

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019

SESSION OF 2019

203D OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 8

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

THE SPEAKER (MIKE TURZAI) PRESIDING

PRAYER

HON. FRANCIS X. RYAN, member of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

May I ask that we all bow our heads in prayer.

Grant, gentle Father, that Your spirit may give us the will and the courage to act to make a difference in order to make real Your kingdom among us so that we may all live together in peace, truth, justice, and love for all Pennsylvanians – the elderly, the disabled, veterans, the young, children, those born and unborn.

Lord, show us clearly what our duty is. Help us to be faithful in doing it. May we all do what is done, done well, and fit for Thine eye to see. Give us enthusiasm to attempt and the patience to perform. Lord, guide me, teach me, strengthen me till I become such a person as Thou would have me be – pure and gentle, truthful and high-minded, brave and able, courteous and generous, dutiful and useful.

In Your name we pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

The SPEAKER. The Sergeants at Arms will open the doors of the House.

All members, please take your seats. We do have a presentation to make, and we are going to be on time for the Governor's address.

JOURNAL APPROVAL POSTPONED

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the approval of the Journal of Monday, February 4, 2019, will be postponed until printed.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES, CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND TABLED

HB 51, PN 357 (Amended)

By Rep. RAPP

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing for medical assistance deemed eligibility program for home care, home health and older adult daily living services.

HEALTH.

HB 81, PN 358 (Amended)

By Rep. RAPP

An Act providing for certification of central service technicians; imposing continuing education requirements on central service technicians; providing for duties of hospitals and ambulatory surgical facilities and the Department of Health; and regulating the practice of surgical technology and surgical technologists.

HEALTH.

HB 128, PN 359 (Amended)

By Rep. HELM

An Act providing for the establishment of first-time home buyer savings accounts for first-time home buyers in this Commonwealth.

URBAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

The SPEAKER. The Republican members of the Committee on Committees have met and have indicated the following.

The following report was read:

Committee on Committees
Supplemental Report

In the House of Representatives
February 5, 2019

RESOLVED, That

Representative Jeff Wheeland, Lycoming County, resigns as a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Representative Clint Owlett, Tioga, Bradford, and Potter Counties, is elected a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Stan Saylor, Chairman
Committee on Committees

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

CORRECTION OF THE RECORD

The SPEAKER. We to have to make one change in the record from yesterday. HB 370 was inadvertently referred to the Transportation Committee. The bill needs to be referred to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. HB 370 is referred to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. The Journal will be corrected to reflect that change.

At this time I would like all members to take their seats. We have guests that have traveled close to 4 hours to be with us today. Everybody on the sides, please take a seat. All members, come onto the House floor and take your seats.

The Sergeants at Arms will close the doors of the House. I would ask all members to come onto the House floor. The Sergeants at Arms will please have everybody take their seats and close the doors of the House. All members, please take your seats.

Would the Sergeants at Arms please bring up the North Allegheny Volleyball Team and just come straight here. I think we will be able to get the coach and the team, if the captains and the coach can come up here to this part and then the rest of the players right in the well of the House, please. So captains and the coach, please come up. Would everybody please take their seats. All members, please take your seats. Staff, please take your seats.

NORTH ALLEGHENY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM PRESENTED

The SPEAKER. I am so proud to stand here today to congratulate the North Allegheny High School Girls Volleyball Team from my district, the 28th District. They are the State champions in girls volleyball, but it is even more than that. They had a second perfect season, which is an outstanding accomplishment. The Lady Tigers finished with a 23-and-0 record, including a victory over Bishop Shanahan to claim the PIAA AAAA State Championship. These outstanding athletes are carrying a 47-match winning streak into the upcoming season.

North Allegheny coach Heidi Miller – please raise your hand – has been recognized as Pennsylvania Coach of the Year. Under her guidance, the North Allegheny Volleyball Team has won two consecutive Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League, WPIAL – that is our region – and PIAA titles over the last two seasons.

Now, as I say your name, please raise your hand. I am going to say a few things about a couple of the players and then I will announce all the players. But the Tigers' feature setter and right-side hitter is Abby Miller. Abby, will you raise your hand. Abby, great. She was selected as the Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Volleyball Player of the Year, and she is just entering her senior

year and is the second player at North Allegheny to receive that distinction in the last 4 years. Your commitment to athletic and academic excellence is outstanding.

These are all outstanding students, by the way, not just great athletes. And it is not easy balancing your activities between school, homework, and practice. Dedication, determination, hard work, camaraderie, and some fun pay off big time.

As you know, it is never a solo accomplishment. As I state your name, please raise your hand. Hannah Montross, a junior; Malia Duffy, a junior – please raise your hand – Paige Morningstar, sophomore; I know Makenna Tuman, who is a sophomore, could not be here; Elianna Seaman, a junior; Allen Carmody is a senior, could not be here; Avery Tuman is a senior, could not be here; Kristen Chomos, a senior, could not be here; Paige Miller, sophomore; Anna Sprys is a senior; Abby Miller is a junior; Madison Beer, sophomore; Hannah Phillips, junior; Madison Curran, junior; Rachel Burton, freshman; Jadyn Perkins, freshman.

Volleyball is one of the most interactive sports. It is a game of certainly athletic skill but also intuition, imagination, improvisation, and is certainly a team sport. Their playoffs, they beat amongst others, and I think I have this right, in the playoffs from WPIALs to States included wins against Butler, Oakland Catholic, Baldwin, Erie McDowell, State College, Garnet Valley, and then of course in the championship game, Bishop Shanahan.

Please give them a round of applause. Thank you very much.

The Sergeants at Arms will open the doors of the House. We are going to be having the Governor come in here momentarily, so all members really need to take their seats on the floor. The Governor will be here shortly.

COMMUNICATION FROM GOVERNOR

REQUEST FOR JOINT SESSION

The Speaker laid before the House the following communication in writing from the office of His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Office of the Governor
Harrisburg

January 3, 2019

The Honorable Joseph Scarnati
President Pro Tempore
Senate of Pennsylvania
202 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3025

The Honorable Mike Turzai
Speaker
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
139 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2028

Dear Senator Scarnati and Representative Turzai:

If it meets with the approval of the General Assembly, I am respectfully requesting a Joint Session of the General Assembly on Tuesday, February 5, 2019. The purpose of this session would be to address the members of the House and Senate for the annual budget address, at a time that is convenient to the General Assembly.

Sincerely,
Tom Wolf
Governor

RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE TO ESCORT GOVERNOR

Mr. CUTLER offered the following resolution, which was read, considered, and adopted:

In the House of Representatives
February 5, 2019

RESOLVED, That the Speaker appoint a committee of three to escort the Governor to the Hall of the House for the purpose of attending a Joint Session of the General Assembly.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The SPEAKER. The Speaker appoints as a committee to wait upon the Governor, the lady from Dauphin County, Sue Helm; the lady from Northumberland County, Lynda Culver; and the gentleman from Montgomery County, Joe Webster. The committee will now proceed with the performance of its duties, which means they are going to go meet the Governor. So Representative Webster, Representative Culver, Representative Helm will proceed to go meet the Governor.

Steve Miskin, if you will please escort them to the Governor's Office – Representative Helm, Representative Culver, and Representative Webster.

HOUSE RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 63 By Representatives SNYDER, T. DAVIS, IRVIN, SCHLOSSBERG, MURT, JAMES, D. MILLER, HILL-EVANS, NEILSON, PASHINSKI, MILLARD, ULLMAN, GROVE, BERNSTINE, SAYLOR, DEASY, DeLUCA, BIZZARRO, MARKOSEK, SCHWEYER and McCLINTON

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee and the Joint State Government Commission to jointly conduct an audit and study on the compliance of nonrural telecommunication carriers with the Public Utility Code and high-speed broadband universal service deployment mandates and to report their findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives.

Referred to Committee on CONSUMER AFFAIRS, February 5, 2019.

