkins

Harper

Harris

Helm

Hennessey

Miller

Milne

Moyer

Mundy

Mustio

Myers

Nailor

Nickol

O'Neill

Oliver

O'Brien, M.

Murt

Seip

Shapiro

Shimkus

Siptroth Smith, K.

Smith, M.

Smith, S.

Solobay

Sonney

Stairs

Steil

Sturla

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL—HOUSE

NOVEMBER 14

2000				JOURNAL-	-IIOUSE		
Creighton	James	Payton	Taylor, R.	Clymer	Hershey	Pallone	Tangretti
Cruz	Josephs	Peifer	Thomas	Cohen	Hornaman	Parker	Taylor, J.
Curry	Kauffman	Perry	True	Conklin	James	Pashinski	Taylor, R.
Cutler	Keller, M.	Perzel	Turzai	Costa			Thomas
Daley			Vereb	Creighton	Josephs Kallan W	Payne	True
•	Keller, W.	Petrarca		U	Keller, W.	Payton	
Dally	Kenney	Petri	Vitali	Cruz	Kenney	Peifer	Vereb
DeLuca	Kessler	Petrone	Vulakovich	Curry	Kessler	Perzel	Vitali
Denlinger	Killion	Phillips	Wagner	Daley	Killion	Petrarca	Vulakovich
DePasquale	Kirkland	Pickett	Walko	Dally	King	Petri	Wagner
Dermody	Kula	Preston	Wansacz	DeLuca	Kirkland	Petrone	Walko
DeWeese	Leach	Pyle	Waters	DePasquale	Kortz	Phillips	Wansacz
DiGirolamo	Lentz	Quigley	Watson	Dermody	Kotik	Pickett	Waters
Donatucci	Longietti	Quinn	Wheatley	DeWeese	Kula	Preston	Watson
Eachus	Mackereth	Ramaley	White	DiGirolamo	Leach	Pyle	Wheatley
Ellis	Maher	Rapp	Williams	Donatucci	Lentz	Quigley	White
Evans, D.	Mahoney	Raymond	Wojnaroski	Eachus	Longietti	Quinn	Williams
Evans, J.	Manderino	Readshaw	Yewcic	Ellis	Mackereth	Ramaley	Wojnaroski
Everett	Mann	Reed	Youngblood	Evans, D.	Maher	Raymond	Yewcic
Fabrizio	Mantz	Reichley	-	Evans, J.	Mahoney	Readshaw	Youngblood
Fairchild	Markosek	Roae	O'Brien, D.,	Fabrizio	Manderino	Reed	e
Fleck	Marshall	Rock	Speaker	Fairchild	Mann	Reichley	O'Brien, D.,
Frankel	Marsico		1	Frankel	Markosek	Roae	Speaker
				Freeman	Marsico	Roebuck	~F
	N	NAYS-7		Treeman	maisieo	Roebuck	
	1	NA15-/			Ν	AYS–26	
Casorio	Galloway	Kortz	Seip				
Conklin	King	Kotik	1	Bear	Fleck	Mantz	Rock
	0			Benninghoff	Geist	Marshall	Rohrer
	NOT	VOTING-0		Brooks	Hess	Metcalfe	Stern
	NOT	VOIINO-0		Cox	Hickernell	Moul	Stevenson
				Cutler	Hutchinson	Perry	Swanger
	EX	CUSED-8		Denlinger	Kauffman	Rapp	Turzai
				Everett	Keller, M.	карр	Turzar
Bastian	Levdansky	Ross	Surra	Everen	Kellel, M.		
Gabig	Major	Staback	Yudichak		NOT	VOTING-0	
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			motion was agreed to		T 1 1	D	C
was determin	ned in the arrit	native and the	motion was agreed to		Levdansky	Ross	Surra
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On the qu	estion recurring	g.					
	bill pass finally						
Shan the	oni pass many	•		The main	rity required b	w the Constitu	ution having voted i
(Bill anal	ysis was read.)				· •		ned in the affirmativ
	•			and the bill p	assed finally.		
The CDI		achla ta tha	provisions of th				ame to the Senate for
			provisions of th	e		present the st	and to the Senate R
Constitution	, the yeas and n	ays will now b	e taken.	concurrence.			
The follo	wing roll call w	as recorded:		BII	LLS ON THI	RD CONSID	DERATION
	Y	EAS-169				o third consid	leration of HB 169.
Adalah	Colleman	MaCall	Dublow	PN 2665, en	titled:		
Adolph	Galloway	McCall McCashar	Rubley				
Argall	George	McGeehan	Sabatina				(P.L.220, No.39), know
Baker	Gerber	McI. Smith	Sainato				Family Therapists a
Barrar	Gergely	McIlhattan	Samuelson				practice of social work
Belfanti	Gibbons	Melio	Santoni	defining "soci	ial worker": pro	viding for endo	present of out-of-Sta
Bennington	Gillespie	Mensch	Saylor		urther proscribin		
Beyer	Gingrich	Micozzie	Scavello	incenses, and i	Prosention	o mini pruor	
Biancucci	Godshall	Millard	Schroder				
Rishon	Goodman	Miller	Sein	On the qu	estion.		

On the question, 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.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. 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 Argall Baker Barrar Bear Belfanti Benninghoff Bennington Beyer Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Boback Boyd Brennan Brooks Buxton Caltagirone Cappelli Carroll Casorio Causer Civera Clymer Cohen Conklin Costa Cox Creighton Cruz Curry Cutler Dalev Dally DeLuca Denlinger DePasquale Dermody DeWeese DiGirolamo Donatucci Eachus Ellis Evans, D. Evans, J. Everett Fabrizio Fairchild Fleck Frankel

ΥEA	48–195	
-		
Freeman	Markosek	Rock
Galloway	Marshall	Roebuck
Geist	Marsico	Rohrer
George	McCall	Rubley
Gerber	McGeehan	Sabatina
Gergely	McI. Smith	Sainato
Gibbons	McIlhattan	Samuelson
Gillespie	Melio	Santoni
Gingrich	Mensch	Saylor
Godshall	Metcalfe	Scavello
Goodman	Micozzie	Schroder
Grell	Millard	Seip
Grucela	Miller	Shapiro
Haluska	Milne	Shimkus
Hanna	Moul	Siptroth
Harhai	Moyer	Smith, K.
Harhart	Mundy	Smith, M.
Harkins	Murt	Smith, S.
Harper	Mustio	Solobay
Harris	Myers	Sonney
Helm	Nailor	Stairs
Hennessey	Nickol	Steil
Hershey	O'Brien, M.	Stern
Hess	O'Neill	Stevenson
Hickernell	Oliver	Sturla
Hornaman	Pallone	Swanger
Hutchinson	Parker	Tangretti
James	Pashinski	Taylor, J.
Josephs	Payne	Taylor, R.
Kauffman	Payton	Thomas
Keller, M.	Peifer	True
Keller, W.	Perry	Turzai
Kenney	Perzel	Vereb
Kessler	Petrarca	Vitali
Killion	Petri	Vulakovich
King	Petrone	Wagner
Kirkland	Phillips	Walko
Kortz	Pickett	Wansacz
Kotik		Waters
Kula	Preston	
	Pyle	Watson
Leach	Quigley	Wheatley
Lentz	Quinn	White
Longietti	Ramaley	Williams
Mackereth	Rapp	Wojnaroski
Maher	Raymond	Yewcic
Mahoney	Readshaw	Youngblood
Manderino	Reed	o
Mann	Reichley	O'Brien, D.,
Mantz	Roae	Speaker

