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LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2014

SESSION OF 2014

198TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 69

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House convened at 1 p.m., e.s.t.

THE SPEAKER (SAMUEL H. SMITH) PRESIDING

PRAYER

HON. JOHN A. LAWRENCE, member of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

Father, we come before You on this, the last session day of this year. We are mindful of the elections that took place last week, and that every contested race by necessity had someone who won and someone who lost. I pray that today You would be with both the one who prevailed and the one who fell short, and give each a double portion of Your grace, wisdom, and peace. And I thank You, Lord, that You have blessed us in this nation that we may participate in the democratic process, and vote for our preferred candidates at the ballot box.

Father, I thank You for the service of those whose term in this House has come to an end. I think particularly of Your servant, Sam Smith, whom You appointed as Speaker of this chamber for the past 4 years. I ask that You would richly bless him and his family in the days ahead, and that You would give him and the other members leaving this chamber today a special sense of Your presence.

I humbly ask You to direct the paths and give guidance to those who will occupy this chamber in the House here in the next session. I pray also for Governor-elect Wolf and our colleagues in the Senate. Father, give each of us wisdom in the days ahead as we tackle the difficult issues facing our Commonwealth, that we may pass laws and make decisions that are truly in the best interest of each resident of Pennsylvania.

Finally, Father, I ask You on this day after Veterans Day, to keep Your hand on each man and woman who has served this nation in the Armed Forces. I think particularly of those who have suffered physical or mental injuries, who came home from the battlefield deeply changed from when they left home. Help us to honor them in word and deed each and every day for their sacrifice and their service.

I ask this in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

JOURNAL APPROVAL POSTPONED

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the approval of the Journal of Wednesday, November 5, 2014, will be postponed until printed.

JOURNALS APPROVED

The SPEAKER. However, the following 2014 Journals are in print and, without objection, will be approved:

Tuesday, July 1;
Wednesday, July 2;
Wednesday, July 9;
Tuesday, July 29;
Wednesday, July 30;
Wednesday, September 10;
Monday, September 15; and
Tuesday, September 16.

Without objection, all Journals not now printed will be approved.

COMMUNICATION FROM DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The SPEAKER. The Speaker acknowledges receipt of the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority Annual Report for July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, as required by section 5 of Act 280 of 1982 as amended.

(Copy of communication is on file with the Journal clerk.)

RECESS

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

AFTER RECESS

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

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The Speaker turns to leaves of absence and recognizes the majority whip, who requests a leave of absence for the gentleman, Mr. MASSER, from Northumberland County for the day; the lady, Mrs. SWANGER, from Lebanon County for the day; and the gentleman, Mr. METZGAR, from Somerset County for the day. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

The Speaker recognizes the minority whip, who requests a leave of absence for the gentleman, Mr. CONKLIN, from Centre County for the day. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

SENATE MESSAGE**SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT 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 12, 2014

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate adjourns this week, the Senate adjourn sine die; and be it further

RESOLVED, That when the House of Representatives adjourns this week, the House of Representatives adjourn sine die.

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.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The Speaker returns to leaves of absence and recognizes the minority whip, who requests a leave of absence for the gentleman from Philadelphia County, Mr. Brendan BOYLE, for the day. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

Members will please report to the floor. We are about to take the master roll call.

MASTER ROLL CALL

The SPEAKER. The Speaker is about to take the master roll call. The members will proceed to vote.

The following roll call was recorded:

