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SESSION OF 2020

204TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 39

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

**THE CHIEF CLERK
(DAVID L. REDDECLIFF) PRESIDING**

CALL TO ORDER

The CHIEF CLERK. Members will take their seats. The Sergeants at Arms will close the doors of the House. Members, please take your seats.

PRAYER

The CHIEF CLERK. The prayer will be offered by Pastor Ryan Day from Wrightsdale Baptist Church in Peach Bottom, PA. After the prayer we will recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Members and guests will please rise as able.

PASTOR RYAN DAY, Guest Chaplain of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we unite our hearts this afternoon, thanking You for another day to be alive. We acknowledge our dependence on You, recognizing that everything we experience and enjoy comes to us by Your goodness and grace.

We are thankful today for the strength of our bodies, the clarity of our minds, and the sensitivity of our hearts. Lord, what a tremendous blessing we have been given to live and work and serve in the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Father, we recognize that without You, the good and righteous lawgiver, there could be no such thing as good and righteous laws. So we praise You today, Lord, that there really are such things as truth and justice and liberty because those things exist in You.

Lord, would You remind each one here of Your presence today and Your willingness to give wisdom to all those who would ask for it. These are challenging days, so we ask You to grant wisdom, discernment, and compassion to these Representatives, knowing that each one of them is here for such a time as this.

Lord, as these Representatives take up the business of the Commonwealth today, we pray that You will give them a spirit of cooperation as they work together to find real solutions to complex issues. Remind them, Lord, that they serve something greater than themselves, something greater than their districts; they serve You, Lord.

We especially pray today for the families of these Representatives who continue to make great sacrifices behind the scenes in order that these men and women can come together in this time and in this place to serve the greater good of our Commonwealth.

Lord, what a great day is before us. It is filled with tremendous opportunities to strengthen the stability, vitality, and prosperity of our State. May You bless everyone who serves in this great chamber today, and may You use the events of this day to draw us closer to Yourself through Christ, the Savior.

We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

The CHIEF CLERK. The Sergeants at Arms will open the doors of the House. Members and guests may be seated.

FILMING PERMISSION

The CHIEF CLERK. Various news organizations have requested permission to film, video, and take audio of today's session. Additionally, photographers have requested to be on the House floor to take still photographs. Permission is granted.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The CHIEF CLERK. Are there requests for leaves of absence? The Chair recognizes the majority whip, Mr. Benninghoff.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. The board is accurate, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

The CHIEF CLERK. Thanks for the promotion. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Welcome back, Mr. Pyle.

The Chair recognizes the Democratic whip, Mr. Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. The electronic board is accurate.

The CHIEF CLERK. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

MASTER ROLL CALL

The CHIEF CLERK. At this time the roll will now be taken. Members will proceed to vote.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The CHIEF CLERK. The Chair recognizes the majority whip to confirm the vote.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic voting board is correct for the majority party.

The CHIEF CLERK. Thank you.

The Chair now recognizes the minority whip to confirm the vote.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The following roll call was recorded:

PRESENT—201

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

ADDITIONS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—1

The CHIEF CLERK. Two hundred and one members having indicated their presence, a quorum is present.

RESOLUTION

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The CHIEF CLERK. We will now proceed to the election of the Speaker of the House.

The Chair recognizes the lady from Bucks County, Mrs. Schroeder.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Chief Clerk, I have the honor of presenting a resolution for the election of Speaker.

The CHIEF CLERK. The lady from Bucks County, Mrs. Schroeder, presents a resolution, which the clerk will read.

Mrs. SCHROEDER offered the following resolution, which was read, considered and adopted:

In the House of Representatives
June 22, 2020

RESOLVED, That in accordance with the provisions of Article II, section 9 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, the House do now proceed to the election of a Speaker.

NOMINATIONS FOR SPEAKER

The CHIEF CLERK. Nominations are now in order for the office of Speaker.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster County, Mr. Hickernell.

Mr. HICKERNELL. Thank you, Mr. Chief Clerk.