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-8

Bastian	Levdansky	Ross	Surra
Gabig	Major	Staback	Yudichak

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 House proceeded to third consideration of HB 259, PN 291, entitled:

An Act establishing the Pennsylvania Performance Evaluation Commission and providing for its powers and duties.

On the question, 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.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

The Chair recognizes Representative Dwight Evans.

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, in the years that I have been chairman of this House Appropriations Committee - the members have given me this opportunity - I have always talked about the importance of accountability, of the dollars that we have that are not our dollars but are the people's dollars. This initiative that I have put before you deals with the element of performance evaluations in terms of how dollars are expended in terms of the people's budget.

Over the years we have all raised questions, are the programs working as effectively as they could and should? I have been working on this issue for almost 15 years in terms of trying to add some form of accountability to the State budget process. This, Mr. Speaker, I believe, is the beginning to send a message that we evaluate every line item and every program that is in the State's budget. This is something that is not Democrat or Republican. This is something that is Pennsylvanian.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that all members can support me in this initiative to add some form of accountability to the process.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Representative Civera.

Mr. CIVERA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I looked at HB 259, and I have several questions that I would like to ask the majority chairman of the Appropriations Committee for a little brief interrogation, if he will stand for that.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman indicates he will stand for interrogation. The gentleman is in order and may proceed.

Mr. CIVERA. Mr. Speaker, in HB 259 you set up a nine-member commission, and the commission is basically made up of the minority party and the majority party as far as Appropriations, and then you have the Office of the Budget Secretary and the different people through the administration. Is that correct, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. D. EVANS. Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have the Secretary of the Budget, Secretary of Administration, State Treasurer, Auditor General, chairs of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, the majority and minority chairs of the Appropriations Committee of the House and the Senate.

Mr. CIVERA. My question is this: Was it considered to not only have the members of the Appropriations Committee, the chairman and the minority chairman, and the different members of the administration, but would it be possible that we could have included members from the outside, such as people that are in the finance world, people that are business people that look at the State as a private sector, and they look at us, are they doing the right thing? Is this accountability? If we were operating this budget in the private enterprise, could we do better? And the people that can come up with those answers are people that are in the private sector that have that expertise, and since we are in the era of reform, would you not think that that would be most appropriate, that we would have people from the outside? And I commended you this year when you took the Appropriations Committee and we had public hearings other than in Harrisburg. I do believe that those ideas could have been implemented in HB 259.

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, nothing prevents the commission members from soliciting ideas and thoughts and have them involved in this process. Nothing prevents them from doing that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. CIVERA. Well, the commission members— Basically what we are saying here is that the Secretary of the Budget, the Office of the Budget, they have constitutional deadlines which they have to produce and let us know of our increase in revenues, our expenditures. And basically, what we set out to be last year when the Republican Party on this side of the aisle came forward with a different way of attacking the budget and its process, when we came out very clearly and indicated that we did not want to spend any more than X amount of dollars, and it was turned down by the other side of the aisle. If this commission were to recommend those types of— When we came out with the Civera amendment and we wanted to spend only 1.94, how would you respond to the commission, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, that is not what this initiative does. What you are referring to, Mr. Speaker, is what happens in the current budget. The current budget, Mr. Speaker, in my view, is short term. This, Mr. Speaker, looks at long term. This looks at the part about performance evaluation, exactly what we may do in 1 year, what it means over a period of time, 3 years or 5 years. So, Mr. Speaker, that is the aspect that we are missing – not what we do in the current year; what we need to do as we look towards the future.

Mr. CIVERA. Okay. Based on that answer, then are you telling me that presently when the Office of the Budget or the Budget Secretary does what they are supposed to do, they are not doing what they are supposed to be doing?

Mr. D. EVANS. No, Mr. Speaker. I am not saying that at all. Mr. CIVERA. Well, then explain to me, if you are going to evaluate each individual category, which I do not object to; I do not object to. I believe that the Republicans have been looking for that for many years, and based on the way the Appropriations Committee acted in the past session – back in February were the hearings – we were in that direction, in that mode, and questions were asked directly to those individual department heads. Based on that concept, then you are saying to me that it is going to take, by year 2012, that we would have some type of an answer?

Mr. D. EVANS. No, Mr. Speaker. One, I am not saying that, first. And I have got to smile a little bit, Mr. Speaker, because you are one of my favorite people on the floor. I am glad to hear

you say that the Republicans, and I have tried not to turn this into Democrat or Republican, because you said that. I am smiling because I am glad to hear that you said the Republicans are happy to embrace accountability, something that is well thought out. This, Mr. Speaker, is something that is well thought out.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I am going to tell you about a United States Senator from Delaware – he is no longer there – by the name of Senator Roth, who was the one who on the national level, Senator Roth, who was on the national level, talked about performance evaluations.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, the State of Texas, the State of Texas, there was a gentleman who was a Democrat who led the aspect about performance evaluation where we add more thought into exactly what these policies are doing and what happens. If you recall, Mr. Speaker, sunset provision was eliminated under the Ridge administration. So my only point is, I am not trying to say Democrat or Republican. This is not Democrat or Republican when you are trying to guard the people's money. This is not our money. We are temporary stewards, Mr. Speaker. You and I both know. We are temporary in these positions.

So what I am saying to you is this performance evaluation really looks at when the Governor makes a proposal, he makes a proposal in the current budget. We may decide to either increase or decrease, but it is not in that current year. It is looking at it over a period of time, Mr. Speaker, and it really talks about issuing the comprehensive report that contains recommendations, within 1 year, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. CIVERA. Okay. Mr. Speaker, may I make some comments?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman is in order and may proceed.

Mr. CIVERA. Mr. Speaker, is this a bad idea, HB 259? Is it something that we are trying to convince the people that we are really taking care of the people's business? Maybe HB 259 could have been implemented in the beginning of the Rendell administration where accountability and performance could be really evaluated, as far as what we did with the people's money.