PRESENT—197

Adolph	Evankovich	Kirkland	Pickett
Aument	Evans	Knowles	Pyle
Baker	Everett	Kortz	Quinn
Barbin	Fabrizio	Kotik	Rapp
Barrar	Farina	Krieger	Ravenstahl
Benninghoff	Farry	Kula	Readshaw
Bishop	Fee	Lawrence	Reed
Bizzarro	Fleck	Longietti	Reese
Bloom	Flynn	Lucas	Regan
Boback	Frankel	Mackenzie	Roae
Boyle, K.	Freeman	Maher	Rock
Bradford	Gabler	Mahoney	Roebuck
Briggs	Gainey	Major	Ross
Brooks	Galloway	Maloney	Rozzi
Brown, R.	Gergely	Markosek	Sabatina
Brown, V.	Gibbons	Marshall	Saccone
Brownlee	Gillen	Marsico	Sainato
Burns	Gillespie	Matzie	Samuelson
Caltagirone	Gingrich	McCarter	Sankey
Carroll	Godshall	McGeehan	Santarsiero
Causar	Goodman	McGinnis	Saylor
Christiana	Greiner	McNeill	Scavello
Clay	Grell	Mentzer	Schlossberg
Clymer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schreiber
Cohen	Hackett	Miccarelli	Simmons
Corbin	Haggerty	Micozzie	Sims
Costa, D.	Hahn	Millard	Smith
Costa, P.	Haluska	Miller, D.	Snyder
Cox	Hanna	Miller, R.	Sonney
Cruz	Harhai	Milne	Stephens
Culver	Harhart	Mirabito	Stern
Cutler	Harkins	Miranda	Stevenson
Daley, M.	Harper	Molchany	Sturla
Daley, P.	Harris, A.	Moul	Tallman
Davidson	Harris, J.	Mullery	Taylor
Davis	Heffley	Mundy	Thomas
Day	Helm	Murt	Tobash
Dean	Hennessey	Mustio	Toepel
Deasy	Hickernell	Neuman	Toohil
DeLissio	James	O'Brien	Topper
DeLozier	Kampf	O'Neill	Truitt
DeLuca	Kauffman	Oberlander	Turzai
Denlinger	Kavulich	Painter	Vereb
Dermody	Keller, F.	Parker	Vitali
DiGirolamo	Keller, M.K.	Pashinski	Waters
Donatucci	Keller, W.	Payne	Watson
Dunbar	Killion	Peifer	Wheatley
Ellis	Kim	Petrarca	White
Emrick	Kinsey	Petri	Youngblood
English			

ADDITIONS—0**NOT VOTING—0****EXCUSED—5**

Boyle, B.	Masser	Metzgar	Swanger
Conklin			

The SPEAKER. One hundred and ninety-seven members having voted on the master roll call, a quorum is present.

If I could have the members' attention. I would appreciate your courtesy.

I know it has been a long day for everybody and really, beyond the leadership elections in both caucuses, the only other real order of business is to provide an opportunity for a couple of farewell speeches.

FAREWELL ADDRESS BY MR. PAINTER

The SPEAKER. With that, I would appreciate the members' attention and would invite to the rostrum the gentleman from Montgomery County, Mr. Painter.

Mr. PAINTER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

What do you know, Mr. Speaker, I made it to the podium after all. Seriously, have you seen this thing? It is like the bridge of the starship Enterprise up here.

My fellow members in the House, I am going to ask you to indulge me for a moment. I want to tell you a story about the worst day of my life.

The worst day of my life was 25 years ago. It was the day the doctors told my wife and me that our little boy, Mark, Jr., whom we gave my name, had autism, was severely disabled, and would never be able to live independently. For a person of faith that is a very difficult moment. It calls a lot of what you believe into question.

We were a clergy family. My wife is a minister. And it is not right to think, perhaps, but you think, my family has already made a lot of sacrifices for the Lord, the little boy included; do we really have to carry this burden too?

But you know, the next thing that happened was that we started looking through the paperwork and learning about MH/MR (mental health/mental retardation) and base service units and IEPs (individualized education programs) and the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), and I said to myself, "You know, I am a lawyer and I can barely figure this out. What do parents who are not lawyers do?" And from that seed of a thought grew an idea. And I began to practice law in the area of special education, and from there I moved into disability advocacy, and from there I moved into politics, and from there I moved into elected office and from there I moved to where I am standing today.

Twenty-five years ago it was so confusing. I look back at it now, and I see a straight line from that day to this day; a line so straight and true that it might have been drawn by an architect, and you know, I think it was.

I have had a wonderful 2 years in this body. This is the only job I ever had where I looked forward to coming to work. This is a beautiful building that we get to work in. It has been a great pleasure working with all of you. It has been a great pleasure working with the staff.

