

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2008

SESSION OF 2008

192D OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 3

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

THE SPEAKER (DENNIS M. O'BRIEN) PRESIDING

PRAYER

HON. BOB BASTIAN, member of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Please join me in prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, we pause at this time to recognize and honor You today. We pray that we will never forget the importance of communicating with You each and every day and look for Your wisdom and guidance as we begin another session day of the business for this great Commonwealth.

We look to our brother Paul for the wisdom and advice he gives to Titus in the third chapter of that book of the Bible. Paul says, "I want you to give special emphasis to these matters, so that those who believe in God may be concerned with giving their time to doing good deeds, which are good and useful for everyone. And avoid stupid arguments. Our people must learn to spend their time doing good in order to provide for real needs." These words in Paul's letter to Titus are instructing us to be better stewards of our time here in this chamber. We all here have been given more opportunity than most to do good. Let us use it wisely.

We ask these things in Your holy name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

JOURNAL APPROVAL POSTPONED

The SPEAKER. Without objection, approval of the Journal of Monday, January 14, 2008, will be postponed until printed. The Chair hears no objection.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair turns to leaves of absence. The Chair recognizes the majority whip, who requests that Representative BENNINGTON from Allegheny County and Representative GALLOWAY from Bucks County be placed on

leave for the day. The Chair sees no objection. These leaves will be granted.

The Chair turns to the minority whip, who requests that Representative MURT from Montgomery County, Representative ELLIS from Butler County, Representative HENNESSEY from Chester County be placed on leave for the day. 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—194

Adolph	Freeman	Markosek	Roebuck
Argall	Gabig	Marshall	Rohrer
Baker	Geist	Marsico	Ross
Barrar	George	McCall	Sabatina
Bastian	Gergely	McGeehan	Sainato
Bear	Gibbons	McI. Smith	Samuelson
Belfanti	Gillespie	McIlhattan	Santoni
Benninghoff	Gingrich	Melio	Saylor
Beyer	Godshall	Mensch	Scavello
Biancucci	Goodman	Metcalf	Schroder
Bishop	Grell	Micozzie	Seip
Blackwell	Grucela	Millard	Shapiro
Boback	Haluska	Miller	Shimkus
Boyd	Hanna	Milne	Smith, K.
Brennan	Harhai	Moul	Smith, M.
Brooks	Harhart	Moyer	Smith, S.
Buxton	Harkins	Mundy	Solobay
Caltagirone	Harper	Mustio	Sonney
Cappelli	Harris	Myers	Staback
Carroll	Helm	Nailor	Stairs
Casorio	Hershey	Nickol	Steil
Causer	Hess	O'Brien, M.	Stern
Civera	Hickernell	O'Neill	Stevenson
Clymer	Hornaman	Oliver	Sturla
Cohen	Hutchinson	Pallone	Surra
Conklin	James	Parker	Swanger
Costa	Josephs	Pashinski	Taylor, J.
Cox	Kauffman	Payne	Taylor, R.
Creighton	Keller, M.	Payton	Thomas
Cruz	Keller, W.	Peifer	True
Curry	Kenney	Perry	Turzai
Cutler	Kessler	Perzel	Vereb
Daley	Killion	Petrarca	Vitali
Dally	King	Petri	Vulakovich
DeLuca	Kirkland	Petrone	Wagner
Denlinger	Kortz	Phillips	Walko
DePasquale	Kotik	Pickett	Wansacz
Dermody	Kula	Preston	Waters

DeWeese	Leach	Pyle	Watson
DiGirolamo	Lentz	Quigley	Wheatley
Donatucci	Levdansky	Quinn	White
Eachus	Longietti	Ramaley	Williams
Evans, D.	Mackereth	Rapp	Wojnaroski
Evans, J.	Maher	Raymond	Yewcic
Everett	Mahoney	Readshaw	Youngblood
Fabrizio	Major	Reed	Yudichak
Fairchild	Manderino	Reichley	
Fleck	Mann	Roae	O'Brien, D.,
Frankel	Mantz	Rock	Speaker

ADDITIONS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Gerber	Murt	Siptroth
Ellis	Hennessey	Rubley	Tangretti
Galloway			

LEAVES ADDED—2

Kortz	Leach
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LEAVES CANCELED—2

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

RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

HR 465, PN 2690

By Rep. GEORGE

A Resolution urging the Federal Emergency Management Agency to review and update state, county and municipal flood maps every ten years.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY.

HR 546, PN 3041

By Rep. GEORGE

A Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to exercise due diligence on behalf of the citizens of this Commonwealth and of this nation by implementing oversight, inquiry and investigation into gas and energy prices to ensure that these exceedingly high prices are both necessary and ethically ascertained.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY.

The SPEAKER. These resolutions will be placed on the active calendar.

SENATE MESSAGE

HOUSE BILL CONCURRED IN BY SENATE

The clerk of the Senate, being introduced, returned **HB 1795, PN 2448**, with information that the Senate has passed the same without amendment.

BILL SIGNED BY SPEAKER

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

HB 1795, PN 2448

An Act designating the Powell Avenue Bridge on State Route 299 in Millcreek Township, Erie County, Pennsylvania, as the Staff Sergeant Jeremy R. Horton Memorial Bridge.

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

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 2144 By Representatives HARPER, O'NEILL, BLACKWELL, CIVERA, CREIGHTON, CURRY, CUTLER, FAIRCHILD, FRANKEL, HELM, JAMES, KENNEY, MANDERINO, McGEEHAN, MELIO, MENSCH, R. MILLER, MURT, D. O'BRIEN, PICKETT, REICHLEY, RUBLEY, SONNEY, STEIL, WATSON, MILNE and JOSEPHS

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the offense of false reports to law enforcement authorities, for the offense of persons not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell or transfer firearms and for the sale or transfer of firearms.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, January 15, 2008.

No. 2162 By Representatives KORTZ, EACHUS, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, CONKLIN, COSTA, CURRY, DePASQUALE, DERMODY, FABRIZIO, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARKINS, JOSEPHS, KOTIK, LEACH, LEVDANSKY, MAHONEY, MANN, MARKOSEK, MARSHALL, MELIO, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PETRONE, PRESTON, RAMALEY, READSHAW, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SURRA and WALKO

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the recovery of certain expenses by public utilities.

Referred to Committee on CONSUMER AFFAIRS, January 15, 2008.