It is my honor to rise to place in the nomination the name of Bryan Dean Cutler for the office of Speaker of the House of Representatives. Even though Bryan and I are both from Lancaster County, we did not know each other very well when he was first elected here in 2006, but we were seated here in the Lancaster row and we became fast friends.

Bryan is a private person, but I had learned that he came from modest roots and faced significant adversity when he lost both his parents at a very young age. I came to know that he had a strong faith and is someone who cares deeply about his wife and three children and has the desire to make things better.

His early life experiences led him to give back to his community, wanting to serve others and to make a difference. Other Lancaster Reps, Katie True and Scott Boyd – Scott is here today from Florida; welcome back, my friend – knew almost immediately that Bryan Cutler was gifted. I recall how we marveled at how quickly he learned, how he mastered the House rules and the legislative process, and we thought to each other and remarked, "This guy has the potential to be a leader here." It did not take long before other members from other parts of the State began to take notice of this fine young man from Peach Bottom.

Now, most of you know I have been one of Bryan's biggest cheerleaders over the years, but even I never imagined that he would so quickly rise through the ranks to be whip, majority leader, and today be a candidate for Speaker of this great House.

Bryan Cutler could have chosen to work almost anywhere, but he picked this place, the people's House, to make significant contributions to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We all

know Bryan is someone who looks to find common ground, someone who unites people and brings diverse sides together. We also know that Bryan respects this institution and treats every member with dignity. As a State and as a nation, we are facing challenging times. Now more than ever we need special people to lead at this pivotal time in our history. Bryan Cutler is one of those leaders. He has the character, the vision, and the temperament to lead us into the future.

In this 338-year history of the House, only 140 members have been elevated to the office of Speaker. I have had the pleasure of watching 10 Speakers preside during my 36 years here as a staffer and as a member. All of these Speakers have had their own unique style and genuine desire to serve the Commonwealth, but only a few stand out in my mind as being true statesmen who made a lasting impact and served as a role model for future Speakers.

I have high expectations for Bryan. I believe he will be one of those great Speakers who will be remembered and who future Speakers will try to emulate. I know that every day Bryan will preside with fairness and dignity befitting of the high office of Speaker, and I know that no one is more prepared to lead this chamber at this time in history.

I would ask all of my colleagues to please join me in electing Bryan Dean Cutler to serve as the 141st Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. Thank you.

The CHIEF CLERK. The gentleman, Mr. Hickernell, places in nomination for office of Speaker the gentleman from Lancaster County, the Honorable Bryan Cutler.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Armstrong County, Mr. Pyle.

Mr. PYLE. Thank you, Mr. Chief Clerk.

As many of you know, I have recently befallen some hardship. I just got done spending 49 days in the acute rehab unit of Armstrong County Memorial Hospital; hence the chair. I apologize for everything it portends.

I have to introduce to you the reason I am here today and the only way I was allowed to come today, Ms. Sara Serafine, who sits behind me, a member of the Visiting Nurses Association. Sara, if you could rise. Would you please give her a round of applause. Sara is who keeps me alive most days.

It is a rarity that a Representative gets to nominate his former officemate to be the Speaker of the House, but for the first 6 years Bryan was here, the gentleman from Lancaster and I anchored the corner office of the East Wing, discussing daily votes and discussions of the House. Over those 6 years he learned to ignore what I had to say, which exposes one of the great reasons why he has my support. He is very smart.

Bryan Cutler is pragmatic and optimistic. He does not judge people, but rather assesses ideas, which is exactly what this body needs, a forum to discuss matters of common interest for the betterment of the Commonwealth, not one that serves as an arena for the daily derision of individuals. Bryan Cutler will provide this and facilitate this vision.

The Cutler House will allow us to develop great ideas without yelling, to expand our ideas by hearing what others have to say. Speaker Cutler will allow us to pursue a future of prosperity for our children and our elders.

And for these and other reasons, I proudly second the nomination of Bryan Dean Cutler of Lancaster to be the next Speaker of the House of Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. Chief Clerk.