I believe that the concept is correct. However, I have reservations, and the reservations are that the General Assembly at this point in time, when we adopt the budget after the Governor comes before the General Assembly, we have an opportunity at that point with the Appropriations hearings, that we have the hearings. Now we set up a commission, a commission that is supposed to - the work of that commission was supposed to be done by the Office of the Budget or the Budget Secretary, and now we are saying that we need to evaluate. There is nothing wrong with evaluating, but when we came in last year with that number and no matter how you want to twist the argument, no matter how you want to change it, the number was that the members of the public told the General Assembly and the people that work in Harrisburg, you are spending too much money; stop it. And now we come in with HB 259, which might put manners as far as the administration is concerned and as well as the General Assembly is concerned.

I believe that this is something that when you look at it to make a decision, HB 259, as far as the perspective and what the community or the people would look at, to vote against it, I think, would probably be a mistake. However, let me caution the other side. We are very well prepared, and we will be prepared in this year's negotiations when we do this budget, in what we did last year. We made the turn, when we adopted last year's budget, when we told the people of Pennsylvania, we are not going to spend X amount of dollars; this is the number that we want to be at, this is the number where we are going to be presently supporting, because the spending system in this State has gotten out of hand. So I believe, in one respect, that 259 would not be a bad idea, to vote for it.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Representative Thomas.

Mr. THOMAS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support HB 259. I remember when the call was first made by the chairman for HB 259. I think it is on time, its proposed composition is diverse, and its mission is very clear.

I welcome the comments of the minority chairman of the Appropriations Committee. He raised some good questions, and the reason I welcome those comments is because when I look at the composition, he or another minority chairman of the Appropriations Committee will be a member of this Performance Evaluation Commission, which means that he will be at the table, will be able to raise his concerns, and will be able to play a significant participatory role in shaping the outcome of this commission's evaluation.

And so to that end, I welcome his comments, and I think that when you look at the diversity of the proposed commission, all of the players are at the table, and the players that will be at the table will be able to reach beyond the walls of the legislature and the Commonwealth to draw upon wise counsel from people in the finance community, in the accounting community, and people in the private sector that understand how to do performance evaluations.

HB 259 is timely. This is November. Secretaries of the various agencies are in the process of preparing their recommendations for '08-'09. Those recommendations will reach the Governor's attention sometime before the end of the year, and then 2 months into the year we will be hearing from the Governor on his recommended budget for '08-'09. So if we move swiftly and send HB 259 over to the Senate and get it to the Governor's desk, this commission can have an immediate impact on a process that is just getting under way.

Thank you, Chairman Evans. Vote "yes" on HB 259.

The SPEAKER. Representative Samuelson.

Mr. SAMUELSON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I commend the chair of the Appropriations Committee for proposing this system of performance evaluations under which we can take a look at all State programs, find out which ones are working, which ones are not, and individually evaluate those State programs.

The minority chair brought up the Civera amendment that was voted here in the House on May 22 last year, and he said that was an approach that would have had the increase at 1.94 percent. He said it was defeated by the other caucus, the Democratic Caucus. Well, one concern I had about the Civera amendment was that it kind of used the meat-cleaver approach. It treated all programs the same. It did not evaluate individual programs. If you peel back the sound bite of the 1.94 and look at that amendment, it increased education programs by about 3 1/2 percent, but almost everything else in the budget was zero – zero increase for autism services, zero increase for domestic violence services, zero increase for public libraries, and zero increase for community colleges.

Now, community colleges in this chamber for years have had bipartisan support, but last May 22, in the Civera amendment,

they were supposed to get zero. Now, that was defeated 102-96, and we went on to have a budget where community colleges did receive an increase, libraries received a modest increase, domestic violence and autism services also included an increase. But I think the method that is being proposed here in HB 259 is that we evaluate programs and do not treat all government programs the same. Do not say in the same breath that libraries, domestic violence, community colleges, and autism services are getting zero and put that up as a budget alternative. Let us have a detailed evaluation, and I think the gentleman, Mr. Evans's approach would yield some long-term results for this General Assembly and some long-term improvements in our budgeting process.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Representative Turzai.

Mr. TURZAI. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I just have a few questions to ask. The nine members—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman indicates he will stand for interrogation. The gentleman is in order and may proceed.

Mr. TURZAI. Thank you. Could you just indicate, please, how many the Governor has in appointment to the nine-member commission, if any?

Mr. D. EVANS. Two people, Mr. Speaker – the Secretary of the Budget and the Secretary of Administration.

Mr. TURZAI. And they are de facto members? Would you tell me the makeup then of the rest of the picks?

Mr. D. EVANS. They are the Secretary of the Budget, the Secretary of Administration, the State Treasurer, the Auditor General, the chairs of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, and the majority and minority chairs of the Appropriations Committee of the House and the Senate.

Mr. TURZAI. Thank you.

In the Administrative Code, it is my understanding that presently in law, with respect to the preparation of the budget, that "The Secretary of the Budget shall, in each year obtain and prepare financial and program information necessary for the preparation of a State budget for the budget year beginning July 1...." In addition in that Administrative Code, each of these Secretaries is "...to procure any or all information pertaining to the purposes of all programs to be funded in the budget, the revenues, expenditures, program activities and accomplishments for the preceding fiscal year, for the current fiscal year, and for the budget year and for four succeeding years...." Finally, it also indicates that it shall also require "...a statement in writing, giving the purposes of each program to be funded, the expected levels of activity of the programs, the expected levels of accomplishments and the measures to be used to determine to what extent the programs have achieved the stated purposes." Under section 611 it even goes into more detail about program evaluation to be done by the Secretary of the Budget, and it says that "The Secretary of the Budget,..." it is presently "...his duty to initiate and conduct...evaluations of the effectiveness and management efficiency of programs supported by any agency under the Governor's jurisdiction; including Federally funded as well as State funded programs "

Given the fact that this is already in law, it seems to me that what you are proposing is redundant. Is there a problem presently with the administration's ability to deliver on its mandated responsibilities that are so similar to something that you want to put into this commission? Is the administration somehow missing its goals? And I have raised this since spending under this administration, for the General Fund spending – not taking into account the gimmicks that the administration has used for taking budget items that were on line and shifting them to off budgets – spending has increased by 29 percent for the General Fund in just 4 years' time, when the rate of inflation has only been 12 percent. Are you concerned, Mr. Speaker, that the administration is not being fiscally responsible and that somehow we have to take these responsibilities away from the present Secretary, from the present administration, to put them in this commission?

Mr. D. EVANS. No, Mr. Speaker. Let me just describe the purpose. The purpose is to evaluate the current structure of performance evaluation in Pennsylvania State government. I indicated earlier to you, Mr. Speaker, that under the Ridge administration, sunset provision was eliminated.