No. 2163 By Representatives SURRA, McCALL, J. WHITE, CONKLIN, BELFANTI, BENNINGHOFF, BOYD, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, COHEN, DALEY, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, GIBBONS, GRUCELA, HALUSKA, HANNA, HARHAI, HARKINS, HELM, HESS, HORNAMAN, HUTCHINSON, KILLION, KORTZ, MAHONEY, MARSHALL, McGEEHAN, McILVAINE SMITH, MILLARD, MURT, M. O'BRIEN, O'NEILL, PAYNE, PETRONE, PHILLIPS, PRESTON, REICHLEY, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, R. STEVENSON, STURLA, YOUNGBLOOD, YEWIC, GEIST, MANN and McILHATTAN

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for show car certification, registration plates and inspection.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 15, 2008.

No. 2164 By Representatives SOLOBAY, BRENNAN, CAPPELLI, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DENLINGER, EACHUS, GEORGE, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARKINS, HARRIS, MAHONEY, MANN, McCALL, M. O'BRIEN, PETRONE, PYLE, READSHAW, SANTONI, SAYLOR, SIPTROTH, STERN, SURRA, WOJNAROSKI, YUDICHAK, MUNDY and LEACH

An Act providing for bituminous coal mines; and making a repeal.

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, January 15, 2008.

No. 2200 By Representatives GEORGE, McCALL, BELFANTI, CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, DALEY, GOODMAN, HARHAI, HARKINS, KULA, MANDERINO, McGEEHAN, VITALI, J. WHITE, WALKO, SURRA, DeLUCA, DERMODY, GRUCELA and JOSEPHS

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for definitions; and providing for adoption of energy efficiency and demand-side response.

Referred to Committee on CONSUMER AFFAIRS, January 15, 2008.

No. 2201 By Representatives McCALL, GEORGE, EACHUS, BELFANTI, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, DALEY, FREEMAN, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HALUSKA, HARHAI, HARKINS, HORNAMAN, JOSEPHS, KORTZ, KULA, MAHONEY, MARKOSEK, M. O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, SAYLOR, SHIMKUS, M. SMITH, VITALI, WANSACZ, J. WHITE, DeLUCA, DERMODY, SURRA, MUNDY and GIBBONS

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the definition of "public utility"; adding definitions for "default service provider," "microgrid," "real-time price," "smart meter technology" and "time of use rate"; further providing for standards for restructuring of electric industry and for duties of electric distribution companies; and providing for rate phase-in plans and for microgrids.

Referred to Committee on CONSUMER AFFAIRS, January 15, 2008.

GUEST INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Please welcome Sean Johnson, who is shadowing Representative Chris Ross today. He is seated to the left of the Speaker. Would you please rise and be recognized.

CALENDAR

RESOLUTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Mr. HANNA called up **HR 508, PN 2861**, entitled:

A Resolution designating February 1, 2008, as "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania; and urging the National Institutes of Health to recognize "Peripartum Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day" and to advance research relating to peripartum cardiomyopathy.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—194

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

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Gerber	Murt	Siptroth
Ellis	Hennessey	Rubley	Tangretti
Galloway			

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

* * *

Mrs. HARHART called up **HR 550, PN 3061**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of January 2008 as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

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

Mrs. HARHART. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise today—

The SPEAKER. Will the lady suspend.

Members will please take their seats. The Sergeants at Arms will clear the aisles. Caucuses will break up.

The lady is in order and may proceed.

Mrs. HARHART. Okay.

The SPEAKER. The lady may proceed.

Mrs. HARHART. I rise today to introduce HR 550, which designates January 2008 as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

With regular and accurate screening, cervical cancer is highly preventable, and when found early, cervical cancer is highly curable. While widespread screening has reduced death rates from cervical cancer, women are still dying, despite advanced medical techniques and evaluative procedures.

The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2007, 11,150 women were diagnosed with cervical cancer and more than 3,670 died of the disease in the United States. Cervical cancer rates in the United States are affected by education, access to regular cervical cancer screening, and screening accuracy. Experience shows that increasing cervical cancer awareness among women, especially underserved women, significantly reduces the probability of mortality from this disease.

Through education and screening, women can decrease their likelihood of developing cervical cancer and that, with early detection, cervical cancer can be successfully treated.

I ask for your support on this important health issue to promote good health for Pennsylvania women. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—194

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

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Gerber	Murt	Siptroth
Ellis	Hennessey	Rubley	Tangretti
Galloway			

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1742, PN 3008**, entitled:

An Act requiring scrap processors and recycling facility operators to collect certain information relating to the purchase of scrap material; requiring commercial accounts; and restricting scrap processors and recycling facility operators from purchasing certain materials.

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

Mr. **ARGALL** offered the following amendment No. **A05226**:

Amend Preamble, page 1, by inserting between lines 11 and 12

(3) Individuals have found it to be more financially advantageous to sell used beer kegs to a scrap processor or recycling facility operator as opposed to returning the kegs to the distributor from where they were rented.

Amend Preamble, page 1, line 12, by striking out "(3)" and inserting

(4)

Amend Sec. 2, page 2, by inserting between lines 9 and 10

"Beer keg." A vessel designed to contain at least 128 fluid ounces of malt or brewed beverage.

Amend Sec. 2, page 3, line 2, by striking out "beer kegs,"

Amend Sec. 5, page 7, by inserting between lines 19 and 20

(5) Beer kegs.

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

The **SPEAKER**. On the amendment, the Chair recognizes Representative Argall.

Mr. **ARGALL**. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, my amendment would clarify some of the language in the existing legislation which would make it very clear that people cannot steal beer kegs and then expect a recycler to take them, and so it makes it very clear that the kegs belong to the owner and should be returned.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**. Representative Pashinski, on the amendment.

Mr. **PASHINSKI**. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

That is an agreed-to amendment. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

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

(Members proceeded to vote.)

VOTE STRICKEN

The **SPEAKER**. The Chair did not see the gentleman, Representative Vitali, seeking recognition. The Chair recognizes Representative Vitali. The clerk will strike the vote.

Mr. **VITALI**. I was just going to ask for a brief explanation of the amendment.

The **SPEAKER**. There was a brief explanation, but the gentleman, Representative Argall, has agreed to amplify his explanation.

Mr. **ARGALL**. For the second time, Mr. Speaker, this amendment clarifies existing language within the bill which makes it clear that beer kegs are not to be accidentally melted

down by a scrap processor, that they are to be returned to the rightful owner.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—194

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

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Gerber	Murt	Siptroth
Ellis	Hennessey	Rubley	Tangretti
Galloway			

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

On the question,

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

Mr. **PASHINSKI** offered the following amendment No. **A05293**:

Amend Sec. 3, page 4, line 6, by striking out "\$100" and inserting

\$50

On the question,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

AMENDMENT WITHDRAWN

The **SPEAKER**. The Chair recognizes Representative Pashinski on the amendment.