I had wonderful L.A.s (legislative assistants), both here and in my district office. I would like to thank them. I would like to thank my wife, Coleen, and my family. I would like to thank my friends, my supporters, my constituents, and God for sending me here.

What happens next in my life, I have no idea. But then, let us be honest, you do not either. To be perfectly frank, to those of you who are going to serve in the next session, I do not particularly envy you.

But you know, although I do not know what is going to happen next in my life, I am confident about one thing. I am confident that 25 years from now, when I look back on this

moment, I will see a straight line connecting this moment to where I am 25 years from now, and I will say that is a line so straight and true it had to have been drawn by an architect, and I think it was.

I thank all of you, and God bless all of you.

The SPEAKER. Representative Painter, those were very wonderful remarks and heartfelt, and it certainly speaks to your passion in life and your respect for God and this country that we are so honored and privileged to live in.

COMMEMORATIVE GAVEL PRESENTED

The SPEAKER. Allow me to present you with a commemorative gavel to mark your service in the House of Representatives, and may those next 25 years be as you foresee them to be, a straight line, and this does not fall into one of the bad days of your life, but one of the great days. God bless you.

FAREWELL ADDRESS BY MR. MIRABITO

The SPEAKER. I would like to invite the Representative from the 83d Legislative District in Lycoming County, Representative Mirabito, to the rostrum.

Mr. MIRABITO. Thank you. Boy, it has been a long day.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks to all the members with whom I have been privileged to serve.

You know, when I was a young boy I had a dream one day to serve in elected office, and when life took me away from my native New York, I did not think that would happen, but as often happens in life, I have been blessed a thousand times over.

Many of you know I lost my father at a very young age, but I was blessed with a wonderful mother and four siblings who taught me so much about life growing up, and to them I say thank you.

And I was blessed again when I moved to Williamsport and I met my wonderful wife, Sara, who was with us here today until the final hour, and we got married, and to her I say a million thanks. We did this together, and I could not have done it without her. And thanks to her parents and her family too.

And then I was blessed again at a late age when we had our son, Rocco, whom many of you may remember as an infant on this floor 4 years ago, and so I say to Rocco, I will be around more often now.

One of my greatest blessings was having the privilege to serve the people of Lycoming County for 6 years. I have always said, this is a great job if you love people and you love to learn, because you get to do both. So I want to thank all the people of Lycoming County for giving me the privilege to serve you.

And thanks to my fantastic staff: Tonya Anderson, Stacie Elliftawi, Kristi Marshall, and Jeannie Kosier, and all the staff here who do the research, help us communicate, fill in as temps, make sure we have offices that work, and enable us to do our jobs. They are the quiet heroes who do so much to make our offices shine.

And my thanks to all of you, my colleagues, on both sides of the aisle. I would like to say thanks to so many members, but there is really not enough time.

One member I do want to thank is Mike Hanna. He was a mentor to me from the beginning and he really helped me do my job.

And also to Mark Longietti. Mark and I were law school colleagues 25 years ago, and we became colleagues again in the House of Representatives. I want to thank him for his friendship too.

So to all of you, thanks for the privilege of serving in this great institution. Arrivederci, au revoir, farewell, till we meet again.

The SPEAKER. Representative Mirabito, God bless you and hope that your future is bright and that you have enjoyed your time in this legislature. Certainly it is a challenge and a rewarding job in many ways.

(Commemorative gavel was presented.)

The SPEAKER. If I could have the members' attention.

FAREWELL ADDRESS BY MR. WHITE

The SPEAKER. I would invite the gentleman from Washington County, Mr. White, who would also like to make some parting remarks to the House of Representatives.

Mr. WHITE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And first, I would like to thank all of my colleagues and friends in the Democratic Caucus for being here with me for this important moment, I really appreciate it.

That might be everybody at this point; I am really not sure.