I passed this bill, Mr. Speaker, literally in every session, even when the Republicans were in charge, but it always died in the Republican Senate. So I say to you, Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, what I am trying to do specifically is to implement a systematic means of evaluating programs to make State government more effective and cost-efficient; to ensure the systematic scheduling of program evaluations, which does not exist; encourage greater use of evaluation findings by the policy decisionmakers, meaning us, Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker, I tried to do this under the previous administration, for the last 8 years. When I became chairman of the Appropriations Committee in November of 1990, I felt that the General Assembly, Mr. Speaker - I want you to understand this clearly - I felt that the General Assembly, Mr. Speaker, was not, in my view, doing the kinds of things that it needed to do in terms of participating in this process. Not on the part of the executive branch, but we, Mr. Speaker, are in partnership with the administration. May it be a Republican administration or a Democratic administration, we are in partnership. We have a responsibility, too, Mr. Speaker, to evaluate what happens with the initiative, no matter if it is a Republican Governor or a Democratic Governor. I feel that we as a legislative - legislative - body should have a real understanding of what we are exactly doing, what programs work and what do not. I do not think anybody should be against that, Mr. Speaker.

So it is not like it is something that we are trying to shine on the Rendell administration; I tried to do this under the Ridge administration. And even if you go back a little further, Mr. Speaker, the Ridge administration used an idea that I gave them, which was the IMPACCT (Improve Management Performance and Cost Control Task Force) Commission, and in the IMPACCT Commission, Mr. Speaker, these particular bills were embraced by the Ridge administration. They were embraced by the Ridge administration. We just could not get them past the Senate. So this House had passed them in the past, but the Republican Senate did not pass them. But the Ridge administration had embraced this, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. TURZAI. Just a follow-up question.

Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is – and I just want to lay the foundation for the question – my understanding is that under the Ridge administration, over 8 years' time, General Fund spending only increased 31 percent over 8 years, whereas this administration's spending over 4 years has already increased by 29 percent, which would mean if we stay on that 7 percent-plus each year, we will ultimately be at close to 60-percent growth in spending over an 8-year Governor Rendell administration, which is problematic.

The fact is, though, are you not, are you not, by trying to create another bureaucracy - and it is a question - are you not by creating another bureaucracy taking away the constitutionally mandated authority given to this legislature and the executive branch to, in fact, make the policy decisions with respect to program evaluation, program elimination, and ultimately, fiscal responsibility in the spending that comes with it? Or are you, in fact, looking for cover to justify the particularly egregious spending that has occurred, and you feel that if you can get these various independent, arguably, quote, unquote, "independent" folks to ratify or approve this great performance, which I have not seen in the programs, and all this spending, is that really what you are attempting to do? Are you, one - it is two questions - are you taking away constitutional authority from the legislature and the executive branch; and secondly, is your goal here really to just provide cover for the excessive spending and the bad performance of the Governor's administration with respect to its programs?

Mr. D. EVANS. No to question one, and no to question two. I repeat again, the only thing we are attempting to do is to evaluate the current structure of performance evaluation of Pennsylvania State government. We are trying to develop a comprehensive, coordinating system of program evaluation. So to your question, it is no – no to both questions – and I just indicated to you what we are attempting to do.

BILL TABLED

Mr. TURZAI. Mr. Speaker, if I could just— I would like to make a motion and then make an argument with respect to the motion.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman to make a motion.

Mr. TURZAI. Yes. I would like to motion to table the bill at the present time. I do think that there is a laudable goal in making sure that there is true program evaluation and program efficiency. I think that there are significant programs, particularly in the Department of Community and Economic Development. We just heard Auditor General Jack Wagner's report that the Opportunity Grant Program - \$49 million that we spend - 60 percent of those recipients of those grant awards are not meeting the requirements of job creation. I think the Auditor General made a very important point, that that program, in my evaluation, based on his evidence, should be eliminated. I think it is a laudable goal. But with all due respect, I do have suspicions and concerns with this particular remedy to bringing fiscal responsibility and program evaluation. I think it is stacked in a particular way, just to provide a phony imprimatur. But I am more than open to learning more about this particular remedy to an existing problem of fiscal irresponsibility and not an effective program evaluation.

I like the goals. I am not sure that the chairman's remedy is the right approach, and I want to make sure that this is not just sugarcoating. I want to make sure that this is not just cover. I want to make sure that this is real teeth and that it is designed to eliminate wasteful programs to bring real teeth to what is happening in our various departments. Right now, on its face, I do not think it meets that criteria, and I think there ought to be opportunities to amend this. We missed the amending process, and I would like to learn more about it. In the end, if what we learn from various hearings – and I am a Policy chairman, I am more than happy to meet with my colleague from northeast Pennsylvania, the Democratic Policy chairman, to hold joint hearings on this proposal and other proposals to really make sure we have good program evaluation and fiscal responsibility. But I would like the opportunity to hold those joint hearings and I would like to have a deeper evaluation. It is a laudable goal, but I do not think this vehicle quite gets to it, and I would move to table the bill at the present time.

Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman moves that HB 259, PN 291, be tabled.

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

The SPEAKER. On the motion, Representative Civera. Mr. CIVERA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, after looking at the Administrative Code, there is a repeat, repeat performance as far as what these two bills do, and I support the idea of moving to table the bill at this moment.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Representative Evans, on the motion to table.

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I smell a little politics in the room. And it appears to me, Mr. Speaker, this is a really simple concept. The concept is fundamentally very basic. The concept is about evaluation and accountability. Tabling it, Mr. Speaker, sends a message that people are not serious about accountability or evaluation. This bill has been on the agenda since October 31. It has been in the committee. The chairman on the Republican side voted for it. It came out of the Appropriations Committee unanimously. All the Republicans voted for it. So why is it that you are coming to the floor now and you say you want to table it?

I want you to understand, the chairman voted for it. I brought it right up there in front of him; I assume he knew what he was voting for, and he voted for it in the committee, and now he is standing up on the floor saying he wants to table it. So, Mr. Speaker, I want you to understand something in this process: At some point, at some point, Mr. Speaker, we have to demonstrate that we move beyond the politics – at some point.

Now, I understand politics; I have been around. This bill has passed consistently for the last three administrations, when you were in charge. It passed the House and the Senate unanimously. It came out of the Appropriations Committee. Everybody voted for it. Now all of a sudden, Mr. Speaker, you have individuals who say they want to table it. I, personally, think that is a mistake. I am saying that to any of you who vote to table it, because it is something that talks about performance and accountability, and that is always what I hear. I always hear we have to have performance and accountability. The question is, are people serious about performance and accountability? Here is a mechanism, this is a mechanism, Mr. Speaker, that allows this House, this House to ensure that there is performance and evaluation in terms of how we expend dollars. Or is it just a conversation that we want to have that one side is not for performance evaluation and the other side is?