Mr. **PASHINSKI**. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I am going to pull that amendment.

The **SPEAKER**. The gentleman withdraws his amendment.

On the question recurring,

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

Bill as amended was agreed to.

(Bill as amended will be reprinted.)

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1474**, **PN 2930**, entitled:

An Act providing for the location and operation of registered family child day care and certified group child day care in private residential homes and for the issuance of certificates of occupancy for certification and registration purposes.

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—180

Argall	Freeman	Marsico	Ross
Baker	Geist	McCall	Sabatina
Barrar	George	McGeehan	Sainato

Bastian	Gergely	McI. Smith	Samuelson
Bear	Gibbons	McIlhattan	Santoni
Belfanti	Gillespie	Melio	Saylor
Benninghoff	Gingrich	Mensch	Scavello
Beyer	Godshall	Metcalfe	Seip
Biancucci	Goodman	Millard	Shapiro
Bishop	Grucela	Miller	Shinkus
Blackwell	Haluska	Milne	Smith, K.
Boback	Hanna	Moul	Smith, M.
Boyd	Harhai	Moyer	Smith, S.
Brennan	Harhart	Mundy	Solobay
Brooks	Harkins	Mustio	Sonney
Buxton	Harper	Myers	Staback
Caltagirone	Harris	Nailor	Stairs
Cappelli	Helm	Nickol	Steil
Carroll	Hershey	O'Brien, M.	Stern
Casorio	Hess	O'Neill	Stevenson
Causer	Hickernell	Oliver	Sturla
Clymer	Hornaman	Pallone	Surra
Cohen	Hutchinson	Parker	Swanger
Conklin	James	Pashinski	Taylor, J.
Costa	Josephs	Payne	Taylor, R.
Cox	Kauffman	Payton	Thomas
Cruz	Keller, M.	Peifer	True
Curry	Keller, W.	Perry	Turzai
Cutler	Kenney	Perzel	Vereb
Daley	Kessler	Petrarca	Vitali
Dally	King	Petrone	Vulakovich
DeLuca	Kirkland	Phillips	Wagner
Denlinger	Kula	Pickett	Walko
DePasquale	Leach	Preston	Wansacz
Dermody	Lentz	Pyle	Waters
DeWeese	Levdansky	Quigley	Watson
DiGirolamo	Longiotti	Quinn	Wheatley
Donatucci	Mackereth	Ramaley	White
Eachus	Maher	Rapp	Williams
Evans, D.	Mahoney	Reed	Wojnaroski
Evans, J.	Major	Reichley	Youngblood
Everett	Manderino	Roae	Yudichak
Fabrizio	Mann	Rock	
Fairchild	Mantz	Roebuck	O'Brien, D.,
Fleck	Markosek	Rohrer	Speaker
Frankel	Marshall		

NAYS—14

Adolph	Grell	Micozzie	Readshaw
Civera	Killion	Petri	Schroder
Creighton	Kortz	Raymond	Yewcic
Gabig	Kotik		

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Gerber	Murt	Siptroth
Ellis	Hennessey	Rubley	Tangretti
Galloway			

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

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

The **SPEAKER**. The Chair turns to page— The House will stand at ease.

STATEMENT BY MR. KIRKLAND

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

The House will come to order.

Mr. KIRKLAND. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise under unanimous consent.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman rises under the provision of unanimous consent. The Chair will ask all members to please take their seats. Conferences will break up. Members will take their seats.

Mr. KIRKLAND. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. KIRKLAND. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this month will mark 40 years, 40 years since the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, and we want to take a little time today to express some thoughts that Dr. King might have if he were here today.

Mr. Speaker, if I may, I would like to recite a poem written by someone here in Harrisburg. Her name is Sonya Toler. She is the executive director for the Government Advisory Commission on African-American Affairs, and she is seated here in the House to your left, Mr. Speaker. And I thought that this poem would be most eloquent and useful in today's time.

The poem is entitled, "The Fierce Urgency of Now," and it says if Martin Luther King, Jr., were alive today, with tears in his eyes, he would step to the mike and he would say:

Madness...

That's what is running rampant throughout the...community.

It's a sickness that has infected the mind,
destroyed our vision, made us blind,
removed the traits that once made us kind
to our neighbor.

Though society as a whole is dysfunctional,
we turn our frustrations into something
personal
and direct our anger toward others without
being rational.

The ties that once bound us to one another are
considered nominal.

Our elders – their fear of what the future may bring
us is exceptional.

So many leaders urge the observance of a Day of
Atonement.

We've ignored the lessons of the past; have not
tapped into our endowment.

A prolonged drought withered all hope that current
conditions are not permanent.

We bathe in the waters of despair and
disillusionment
and fail to pursue life, liberty, and the
betterment of our lives.

Generational poverty breeds drugs and crime that
have become an institution.

Some lobby the government for money in the form
of restitution.

The nation needs to be reminded of the provisions
in its own constitution.

The deprivation of my people's rights has created
this destitution.

The end of the long night of racial injustice is the
cure; there is no substitution.

Yes, debilitating poverty chains...people to the
lowest rung on the ladder
but their self-destructive patterns – ugh!
Nothing makes me madder.

Dealing and wheeling, looting and shooting; trying
to see who can be badder –
these are the devil's tools and are as venomous
as an adder.

Strive for education, economic empowerment,
racial unity. Nothing would make me gladder.

With my life I paved the way on the non-violent
trail.

There are kings and queens from which you hail.
To enjoy the riches of freedom and the security of
justice one cannot be in jail.

If you choose to drink from the cup of bitterness
and hatred, you're doomed to fail.

Continue to work with the faith that unearned
suffering can balance the justice scale.

I say to you today my friends let us not wallow in
the valley of despair.

Freedom will ring from the slums of the inner city
to the mansions of Bel Air.

Faith in our heavenly father and love for one
another must be in our crosshair.

Even though we'll face difficulties, we must not
stray from this bill of fare.

Pledge to always march forward without turning
back – change is in the air.

I have returned to remind you of the fierce urgency
of now.

Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of
God's children; every knee must bow.

When times get rough and ends don't meet and you
begin to wonder how,
do not let the enemy defeat you; this you
cannot allow.

My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty –
these words to my face bring a smile.

As I leave again ponder this: the battle has already
been won.

Your charge is to protect those gains. Do not
continue to allow the victories to be undone.

Education is still the key. Now forward to financial
understanding run
and don't forget to extend a helping hand to a
daughter or a son.

A poem written by Miss Sonya M. Toler. Thank you,
Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader,
Representative DeWeese, for an announcement.