So I could not help but think of one of the first times I ever stood at this rostrum. I was a freshman; it was 8 years ago, and Denny O'Brien was the Speaker, and Tim Solobay and I had a baseball team from Canon-McMillan High School up here. They had won the State or WPIAL Championship. And we came up and, you know, we introduced everybody and they did their bit and everybody was standing in a row right here, and Tim Solobay was at the front and I was at the back, and Denny walked down and did the bit with everybody on the team. You know, "Congratulations on a great season," you know, the whole nine yards, and he gets to the end, he reaches over, shakes my hand and says, "Congratulations on a great season." I was like, okay; thanks; you know, I did what I could.

So I did not say anything. I did not want to embarrass anybody. So this was in the morning. We went to lunch, and when I came back from lunch and came up on the floor for session, I was standing in the back of the chamber and Denny was up here, and he looked back and he saw me, and I still have never been able to figure out, was he thinking, "Uh-oh, this guy was a Rep and I thought he was a high school baseball player," or was he thinking, "What the heck is that kid from the baseball team doing up here on the floor by himself?" I was never able to quite figure that out.

So I have been in office for 8 years, and it has definitely been a learning experience. When I came here, I was 28 years old and did not really know what I was doing on a lot of issues, and this is one of the best learning experiences that anybody could ever have. You learn about policy, you learn about politics, you learn about people, and you learn about different people with different points of view. And as time goes on, you find that you make some friends and you make some enemies. I was very good at both apparently.

But at the end of the day, I would have much rather served 8 years in my district fighting for the things I believed in than being here for 20 and never had the courage to say anything, and I think at the end of the day, that is what we are all here to do. We are all here to represent the people that elected us. And everybody's issues are different and everybody's challenges are different, and it is important that we have a mutual respect for those things.

I want to thank briefly my staff in my district, Nick Gerek, my Chief of Staff; Deb Colosimo; Camilla Cionni; Jeanne Vega; Debbie Sakovich; Dominic Lemmon, my L.A. up here, really just do a fantastic job for the people of the 46th District, and I would not have been able to do the last 8 years without them.

But as I leave here today, I could tell you that I am taking one of the best souvenirs ever with me. I met my wife here in this building and we have a beautiful, little 5-month-old baby, who is home with a cold right now, and the nice thing about this is, whenever we are done here tonight, I can go home and I can see him and I can be with him and I am not going to have to worry about all the challenges this job brings for a little while.

So I have not quite figured out what I am going to do next and where I am going to land next, but I am never going to forget the time that I spent here. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve with each and every one of you. It is something I will cherish forever. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. Representative White, those were very nice remarks and we appreciate your service in the House of Representatives and wish you well in your future endeavors as well.

(Commemorative gavel was presented.)

The SPEAKER. The House will be at ease for another minute or two. We are going to see if the Democratic Caucus can join us, but we are only going to wait a few more minutes.

The House will come to order.

I appreciate the members please taking their seats.

FAREWELL ADDRESS BY MR. SMITH

The SPEAKER. To begin with this evening, I wanted to take just one moment before I get into my remarks and ask the members to please recognize these people who work – some in the Speaker's Office, some in the Chief Clerk's Office, the Parliamentarian's Office – who serve us every day, and they are people that actually kind of make the wheels of this place turn, from the bill clerks and amendment clerks to the roll-call clerks to Kelly and Jen and the stenographers, the pages. Would all of you folks that work in those various offices, the Chief Clerk, the Parliamentarian's Office, my office, please rise and let me say thank you on behalf of the House of Representatives for your service to the House.

We recognize that often we take your jobs and your tasks for granted, and it is not meant to be that way, and we know that many of the things that we do from a mechanical side of this operation could not be done without your loyal and patient service to the House of Representatives, and we thank you.

I wanted to also— I have a fair number of friends and staff and colleagues over here that have joined me today, given this is my last day, but I only wanted to introduce a couple of people, and I do not mean that as a disrespect to the others, but given the time and the day and where we are, I did want to just mention a couple people.

First my wife, Donna Bruder-Smith, please rise.

We all know the importance of our family and our spouse in this job and how much they become a part of our own ability to do the job that we have before us, and my wife has been as supportive as many of your spouses have been to you, I am sure. She never really liked politics when we were first married, but now when we go to dinner, she is the last one out, she is the one that works the room more than I do probably. So I want to thank her and let her know how much I appreciate her support and love over all these years.