I was hoping, the reason I yielded to the chairman, because he did kind of surprise me, I was hoping he was going to be rather straight up and say no to the tabling. But unfortunately, he feeds into the politics of his caucus, and I understand that. I understand that the gentleman is feeding into the politics of his caucus. A little disappointment on my side, because he knows full well that I have always opened up the process to him, always made sure that the committee members were a part of the process, and here we go again.

So I am saying to you, Mr. Speaker, I hope that you will vote "no" on the table and then vote for the final passage of the bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Representative Metcalfe.

Mr. METCALFE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion to table.

Mr. Speaker, I think there is something here that everybody should be aware of as we consider whether or not we are going to move this piece of legislation forward today. The news that has hit the media across the State with recent staff reductions, with investigations into Bonusgate, Mr. Speaker, this legislation sets up a State Employee Cost Reduction Incentive Program, which is listed that it could include cash, a cash incentive for a State employee, Mr. Speaker. What do we call a cash incentive on top of your salary for a State employee? A bonus. In the midst of Bonusgate, Mr. Speaker, we should not be advancing legislation that includes yet another bonus. PHEAA (Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency) has been under close scrutiny—

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker? A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. METCALFE. —PHEAA has been under close scrutiny for bonuses—

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman suspend; will the gentleman suspend.

The gentleman will contain his remarks to the issue, and the motion is to table.

Mr. METCALFE. Mr. Speaker, I believe that we should table this because of bonuses, Mr. Speaker. I believe that with this including bonuses, Mr. Speaker, we should table this piece of legislation. I think that we should table this because of bonuses, table it because of bonuses, table it because of bonuses.

The SPEAKER. Representative Civera, for the second time.

Mr. CIVERA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the majority chairman brings out the fact that he questions my motion to table, to support the motion to table, that this bill was brought out in Appropriations. Most of us attend some of the Appropriations meetings when bills are reported out, and the bills, basically, we agree to because the debate takes place on the floor. There would be no way that if there was any counter act of the Appropriations meeting, that if we wanted to hold this bill or suggest that there would be a hearing on this bill, that that would have been granted to us.

Make no mistake, there is no politics about it. What happened here is this: One of our staff people delivered to me the Administrative Code, and if you look at the Administrative Code, it really repeats what is in HB 259 and HB 260. So when Representative Turzai got up and said our constitutional obligations, he was not far wrong there. Now, if we are doing something wrong or the administration is doing something wrong, why, in fact, not give us the chance to look at this? This might be certainly a good document. It might be something that we should have done many years ago. What is wrong with the motion to table? Or would you entertain the motion to put it back in Appropriations and you and I have the hearings? So I believe that the gentleman from Philadelphia, if you are talking about playing with politics, now we are going to start playing with politics, and who not better than me to play with politics? If you want to debate this and you want to go ahead, let us go, but I think the motion to table is correct.

The SPEAKER. Representative Thomas.

Mr. THOMAS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the motion to table is not correct, it is not timely, and it is completely out of order. The time to table this idea should have been years gone by when, for whatever reason, we failed to follow the Administrative Code and carry out our statutory responsibility. Mr. Speaker, if all of a sudden this is in the Administrative Code and we have known about it and it becomes an eye opener, it is an eye opener that is too late.

Mr. Speaker, HB 259 is progressive, proactive, and necessary for today, for this hour, under these circumstances, and to table it becomes a collateral attack on an effort to get busy with evaluating, evaluating the circumstances under which we make budgetary decisions. And, Mr. Speaker, plain and simple, it represents a collateral attack. And it is not about any bonuses, today, tomorrow, or in the future; it is about performance evaluation of the circumstances under which we make budgetary decisions.

My particular area has to do with children and youth. When you look at the multiplicity of programs dealing with children and youth coming out of—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

The Chair will remind the gentleman that the issue before the House is the motion to table.

Mr. THOMAS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we need to move forward with HB 259. Let us not subject this good idea, on this day, to a collateral attack or to any other intervention that is other than a bipartisan effort to move this proposal forward, get it to the Senate, and get it on the Governor's desk.

Vote "no" to table HB 259.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Evans for the second time.

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I want to clarify something that one gentleman said and which is unfortunate. The gentleman is attempting to play to people's emotions and he is attempting to throw out the word called "bonuses" and then all of a sudden say that this is what it is about. I want to read to you exactly what it says. It says to "...develop and implement a State Employee Cost Reduction Incentive Program..." to award "...State employees who propose...ideas which...reducing State expenditures or improving operations, provided such proposals are placed...." That is what it says.

Mr. Speaker, it is the commission, which is the minority chair and the Appropriations chair on both sides, it is the chair of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, it is the Auditor General, it is the State Treasurer, the Secretary of Administration, and the Secretary of the Budget. What is unfortunate sometimes about this process, Mr. Speaker, is rather than us listening to each other— I have tried to be very deliberate, and the thing that does trouble me most about this, Mr. Speaker, and though he is my colleague on the other side, my problem is, Mr. Speaker, at no time did he raise those issues when I put this issue before him, he nor his staff person. I want to be clear: These issues were not raised in the Appropriations Committee when I asked him specifically, and the executive director. So now that we are on the floor, now that we are on the floor and there are a few members who are trying to just jump up and, as usual, Mr. Speaker, kind of, you know, have a cattle herd in terms of fear, I am asking you only to read it for yourself. We need a form of evaluation and accountability. No matter what you have read in that Administrative Code, Mr. Speaker, evaluation and accountability do not occur.

Now, I have been chairman of this committee longer than anybody who has been on this floor. I have been chairman under Democratic Governors and Republican Governors, and I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, we are doing the taxpayers a disservice when we, as the legislative body, do not do our job. This, Mr. Speaker, is a tool. It is a tool, Mr. Speaker. It is a tool to allow this legislative body to fully understand. As a matter of fact, one of the aspects, it encourages greater participation of legislative committees in the evaluation process.

Mr. Speaker, when I started out as chairman of this committee, I made sure that the substantive committees, that there were joint hearings, that there were joint hearings regarding the Governor's budget. So I am saying to you, Mr. Speaker, we all do ourselves a disservice when we always, always go to the lowest common denominator about one-upsmanship. There is nothing wrong with this concept, Mr. Speaker. This is a concept, in my view, that is long overdue in this State. If you want to do something in a rational way, in a well-thought-out manner, then this is the way we go, Mr. Speaker.