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

We will caucus at 1:30, hopefully have lunch in the interim,
and return at 3:30 for our voting calendar. The 24-hour rule will
allow us to commence voting at 3:30. So lunch now and caucus

at 1:30 and voting at 3:30, and we will vote the bills that were amended yesterday, and then tomorrow off on to property tax.

Thank you.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. Representative Major.

Miss MAJOR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to announce a Republican caucus that will begin at 1:30. So Republicans should report to the caucus room at 1:30. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

Are there any other announcements?

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. Representative Bishop.

Ms. BISHOP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to announce that the Children and Youth Committee is meeting immediately following the break in room 60 East Wing, and I would appreciate it if all the members can attend.

The SPEAKER. In room 60 East Wing, there will be a Children and Youth Committee meeting immediately following the break.

Are there any other announcements?

RECESS

The SPEAKER. This House will stand in recess until 3:30 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority whip, who requests that Representative KORTZ from Allegheny County be placed on leave for the remainder of the day. The Chair sees no objection. The leave will be granted.

HR 508 RECONSIDERED

The SPEAKER. Representative Hanna and Representative McCall move that the vote by which HR 508, PN 2861, was passed on the 15th day of January be reconsidered.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE CANCELED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the presence of Representative Ellis on the floor. His name will be added to the master roll.

CONSIDERATION OF HR 508 CONTINUED

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the motion?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—194

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

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Hennessey	Murt	Siptroth
Galloway	Kortz	Rubley	Tangretti
Gerber			

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

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

RESOLUTION PASSED OVER

The SPEAKER. This resolution will be over for today.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 652, PN 3079**, entitled:

An Act providing for the exclusion of veterans' disability benefits as eligible income.

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—194

Adolph	Frankel	Markosek	Roebuck
Argall	Freeman	Marshall	Rohrer
Baker	Gabig	Marsico	Ross
Barrar	Geist	McCall	Sabatina
Bastian	George	McGeehan	Sainato
Bear	Gergely	McI. Smith	Samuelson
Belfanti	Gibbons	McIlhattan	Santoni
Benninghoff	Gillespie	Melio	Saylor
Beyer	Gingrich	Mensch	Scavello
Biancucci	Godshall	Metcalfe	Schroder
Bishop	Goodman	Micozzie	Seip
Blackwell	Grell	Millard	Shapiro
Boback	Grucela	Miller	Shimkus
Boyd	Haluska	Milne	Smith, K.
Brennan	Hanna	Moul	Smith, M.
Brooks	Harhai	Moyer	Smith, S.
Buxton	Harhart	Mundy	Solobay
Caltagirone	Harkins	Mustio	Sonney
Cappelli	Harper	Myers	Staback
Carroll	Harris	Nailor	Stairs
Casorio	Helm	Nickol	Steil
Causer	Hershey	O'Brien, M.	Stern
Civera	Hess	O'Neill	Stevenson
Clymer	Hickernell	Oliver	Sturla
Cohen	Hornaman	Pallone	Surra

Conklin	Hutchinson	Parker	Swanger
Costa	James	Pashinski	Taylor, J.
Cox	Josephs	Payne	Taylor, R.
Creighton	Kauffman	Payton	Thomas
Cruz	Keller, M.	Peifer	True
Curry	Keller, W.	Perry	Turzai
Cutler	Kenney	Perzel	Vereb
Daley	Kessler	Petrarca	Vitali
Dally	Killion	Petri	Vulakovich
DeLuca	King	Petrone	Wagner
Denlinger	Kirkland	Phillips	Walko
DePasquale	Kotik	Pickett	Wansacz
Dermody	Kula	Preston	Waters
DeWeese	Leach	Pyle	Watson
DiGirolamo	Lentz	Quigley	Wheatley
Donatucci	Levdansky	Quinn	White
Eachus	Longietti	Ramaley	Williams
Ellis	Mackereth	Rapp	Wojnaroski
Evans, D.	Maher	Raymond	Yewcic
Evans, J.	Mahoney	Readshaw	Youngblood
Everett	Major	Reed	Yudichak
Fabrizio	Manderino	Reichley	
Fairchild	Mann	Roae	O'Brien, D.,
Fleck	Mantz	Rock	Speaker

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Hennessey	Murt	Siptroth
Galloway	Kortz	Rubley	Tangretti
Gerber			

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.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. The Chair would like to recognize, to the left of the Speaker, some very special guests. We have Theresa Smith, who is the mother of Representative Ken Smith. Would you please stand and be recognized. Mom, he said that he wanted you recognized especially.

We also have Calista Smith, the sister of Ken Smith; Lori Carey, a friend of Representative Ken Smith; and Jerry Byron, a friend of Ken Smith. Would you also rise and be recognized. Mom, Mrs. Smith, I will give you a full report on Ken later.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1563, PN 3080**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further defining "police department" and "police officer" for purposes of municipal police training and 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—96

Belfanti	Freeman	Manderino	Santoni
Biancucci	George	Mann	Seip
Bishop	Gergely	Markosek	Shapiro
Blackwell	Gibbons	McCall	Shinkus
Brennan	Goodman	McGeehan	Smith, K.
Buxton	Grucela	McI. Smith	Smith, M.
Caltagirone	Haluska	Melio	Solobay
Carroll	Hanna	Mundy	Staback
Casorio	Harhai	Myers	Sturla
Cohen	Harkins	O'Brien, M.	Surra
Conklin	Hornaman	Oliver	Taylor, R.
Costa	James	Pallone	Thomas
Cruz	Josephs	Parker	Vitali
Curry	Keller, W.	Pashinski	Wagner
Daley	Kessler	Payton	Walko
DeLuca	King	Petrarca	Wansacz
DePasquale	Kirkland	Petrone	Waters
Dermody	Kotik	Preston	Wheatley
DeWeese	Kula	Ramaley	White
Donatucci	Leach	Readshaw	Williams
Eachus	Lentz	Roebuck	Wojnaroski
Evans, D.	Levdansky	Sabatina	Yewcic
Fabrizio	Longiatti	Sainato	Youngblood
Frankel	Mahoney	Samuelson	Yudichak

NAYS—98

Adolph	Fleck	McIlhattan	Reed
Argall	Gabig	Mensch	Reichley
Baker	Geist	Metcalfe	Roae
Barrar	Gillespie	Micozzie	Rock
Bastian	Gingrich	Millard	Rohrer
Bear	Godshall	Miller	Ross
Benninghoff	Grell	Milne	Saylor
Beyer	Harhart	Moul	Scavello
Boback	Harper	Moyer	Schroder
Boyd	Harris	Mustio	Smith, S.
Brooks	Helm	Nailor	Sonney
Cappelli	Hershey	Nickol	Stairs
Causar	Hess	O'Neill	Steil
Civera	Hickernell	Payne	Stern
Clymer	Hutchinson	Peifer	Stevenson
Cox	Kauffman	Perry	Swanger
Creighton	Keller, M.	Perzel	Taylor, J.
Cutler	Kenney	Petri	True
Dally	Killion	Phillips	Turzai
Denlinger	Mackereth	Pickett	Vereb
DiGirolamo	Maher	Pyle	Vulakovich
Ellis	Major	Quigley	Watson
Evans, J.	Mantz	Quinn	
Everett	Marshall	Rapp	O'Brien, D.,
Fairchild	Marsico	Raymond	Speaker

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Hennessey	Murt	Siptroth
Galloway	Kortz	Rubley	Tangretti
Gerber			

Less than the majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the negative and the bill fell.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE CANCELED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the presence of Representative Hennessey on the floor. His name will be added to the master roll.