Next I wanted to introduce my son, Zach, who is a pretty good kid. If you talk to him and he says he is living the dream, he actually means it. Zach, please rise.

Zach got the nice gene from his mother. He is like my father; he is smart and he is well-liked and he is just a real easygoing guy.

My daughter, Alex, is married. She and her husband, Corey, live in Michigan, so I did not feel it necessary to prevail on them to give up a couple of days of their work life to come here, but I want to let the record reflect that my daughter, Alex, is here in the spirit of my heart.

A couple other quick friends over here. I just wanted to mention, because he is such a unique character, Larson, the bouncer at the Brick Haus.

And one other of my good friends from back in Punxsutawney, who has been napping half the day – with our fast-paced work, we put him to sleep today – Dave Osikowicz. Dave, please rise.

Of my staff, and we all are very appreciative of the people that work for us, but I really wanted to single out just one or two. First, this lady worked for my dad for 4 or 5 years before I was elected, and when I was first here, she could have gone and worked for an older member who was going to be a committee chairman, which would have meant she would have been able to be an executive director kind of thing or whatever with the committee and probably made a little more money, but she agreed to stay and work for me and that was a good thing because she knew the district, she knew some of the people. Debbie Parobek, I would like you to please rise and I want to thank you for your many years of loyal and selfless service to myself and to the people of my district. God bless you, Debbie.

You know, some of these people, they figure they had to put up with me all these years.

One other person who could not be here, I do want to mention her for the record, is Debi Meneely, who worked in my district office for me for 25 years, and she was kind of my mother, my sister, my boss, my conscience. She was all those things that we need in a district office person to kind of keep your feet on the ground and keep your going straight.

And last but not least, I wanted to acknowledge and thank my Chief of Staff, Tony Aliano. Tony, please rise. I know you are shy, but—

Tony has been a confidant, an adviser, and someone who has been a really good friend, and sometimes that is what you need in this business, someone who will tell you what you need to be told. And I thank you, Tony, for your years of service as well.

To get into my remarks, I wanted to reflect on something that I have talked about from time to time on some of these types of days, swearing-in day or whatever, and it is something that I have referred to as "the collective wisdom." And I have handed something that is – I put the title "Collective Wisdom" on there, but it is actually the Constitutional Convention Speech presented by Benjamin Franklin, and it was on the last day of the Constitutional Convention, on Monday, September 17, 1787. And I hope that you will take time to read it, and if you can get beyond the eloquence of his words and his writing, there are several salient points that I think are worthy to bring out, and I direct these remarks to especially the members who will be serving in the next session.

The first point that I think is so important in this work of art that Benjamin Franklin crafted at the end of the Constitutional Convention, he makes the point about "...the Church of Rome is infallible and the Church of England is never in the wrong." The point being that each of us come here with our own views and we think we are right and we are entitled to think we are right, but as he goes on, he laments a little bit about that fact and that maybe that is not always the way it is.

And he later says, "For when you assemble a number of men to have the advantage of their joint wisdom, you inevitably assemble with those men, all their prejudices, their passions, their errors of opinion, their local interests, and their selfish views." And if that does not speak to what the nature of this body is with the diversity of this State of Pennsylvania, that each of us come here with our prejudices, our passions, our errors of opinion, our local interests, and our selfish views, but that we must accept that as a part of this process, and ultimately, while Benjamin Franklin did not agree with everything in this proposed Constitution that was going to be taken back to the diverse Colonies, who all had their own special interests of their community – why they were here, how they were created, how they evolved into the beings that they were as the respective Colonies – he came to the conclusion that sometimes you have to give a little bit and accept what is really good, and it is generated by that – he referred to it as "joint wisdom"; I refer to it as "collective wisdom."

And he makes another point that I think is also equally important. He says, "If every one of us in returning to our Constituents were to report the objections he has had to it, and endeavor to gain partisans in support of them, we might prevent its being generally received...." And with that, I oftentimes see in our world today, one of my phrases is that there are 101 ways to blow up a bill, there are only 1 or 2 ways to get one passed. If our focus is to only point out the faults, then we will be held in a state of inertia and unable to get anything done. And I hope as the members of this legislative body go forward that they can be mindful of that point that even our Founding Fathers, whom we hold in great esteem, they realized that you could not always wait for the perfect and that you had to be willing to give and take a little bit.