So I understand this process. I have been around here a long time, and I am only trying to raise, Mr. Speaker, that I think it is a mistake to table it, that this gives us an opportunity, and I started out saying this should not be Democrat-Republican. It has unfortunately turned that way. I hope that a number of you on that side will recognize that this is a very rational approach to understanding how money is expended and how we evaluate this process, and I hope you will vote "no" on the tabling, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Metcalfe for the second time.

Mr. METCALFE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just to follow up on what the previous speaker had referenced regarding my previous remarks. I wish he would have read the whole content of what is underneath "State Employee Cost Reduction Incentive Program," which, of course, it is a bonus. Down below, on line 17, it starts. It says "Rewards for adopted suggestions that include cash awards and/or paid annual leave."

Mr. Speaker, I am rising to support this motion to table. I support this motion to table, and it is all about bonuses. It is about cash awards, Mr. Speaker, on top of what a State employee is already being paid. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow's headline, if this passes, can be "Pennsylvania House of Representatives passes legislation to endorse more bonuses." We are in the midst of a Bonusgate investigation, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. D. EVANS. Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. METCALFE. This is a bipartisan-

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will confine his remarks to the motion to table.

Mr. METCALFE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I am reaching out in a bipartisan way here. This is not a partisan attack on this piece of legislation. I know there are many of my good friends on the Democratic side of the aisle that do not believe that bonuses should be used to pay State employees. Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will contain his remarks to the motion to table. We are no longer on the substance of the bill. We are talking about the motion to table only.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. METCALFE. A question for the Speaker.

Is it appropriate to ask for votes from the Democratic side of the aisle on the motion to table?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman is in order, yes.

Mr. METCALFE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I am reaching out across the aisle to ask for votes to support this motion to table, because I believe that the majority of us do not believe that more bonuses should be given and that bonuses should actually be put in statute, which is why I support the motion to table.

Mr. Speaker, it is all about bonuses. This motion to table is about bonuses.

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker?

Mr. METCALFE. I support the motion to table.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Turzai for the second time.

Mr. TURZAI. I just want to respond to the chair.

Look, with all due respect, I apologize for doubting, and I do doubt, the sincerity with respect to the legislation, which is why I seek to have it tabled. The fact of the matter is, the individual talked at long length about being in charge of the Appropriations Committee, and I certainly, as all of us do, respect the service to that committee and to this House. But I would suspect that not too many programs have been eliminated, if any, over that entire period and spending has been increasing at a rate almost three times the rate of inflation. And if we are serious, if we are absolutely serious about bringing fiscal responsibility to State government or about truly evaluating and eliminating programs that are not meeting their objectives and respecting taxpayers' hard-earned—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

The Chair will remind all the members, the motion is to table or not to table. The issue of the substance of the bill is not before the House. The only issue before the House is the motion to table. The gentleman will contain his remarks to that and bring his remarks around to the motion to table.

Mr. TURZAI. I was doing that, Mr. Speaker.

If we are serious about protecting taxpayers' hard-earned dollars, based on the ostensible goals of this, no one can possibly think that the idea presented in this bill is the only idea that needs fleshed out. We need to table this bill and say, in a bipartisan manner, that we are going to look for the best idea for bringing that type of fiscal responsibility, and I would ask the chairman to wholeheartedly endorse the motion to table and to bring Policy hearings and Appropriations hearings together with the goal of eliminating programs that are not succeeding and reducing the level of spending in State government. By moving to table, you are for that process going forward. By voting against tabling, it means you are looking to create a commission, another bureaucracy, without entertaining real ideas to reduce the size of spending in this State.

Thank you very, very much. Please move to table. The SPEAKER. Representative Tangretti. Mr. TANGRETTI. Mr. Speaker, I have a great deal of respect for my chairman of the Appropriations Committee, and I am always impressed by his interest and knowledge and support that he has given to our caucus and to this legislature and to this Commonwealth. But I stand to support the motion to table. I think that we have created an atmosphere in this Commonwealth that has to be changed, and we do not do it by feeding the kinds of headlines that this will generate. And quite frankly, those of you who say, whom are you working for, the media or the people, I say we are working for the people, and the people do not want to be reading about bonuses anymore.

Let us put this back into committee. Let us do something about this part of it and bring it back out. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. Representative Reichley, on the motion to table.

Mr. REICHLEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Would the prime sponsor of the bill be willing to stand for brief interrogation?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman indicates that he will. The gentleman is in order and may proceed.

Mr. REICHLEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to clarify, because I think when I was listening to your last set of remarks that you said that we are not performing our duties of accountability and oversight. Is that correct, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. D. EVANS. He asked— What was the question, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman repeat his question.

Mr. REICHLEY. I will, Mr. Speaker, and sometimes we would ask the stenographer to read it back. But I think that you said in your last set of remarks that we were not, as a House, performing our functions of accountability and oversight over the budgetary process and the spending. Is that correct, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, what I basically said is that we did not have in place a performance evaluation regarding State government and that this initiative, Mr. Speaker, would put in place a structure that we would be able to look at, ongoing, what is occurring, in terms of our particular initiatives. So what I said is, we do not have a performance evaluation in place, and I said that under the Ridge administration, they had the sunset provision, which was eliminated. So what I said is we need a performance evaluation initiative in place to look at the aspects of State government.

Mr. REICHLEY. Mr. Speaker, would you agree that there are probably roughly about 10 staffers on the House Republican Appropriations Committee who assist the Republican members in evaluating the budgetary submissions when we do our Appropriations hearings? Is that a fair statement?

Mr. D. EVANS. Repeat your question again, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. REICHLEY. That there are approximately 10 staffers on the House—

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman suspend.

The motion before the House, Representative Reichley, is the motion to table.

Mr. REICHLEY. I understand that, Mr. Speaker, I understand that. And my question was, will the gentleman agree that the House Appropriations staff, roughly about 10 people or so, serves the Republican members during the Appropriations hearings and throughout the course of the session? Would that be a fair statement?

Mr. D. EVANS. I cannot tell you, Mr. Speaker, if that is a fair statement, because I do not know what the numbers are.

Mr. REICHLEY. Okay. Well, let me ask this, Mr. Speaker: Would you be able to tell us how many staffers are on the Democratic Appropriations Committee that assist you and the members of the Democratic Caucus during the Appropriations hearings and throughout the course of the session to evaluate the fiscal impact and the spending within a budgetary session?

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I do not understand what this has to do with the argument about tabling "yes" or "no." My position, Mr. Speaker, is that I said what I want to be able to do is put a performance evaluation structure in place to look at how we coordinate and evaluate programs.