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 24 By Representatives LAWRENCE, TURZAI, BERNSTINE, DUNBAR, HERSEY, IRVIN, JAMES, KAUFFMAN, KEEFER, MENTZER, MILLARD, B. MILLER, SAYLOR, SIMMONS and ZIMMERMAN

An Act amending the act of February 9, 1999 (P.L.1, No.1), known as the Capital Facilities Debt Enabling Act, in capital facilities, further providing for bonds, issue of bonds and notes, maturity and interest.

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, February 5, 2019.

No. 37 By Representatives BROWN, READSHAW, STEPHENS, SCHLOSSBERG, MILLARD, HILL-EVANS, HELM, McNEILL, MURT, STAATS, TOPPER, B. MILLER, FLYNN, McCLINTON, DeLUCA, RYAN, ISAACSON, STRUZZI, TOOHL, CARROLL, KORTZ, CIRESI, MULLINS, NEILSON, T. DAVIS, BIZZARRO, MARSHALL, BOBACK, GAYDOS and WARNER

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in licensing of drivers, further providing for learners' permits; in rules of the road in general, prohibiting use of interactive wireless communications devices, imposing penalties and establishing the Distracted Driver Awareness Fund; and, in operation of vehicles miscellaneous provisions, further providing for the offense of homicide by vehicle and for the offense of aggravated assault by vehicle.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, February 5, 2019.

No. 255 By Representatives MAKO, DUNBAR, JAMES, HELM, HILL-EVANS and ZIMMERMAN

An Act amending the act of June 19, 1931 (P.L.589, No.202), referred to as the Barbers' License Law, further providing for licensure of manager-barbers and barber-teachers.

Referred to Committee on PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, February 5, 2019.

No. 363 By Representatives LAWRENCE, TURZAI, BERNSTINE, DUNBAR, GROVE, IRVIN, KAUFFMAN, KEEFER, M. K. KELLER, MILLARD, B. MILLER, OBERLANDER, SIMMONS, TOEPEL and TOPPER

An Act providing a procedure for the approval of a lease-backed debt obligation.

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, February 5, 2019.

No. 370 By Representatives KLUNK, MOUL, RYAN, JAMES, ZIMMERMAN, MURT, MILLARD, LAWRENCE, BERNSTINE, PASHINSKI, KEEFER, SAYLOR, WHEELAND, CAUSER, WARNER, NEILSON, COX and LONGIETTI

An Act amending the act of June 30, 1981 (P.L.128, No.43), known as the Agricultural Area Security Law, further providing for purchase of agricultural conservation easements.

Referred to Committee on AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, February 5, 2019.

No. 371 By Representatives MURT, RYAN, SAMUELSON, LONGIETTI, McNEILL, JOZWIAK, MACKENZIE, HILL-EVANS, KORTZ, READSHAW, CALTAGIRONE, MILLARD, FREEMAN, CIRESI and SIMMONS

An Act amending the act of November 24, 2004 (P.L.1270, No.153), referred to as the Pennsylvania Amber Alert System Law, establishing the Pennsylvania Blue Alert System for the protection of the public and the apprehension of a person of immediate threat.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, February 5, 2019.

No. 372 By Representatives MURT, SOLOMON, ZIMMERMAN, KORTZ, READSHAW, MILLARD, BOBACK, SCHWEYER, HILL-EVANS, KAUFER, DeLUCA and CIRESI

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, further providing for the offense of aggravated assault.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, February 5, 2019.

No. 373 By Representatives BERNSTINE, RYAN, IRVIN, HICKERNELL, MILLARD, B. MILLER, KEEFER, SAYLOR, GROVE and MENTZER

An Act providing for public notice and access requirements for public works projects labor agreements.

Referred to Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, February 5, 2019.

No. 374 By Representatives EVERETT, SOLOMON, PASHINSKI, STURLA, LONGIETTI, MILLARD, INNAMORATO, SAYLOR and DeLUCA

An Act amending Titles 27 (Environmental Resources) and 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for Keystone Tree Fund; and, in registration of vehicles, providing for contributions to the Keystone Tree Fund.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, February 5, 2019.

No. 375 By Representatives GOODMAN, CALTAGIRONE, FITZGERALD, FREEMAN, HILL-EVANS, LONGIETTI, McNEILL, MILLARD, MURT, RAVENSTAHL, READSHAW, RYAN, SAINATO, SCHLOSSBERG, SOLOMON, WARREN, POLINCHOCK, McCLINTON and DeLUCA

An Act amending the act of August 26, 1971 (P.L.351, No.91), known as the State Lottery Law, in pharmaceutical assistance for the elderly, further providing for definitions.

Referred to Committee on AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES, February 5, 2019.

No. 377 By Representatives ISAACSON, A. DAVIS, FRANKEL, HILL-EVANS, NEILSON, SANCHEZ and SIMS

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous articles, further providing for sale or transfer of firearms, for duties of the Pennsylvania State Police and for altering or obliterating marks of identification and providing for destruction of confiscated or recovered firearms.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, February 5, 2019.

No. 378 By Representatives ISAACSON, CALTAGIRONE, DALEY, DONATUCCI, HILL-EVANS, McCLINTON, McNEILL, NEILSON, OTTEN, SANCHEZ and ZABEL

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous articles, further providing for persons not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell or transfer firearms, for restoration of firearm rights for offenses under prior laws of this Commonwealth, for licenses and for Pennsylvania State Police.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, February 5, 2019.

No. 381 By Representatives DIAMOND, BARRAR, DALEY, JAMES, KORTZ, MILLARD, NEILSON, SAYLOR, STAATS and ZIMMERMAN

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in miscellaneous provisions relating to operation of vehicles, further providing for accident reports by police.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, February 5, 2019.

No. 382 By Representatives DIAMOND, CALTAGIRONE, DeLUCA, JONES, KAUFER, KEEFER, METCALFE, RADER, RYAN, SAYLOR and STAATS

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, prohibiting the taxation of real property.

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, February 5, 2019.

No. 383 By Representatives DIAMOND, COX, JAMES, JOZWIAK, MILLARD and SIMMONS

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in collective bargaining, further providing for matters of inherent managerial policy.

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, February 5, 2019.

No. 384 By Representatives KAIL, MARSHALL, HERSHHEY, KAUFFMAN, MILLARD and ROTHMAN

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for classes of licenses.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, February 5, 2019.

No. 385 By Representatives SHUSTERMAN, SAPPEY, MURT, ROTHMAN, RYAN, ULLMAN, DERMODY, SNYDER, SOLOMON, MULLINS, McNEILL, WARREN, HILL-EVANS and DeLUCA

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in Commonwealth budget procedures, providing for general appropriation bill compensation suspension.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, February 5, 2019.

SENATE BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

The clerk of the Senate, being introduced, presented the following bills for concurrence:

SB 9, PN 43

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, February 5, 2019.

SB 113, PN 58

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, February 5, 2019.

THE SPEAKER. The Sergeants at Arms, if we need more chairs on the sides of the aisle for the guests from the Governor's Office, we are glad to, if we could just line up more folding chairs on the sides of the chamber for everybody to be seated.

I would ask at this time if all guests could please take a seat. All members, please take a seat.

At this time the executive staff, the First Lady, and the Cabinet are coming into the chamber. General. General. How are you, sirs? The Auditor General and the Attorney General have arrived into the chamber. I saw Congressman Perry entered the chamber. Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald. Philadelphia Mayor Kenney. Thank you for all being with us here today. Our State Treasurer, Joe Torsella, is here with us.

All members, please take your seats. We are going to be bringing the Senate in. So all members need to be seated, all guests need to be seated. Sergeants at Arms, please direct everybody to their seats. We are going to be closing the doors of the House shortly. All members must be seated. We are going to be closing the doors. You will miss the Governor's budget address. I apologize, but we need all members to be seated at this time. No standing in the hallways, please. You must take your seats. All members must take their seats. All guests need to be seated. Members, please take your seats. We are going to be bringing the members of the Senate into the chamber. All members need to be seated. Please close the back-left door of the House at this time. We are going to be closing the door at this time.

Representatives in the aisle, you must take your seats. Members, you must take your seats.

ARRIVAL OF SENATE

THE SPEAKER. We are inviting members of the State Senate into the chamber of the House. Please come in. The Sergeants at Arms, please come in. Members and guests, please rise to greet our friends from the Senate.