I should have mentioned, this speech was brought to my attention by Justice Saylor after an evening. From time to time, he and I would get together and just sort of talk about the issues of the day, and sometimes we would actually get into debating the Constitution. It is something I found a lot of fun in, debating the Constitution with Justices of the Supreme Court.

And I say that because I think it is important for us to recognize, and something that I hold as a strong element of what I love about this place, and that is that the legislature is a

coequal branch of government, and that just because I am a House member does not mean I cannot debate the Constitution with a Justice of the Supreme Court. And I hope that you as individual members recognize that, but understand there is a caveat to that.

The equal power of the legislative branch to our sister branches of government is not embodied in any one of us; it is embodied in that joint wisdom, that collective wisdom, of the House and the Senate – that is the legislature, and that if we want to exercise as a body that coequal power with the administrative and judicial branches of government, we can only do it when we come together and employ that collective wisdom to be our position, and therein lies the strength of the legislature.

I want to conclude with one other point, and it is really to answer a question that I am sure many of you have gotten from time to time from constituents or friends, and it is one of those where somebody would be talking to you about your job and what you do, and they will say, "I don't know how you do what you do. I don't know how you do that." And I have never really answered that question, but tonight I would like to do that.

I was fortunate enough when I first came to the House to have had my father immediately precede me, and my father was well-liked, he was trusted, and he was respected. So when I arrived in this House, I was sworn in in January of 1987, I was temporarily afforded a lot of that respect and trust that had been my father's, both from the members and staff, from the various people that work around this town. I was afforded that on a temporary basis, and I say it was temporary because I still had to ultimately live up to that. I eventually had to earn it and maintain it, and I could only do that if I demonstrated that same level of trustworthiness, of honesty, of respect, and respect is a two-way street.

To that point, parenthetically, I would just say I want to thank you all for the respect that you have afforded me, in particular over these last 4 years as Speaker. It is very, very much appreciated.

And the tools that I employed to garner that respect, to build that trustworthiness, are just a couple of simple things.

One, it is something I have always kind of enjoyed and I call it the brutal truth. I have found it interesting around here sometimes when you tell somebody the brutal truth, they think you are not telling them the truth and they start spinning around in circles, chasing their tail, because they think what you told them is not exactly what you meant. And sometimes it was actually more fun to watch somebody assume you were misleading them when you were telling them the brutal truth, but it carries you a long way in this business.

The second, as I mentioned a few minutes ago, is respect; clearly a two-way street. Respect is something that you only get when you share it first.

The final tool that I have found to be so important and maybe I did not necessarily come here with this thought, but I certainly grew into it and leave here with this thought, and that is that it is very hard to do this job if you allow yourself to become ingrained with hatred. It is okay to maybe hate an idea, it is okay to hate an object, but it is not okay to hate another person.

And the flip side of hate is something that I have learned is the most important element of life and it is the most important element for each of us to share, and that is love. And I can say, while I do not necessarily like everybody in the room – there are some people I really do not want to maybe hang out with, in all

candor – but I do not hate, and in fact, I do love each and every one of you.

I hope that as the new session begins that you might reread Benjamin Franklin's speech that he had delivered to the Constitutional Convention. I hope that you will hold those principles that he espouses near and dear and try to live to them. And I hope that you might employ those tools that I just spoke of – of the brutal truth, of respect and love for your fellow man and woman of this body and of your communities. And with that, I know that this body will be a better place when you leave it than when you came.

God bless you all and my best wishes on a great session next year.

Thank you very much. All right. It has been a long enough day. Thank you very much. I appreciate that. Truly I have enjoyed this.

REMARKS BY MAJORITY LEADER

The SPEAKER. For what purpose does the gentleman from Allegheny County, Mr. Turzai, rise?

Mr. TURZAI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just on behalf of—

The SPEAKER. Are you speaking under unanimous consent?