Mr. REICHLEY. Well, Mr. Speaker, I believe under the standing rules of the House, Appropriations is one of two committees that has subpoen power by which you could compel the attendance of witnesses to come before the Appropriations Committee in conducting hearings.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

The Chair is trying to give as much latitude as possible to the gentleman in this interrogation, but the Chair is having difficulty realizing the relevance of this interrogation to the motion to table. If it were on the bill, the Chair would recognize that relevance. The Chair is having difficulty seeing the relevance on the motion to table. The Chair will instruct the gentleman to restrict his interrogation to the motion to table only.

Mr. REICHLEY. All right, Mr. Speaker. Let me try to capture this all in one question then.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Philadelphia, the chairman of the Democratic Appropriations Committee, a gentleman with well over 20 years of experience, who has staff at his disposal, who has Republican staff at our disposal, who has subpoena power to compel Cabinet officers to appear before the committee to explain the spending performance of the Cabinet agencies, who can call committee hearings at any time, as we have seen over the last 9 months, is there anything—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

Mr. REICHLEY. —which has impeded the ability of the Appropriations—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

The Chair believes the gentleman is interrogating on the substance of the bill. We are on the motion to table.

Mr. REICHLEY. I am on the motion to table as well, Mr. Speaker, and I am trying to elucidate the facts which show that there is a supported basis for tabling this bill because the Appropriations Committee performs exactly the functions which the gentleman is trying to create in yet another committee.

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman—

Mr. REICHLEY. We have the ability to do these things.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman can state that as part of his remarks supporting the motion to table.

Mr. REICHLEY. Fine, Mr. Speaker. I will move to the motion.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman is in order and may proceed. Mr. REICHLEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Through the to-ing and fro-ing here, I apologize to the members if it is not completely clear, but I think if one reads the language in the bill, you would be merely duplicating the performance of the Appropriations Committee in what we are now empowered to do. There is subpoen power vested in the chairman. He can call committee hearings. We are about to have a midyear budget review from the Secretary of the Budget – we are about to; we have not yet received it – and there is nothing that prevents the Appropriations Committee from performing exactly the functions which are described within the bill. And it is perfectly appropriate to table this bill, to send it back to committee for further review as to how this would change one iota from what we, as the elected legislators, are given the power to do, which is to oversee the performance of the State government, evaluate the budget, oversee the spending, and tell our constituents how things can be done in a more efficient, more productive, and a better way for the taxpayers of Pennsylvania.

I support the motion to table and urge all the members to vote "yes." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS-99

Adolph	Geist	Mensch	Deumond
Adolph		Metcalfe	Raymond
Argall	Gillespie		Reed
Baker	Gingrich	Micozzie	Reichley
Barrar	Godshall	Millard	Roae
Bear	Grell	Miller	Rock
Benninghoff	Harhart	Milne	Rohrer
Beyer	Harper	Moul	Rubley
Boback	Harris	Moyer	Saylor
Boyd	Helm	Murt	Scavello
Brooks	Hennessey	Mustio	Schroder
Cappelli	Hershey	Nailor	Seip
Causer	Hess	Nickol	Smith, S.
Civera	Hickernell	O'Neill	Sonney
Clymer	Hornaman	Payne	Stairs
Cox	Hutchinson	Peifer	Stern
Creighton	Kauffman	Perry	Stevenson
Cutler	Keller, M.	Perzel	Swanger
Dally	Kenney	Petrarca	Tangretti
Denlinger	Killion	Petri	Taylor, J.
DiGirolamo	Mackereth	Phillips	True
Ellis	Maher	Pickett	Turzai
Evans, J.	Mantz	Pyle	Vereb
Everett	Marshall	Quigley	Vulakovich
Fairchild	Marsico	Quinn	Watson
Fleck	McIlhattan	Rapp	
	NAY	YS-96	
	NAY	YS-96	
Belfanti	NA	YS-96 Manderino	Shapiro
Belfanti Bennington			Shapiro Shimkus
	Freeman	Manderino	
Bennington	Freeman Galloway	Manderino Mann	Shimkus
Bennington Biancucci	Freeman Galloway George	Manderino Mann Markosek	Shimkus Siptroth
Bennington Biancucci Bishop	Freeman Galloway George Gerber	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K.
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M.
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M.	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen	Freeman Galloway George Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harhai	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen Conklin	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harhai Harhai	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver Pallone	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali Wagner
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen Conklin Costa	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harhai Harhai Harkins James	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver Pallone Parker	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali Wagner Walko
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen Conklin Costa Cruz	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harhai Harkins James Josephs	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver Pallone Parker Pashinski	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali Wagner Walko Wansacz
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen Conklin Costa Cruz Curry	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harkai Harkai James Josephs Keller, W.	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver Pallone Parker Pashinski Payton	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali Wagner Walko Wansacz Waters
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen Conklin Costa Cruz Curry Daley	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harhai Harkins James Josephs Keller, W. Kessler	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver Pallone Parker Pashinski Payton Petrone	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali Wagner Walko Wansacz Waters Wheatley
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen Conklin Costa Cruz Curry Daley DeLuca	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harkai Harkai James Josephs Keller, W. Kessler King	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver Pallone Parker Pashinski Payton Petrone Preston	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali Wagner Walko Wansacz Waters Wheatley White
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen Conklin Costa Cruz Curry Daley DeLuca DePasquale	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harhai Harkins James Josephs Keller, W. Kessler King Kirkland	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver Pallone Parker Pashinski Payton Petrone Preston Ramaley	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali Wagner Walko Wansacz Waters Wheatley White Williams
Bennington Biancucci Bishop Blackwell Brennan Buxton Caltagirone Carroll Casorio Cohen Conklin Costa Cruz Curry Daley DeLuca	Freeman Galloway George Gerber Gergely Gibbons Goodman Grucela Haluska Hanna Harkai Harkai James Josephs Keller, W. Kessler King	Manderino Mann Markosek McCall McGeehan McI. Smith Melio Mundy Myers O'Brien, M. Oliver Pallone Parker Pashinski Payton Petrone Preston	Shimkus Siptroth Smith, K. Smith, M. Solobay Steil Sturla Taylor, R. Thomas Vitali Wagner Walko Wansacz Waters Wheatley White

Donatucci Eachus Evans, D. Fabrizio	Kula Leach Lentz Longietti	Sabatina Sainato Samuelson Santoni	Youngblood O'Brien, D., Speaker		
Frankel	Mahoney	Santoni	Speaker		
NOT VOTING-0					
EXCUSED-8					

Bastian	Levdansky	Ross	Surra
Gabig	Major	Staback	Yudichak

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR. D. EVANS

The SPEAKER. Representative Evans.

Mr. D. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, in our spirit of accountability and openness on this side, we have an informational hearing about the Philadelphia Parking Authority at 2:30, 2:30 to 4 - in the spirit of openness, 2:30 to 4, transparency, about the Philadelphia Parking Authority - and at 4 o'clock we have an Appropriations hearing.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. Representative DeWeese.