The CHIEF CLERK. The gentleman, Mr. Pyle, seconds the nomination of Bryan Cutler for the office of Speaker.

The Chair recognizes the lady from Philadelphia County, Ms. DeLissio.

Ms. DeLISSIO. Good afternoon, Mr. Chief Clerk.

It is indeed my pleasure and privilege to be standing here this afternoon on what I believe is an auspicious occasion.

A week or so ago when the Representative from Lancaster County gave me a call in the afternoon, I was very surprised when presented with this request to offer a second nomination to put him into the office of Speaker. I was honored, I was privileged, and I was heartened by the fact that this indeed, for me, was a recognition of the other caucus that makes up this unbelievably wonderful body that has been in existence for literally centuries; recognizes indeed the approximately 46 percent of the citizens of the Commonwealth that myself and the colleagues on my side of the aisle, as the reference is commonly made, represent.

I first met Bryan when I came in as a freshman and was sworn in in 2011, and we managed to find our way to work together on a fairly significant piece of legislation in the health-care world that was going through the process at that time, and we were both concerned with the original draft. We were concerned with subsequent drafts and decided to work to improve that legislation, and we did just that. It took us about 18 months.

I never see this center aisle, if you will, as a dividing line, and I sincerely hope that no one in this chamber ever really sees this as that dividing line. I often choose to speak from this particular microphone as opposed to either microphone in the front because it is in the middle. The middle represents for me a joining together, and I think my invitation to offer this second nomination today does just that.

It is a way for us to be reminded that it is our ultimate responsibility to find that joint path forward, and to find the best policy for the greater good of the citizens of this Commonwealth and to ensure that although we come from different political ideologies, that, in fact, we do not at the end of the day let those political ideologies drive us solely. That is beyond important to me.

So with great privilege and pleasure, I offer the second nomination to put Representative Bryan Cutler into the role of Speaker of the House of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. Chief Clerk.

The CHIEF CLERK. The lady, Ms. DeLissio, seconds the nomination of Bryan Cutler for the office of Speaker.

Are there any other nominations?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia County, Mr. Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Chief Clerk.

Mr. Chief Clerk, I would like to put the nomination of the honorable gentleman from Allegheny County, Representative Frank Dermody.

The CHIEF CLERK. Mr. Harris places in nomination for the office of Speaker the gentleman from Allegheny County, the Honorable Frank Dermody.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery County, Mr. Bradford.

Mr. BRADFORD. Thank you, Mr. Chief Clerk.

It is my honor to second the nomination of the gentleman from Allegheny, Mr. Dermody.

The CHIEF CLERK. Mr. Bradford seconds the nomination of Mr. Dermody.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Clearfield, Mr. Gabler.

Mr. GABLER. Thank you very much, Mr. Chief Clerk.

At this time I now move to close the floor for nominations for Speaker of the House.

The CHIEF CLERK. Mr. Gabler moves that the nominations be closed.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The CHIEF CLERK. The House will now proceed to elect the Speaker. Those voting for Bryan Cutler will vote in the affirmative; those voting for Mr. Dermody will vote in the negative. The votes will be tallied as follows: Every "aye" vote will be tallied as a vote for Bryan Cutler; every "no" vote will be tallied as a vote for Mr. Dermody. Members will proceed to vote.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The CHIEF CLERK. The Chair recognizes the majority whip to confirm the vote.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Mr. Speaker, I proudly announce the majority party, a unanimous vote on our side for Speaker Cutler.

The CHIEF CLERK. The Chair recognizes the minority whip to confirm the vote.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The CHIEF CLERK. Thank you.

Yes, Mr. Dermody.

Mr. DERMODY. Mr. Chief Clerk, I would request that the record reflect a unanimous vote for Speaker Cutler.

The CHIEF CLERK. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair declares a unanimous ballot for Mr. Cutler.

Mr. DERMODY. Record the vote.

