

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021

SESSION OF 2021

205TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 65

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

THE SPEAKER (BRYAN CUTLER) PRESIDING

PRAYER

HON. ANITA ASTORINO KULIK, member of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Lord, as You came to us in the most humble manner amidst the most humblest of us, help us to remember the message of the angels: Glory to You, Lord, good will and peace to all. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

JOURNAL APPROVAL POSTPONED

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the approval of the Journal of Tuesday, December 14, 2021, will be postponed until printed.

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 2167 By Representatives RABB, BURGOS, PARKER, FREEMAN, N. NELSON, KINSEY, KENYATTA, HILL-EVANS, DRISCOLL, T. DAVIS, SCHLOSSBERG, SANCHEZ, HOWARD and SIMS

An Act amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the establishment of Urban Agricultural Incentive Zones.

Referred to Committee on AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, December 15, 2021.

No. 2168 By Representatives FREEMAN, SCHLOSSBERG, HOHENSTEIN, HILL-EVANS, KINSEY, McNEILL, SANCHEZ, SCHWEYER, DRISCOLL, CIRESI, DALEY and KIM

An Act authorizing the State Workers' Insurance Board to make available health insurance policies for purchase by the general public; providing for premiums; and authorizing a loan from the State Workers' Insurance Fund.

Referred to Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, December 15, 2021.

SENATE BILL FOR CONCURRENCE

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

SB 706, PN 1090

Referred to Committee on COMMERCE, December 15, 2021.

SENATE MESSAGE

AMENDED HOUSE BILLS RETURNED FOR CONCURRENCE AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES

The clerk of the Senate, being introduced, returned **HB 1255, PN 2532; HB 1642, PN 2372; and HB 1837, PN 2394**, with information that the Senate has passed the same with amendment in which the concurrence of the House of Representatives is requested.

SENATE MESSAGE

HOUSE BILLS
CONCURRED IN BY SENATE

The clerk of the Senate, being introduced, returned **HB 291, PN 257, and HB 1260, PN 2320**, with information that the Senate has passed the same without amendment.

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

HB 1592, PN 1755 By Rep. KNOWLES

An Act amending the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805, No.247), known as the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, in general provisions, providing for certain transmittals and submissions to governmental bodies.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

HB 2143, PN 2536 (Amended) By Rep. KNOWLES

An Act amending Title 61 (Prisons and Parole) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in county correctional institutions, further providing for establishment.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

HB 2148, PN 2537 (Amended) By Rep. KNOWLES

An Act amending Titles 45 (Legal Notices) and 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in legal advertising, providing for redundant advertising on Internet by political subdivisions; and, in open meetings, further providing for public notice.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

SB 673, PN 742 By Rep. KNOWLES

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, in auditors and accountants, further providing for surcharge by auditors; and, in township manager, further providing for township manager and appointment, removal, powers and duties and compensation and bond.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. Turning to the master roll. Are there requests for leaves of absence?

The Chair recognizes the majority whip, who indicates that the gentleman, Representative QUINN, from Delaware County wishes to be placed on leave for the day. Without objection, the leave of absence is granted.

The Chair now recognizes the Democratic whip, who indicates that there are no leaves. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

MASTER ROLL CALL

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

The following roll call was recorded:

PRESENT—202

Armanini	Frankel	Lewis	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Longietti	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, M.	Rothman
Bernstine	Gainey	Mackenzie, R.	Rowe
Bizzarro	Galloway	Madden	Rozzi
Boback	Gaydos	Major	Ryan
Bonner	Gillen	Mako	Sainato
Borowicz	Gillespie	Malagari	Samuelson
Boyle	Gleim	Maloney	Sanchez
Bradford	Gregory	Markosek	Sankey
Briggs	Greiner	Marshall	Sappery
Brooks	Grove	Masser	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guenst	Matzie	Schemel
Brown, R.	Guzman	McClinton	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hamm	McNeill	Schmitt
Burgos	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schroeder
Burns	Harkins	Mentzer	Schweyer
Carroll	Harris	Mercuri	Shusterman
Causer	Heffley	Merski	Silvis
Cephas	Helm	Metcalfe	Sims
Ciresi	Hennessey	Metzgar	Smith
Conklin	Herrin	Mihalek	Snyder
Cook	Hershey	Millard	Solomon
Cox	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Sonney
Cruz	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Staats
Culver	Howard	Mizgorski	Stambaugh
Curry	Innamorato	Moul	Stephens
Daley	Irvin	Mullery	Struzzi
Davanzo	Isaacson	Mullins	Sturla
Davis, A.	James	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jones	Neilson	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Toohil
Day	Kail	Nelson, N.	Topper
Deasy	Kaufert	O'Mara	Twardzik
DeLissio	Kauffman	O'Neal	Vitali
Delloso	Keefer	Oberlander	Warner
Delozier	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warren
DeRosso	Kerwin	Otten	Webster
DeLuca	Kim	Owlett	Welby
Diamond	Kinhead	Parker	Wentling
Dowling	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wheatley
Driscoll	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Dunbar	Klunk	Pennycuick	White
Ecker	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Emrick	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Evans	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Farry	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Fee	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fiedler	Labs	Rader	
Fitzgerald	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Flood	Lee	Rigby	Speaker

ADDITIONS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—1

Quinn

LEAVES ADDED—2

Gainey

Wheatley

The SPEAKER. Two hundred and two members having voted on the master roll, a quorum is present.

Members, please take your seats. We are about to take up another retirement speech of one of our members. Members, please take your seats. Move any conversations off the back of the House. The Sergeants at Arms will please clear the aisles.

FAREWELL ADDRESS BY MS. TOOHIL

The SPEAKER. At this time I will invite Representative Tarah Toohil to come up. This will conclude our farewell speeches for this year as we welcome Representative Toohil to the rostrum.

This past November she was elected a Luzerne County judge and will assume that position in January. Representative Toohil has represented the 116th Legislative District in Luzerne County for the past decade. She will be remembered for her compassion for children and the legislation and causes she championed to provide for the welfare of many of our State's most vulnerable young people. Representative Toohil has served admirably as a member of the Children and Youth Committee, as well as the Government Oversight Committee, which she has chaired; Human Services, Professional Licensure, and the Rules Committees.

Tarah attended Hazleton Area High School. She dual-majored in political science and sociology at Northeastern University and received her juris doctorate from Penn State's Dickinson School of Law. Prior to attending law school, Tarah was a paralegal for Attorney and now U.S. Congressman Matthew Cartwright. While in law school, she worked as a certified legal intern for Dauphin County D.A. Ed Marsico.

I would now like to recognize Representative Toohil to share her parting remarks.

Ms. TOOHIL. Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker. And thank you for yesterday allowing me to have a tryout up here. It is quite intimidating, this beautiful, beautiful room in front of all of you colleagues.

First, I would like to thank God. Before being elected, I used to pray that God would use me as a tool for good; that His will be done. In being elected to the State legislature, you have a rare and unique ability to work for others to change people's lives for the better. Driving home from the State Capitol at night, I would always take notice of all the little lights in all the houses on the ride home, and it would strike me that I was elected to represent those points of light. Inside those homes was a family who needed representing – a family suffering with lack of health insurance, inability to pay property taxes, joblessness, addiction, and even abuse.

When you become State Representative, the funny thing is that when you have a holiday meal, everyone, your family, when you sit around with your family at the holiday meal and something comes up, a problem in the community, they always say someone should do something about that. And you are actually that person. And they look down at the table when they say "someone should do something about that." And it is a great honor for all of you to have this voice at the table. I would like to thank the constituents of the 116th Legislative District for electing me six times.

So many of my family members are here – some are in the gallery, some are having final exams and cannot be here today, and some went to school for a little bit today just so that they could come now, so I want to thank them for that. They are in the gallery and to the left of the rostrum.

And I want to admit to my family members, due to the constraints – I want to admit this publicly – that due to the constraints of this job, I have given every single family member "the button" at one point in my life, and I want to apologize for giving you the button. And that is such a big part of this job. Right now, while I am giving this speech, people are probably giving family members the button, and it is just a sacrifice and our families have endured so much and sacrifice so much while we are in public life. So thank you for allowing me – I know, you have sacrificed so much – thank you for allowing me to give my all, 24 hours a day, night and day. It is like part of sleeping and breathing, being in public service.

So I would like to thank my family. My mother and father. My mother, dearly departed, my mother, Barbara Kay Toohil; my father, Peter Toohil. That is my father, Peter Toohil. My parents embodied the words "bringing up a child," bringing up a child. They lifted me up in every way. There was not one thing that they thought that I could not do. We did not have money for college, but they sent me on a train to Boston with an iMac in a, it was in my laundry basket, and that is basically all I had. And they were like, well, she wants to do it. She could do whatever she dreams. And truly, they brought me up, my parents. And I want to thank them for that. There was never the word "no" and there was never anything that I could not do. It did not matter if you did not have the last name or you were not politically connected or you did not come from money. Those were never obstacles. I want to thank you for your belief in me.

With my brother, Brandon, and my sister, Cynthia, my parents raised 40 children in foster care, in and out of foster care, and that has had a profound change on the trajectory of my life. My parents made all of that possible.

So our children, if you could please stand. Our daughter, Alexandra, is here. If you could stand. She has endured six campaigns and then a seventh one for judge, and she is quite astute in the political field. My daughter, our daughter, Alexandra. Thank you, Allie. Her sister, Abigail, and her brothers, Dalton and Dylan, are all in school today. So good luck to them with final exams. And also, if you would stand, our two little men, we have Jacob Burkhardt and Blaise. And you have watched them grow and they are the biggest blessings.

My nieces and nephews: I have Connor Matteo, Madison Matteo, Emme Zanolini; and then their grandmother, Leda Burkhardt. And then also up in the gallery, my two sisters-in-law – who are the greatest poll workers of all time; they throw down at the polls – my aunt, Anne Veet; I have Jill Zanolini; Leeann Matteo – I always go by their Burkhardt, by the maiden name; sorry, ladies. And then Ella is up there in the gallery, Ella Zanolini; and my nephew, Brayden, Brayden Matteo. So thank you so much for coming here. You are the future, and it is important that you see this and you take part in that future.

Also thank you to my mother-in-law and father-in-law.

If you could please rise, Scot Burkhardt – sometimes he is called Mr. Toohil; he does not like that – but that is Scot Burkhardt, my husband. He is a king of a man. And I am glad that he has also endured politics on my behalf. And, Scot, P.S. I am still not going to cook dinner even though I have this new role. So there is that.

And we have an extended family who is watching today – Attorney Lorine Ogurkis, the cofounder of Brandon's Forever Home, which is founded in my brother's name. It is a nonprofit for foster children and an advocacy center for adoptions.

And I also have many special mentions, so I will try to go through this quickly. I remember at my first swearing-in coming in here and thinking, who are all these people? How could there be so many; 203 State Representatives? And you all have such an important role for your districts and I came to understand that. And what would a farewell speech be without calling out some of your colleagues that you are leaving behind?

For my election to the judiciary, you can blame Representative Aaron Kaufer. He worked so hard in our county and on my election. So if any of you miss me at all, you can bring that up with him.

The entire northeast Republican delegation, I came to love you all so much.

Whip Donna Oberlander, who was a big sister to me, an adviser.

House Majority Leader Benninghoff, thank you for allowing me to serve as the chairwoman of the Government Oversight Committee after the esteemed chairman, Mr. Grove.

And Speaker Cutler: if I would have known that you would have me speak after Ed Gainey yesterday, the great orator and now going to be the mayor of Pittsburgh, then I definitely would have went before him. I even have family members and staff that watched him yesterday and they thought, oh, you are in trouble that you have to speak after him. And I said, I know. So I have to thank the Speaker of the House for that.

Thank you for your indulgence yesterday of letting me up here to practice. Thank you for all of your time that you put towards Pennsylvanians. I know that your family endures that as well. And the House is truly blessed with your brilliant intelligence – and I always say, "He is so intelligent. He is so intelligent." – and your steadfast leadership. So you are one of the greats. I know they always talk about Matt Ryan, but he is one of the greats, Speaker Cutler.

I want to thank Seamus Smith and the entire House security team and the Capitol Police. Thank you for keeping all of us safe.

My retired staffer, Debi Reznick – she is watching online today. We have a volunteer office mom who is a retired State worker who comes in and helps, Gayle Lukas. My staffer, Lucas Yench. My former staffer that Representative Rader stole, her name is Jenny DeLeo and he stole her from me and she is wonderful. Our staff works so hard and there are so many times in our lives – countless, countless times – where we are in the grocery store and people stop us to thank us, and all of those thank-yous are for you, our staff, and all of your hard work. My chief of staff, Melia Molinaro, she is watching. We are very thankful that you have such a big brain where you store all the information and also make duplicate copies of all of my files. I have been grateful for that. When I cannot find a file, she always has a duplicate. My staffer, Chris Pavlick, if you could stand. He is the Frank Sinatra of our district, a little-known fact – well, everybody knows it in our district – and he is also the constituent outreach specialist.

I want to thank Rod Corey, Counsel Tom Dymek, Counsel Testa, Nicole Sidle, and a long, long list. There are countless people that I am not going to mention, some who have departed this earth and some who are watching right now. And listen, you are watching and you know who you are, and you have had such an impact on my life and I want to thank you.

To unfinished business: the children of Pennsylvania. There is so much that I could say and so much that I could leave you with. And please, I hope that the children of Pennsylvania weigh heavy on your hearts. I am attaching some unfinished bills and information for the record. And in my opinion, children are the most unrepresented people of Pennsylvania. They cannot vote and they have no high-paid lobbyist that walks these halls to speak of. I have to say that having Chairwoman Delozier at the helm of the Children and Youth Committee gives me hope and it makes it easier for me to leave, and I wish you all the best.

And I just want to say, in my opinion, DHS (Department of Human Services) – many times as State Representatives you meet with DHS and you have questions for DHS, but it is important that they are a separate branch and they are a bureaucracy. And bureaucracy is so impervious to change and they are also, a bureaucracy is not good at critiquing themselves, and that is such a big role of the legislature. So being impervious to change and not being able to critique yourself is a dangerous combination.

What a great honor and a sincere privilege it has been to work within these halls. What a place that you are all in, my former colleagues now, but such a place to do good. I want to thank you.

And I want to leave you all with your favorite quote: "Mr. Speaker, I submit the rest of my remarks for the record."

Thank you, thank you, thank you. God bless you all.

REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Ms. TOOHIL submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

Rather than take up any more time with my speech, I have chosen to submit the remainder of my remarks for the record.

To-do list for reference of any of my remaining bills that I was not able to get over the finish line.

Independent watchdog group, like the Center for Children's Justice with Cathleen Palm could be a line item in the budget and should be able to work to bring up points of criticism and change for children in Pennsylvania.

Postpartum depression funding bill/program.

Family finding update for foster care.

BHA (Behavioral Health Administration) reform: Elimination of shadow justice. Report of former Auditor DePasquale.

Kayden's Law reforms, amendments.

Line item for Center for Children's Justice, watchdog group, push for reforms.

Caseworker adequate funding – more of teachers' model with 9 months on, 3 months off to reduce caseworker burnout.

Adequate funding for child welfare.

Caseworker safety legislation.

Health care for undocumented children – they are children and in the U.S. by no fault of their own.

Juvenile justice reforms.

Child Welfare Interbranch, much like the Juvenile Justice Interbranch, also funding for the child.

Tracking for former foster youth, housing funding if necessary even on college and trade school levels, age 26 as with health care.

I am sending up a prayer of thanks to my colleagues and a prayer for blessings upon them. I have found it helpful to look to the prayer from Isaiah 6:8: "Whom shall I send?" My heart has always said, "Here I am, Lord. Send me!"

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Representative Toohil.

At this time I will invite Representative Toohil's family up to the rostrum; we will do some photographs. She already gave the shout-out to her husband, Scot; and children, Alexandra, Blaise, and Jacob, so welcome to the hall of the House, and thanks for sharing your wife and your mom with us.

And, Representative Toohil, I agree with you in that there is no greater constituency than the young folks and the kids, because that is our tomorrow.

The House will be at ease.

The House will please return to order.

REMARKS BY MAJORITY LEADER

The SPEAKER. For what purpose does the majority leader rise?

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Mr. Speaker, a point of personal privilege on Representative Toohil.

The SPEAKER. It is not personal privilege but you may proceed, sir.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. My apologies.

I just wanted to say on behalf of the Republican Caucus as well that we will dearly miss Representative Toohil. I said to my colleague to my left, I have truly, in somewhat of a fatherly manner, enjoyed watching her growth and her maturity here. To her family, you must be very, very proud. To her father, I happen to be adopted, and my parents also took care of about 70 children for the county, so we know that that intricately spills over to the children, but your daughter – and to your husband – your daughter and wife has been a great blessing to us. And as much as we hate to see Tarah move on, the growth that she has been having here and what she has delivered to this floor, we know she will do tenfold, and it gives us some consolation that she will be that judge, that advocate, that beautiful person for the children of Pennsylvania.

Good luck. As a father sending somebody off to get married or to college, that is the pain I feel in my heart, but I feel so proud of you. Congratulations.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am grateful.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Turning to other visitor recognition.

Located in the gallery, the Chair is pleased to welcome Representative Gleim's daughter, Kait Williamson, whom I had the privilege of meeting earlier. Welcome.

Also located in the gallery, the Chair is pleased to welcome Damian Smith from South Africa. He is a freshman attending the University of Charleston, West Virginia. He is the guest of Representative Tom Mehaffie. Welcome.

Located in the gallery, the Chair is pleased to welcome the members of the organization YEAH Philly. YEAH Philly stands for Youth Empowerment for Advancement Hangout. It is a community-based nonprofit that works with teens and young adults in West and Southwest Philly who have been impacted by violence. They are the guests of Representative Krajewski. Welcome.

Located in the gallery, the Chair is pleased to welcome Representative Mihalek's district office manager, Electra Janis. Welcome.

Located in the gallery, the Chair is pleased to welcome Paige Richter, a senior at Camp Hill High School, who captured first place during the PIAA State Class AA Girls Individual Golf Championship, with a score of 73. She is here today with her parents, Peter and Leslie; her sister, Peyton; and her aunt, Rauna Bowman. They are the guests of Representative Rothman. Congratulations, Paige. For the information of the members, she is a scratch golfer, so you might want her for your scramble foursome.

Located in the gallery, the Chair is pleased to welcome the State Champion East Juniata High School Boys Soccer Team. The team captured first place in the 2021 PIAA Class A Boys Soccer Championship under the leadership of head coach Cory Fronk and assistant coaches Tyler Inch and Steve Fronk. They are the guests of Representative Hershey. Congratulations, men, and good luck next season.

Located in the well of the House, the Chair is pleased to welcome guest page Aliza Compher. She is a junior at Tome School. She is here today with her father, Doug, who is seated in the gallery, and they are the guests of Representative John Lawrence. Welcome.

The House will be momentarily at ease while we have some additional guests let onto the floor.

Members, we will return to order.

Please take your seats. We are about to do a retirement recognition.