The Speaker recognizes the Sergeant at Arms of the House.

THE SERGEANT AT ARMS. Mr. Speaker, the Senate is now present in the hall of the House.

THE SPEAKER. Thank you, sir.

Welcome to our friends and colleagues from the State Senate.

We are going to ask everybody to please take their seats. All members of the House may now take your seats. All members of the House, please take your seats. We are going to be introducing

the Lieutenant Governor. All members, please take your seats at this time. All members, please take your seats. All members, please take your seats.

At this time the Speaker requests the Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Honorable John Fetterman, to now preside over the proceedings of the joint session of the General Assembly.

The President pro tem of the State Senate, the Honorable Joe Scarnati, is invited to be seated at the rostrum behind the Lieutenant Governor and then the Governor.

I would ask all members of the House and Senate to please take their seats as I now turn over the proceedings to the Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable John Fetterman.

JOINT SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (JOHN K. FETTERMAN) PRESIDING

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. This being the day and hour agreed upon by a concurrent resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives to hear an address by His Excellency, the Governor, the Honorable Tom Wolf, this joint session will please come to order.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ESCORTING GOVERNOR

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. The General Assembly will be at ease while it awaits the arrival of the Governor.

The General Assembly will come to order.

The Governor is entering the hall of the House. Members and guests, please rise.

The Chair recognizes the chairman of the committee to escort the Governor, the gentleman from Delaware County, Senator Killion.

Mr. KILLION. Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, members of the General Assembly, as chair of the committee to escort the Governor, I wish to report that His Excellency, the Governor, is present and prepared to address this joint session.

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. The Chair thanks Chairman Killion and the committee.

Members of the General Assembly, I now have the honor and privilege of presenting His Excellency, the Governor, the Honorable Tom Wolf, who will now address this joint session.

FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 BUDGET ADDRESS OF GOV. TOM WOLF

The GOVERNOR. Thank you, everybody.
Good morning.

Lieutenant Governor Fetterman; Speaker Turzai; President Scarnati; Leader Corman; Leader Costa; Leader Cutler; Leader Dermody; members of the General Assembly; invited guests, friends and family, and especially my wife, Frances; and of course, my fellow Pennsylvanians:

This is my fifth budget address, and for the last 4 years sitting over here to my left was Karen Coates. She was a trusted advisor to Speaker Turzai, a friend, a mother, a sister, a daughter, and a respected member of our community. And for the same 4 years, I would look out into this chamber and I would see Flo Fabrizio, Mike O'Brien, and Sid Kavulich. This year they are not with us. So let us all remember their lasting impact, their commitment to service, and carry forward in their memory.

Three weeks ago I had the honor of taking the oath of office for another term as Governor. I spoke of a Commonwealth on a comeback – a Pennsylvania on a path to a more functional government, a more prosperous economy, and a brighter future for our children. The people of our Commonwealth have proven that, despite the challenges we face, Pennsylvania remains a place worthy of its history – a place where people can find good work, strong communities, and opportunity for their children. And here in Harrisburg we have proven that, despite our differences, we remain capable of doing what Washington just cannot seem to be able to do: tackle big challenges, put aside petty partisanship, and serve the public interest.

We must never forget that embedded in Pennsylvania's history is the fact that not one, but two noble experiments were launched here. First, there was William Penn's Holy Experiment. Second, the Founders launched their own experiment in self-government. Both of these are perpetual experiments. When we reaffirm our commitment to these experiments, we honor both our history and we honor those Founders. And we show our constituents that, whether they voted for us or not, we are making these experiments work right here and that our government is worthy of their trust. Now we have a chance to show that good faith once again. In proposing and debating this budget, we get to the heart of our perpetual experiment in self-government. We show the Founders and our constituents that we can govern ourselves.

So today I put forth my budget address. Let me cut to the chase. This proposal asks for no new taxes. At the same time, this budget proposes to do a number of things aimed at improving the lives of our fellow citizens. The people of Pennsylvania have made substantial sacrifices in recent years to help our State get up off the mat, and despite a budget that asks for no new taxes, we now have a chance to continue making some important new investments on their behalf: Investments in our schools. Investments to make sure more Pennsylvanians of all ages have real choices when it comes to their health-care decisions. Continued investments to reinforce our commitment to the battle against the opioid epidemic that has claimed the lives of so many of our neighbors. Investments to support our farmers and agricultural producers so they can continue to sustain our rural communities for generations to come.

In the coming weeks, we will have the chance to discuss, debate, and negotiate the details of this budget. And I am going to ask for your partnership in ensuring that this important work continues and that we maintain our commitment to advancing this experiment in self-government.

My administration has worked hard to make these investments possible, striving to run our government not just more ethically, but more efficiently, so that it is worthy of the public trust and it is capable of advancing the public interest. We have saved billions of taxpayer dollars and reduced the number of State employees – without furloughs, and all the while improving customer service. We have gotten rid of facilities. We have gotten rid of leases that we do not use or need while consolidating Commonwealth operations within the Capitol Complex. We have

made the procurement process smarter and more efficient. And we will continue to look for ways to streamline government so we can invest in the things that matter most to Pennsylvanians while at the same time serving them better.

Today, however, I want to focus on the most significant element of this budget proposal – a comprehensive plan for preparing Pennsylvanians to compete, and win, in our rapidly changing economy; a plan to create a new generation of prosperity in our Commonwealth by building the strongest workforce in the nation. The credit for our economic success has always belonged to the people of Pennsylvania, the innovators who turned new ideas into new industries, the business leaders who built great companies large and small, and the working women and men who toiled in the fields and mines and factories – not to mention the research labs, the classrooms, and the cubicles. There is a reason Pennsylvanians know names like Carnegie and Hershey and Westinghouse – and a reason why we believe so strongly in the power of our work ethic and the importance of individual responsibility. That is who we are.

But in the background, government has been there working on our behalf: building canals and highways so manufacturers could get their goods to market, protecting the integrity of the marketplace to ensure fair competition, and helping to unlock the potential offered by our abundant resources. In the end, however, our most important economic resource has always been our people. It has always been workers that have propelled our prosperity. And that is why we have always made sure to invest in public schools and universities and training centers, because the path to prosperity begins with an educated workforce. That is as true today as it has always been.

But while that principle remains intact, a lot about our economy has changed. New businesses. New industries. New technology. New competition. And with all that, we have found a need for new skills.

Over the last 4 years Pennsylvania has created more than 12,000 new businesses and more than 239,000 new jobs. We have begun to match and advance beyond our neighbors. Now it is time for us to really pull ahead.

Today I present a comprehensive plan to help grow our economy by continuing to invest in our workforce. This plan calls on contributions from the business community, labor unions, educators, research institutions, students, parents, and adult workers. And it increases opportunity for every Pennsylvanian at every stage of life – from birth to retirement. I am proposing a package of policies and investments called the Statewide Workforce, Education, and Accountability Program. It is the next step we can take together to build on all of the work we have done over the past 4 years.

Consider just how far we have already come. We have made Pennsylvania a leader in computer science education by establishing a workforce development initiative that invests in computer science and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education programs for our K through 12 students. We have increased the number of career and technical education students earning industry-recognized credentials by 34 percent and we have increased the number of credentials earned by those students enrolled in career and technical education programs by 27 percent. We have provided high school students options to demonstrate graduation readiness as alternatives to high-stakes standardized testing. We have increased participation to nearly 800 registered apprenticeship programs and almost 17,000 active apprenticeships. And we have

assisted nearly 3,000 companies in training more than 145,000 incumbent workers across the Commonwealth to help employees develop new skills to thrive in their jobs.

But we know that there is more to do. When Amazon made its decision to locate its second headquarters somewhere other than Pennsylvania, it cited workforce concerns as a main reason. And in western Pennsylvania, we struggle to find Pennsylvanians to fill the jobs as welders and pipefitters at the Shell Cracker Plant. Across the Commonwealth we have workers aging out of our workforce, and too often the next generation of workers is simply not there or does not have the skills to replace them. If we cannot strengthen our workforce, we are going to fall behind. And we cannot let our government's response to this problem be handcuffed by stale habit. We need to continue to break down silos. We need to inject our efforts with common purpose. And we need to make sure that, as leaders, we are providing direction and giving teeth to our workforce development efforts. That is why we are going to do something a little different.