RESOLUTION

Mrs. MACKERETH called up **HR 460, PN 3010**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution establishing the Joint Legislative Commission on Public School Finance and providing for the powers and duties of the commission.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. As the House considers this resolution, the Chair sends best wishes for a speedy recovery to its prime sponsor, Representative John Siptroth, who is watching on PCN (Pennsylvania Cable Network) and is here with us in spirit. Hello, John.

Representative Scavello, on the resolution.

Mr. SCAVELLO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I want to commend Representative Siptroth and Representative Bev Mackereth for putting this resolution together. I just hope that we are able to find dollars in this formula down the road to address this big concern of not funding our schools properly, especially the faster growing school districts. We are still funding schools at 1990 levels. Schools that have been growing for the last 17 years are still being funded at 1990 census numbers, and I hope that this resolution goes a long way in addressing those needs.

Thank you.

REMARKS BY MR. SIPTROTH READ FOR THE RECORD

The SPEAKER. Representative Roebuck.

Mr. ROEBUCK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I want to begin the debate by reading a statement from Representative John Siptroth, and I do it in recognition that he is not with us today. The statement reads as follows:

Mr. ROEBUCK (for Mr. SIPTROTH) read the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

For too long many of the Commonwealth's school districts have been unduly challenged in meeting the needs of their students with adequate funding because of inequities in the State's public education funding formula.

Changes in demography, population growth and decline, and aging infrastructure all have had devastating impacts on schools' budgets in areas across the State. Often the funding burden is passed on to the taxpayer.

Costs for new school construction, equipping our students with the technological advancements needed to succeed in the current economy, and offering innovative programming can all be overwhelming. We need to reevaluate Pennsylvania's formula that drives our public education funding to ensure that State funds allocated for basic education are distributed adequately and equitably. Now is the time to approach and tackle this challenge as we have an important tool at our disposal.

In 2006 the General Assembly requested a costing-out study be performed by the State Board of Education. Now that the study is complete, it is time to evaluate the data. To do this fairly and equitably, my resolution would establish the Joint Legislative Commission on Public School Finance.

The 41-member commission would be tasked with analyzing the data from the study and developing at least two formulae on how to adjust our current system for funding public education in the Commonwealth. The goals of the diverse commission are direct and well-defined and focused on the goal of educating our children. The commission would need to act quickly. Members would have to meet within 60 days of being appointed, and the commission would have to report its findings to the Governor, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House within 1 year from its first meeting date.

Education is a public good that truly serves the entire community and State. When we offer less than the best to any child, we are doing ourselves, our community, and our future a disservice.

Mr. ROEBUCK. Given these words by Representative Siptroth, I would urge that all the members of the legislature adopt this resolution and move us towards the goal of reaching what will be adequately funded education across the Commonwealth.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair would ask that all caucuses on the floor break up. There are several caucuses. Members will take their seats. Members will please take their seats. The noise level on the floor is entirely too loud. Members will please take their seats. The Sergeants at Arms will clear the aisles.

The Chair recognizes Representative Stairs.

The House will be at ease.

The House will come to order.

The Chair recognizes Representative Stairs on the resolution.

Mr. STAIRS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate your recognizing me. I changed positions from one end to the other here.

This is very important legislation, and we have been talking about equity in this chamber for many, many years. A number of years ago, in the early eighties, when we adopted the formula that was going to, the ESBE (equalized subsidy for basic education) formula, that was going to drive education, we thought we had a pretty good thing, but over the years things change and it is maybe a little out of whack right now. So I applaud the makers of this resolution to sit down and go back and look at it again and make some significant changes. With the costing-out survey that was done, the Governor is getting involved in his own methods of doing this, so I think we are onto something very important here, and I would hope that the members could support this.

There are a few changes that need to be made, but we can address those. This is a good concept and certainly will bring the equity problem that is really devastating education into the forefront and hopefully resolve many of our problems that we have in many of our schools.

So I would ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution and we can get going here and make a difference in correcting a very serious problem.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair recognizes Representative Mackereth.

Mrs. MACKERETH. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Act 114 of 2006 mandated the State Board of Education to contract out and study the cost of educating all 1.8 million Pennsylvania students to Pennsylvania State standards. At the time many of us were unaware that Pennsylvania State standards meant 100 percent of our students would be proficient in 12 subject areas by 2014. Pennsylvania State standards far exceed the No Child Left Behind standards.

The cost: \$21.9 billion, \$4.8 billion that we do not have. This would mean a near doubling of the State sales or personal income tax. This is not going to happen. However, the costing-out study does provide a detailed statistical foundation that quantifies some of Pennsylvania's long-known educational funding problems.

This resolution would establish a joint legislative commission on public school finance. The commission would be chaired by an expert on public school funding, and its members would hopefully be Pennsylvania's best and brightest.

The commission would be charged with creating a new, rational, realistic funding formula that is fair and equitable to all of our 501 school districts. Some of my colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, have expressed concerns regarding the unrealistic State standards as well as the inconsistencies and concerns for the makeup of the commission. I agree with these concerns. Both sides of the aisle have agreed to work with the Senate to fix these problems on a similar bill that they will be bringing up.

I would like to urge all of my colleagues to support this bill. I think it is critical that we move forward to get this done, to take the information that we have from the costing-out study and to come back with a funding formula that works for Pennsylvania.

Thank you.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority whip, who requests that Representative LEACH be placed on leave for the remainder of the day. The Chair sees no objection. The leave will be granted.

CONSIDERATION OF HR 460 CONTINUED

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

Ms. HARPER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

When I reviewed this resolution for this week's voting, I thought that the study commission is lacking in one group that is very important in any school funding formula. Those would be people who are paying the property tax in Pennsylvania and particularly senior citizens. I had proposed an amendment to correct this situation because we have a 41-member study commission composed mainly of people who will be spending the funds that are raised for education in Pennsylvania,

and I did think that this body is concerned about how those funds are raised.