ANN BERTOLINO RECOGNIZED

The SPEAKER. Ann Bertolino, senior budget analyst for the House Appropriations Committee. Today I am pleased to recognize Ann, who is retiring after 35 years of dedicated service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the House of Representatives. Ann currently serves as a senior budget analyst for the House Republican Appropriations Committee, specializing in issues relating to health and human services. Prior to her service with the House, Ann worked in the executive branch as the director of the Bureau of Budget Administration and chief of the Office of Public Welfare.

Ann, on behalf of the entire House of Representatives, I thank you for your selfless service to this body and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – and as a side note, for the personal help you have given me on a variety of issues as well.

Representative Saylor has some additional remarks he would like to share, but before he begins, I would like to recognize the members of Ann's family who have joined us here today. Seated to the left of the rostrum, I would like to welcome Ann's mother, Mary Ellen Bertolino; her sisters, Sue Lawson and Karen Bertolino; and her sister and brother-in-law, Barb and Tom Rupp. Please rise and be welcomed. Thank you for sharing Ann with us. With them are Ann's nephew, Ryan Lawson, and her niece, Kati Brillhart.

Congratulations and best wishes, Ann, to you and your entire family.

At this time the Chair will recognize Chairman Saylor for some additional remarks, and the presentation of the citation will follow.

Mr. SAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Today I want to recognize someone who has been a trusted adviser, a tireless voice, and a dedicated public servant, not just to me as Appropriations chairman, but to our whole caucus. After 35 years, Ann is deciding to say goodbye to the House of Representatives.

Ann Bertolino will be retiring in a few weeks and we thought it was only appropriate to make sure that we recognize her for her service to this Commonwealth and to the taxpayers. For those of you who know Ann, both on the Democratic and Republican sides, know that she does not like to be in the spotlight, but she absolutely deserves this spotlight.

I wanted to thank Ann's family for joining us today, too, for this celebration, because we want to note that her entire Appropriations family is sitting in the gallery today, also, wishing her the very best.

You know, after Ann graduated from Penn State with an accounting degree, Ann began her career with the Commonwealth as an auditor in the Treasury Department. Her career took her to the Department of Public Welfare, also then to the Governor's Budget Office, and finally, to our staff 8 years ago.

Over the past 8 years, Ann has truly been an invaluable member of our team here in the House of Representatives. Her knowledge of the very vast array of health and human services programs throughout the State budget is unmatched in this House and this chamber – and I really mean that. Many people have sought Ann out for advice and counsel throughout this Commonwealth. We presented a lot of difficult challenges to Ann over the years, and she has never failed to come back with a solution to those problems.

You know, I have been kidding Ann – because I really, really am going to miss her – that I had actually slipped a provision in the Fiscal Code that would require her to work for another 5 years. But she reminds me that she reads every little detail of every Fiscal Code and that it was not in there and it was not going to get past her eyesight.

Anyway, Ann, it is a bittersweet day for me and, I think, the members of the House who love you. We certainly will miss your counsel, your quick wit, and we will recognize that you have earned, and truly earned, this retirement. So enjoy your life at a pace that you set and to have time to do your travels – and I know you just got back from a trip with your mom – and you will now have a great deal of time to work in your garden and harvest and all those kinds of things. I hope you will not forget us and you will come back to visit. I might be calling you at home for some advice sometimes.

All of her help over the years with our budget has been so critical, and working with the administration, of all Republicans and Democrats over the years, Ann has been a valuable asset to this Commonwealth. So I want to thank you, Ann, for everything you have done for the House of Representatives and for our Commonwealth and wish you a very enjoyable retirement. God bless, and I have a citation, Ann, here for you.

The SPEAKER. Chairman Saylor, if you and Ann and her family would like to come up to the rostrum, we can do the citation presentation.

Ann, once again, thank you for your service. It is noteworthy that with your retirement, and previously with Audrey's retirement from the Democratic Caucus, we literally have lost decades of institutional knowledge between the two of you. And while we are happy for your retirement, we will certainly miss

some of the knowledge that you both brought to the table. I, for one, will always remember our trip to Washington, DC, when we had the Medicaid discussions with the Federal government and some of the changes there that ultimately made the Commonwealth a better place. So thank you for making that trip and allowing me to be part of your journey here in the House as well. Enjoy your retirement.

BILLS SIGNED BY SPEAKER

Bills numbered and entitled as follows having been prepared for presentation to the Governor, and the same being correct, the titles were publicly read as follows:

HB 291, PN 257

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 determination of eligibility.

HB 1260, PN 2320

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 the pharmaceutical assistance contract for the elderly needs enhancement tier, for board, for powers of the department and for coordination of benefits.

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

RULES AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The SPEAKER. Turning to committee announcements. The Chair will recognize the gentleman, Representative Saylor, to make sure that Ann has at least one more committee meeting to attend.

Mr. SAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

First, I would like to announce a Rules Committee meeting at noon, and at 12:08 the Appropriations Committee will meet in the – both committees will meet in the majority caucus room, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and appreciates his accurateness of numbers, given your position as Appropriations chairman.

The Rules Committee will meet at noon in the majority caucus room. The Appropriations Committee will meet at 12:08 in the majority caucus room.

Any other committee announcements?

STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Seth Grove, for a committee announcement.

Mr. GROVE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I just want to announce an immediate voting meeting of the State Government Committee to take up HB 2146.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Would the chair please specify the location of the meeting?

Mr. GROVE. Thank you. It is in room 523, Irvis Office Building.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The State Government Committee will meet immediately in room 523, Irvis Office Building.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Dunbar, for a caucus announcement.

Mr. DUNBAR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Republicans will caucus at 12:30 in the majority caucus room. We will be prepared to be back on the floor at 1:30; that is 12:30 in the majority caucus room.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Hill-Evans, for a caucus announcement.

Mrs. EVANS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Democrats will caucus at 12:30, hybrid; that is 12:30, hybrid. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. This House will stand in recess until 1:30 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

RECESS EXTENDED

The time of recess was extended until 1:45 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

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

BILLS REREPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

HB 1108, PN 1147 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fishing licenses, further providing for exemptions from license requirements.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 1694, PN 2324 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending the act of February 2, 1966 (1965 P.L.1860, No.586), entitled "An act encouraging landowners to make land and water areas available to the public for recreational purposes by limiting liability in connection therewith, and repealing certain acts," further providing for definitions, for duty to keep premises safe and warning and for assurance of safe premises and duty of care and responsibility and liability.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 1822, PN 2066 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in dispositions independent of letters, family exemption, probate of wills and grant of letters, further providing for payments to family and funeral directors.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 1877, PN 2528 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in alteration of territory or corporate entity and dissolution, providing for municipal boundary change; and making related repeals.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 1985, PN 2384 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in wiretapping and electronic surveillance, further providing for exceptions to prohibition of interception and disclosure of communications.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 2016, PN 2531 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in dispositions independent of letters, family exemption and probate of wills and grant of letters, further providing for settlement of small estates on petition.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 2033, PN 2530 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act providing for COVID-19 testing; establishing the COVID-19 At-Home Testing Distribution Program; and making an inconsistent repeal.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 2075, PN 2529 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act providing for the procedure relating to the suspension of the Pennsylvania Heavy-Duty Diesel Emissions Control Program and for the applicability of Federal standards.

APPROPRIATIONS.

SB 106, PN 1279 By Rep. SAYLOR

A Joint Resolution proposing separate and distinct amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for action on concurrent orders and resolutions and for Lieutenant Governor; providing for executive orders; further providing for qualifications of electors; and providing for election audits.

APPROPRIATIONS.

SB 729, PN 831 By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending the act of June 9, 1997 (P.L.169, No.14), known as the Nurse Aide Resident Abuse Prevention Training Act, further providing for implementation.

APPROPRIATIONS.

**BILLS ON CONCURRENCE
REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

HB 1255, PN 2532 By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in facilities and supplies, providing for additional surcharge; in limitation of time, providing for real estate appraisals; and making a related repeal.

RULES.

HB 1332, PN 2272 By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, providing for online curriculum availability.

RULES.

HB 1837, PN 2394 By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, in procedure, further providing for modifications, reinstatements, suspensions and terminations and for compromise and release.

RULES.

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

HB 2049, PN 2358 By Rep. METZGAR

An Act amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; and, in licenses and regulations and liquor, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages, further providing for public venue license.

LIQUOR CONTROL.

HB 2059, PN 2367 By Rep. METZGAR

An Act amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, in licenses and regulations and liquor, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages, further providing for sale of malt or brewed beverages by liquor licensees, for wine expanded permits and for retail dispensers' restrictions on purchases and sales.

LIQUOR CONTROL.

**HOUSE BILLS
INTRODUCED AND REFERRED**

No. 2171 By Representatives FRITZ, BERNSTINE, RYAN, WELBY, MILLARD, PEIFER, KOSIEROWSKI, PENNYCUICK and PICKETT

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, on behalf of the Commonwealth, and with the approval of the Governor, to quitclaim and release to the Waymart Area Historical Society any right, title or interest it may have with respect to certain historical use restrictions and a related reversionary interest affecting certain real property situate in the Township of Canaan, County of Wayne.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, December 15, 2021.

No. 2172 By Representatives ROAE, PENNYCUICK, RYAN, HAMM, MAJOR, STAMBAUGH, BERNSTINE, SMITH and GLEIM

An Act amending the act of September 30, 1983 (P.L.160, No.39), known as the Public Official Compensation Law, further providing for members of the General Assembly.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, December 15, 2021.

SENATE BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

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

SB 337, PN 683

Referred to Committee on GAME AND FISHERIES, December 15, 2021.

SB 428, PN 432

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, December 15, 2021.

SB 562, PN 1274

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, December 15, 2021.

SB 931, PN 1196

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, December 15, 2021.

SB 932, PN 1197

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, December 15, 2021.

SENATE MESSAGE

AMENDED HOUSE BILL RETURNED
FOR CONCURRENCE AND
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES

The clerk of the Senate, being introduced, returned **HB 412, PN 2533**, with information that the Senate has passed the same with amendment in which the concurrence of the House of Representatives is requested.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. The gentlemen, Representatives GAINNEY and WHEATLEY, have requested to be placed on leave. Without objection, the leaves will be so granted.

CALENDAR

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2045, PN 2410**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, providing for teacher support in the Science of Reading Program.

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

Mr. **ORTITAY** offered the following amendment No. **A03080**:

- Amend Bill, page 2, line 6, by inserting after "assist" participating
- Amend Bill, page 2, line 25, by inserting after "THE" participating
- Amend Bill, page 3, lines 3 and 4, by striking out ", BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES" and inserting school entities
- Amend Bill, page 4, line 18, by inserting after "A" participating
- Amend Bill, page 4, line 27, by inserting after "TEACHERS.—THE" continuing
- Amend Bill, page 4, line 28, by striking out "SHALL" and inserting may
- Amend Bill, page 5, by inserting between lines 27 and 28 "Participating school entity." A school entity that elects to take part in the science of reading program.

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

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Ortitay.

Mr. ORTITAY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This amendment clarifies that this bill is voluntary for the schools that want to participate. It is not a mandate. It is completely up to them. And we also define what a "participating school" is in the amendment. I would ask for a "yes" vote.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Those in favor of the amendment will vote "aye"; those opposed, "no"— Is the gentleman, Representative Ciresi, seeking recognition? I just ask that you would stand next to a microphone so that we can see you. You are in order and may proceed, sir.

Mr. CIRESI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to thank the Representative for working with us on the clarification of this bill. We had some questions in committee and he worked with us to make sure that it was cleared up. So thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman for that great news.

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

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longiatti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappery
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causer	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufman	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuick	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey Quinn Wheatley

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 **SB 324, PN 850**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in pupils and attendance, providing for assisting students experiencing education instability.

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

* * *

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1665, PN 2406**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 9, 1970 (P.L.484, No.164), entitled "An act relating to indemnification agreements between architects, engineers or surveyors and owners, contractors, subcontractors or suppliers," further providing for title of act and providing for indemnification agreements relating to snow removal or ice control services.

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

* * *

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1679, PN 2407**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, in automobile insurance issuance, renewal, cancellation and refusal, providing for policy changes.

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

* * *

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1680, PN 2408**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 22, 1974 (P.L.589, No.205), known as the Unfair Insurance Practices Act, providing for policy changes.

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

* * *

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2072, PN 2409**, entitled:

An Act providing for payment of delinquent Children's Health Insurance Program premium balances.

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

* * *

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1947, PN 2223**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preemptions, providing for restrictions on utility services prohibited.

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

Mr. **FREEMAN** offered the following amendment No. **A02763**:

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 10 and 11, by striking out " ;
(i) Adopt a policy" and inserting

adopt an ordinance or resolution

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 11 and 12, by striking out "or has the effect of restricting or prohibiting."

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 16 through 18; page 2, line 1; by striking out all of said lines on said pages

Amend Bill, page 2, lines 2 through 4, by striking out "policy, or part of a policy, that is adopted by a" in line 2, all of line 3 and "of restricting or prohibiting." in line 4 and inserting

municipality may not adopt an ordinance or resolution that restricts or prohibits

Amend Bill, page 3, lines 3 through 6, by striking out all of said lines

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

AMENDMENTS WITHDRAWN

The SPEAKER. And on that question, the Chair recognizes the good gentleman, Representative Freeman.

Mr. FREEMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to withdraw 2763 and also 2786 and proceed with my other amendments.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

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

Mr. **FREEMAN** offered the following amendment No. **A02781**:

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 11 and 12, by striking out "a policy that restricts or prohibits, or has the effect of restricting or prohibiting," and inserting

an ordinance or resolution that restricts or prohibits

Amend Bill, page 2, lines 2 through 4, by striking out "policy, or part of a policy, that is adopted by a" in line 2, all of line 3 and "of restricting or prohibiting," in line 4 and inserting

municipality may not adopt an ordinance or resolution that restricts or prohibits

Amend Bill, page 3, lines 3 through 6, by striking out all of said lines

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

The SPEAKER. And on that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Freeman.

Mr. FREEMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of concerns I have with this legislation, concerns shared with most local government organizations, associations, and just about every environmental group in the State.

To begin with, the legislation in question is not necessary. It really is a solution in search of a problem that does not exist, as no municipality has to date in Pennsylvania tried to enact legislation to prohibit anyone from being able to access an energy source or utility legally here in Pennsylvania. It is also not necessary because local government cannot regulate utilities. That role and jurisdiction lies with the PUC (Public Utility Commission), not with our municipal entities.

And finally, it is overly broad. The overly broad nature of the language of this bill could very well result in a number of legal actions being taken by energy sources and energy companies against municipalities for doing something as innocuous as trying to promote energy conservation and alternative energy resources. That is simply wrong.

The amendment that we have before us now, amendment 2781, makes a very important change, but one which really just tries to narrow the focus of the current bill. Currently the bill would say that "A municipality may not...Adopt a policy that restricts or prohibits, or has the effect of restricting or prohibiting, the connection or reconnection of a utility service based upon the type of source of energy to be delivered to an individual consumer within the municipality." My language would take that out and in its place stipulate that the municipality may not adopt an ordinance or a resolution that restricts or prohibits the connection of a utility service based upon a resource of energy to be delivered to a consumer or the ability of the individual entity to use the services of a utility service provider. That is a very important distinction, and one that we need to make to clean this legislation up.

Municipalities, as I mentioned, do not have jurisdiction over energy issues; that is a PUC matter. But if we are to zone in and focus in on those areas that the prime sponsor and his supporters are concerned about as far as a municipality taking action, the only legal action they can take is by ordinance or resolution. They do not enact broad policy matters. Perhaps the State does that, perhaps the Federal government, but at the municipal level, any legal action has to be done by ordinance or resolution. So all my

amendment simply does is replace that broad reference to adopting policy with an act of a municipality to adopt an ordinance or resolution. It would, in effect, prohibit municipalities from adopting ordinances or resolutions that would prohibit the use of any utility or energy source.

It also removes, in this amendment, the term "policy." It is very loosely defined within the bill. Currently it states that a policy is "A requirement, including a zoning or building code requirement or restriction, which is imposed by ordinance, resolution, rule, code, land use regulation, general or specific plan provision or otherwise." Again, very broad, very subjective, inappropriate in this legislation, and frankly, does not do what the intent is of this bill. By removing the policy, we again put the focus on ordinances and resolutions. That is the only legal actions that a municipality can take. The other areas that are covered by policy are very strictly governed by things such as the municipality's planning code and are not under the ability of the municipality to alter in a freewheeling sense.

So I would urge the members to adopt this amendment. It really narrows the focus and the scope of the bill to those actions a municipality can take, which are by ordinance and resolution, and would prohibit them from being able to enact such an ordinance or resolution pertaining to the choice of utility or energy. I urge a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative O'Neal, on the amendment.

Mr. O'NEAL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And thank you to the good gentleman for offering this amendment. You know, this amendment was also offered in committee, and the exact response I gave in committee is that this amendment undermines the entire purpose of this bill. I offered to work with the good gentleman on finding an amendment that addresses his concerns. He has yet to approach me about working on any particular amendment.

Again, this amendment undermines the entire purpose of the legislation and I would urge the members to oppose the amendment. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Freeman, for the second time on the amendment.

Mr. FREEMAN. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And I appreciate the comments of the gentleman; however, discussing legislation and amendments is a two-way street. I would have happily met with him if he chose to meet with me. We talked about it at the committee meeting. No meetings were ever established.

But in correction to his statement that this was voted down in committee, this is a slightly different amendment from the amendment that was offered in committee. I had bifurcated this between this amendment and the following amendment, and this is one which I heard feedback from various members they would be more willing to support. Because again, it deals with the legal action a municipality can take. They can only act in a legal fashion on areas covering ordinances and resolutions. They do not deal in broad policy initiatives. They cannot enact broad policy initiatives. And again, they do not have jurisdiction over utility and energy matters. That is under the jurisdiction of the Public Utility Commission.

So this amendment would be met with favorability by many of the local government associations who currently are opposed to this bill. They feel that, at the very least, they could probably

be neutral if this language gets in because it does make the distinction of what is legally allowable and limits the scope to what is legally allowable.