Mr. TURZAI. I thought just the Speaker's consent.

The SPEAKER. I was debating whether I was going to deny the unanimous consent. I am just teasing, as you know.

The gentleman, Mr. Turzai, is in order.

Mr. TURZAI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Sir, you took this institution as Speaker, it had been under a cloud. You took leadership; you turned it into a positive direction. You brought order, decorum, civility, professionalism, and humor.

Many people oftentimes remark on service with other Speakers. I, for one, will remark on serving under you as Speaker.

You have been a steward of governing. I have seen you not only here but in many meetings, discussions, and negotiations, and you were always fair and levelheaded and principled, although you bring people together.

And, Sam, in your remarks about loving everybody, sometimes I think for me, personally, it has been some tough love, but that guidance is unbelievably appreciated. And in addition to your comment that you made about loving each and every person, neither of us wears our faith or religious beliefs on our sleeves, but you and I one time had a discussion and I made note of the open Bible on your desk, and you had said, you know, I do take a moment or two each day and read a verse, and I am sure that is why you are able to bring love to each and every one of us and some of that tough love to me.

Thank you very, very much for your great service.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Mr. Turzai.

REMARKS BY MR. HANNA

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER. For what purpose does the gentleman from Clinton County, Mr. Hanna, rise?

Mr. HANNA. To make some comments on your comments if they are in order.

The SPEAKER. I think we can put those in order.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. HANNA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Leader Dermody and the entire House Democratic Caucus, we want to congratulate you on your years of service and thank you and your family for the wonderful work that you have done, and we appreciate everything, and we wish you the best going forward.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Mr. Hanna.

REMARKS BY PARLIAMENTARIAN

The SPEAKER. Now apparently I have the honor to recognize the Parliamentarian for one of his rare speeches on the floor of the House, Mr. Myer.

Mr. MYER. I believe I heard the Speaker mention that he would rather recognize Representative Vitali than me but—

The SPEAKER. Steady.

Mr. MYER. During the 4 years that I worked with Speaker Smith, I have learned many things about him, including his superb knowledge of legislative issues and parliamentary procedure, and most of all his love for this House of Representatives.

In conjunction with Kelly Fedeli, John Dille, and Anthony Tezak, we have produced a short video showing a few of the highlights of the Speaker's outstanding 28-year career in the House.

(A video was presented.)

REMARKS BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Thank you very much. For once I do not have a real witty remark to make, I do not think.

Thank you. That was a great video. I do appreciate those of you that put that together. It brought back a lot of memories. I looked pretty young at one time.

Pardon the interruption there.

A couple of the folks that work for me wanted to present me with the actual gavel that I generally used up here, which to clarify it, one day we were in a nonvoting session and James was not here as Mace so Dave Thomas filled in for him. It was usually just a handful of people here – the clerks and all and the Parliamentarian and myself. We were doing the stuff we do on those nonsession days, whatever, just moving a couple of bills or referring bills or whatever it was, and I took the gavel, and when Dave Thomas would stand here, he would always jump every time I would hit it. You would think it was a surprise. So I used to really like to ring it hard when he was standing there. And I came down as hard as I could, I hit the gavel, and the head of the gavel came off and in like slow motion it twirled over his head, like grazing the top of his head, and the only thing bad about it was that it was not caught on video. So I was confirming this was that gavel. So thank you all.

REMARKS BY MINORITY LEADER

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny County, Mr. Dermody.

Mr. DERMODY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I apologize. We had some discussions upstairs that took longer than we had anticipated. But thankfully they have ended. And we do, I feel very badly that we were not able to be here for most of this, and I do not want to take the members' time, but I do want to say that it has been an honor and a pleasure for me to serve with you all these years. I think you have done a great job as the Speaker.

We were talking about how decisive you have been in your rulings. We may not have always agreed with your decisiveness; however, I believe that it was a great job, a fair job.

On behalf of the caucus and myself, I want to say thank you, God bless you, and good luck.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Mr. Dermody. I appreciate that very much.

CALENDAR

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER

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

SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Seeing no further business, I now declare this regular session of 2014 of the House of Representatives adjourned without day.