I do think a study is very, very important. The formula has not been changed in many years, while the population has shifted across this State. So I have talked to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, and I have received their assurances that when this resolution goes to the Senate, we will ask the Senate to add taxpayers to the group that is studying the funding formula for Pennsylvania's schools. These are the community's schools; they belong to the whole community – the parents, the children, the teachers, the school boards, and also those who are paying for the schools.

So with the assurances of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that they will work to make sure that the taxpayers are adequately represented on this study commission, Mr. Speaker, I will be voting "yes" today.

Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER. Representative Micozzie.

Mr. MICOZZIE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 5 or 6 years, or the last three sessions, at least, I have introduced what was known as a successful school budget proposal. My proposal always advocated equitable distribution, accountability, and a new formula to make sure that every child in Pennsylvania receives an adequate education – has an opportunity to receive an adequate education.

I think the costing-out study is the right direction. If anyone attended the meetings of the Board of Education when they displayed their findings, the provisions in that report talk about a successful school proposal. Many of the provisions that I have in my bill, HB 1544, are included in that report.

I think it is time that we, the General Assembly, have the courage to do what is right, to make sure that the school districts in our Commonwealth and the children that go to those schools do not continue to fall through the cracks and make sure they have every opportunity to obtain a good education and not depend on the ZIP Code (Zone Improvement Plan Code) that they live in.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Representative Thomas.

Mr. THOMAS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I have some initial concerns about HR 460, but the majority chairman has just assured me that HR 460, in fact, implements one of the costing-out study recommendations. Mr. Speaker, I think it was a giant step that this legislature took in directing such a study. I think that the people who have taken a look at this issue have done the right thing. And, Mr. Speaker, I am now elated that it is clear that you cannot expect a Cadillac performance from children when you are only spending Volkswagen dollars.

Mr. Speaker, there are many schools in my district and throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that just cannot satisfy the No Child Left Behind basic requirements, and one of the reasons that they cannot satisfy it is because they just do not have the resources. No matter how much money we have spent, money has been used, and I think in an appropriate manner, but when you have to now start to try to reverse long years of benign neglect, you have to make the investment. So I support HR 460, and I hope that if we do nothing else, that we take the necessary steps in 2008 to make sure that our children have the resources that they need to have access to a quality education,

regardless of where they live or the circumstances under which they live.

Mr. Speaker, education is the bridge to the future. Education is the sine qua non of whether or not you will see success or see failure. And so, Mr. Speaker, it is imperative that we move HR 460 and all other resolutions and/or bills that will address the recommendations outlined in the costing-out study.

Thank you.

The SPEAKER. Representative Wheatley.

Mr. WHEATLEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of HR 460 with this caveat: I hope that in our next presentation from the Governor's budget address in February, I am hoping that he, in his wisdom, will quicken the pace for us to have significant investment into our educational system and takes a critical look at the way our funding system is currently. And although HR 460 puts into place the commission to study some of these questions, I am hoping that we move at a faster pace, if necessary.

I do want to support this resolution moving forward, but I do not want this resolution to become an impediment to us addressing this educational question in a quicker, faster capacity. So, Mr. Speaker, I want to continue to support this moving forward, but I hope that the Governor and our colleagues, both in the Senate and the House, will take faster action to address this in the here and now and not wait for a year for this to come back to us.

Thank you.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—192

Adolph	Frankel	Markosek	Rohrer
Argall	Freeman	Marshall	Ross
Baker	Gabig	Marsico	Sabatina
Barrar	Geist	McCall	Sainato
Bastian	George	McGeehan	Samuelson
Bear	Gergely	McI. Smith	Santoni
Belfanti	Gibbons	McIlhatten	Saylor
Benninghoff	Gillespie	Melio	Scavello
Beyer	Gingrich	Mensch	Schroder
Biancucci	Godshall	Micozzie	Seip
Bishop	Goodman	Millard	Shapiro
Blackwell	Grell	Miller	Shimkus
Boback	Grucela	Milne	Smith, K.
Boyd	Haluska	Moul	Smith, M.
Brennan	Hanna	Moyer	Smith, S.
Brooks	Harhai	Mundy	Solobay
Buxton	Harhart	Mustio	Sonney
Caltagirone	Harkins	Myers	Staback
Cappelli	Harper	Nailor	Stairs
Carroll	Harris	Nickol	Steil
Casorio	Helm	O'Brien, M.	Stern
Causer	Hennessey	O'Neill	Stevenson
Civera	Hershey	Oliver	Sturla
Clymer	Hess	Pallone	Surra
Cohen	Hickernell	Parker	Swanger
Conklin	Hornaman	Pashinski	Taylor, J.
Costa	Hutchinson	Payne	Taylor, R.
Cox	James	Payton	Thomas
Creighton	Josephs	Peifer	True
Cruz	Kauffman	Perry	Turzai
Curry	Keller, M.	Perzel	Vereb
Cutler	Keller, W.	Petrarca	Vitali
Daley	Kenney	Petri	Vulakovich

Dally	Kessler	Petrone	Wagner
DeLuca	Killion	Phillips	Walko
Denlinger	King	Pickett	Wansacz
DePasquale	Kirkland	Preston	Waters
Dermody	Kotik	Pyle	Watson
DeWeese	Kula	Quigley	Wheatley
DiGirolamo	Lentz	Quinn	White
Donatucci	Levdansky	Ramaley	Williams
Eachus	Longietti	Rapp	Wojnaroski
Ellis	Mackereth	Raymond	Yewcic
Evans, D.	Maher	Readshaw	Youngblood
Evans, J.	Mahoney	Reed	Yudichak
Everett	Major	Reichley	
Fabrizio	Manderino	Rock	O'Brien, D.,
Fairchild	Mann	Roebuck	Speaker
Fleck	Mantz		

NAYS—2

Metcalfe	Roae
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NOT VOTING—0**EXCUSED—9**

Bennington	Kortz	Murt	Siptroth
Galloway	Leach	Rubley	Tangretti
Gerber			

The majority of the members elected to the House having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

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

BILLS REMOVED FROM TABLE

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

HB 119;
HB 379; and
HB 1265.

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 119;
HB 379; and
HB 1265.

RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO RULE 35

Mr. DeWEESE called up **HR 555, PN 3066**, entitled:

A Resolution declaring the week of January 27 through February 2, 2008, as "Catholic Schools Week" in this Commonwealth.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

RESOLUTION RECOMMITTED

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, who moves that HR 555 be removed from the active calendar and recommitted to the Committee on Rules.