Starting immediately, we are going to put together a Keystone Economic Development and Workforce Command Center. Agency Secretaries are going to meet each week with plans in hand and sit together to make sure no workforce effort walks alone or falls through some crack in State government. If the Department of Community and Economic Development knows that a company needs 20 welders and the Department of Labor and Industry has a welding program, we are going to connect them. Those connections within State government are valuable and necessary.

But we also need to hear from businesses and from labor. Not just when they are upset, and not just when we tour a facility in a hard hat. We need to hear from them constantly. We need to know when there is a problem so that we can fix it right away. If a labor union is having trouble establishing a training program because of antiquated procedures, then we need to fix it. We need to get those workers trained and into the workforce. If a business cannot hire a worker because of an out-of-date or unnecessary rule or regulation, we need to know about it so that we can take action. If medical professionals are concerned about a licensing backlog, they need receptive ears in State government.

We are also not going to try – thank you – and we are also not going to try to solve every workforce problem on our own. The command center will have a first-of-its-kind Employer Fund, a public-private partnership that empowers businesses to address the skills gap from their end and encourages them to share their best ideas and best practices so that we can scale them up and learn from their success. After all, government does not have a monopoly on good ideas for addressing these challenges, but it can serve as an incubator for the best ones and a partner for putting them into action.

The command center is going to be led by the Secretaries of the Departments of Community and Economic Development, Labor and Industry, and State – three agencies that have the largest impact on Pennsylvania's workforce and business development. We are also going to bring outside voices in. My friends Gene Barr and Rick Bloomingdale will also be cochairs. They cochaired my Middle Class Task Force, which helped launch many of the workforce development ideas we implemented last year and that I am proposing to build on in this plan. And they will be joined by Tony Bartolomeo of Team PA and Auditor General Eugene DePasquale, who has worked – both of them have worked on these issues and will have important recommendations.

But again, we need to do more. We need policies that start at the very beginning and end with every Pennsylvanian receiving an excellent education and the opportunity to land a good job.

Last year I convened a Ready To Start Task Force, charging it with finding ways to improve the lives of children under 3 and their families. I know that no new parent looks at their baby and sees a spreadsheet, but the fact is that preparing our kids for success starts long before they ever enter a classroom or even before they take their first steps. And providing services for children helps to get parents into the workforce and to fight poverty. That is why this new program includes funding for home visits to support vulnerable pregnant women, new mothers, and at-risk infants and toddlers. Home visiting programs promote healthy relationships and safe and stable home environments. They are proven to work in preventing adverse childhood experiences, giving children and their parents the skills they need to reach their full potential and lift families out of poverty and into good jobs.

You know, we already have programs like this working here in Pennsylvania. Misericordia University is home to one of only eight programs in the entire country that helps single mothers who are struggling economically to complete a college degree. The program provides counseling, housing, and other services to help mothers get into the workforce. We plan to replicate this innovative job training program all across the Commonwealth. And this program leverages Federal funds to improve our child-care system so we can get more kids off of waiting lists and into high-quality support systems and help more parents make their way into the workforce.

Pennsylvania's children deserve every opportunity to succeed when they enter our public school system. And they deserve to enter a public school system that is not just adequate, but world-class. Restoring \$1 billion in funding to our schools was an important first step. But now we need to go further. We must continue to increase funding for education, starting with pre-K and culminating at the end of a student's journey. But that is not all. It is time to lower the age of compulsory attendance to age 6, bringing our Commonwealth into line with the vast majority of other States in this country. And we should consider going even further, with a careful study of the costs and benefits of universal free full-day kindergarten for every 5-year-old in Pennsylvania. Meanwhile, we should increase the minimum dropout age to 18 and partner with school districts to keep our graduation rate rising.

Of course, no Governor, no legislator can do more for a child than a teacher can. And my program empowers teachers to do even more through a program called TeacherWORKS that provides them with workplace experience in Pennsylvania businesses so they can better understand the needs of employers. We ask a lot of our teachers. And if we are going to prepare the next generation of Pennsylvanians for the jobs of the future, we are going to be asking even more of those teachers, including more training and more accountability.

Teachers, on the other hand? They just want safe schools to work in, they want support from their administrative staff, and they want a fair wage for the important work they do. That is not asking a lot. But the law governing teacher pay actually has not been updated in Pennsylvania since the 1980s. And so our classroom teachers have too often been getting the short end of the stick. I do not think anyone here in Harrisburg would say that we should not value the contributions our educators have made over the last 30 years, and I do not think anyone would disagree

that they have a critical role to play in securing our prosperity in the next 30. And yet our government has failed to address this injustice. That has to end now. My plan increases the pay floor for teachers to \$45,000 a year. This is a real investment in our future. It is an investment the State, not local school districts, will make and it is included in this budget. This is a fully funded mandate.

We are also going to start competing to recruit and retain the very best educational professionals, not just in well-funded suburban schools, but in every community, every ZIP Code (Zone Improvement Plan Code) of our Commonwealth. This could be a game-changer for our schools, especially in our communities that are struggling to attract and retain the next generation of educators. In fact, most districts that cannot afford to pay their teachers more are located in the heart of rural Pennsylvania, and it is time to make sure we are investing in educators in those areas today so that we can prepare the kids in those school districts for the competitive world of tomorrow.

We are also going to do more to recruit students – ambitious, brilliant, creative young women and men who are looking for the next step in their education. Our Commonwealth is blessed with a terrific system of colleges and universities, including, I would say, community colleges. We all know that our postsecondary institutions are laboratories for innovation. But they are also launchpads for job creators and the skilled workers that will fill those jobs. And that is why my plan creates a new grant program for students who graduate from a Pennsylvania community college with an associate's degree or other industry-recognized credential and then stay in Pennsylvania to start their careers. If you are willing to put your newly acquired skills to work here in our Commonwealth, the least we can do is help you avoid carrying around a crushing burden of student debt.

And if you are a parent who wants to trade up from a job that pays the bills to a job that can sustain your family, my plan includes a Parent Pathway initiative designed to help you get the education you need to get ahead even while you prepare your own kids for success. Indeed, my workforce program is not just about the jobs of tomorrow. It is about the jobs of today.

Last year we launched PAsmart – a comprehensive, new initiative focusing on STEM skills, apprenticeships, career counseling, and public-private partnerships. No matter how old you are, now is a great time to acquire new skills, and we want to make that opportunity available to every single Pennsylvanian. As part of the PAsmart initiative, we just launched a new Web site, pasmart.gov, that consolidates workforce resources and information for Pennsylvanians who want to get the training and education to enter the workforce or expand their skills. It is similar to the Business One-Stop Shop we built last year and that we are still improving upon. We need comprehensive digital portals for both businesses and workers that gets them all the information they need in one place and that breaks down agency barriers.

This year I am proposing \$10 million in new funding for PAsmart so we can fill more advanced manufacturing positions, we can help more nontraditional students obtain the training they need to compete in the job market, and create more jobs at better wages for more Pennsylvania workers.

This program also includes funding to help returning veterans get the training they need to continue their contributions to our Commonwealth as members of our workforce, and even better – and even better, that funding is transferable, meaning that

veterans can use it to help their children get a college degree or career credential as well. It is a GI bill for Pennsylvania.

One more thing. We cannot comprehensively address our workforce development system without fixing our criminal justice system. Tens, tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians are shut out of our workforce or they are underemployed because of mistakes they made in their past. Families are being denied providers. Employers are being denied skilled workers. We have already passed clean slate legislation right here, making us the very first State in the country to do so. But we need to go further. We need to make our criminal justice system more equitable and fair while helping people who have made amends enter the workforce. Indeed, even as we work on this budget, we also have to improve reentry programs and make it easier for those who have done their time to succeed in the workforce and in their daily lives.