The CHIEF CLERK. The clerk will record the vote.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—110

Barrar	Gillen	Marshall	Reese
Benninghoff	Gillespie	Masser	Rigby
Bernstine	Gleim	Mehaffie	Roae
Boback	Gregory	Mentzer	Rothman
Bonner	Greiner	Metcalf	Rowe
Borowicz	Grove	Metzgar	Ryan
Brooks	Hahn	Mihalek	Sankey
Brown	Heffley	Millard	Saylor
Causser	Helm	Miller, B.	Schemel
Cook	Hennessey	Mizgorski	Schmitt
Cox	Hershey	Moul	Schroeder
Culver	Hickernell	Murt	Simmons
Cutler	Irvin	Mustello	Sonney
Davanzo	James	Nelson	Staats
Day	Jones	O'Neal	Stephens
Delozier	Jozwiak	Oberlander	Struzzi
Diamond	Kail	Ortitay	Thomas
Dowling	Kaufer	Owlett	Tobash

Dunbar	Kauffman	Peifer	Toepel
Dush	Keefer	Petrarca	Tomlinson
Ecker	Keller	Pickett	Toohil
Emrick	Klunk	Polinchock	Topper
Everett	Knowles	Puskaric	Warner
Farry	Kortz	Pyle	Wentling
Fee	Lawrence	Quinn	Wheeland
Fritz	Lewis	Rader	White
Gabler	Mackenzie	Rapp	Zimmerman
Gaydos	Maloney		

NAYS—91

Bizzarro	Dermody	Kirkland	Readshaw
Boyle	Donatucci	Kosierowski	Roebuck
Bradford	Driscoll	Krueger	Rozzi
Briggs	Evans	Kulik	Sainato
Bullock	Fiedler	Lee	Samuelson
Burgos	Fitzgerald	Longietti	Sanchez
Burns	Flynn	Madden	Sappery
Caltagirone	Frankel	Malagari	Schlossberg
Carroll	Freeman	Markosek	Schweyer
Cephas	Gainey	Matzie	Shusterman
Ciresi	Galloway	McCarter	Sims
Comitta	Goodman	McClinton	Snyder
Conklin	Green	McNeill	Solomon
Cruz	Hanbidge	Merski	Sturla
Daley	Harkins	Miller, D.	Ullman
Davidson	Harris	Mullery	Vitali
Davis, A.	Hohenstein	Mullins	Warren
Davis, T.	Howard	Neilson	Webster
Dawkins	Innamorato	O'Mara	Wheatley
Deasy	Isaacson	Otten	Williams
DeLissio	Kenyatta	Pashinski	Youngblood
Delloso	Kim	Rabb	Zabel
DeLuca	Kinsey	Ravenstahl	

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—1

Mako

Mr. DERMODY. Now, Mr. Chief Clerk?

The CHIEF CLERK. You threw us a curve ball there.

Mr. DERMODY. Sorry about that.

I would request that the record reflect a unanimous vote for Speaker Cutler.

The CHIEF CLERK. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Congratulations, Speaker-elect Cutler.

**COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ESCORT
SPEAKER-ELECT TO ROSTRUM**

The CHIEF CLERK. The Chair appoints the lady from Montgomery County, Mrs. Toepel, and the gentleman from Allegheny County, Mr. Dermody, to escort Speaker-elect Bryan Cutler to the rostrum.

The committee to escort the Speaker-elect will proceed with the performance of its duties.

The Chair recognizes the chairwoman, Mrs. Toepel.

Mrs. TOEPEL. Mr. Chief Clerk, it is my honor to present Speaker-elect Bryan Cutler.

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO SPEAKER-ELECT CUTLER

The CHIEF CLERK. The oath of office to the Speaker-elect will now be administered by the Honorable Brandon T. Neuman, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County. Members and all guests, please rise as able for the oath of office.

JUDGE NEUMAN. Clancy and I have disagreed on a few things over the years, but one thing that we do not disagree on is he said I could say a few words, so thank you, Clancy, for making that known to me.