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

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,
January 14, 2008

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, January 28, 2008, 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, January 28, 2008, 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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. It is the intention of the Speaker to recess regular session and call special session at 4:35. Regular session will now stand in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The SPEAKER. The Speaker acknowledges the receipt of the following communications, which the clerk will read.

The following communications were read:

A communication dated November 9, 2007, from the Public Employee Retirement Commission regarding amendment No. 03774 to HB 1086, PN 1258, providing an actuarial impact statement on the amendment.

A communication dated November 9, 2007, from the Public Employee Retirement Commission regarding amendment No. 04069 to HB 1085, PN 1257, providing an actuarial impact statement on the amendment.

A communication dated November 9, 2007, from the Public Employee Retirement Commission regarding amendment No. 03772 to HB 1087, PN 1259, providing an actuarial impact statement on the amendment.

A communication dated December 26, 2007, from the Acting Commissioner of the Department of Insurance providing a copy of its annual report regarding first party medical benefits purchased by Pennsylvania automobile insureds in 2006.

A communication dated January 9, 2008, from the Secretary of the Department of Public Welfare providing a copy of its annual report on the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program for the period July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007.

A communication dated December 7, 2007, from the Acting Commissioner of the Department of Insurance providing a copy of its annual statistical report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

(Copies of communications are on file with the Journal clerk.)

HB 1563 RECONSIDERED

The SPEAKER. It has been moved by Representative Pallone and Representative McCall that the vote by which HB 1563, PN 3080, was defeated on the 15th day of January 2008 be reconsidered.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—104

Argall	Frankel	Markosek	Shapiro
Belfanti	Freeman	McCall	Shimkus
Biancucci	George	McGeehan	Smith, K.
Bishop	Gergely	McI. Smith	Smith, M.
Blackwell	Gibbons	Melio	Smith, S.
Boback	Goodman	Mundy	Solobay
Brennan	Grucela	Myers	Staback
Brooks	Haluska	O'Brien, M.	Sturla
Buxton	Hanna	Oliver	Surra
Caltagirone	Harhai	Pallone	Taylor, R.
Carroll	Harkins	Parker	Thomas
Casorio	Hornaman	Pashinski	Vitali
Cohen	James	Payton	Wagner
Conklin	Josephs	Petrarca	Walko
Costa	Keller, W.	Petrone	Wansacz
Cruz	Kessler	Phillips	Waters
Curry	King	Preston	Wheatley
Daley	Kirkland	Ramaley	White
DeLuca	Kotik	Raymond	Williams
DePasquale	Kula	Readshaw	Wojnaroski

Dermody	Lentz	Roebuck	Yewcic
DeWeese	Levdansky	Sabatina	Youngblood
Donatucci	Longietti	Sainato	Yudichak
Eachus	Mahoney	Samuelson	
Evans, D.	Major	Santoni	O'Brien, D., Speaker
Fabrizio	Manderino	Seip	
Fairchild	Mann		

NAYS—90

Adolph	Geist	McIlhattan	Rapp
Baker	Gillespie	Mensch	Reed
Barrar	Gingrich	Metcalfe	Reichley
Bastian	Godshall	Micozzie	Roae
Bear	Grell	Millard	Rock
Benninghoff	Harhart	Miller	Rohrer
Beyer	Harper	Milne	Ross
Boyd	Harris	Moul	Saylor
Cappelli	Helm	Moyer	Scavello
Causer	Hennessey	Mustio	Schroder
Civera	Hershey	Nailor	Sonney
Clymer	Hess	Nickol	Stairs
Cox	Hickernell	O'Neill	Steil
Creighton	Hutchinson	Payne	Stern
Cutler	Kauffman	Peifer	Stevenson
Dally	Keller, M.	Perry	Swanger
Denlinger	Kenney	Perzel	Taylor, J.
DiGirolamo	Killion	Petri	True
Ellis	Mackereth	Pickett	Turzai
Evans, J.	Maher	Pyle	Vereb
Everett	Mantz	Quigley	Vulakovich
Fleck	Marshall	Quinn	Watson
Gabig	Marsico		

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Kortz	Murt	Siptroth
Galloway	Leach	Rubley	Tangretti
Gerber			

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

BILL PASSED OVER

The SPEAKER. This bill will be over for today.

CALENDAR CONTINUED

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 775, PN 3081**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 11, 1935 (P.L.326, No.149), entitled "An act relating to counties of the first class; defining deceased service persons; providing for contributions by the county to the funeral expenses for such persons and their widows; providing for the erection and care of markers, headstones, and flags, and for the compilation of war records," further providing for flags, markers and headstones.

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 Fairchild.

Members will please take their seats. The gentleman is entitled to be heard. Caucuses in the side aisles will break up. Caucuses in the well of the House will break up. Members will take their seats. Members will please take their seats.

Representative Fairchild.

Mr. FAIRCHILD. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HBs 775, 776, and 777 are a package of bills which amend the three county codes by requiring counties to place a veteran's marker and flag on the graves of all honorably discharged veterans rather than just wartime veterans, as required in current law.

A veteran, whether active duty, retired, National Guard, or Reserve, is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America," for an amount, "up to and including their life." That is honor, and this legislation recognizes that fact and the sacrifices our men and women have made and continue to make on our behalf. Many counties already do provide this honor to all veterans. These bills make this practice uniform across the State.

These bills also allow the counties to purchase and use veterans' markers that are made of aluminum, like the one I have in my hand, and members are encouraged to take a look at it. You will see it is very hard to tell the difference between the aluminum and the brass or the bronze, but the price differential is very substantive, and many counties have gone to this system, and it is probably the way most will go.

I will add that there are a couple more bills coming shortly that address the funding for the counties in this endeavor. So with the encouragement of the veterans in your district and the encouragement of the State Veterans' Commission and the County Commissioners Association, the staff on both sides of the aisle here worked very, very hard and together to bring this legislation to you today.

So with that said, I would ask for an affirmative vote on these three bills that are now before this body.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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—194

Adolph	Frankel	Markosek	Roebuck
Argall	Freeman	Marshall	Rohrer
Baker	Gabig	Marsico	Ross
Barrar	Geist	McCall	Sabatina
Bastian	George	McGeehan	Sainato
Bear	Gergely	McI. Smith	Samuelson
Belfanti	Gibbons	McIlhattan	Santoni
Benninghoff	Gillespie	Melio	Saylor
Beyer	Gingrich	Mensch	Scavello
Biancucci	Godshall	Metcalfe	Schroder

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

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Kortz	Murt	Siptroth
Galloway	Leach	Rubley	Tangretti
Gerber			

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 776, PN 3082**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code, further providing for flags and grave markers of certain deceased service persons.