Our challenge demands an all-hands-on-deck approach. And this budget proposal itself asks Pennsylvanians to come together – business leaders, educators, students, workers – to address the challenge of renewing our prosperity for another generation.

In my inaugural address, I asked us to do our best right here in Harrisburg, to do two things: first, of course to ensure that the interests of all Pennsylvanians are reflected in the policies we pursue, but second, to show the world that Pennsylvanians know how to make representative democracy work. This budget is the embodiment of that noble effort. It asks for no new taxes, no new burdens on our citizens, while at the same time increasing dramatically our investments in the public goods that will make life better for all Pennsylvanians.

This budget recognizes that government should not try to do everything; we have a long-held faith in our tradition of limited government and individual responsibility. But it also recognizes that government should not do nothing either. The public goods government invests in should make the lives of our fellow citizens better; public goods that give Pennsylvanians the skills they need to thrive in our 21st-century economy; public goods that promote their safety and their health; public goods that connect them more seamlessly with each other; public goods that keep our air and our water clean.

That is what this budget aims to do. It makes investments in workforce readiness; in our early childhood system, our schools, our universities, our community colleges, our apprenticeship training programs. It makes investments in ensuring that Pennsylvanians of all ages have real choices when it comes to their health care. It continues to prioritize the fight against the opioid epidemic that has destroyed the lives of so many of our friends and neighbors.

But above all else, this budget proclaims to the world that right here in Pennsylvania we do not indulge in the sterile politics of anger and insult; that here we know how to engage in the respectful and honest give-and-take that must stand at the heart of a functional democracy. While the rest of this country, and indeed the rest of the world, descends into divisive, nasty, and unproductive bouts of shouting, we are showing everyone else right here in the heart of democracy how democracy is supposed to work.

So this our challenge. It is not just about yet another annual budget, it is about our democracy. Let us show the world, along with the rest of our country, that right here in Pennsylvania we are making this experiment work; that we are rededicating ourselves to this noble experiment in democratic

self-government. Let us show that in the way we tackle the challenge of preparing our Commonwealth for a brighter future, starting with this budget.

This – and no less than this – is our task. This is also our privilege. May God bless us in this task. And may God bless the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Thank you.

JOINT SESSION ADJOURNED

The LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. The Chair asks the members of the House and visitors to please remain seated for just a moment while the members of the Senate leave the hall of the House.

The business for which this joint session has been assembled now having been transacted, this session is now adjourned.

THE SPEAKER (MIKE TURZAI) PRESIDING

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Members, I would just like to formally introduce Auditor General Gene DePasquale. Gene, if you do not mind. Auditor General Gene DePasquale, former House member. Attorney General Josh Shapiro. Attorney General Josh Shapiro, former House member. Our State Treasurer, Joe Torsella. Joe, thank you for being with us, Joe. Thank you so much. Congressman Scott Perry. Where is Congressman Perry? Scott Perry is back there in the back. Scott Perry. Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald. Where is the Allegheny County Executive? Rich, thanks for being with us, Rich. Thank you, in the back. And Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney. Where is Mayor Jim Kenney? Mayor Kenney, thank you so much for being with us today.

Also, I know the Governor formally introduced the First Lady, but First Lady Frances Wolf. Thank you so much for being with us today. Thank you very, very much. We are really honored.

And the wife of the Lieutenant Governor, Gisele Fetterman, is also with us. Please stand so we can introduce you to the House members. Thanks for being with us. Thank you.

MOTION TO PRINT PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT SESSION

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes the majority leader, who moves that the proceedings of the joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives on this day, the 5th of February 2019, be printed in full in this day's Legislative Journal.

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

The SPEAKER. At this time we will now be asking the First Lady, the Governor's executive staff, and the Cabinet members – all the Cabinet members are here as well; to the Cabinet members, thank you for being here – they will follow the First Lady out of the chamber. To all the department Secretaries, thank you so much for being with us today. Thank you.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. Members, the majority whip, Representative Kerry Benninghoff, requests leaves of absence for Representative Aaron BERNSTINE of Lawrence and Beaver Counties and Representative Martina WHITE of Philadelphia County for the remainder of the week.

There are no requests for leaves from the minority whip, Jordan Harris.

MASTER ROLL CALL

The SPEAKER. We are going to proceed to vote on the master roll. Please proceed to vote.

The following roll call was recorded:

PRESENT—195

Barrar	Flynn	Lewis	Readshaw
Benninghoff	Frankel	Longietti	Reese
Bizzarro	Freeman	Mackenzie	Rigby
Boback	Fritz	Madden	Roae
Borowicz	Gabler	Mako	Roebuck
Boyle	Gainey	Malagari	Rothman
Bradford	Galloway	Maloney	Rozzi
Briggs	Gaydos	Markosek	Ryan
Brown	Gillen	Marshall	Sainato
Bullock	Gillespie	Masser	Samuelson
Burgos	Gleim	Matzie	Sanchez
Burns	Goodman	McCarter	Sankey
Caltagirone	Gregory	McClinton	Sappay
Carroll	Greiner	McNeill	Saylor
Causer	Grove	Mehaffie	Schemel
Cephas	Hahn	Mentzer	Schlossberg
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Merski	Schmitt
Comitta	Harkins	Metcalfe	Schroeder
Conklin	Harris	Metzgar	Schweyer
Cook	Heffley	Mihalek	Shusterman
Cox	Helm	Millard	Simmons
Culver	Hennessey	Miller, B.	Sims
Cutler	Hershey	Miller, D.	Snyder
Daley	Hickernell	Mizgorski	Solomon
Davidson	Hohenstein	Moul	Sonney
Davis, A.	Howard	Mullery	Staats
Davis, T.	Innamorato	Mullins	Stephens
Dawkins	Irvin	Murt	Struzzi
Day	Isaacson	Neilson	Sturla
Deasy	James	Nelson	Thomas
DeLissio	Jones	Nesbit	Tobash
Delloso	Jozwiak	O'Mara	Toepel
Delozier	Kail	O'Neal	Toohil
DeLuca	Kaufer	Oberlander	Topper
Dermody	Kauffman	Ortitay	Ullman
Diamond	Keeler	Otten	Vitali
DiGirolamo	Keller, F.	Owlett	Walsh
Donatucci	Keller, M.K.	Pashinski	Warner
Dowling	Kenyatta	Peifer	Warren
Driscoll	Kim	Petrarca	Webster
Dunbar	Kinsey	Pickett	Wentling
Dush	Kirkland	Polinchock	Wheatley
Ecker	Klunk	Puskaric	Wheeland
Emrick	Knowles	Pyle	Williams
Evans	Kortz	Quinn	Zabel
Everett	Krueger	Rabb	Zimmerman
Farry	Kulik	Rader	
Fee	Lawrence	Rapp	
Fiedler	Lee	Ravenstahl	
Fitzgerald			

ADDITIONS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—6

Bernstine	Cruz	White	Youngblood
Brooks	Ellis		

LEAVES ADDED—2

Boyle	Rothman
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The SPEAKER. There are 195 members voting on the master roll. We have a quorum.

Members, we will call on the respective caucus chairs here in just a moment, but my understanding is there will be an Appropriations Committee, then caucus, then back to the floor. Both the leaders and both the Appropriations chairs, I believe, will be speaking in response to the budget when we come back to the floor.

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. The Chair calls upon the Appropriations chair, Stan Saylor, who will be providing us with a committee announcement. The majority Appropriations chair will be providing us with a committee announcement.

Mr. SAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Appropriations Committee will meet in the majority caucus room at 12:45. Again, the Appropriations Committee will meet at 12:45 in the majority caucus room.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Appropriations Committee will meet at 12:45 in the majority caucus room.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The majority caucus chair, Marcy Toepl, will be providing us with a majority caucus announcement.

Mrs. TOEPEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Republicans will caucus at 1 o'clock. Republicans will caucus at 1 o'clock. We would be prepared to return to the floor at 1:15.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Madam Chair.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Democratic caucus chair, Joanna McClinton, is recognized for a caucus announcement.