I left here 2 1/2 years ago, and I talk to a lot of my colleagues still and I see some of them, and one of the first people I met on the House floor, because he sat right in front of me, was Bryan Cutler, and Ryan Aument – Ryan Aument being a freshman legislator with me, Bryan Cutler trying to give him guidance, and as you see did not work because now he is in the Senate, but the relationship that Bryan and I built over the years was not based on political party, obviously.

Bryan and I disagreed on many things when he was wrong, and unfortunately, you are only right when you have the majority of the votes in the House of Representatives, but Bryan and I – I was able to break through the façade, the political facade that we all carry here and in our districts, to get to know Bryan and his family. I used to say "Lan-caster County," and now I say "Lancaster County." I realize that there are actually a lot of people that live in Lancaster County, and this is just an absolute honor to be back in this grand, the most great room in all of Pennsylvania, and I would put it up to any room in the country. But this room is a facade as well, and until you cross that aisle and actually break down the political facade that we all carry, you will not get to know people from the other side of the aisle, and I would not be standing here today if I did not break down that political facade.

Now, Bryan did a lot of speaking as a member, majority whip, and majority leader. Now he has the title of Speaker, but I am going to tell you right now, Bryan, your job is to listen. Listen to both sides of the aisle. Let people know what is going on because this House, the numbers next to your name will always live on. As my name was erased, your name will be erased one day, but those numbers on your district will remain, and the thing that – the greatest honor to represent your district is to be heard. So, Bryan, the only charge I give to you is to listen.

So now I will administer the oath of office. Please raise your right hand, place your left hand on the Bible, and repeat after me: I, Bryan Cutler, do solemnly swear that I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this Commonwealth and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity.

(Speaker-elect Cutler asserted oath.)

JUDGE NEUMAN. Congratulations.

The SPEAKER. Thank you.

The CHIEF CLERK. Members and guests may be seated.

PRESENTATION OF GAVEL

The CHIEF CLERK. The Chair requests former member of the House Scott Boyd to come to the podium for the purpose of presenting the gavel to Speaker Bryan Cutler.

Mr. BOYD. Thank you.

First of all, in echoing Judge Neuman, it is an absolute pleasure to be back in this glorious chamber. Many of you who knew me then when I left this place knew that I kind of could not wait to get out of here and those of you who knew me probably heard me say that I do not think I will ever be back, but then there is Bryan Cutler, Speaker of the House. I just could not miss this.

I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for asking me to be here, and especially for the privilege of putting this gavel into your very capable hands. I believe history will remember you in the same light as some of our most storied Speakers: Benjamin Franklin, K. Leroy Irvis, and Matt Ryan.

I believe this because even in this ceremony itself, I see you bringing dignity and decency to this chamber. You are demonstrating the benevolent and kind leadership so necessary in our politically charged and fractured nation.

What an honor it is to hand you this gavel because I know you will wield it justly and kindly. It will never be slammed in anger, and it will never be raised in vengeance. It will always be held with humility.

Members of the House, you, along with we the people, are blessed. We are blessed because this gavel, the symbol of the authority of the House to govern, is being conveyed to a leader committed to the vision of our founder, William Penn. The Honorable Bryan Cutler will indeed set an example to the nations, and he will do what is truly wise and just.

Godspeed, Mr. Speaker. Godspeed.

THE SPEAKER (BRYAN CUTLER) PRESIDING

ADDRESS BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Thank you, members.

Thank you, Scott; certainly an honor.

As was pointed out, and I want to thank everyone who took part in the ceremony today, and as was pointed out by many of the speakers, every choice was absolutely deliberate, the whole way from Representative Schroeder, who unbeknownst to me had volunteered on my first campaign because I did not recognize her married name when I was making my leadership calls, but she was a student at Millersville University and she called me back and said, "You don't need to worry. This was my maiden name, and I've already worked for you."

And Representative Hickernell, Chair Hickernell, thank you very much for being the dean of the delegation and your kind words. You have always been an inspiration.