I urge a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the good gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—85

Benham	Driscoll	Kirkland	Pashinski
Bizzarro	Evans	Kosierowski	Pisciottano
Boyle	Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb
Bradford	Fitzgerald	Krueger	Rozzi
Briggs	Frankel	Kulik	Samuelson
Brown, A.	Freeman	Lee	Sanchez
Bullock	Galloway	Madden	Sappey
Burgos	Guenst	Malagari	Schlossberg
Carroll	Guzman	Markosek	Schweyer
Cephas	Hanbidge	Matzie	Shusterman
Ciresi	Harkins	McClinton	Sims
Conklin	Harris	McNeill	Snyder
Cruz	Herrin	Merski	Solomon
Curry	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sturla
Daley	Howard	Mullery	Vitali
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Mullins	Warren
Davis, T.	Isaacson	Neilson	Webster
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Nelson, N.	Welby
Deasy	Kim	O'Mara	Williams, D.
DeLissio	Kinkead	Otten	Young
Dellosa	Kinsey	Parker	Zabel
DeLuca			

NAYS—115

Armanini	Gregory	Marshall	Rowe
Benninghoff	Greiner	Masser	Ryan
Bernstine	Grove	Mehaffie	Sainato
Boback	Hamm	Mentzer	Sankey
Bonner	Heffley	Mercuri	Saylor
Borowicz	Helm	Metcalfe	Schemel
Brooks	Hennessey	Metzgar	Schmitt
Brown, R.	Hershey	Mihalek	Schroeder
Burns	Hickernell	Millard	Silvis
Causar	Irvin	Miller, B.	Smith
Cook	James	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cox	Jones	Moul	Staats
Culver	Jozwiak	Mustello	Stambaugh
Davanzo	Kail	Nelson, E.	Stephens
Day	Kaufner	O'Neal	Struzzi
Delozier	Kauffman	Oberlander	Thomas
DelRosso	Keefer	Ortitay	Tomlinson
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Toohil
Dowling	Klunk	Peifer	Topper
Dunbar	Knowles	Pennycuik	Twardzik
Ecker	Labs	Pickett	Warner

Emrick	Lawrence	Polinchock	Wentling
Farry	Lewis	Puskaric	Wheeland
Fee	Longietti	Rader	White
Flood	Mackenzie, M.	Rapp	Williams, C.
Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rigby	Zimmerman
Gaydos	Major	Roae	
Gillen	Mako	Rossi	Cutler,
Gillespie	Maloney	Rothman	Speaker
Gleim			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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Less than the majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the negative and the amendment was not agreed to.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

Mr. **FREEMAN** offered the following amendment No. **A02782**:

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 10 and 11, by striking out "not;
(i) Adopt" and inserting

not adopt

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 16 through 18; page 2, line 1; by striking out all of said lines on said pages

On the question,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

The SPEAKER. And on that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Freeman.

Mr. FREEMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this amendment gets at another flaw in the bill in the fact that it is overly broad. The section I am trying to remove with my amendment states that "A municipality may not...Discriminate against a utility service provider based in whole or in part on the nature or source of the utility service provided for an individual consumer within the municipality." Again, keep in mind, local governments do not have jurisdiction over utility matters. Let me repeat that: Local governments do not have jurisdiction over utility matters. That comes under the jurisdiction and purview of the Public Utility Commission. So this section makes no sense whatsoever.

However, there are some potential unforeseen consequences from allowing this section to stay in, and that is that by saying that a municipality cannot discriminate – in a very broad sense, with not a clear definition – we really are setting the stage for the possibility that a municipality might make an effort to promote energy conservation within their community. They might promote alternative energy sources as a positive step forward within their community. They might be involved in a climate action plan to try and reduce the emissions in their community, all of which are good measures – good environmental measures, good energy measures – and yet one of the various energy interests or companies could construe that as being discriminatory to them because you are trying to conserve energy or you are trying to encourage renewable sources. Now, that should not be the case, but the way this discriminatory language

reads, it could very well be a case for a utility company or other energy source to bring action against a municipality for simply putting forth an effort to incentivize good energy efficiency and good possibility of renewable sources of energy within their community.

If this language stays in, it really opens the door to potential lawsuits, and in that result, costing our local taxpayers at the local level considerable money to defend good environmental policy.

I urge a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative O'Neal, on the amendment.

Mr. O'NEAL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Once again, this amendment undermines the entire intent of this bill. The reason why some of these policies might be considered discriminatory is because they are. That is the intent of the legislation: to ensure that we are not discriminating against energy sources into private residences, into businesses.

I urge a "no" vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—85

Benham	Driscoll	Kirkland	Pashinski
Bizzarro	Evans	Kosierowski	Pisciottano
Boyle	Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb
Bradford	Fitzgerald	Krueger	Rozzi
Briggs	Frankel	Kulik	Samuelson
Brown, A.	Freeman	Lee	Sanchez
Bullock	Galloway	Madden	Sappey
Burgos	Guent	Malagari	Schlossberg
Carroll	Guzman	Markosek	Schweyer
Cephas	Hanbidge	Matzie	Shusterman
Ciresi	Harkins	McClinton	Sims
Conklin	Harris	McNeill	Snyder
Cruz	Herrin	Merski	Solomon
Curry	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sturla
Daley	Howard	Mullery	Vitali
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Mullins	Warren
Davis, T.	Isaacson	Neilson	Webster
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Nelson, N.	Welby
Deasy	Kim	O'Mara	Williams, D.
DeLissio	Kinthead	Otten	Young
Delloso	Kinsey	Parker	Zabel
DeLuca			

NAYS—115

Armanini	Gregory	Marshall	Rowe
Benninghoff	Greiner	Masser	Ryan
Bernstine	Grove	Mehaffie	Sainato
Boback	Hamm	Mentzer	Sankey
Bonner	Heffley	Mercuri	Saylor
Borowicz	Helm	Metcalfe	Schemel
Brooks	Hennessey	Metzgar	Schmitt
Brown, R.	Hershey	Mihalek	Schroeder
Burns	Hickernell	Millard	Silvis
Causer	Irvin	Miller, B.	Smith
Cook	James	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cox	Jones	Moul	Staats
Culver	Jozwiak	Mustello	Stambaugh
Davanzo	Kail	Nelson, E.	Stephens
Day	Kaufner	O'Neal	Struzzi
DeLozier	Kauffman	Oberlander	Thomas
DelRosso	Keefer	Ortitay	Tomlinson
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Toohil
Dowling	Klunk	Peifer	Topper
Dunbar	Knowles	Pennycook	Twardzik
Ecker	Labs	Pickett	Warner
Emrick	Lawrence	Polinchock	Wentling
Farry	Lewis	Puskaric	Wheeland
Fee	Longietti	Rader	White
Flood	Mackenzie, M.	Rapp	Williams, C.
Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rigby	Zimmerman
Gaydos	Major	Roae	
Gillen	Mako	Rossi	Cutler,
Gillespie	Maloney	Rothman	Speaker
Gleim			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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Less than the majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the negative and the amendment was not agreed to.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

Mr. **FREEMAN** offered the following amendment No. **A02795**:

Amend Bill, page 2, line 15, by striking out all of said line and inserting

(c) Construction.—

(1) A municipality's land use authority under

Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 19 and 20

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a municipality from implementing or promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives and programs.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the good gentleman, Representative Freeman.

Mr. FREEMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this is a proposal, this amendment is a proposal which should meet with broad-based support. All we are saying in this amendment is that nothing in the bill would prohibit the

ability for local municipalities to continue to implement programs that provide for energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives and programs. That should be a goal that we all share, Republican or Democrat; urban, rural, or suburban. We should be promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy incentives and programs; that is common sense. And it is in keeping with good, sound energy policy as well as good environmental policy. And it is my understanding that the environmental groups who are opposed to this bill do support this particular language because it does promote a good end: energy conservation and renewable energy initiatives and programs.

I would hope that we could reach across the aisle on this particular amendment, embrace it, and put it in the bill as a good piece of public policy that is not at odds with the rest of the gentleman's proposal.

I urge a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative O'Neal, on the amendment.

Mr. O'NEAL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Once again, this amendment undermines the entire purpose of this bill. As a matter of fact, the bill actually states that a municipality can take steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from their municipal facilities and operations, including purchasing renewable energy. The fact of the matter is, they can continue to take measures as long as they are not discriminatory to encourage renewable sources.

I would urge a "no" vote. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Freeman, for the second time on the amendment.

Mr. FREEMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just a point of clarification based upon the statement by the previous speaker. He referenced the fact that the current legislation would allow municipalities to do this, but it is only on their buildings and their property. They would not be able to engage in any kind of broad-based community program that would provide opportunities to implement programs to promote energy efficiency, energy conservation, renewable energy initiatives and programs.

Whether you support or oppose this legislation, we should all be supporting the efforts by communities to be able to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and to deal with the very important and grappling issues pertaining to energy and environment within our communities. Climate change is real. Environmental impacts are real.

We should do everything within our power to make sure that municipalities, State government, Federal government, are promoting good programs for energy efficiency, for being able to conserve energy and for also promoting renewable energy initiatives that will benefit everyone.

I urge a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

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

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—85

Benham	Driscoll	Kirkland	Pashinski
Bizzarro	Evans	Kosierowski	Pisciottano
Boyle	Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb
Bradford	Fitzgerald	Krueger	Rozzi
Briggs	Frankel	Kulik	Samuelson
Brown, A.	Freeman	Lee	Sanchez
Bullock	Galloway	Madden	Sappay
Burgos	Guenst	Malagari	Schlossberg
Carroll	Guzman	Markosek	Schweyer
Cephas	Hanbidge	Matzie	Shusterman
Ciresi	Harkins	McClinton	Sims
Conklin	Harris	McNeill	Snyder
Cruz	Herrin	Merski	Solomon
Curry	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sturla
Daley	Howard	Mullery	Vitali
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Mullins	Warren
Davis, T.	Isaacson	Neilson	Webster
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Nelson, N.	Welby
Deasy	Kim	O'Mara	Williams, D.
DeLissio	Kinhead	Otten	Young
Delloso	Kinsey	Parker	Zabel
DeLuca			

NAYS—115

Armanini	Gregory	Marshall	Rowe
Benninghoff	Greiner	Masser	Ryan
Bernstine	Grove	Mehaffie	Sainato
Boback	Hamm	Mentzer	Sankey
Bonner	Heffley	Mercuri	Saylor
Borowicz	Helm	Metcalfe	Schemel
Brooks	Hennessey	Metzgar	Schmitt
Brown, R.	Hershey	Mihalek	Schroeder
Burns	Hickernell	Millard	Silvis
Causar	Irvin	Miller, B.	Smith
Cook	James	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cox	Jones	Moul	Staats
Culver	Jozwiak	Mustello	Stambaugh
Davanzo	Kail	Nelson, E.	Stephens
Day	Kaufner	O'Neal	Struzzi
Delozier	Kauffman	Oberlander	Thomas
DelRosso	Keefer	Ortitay	Tomlinson
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Toohil
Dowling	Klunk	Peifer	Topper
Dunbar	Knowles	Pennycuik	Twardzik
Ecker	Labs	Pickett	Warner
Emrick	Lawrence	Polinchock	Wentling
Farry	Lewis	Puskaric	Wheeland
Fee	Longietti	Rader	White
Flood	Mackenzie, M.	Rapp	Williams, C.
Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rigby	Zimmerman
Gaydos	Major	Roae	
Gillen	Mako	Rossi	Cutler,
Gillespie	Maloney	Rothman	Speaker
Gleim			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey Quinn Wheatley

Less than the majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the negative and the amendment was not agreed to.

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

BILL REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE, CONSIDERED FIRST TIME, AND TABLED

HB 2146, PN 2541 (Amended) By Rep. GROVE

An Act apportioning this Commonwealth into congressional districts in conformity with constitutional requirements; providing for the nomination and election of Congressmen; and requiring publication of notice of the establishment of congressional districts following the Federal decennial census.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

SENATE MESSAGE

AMENDED HOUSE BILL RETURNED
FOR CONCURRENCE AND
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES

The clerk of the Senate, being introduced, returned **HB 2071, PN 2518**, with information that the Senate has passed the same with amendment in which the concurrence of the House of Representatives is requested.

RESOLUTION

Mr. RIGBY called up **HR 149, PN 2298**, entitled:

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study the costs and methods for permit holders to comply with the proposed revisions to General Permit PAG-07, General Permit PAG-08 and General Permit PAG-09 called for under Pennsylvania's Phase 3 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan and to provide for a moratorium on revisions to General Permit PAG-07, General Permit PAG-08 and General Permit PAG-09 until the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee reports its findings and conclusions to the House of Representatives.

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

Mr. **RIGBY** offered the following amendment No. **A03185**:

Amend Resolution, page 3, line 13, by inserting after "PAG-09" and how these costs may be passed on beyond the permit holders
Amend Resolution, page 3, lines 14 through 23, by striking out all of said lines and inserting

RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee assess whether permit holders, considering current technology, would practically be able to comply with the proposed revisions to PAG-07, PAG-08 and PAG-09; and be it further

Amend Resolution, page 3, line 27, by striking out "12" and inserting
18

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

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Rigby.

Mr. RIGBY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I am offering this amendment after some conversations with the LB&FC (Legislative Budget and Finance Committee) to address some concerns they raised. The amendment does two things. Number one, it limits the scope of what we are asking the LB&FC to study to allow them to focus on the major issues, the cost of these permit revisions to permit holders and to the ratepayers across the Commonwealth. And number two, it extends the time that the LB&FC has to complete the study from 12 months to 18 months at their request, a request which was made based on the current workload to allow them ample time to complete this study.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the good gentleman, Representative Vitali, on the amendment.

Mr. VITALI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in opposition to the amendment. I have argument made to the bill, but I think the argument I have applies to the amendment too.

The Department of Environmental Protection has concerns about the resolution. They do not make it a business of taking a position per se on resolutions, reserving that for bills. But they say the bill, and I think this would apply to the amendment too, is simply premature. There are no current proposed revisions to the general permit governing this issue, biosolids, relating to these general permits in play yet, so we are asking, essentially — the prime sponsor is asking for a study on something that really does not exist yet. It is in the formative stages.

According to the DEP, with regard to its general permit, with regard to biosolids, they are in a predraft proposal stage. It is being analyzed by work groups. There is a DEP advisory committee forum. They are getting stakeholder feedback.

So the point is, this is all just premature. We should not be using the resources of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to be doing a study on something that is a work in progress.

So I would urge a "no" on the amendment and a "no" on the bill for roughly the same reasons. We do not really have a final product to analyze yet.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

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

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—119

Armanini	Greiner	Masser	Rowe
Benninghoff	Grove	Matzie	Ryan
Bernstine	Hamm	Mehaffie	Sainato
Boback	Heffley	Mentzer	Sankey
Bonner	Helm	Mercuri	Saylor
Borowicz	Hennessey	Metcalfe	Schemel
Brooks	Hershey	Metzgar	Schmitt
Brown, R.	Hickernell	Mihalek	Schroeder
Burns	Irvin	Millard	Silvis
Causar	James	Miller, B.	Smith
Cook	Jones	Mizgorski	Snyder
Cox	Jozwiak	Moul	Sonney
Culver	Kail	Mustello	Staats
Davanzo	Kaufar	Neilson	Stambaugh
Day	Kauffman	Nelson, E.	Stephens
Delozier	Keefer	O'Neal	Struzzi
DelRosso	Kerwin	Oberlander	Thomas
Diamond	Klunk	Ortitay	Tomlinson
Dowling	Knowles	Owlett	Toohil
Dunbar	Kulik	Peifer	Topper
Ecker	Labs	Pennycuik	Twardzik
Emrick	Lawrence	Pickett	Warner
Farry	Lewis	Polinchock	Wentling
Fee	Longietti	Puskaric	Wheeland
Flood	Mackenzie, M.	Rader	White
Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rapp	Williams, C.
Gaydos	Major	Rigby	Zimmerman
Gillen	Mako	Roae	
Gillespie	Maloney	Rossi	Cutler,
Gleim	Marshall	Rothman	Speaker
Gregory			

NAYS—81

Benham	DeLuca	Kinthead	Pashinski
Bizzarro	Driscoll	Kinsey	Pisciottano
Boyle	Evans	Kirkland	Rabb
Bradford	Fiedler	Kosierowski	Rozzi
Briggs	Fitzgerald	Krajewski	Samuelson
Brown, A.	Frankel	Krueger	Sanchez
Bullock	Freeman	Lee	Sappey
Burgos	Galloway	Madden	Schlossberg
Carroll	Guenst	Malagari	Schweyer
Cephas	Guzman	Markosek	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	McClinton	Sims
Conklin	Harkins	McNeill	Solomon
Cruz	Harris	Merski	Sturla
Curry	Herrin	Miller, D.	Vitali
Daley	Hohenstein	Mullery	Warren
Davis, A.	Howard	Mullins	Webster
Davis, T.	Innamorato	Nelson, N.	Welby
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Williams, D.
Deasy	Kenyatta	Otten	Young
DeLissio	Kim	Parker	Zabel
Delosso			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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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 adopt the resolution as amended?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman, Representative Rigby, calls up HR 149, PN 2542, which will be read by the clerk.

On the question recurring,

Will the House adopt the resolution as amended?

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Vitali, on final passage of the resolution.

Mr. VITALI. And the final point I will make in opposition to this, with regard to the DEP, is what we are talking about is a general permit, which the DEP describes as a convenience offered to the regulated community in exchange for complying with stricter environmental standards. They make the point that if the individual permittee does not want to go through the general permit process, they can just get an individual permit. They can just go through an alternative process and sidestep all this, and that is one more reason why this is not necessary, and I am going to be voting "no."

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Will the House adopt the resolution as amended?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—119

Armanini	Greiner	Masser	Rowe
Benninghoff	Grove	Matzie	Ryan
Bernstine	Hamm	Mehaffie	Sainato
Boback	Heffley	Mentzer	Sankey
Bonner	Helm	Mercuri	Saylor
Borowicz	Hennessey	Metcalfe	Schemel
Brooks	Hershey	Metzgar	Schmitt
Brown, R.	Hickernell	Mihalek	Schroeder
Burns	Irvin	Millard	Silvis
Causar	James	Miller, B.	Smith
Cook	Jones	Mizgorski	Snyder
Cox	Jozwiak	Moul	Sonney
Culver	Kail	Mustello	Staats
Davanzo	Kaufar	Neilson	Stambaugh
Day	Kauffman	Nelson, E.	Stephens
Delozier	Keefer	O'Neal	Struzzi
DelRosso	Kerwin	Oberlander	Thomas
Diamond	Klunk	Ortitay	Tomlinson

Dowling	Knowles	Owlett	Toohil
Dunbar	Kulik	Peifer	Topper
Ecker	Labs	Pennycuik	Twardzik
Emrick	Lawrence	Pickett	Warner
Farry	Lewis	Polinchock	Wentling
Fee	Longietti	Puskaric	Wheeland
Flood	Mackenzie, M.	Rader	White
Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rapp	Williams, C.
Gaydos	Major	Rigby	Zimmerman
Gillen	Mako	Roae	
Gillespie	Maloney	Rossi	Cutler,
Gleim	Marshall	Rothman	Speaker
Gregory			

NAYS—81

Benham	DeLuca	Kinthead	Pashinski
Bizzarro	Driscoll	Kinsey	Pisciottano
Boyle	Evans	Kirkland	Rabb
Bradford	Fiedler	Kosierowski	Rozzi
Briggs	Fitzgerald	Krajewski	Samuelson
Brown, A.	Frankel	Krueger	Sanchez
Bullock	Freeman	Lee	Sappery
Burgos	Galloway	Madden	Schlossberg
Carroll	Guent	Malagari	Schweyer
Cephas	Guzman	Markosek	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	McClinton	Sims
Conklin	Harkins	McNeill	Solomon
Cruz	Harris	Merski	Sturla
Curry	Herrin	Miller, D.	Vitali
Daley	Hohenstein	Mullery	Warren
Davis, A.	Howard	Mullins	Webster
Davis, T.	Innamorato	Nelson, N.	Welby
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Williams, D.
Deasy	Kenyatta	Otten	Young
DeLissio	Kim	Parker	Zabel
Delloso			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution as amended was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR A

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **SB 729, PN 831**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 9, 1997 (P.L.169, No.14), known as the Nurse Aide Resident Abuse Prevention Training Act, further providing for implementation.