Ms. MCCLINTON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Democrats will caucus at 1 o'clock. We will be prepared to return at 1:20.

The SPEAKER. Thank you.

So we will be back on the floor, if we could, let us try to be here by 1:15 to 1:20; that is fine. I will be here at 1:15. When everybody arrives, we are going to start. Keep in mind that the leaders and the Appropriations chairs will be speaking on the

House floor when we return. So all members are requested to please be prompt, please be in your seats. The leaders and the Appropriations chairs will be speaking when we return.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. We are going to stand in recess until 1:15. Thank you very much.

AFTER RECESS

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

BILLS REREPORTE FROM COMMITTEE

HB 18, PN 38

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act authorizing the release of Project 70 restrictions on certain lands owned by the Borough of Topton, Berks County, in exchange for the imposition of Project 70 restrictions on other lands to be acquired by the Borough of Topton, Berks County.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 227, PN 197

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in nomination of candidates, further providing for number of signers required for nomination petitions of candidates at primaries.

APPROPRIATIONS.

The SPEAKER. I would invite all members to please come to the House floor. The leaders will not be speaking in response to the Governor's budget address, but the minority and majority Appropriations chairs, the respective chairs, will be. So I would ask all members to please come to the floor.

TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. As we wait, the majority chair of the Tourism Committee, Representative David Millard, is recognized for a committee announcement.

Mr. MILLARD. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just a reminder for the members of the House Tourism and Recreational Development Committee that tomorrow at 9 a.m. we will be having an informational meeting in G-50 Irvis Building, and the presentation will be from DCED's (Department of Community and Economic Development) Office of Marketing and Tourism.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Tomorrow at 9 a.m. there will be an informational meeting in G-50 Irvis Building.

Members are asked to be seated. The Sergeants at Arms will close the doors of the House.

STATEMENT BY MR. BRADFORD

The SPEAKER. And at this time the Chair invites the Democratic Appropriations chair, Representative Matt Bradford of Montgomery County, to present his remarks with respect to the Governor's budget address.

So I would ask everybody to please be seated. Both of the Appropriations chairs are entitled to be heard. Members, I am going to ask you to please be seated. If we could, if everybody could please take their seats.

Thank you, sir.

Mr. BRADFORD. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Good afternoon, and what a good afternoon it is. We had a great speech by our Governor. We are very thankful for his leadership of the last 4 years. He has brought Pennsylvania through very difficult times, and he deserves tremendous credit. After a decade of recession, Pennsylvania's economy is stronger than it has been in some time and we are able to do things that previously we were unable to because of budgetary constrictions.

As the new chairman, I want to thank my membership and our fellow leaders for the opportunity to come in front of you today. Having the opportunity over the last decade of seeing very difficult economic times under both Chairman Evans and Chairman Markosek, this is not a day that has come quick enough. There has been much pain and much trouble felt by the citizens and taxpayers of Pennsylvania.

But today we congratulate the Governor on a fifth budget address; a budget address that makes important investments, but also makes important challenges for the people of Pennsylvania. It is also for this body and for this Appropriations Committee the beginning of a very difficult conversation. Nobody should believe that what the Governor presented today is the end of that conversation. It is the beginning of a negotiation – a negotiation that will not be easy and has been shown over the last couple years as often arduous.

To our newer members, I would say compromise will be part of this deal. It must be. Much of what Governor Wolf has offered is a compromise to many of us, but we understand the difficult circumstances that he finds himself in, but we also realize that this is a Commonwealth on a comeback and his leadership has been instrumental in getting that done.

After seeing the impacts of education cuts that did so much harm to our local property tax payers and our local school districts, Governor Wolf has charted a different course, investing in education, K through 12 and pre-K, putting us in better shape for future generations. Yes, the Governor is right to make a comparison to what you see in DC, constant gridlock and bickering, shutdowns and fighting. No, Governor Wolf has shown us a different course, and in basic ed we should accept that course that is presented in front of us. No longer looking at a billion dollars in cuts, but a full restoration and actually seeing new money, new money going into education is a very important part of what Governor Wolf has laid out in front of us. But let us be clear, the issue of education is not just simply about new money. We must recognize that in Pennsylvania where so much of funding of education is done at the local level, that we have a patchwork of inequality that goes across so many of our school districts where township-line roads all across Pennsylvania determine the quality of education one may receive.

Now, let us be clear, the Governor's budget moves us in the right direction, but there is still far to go in the areas of education. In the areas of human services, Governor Wolf has shown a better

way. Rather than the slash and burn that we previously saw, we see smart investments and we see a recognition that welfare is an important part of our budget and we have an obligation, yes, a moral obligation, to look out for those who need it most.

But Governor Wolf is also wise. He is wise to realize that the most important government program is education. Education is lifelong education and that gets you to workforce development. Governor Wolf presents a budget that makes imperative investments in lifelong learning. His recognition that workforce development is part of moving Pennsylvania's economy forward is something that Democrats, Republicans, labor, and the chamber should all lock arms on. If we are serious about saying we recognize the importance of a good family-sustaining job, then we should get behind workforce development. And if we believe that there is dignity in work and if we stand up and say to those that everyone should work, then we should darn well pass a minimum-wage increase in Pennsylvania.

I recognize that this will be difficult for some, but the reality is, nearly 30 years after a meaningful increase in the minimum wage, time is long past to give our workers, those who provide services to our elderly parents, to our children, these folks deserve more than \$7.25, and let us be real, with salaries being what they are in this building and frankly throughout this Commonwealth, how do we with a straight face and a clean conscience tell people that if this economy is strong enough to do what we need to do in this budget, it is not strong enough to lift up the cast, the lot, of those who need an increase in minimum wage; \$7.25, simply put, is a poverty wage and it is beneath the right thing to do of this body. We need to do a minimum-wage increase yesterday.

Now, look, there is a lot of good news, and I am somewhat reluctant, but I believe I am compelled to mention that the challenges in our budget also must be tempered. The Governor has presented much and much will be debated, and as I mentioned before, compromise must be part of that. But we have structural challenges in our budget that persist, and those challenges will not go away in this budget. But we must begin to chart a course toward balancing revenues and expenditures, and that conversation must be holistic and comprehensive.

Governor Wolf deserves much credit for beginning that conversation and pushing us down that road. But we as a Commonwealth, as you may know, still after a decade have yet to pass a severance tax. I cannot believe 10 years later when we look at some of our structural challenges, our infrastructure challenges, our challenges in so many levels, that the Governor's very commonsense proposal to monetize the long-term revenue that will come from a severance tax, for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to invest \$4 1/2 billion in infrastructure – infrastructure that we all know has always had bipartisan buy-in – rural, urban, suburban, we are all going to be winners in the Governor's proposal for a severance tax for Pennsylvania.

Now, again, I circle back to where I started and I will conclude. There is much in this budget to be debated, but there are a few things – a minimum-wage increase, a severance tax for Pennsylvania – that frankly that debate is long over. That debate has been decided, and it is time for this body to do the right and responsible thing to balance our budget structurally and completely, and also to make investments in infrastructure. It is time we pass a severance tax. It is time that we increase the minimum wage.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

STATEMENT BY MR. SAYLOR

The SPEAKER. At this time the majority Appropriations chair, Stan Saylor from York County.

Mr. SAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The people of Pennsylvania want a fiscally responsible government here in Harrisburg that helps to promote a strong economy, not a government that continues to burden our job creators and our citizens by taking more of their hard-earned money and sending it here.

We have finally been presented a budget here today that we need to make sure is balanced, a budget that does not increase sales tax or income taxes, so I compliment the Governor on that. I think it is good that the Governor has finally joined our caucus in realizing the negative effects that tax increases have on Pennsylvania citizens and its businesses.

At first glance, the budget that the Governor just described seems to be a reasonable starting point for our budget negotiations. However, his budget proposal is a complicated document that will require a thorough vetting. The budget proposal spends more than the majority of our caucus is most likely interested in spending. So we will work together to craft a responsible budget with both sides of the aisle and the Senate and the Governor. Our focus needs to be on ensuring that the dollars we are spending are truly moving Pennsylvania forward. We should not be starting new initiatives or increasing spending just to check a political box.