And my good suitemate, Chairman Pyle, so good to see you here again; so good. And as he pointed out, we had a lot of discussions and he echoed actually the same advice of someone who could not be here today, which was former Speaker Sam Smith. Upon my election to being whip, I came up to thank him that day and said, "Thank you very much for all of the advice that you have given me through the years to get me where I am today." And he smiled, as only Sam could, and said, "And sometimes you followed it."

Representative DeLissio, I treasure our friendship and our ability to work together. I appreciate your words and the charge that you have given because you are correct, we must work across the aisle on significant issues, and I appreciate you taking part today.

Representative Gabler, thank you for closing the nominations. It has been an honor to serve with you in my time here. I first met Representative Gabler when he was working on the Policy Committee, and we worked on a bill that former Representative Waters and I eventually completed, which was on LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) fraud.

And then my good friend and caucus chair, Representative Toepel, thank you for escorting me with Leader Dermody, whom I also consider a good friend, and thank you, Frank, for the urgency to get it to a unanimous vote. That certainly made me feel a lot better, but we still had to follow the rules and I am glad we did.

And last, but certainly not least, my good friend, Judge Neuman. I surprised him during his swearing-in when he had won his judicial election, and he had made a comment of "I don't know how I will ever repay you." And at that time I said, "Well, if I ever become Speaker, you're going to come back and you're going to swear me in." And after Speaker Turzai had made his announcement that he would be leaving and I called Brandon, he goes, "Well, you know I'm not going to hold you to that, right? I'm sure you want somebody more important," was how he phrased it, and I said, "Brandon, there is nobody more important than you because you're my friend." And thank you for being here today.

Scott, we spent a lot of evenings together, and I am glad that you could spend a couple more nights up here to provide me the honor of seeing you one more time in this chamber. Thank you for your kind words and all of that advice through the years. And for those of you who are wondering whom I normally listen to, it was Representative Boyd.

I want to thank many of my guests here because I would not be here without them, just like the integral parts of the program. I want to first introduce my family. I will ask them to stand: my lovely wife, Jennifer; my three children, Cheyanne, Caleb, and Drew. I appreciate all the sacrifices, because as all the other Representatives in the chamber know, it is the families that bear a lot of what we do. So thank you. Thank you for your love, and thank you for your support.

I have other guests here in the well of the House: Pastor Ryan Day, who is our pastor, and his family down in the well of the House. I have Rick and Sharon Cless, whom I used to work with at the hospital and whom I told, "I am leaving the hospital because I am tired of the politics that exists in management." Boy, did I come to regret those words.

My good friends, Andrew and Tara Oltmans. Andrew and I have been best friends since sixth grade, and it is an honor to have you here today. Jason and Danielle Carl, thank you for joining us. And Reber, who works in my district office. And Nancy, I think you are off – where are you? There you are. You have got the camera beyond the bright light that I cannot see. Thank you very, very much for being here and letting me hang out with Scott as much as you did.

I want to thank everybody in the well of the House as well as to the left of the Speaker. I have some former colleagues of ours, and I am doing them in order here as they are seated: Speaker Turzai, thank you for coming back; former Speakers DeWeese and O'Brien; Senators Martin and Aument, who the judge already referenced; and John Barley, who is one of my predecessors for the seat in the 100th District. Thank you all for being here.

And I will ask the members of the swearing-in committee to stand up. I know this is kind of a midyear requirement because

typically we only do this at the beginning, but Gene, Sil, and Sheila, thank you for being here and for also sharing in this day.

I think that history has made it plain that the shortest speeches are often regarded as the best. And today my words will not be short because they are the best, they will be short because this General Assembly and this House of Representatives does not have time to waste.