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?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longietti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappery
Brooks	Guent	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causer	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufner	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DeRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuik	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey

Quinn

Wheatley

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 return the same to the Senate with the information that the House has passed the same without amendment.

* * *

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 2075**, **PN 2529**, entitled:

An Act providing for the procedure relating to the suspension of the Pennsylvania Heavy-Duty Diesel Emissions Control Program and for the applicability of Federal standards.

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?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Knowles.

Mr. KNOWLES. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, a few months ago I was approached by a trucking company in my district, and in the coming year, they are going to buy somewhere between 10 and 20 new trucks. Now, we all know that those new trucks are not cheap. Without this bill, if this regulation is not eliminated, the cost of those trucks will be \$2,000 to \$5,500 for each of those units.

This trucking company has a branch in Wisconsin, and they made it perfectly clear to me that if this happens that, quite frankly, they will buy and register those 20 trucks in Wisconsin. Now, we all talk about promoting Pennsylvania and I just think that is a terrible way to promote Pennsylvania.

I want to briefly give you a little history of exactly what happened here. In 2002 Pennsylvania adopted regulations which adopted California's regulations. Can you imagine that? We want to follow California? Recently DEP interpreted that if any changes are made in California, PA would accept those changes without any review. Only two States have warranty provisions like this, California and New Jersey – any surprise? I do not think so.

I want to note that if indeed this bill passes, Federal standards will remain in effect. These are the standards that we have been going with since 2002, but now that California has changed the standards, they are making it even worse. But again, if the bill passes, we still have to go by those Federal regulations, and

I think that covers things pretty well in terms of our environmental concerns.

There is no environmental benefit to this warranty provision. Trucks and emissions systems are the same. The trucking industry has slashed emissions by over 90 percent in the last 20 years, and even more importantly, it is kind of crazy, because if the emissions system fails, the truck automatically stops running. They cannot operate if the emissions system fails.

Mr. Speaker, this bill protects manufacturers and dealers from third-party lawsuits. I think that is important. The bill ensures DEP must promulgate a regulation when it wants to propose regulations on heavy-duty trucks. Without this bill, we will be required to follow every emissions, every emissions regulation that California imposes; that is going to be very hurtful to the trucking industry here in Pennsylvania.

I want to end by doing something that I very seldom do. I want to thank the administration. We have been negotiating with the administration. We have adopted an amendment yesterday so that DEP has agreed to be neutral on the bill. The reason that we did the amendment is, we do not want to just be talking; we want to get something done here. This is an opportunity for us to make things better for the trucking industry.

Mr. Speaker, not only has DEP agreed to be neutral, but I will tell you that the trucking industry is appreciative of what we are doing.

So thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would ask for an affirmative vote on HB 2075.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Vitali, on final passage.

Mr. VITALI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And I appreciate the gentleman working with the Department of Environmental Protection. Yes, they are in fact neutral on this bill. They do not support it. Environmental groups do not support it. But I think the big problem with this bill is it really is unnecessary.

The DEP has already published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin to do precisely what this bill would have it do, which is to suspend its involvement with the California program. So this bill is wholly unnecessary. I think to some degree, it could tie the DEP's hands as we move forward, but this is already in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, the announcement that it is suspending its involvement with the California program. So this is unnecessary. I personally do not want to do unnecessary things, so I will not be supporting it.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The gentleman, Representative Heffley, is seeking recognition and is recognized on final passage.

Mr. HEFFLEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And I rise in support of this bill. And it is absolutely necessary because DEP did not make that decision until November 6, until this legislation was in the works. And it is important to note that this in no way at all affects the emissions standards. The standards are the same.

What this regulation did was it put every truck dealer, heavy-truck dealer in the State of Pennsylvania at a competitive disadvantage, because if you buy a truck in the State of Pennsylvania, you had to buy a warranty system from anywhere as low as \$2500 up to \$3,000 or \$4,000 to have a warranty on the emissions system – the emissions system that you had to maintain no matter what.

So if you are a company looking to purchase 100 to 200 trucks – if you can even find them nowadays with the supply chain shortages and the manufacturing shortage – and you are in the State of Pennsylvania, you are going to spend \$2,000 to \$3,000 more per truck. Where are you going to go to buy your truck? The standards are the same. The emissions standards are the same in every State. This is simply a bad idea that came out of California that would cripple our heavy-truck industry and the sales in our State and cost us a lot of jobs.

So this bill is absolutely necessary, and I would ask for an affirmative vote on it.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Seeing no one else seeking recognition.

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.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—152

Armanini	Gillen	Maloney	Roae
Benninghoff	Gillespie	Markosek	Rossi
Bernstine	Gleim	Marshall	Rothman
Bizzarro	Gregory	Masser	Rowe
Boback	Greiner	Matzie	Rozzi
Bonner	Grove	McClinton	Ryan
Borowicz	Guenst	McNeill	Sainato
Bradford	Guzman	Mehaffie	Sankey
Brown, A.	Hamm	Mentzer	Saylor
Brown, R.	Harkins	Mercuri	Schemel
Burns	Harris	Merski	Schlossberg
Carroll	Heffley	Metcalfe	Schmitt
Causser	Helm	Metzgar	Schroeder
Ciresi	Hennessey	Mihalek	Schweyer
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Silvis
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Smith
Cox	Irvin	Miller, D.	Snyder
Culver	James	Mizgorski	Sonney
Davanzo	Jones	Moul	Staats
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Mullery	Stambaugh
Dawkins	Kail	Mullins	Stephens
Day	Kaufner	Mustello	Struzzi
Deasy	Kauffman	Nelson, E.	Sturla
Delloso	Keefer	Nelson, N.	Thomas
Delozier	Kerwin	O'Neal	Tomlinson
DeLuca	Kirkland	Oberlander	Toohil
Diamond	Klunk	Ortitay	Topper
Dowling	Knowles	Owlett	Twardzik
Dunbar	Kosierowski	Pashinski	Warner
Ecker	Kulik	Peifer	Welby
Emrick	Labs	Pennycuik	Wentling
	Lawrence	Pickett	Wheeland

Farry	Lewis	Pisciottano	White
Fee	Longiatti	Polinchock	Williams, C.
Fitzgerald	Mackenzie, M.	Puskaric	Zimmerman
Flood	Mackenzie, R.	Rader	
Fritz	Major	Rapp	Cutler,
Galloway	Mako	Rigby	Speaker
Gaydos	Malagari		

NAYS—48

Benham	Driscoll	Kim	Samuelson
Boyle	Evans	Kinkead	Sanchez
Briggs	Fiedler	Kinsey	Sappey
Brooks	Frankel	Krajewski	Shusterman
Bullock	Freeman	Krueger	Sims
Burgos	Hanbidge	Lee	Solomon
Cephas	Herrin	Madden	Vitali
Cruz	Hohenstein	Neilson	Warren
Curry	Howard	O'Mara	Webster
Daley	Innamorato	Otten	Williams, D.
Davis, A.	Isaacson	Parker	Young
DeLissio	Kenyatta	Rabb	Zabel

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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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 1108, PN 1147**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fishing licenses, further providing for exemptions from license requirements.

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?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Neilson.

Mr. NEILSON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to put these records, written records, these remarks on the record to save us some time. We have a busy calendar.

I thank the members in advance for their support. It is a great bill. It will help a lot of people in the Commonwealth.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

And Representative Toohil, as she spoke earlier, that is one of my favorite comments. Your remarks will be spread upon the record.

REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Mr. NEILSON submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of HB 1108, which will allow the Fish and Boat Commission to waive fishing license requirements for participants in programs which use fishing for therapeutic purposes. Fishing is widely used by health-care professionals as a treatment modality for a variety of ailments including mental and physical disability, cancer, traumatic brain injury, addiction recovery, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Mr. Speaker, fishing as a form of rehabilitation is embraced by veterans organizations like Wounded Warrior Project and Project Healing Waters, cancer support groups like Casting for Recovery, and mental health advocates like Fishing the Good Fight. Although the Fish and Boat Commission presently has the authority to provide license exemptions for certain educational activities, there is no statutory exemption for therapeutic purposes. HB 1108 amends Title 30 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to add an exemption from license requirements for participants in qualifying therapeutic fishing programs.

The bill was unanimously passed by the House Game and Fisheries Committee and enjoys the full support of the Fish and Boat Commission, as well as the entire sporting community. Mr. Speaker, I ask our fellow members to join in making therapeutic fishing opportunities more accessible in the State of Pennsylvania.

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.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Table listing names of members who voted 'Yeas' (200 total). Includes names like Armanini, Benham, Benninghoff, Bernstine, Bizzarro, Boback, Bonner, Borowicz, Boyle, Bradford, Briggs, Brooks, Brown, A., Brown, R., Bullock, Burgos, Burns, Carroll, Causer, Cephas, Frankel, Freeman, Fritz, Galloway, Gaydos, Gillen, Gillespie, Gleim, Gregory, Greiner, Grove, Guenst, Guzman, Hamm, Hanbidge, Harkins, Harris, Heffley, Helm, Hennessey, Longiotti, Mackenzie, M., Mackenzie, R., Madden, Major, Mako, Malagari, Maloney, Markosek, Marshall, Masser, Matzie, McClinton, McNeill, Mehaffie, Mentzer, Mercuri, Merski, Metcalfe, Metzgar, Roae, Rossi, Rothman, Rowe, Rozzi, Ryan, Sainato, Samuelson, Sanchez, Sankey, Sappey, Saylor, Schemel, Schlossberg, Schmitt, Schroeder, Schweyer, Shusterman, Silvis, Sims.

Table listing names of members who voted 'Nays' (0 total). Includes names like Ciresi, Conklin, Cook, Cox, Cruz, Culver, Curry, Daley, Davanzo, Davis, A., Davis, T., Dawkins, Day, Deasy, DeLissio, Deloso, Delozier, DelRosso, DeLuca, Diamond, Dowling, Driscoll, Dunbar, Ecker, Emrick, Evans, Farry, Fee, Fiedler, Fitzgerald, Flood, Herrin, Hershey, Hickernell, Hohenstein, Howard, Innamorato, Irvin, Isaacson, James, Jones, Jozwiak, Kail, Kaufer, Kauffman, Keefer, Kenyatta, Kerwin, Kim, Kinkead, Kinsey, Kirkland, Klunk, Knowles, Kosierowski, Krajewski, Krueger, Kulik, Labs, Lawrence, Lee, Lewis, Mihalek, Millard, Miller, B., Miller, D., Mizgorski, Moul, Mullery, Mullins, Mustello, Neilson, Nelson, E., Nelson, N., O'Mara, O'Neal, Oberlander, Orbitay, Otten, Owlett, Parker, Pashinski, Peifer, Pennycuick, Pickett, Pisciotano, Polinchock, Puskaric, Rabb, Rader, Rapp, Rigby, Smith, Snyder, Solomon, Sonney, Staats, Stambaugh, Stephens, Struzzi, Sturla, Thomas, Tomlinson, Toohil, Topper, Twardzik, Vitali, Warner, Warren, Webster, Welby, Wentling, Wheeland, White, Williams, C., Williams, D., Young, Zabel, Zimmerman, Cutler, Speaker.

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey Quinn Wheatley

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 2033, PN 2530, entitled:

An Act providing for COVID-19 testing; establishing the COVID-19 At-Home Testing Distribution Program; and making an inconsistent repeal.

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?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—199

Armanini	Frankel	Lewis	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Longietti	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, M.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Mackenzie, R.	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Madden	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Major	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Mako	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Malagari	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Markosek	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Marshall	Sappery
Brooks	Guenst	Masser	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McClinton	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	McNeill	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mehaffie	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mentzer	Shweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Mercuri	Shusterman
Causar	Helm	Merski	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metcalfe	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Metzgar	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Mihalek	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Millard	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, B.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Miller, D.	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Mizgorski	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Moul	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullery	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mullins	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Neilson	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, E.	Toohil
Day	Kaufner	Nelson, N.	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Mara	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	O'Neal	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Oberlander	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Ortitay	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Otten	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Owlett	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Parker	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Pashinski	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Peifer	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pennycuick	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pickett	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Pisciottano	Young
Evans	Krueger	Polinchock	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood			

NAYS—1

Puskaric

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey Quinn Wheatley

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 1822, PN 2066**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in dispositions independent of letters, family exemption, probate of wills and grant of letters, further providing for payments to family and funeral directors.

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?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the good gentleman, Representative Bonner.

Mr. BONNER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

In Pennsylvania, if a person dies having a bank account in his own name of \$10,000 or less, family members can obtain the proceeds from the financial institution upon presenting evidence that the funeral bill has been attended to.

The limit of \$10,000 was last established in 2013, and it is time to increase that limit to \$20,000 to help those families who are in emotional and financial distress with the loss of a loved one. If we do not increase the amount that the family can obtain from \$10,000 to \$20,000, then the family has to go see a lawyer, and the typical fee of a lawyer to handle a case to get that extra \$10,000 is \$2,000 in court costs and legal fees – costs that a family in the time of crisis should not have to endure. We should not be supporting the lawyers at the expense of the family in their time of suffering.

This legislation does not alleviate the requirement of the family to get the money to the rightful heir, nor does it eliminate the requirement that inheritance tax be paid on those funds. This legislation will simply increase the amount that the family can withdraw from the lending institution in a time of need.

I ask for your support of this legislation.
The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longiotti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappey
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causar	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufner	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuik	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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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 1985, PN 2384**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in wiretapping and electronic surveillance, further providing for exceptions to prohibition of interception and disclosure of communications.

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?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Bonner.

Mr. BONNER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

There are 38 States in the United States that allow 1 person to a telephone call to record the contents of that call. Pennsylvania is not one of those States. It is a felony of the third degree in Pennsylvania for one person to record a telephone call without the other party's consent. This prohibition is found in the Pennsylvania Wiretap Act, but that act recognizes 18 exceptions, and today's legislation would request your support to create a 19th exception to the Pennsylvania Wiretap Act.

Under the proposed legislation, whenever a person believes that a telemarketer or a robocaller is violating State or Federal law, the recipient of that call has the right to record that telephone call. The Federal Communications Commission estimates that American citizens, mostly the elderly, lose approximately \$40 billion per year in fraudulent telephone calls from telemarketers and robocallers.

In addition, telemarketers are calling beyond the permitted hours. They are calling those who are on the no-call list, and they are calling on certain days of the year when calls are not permitted. Please note that this legislation does not apply to political calls, as those are protected speech under the First Amendment. Telemarketers have routinely recorded telephone calls; now it is time for our citizens to record the telemarketer if illegal conduct is suspected.

I ask for your support of HB 1985. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longiotti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappery
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causer	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufner	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuik	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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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 2016, PN 2531**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in dispositions independent of letters, family exemption and probate of wills and grant of letters, further providing for settlement of small estates on petition.

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?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longiotti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappery
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causer	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon

Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufner	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuick	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey Quinn Wheatley

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 1694, PN 2324**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of February 2, 1966 (1965 P.L.1860, No.586), entitled "An act encouraging landowners to make land and water areas available to the public for recreational purposes by limiting liability in connection therewith, and repealing certain acts," further providing for definitions, for duty to keep premises safe and warning and for assurance of safe premises and duty of care and responsibility and liability.

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?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Struzzi.

Mr. STRUZZI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I ask for your support for HB 1694, which would create a liability protection for people who volunteer in our State parks and forests and outdoor recreational areas. This bill has widespread support across the Commonwealth, and I would like to thank my colleagues from Bucks County and from Philadelphia County for allowing me to take the lead on this.

You know, our State parks system right now in Pennsylvania is looking at about \$1 billion worth of improvements that are needed for dams, for facilities, for infrastructure, water and sewage. And volunteers can make a huge difference in offsetting some of those costs. But when they volunteer, they also face the threat of a possible lawsuit if something should go wrong, if someone should get injured walking on one of the trails that they created.

So this bill would protect them from those lawsuits and really allow more people to volunteer to help our State parks and outdoor recreational areas. So I ask for your support today for HB 1694. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Neilson, on final passage.

Mr. NEILSON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Driscoll is voting remotely today and he wanted to thank the gentleman and tell him how great it was to work with him, and I will submit the rest of his comments for the record, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and the pattern he is developing.

REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Mr. NEILSON submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal on behalf of Mr. DRISCOLL:

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is a long time coming. It gets to the very heart of community and volunteerism and all that is good for Pennsylvanians. It provides protections and limits liability for groups working to improve land for public recreational use. It is a truly bipartisan effort and one I am very proud to have participated in.

Specifically, this bill amends the Recreational Use of Land and Water Act to ensure organizations who volunteer their time on private lands are not swept up in lawsuits if those landowners are sued, which keeps those organizations from being able to obtain reasonable liability insurance and can put their volunteer operations at risk. These groups are volunteer in nature and are doing work for the good of our communities at no cost to taxpayers. We want to applaud this kind of initiative, not punish it. Folks who participate in these endeavors spend their own time, often many hours of their own time, to help their neighborhoods and communities – whether it is through community cleanups or beautification efforts like planting trees. They are doing this work in the name of good and we should ensure they are not held liable for things that have nothing to do with their projects.

I want to thank my colleagues, Representatives Martina White, Perry Warren, Jim Struzzi, and Joe Hohenstein for all their dedication to this issue and all the hard work and time they put in to see this through to the finish line.

The Recreational Use of Land and Water Act was created to encourage landowners to make land and water areas available to the public for recreational purposes by limiting liability to landowners. This amendment extends that limited liability protection to volunteers, volunteer organizations, and those who the landowner invites onto their property who, without compensation, provide services to care for, enhance, preserve, restore, or maintain land for recreational purposes.

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.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longiotti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappey
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causar	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufar	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuick	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman

Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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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.

RULES COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes the majority leader for a committee announcement.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Rules Committee will meet at 3:30 in the majority caucus room. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Rules Committee will meet at 3:30 in the majority caucus room.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Dunbar, for a caucus announcement.

Mr. DUNBAR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Republicans will caucus at 3:40 in the majority caucus room. We will be prepared to be back on the floor at 4 o'clock.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Dan Miller, for a caucus announcement.

Mr. D. MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Democrats will not be caucusing. We will be chilling out and enjoying each other's company.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. This House will stand in recess until 4 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

AFTER RECESS

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

**BILLS ON CONCURRENCE
REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

HB 412, PN 2533 By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in preliminary provisions, providing for special provisions applicable to limited school years; in professional employees, providing for day-to-day substitutes; in certification of teachers, further providing for substitute teaching permit for prospective teachers, for program of continuing professional education and for locally issued temporary certification for substitute teachers and providing for permit for classroom monitors and for substitute teaching policy; and, in Safe2Say Program, further providing for false reports.

RULES.