Mr. DeWEESE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

We will have an immediate caucus at 1 o'clock. Governor Rendell will be there. I would urge all Democrats to attend. Thank you.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. Representative Stern.

Mr. STERN. Mr. Speaker, the House Republicans will caucus at 1 o'clock and report to the floor whenever we reconvene.

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman restate his announcement?

Mr. STERN. The House Republicans will caucus at 1 o'clock, and we will return to the floor whenever the Speaker demands so.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. Representative Frankel.

Mr. FRANKEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce a meeting of the House Insurance Committee at 1:45 in room 205 of the Ryan Office Building.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Insurance Committee will meet at 1:45 in room 205 of the Ryan Office Building.

HOUSE SCHEDULE

The SPEAKER. Are there any other announcements?

The Chair recognizes the majority leader, Representative DeWeese.

Mr. DeWEESE. Just a quick announcement, Mr. Speaker.

We will return to the floor for a voting session at 2 p.m. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. For the information of the members, to clarify the schedule, the House intends to recess until 2 p.m., we will conduct business until approximately 2:30, and it is the information of the Chair that after 2:30 there will be no more formal votes on the floor.

Representative Stern.

Mr. STERN. I just wanted to clarify that information, Mr. Speaker, and make sure that we would return to the floor at 2 o'clock and take up some votes. We have five bills to caucus on in the Republican Caucus. We will return to the floor at 2 o'clock, and at 2:30 we will be recessing the House, right?

The SPEAKER. We will recess to the call of the Chair at 2:30, with the intention that there will be no more formal votes after 2:30.

Mr. STERN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. The House will stand in recess until 2 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The time of recess having expired, the House was called to order.

SENATE MESSAGE

RECESS RESOLUTION FOR CONCURRENCE

The clerk of the Senate, being introduced, presented the following extract from the Journal of the Senate, which was read as follows:

> In the Senate, November 13, 2007

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the Regular Session of the Senate recesses this week, it reconvene on Monday, November 19, 2007, unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the Regular Session of the House of Representatives recesses this week, it reconvene on Monday, November 19, 2007, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

On the question, Will the House concur in the resolution of the Senate? Resolution was concurred in.

Ordered, That the clerk inform the Senate accordingly.

The SPEAKER. The Chair informs the members of its intention to recess the regular session and go into special session at 2:19.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. This House will stand in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The time of recess having expired, the House was called to order.

BILLS REMOVED FROM TABLE

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

HB 1110; HB 1532; HB 1902; and SB 799.

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

BILLS RECOMMITTED

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

HB 1110; HB 1532; HB 1902; and SB 799.

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

CALENDAR CONTINUED

RESOLUTION

Mr. DeWEESE called up HR 355, PN 2138, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution urging review of import-export control systems for food and drug products sourced from China.

On the question, Will the House adopt the resolution?

RESOLUTION TABLED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HR 355 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled bill calendar.

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

RESOLUTION REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HR 355 be removed from the tabled bill calendar and placed on the active calendar.

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 Representative REED be placed on leave for the remainder of the day. The Chair sees no objection. The leave will be granted.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1723**, **PN 2282**, entitled:

An Act designating the bridge on State Route 322 joining Clearfield and Centre Counties as the Veterans' Memorial Bridge.

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

* * *

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1863**, **PN 2549**, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge on PA Route 120 crossing the railroad tracks at the east end of Renovo Borough in Clinton County, Pennsylvania, as the Western Clinton County Veterans Bridge.

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

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

The SPEAKER. For what purpose does the gentleman, Representative Maher, rise?

Mr. MAHER. A parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will state his point of parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. MAHER. Before our caucus recess, there was an announcement from the Chair that there would be no further

votes expected after 2:30. I note that it is now past 2:30 and also understand that an Appropriations Committee meeting had been called for this same time. I guess my question is, will there be further votes? If there will be further votes, should the Chair recall the members of the Appropriations Committee so they can join us on the floor? And if we are going to have further votes, should the committee at least be advised that they should not be meeting while the House is in session?

The SPEAKER. The Chair is trying to resolve those questions as we speak. The House will be at ease.

Mr. MAHER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. McCALL. Mr. Speaker? Mr. Speaker, the Appropriations Committee is not meeting right now. They are waiting for the House to recess for the day.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. For the information of the members, the Chair took the elevator on this side of the Capitol up to the floor, and there was a picture of one of our colleagues in the middle of the two elevators, and it was of Art Hershey, who, I am told by that picture, is celebrating his 70th birthday today. Happy birthday, Art.

STATEMENT BY MR. HERSHEY

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Hershey.

Mr. HERSHEY. I am going to make some brief remarks.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman is in order and may proceed. Mr. HERSHEY. Thank you very much.

Mr. HERSHEY. I nank you very much.

On a personal note, I appreciate everybody that sent cards, e-mails. I was overwhelmed. Staff surprised me with a party over there. But I wanted to read a couple of things, what they cost in 1937. A postage stamp was 3 cents. Gasoline was 12 cents. You could go to the movies for a quarter. The tuition to Harvard University was the astronomical sum of \$420 a year. Average rent, \$26 a month; a new car for \$760. The average income was \$1,780, and you could buy a new house for \$4100. So that is all relative, but thank you very much.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman for that information.

The Chair was afraid the House would run the risk of inciting another debate on Representative Evans's bill.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of HB 958, PN 2803, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the judicial imposition of community service as a penalty.

On the question,

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair anticipates no further votes being taken today. The House will be in token session tomorrow. The House will stand in recess until the call of the Chair for the purpose of reporting bills.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. This House will stand in recess until the call of the Chair.

AFTER RECESS

The time of recess having expired, the House was called to order.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE (MICHAEL P. McGEEHAN) PRESIDING

BILLS REREPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

HB 65, PN 1351

By Rep. D. EVANS

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for parental discretion in classroom placement of twins and higher order multiples.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 377, PN 2849 (Amended) By Rep. D. EVANS

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, providing an alternative special tax provision for poverty.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 895, PN 2748

By Rep. D. EVANS

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for exception for adopted children; providing for sibling visitation; and making an editorial change.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 1643, PN 2669

By Rep. D. EVANS

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, further providing for residence and right to free school privileges.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 1690, PN 2850 (Amended)

By Rep. D. EVANS

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for certain definitions and for automated red light enforcement systems in first class cities.

APPROPRIATIONS.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Those bills will be placed on the active calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Any further business before the House?

Seeing none, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative DePasquale from York County, who moves that this House do now adjourn until Thursday, November 15, 2007, at 11 a.m., e.s.t., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to, and at 4:10 p.m., e.s.t., the House adjourned.