In education we are glad to see the Governor has joined our caucus in understanding the need to focus on workforce development. Very soon this chamber will take up a piece of legislation, the multiple package, our Learn to Earn legislative package, specifically aimed at helping to improve our workforce development here in Pennsylvania and improve our work climate. In the vein of job creation, it is important that we recognize that agriculture is the largest industry in our State. The focus in this budget proposal on agriculture should be helpful in strengthening this important industry.

Our caucus has been the leader in funding education throughout Pennsylvania. Under House Republican leadership, funding for pre-K through 12 education has increased by \$3.4 billion since the Republicans took the majority in 2011. It is important that we continue to have a thoughtful conversation about the effectiveness of the dollars we spend in education. We should not simply be pumping more money into a system without having a results-oriented focus.

The Governor's proposal to increase the minimum wage in such a drastic fashion is a concern that I have and I think we all should have. Our focus should be on creating more family-sustaining jobs in Pennsylvania, and not continuing failed policies which lock hardworking men and women into entry-level jobs without any prospect of improving their economic circumstances. Minimum-wage jobs by their very nature are designed to be stepping stones to gain work experience that leads an employee to jobs with higher pay.

Of concern with this large increase in the minimum wage is the potential job losses here in Pennsylvania. When the Governor proposed this minimum wage increase last year, the Independent Fiscal Office estimated that when fully implemented, a \$12 minimum wage would result in the loss of 33,000 jobs here in the Commonwealth. The same can be seen in a report that Washington State University did on the effects of raising the minimum wage in the State of Washington. The loss of these jobs

would be crushing to the workers throughout Pennsylvania as they look for entry-level jobs to begin their climb up the economic ladder to finding fiscal security. Our conversation about the minimum wage has left those hardworking folks out in the cold. It is time the advocates for increasing the minimum wage recognize the real-world impact that this would have.

We should all be very skeptical about the amount of revenue the Governor claims that can be raised by increasing the minimum wage. It is important that we are realistic about our revenue growth and do not ever overestimate our government revenues. You know, the General Assembly must ensure that we spend taxpayers' money that comes in, in a very open and transparent way.

We in the House Republican Caucus recognize the importance of taking care of our most vulnerable citizens. That is why we have consistently sought to make sure children, seniors, and those with intellectual disabilities and physical disabilities have adequate resources to live a full and meaningful life. It is clear, however, that more needs to be done with our Department of Health and Human Services to make sure these dollars are being spent in an effective way and an impactful way. As needs continue to grow in the human services world, we need to look at some of the commonsense reforms that help make these costs not rise at such an astronomical number. That is why we need to enact reasonable work requirements on able-bodied individuals. Having able-bodied adults engaged in meaningful work will help instill a greater sense of community throughout the State and will help transition people to a more fiscally stable path.

To be perfectly clear, these work requirements would not apply to those with intellectual disabilities, physical disabilities, seniors, pregnant women. Let me repeat that. These work requirements would not apply to people with intellectual disabilities, physical disabilities, seniors, or pregnant women. This simple reform will also help the Commonwealth save money. More importantly, people will begin to gain employment which will result in self-sustainment and less reliance on the State. These savings then can be used to meet the needs of more individuals currently waiting for State services. Our caucus will continue to be cautious about this budget proposal as we move forward as we have our budget hearings over the next 3 weeks. And while the Governor's change in tone with this budget proposal is welcome, and I thank him for it, the proposal still has a lot of unanswered questions.

I am excited that we have worked with the Governor, the Republican Caucus, and have put together a modern liquor system; a system that for the first time has recognized the right of individuals in violent neighborhoods, drug neighborhoods to be able to get educational tax credits to go to schools in safer neighborhoods. I am glad that we have worked with the Governor as a Republican Caucus to achieve pension reform, to bring about real, real pension reform for Pennsylvanians that will save the taxpayers of Pennsylvania billions of dollars. And I am excited that it was the Republican Caucus who first created a subcommittee on career and technical training in our Committee on Education.

Our focus during these budget negotiations needs to be on creating a budget that keeps growth low, fosters an environment for job creation, and creates values for our hardworking taxpayers throughout Pennsylvania. If we do that, we will continue to provide the services to the most needy, and more importantly, we will finally stop the brain drain here in Pennsylvania that goes all the way back to Governor Ridge. It is important that we balance

this budget, but not balance it by making it more difficult for businesses to create jobs in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you to both of our Appropriations chairs – the majority Appropriations chair, Stan Saylor, and the Democratic chair, Matt Bradford – for their remarks.

The Sergeants at Arms will open the doors of the House.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. Representative ROTHMAN has requested to be placed on leave and Representative BOYLE has requested to be placed on leave. Without objection, those will both be granted.

CALENDAR

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 264**, **PN 235**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in municipal authorities, further providing for money of authority.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

Mr. MAKO offered the following amendment No. **A00047**:

Amend Bill, page 3, line 23, by striking out "in 90 days." and inserting

as follows:

(1) The amendment of 53 Pa.C.S. § 5612(b)(1) shall take effect in 180 days.

(2) The remainder of this act shall take effect in 90 days.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

The SPEAKER. Representative Mako, on the amendment.

Mr. MAKO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This is an agreed-to amendment.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, sir.

Does anybody else wish to speak on the amendment?

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—193

Barrar	Flynn	Lewis	Readshaw
Benninghoff	Frankel	Longietti	Reese
Bizzarro	Freeman	Mackenzie	Rigby
Boback	Fritz	Madden	Roae
Borowicz	Gabler	Mako	Roebuck
Bradford	Gainey	Malagari	Rozzi
Briggs	Galloway	Maloney	Ryan
Brown	Gaydos	Markosek	Sainato
Bullock	Gillen	Marshall	Samuelson
Burgos	Gillespie	Masser	Sanchez

Burns	Gleim	Matzie	Sankey
Caltagirone	Goodman	McCarter	Saprey
Carroll	Gregory	McClinton	Saylor
Causer	Greiner	McNeill	Schemel
Cephas	Grove	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Ciresi	Hahn	Mentzer	Schmitt
Comitta	Hanbidge	Merski	Schroeder
Conklin	Harkins	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cook	Harris	Metzgar	Shusterman
Cox	Heffley	Mihalek	Simmons
Culver	Helm	Millard	Sims
Cutler	Hennessey	Miller, B.	Snyder
Daley	Hershey	Miller, D.	Solomon
Davidson	Hickernell	Mizgorski	Sonney
Davis, A.	Hohenstein	Moul	Staats
Davis, T.	Howard	Mullery	Stephens
Dawkins	Innamorato	Mullins	Struzzi
Day	Irvin	Murt	Sturla
Deasy	Isaacson	Neilson	Thomas
DeLissio	James	Nelson	Tobash
Delloso	Jones	Nesbit	Toepel
Delozier	Jozwiak	O'Mara	Toohil
DeLuca	Kail	O'Neal	Topper
Dermody	Kaufer	Oberlander	Ullman
Diamond	Kauffman	Ortitay	Vitali
DiGirolamo	Keeler	Otten	Walsh
Donatucci	Keller, F.	Owlett	Warner
Dowling	Keller, M.K.	Pashinski	Warren
Driscoll	Kenyatta	Peifer	Webster
Dunbar	Kim	Petrarca	Wentling
Dush	Kinsey	Pickett	Wheatley
Ecker	Kirkland	Polinchock	Wheeland
Emrick	Klunk	Puskaric	Williams
Evans	Knowles	Pyle	Zabel
Everett	Kortz	Quinn	Zimmerman
Farry	Krueger	Rabb	
Fee	Kulik	Rader	Turzai,
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Speaker
Fitzgerald	Lee	Ravenstahl	

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—8

Bernstine	Brooks	Ellis	White
Boyle	Cruz	Rothman	Youngblood

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?

Bill as amended was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The bill as amended will be reprinted.

* * *

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 275**, **PN 246**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 10, 1987 (P.L.246, No.47), known as the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act, in Early Intervention Program, further providing for definitions, for program objectives and for authorization; in municipal financial distress, further providing for limitation of status; and making an editorial change.