HB 2071, PN 2518 By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending Title 64 (Public Authorities and Quasi-Public Corporations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority to provide broadband Internet access to unserved and underserved residents; and providing for powers and duties of the authority and for grant awards.

RULES.

SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR C

**BILLS ON CONCURRENCE
IN SENATE AMENDMENTS**

The House proceeded to consideration of concurrence in Senate amendments to **HB 412, PN 2533**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in preliminary provisions, providing for special provisions applicable to limited school years; in professional employees, providing for day-to-day substitutes; in certification of teachers, further providing for substitute teaching permit for prospective teachers, for program of continuing professional education and for locally issued temporary certification for substitute teachers and providing for permit for classroom monitors and for substitute teaching policy; and, in Safe2Say Program, further providing for false reports.

On the question,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Moved by the gentlewoman, Representative Gleim, that the House do concur in the amendments inserted by the Senate.

The Chair now recognizes Representative Gleim for a brief description of Senate amendments.

Mrs. GLEIM. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Everyone here in the House knows we have a substitute teacher crisis in the State. The bill that was originally passed out of our House passed out unanimously. Coming back from the Senate, they amended it to provide additional flexibility options for public schools to address the substitute teacher shortage by allowing them more flexibility to hire retirees on a temporary basis by allowing schools to call them regardless of whether they called the non-annuitant list first.

They are promoting the ability of prospective teachers to aid in the crisis by uncapping the number of days they can sub and requiring institutions of higher ed to adopt a policy regarding their student teachers, prospective educators' ability to sub while

they are enrolled, and prevents an institution from prohibiting a prospective educator from subbing. This will also provide them with experience and financial compensation.

This bill also establishes a day-to-day classroom monitor permit program for anyone with 60 credit hours or equivalent experience to fill in for a teacher. In addition, the amendment allows the Attorney General to investigate and institute criminal proceedings for a false report via the Safe2Say Program.

Mr. Speaker, I am asking my colleagues for an affirmative vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Ciresi, on concurrence.

Mr. CIRESI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, over the last year we have seen our institutions of higher education be decimated, our teachers retiring at record numbers, and all of our schools now are put in a bind to find those teachers who can come in and teach our children.

So I think this bill gets us over the hurdle, and I would like to thank the maker of the bill.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—168

Armanini	Gillespie	Markosek	Rozzi
Benninghoff	Gleim	Marshall	Ryan
Bernstine	Gregory	Masser	Sainato
Bizzarro	Greiner	Matzie	Samuelson
Boback	Grove	McClinton	Sanchez
Bonner	Guenst	McNeill	Sankey
Borowicz	Guzman	Mehaffie	Sappery
Bradford	Hamm	Mentzer	Saylor
Briggs	Hanbidge	Mercuri	Schemel
Brown, A.	Harkins	Merski	Schlossberg
Brown, R.	Harris	Metcalfe	Schmitt
Burns	Heffley	Metzgar	Schroeder
Carroll	Helm	Mihalek	Schweyer
Causar	Hennessey	Millard	Shusterman
Ciresi	Herrin	Miller, B.	Silvis
Conklin	Hershey	Mizgorski	Smith
Cook	Hickernell	Moul	Snyder
Cox	Howard	Mullery	Sonney
Culver	Irvin	Mullins	Staats
Daley	James	Mustello	Stambaugh
Davanzo	Jones	Nelson, E.	Stephens
Davis, A.	Jozwiak	Nelson, N.	Struzzi
Davis, T.	Kail	O'Mara	Sturla
Day	Kaufman	O'Neal	Thomas
Deasy	Kauffman	Oberlander	Tomlinson

Delloso	Keefer	Ortitay	Toohil
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Topper
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Twardzik
DeLuca	Kirkland	Pashinski	Vitali
Diamond	Klunk	Peifer	Warner
Dowling	Knowles	Pennycuick	Warren
Dunbar	Kosierowski	Pickett	Webster
Ecker	Kulik	Pisciottano	Welby
Emrick	Labs	Polinchock	Wentling
Evans	Lawrence	Puskaric	Wheeland
Farry	Lewis	Rader	White
Fee	Longietti	Rapp	Williams, C.
Flood	Mackenzie, M.	Rigby	Williams, D.
Freeman	Mackenzie, R.	Roae	Zimmerman
Fritz	Major	Rossi	
Galloway	Mako	Rothman	Cutler,
Gaydos	Malagari	Rowe	Speaker
Gillen	Maloney		

NAYS—32

Benham	Dawkins	Isaacson	Miller, D.
Boyle	DeLissio	Kenyatta	Neilson
Brooks	Driscoll	Kinthead	Parker
Bullock	Fiedler	Kinsey	Rabb
Burgos	Fitzgerald	Krajewski	Sims
Cephas	Frankel	Krueger	Solomon
Cruz	Hohenstein	Lee	Young
Curry	Innamorato	Madden	Zabel

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the amendments were concurred in.

Ordered, That the clerk inform the Senate accordingly.

* * *

The House proceeded to consideration of concurrence in Senate amendments to **HB 2071, PN 2518**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 64 (Public Authorities and Quasi-Public Corporations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority to provide broadband Internet access to unserved and underserved residents; and providing for powers and duties of the authority and for grant awards.

On the question,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Moved by the gentleman, Representative Causer, that the House concur in the amendments inserted by the Senate.

The Chair now recognizes Representative Causer for a brief description of Senate amendments.

Mr. CAUSER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, HB 2071 was amended in the Senate to do a number of technical things. It cleans up some formatting, defines "reliable broadband service," makes the sunset date of the authority tied to the dispersal of Federal funds, and aligns the overbuild constraints with the Federal language. And so I would

ask for support for the legislation, as amended, and want to thank the Senate for their work on this important legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Matzie.

Mr. MATZIE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I concur with the prime sponsor on the bill. We thank the Senate for their quick action in taking up the matter and bringing it back to us so quickly. As I said on Monday, this is a very important piece of legislation we have worked well together on in a very bipartisan fashion; grateful that they got it back to us here before we recess.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Snyder, on concurrence.

Mrs. SNYDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This is a very beautiful day that we are going to vote to concur on HB 2071, and I would be remiss if I did not thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, especially the majority chair and minority chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, the two fine gentlemen from Beaver County who made sure that this legislation stayed on track.

And I also want to thank the Senators from the 28th Senatorial District and from the 9th Senatorial District for moving this legislation quickly. And I would be totally remiss if I did not thank two organizations who have walked hand in hand with me for the last 5 years to ensure that Pennsylvanians get high-speed Internet, and they are the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the Pennsylvania Grange.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and let us all vote "yes" on HB 2071.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

On the question recurring,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longietti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato

Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappery
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causser	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufer	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuick	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the amendments were concurred in.

Ordered, That the clerk inform the Senate accordingly.

SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR B

BILLS ON CONCURRENCE
IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

The House proceeded to consideration of concurrence in Senate amendments to **HB 1255, PN 2532**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in facilities and supplies, providing for additional surcharge; in limitation of time, providing for real estate appraisals; and making a related repeal.

On the question,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Moved by the gentleman, Representative Lewis, that the House concur in the amendments inserted by the Senate.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman, Representative Kauffman, for a brief description of Senate amendments.

Mr. KAUFFMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As amended by the Senate Appropriations Committee on December 14, 2021, HB 1255 provides for a statutory limitation for civil actions against real estate appraisers and for an extension of certain judicial fees.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longiatti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappery
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causser	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla

Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufer	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinthead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuick	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the amendments were concurred in.

Ordered, That the clerk inform the Senate accordingly.

* * *

The House proceeded to consideration of concurrence in Senate amendments to **HB 1332, PN 2272**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, providing for online curriculum availability.

On the question,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Moved by the gentleman, Representative Lewis, that the House concur in the amendments inserted by the Senate.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman, Representative Lewis, for a brief description of Senate amendments.

Mr. LEWIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The amendments passed by the Senate further clarify curriculum to include "A COURSE SYLLABUS OR WRITTEN SUMMARY OF EACH INSTRUCTIONAL COURSE AND THE STATE ACADEMIC STANDARDS...." It clarifies that no provision of the act should "BE CONSTRUED TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL ENTITY TO VIOLATE THE COPYRIGHT, TRADEMARK OR OTHER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT OF THE CREATOR OR OWNER OF THE CURRICULUM." It defines "CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR" as "THE SUPERINTENDENT OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR OF AN AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL SCHOOL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AN INTERMEDIATE UNIT OR

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF A CHARTER SCHOOL, CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL OR REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL."

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Longiitti, on concurrence in Senate amendments.

Mr. LONGIETTI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would acknowledge that the Senate significantly improved this bill by paring down what we are defining as "curriculum." However, I want to reiterate what I said when this bill was before us previously. It really is a solution in search of a problem. I am not aware of anyone in the General Assembly – I know I can speak for myself – in my 15 years, I have never had constituents come to me and say they have had difficulty in obtaining curriculum from a school district, because we have a process in place for that currently. And a concern here is that this is yet another unfunded mandate. This is going to take significant time from our school districts to administer this function at a time when the timing for that is not good because we are in the middle of a pandemic; their plate is more than full.

And so that is my concern with this bill, and I think that is the concern that the Pennsylvania School Boards Association has expressed in their opposition to the bill. And so for that reason I am going to be voting "no" on this bill and encourage others to do likewise.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Frankel, on concurrence.

Mr. FRANKEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise again on HB 1332, which I agree has had at least some improvement in the Senate, but still, in my view, will bring the culture wars into our classrooms. My Republican colleagues will say that this bill is about transparency, but that cannot be true. Current law already requires transparency for any parent or guardian who wants to know what is happening at their child's school. HB 1332 has little to do with the experiences of parents, and it certainly has nothing to do with teachers. While this bill is substantially better than what we have sent over to the Senate, I am still left wondering why in the world do people around the country need to know what is being taught in Colfax or in Minadeo Elementary Schools in my district or Allderdice High School? The students already know. The parents already know. Who is it that does not already have access to the information that needs it? I am very concerned that the answer is all the people in Texas or Kansas who think they do not like what we are teaching in Pittsburgh, or on the flip side, all those interested public citizens in New York City who believe it is their business to weigh in on what they are teaching in Lebanon County districts, and that these concerns citizens have their own political interests at heart, not the education of Pennsylvania's students.

This is a setup to turn curriculum decisions made by locally accountable officials into the subject of debate by people thousands of miles away. School curricula are not being hidden from parents right now. All this information is easily available to those parents and families who want it. This is just extra work for districts – not to benefit students or families, but in the hopes of providing fodder for talking heads.

It is, as my colleague said, a solution in search of a problem. I ask my colleagues to listen to our teachers and vote against HB 1332.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Topper, on concurrence.

Mr. TOPPER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

My good friend from Allegheny County brings up the fact that it is available for parents who want to go and search for it or grandparents who want to go and search for it or taxpayers, maybe they have a chance to see it who want to go and search for it. What we are asking is that this information simply be made available to all. I can pull up my phone right now and I can get on my son's Schoology account. We can find out so much. I do not think it is too much to ask, especially with what the Senate did, that I, as a parent, and someone who pays taxes to the Bedford Area School District, know what curriculum – the syllabus and the textbook. We are talking now about the syllabus, the overall class layout, and the textbook. That is a one-time entry. The idea that that is excessive work or an excessively unfunded mandate is simply laughable.

This is easily done and brings us in line to what we should be doing here in this century and with this technology, and I urge a "yes" vote on HB 1332.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—112

Armanini	Gregory	Masser	Rowe
Benninghoff	Greiner	Mehaffie	Ryan
Bernstine	Grove	Mentzer	Sankey
Boback	Hamm	Mercuri	Saylor
Bonner	Heffley	Metcalfe	Schemel
Borowicz	Helm	Metzgar	Schmitt
Brooks	Hennessey	Mihalek	Schroeder
Brown, R.	Hershey	Millard	Silvis
Causar	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Smith
Cook	Irvin	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cox	James	Moul	Staats
Culver	Jones	Mustello	Stambaugh
Davanzo	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Stephens
Day	Kail	O'Neal	Struzzi
Delozier	Kaufer	Oberlander	Thomas
DelRosso	Kauffman	Ortitay	Tomlinson
Diamond	Keefer	Owlett	Toohil
Dowling	Kerwin	Peifer	Topper
Dunbar	Klunk	Pennycuik	Twardzik
Ecker	Knowles	Pickett	Warner

Emrick	Labs	Polinchock	Wentling
Farry	Lawrence	Puskaric	Wheeland
Fee	Lewis	Rader	White
Flood	Mackenzie, M.	Rapp	Williams, C.
Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rigby	Zimmerman
Gaydos	Major	Roae	
Gillen	Mako	Rossi	Cutler,
Gillespie	Maloney	Rothman	Speaker
Gleim	Marshall		

NAYS—88

Benham	DeLuca	Kirkland	Pashinski
Bizzarro	Driscoll	Kosierowski	Pisciottano
Boyle	Evans	Krajewski	Rabb
Bradford	Fiedler	Krueger	Rozzi
Briggs	Fitzgerald	Kulik	Sainato
Brown, A.	Frankel	Lee	Samuelson
Bullock	Freeman	Longietti	Sanchez
Burgos	Galloway	Madden	Sappery
Burns	Guenst	Malagari	Schlossberg
Carroll	Guzman	Markosek	Schweyer
Cephas	Hanbidge	Matzie	Shusterman
Ciresi	Harkins	McClinton	Sims
Conklin	Harris	McNeill	Snyder
Cruz	Herrin	Merski	Solomon
Curry	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sturla
Daley	Howard	Mullery	Vitali
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Mullins	Warren
Davis, T.	Isaacson	Neilson	Webster
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Nelson, N.	Welby
Deasy	Kim	O'Mara	Williams, D.
DeLissio	Kinhead	Otten	Young
Delloso	Kinsey	Parker	Zabel

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the amendments were concurred in.

Ordered, That the clerk inform the Senate accordingly.

* * *

The House proceeded to consideration of concurrence in Senate amendments to **HB 1837, PN 2394**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, in procedure, further providing for modifications, reinstatements, suspensions and terminations and for compromise and release.

On the question,
Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Moved by the gentleman, Representative Irvin, that the House do concur in the amendments inserted by the Senate.

The Chair now recognizes Representative Irvin for a brief description of Senate amendments.

Mr. IRVIN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HB 1837 passed the House unanimously on October 25 of this year. The Senate Labor and Industry Committee then amended this legislation to also remove an affidavit requirement for the form that is sent to workers' compensation claimants when their

benefits are modified when they return to work. A notification is still mailed to these claimants when their benefits are modified or suspended, but it would no longer need to be notarized.

This bill passed the Senate unanimously and I support the language and I ask for an affirmative vote.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Will the House concur in Senate amendments?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longiotti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappey
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causser	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims
Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufer	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinhead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland

Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuick	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the amendments were concurred in.

Ordered, That the clerk inform the Senate accordingly.

SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR A CONTINUED

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1877, PN 2528**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in alteration of territory or corporate entity and dissolution, providing for municipal boundary change; and making related repeals.

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?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Maloney, on final passage.

Mr. MALONEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Would the maker of the bill stand for brief interrogation?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman indicates he will, I believe, and you are in order and may proceed.

Mr. MALONEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to go over a few clarifications with my history to this issue, and if you could answer them for me, I would appreciate it, because this bill has some current law and some new proposal and I am just really not clear on how some of that will work in the event that there is a municipal boundary change.

So my first question is, in light of the time we are in, I understand our Election Code does not allow any municipal boundary to be changed during reapportionment.

Mr. FREEMAN. This proposal, which is a Local Government Commission bill, has nothing to do with the Election Code.

Mr. MALONEY. I will repeat that question. Our Election Code has a requirement that a boundary cannot be changed during reapportionment, but I did not see that specified in this with respect to what you can and cannot do during that process.

Mr. FREEMAN. This proposal would not take effect until next year at the earliest, so I do not think that is actually a point of contention or concern.

Mr. MALONEY. Yes, I was not looking for contention. I was looking for clarification, because that could be important, and if that is probably what would take place, then that would answer that for that 10-year period.

The other question I have is with respect to school district changes. So I see that it says that it would not, but I do not know how it would not if you change a line that is saddled by two different school districts.

Mr. FREEMAN. It does not change school district boundaries; it only changes municipal boundaries. And because of the amendment that was offered and accepted by Mr. Ortity, it would have the possibility of dealing with county boundaries under certain limited cases and scenarios.

Mr. MALONEY. Yeah, a county boundary is a little bit different than school districts, but in my case, it did exactly that; it impacted a different school district when they moved the line.

Mr. FREEMAN. I am sorry; are you referring to the legislation before us or—

Mr. MALONEY. Yes.

Mr. FREEMAN. —are you referring to a previous situation?

Mr. MALONEY. Well, so when we are doing the comparison of what is in law now with reference to what this could possibly change, I was concerned because, existing, that did happen, and I did not know if this would change that. I know it says it does not have anything to do with school districts—

Mr. FREEMAN. That is correct.

Mr. MALONEY. —but I do not know how it would not if you change a line that puts somebody in a different school district.

Mr. FREEMAN. All I can direct the gentleman to is the language of the bill, which stipulates that it deals with municipal boundaries and with county boundaries.

Mr. MALONEY. Okay. So let me word it this way: If you are in township A that those folks go to school district 1, and you change that to township B that is in school district 2, would you allow them to go to the other school district, or would they be required to go to the one that it changed to?

Mr. FREEMAN. Again, it does not deal with school districts. You seem focused on school districts, but it only deals with municipalities and counties. And I would note, for the gentleman's information, that there are school districts that do cross county lines already in some parts of the State.

Mr. MALONEY. But I am not talking about a county line, I am talking about a township.

Mr. FREEMAN. They also cross municipal lines, too, in some cases. For instance—

Mr. MALONEY. I know they do.

Mr. FREEMAN. —in the case of the Easton School District, where I reside, the village of Martins Creek is in Lower Mount Bethel Township, and yet the village goes to the Easton Area School District and Lower Mount Bethel Township goes to the Bangor School District.

Mr. MALONEY. Well, as you can see – I mean, this is why I was asking these questions, because I do believe there is a need for this. I want you to understand that. But I do not know how you can eliminate the change to a school district when you change that boundary that those people would be in a different township.

Mr. FREEMAN. Again, it does not affect school districts.

Mr. MALONEY. Okay.

Mr. FREEMAN. It affects municipalities and—

Mr. MALONEY. So that brings me to the fact that when this happened to me and the township denied their line and forced me, as the owner of the property, to research their municipal line, pay all the bills to do so – some of that is evidently addressed in here; I will not ask those questions – but when they did that, they did not take it to voter referendum, which I do not think changes in your bill, correct? Because I believe existing law requires a voter referendum after hearings and such, right?

Mr. FREEMAN. The structure of the Local Government Commission bill is to allow for municipalities, after a public hearing – and that language was added by a Republican member in committee – after a public hearing to inform the public, they can proceed with their proposal. But if there is objection, I believe – let me just check my notes, if you would – if there is an objection to the changed boundary, the landowner can bring the objection, and also 20 percent of the electorate that could be affected can bring the objection, which would then force a referendum. But if there is general agreement, there is no objection – this is to simplify the process. In those very rare cases where there is a disputed boundary, then that has to be rectified.