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—194

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

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Kortz	Murt	Siptroth
Galloway	Leach	Rubley	Tangretti
Gerber			

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 777, PN 3083**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 28, 1953 (P.L.723, No.230), known as the Second Class County Code, further providing for markers on graves and for flags to decorate graves.

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—194

Adolph	Frankel	Markosek	Roebuck
Argall	Freeman	Marshall	Rohrer
Baker	Gabig	Marsico	Ross
Barrar	Geist	McCall	Sabatina
Bastian	George	McGeehan	Sainato
Bear	Gergely	McI. Smith	Samuelson
Belfanti	Gibbons	McIlhatten	Santoni
Benninghoff	Gillespie	Melio	Saylor
Beyer	Gingrich	Mensch	Scavello
Biancucci	Godshall	Metcalf	Schroder
Bishop	Goodman	Micozzie	Seip
Blackwell	Grell	Millard	Shapiro
Boback	Grucela	Miller	Shimkus
Boyd	Haluska	Milne	Smith, K.
Brennan	Hanna	Moul	Smith, M.
Brooks	Harhai	Moyer	Smith, S.
Buxton	Harhart	Mundy	Solobay
Caltagirone	Harkins	Mustio	Sonney
Cappelli	Harper	Myers	Staback
Carroll	Harris	Nailor	Stairs
Casorio	Helm	Nickol	Steil
Causer	Hennessey	O'Brien, M.	Stern
Civera	Hershey	O'Neill	Stevenson
Clymer	Hess	Oliver	Sturla
Cohen	Hickernell	Pallone	Surra
Conklin	Hornaman	Parker	Swanger
Costa	Hutchinson	Pashinski	Taylor, J.
Cox	James	Payne	Taylor, R.
Creighton	Josephs	Payton	Thomas
Cruz	Kauffman	Peifer	True
Curry	Keller, M.	Perry	Turzai
Cutler	Keller, W.	Perzel	Vereb
Daley	Kenney	Petrarca	Vitali
Dally	Kessler	Petri	Vulakovich
DeLuca	Killion	Petrone	Wagner
Denlinger	King	Phillips	Walko
DePasquale	Kirkland	Pickett	Wansacz
Dermody	Kotik	Preston	Waters

DeWeese	Kula	Pyle	Watson
DiGirolamo	Lentz	Quigley	Wheatley
Donatucci	Levdansky	Quinn	White
Eachus	Longietti	Ramaley	Williams
Ellis	Mackereth	Rapp	Wojnaroski
Evans, D.	Maher	Raymond	Yewcic
Evans, J.	Mahoney	Readshaw	Youngblood
Everett	Major	Reed	Yudichak
Fabrizio	Manderino	Reichley	
Fairchild	Mann	Roae	O'Brien, D.,
Fleck	Mantz	Rock	Speaker

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—9

Bennington	Kortz	Murt	Siptroth
Galloway	Leach	Rubley	Tangretti
Gerber			

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.

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Cohen for the purpose of making an announcement.

Mr. COHEN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the chair of the Appropriations Committee, the gentleman from Philadelphia, Mr. Evans, I would like to announce that there is going to be an Appropriations Committee, an Appropriations Committee meeting at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow in the majority caucus room.

The SPEAKER. The Appropriations Committee will meet tomorrow morning at 10:30 in the majority caucus room.

STATEMENT BY MR. ROEBUCK

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

Mr. ROEBUCK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On a point of personal privilege.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will state his point of personal privilege.

Mr. ROEBUCK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I want to add comments to the record on behalf of Representative Siptroth on HR 460. He asks that I thank his colleagues for their support of that resolution. He also asks that I acknowledge the Speaker for his recognition of him. He also asks that I thank Representative Mackereth for her support and work with him on this resolution, and he extends best wishes to everyone and wishes everyone the best.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman, and, John, we are looking forward to having you back here real soon.

Any other announcements?

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. Representative Major.

Miss MAJOR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to announce a brief Republican caucus tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. to conclude discussions on the amendments on the bills that we will be addressing tomorrow. That is, Republicans will caucus tomorrow morning at 9 a.m.

Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

VOTE CORRECTION

The SPEAKER. For what purpose does Representative Matt Smith rise?

Mr. M. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On HB 1474 I was recorded as a "yes" vote. I would like to be recorded as a negative vote on that particular bill.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Are there any other announcements?

HOUSE SCHEDULE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, Representative DeWeese.

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

On scheduling, one would have to be a soothsayer or a clairvoyant to figure out exactly how things are going to go the next few days. The challenge of any property tax dialogue is that it is exceptionally multifaceted and time-consuming. So there is no doubt that Wednesday and Thursday, with the amendments and the House traffic, will be very full for our chamber's endeavors. Friday is up in the air, but we are certainly going to push forward on some additional votes this week on property tax, and I just wanted to make certain that the members knew that, conceivably, we could be pushing further into the week.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Any other announcements?

VOTE CORRECTION

The SPEAKER. Representative Maher.

Mr. MAHER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On HB 1474 my vote was recorded in the affirmative. It should have been recorded in the negative. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman. His remarks will be spread upon the record.

STATEMENT BY MR. PETRI

The SPEAKER. Representative Petri.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, a point of personal privilege.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will state his point of personal privilege, or is he asking for unanimous consent?

Mr. PETRI. On unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to just make some brief comments about HB 652, which has passed unanimously.

The SPEAKER. If the gentleman will suspend.

Has the gentleman checked with the majority and minority leaders on his unanimous consent?

The gentleman is in order and may proceed.

Mr. PETRI. First of all, I just wanted to indicate for the record my strong support for HB 652, which was offered by Representative Mann, and congratulate her on her good work.

But, Mr. Speaker, I did want to make mention to the members so that they would be aware that the processing of claims for veterans, particularly with regard to property tax relief – as many members know, we passed legislation, which is law, which exempts our veterans, our disabled veterans, from paying school property taxes. Mr. Speaker, the delay in processing those forms is exceeding 6 months, and I think it is something that we, as members, ought to be aware of and ought to encourage the administration to immediately rectify. I find it highly unfair to our veterans and distasteful that they would have to wait for processing to that degree.

I would like to also note for the members, Mr. Speaker, that when asked why that circumstance exists, I was told they do not have enough employees. Mr. Speaker, this is an area where the State needs to employ enough people to get caught up on these applications, and it is something I urge my House members to support in addressing right away with the administration.

Thank you.

The SPEAKER. Are there any other members seeking recognition?

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative King from Bucks County, who moves that the House do now adjourn until Wednesday, January 16, 2008, 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 4:55 p.m., e.s.t., the House adjourned.