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

SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR A

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 18, PN 38**, entitled:

An Act authorizing the release of Project 70 restrictions on certain lands owned by the Borough of Topton, Berks County, in exchange for the imposition of Project 70 restrictions on other lands to be acquired by the Borough of Topton, Berks County.

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

(Bill analysis was read.)

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

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Representative Mackenzie, on the bill.

Mr. MACKENZIE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to encourage the members to support HB 18. It is an important project for the Borough of Topton, which is a land swap between the borough and their park and also a private landowner. The borough will receive more land in this swap and it will be on the proper side of the creek that is running through the borough park. So it would really be beneficial for the borough, and again, I would encourage everybody's support and appreciate that in advance. Thank you.

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—193

Barrar	Flynn	Lewis	Readshaw
Benninghoff	Frankel	Longietti	Reese
Bizzarro	Freeman	Mackenzie	Rigby
Boback	Fritz	Madden	Roaee
Borowicz	Gabler	Mako	Roebuck
Bradford	Gainey	Malagari	Rozzi
Briggs	Galloway	Maloney	Ryan
Brown	Gaydos	Markosek	Sainato
Bullock	Gillen	Marshall	Samuelson
Burgos	Gillespie	Masser	Sanchez
Burns	Gleim	Matzie	Sankey
Caltagirone	Goodman	McCarter	Sappey
Carroll	Gregory	McClinton	Saylor
Causer	Greiner	McNeill	Schemel
Cephas	Grove	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Ciresi	Hahn	Mentzer	Schmitt
Comitta	Hanbidge	Merski	Schroeder

Conklin	Harkins	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cook	Harris	Metzgar	Shusterman
Cox	Heffley	Mihalek	Simmons
Culver	Helm	Millard	Sims
Cutler	Hennessey	Miller, B.	Snyder
Daley	Hershey	Miller, D.	Solomon
Davidson	Hickernell	Mizgorski	Sonney
Davis, A.	Hohenstein	Moul	Staats
Davis, T.	Howard	Mullery	Stephens
Dawkins	Innamorato	Mullins	Struzzi
Day	Irvin	Murt	Sturla
Deasy	Isaacson	Neilson	Thomas
DeLissio	James	Nelson	Tobash
Deloso	Jones	Nesbit	Toepel
Delozier	Jozwiak	O'Mara	Toohil
DeLuca	Kail	O'Neal	Topper
Dermody	Kaufer	Oberlander	Ullman
Diamond	Kauffman	Ortitay	Vitali
DiGirolamo	Keeler	Otten	Walsh
Donatucci	Keller, F.	Owlett	Warner
Dowling	Keller, M.K.	Pashinski	Warren
Driscoll	Kenyatta	Peifer	Webster
Dunbar	Kim	Petrarca	Wentling
Dush	Kinsey	Pickett	Wheatley
Ecker	Kirkland	Polinchock	Wheeland
Emrick	Klunk	Puskaric	Williams
Evans	Knowles	Pyle	Zabel
Everett	Kortz	Quinn	Zimmerman
Farry	Krueger	Rabb	
Fee	Kulik	Rader	Turzai,
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Speaker
Fitzgerald	Lee	Ravenstahl	

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—8

Bernstine	Brooks	Ellis	White
Boyle	Cruz	Rothman	Youngblood

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 227, PN 197**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in nomination of candidates, further providing for number of signers required for nomination petitions of candidates at primaries.

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

(Bill analysis was read.)

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

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Representative Matt Gabler, on the bill.

Mr. GABLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I appreciate the members' consideration. I ask for an affirmative vote. This is a very simple change to the Election Code that will enable school directors to have equality of ballot access, school director candidates to have equality of ballot access as they are circulating their nominating petitions.

I ask for an affirmative vote, and I thank you very much.

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—193

Barrar	Flynn	Lewis	Readshaw
Benninghoff	Frankel	Longietti	Reese
Bizzarro	Freeman	Mackenzie	Rigby
Boback	Fritz	Madden	Roae
Borowicz	Gabler	Mako	Roebuck
Bradford	Gainey	Malagari	Rozzi
Briggs	Galloway	Maloney	Ryan
Brown	Gaydos	Markosek	Sainato
Bullock	Gillen	Marshall	Samuelson
Burgos	Gillespie	Masser	Sanchez
Burns	Gleim	Matzie	Sankey
Caltagirone	Goodman	McCarter	Saphey
Carroll	Gregory	McClinton	Saylor
Causer	Greiner	McNeill	Schemel
Cephas	Grove	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Ciresi	Hahn	Mentzer	Schmitt
Comitta	Hanbidge	Merski	Schroeder
Conklin	Harkins	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cook	Harris	Metzgar	Shusterman
Cox	Heffley	Mihalek	Simmons
Culver	Helm	Millard	Sims
Cutler	Hennessey	Miller, B.	Snyder
Daley	Hershey	Miller, D.	Solomon
Davidson	Hickernell	Mizgorski	Sonney
Davis, A.	Hohenstein	Moul	Staats
Davis, T.	Howard	Mullery	Stephens
Dawkins	Innamorato	Mullins	Struzzi
Day	Irvin	Murt	Sturla
Deasy	Isaacson	Neilson	Thomas
DeLissio	James	Nelson	Tobash
Delloso	Jones	Nesbit	Toepel
Delozier	Jozwiak	O'Mara	Toohil
DeLuca	Kail	O'Neal	Topper
Dermody	Kaufner	Oberlander	Ullman
Diamond	Kauffman	Ortitay	Vitali
DiGirolamo	Keefer	Otten	Walsh
Donatucci	Keller, F.	Owlett	Warner
Dowling	Keller, M.K.	Pashinski	Warren
Driscoll	Kenyatta	Peifer	Webster
Dunbar	Kim	Petrarca	Wentling
Dush	Kinsey	Pickett	Wheatley
Ecker	Kirkland	Polinchock	Wheeland
Emrick	Klunk	Puskaric	Williams
Evans	Knowles	Pyle	Zabel
Everett	Kortz	Quinn	Zimmerman
Farry	Krueger	Rabb	
Fee	Kulik	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	
Fitzgerald	Lee	Ravenstahl	

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—8

Bernstine	Brooks	Ellis	White
Boyle	Cruz	Rothman	Youngblood

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.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. Representative Joanna McClinton, for a Democratic caucus announcement – the Democratic chair.

Ms. McCLINTON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

House Democrats just want to remind you we will have a budget caucus at 3:30 this afternoon upstairs in the minority caucus room; 3:30 today.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Madam Chair.

STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. Representative Garth Everett, chair of the State Government Committee, for a committee announcement.

Mr. EVERETT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

There will be a voting meeting of the State Government Committee tomorrow, Wednesday, February 6, at the call of the Chair, room 60, East Wing, to consider SB 9, HB 284, HB 60, and any other business that may come before the committee.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

There will be a voting meeting of the State Government Committee tomorrow, Wednesday, February 6, at the call of the Chair, room 60, East Wing.

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,
February 4, 2019

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the Senate recesses this week, it reconvene on Monday, March 18, 2019, 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 House of Representatives recesses this week, it reconvene on Monday, February 19, 2019, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the House of Representatives recesses the week of February 19, 2019, it reconvene on Monday, March 11, 2019, unless

sooner recalled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the House of Representatives recesses the week of March 11, 2019, it reconvene on Monday, March 18, 2019, 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?

RECESS RESOLUTION AMENDED

The SPEAKER. The Chair calls upon the majority leader with respect to an amendment of the resolution from the Senate, an amendment to the resolution. Please read the majority leader's amendment.

The following amendment was read:

Amend paragraph 2, line 3 by:
Deleting Monday, February 19, 2019, and inserting Tuesday, February 19, 2019.

On the question,
Will the House concur in the resolution of the Senate as amended?

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

BILLS RECOMMITTED

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 264 and HB 275 be recommitted to the Committee on Appropriations.

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

RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Representative Pam Snyder moves that the House be adjourned until Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 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 1:48 p.m., e.s.t., the House adjourned.