This legislation was heavily researched and worked upon by the staff of the Local Government Commission, and what they attempted to do – and I think they did a good job of – is incorporate court cases, modernizing the system. The Constitution of 1968, the constitutional provisions were somewhat vague on this area of boundary change and what has only been allowed is through the referendum process, even though minor changes, if agreed to by all parties – both municipalities, the landowners, and everyone – should be able to be expedited without having to go to referendum. However, if there is an objection, a referendum can be called.

Mr. MALONEY. I would imagine that an objection would be that you would be put in a different school district and the property tax would jump 30 percent, which is exactly what happened in my case.

Mr. FREEMAN. Mr. Speaker, if I may, this does not, for the final time, deal with school districts. I am sorry you encountered a problem with your school district. This is dealing with municipalities and counties and only municipalities and counties.

Mr. MALONEY. But you have not answered my question, and I guess I will have to move on.

Mr. FREEMAN. No – please continue. But what is your question?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will please suspend.

Mr. MALONEY. My question is—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will please suspend.

Respectfully, I do believe the gentleman has answered the question regarding the difference between the municipal and the county boundaries and the schools. I believe the gentleman is attempting to determine if once you moved into the new municipality, does that assign you to the new school by virtue of the municipality? But I believe the question has been asked and answered by the good gentleman.

Mr. FREEMAN. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. Do you wish to continue your interrogation?

Mr. MALONEY. No. I will finish up. I would just like to—

The SPEAKER. You are in order and you may proceed on the bill.

Mr. MALONEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As I said before, I do believe there is a need for this bill. I just really question how you could go to a different school district when that is in fact what happened. I had this very issue. These procedures were not followed. Whether it was existing law or the new proposed law, those overlaps that would be the same were not followed.

I guess my biggest concern is that the citizens and taxpayers of Pennsylvania would really not have a recourse except for to get very aggressive in the court to stop the action. In my case, I was denied the line, had to prove the line, and then they moved the line.

But shortly after taking office, when the folks came to me who were impacted, they said, well, we were in this school district and now we are in that school district and we have a 30-percent property tax increase. What do we do about that? So that was why my questioning was where it is. I had brought this before the commission several times. I do not really feel that it has been answered, unless you are allowing those people who have been impacted to stay in that school district. And that may be the answer, I just did not see it written in language. So I wanted to be clear about that.

I wanted to take the opportunity. This impacted my life extensively and significantly to the cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and I know we do not all have the same experiences, but I know when it is raining outside.

And so I am going to tell you, I am going to support this bill because I believe there is a need, and that is what I told the good gentleman, but I do not believe my questions were really answered.

So thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Freeman, for the first time on final passage.

Mr. FREEMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And I thank the good gentleman from Berks County for his support for the legislation.

A couple of things to be kept in mind. As I tried to make clear in my response to his inquiries, this does not deal with school districts. This deals with boundary disputes between municipalities, and because of Mr. Ortity's amendment being added, would also provide an option for county boundary disputes between counties, in certain limited circumstances, to also come under the purview of the bill.

A couple of things to be kept in mind about this bill. It does not modify school districts; it does not modify school districts. It does not modify the procedure for incorporation of municipalities or the merger or consolidation of municipalities. And the bill does not abridge the constitutional right of residents of municipalities to alter municipal boundaries by constitutional initiative and referendum at any time. It merely offers an alternative format to simplify and expedite boundary disputes that need to be clarified. This enables both municipalities involved to come to an agreement, after a public hearing, to alter the boundaries and to pass that information on to the county records and officials. And if there is an objection by a landowner or if there is objection by 20 percent, I believe, of the electorate involved, they can force a

referendum. So there is a fail-safe here too. All the commission is trying to do is to simplify a process that has been very difficult to execute because of the vagaries of the 1968 Constitution on this matter.

So I would urge the members to please endorse the work of the Local Government Commission. The commission does fine work. They have an excellent staff. It is very bipartisan in its approach. They take their time to vet issues, as they have on this one, and it had the complete support of both Democratic and Republican members from both sides of the aisle who serve on the commission. So I urge a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Moul, on final passage.

Mr. MOUL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I, too, rise to support HB 1877 on final passage. I also am a sitting member of the Local Government Commission. This is a Local Government Commission bill. There is no opposition to the bill that I know of. It simply makes it much more streamlined for agreeable municipalities to move a line, as long as there are no objections in the works.

So I want to also lend my support for this bill and ask for an affirmative vote for HB 1877.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Armanini	Frankel	Longietti	Roae
Benham	Freeman	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Benninghoff	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rothman
Bernstine	Galloway	Madden	Rowe
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Major	Rozzi
Boback	Gillen	Mako	Ryan
Bonner	Gillespie	Malagari	Sainato
Borowicz	Gleim	Maloney	Samuelson
Boyle	Gregory	Markosek	Sanchez
Bradford	Greiner	Marshall	Sankey
Briggs	Grove	Masser	Sappay
Brooks	Guenst	Matzie	Saylor
Brown, A.	Guzman	McClinton	Schemel
Brown, R.	Hamm	McNeill	Schlossberg
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Schmitt
Burgos	Harkins	Mentzer	Schroeder
Burns	Harris	Mercuri	Schweyer
Carroll	Heffley	Merski	Shusterman
Causar	Helm	Metcalfe	Silvis
Cephas	Hennessey	Metzgar	Sims

Ciresi	Herrin	Mihalek	Smith
Conklin	Hershey	Millard	Snyder
Cook	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Solomon
Cox	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sonney
Cruz	Howard	Mizgorski	Staats
Culver	Innamorato	Moul	Stambaugh
Curry	Irvin	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	James	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Jones	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Tomlinson
Dawkins	Kail	Nelson, N.	Toohil
Day	Kaufer	O'Mara	Topper
Deasy	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
DeLissio	Keefer	Oberlander	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Warner
Delozier	Kerwin	Otten	Warren
DelRosso	Kim	Owlett	Webster
DeLuca	Kinhead	Parker	Welby
Diamond	Kinsey	Pashinski	Wentling
Dowling	Kirkland	Peifer	Wheeland
Driscoll	Klunk	Pennycuik	White
Dunbar	Knowles	Pickett	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	Williams, D.
Emrick	Krajewski	Polinchock	Young
Evans	Krueger	Puskaric	Zabel
Farry	Kulik	Rabb	Zimmerman
Fee	Labs	Rader	
Fiedler	Lawrence	Rapp	Cutler,
Fitzgerald	Lee	Rigby	Speaker
Flood	Lewis		

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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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.

COMMUNICATION FROM MAJORITY LEADER

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

The SPEAKER. The Speaker is in receipt of a letter regarding an appointment of the chairman of the House Government Oversight.

The following communication was read:

December 15, 2021

The Honorable Bryan Cutler
Speaker, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
139 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2100

Speaker Cutler:

Having received and accepted the resignation of Rep. Tarah Toohil as Chairman of the House Government Oversight Committee, this letter is

to inform you that Rep. Ryan Mackenzie is appointed as Chairman of the House Government Oversight Committee.

The appointment is effective today, December 15, 2021.

Sincerely,
Kerry Benninghoff
Majority Leader
Pennsylvania House of Representatives, 171st District

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to third consideration of **SB 106, PN 1279**, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing separate and distinct amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for action on concurrent orders and resolutions and for Lieutenant Governor; providing for executive orders; further providing for qualifications of electors; and providing for election audits.

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?

The Speaker recognizes the gentleman, Representative Vitali, on final passage.

Mr. VITALI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have some serious concerns with this bill. I am just going to focus in on some environmental concerns. At the outset, I want to note that this is opposed by various environmental groups – Conservation Voters of PA, Sierra Club, PennEnvironment, Clean Water Action, Clean Air Action Fund – and will be considered for a scorecard vote.

As I view this, I think there are two provisions of this that could have a serious environmental impact. Historically, the Governor has been a backstop to potential damage that the legislature would befall the environment, and this constitutional amendment would undermine the power of the Governor to be that backstop. The provision with regard to Executive orders, and the fact that they would expire in 21 days without the approval of the legislature, is very troublesome. I think, for example, when the Governor stepped forward and issued an Executive order with regard to preserving State forestland from drilling, without the power to do that, I think much more State forestland would be impacted by this.

Also, with regard to regulations, you know, this would cut the Governor out of his role as approving regulations and, I mean, there is no better example of the value of the role of the Governor than the regulation disapproval we will be voting on probably later on in this evening.

So I think that these two provisions, really emasculating the Governor with regard to very important functions, are going to have a very deleterious effect on the environment, and I will be voting "no."

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Kinkead, on final passage.

Ms. KINKEAD. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Perhaps it is a nod to the season that SB 106 has become an absolute Christmas tree of constitutional amendments. Unfortunately, rather than being a gift to Pennsylvanians, almost every one of the proposed amendments contained in this legislation undermines our democracy and our democratic institutions. But we all know that. So I will confine my comments to an area of the legislation that has largely gone undiscussed.

Starting on page 3, line 21, of SB 106, section 21: "EXECUTIVE ORDERS. AN EXECUTIVE ORDER OR PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR OR AN EXECUTIVE AGENCY WITH THE FORCE AND EFFECT OF LAW MAY NOT BE IN EFFECT FOR MORE THAN 21 DAYS, UNLESS OTHERWISE EXTENDED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY."

Now, the biggest issue with that as I see it, and as my colleague highlighted, is agencies have orders that are issued every single day, and one of the most important orders that is issued by any agency is the certification of election results. The Department of State certifies candidates to appear on ballots, election results, and Presidential electors for the electoral college. The Secretary also prescribes the forms for nomination papers and mail-in and absentee ballot applications. If the General Assembly removes the Secretary's authority to issue orders, it eviscerates the ability to administer elections in this Commonwealth in any functional manner. But maybe that is the intent of this, to ensure that the Secretary would no longer be able to certify final election results without the General Assembly assuming power to change or disapprove election certifications.

As my colleague said earlier today, the votes of Pennsylvanians belong to the individual voters who cast them and this General Assembly has no business trying to supersede the will of the people of Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Grove.

Mr. GROVE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I just want to first wish my colleagues a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. This is the last session day before we head into the holiday season, and I do not know what a better way to go out than to give the citizens of Pennsylvania a historic Christmas present full of legislation geared towards taking back their government, Mr. Speaker.

Today is an exciting day. I am very excited for this legislation. I am very excited to vote "yes" on legislation that allows Pennsylvania residents to show ID at the ballot box; that provides a comprehensive audit system to ensure that we have third-party, professional auditing of elections; reining in Executive orders; and reining in regulations.

Now, regulations is interesting. Regulations actually is legislating by courts; by definition it is legislating. We give the technical aspects of bill development to the executive agencies. It has been done for decades. It was done in a professional way. Unfortunately, today, Mr. Speaker, in Pennsylvania, we have legislation A that is geared to do one thing: go through the regulatory process and turn into legislation Z, way outside the context of anything that this body put forth in legislation. We

have a right, we have a duty to curb back regulations that go way out of bounds from where that original legislation went, Mr. Speaker.

Executive orders. We believe the executive branch, the Governor, has the full authority to provide Executive orders to manage the bureaucracy; that is the Governor's realm. But the Governor does not have the ability nor does his administration have the ability to impact the lives of Pennsylvanians every single day. There is a process for that, Mr. Speaker. It is in the Constitution. It is the legislative process. That is how we speak to the residents of Pennsylvania, not through Executive orders, not through one-man's dictate, but through the collective wisdom of this body, the Senate, and the Governor using his legislative powers to veto or accept legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this is a great bill. This does a lot of good for the citizens of Pennsylvania. It is something they have been crying for for a number of years. I look forward to the passage of this bill and hope my colleagues vote "yes" so we can give the residents of Pennsylvania an early Christmas present, and we come back next session and deliver this to them on the ballot so they can vote "yes" or "no" whether they want voter ID, election audits, curbing Executive orders, and finally, reining in regulations that go way far afield of any legislation this body put forward.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE (JESSE TOPPER) PRESIDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, the Speaker, Mr. Cutler.

Mr. CUTLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this is fairly straightforward. The issue that we are addressing here today is whether or not people should have a say in the government, because this is not necessarily are you for or against any of these individual issues. The question before us is, should these issues be put on the ballot?

For those unfamiliar with the constitutional amendment process, it needs to pass two consecutive sessions, as was outlined by the State Government Committee chair previously, and just like the last set of constitutional amendments that were recently adopted – the ones that restricted the emergency from 90 to 21 days and the other amendments that were offered at that time – there are multiple questions in this bill that would be presented to the voters. However, they are each a separate and distinct question.

The first one, Executive orders by those who work for the Governor, would be put under the same time constraints as the Governor currently has as well. Put another way, should an appointed position under the Governor have more power than the Governor has themselves? The Governor is limited to 21 days for Executive orders, so why should his Secretaries or other individuals have greater power? It is a long-standing legislative tradition, and it also is consistent with case law in other areas. You can only delegate what you have, and in this case, the Governor is limited to 21 days. To go beyond that I think is inconsistent with the will of the voters as expressed recently.

Now, that also means, though, that we the people get another say to be involved in our government. Regarding the audits, I believe the chair appropriately covered those, but I would also

remind this body that that is actually a requirement from the court settlement that we entered into from the 2016 election. As many folks know, our counties do multiple audits. They do a risk-limiting audit and they do other audits. More importantly, this provision would put in place a requirement that at that time that the Auditor General themselves is on the ballot, it would put in an independent auditor.

I think that is important. That is exactly how government operates in every other area. Liquid fuels money, for example, is distributed from the State, it goes to the townships, and the Auditor General audits it. The townships do not audit their own liquid fuels money. And it is important to recognize that audits are not just in accounting – and I will use the liquid fuels money again – it is not just simply, did you get X number of dollars and did you spend X dollars? It is, did you get the money, did you properly bid it, did you properly advertise it? And in the case of the election audits, consistent with the court order that we are currently operating under, it would put in place that system and independence for those times when the Auditor General is on the ballot.

The regulatory disapproval – I think there was a quote used yesterday by the good gentleman from Westmoreland County that sums that up very succinctly. In order for the people to have a say in the process, for the regulatory review process to have any meaning on behalf of the people, we should not have to have a two-thirds majority to overcome something that would have never had a simple majority to get started in the first place. That, Mr. Speaker, is completely backwards. This would simply allow the people to speak through us, their Representatives, on the regulatory process. We heard yesterday that it has been decades since the regulatory process worked in a manner that rejected those regulations, and that, Mr. Speaker, is keeping the people from having a say in their government.

And lastly, voter ID, as the good chair outlined, is the other integral component in this bill. I think that we would all agree that we would like to improve access to voting – easy to vote, hard to cheat; the chairman himself has said it many, many times. That has been the focus going the entire way back to Act 77, something that this body and the Governor and the Senate worked on, to all of the other bills that ultimately were put into place after that to correct the mechanical issues that the counties had identified. And, Mr. Speaker, this is not necessarily, do we think that there needs to be voter ID? Remember, remember how I opened the discussion on this important bill. It is, should the people have a say on whether they believe that voter ID is important?

That, Mr. Speaker, in addition to the regulatory disapproval process, the auditing process by virtue of the court order, and the Executive order regarding the delegation of power by the Governor, who himself is limited to 21 days, those were all questions that we as citizens have a right to have a say in, and this vote today, Mr. Speaker, is simply the first step in the constitutional process. Will it pass, and if so, does it pass a second time before it goes before the voters? That is something that I can support, because I believe that at the end of the day, the people always have the right to decide how to be governed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman from Reading, Mr. Guzman.

Mr. GUZMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to SB 106, and since we are talking about Christmas presents, let me tell you about some of the wish list some of the people in my district are asking for, because I could tell you [stricken from the record] sure they are not asking for this. I could tell you, Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend. That will be stricken from the record. The gentleman knows better.

Mr. GUZMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I can tell you for a fact that no one in my district is asking for this, but let me tell you some of the things they are asking for, Mr. Speaker. And if we are talking about doing a constitutional amendment, how about we start with this – again, how about we raise the minimum wage, Mr. Speaker. That is something that the people in my district are asking for. How about we—

THE SPEAKER (BRYAN CUTLER) PRESIDING

POINT OF ORDER

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will please suspend. For what purpose does the gentleman, Representative Masser, rise?

Mr. MASSER. The gentleman is far afield from what is contained in the bill.

The SPEAKER. I believe the gentleman wishes to state a point of order, and the point of order is regarding the subject matter of the underlying bill.

The gentleman would be correct. I would encourage the gentleman to please constrain his remarks to those items contained in the bill regarding the five different proposed constitutional amendments, not what has not been in the bill or been offered.

The Chair thanks the gentleman and you may proceed.

Mr. GUZMAN. Thank you again, Mr. Speaker.

Again, since we are talking about Christmas presents, I am going through a wish list, right? This is what we are here to do. But again, this bill does absolutely nothing to help the people in my district. So where are you all with the bills to help the people in my district? To help put food on their table, to help keep the electricity on in their houses, to help send their kids to a school that is not failing? Where are the constitutional amendments and support for that?

The SPEAKER. Please suspend.

Mr. GUZMAN. Mr. Speaker, instead we are talking about audits, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will please suspend. The gentleman will please suspend. You are not in order or recognized.

POINT OF ORDER

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

Mr. MASSER. Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman may state your point of order.

Mr. MASSER. Again, he is far afield from what is in the underlying bill.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman for that point of order. The gentleman is correct. The gentleman has been requested to stay on the topic of the underlying bill once previously.

The House will be temporarily at ease. I will ask the leaders to please approach the rostrum.

(Conference held at Speaker's podium.)

The SPEAKER. The House will return to order.

The gentleman, Representative Guzman, had the floor, and you are once again recognized, sir.

Mr. GUZMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I am going to wrap up my comments, Mr. Speaker, because I know we have a lot more business to go on, but let me talk specifically about voter ID, because that is in this bill. And let me tell you what voter ID, the impact that would have on the Latino community, not just in Reading, but all across the Commonwealth. Because we understand that Latinos and people of color are disproportionately affected when it comes to voter ID, right? But instead of producing an unfunded mandate, where you are putting this on the backs of poor Brown and Black folks in the city of Reading and all across the Commonwealth, here you are again putting a tax on the Brown and Black folks to get a voter ID. To prove what? To prove what, Mr. Speaker? To prove back at home to your fan base back at home that you are doing something—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will please suspend. I believe the gentleman is getting very close to impugning the motives of members, suggesting that they are reacting to or for a certain reason. I am trying to give the gentleman latitude to wrap up his comments, but we do require an adherence to the rules.

The gentleman is in order and may proceed, if he can do so.

Mr. GUZMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I am going to wrap up by saying this. Mr. Speaker, I need you all to vote against this bill. If you believe in our democracy and our Republic, and you believe in protecting the rights of Brown and Black voters all across the Commonwealth, vote "no" on this bill. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Conklin, on final passage.