At this time, in this hour, and under our watch, our Commonwealth needs the best of what this institution, which dates back to 1682, was designed to be. And what is that? Let us look around. Judge Neuman referenced the grandeur of where we work. Our forebearers who are illuminated on the walls here behind us are figuratively with us each and every day as we work in this ornate chamber and enshrine the solemn duty that we all now carry out. And the quote of our founder, which Representative Boyd already alluded to, "There may be room there for such a Holy Experiment, for the nations want a precedent, and my God will make it the seed of a nation." William Penn said those words when he founded this great Commonwealth. He hoped that this place would become an example for the rest of the world for what can be accomplished when all people are provided with freedom, liberty, and the opportunity to live and worship as they see fit. And as I look over our chamber today, I see the faces from every corner of the Commonwealth representing the stories, the successes, and the struggles that brought each of us here. I can only imagine how proud William Penn would be and that Pennsylvania has endured.

Our great Commonwealth has been a beacon of freedom and truth since its founding, the birthplace of democracy, a light when our nation faced its darkest hours. And in some communities our residents feel that they are at another crossroads in history right now. William Penn would expect us to act on behalf of those who feel no one is listening. William Penn would expect us to build a stronger Commonwealth and lift up the voices of every resident. Those who came before us did it in this very chamber, and I am confident that you and I will do it again.

Every person serving in this chamber is only here because people believed that we could do something for them. Our constituents have given us this blessing to improve their lives. I am reminded of the words of Paul the Apostle, who wrote in his letter to the Galatians, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." I am not giving up, and I believe every member of our body is here to accomplish more on behalf of the people who have sent us here.

As we each carry the torch for the next generation, let me be the first to pledge to you in what I hope you will pledge with me, and for those who heard my speech on swearing-in day, it is the same three rules: First, let us treat each other, other elected leaders and our constituents, with respect. Second, let us not ask someone else to do something that we ourselves are not willing to do. And finally, when our term of service is concluded, let us leave things better than when we found them, and let us do our work together – that is the most important point of all. And if that is the voice that you have chosen, then with God as my guide and my family by my side, with the support of my friends and on behalf of all the people of this everlasting Commonwealth, I will humbly serve in the role as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The House will come to order.

Thank you.

COMMEMORATIVE GAVEL PRESENTED

The SPEAKER. At this time the Speaker recognizes the Chief Clerk.

The CHIEF CLERK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all the CORE employees, those that fall under the Chief Clerk and the Comptroller, I present you with this commemorative gavel as you begin your service as the Speaker of this august body.

It is an honor to congratulate you on your new role and to wish you the very best as you lead this chamber. Please know that all of CORE stands ready to serve you, your colleagues, and the citizens of Pennsylvania. Congratulations, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Speaker thanks the Chief Clerk for the presentation of the gavel and his service. Thank you.

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

BENEDICTION

The SPEAKER. The benediction will be offered by Pastor Ryan Day. Members and guests will please rise as able.

PASTOR DAY. Heavenly Father, it is a beautiful day to be alive and to be here in the Capitol of our Commonwealth. We thank You, Lord, for the many ways that You have poured out Your kindness on us and all the residents of our great State.

Father, we thank You today for the continued ways that You show Yourself present and involved in our lives. Scripture reminds us that we do not walk alone, nor do these Representatives govern alone, but that You are near to us as we draw near to You. Thank You for the wisdom and the discernment that You grant so freely to the men and the women of this legislature.

Lord, we especially want to return thanks to You for the results of today's election. Bryan Cutler has proven to be a man of honor, integrity, and high character. So we thank You for the opportunity granted to him by his colleagues to step into this new role as Speaker.

Father, we ask You to bless Bryan as he undertakes this tremendous task. Give him the energy, focus, and passion he needs to succeed. We especially ask that You bless Jennifer, Cheyenne, Caleb, and Drew as they encourage Bryan and offer him their love and support.

As Bryan steps into this new position, Lord, we ask that You might grant him one blind eye, one deaf ear, and a suit coat with one bottomless pocket. When worthless or wasteful things vie for his attention, may he use the blind eye; when people say a problem cannot be solved, may he use the deaf ear; and when he receives the criticisms of cynics and naysayers, may he use the bottomless pocket.