Mr. CONKLIN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I was not going to speak on this bill, but then my mind starts to race back in history. I remember – and this is on the bill, Mr. Speaker, and I will get to it quick – I remember years ago, over 15 years ago, that I wanted to do a constitutional convention limited, and I wanted that constitutional convention to be about the size of the legislature. I wanted it to be about early voting. I wanted it to be about early absentee voting. I wanted to have the citizens of Pennsylvania involved. I wanted to do a constitutional convention, but, Mr. Speaker, I was told that, quote, and I want to quote, "It is the legislation that should play the pivotal role in reforming elections. "And the individual that told me that was right, Mr. Speaker; he was right. I quit looking at changing the Constitution because the member of this House told me to let the people elected do it, and we did. We may not have gone, you know, the second with Sam Smith when we are going to downsize, but this legislative body proved that it should be done here.

And I want to give you the second quote he told me – he was right; this gentleman was right – he said, "If we do this, you are opening up Pandora's box by continually opening up the Constitution." The man was right. He taught me. And I want to thank the leader of the majority party, the senior legislator from Centre County, for bringing that up over 15 years ago, and he was right.

And let us continue to be right. Let us vote this down, because he was right. Given the ability, this legislative body showed they will do it. Given the right, opening up Pandora's box is not the way we should do it. Let us listen to our senior members. Let us vote this down, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Keefer, on final passage.

Mrs. KEEFER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

"Of the people, by the people, for the people." This gives the power back to where it belongs – the people. So take it to the ballot. It has to go through two sessions. It gets put on the ballot for the people to decide. If they believe that voter ID is so egregious, then clearly, they would vote against it, right? This gives the power back to the people.

We have too many unelected individuals making profound decisions that are impacting people's livelihoods and lives, and it is time that we readjust the powers and put it back where it duly belongs, which is the people.

So I would encourage all my colleagues to vote "yes," Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

Seeing no one else seeking recognition at this time, we will go to the second round and recognize the gentleman, Representative Grove, for the second time on final passage.

Mr. GROVE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It was brought up previously that somehow this constitutional resolution will allow this body to overthrow elections – farthest thing from the truth. When the Secretary of State executes the certification, it is over and done with; over and done with. Per the Constitution, the only mechanism to contest an election comes from the courts. That is specified specifically in the Constitution. It bars this body from doing anything about contested elections. It specifically says that this body cannot pass policy that impacts any already contested election. That power is solely restricted to the judiciary. That is why you see court cases after elections, because they are the proper body to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I thought it was important to put that on the record and explain that process and understand the confines of the Constitution, how they may interact together, and make sure that that information is not incorrectly out there.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

We have reached the point on the leaders – the Democrat and Republican leaders waive off. The Chair thanks the gentlemen.

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.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—113

Armanini	Gleim	Marshall	Rowe
Benninghoff	Gregory	Masser	Ryan
Bernstine	Greiner	Mehaffie	Sankey
Boback	Grove	Mentzer	Saylor
Bonner	Hamm	Mercuri	Schemel
Borowicz	Heffley	Metcalfe	Schmitt
Brooks	Helm	Metzgar	Schroeder
Brown, R.	Hennessey	Mihalek	Silvis
Burns	Hershey	Millard	Smith
Causar	Hickernell	Miller, B.	Sonney
Cook	Irvin	Mizgorski	Staats
Cox	James	Moul	Stambaugh
Culver	Jones	Mustello	Stephens
Davanzo	Jozwiak	Nelson, E.	Struzzi
Day	Kail	O'Neal	Thomas
Delozier	Kaufner	Oberlander	Tomlinson
DelRosso	Kauffman	Ortitay	Toohil
Diamond	Keefer	Owlett	Topper
Dowling	Kerwin	Peifer	Twardzik
Dunbar	Klunk	Pennycuik	Warner
Ecker	Knowles	Pickett	Wentling
Emrick	Labs	Polinchock	Wheeland
Farry	Lawrence	Puskaric	White
Fee	Lewis	Rader	Williams, C.
Flood	Mackenzie, M.	Rapp	Zimmerman
Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Rigby	
Gaydos	Major	Roae	Cutler,
Gillen	Mako	Rossi	Speaker
Gillespie	Maloney	Rothman	

NAYS—87

Benham	Driscoll	Kosierowski	Pisciottano
Bizzarro	Evans	Krajewski	Rabb
Boyle	Fiedler	Krueger	Rozzi
Bradford	Fitzgerald	Kulik	Sainato
Briggs	Frankel	Lee	Samuelson
Brown, A.	Freeman	Longietti	Sanchez
Bullock	Galloway	Madden	Sappey
Burgos	Guenst	Malagari	Schlossberg
Carroll	Guzman	Markosek	Schweyer
Cephas	Hanbidge	Matzie	Shusterman
Ciresi	Harkins	McClinton	Sims
Conklin	Harris	McNeill	Snyder
Cruz	Herrin	Merski	Solomon
Curry	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sturla
Daley	Howard	Mullery	Vitali
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Mullins	Warren
Davis, T.	Isaacson	Neilson	Webster
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Nelson, N.	Welby
Deasy	Kim	O'Mara	Williams, D.
DeLissio	Kinthead	Otten	Young
Delloso	Kinsey	Parker	Zabel
DeLuca	Kirkland	Pashinski	

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey Quinn Wheatley

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 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 SIGNED BY SPEAKER

Bills numbered and entitled as follows having been prepared for presentation to the Governor, and the same being correct, the titles were publicly read as follows:

HB 412, PN 2533

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in preliminary provisions, providing for special provisions applicable to limited school years; in professional employees, providing for day-to-day substitutes; in certification of teachers, further providing for substitute teaching permit for prospective teachers, for program of continuing professional education and for locally issued temporary certification for substitute teachers and providing for permit for classroom monitors and for substitute teaching policy; and, in Safe2Say Program, further providing for false reports.

HB 1255, PN 2532

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in facilities and supplies, providing for additional surcharge; in limitation of time, providing for real estate appraisals; and making a related repeal.

HB 1332, PN 2272

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, providing for online curriculum availability.

HB 1837, PN 2394

An Act amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, in procedure, further providing for modifications, reinstatements, suspensions and terminations and for compromise and release.

HB 2071, PN 2518

An Act amending Title 64 (Public Authorities and Quasi-Public Corporations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority to provide broadband Internet access to unserved and underserved residents; and providing for powers and duties of the authority and for grant awards.

SB 729, PN 831

An Act amending the act of June 9, 1997 (P.L.169, No.14), known as the Nurse Aide Resident Abuse Prevention Training Act, further providing for implementation.

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

CALENDAR CONTINUED

SENATE CONCURRENT REGULATORY
REVIEW RESOLUTION NO. 1

Mr. BENNINGHOFF called up **Senate Concurrent Regulatory Review Resolution No. 1**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution disapproving the Environmental Quality Board regulation (#7-559) on a CO2 budget trading program. (D05988)

On the question,
Will the House adopt the resolution?

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Struzzi.

Mr. STRUZZI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

So here we are again, RGGI. For the past 2 years we have been fighting against the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and the authoritarian way it is being imposed on Pennsylvania. Why do we continue to fight against this? Why are more and more organizations, more and more businesses, more and more people joining with us in this fight against the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative? Because RGGI will be devastating to Pennsylvania. We were elected to do what is right and what is good for this Commonwealth, and, Mr. Speaker, RGGI is not it. RGGI will be bad for Pennsylvania. So I am asking all of us in this General Assembly to send a clear message that we do not want RGGI in this State by voting in favor of Senate Concurrent Regulatory Review Resolution No. 1, SCRRR 1. We need to get this passed today and let people know that we care about jobs in Pennsylvania, that we care about families, that we care about communities. That is what this is about.

As many of you know, I come from Indiana County. Two of the largest coal-fired electric generation plants are within my district. We already know if this tax is imposed, this carbon capture tax is imposed on our coal-fired electric generation industry, those plants will shut down. The industry will not shut down. The plants in Pennsylvania will shut down, because they will simply go to Ohio and West Virginia, where they would never consider entering into something like the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. Do you know why? Because they, like Pennsylvania, rely on their energy industry. We should be doing the same here and saying no to RGGI and "yes" to this concurrent resolution.

So let us talk a little bit more about the impacts of RGGI. You know, just within western Pennsylvania alone, if RGGI is implemented, we could stand to lose more than 8,000 jobs – 8,000 jobs in western Pennsylvania alone; more than \$2.8 billion out of our economy that is going to go, again, to Ohio and West Virginia. Within Indiana County, we are talking nearly 1500 jobs and about \$873 million, just to Indiana County alone. Do you know what that means to local communities? Do you know what that means to school taxes, to property taxes, not to mention all the other industries that benefit from having these industries within Pennsylvania – restaurants, bars, electrical consumers? The top four highest electrical rates within the country are within RGGI states. That is what will happen in Pennsylvania if we implement RGGI. It has to stop, and I am asking you to stop it today by voting for this concurrent resolution.

And you can say that coal is dead all that you want, but that is simply not true. We are opening new mines in western Pennsylvania. The demand for coal is stronger than it has been in many years, and in fact, again, West Virginia, instead of taxing their industry out of business, they are funding their industry. West Virginia approved a subsidy within their General Assembly to create a \$448 million subsidy to upgrade three of their coal plants so they can run until 2040. That is what we should be doing in Pennsylvania. We have one of the greatest assets in the country right under our feet and we are taxing it out of business. To me, that makes zero sense for Pennsylvania. It makes zero sense for our economy. And again, this will put an end to that.

So let us talk a little bit about the process that we have undertaken. Now, wait, I should not say we; I should say the Governor has undertaken to enter into RGGI, because we had no say in it. We are elected to represent the people of this Commonwealth. This should have been done as a piece of legislation and it was not. So we have not been heard, the residents that we represent have not been heard; the businesses, the families, our communities have not been heard in this process.

We spent a lot of time on the previous bill talking about executive overreach, Executive orders that simply make zero sense for Pennsylvania. I mean, we were elected to represent the people and we have not been given the opportunity to do that as part of this RGGI process. I think, you know, 2 years ago when the Governor proposed this – and I had never even heard of RGGI; I was newly elected into office – but my first thought was, why in the world would someone who is the Governor of a State that exports energy, that has energy as one of its greatest economic assets, want to do something that puts it out of business? I kept asking myself why. I am still asking why, because RGGI makes no sense for Pennsylvania. It makes no sense whatsoever.

And as we are talking about the process, even the Attorney General came out and said that he questions the process that has been undertaken to enter into RGGI and he questions if RGGI is even good for Pennsylvania. I think you are all getting the e-mails and you are seeing all of those numbers: RGGI is not good for Pennsylvania. It will not be good for Pennsylvania jobs, it will not be good for our economy, and in fact, I say that RGGI will be dangerous for Pennsylvania. If we shut down our fossil fuel industry, if we shut down our coal-fired electric generation plants, we run the risk of seeing what happened in Texas last year happen here in Pennsylvania. People died because they could not generate electricity to heat their homes. We simply cannot allow that to happen here in Pennsylvania.

We need to vote "yes" for this Senate resolution to stop RGGI because it will be devastating to our communities, it will be devastating to Pennsylvania jobs, it will be devastating to our school districts, and it will be devastating for our future. So I ask all of you, send a clear message that we do not want RGGI in Pennsylvania, that RGGI is bad, and that the actions of this administration to implement RGGI are unacceptable. Please vote "yes" on Senate Concurrent Regulatory Review Resolution No. 1. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Vitali, on the resolution.

Mr. VITALI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in opposition of this resolution, and although I will not be submitting my remarks for the record, I will give them in abbreviated form in the interest of time.

Climate change is the most serious, long-term threat to this planet. Pennsylvania is a major greenhouse gas producer. RGGI is the most important thing Pennsylvania can do right now to address climate change. This legislature has done nothing and shown no inclination to do anything on climate change. RGGI is time tested; it was founded in 2009 and 11 States are participating. RGGI is a market-based approach; no form of energy is either required or prohibited. RGGI is not a tax; it simply requires polluters to buy allowance for polluting. RGGI has legal authority under the Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Act. RGGI has already saved 1,000 jobs by preempting the closing of the Energy Harbor 2 unit on the western side of the State.

RGGI has widespread public support. I dispute the member's assertion that there has been no public input. There have been 10 public hearings held in the EQB process, and 90 percent of those commenting commented in favor of RGGI.

RGGI has been approved by multiple advisory committees. The Environmental Quality Board approved these regulations. IRR (Independent Regulatory Review Commission) found these regulations were in the public interest. The Attorney General approved these, as to form and legality. RGGI – the cost of doing nothing, as witnessed by Hurricanes Katrina, Harvey, Maria, and Ida, is hundreds of billions of dollars in damage, thousands of deaths. The responsible thing for us to do is to take one first step in addressing climate change and vote "no" on this.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Frankel, for submission of remarks for the record.

Mr. FRANKEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I also rise in opposition to this proposal. Supporting the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative is really the centerpiece of Pennsylvania's plan to combat climate change.

REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Mr. FRANKEL. I have extensive remarks here, Mr. Speaker. I am going to submit them for the record, but I do urge all my colleagues to vote against this proposal. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Mr. FRANKEL submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

I rise today in support of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, opposing this effort to block the centerpiece of Pennsylvania's plan to combat climate change. My colleagues on the other side are trying to paint this plan as extreme because they know that a clear majority of Pennsylvanians believe that we must do something to address climate change. But it is not extreme at all. The beauty of RGGI is that it is market-based and will produce the funds we need to help communities make the transition to a clean energy economy while it cuts greenhouse gases. Near-universal consensus among scientists calls for those reductions. When Pennsylvanians say in polls that they want us to "do something" about climate change, this is it. We must cut our greenhouse gases – there is no way around it. But RGGI allows us to do it in such a way that businesses still have flexibility, and that we are working in concert with our neighboring States.

Cutting emissions is not just an act of good citizenship for all of planet Earth, either. It will protect our own health here immediately. Greenhouse gas emissions cause respiratory illnesses from increased smog and air pollution, affecting the very young and very old most of

all. Carbon emissions contain carcinogens, which increase the risk of getting cancer. People with diabetes who live near areas with fog and carbon emissions have high mortality rates resulting from heart disease. I do not want that for my family nor my constituents, and I do not want it for yours, either.

RGGI is an elegant solution to a problem that must be addressed. The longer we wait, the harder it is to find solutions that can work for everyone. This is an opportunity, and we have to take it. We must protect the health of Pennsylvanians, the precious environment of our Commonwealth, and yes, the future of our industries. All we have to do is get out of the way.

So please, join me in getting out of the way and opposing this shortsighted and unpopular measure to block the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Mihalek, on the resolution.

Ms. MIHALEK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in support of this resolution. It is without question that joining RGGI will be bad for our jobs, bad for our consumers, bad for our overall energy economy, and despite what it purports to do, RGGI will also be bad for our environment.

Growing up in a heavily industrialized area of Allegheny County, I know the importance of a clean environment and the harm that a dirty one can do. But as goes the age-old adage "out of sight, out of mind," so goes RGGI – just like so many other environmental policies that are meant to appease certain special interests instead of solving a problem.

I am here to solve problems. I am here to represent the people of my district and the people of Pennsylvania. That does not happen in a vacuum, and neither does RGGI. If this Commonwealth joins RGGI, then nearly all emission reduction – nearly all – would be accomplished by RGGI. Our job losses and the hit to our economy and consumers would be offset by emission increases in just West Virginia and Ohio alone – this is according to a study by the DEP – 99.01 percent of the emission reductions would be offset by increases in West Virginia and Ohio. Why? Because we all share the air. There is no barrier between West Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania that can stop this. So why, then, would we jeopardize thousands of jobs, raise prices on our consumers, and harm the environment?

Even our Attorney General, just a month ago, criticized RGGI, saying, "I am really concerned about the impact on jobs in the energy sector. I do not want to displace workers from their jobs."

"I have real concerns about the impact it will have on consumer prices, hurting families at a time when many are struggling...to put food on the table."

He went on to say, "We need to take real action to address climate change, protect and create energy jobs and ensure Pennsylvania has reliable, affordable and clean power for the long term..." and "...implement an energy strategy which passes that test, and it's not clear to me that RGGI does."

Well said, Mr. Attorney General. I cannot say that I have agreed with him on much, but he hit the nail on the head here. Policies that tout a clean environment and good-paying jobs do not have to be mutually exclusive, but the sad reality is that they are when those policies are being driven by special interests instead of creating good policy for Pennsylvanians.

RGGI is nothing more than a misguided shortcut to actually addressing the constitutional right that Pennsylvanians have to clean air and clean water. RGGI is nothing more than lip service to residents who demand environmental action, and RGGI is nothing more than a headline grab from a lame-duck Governor.

You want lower carbon emissions? You want clean air, clean water, a better environment for your kids, for my kids, for our grandkids? Then come to the table. Come to the negotiating table with a real solution. This Governor has failed to do so. He has failed to come to the table for 7 years, and that will be his legacy, not RGGI.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Warner, on the resolution.

Mr. WARNER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, there is a lot to discuss in regards to our Commonwealth joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, more commonly known as RGGI. We can discuss how joining it will cost us thousands of good, family-sustaining jobs. We can discuss how joining it will increase energy prices on families already struggling with inflation in a poor economy. We can discuss how, over the last decade, Pennsylvania's CO2 (carbon dioxide) emissions have fallen by 37 percent, while maintaining the same electric generation. Or we can discuss how 3 years ago, when referring to RGGI, the Governor said Pennsylvania was doing a great job reducing CO2 emissions, that it was not necessary to sign on to something that we are already doing a better job at.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to talk about this hypocrisy or how crushing this will be to our economy. Rather, I am going to discuss how one man making authoritarian decisions, bypassing the legislative process, alienating the voice of 13 million Pennsylvanians, and implementing a tax without the consent of the governed is crushing to the principles of this Republic and crushing to the principles of democracy.

Mr. Speaker, every State that has joined this pact has done so through the legislative process. All 11 states that have joined RGGI have done so by passing a bill through their House of Representatives, through their Senate, and signed into law by their Governor. We will be the only State joining this pact through an authoritarian mandate. And, Mr. Speaker, our Constitution makes it perfectly clear that we must also follow the legislative process to join this pact. The Constitution states that "All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose amendments as in other bills." It does not say, except for whenever the Governor decides he wants to tax a business on his own or when the DEP thinks it is a good idea. It says that all revenue created must be generated in this House.

Mr. Speaker, in this Commonwealth, in our Republic, laws are not created by bureaucrats in State departments. Laws are not created by courts. Laws are not created by Governors. In this land, laws are created by the democratically elected Representatives of the people. That is how our form of government works. Implementing a tax without the approval of this House, without the approval of this Senate, and without the approval of the people is nothing short of a direct attack on democracy. Mr. Speaker, it flies in the face of our founding principles. This country was literally founded on fighting against taxation without representation. We revolted and fought a war against the most powerful empire in the world. We created a Constitution and a brand-new form of government because we were being taxed without our consent, because we were being mandated to do things without our consent, and that is exactly what we are fighting against here – a tax being mandated by one man without the consent of the governed.