Lord, as this new chapter of leadership opens in Harrisburg, we ask You to bless the new Speaker and all those who serve with him in this great chamber. May You continue to pour out Your abundant blessings on the Keystone State, and may You soften our hearts daily, showing us our great need of You and the savior that You sent with such amazing love.

And we ask all these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

Members and guests may be seated.

This concludes today's ceremony. Guests are free to leave, and we will then proceed with caucus announcements.

The House will come to order.

AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes Chairman Day.

Mr. DAY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations from the Aging Committee. And I would like to announce an immediate meeting of the Aging Committee in room 205, Ryan.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

There will be an immediate meeting of the Aging Committee in room 205, Ryan Office Building.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes the gentlelady from Montgomery County.

Mrs. TOEPEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Republicans will caucus on the House floor at 2:30. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Madam Chair.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY MS. McCLINTON

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes the gentlelady from Philadelphia.

Ms. McCLINTON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Congratulations. House Democrats, we will not be caucusing today. We will not be caucusing.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. For the benefit of the members, there will be no further votes today. We will be keeping the desk open for housekeeping and reports from committee.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes the honorable gentleman from Adams County.

Mr. MOUL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just a quick reminder that tomorrow, 10 o'clock, voting meeting for the Local Government Committee in 60 East Wing; tomorrow, 60 East Wing, 10 o'clock, Local Government voting meeting.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and congratulations, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

There will be a meeting of the Local Government Committee tomorrow at 10 o'clock in 60 East Wing.

The House will be at ease.

The House will come to order.

**BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE,
CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND
RECOMMITTED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES**

HB 1311, PN 1531 By Rep. MILLARD

An Act amending the act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89, No.18), known as the Conservation and Natural Resources Act, in Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, further providing for fees and charges.

TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

HB 2098, PN 3946 (Amended) By Rep. MILLARD

An Act providing for dedication of portion of sales and use tax; and establishing the Tourism, Museum and Arts Trust Fund.

TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

**BILL REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE,
CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND TABLED**

SB 1076, PN 1560 By Rep. BARRAR

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in military leave of absence, further providing for military family relief assistance.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS.

**RESOLUTIONS REPORTED
FROM COMMITTEE**

HR 518, PN 2542 By Rep. MILLARD

A Resolution honoring the legacy of Richard "Dick" Anthony Allen as a standout baseball player and his contributions to the Philadelphia Phillies and calling for the voters on the veterans committee to elect Mr. Allen to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2020.

TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

HR 669, PN 3153 By Rep. MILLARD

A Resolution recognizing the accomplishments of Rocco Colavito, Jr., and recommending his nomination to the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

HR 890, PN 3944 By Rep. MILLARD

A Resolution designating June 25 through 28, 2020, as "Pocono Raceway Days" in Pennsylvania.

TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

BILLS REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority whip moves that SB 637 and SB 997 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar:

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

CALENDAR

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2123, PN 3149**, entitled:

An Act designating the Faxon Interchange of Interstate 180 at Northway Road in Loyalsock Township, Lycoming County, as the Sgt. Thomas Woodruff, Sr., and Sgt. Hamilton Woodruff Memorial Interchange.

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

BILL TABLED

The SPEAKER. The majority whip moves that HB 2123 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

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

BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority whip moves that HB 2123 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

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

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1283, PN 1854**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in judgments and other liens, further providing for exemption of particular property.

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

BILL TABLED

The SPEAKER. The majority whip moves that HB 1283 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

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

BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority whip moves that HB 1283 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

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

RESOLUTION

Mr. BENNINGHOFF offered **HR 574, PN 2720**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the week of October 7 through 13, 2019, as "Mental Health Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

RESOLUTION TABLED

The SPEAKER. The majority whip moves that HR 574 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

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

RESOLUTION REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority whip moves that HR 574 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

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

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes the gentleman from Armstrong County, Mr. Pyle, who moves that this House now adjourn until Tuesday, June 23, 2020, at 11 a.m., e.d.t., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to, and at 2:08 p.m., e.d.t., the House adjourned.