But that is not how we do things here, Mr. Speaker. In this country, we do not do mandates. In this country, we do not do unilateral orders. Mr. Speaker, this is the United States of America. We do liberty, we do freedom, and we do representative government of, by, and for the people. And if you believe in these principles, you will be voting "yes" on this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Snyder, on the resolution.

Mrs. SNYDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It is no secret that I support the energy industry: wind, solar, nuclear, and yes, gas and coal. It is also no secret that I support labor unions. As I was driving to this Capitol on Sunday, Mr. Speaker, I stopped at a rest stop on the turnpike, and when I walked out and was walking to my car, I could hear my name being shouted across the parking lot. And when I turned around to see who it was, it was about 10 of my United Mine Workers of America friends and brothers and sisters, and I asked them where they were going. Well, they were heading to New York City to continue to fight Warrior Met on the strike happening in Alabama, to continue to fight to save union jobs.

We here today, if we do not vote "yes" on this, will continue to lose union jobs. Ohio and West Virginia continue to build coal-fired power plants, and the last time I checked, the wind blows from the west to the east. In my world, those families will pick up stakes and they will move to those States to do their life work.

You know, today the chatter in this building is maps; let us talk a little bit about maps. In 2000 we went from 21 congressional seats in this State to 19; in 2010 we went from 19 to 18; and in 2020 we are going to go from 18 to 17. Now, should we not be proud as we continue to bleed population and brain drain this Commonwealth?

This is going to impact our grid reliability and this is going to impact people's electric bills in their mailboxes, whether you want to believe that or not. I do not care how you slice it or dice it: this is a tax. We all know what happened when the impact fee was imposed on the gas industry. There is one big difference, though. It was not called a tax; it was called a fee. But the difference is that fee was imposed by the General Assembly, where it should be.

We can protect the environment in this Commonwealth by investing in clean technology, and we can be an energy leader in this nation, and that is what we should be doing. We need to protect our jobs, we need to protect consumers, and we need to protect the integrity of this institution. Vote "yes" on SCRRR 1.

REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Mrs. SNYDER. And I would like to submit the remainder of my remarks for the record.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

Mrs. SNYDER submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in support of SCRRR No. 1. RGGI is nothing but an unfair tax on the fossil fuel industry that will devastate the communities I represent. RGGI will artificially and prematurely shut down coal-fired power plants across Pennsylvania. These same power plants are using the coal mined in my district to turn our lights on and heat our homes.

This budget trading program sounds better on paper than it does in practice. Coal provides the cheapest baseload for the energy grid. When it is 100 degrees and air conditioners are running 24/7, it is coal that gets called upon to supply the energy needed. When the polar vortex hit, it was coal that was able to provide enough energy to heat homes without an issue. That is because coal is the most reliable and flexible – and we need it. And if Pennsylvania does not have it, Ohio and West Virginia do. My district borders West Virginia to the south and the west. There are already two coal-fired power plants just across the State line in West Virginia because of Pennsylvania's difficult environmental rules. RGGI will push even more jobs across the State line to our neighbors. Good-paying union jobs. The PJM energy grid needs coal-fired power generation to meet the electricity demands of its customers. They will find it elsewhere if Pennsylvania cannot offer it, putting thousands out of work. A coal miner in my district averages a salary of over \$100,000 a year. No one has been able to answer what kinds of jobs these workers will be able to get; that is because there is no answer. It is false promises. There is no other job in Greene County that will pay six figures. Coal mining is in their blood. Their fathers did it, their grandfathers did it, and now they do it, and they make a good living to support their families and our tax base.

We have heard that RGGI will generate millions of dollars. There is no plan to spend those dollars in my district when one-third of our employees lose their jobs. There is no plan on how to spend this money, period – or how much the State will get. It is just more talking points. Meanwhile, China and other foreign countries are building new coal-fired power plants that are completely unregulated. But what it is guaranteed to do is raise electricity rates. Our power plants here are subject to clean-air standards. They have invested in technology to reduce their emissions. Instead of pushing the cheapest and most reliable source of energy out the door, Pennsylvania should be investing in carbon capture.

According to the DEP's 2020 report, electricity production accounts for 29 percent of Pennsylvania's greenhouse gas emissions, but yet no tax is placed on vehicles or gasoline stations based on carbon emissions, despite the little difference. I strongly believe that we need a diverse energy portfolio. We need wind, we need solar, we need nuclear, and we need coal and gas. There is no plan for local economies facing destruction. There is no plan to spend any revenue raised. There is no plan – period. No matter how you slice it, dice it, or sugarcoat it, RGGI is a tax, and the General Assembly should have a voice in the decision to join.

I will proudly be voting "yes" on SCRRR No. 1.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Klunk.

Ms. KLUNK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It is hard to follow that here today, but today I rise in support of this resolution disapproving of the EQB's regulation which would result in Pennsylvania joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, also known as RGGI. Unilaterally enacting RGGI will have catastrophic economic impacts, which has been evidenced in other RGGI States. Additionally, joining RGGI would result in minimal increased environmental benefits to our Commonwealth. DEP's own modeling shows that minimal impact because our private sector here in Pennsylvania, and in particular, our manufacturing sector, is already reducing CO2 emissions at a steady pace.

Pennsylvania is a manufacturing State and the 169th District is a manufacturing district. Manufacturing here in Pennsylvania employs about 570,000 Pennsylvanians on that plant floor, in addition to sustaining millions and millions of additional jobs in supporting industries. For every \$1 invested in manufacturing, the multiplier effect on our economy is \$2.74 – the largest multiplier effect of any industry.

Manufacturing is a major economic driver here in Pennsylvania, but especially in my district. You see, we are the Snack Food Capital of the World, and I would bet that every single person in this room has eaten something that was made in my district. RGGI would force many manufacturers, and even those in my district, to consider moving operations to other States, or even worse, foreign countries where the environmental protection best practices are really just not enforced. This could be very easy for some of them, as some in my district have operations throughout our nation and some in foreign countries.

Efficiency is the key to manufacturing operations success, and one way of achieving a high level of efficiency is lowering overall energy usage. Many of Pennsylvania's manufacturers are committed to reducing energy costs and reducing their carbon footprints to reduce their overall operating costs. And in my district, Snyder's of Hanover committed to this many, many years ago to reduce their carbon footprint and installed a solar field across the street from their manufacturing plant in Hanover. This is something that the market is and should be taking care of, not the government mandating that change.

For many manufacturers, energy costs are the largest costs for their operation, as it requires large amounts of energy to turn raw materials into finished goods. In my district, it requires a lot of energy to fire up those potato chip fryers at Utz Potato Chips, the pretzel ovens at Snyder's of Hanover, and to freeze those vegetables in the freezers at Hanover Foods.

Adding additional costs to manufacturers in my district when they are already facing increased wage, health-care, and other historic inflationary costs, will drive manufacturing out of Pennsylvania and it will make it even more challenging to do business here in Pennsylvania and bring new businesses here. These increased costs will be passed on to consumers and every single person in this room by the way of increased prices on each manufactured product. You will be paying more for each bag of chips, each bag of pretzels, and each can or bag of vegetables. We must not implement regulations that take advantage of one sector of the economy to the detriment of another. The pricing impact of RGGI has resulted in a 12-percent drop in goods production and a 34-percent drop in the production of energy-intensive goods in those States involved in RGGI.

We are already experiencing a supply chain crisis in this country, and right now is not the time to add to that problem. We need manufacturers in this State and our local communities, as they provide our communities with good family-sustaining jobs, they support our nonprofits, and they support other activities that make our communities here in Pennsylvania the wonderful communities to live, work, and play. Joining RGGI would drive these great employers and economic growth generators out of our Commonwealth and out of our local communities. And for these reasons, Mr. Speaker, these reasons are why I am supporting this resolution here today, because RGGI would just not be good for my district. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Owlett.

Mr. OWLETT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

There are so many reasons why Pennsylvania should not enter into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, but I am going to focus my comments today on consumer impact. While I would argue that it is never a good time for government to enact policies that will, without a doubt, increase the financial burden on our hardworking citizens, this surely is the worst time possible.

However, that is being done right now. We are still dealing with a pandemic that has wreaked havoc on people – people mentally, physically, and financially – for nearly 2 years. Why on earth would we want to further that burden with higher electric bills on top of everything else?

In case you have not shopped for food or paid your bills recently, the rate of inflation in the United States hit 6.2 percent in October, the highest rate that we have seen in three decades. I will break it down for you. Here in Pennsylvania, food costs are up 3.7 percent; meat, poultry, and eggs, a whopping 11.2 percent; cereal and baked goods, 5.2 percent; housing costs, 4.2 percent; house furnishings, 11.6, all imported fuels and utilities, 9.5 percent; apparel costs, 5 percent; transportation, 17 percent; and energy is up 24 percent.

What do you think that power companies are going to do to pay the cost and the tax that RGGI is going to put on them? They are going to pass it on to consumers, our constituents. And for what? This is key: Pennsylvania's CO2 emissions have already been reduced to rates lower than most of the States currently participating in RGGI. So we are already doing a good job, and now the administration wants our constituents to pay for it. Joining RGGI is nothing more than a tax on everyone who pays an electric bill. With so many Pennsylvanians already struggling to make ends meet through the pandemic, adding an energy tax is incredibly ignorant of the struggles of everyday Pennsylvanians. With prices continuing to rise on some of our most basic and essential items, Pennsylvania residents should not be subject to yet another increase, especially when there is no real, tangible benefit.

Some may say wages are up, and that in some cases might be true, but not everywhere, and certainly not for the seniors that are on fixed incomes who are strapped and who are having real conversations around their kitchen tables with their kids wondering how they are going to be able to stay in their homes with this type of inflation. There are several reasons that we should stop this from moving forward, but make no mistake about it, moving forward with this will absolutely hurt seniors on fixed incomes in your district and in my district. And I want them to know that I am standing here today with them and I am going to vote "yes" on this and put a stop to this today.

I am just a farm kid from Tioga County, but I want to make one other note. You know what? When the government enacts a policy that takes more of my money, it might be simple, but that is a tax. That is exactly what this is, and I am voting "yes" to stop this right now.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Kail, on the resolution.

Mr. KAIL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution. There are many reasons to support it, but I would like to speak to the impact that entering into RGGI will have on our blue-collar workers now and into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I reside in Beaver County, and not that long ago, Beaver County had an unemployment rate of 26 percent. My grandfather would tell stories about what happened: the mills closed up, went to China and India and overseas. But the saddest part of the stories was always about the devastation that happened at home – the families that were torn apart, the people that had to leave town, the communities that were devastated.

You know, during the course of this debate, I have heard arguments about job-placement programs and that we should be focused on that. Well, let me tell you something. In Beaver County, we have heard that before. And when I hear job-placement programs, I hear drug overdoses; I hear broken families; I hear people leaving Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, joining RGGI will negatively affect thousands, thousands of blue-collar workers, and it will have a dramatic impact on their communities as well. And this is during a time, Mr. Speaker, when Pennsylvania is on the cusp of a manufacturing renaissance. You know, there was a Department of Education, or Department of Energy – excuse me – study that came out that said this region, 200,000 full-time jobs we could have, manufacturing jobs, over the course of the next 10 years in this region. That does not include construction jobs. That does not include the maintenance jobs. Full-time manufacturing jobs. Why? Why are we having this? Why do we have this renaissance? Well, it is simple: because we have affordable and abundant energy underneath us.

And I have to tell you, if we are going to get serious about global emissions, if we are going to get serious about moving us forward on that, the one thing we all should be focused on is taking opportunities away from bad actors in China and India and Russia and building it here in Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, we can have that future. We can have that future here. Entering RGGI closes the door on that opportunity.

I have to say, after everything I have heard today, Mr. Speaker, I think there is really only one question left to answer, and the question is, with whom will you stand? Will you stand with the billionaire class, those pontificators up in their ivory towers who produce environmental policy that just so happens to increase their financial portfolios and destroy the middle class? Or will you stand with our blue-collar workers – our friends, our neighbors, our t-ball coaches, our Sunday school teachers? Will you stand with His Excellency, a Governor who has 1 year left in his term, a Governor who understands how bad his policy is and is forcing Democrats to vote against union jobs with RCAP (Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program) grants? Mr. Speaker—

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

I was already gavel in hand, Mr. Leader, but if you wish to raise your point of order, you may.

Mr. HARRIS. Impugning the character.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman raises the issue of motive, and he is correct. You are not allowed to impugn the motives of any member for what they are supporting or not supporting. And I would encourage the gentleman to stay on the topic of the underlying resolution.

Mr. KAIL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. You are in order and may proceed.

Mr. KAIL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Will you stand with His Excellency, or will you stand with PA AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomingdale, who said, "...blue collar families are likely to be forced to bear the brunt of RGGI risks without benefitting from any rewards"? Will you stand with Frank Sirianni, president of the Pennsylvania—

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

I will recognize the leader in just one moment.

The good gentleman should not name individuals. Under our House rules, you are to refer to individuals by title, not specific names. That is not just members, but other people of important positions.

POINT OF ORDER

The SPEAKER. The gentleman, Representative Harris, is recognized.

Mr. HARRIS. I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I was going to say if he was going to say the name, he probably should say them correctly.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

We have already—

Mr. HARRIS. Just saying.

The SPEAKER. We have already addressed the underlying issue regarding the rules. I will allow the two of you to discuss the finer points of pronunciation at a later time.

The gentleman—

Mr. KAIL. It is all right, Mr. Speaker. I am not the one voting against working people.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman needs to stay on the underlying merits of the resolution. I would encourage the gentleman to stay within the boundaries of the rules in regards to referencing outside members and individuals here in this chamber.

Mr. KAIL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. You are in order and may proceed, sir.

Mr. KAIL. Will you stand with the business manager of the Pittsburgh Building Trades who said, "At its core RGGI is simply not sound policy. It is a job crushing regulation that accomplishes little if any environmental benefit." Will you stand with my good friend, the business manager of the laborers, who said that the proposed regulations would result in devastating impacts to Pennsylvania workers, including LIUNA (Laborers' International Union of North America) members.

Will you stand with my good friend, the business manager of the boilermakers? "RGGI is a threat to the economy in Pennsylvania...It would be irresponsible and alarming for our Governor to put our state in danger, our jobs at risk and our low-income households in jeopardy...."

Will you stand with the steamfitters? the operators? the insulators? the carpenters? the IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers)? the painters? the iron workers? Will you stand with working people?

Mr. Speaker, I have to tell you, I have to tell you, all the policy tours, all the training site facilities, all the job site facility visits will not mean a thing once you vote "no" today and put a "no" vote up on that board. I have to tell you, all the warm and fuzzy Facebook posts, all the "I support labor" posts, [words stricken] in committee meetings will not mean anything—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman has been warned multiple times.

The House will be at ease and I will ask you to please approach the rostrum.

(Conference held at Speaker's podium.)

The SPEAKER. The House will return to order and the Chair will recognize the gentleman, Representative Harris. I believe he was seeking recognition prior to me going at ease.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the gentleman's last comments be stricken from the record.

The SPEAKER. I believe the gentleman is referring to the motives, of the walkouts regarding phony. They will be.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair will recognize the gentleman for the final time with the encouragement to stay within the rules. Further breaches of protocol will result in no further recognition.

Mr. KAIL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I will be brief and I will conclude.

Mr. Speaker, today we have an opportunity. Today, Mr. Speaker, we can show the world, we can show the nation, we can show our constituents that in Pennsylvania, yes, Republicans and Democrats, we fight like cats and dogs, but when it comes to our middle-class voters and our middle-class constituents and our blue-collar workers, we stand hand in hand and protect their livelihoods. Will you join us? Vote "yes" to protect their jobs. Vote "yes" to protect their future. Vote "yes" to stay out of RGGI.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Herrin.

Ms. HERRIN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to remind my colleagues that our Governor was duly elected by the people of this entire Commonwealth, unlike each and every one of us who was elected by approximately, what, we have 65,000 people in each of our districts. In this case, he is doing the work of the people and he is doing this work with full legal authority.

I would also like to point out that we all know it is really hard when you have industries like coal in your district and they are failing and they are leaving and they are abandoning your communities and your people. But let me tell you something, coal is dying not because of RGGI; coal is dying because of natural gas. Since 2007 the price of coal has increased 19 percent and the price of natural gas has declined 65 percent. It is a simple matter of economics because we are overextracting and oversupplying with gas in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. That is what is going on here.

So I am astounded that we stand here today to vote on a bill that aims to kill the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, or RGGI, which will reduce pollution from power plants that causes climate change. I am astounded because we all know by now that this changing climate, which we are all seeing all around us and across the world, is caused by this greenhouse gas pollution which comes directly from extracting and burning fossil fuels like natural gas, oil, and coal.

The U.N. (United Nations) Secretary-General just issued a "code red for humanity" – his words, not mine – because our planet, our future is on a collision course with a violent and chaotic climate system that we are pushing out of control. And if you think this is hyperbole, then read the science. Do not read the American Petroleum Institute propaganda or the fossil fuel-funded fake news, read the solid science. Or better yet, open a newspaper and read about the fires that have devastated the

Amazon, Australia, Siberia, and swaths of our own country in the western United States. Read about the massive, violent tornadoes that just destroyed parts of Kentucky. Read about Ida. I do not know about you, but in my district, we had houses float down the river – and that was just the remnants of this storm, because this is what climate change does, and this is just the beginning. And here we are, we are on a runaway train and we are not even looking for the brakes. Instead, this bill is trying to kill what is, frankly, a very foundational first step toward doing something – something – about the biggest crisis we have ever faced together as humanity.

But you know, that is not all. RGGI is a market-based program that will bring billions into our economy over the coming years and create thousands of jobs. Mr. Speaker, what if I told you that I had a new economic venture ready to set up shop in Pennsylvania, and that new venture was planning to bring \$2 billion in new money to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and create 30,000 jobs in manufacturing and infrastructure; 30,000 jobs that cannot be outsourced and that can be wholly inclusive for our union brothers and sisters; 30,000 jobs that will lead to tens of thousands more jobs in ancillary industries and downstream growth? Mr. Speaker, this new venture would be the toast of the town.

But it gets even better. This \$2 billion job generator would be all about new technology and new investments. It would restore Pennsylvania's place as the engine that drives America's industry and innovation. Mr. Speaker, what if I told you that this initiative would bring in a minimum of a half a billion dollars per year to get people trained and employed? That we would be taking advantage of the free market and taking steps supported by the Wall Street experts who are looking at the boom of the future, which is a brand-new, clean-energy, energy-efficient future on track for \$5.1 trillion in new investments by 2030.

Mr. Speaker, I think we would all be all in on this proposition. Well, this proposition is RGGI, and the boom of the future is efficient, clean energy. If we want to take it back from China, we ought to invite the solar panel manufacturers into Pennsylvania, because they are kicking our you-know-whats right now.

RGGI saves money in other ways. It saves money because extreme weather costs everyone money, extreme weather costs jobs, and extreme weather costs lives.

Finally, RGGI will save the Commonwealth \$6.3 billion in health-care costs due to reduction of this pollution. It will save more than 600 lives due to reduction of respiratory illness. And it will help our children alleviate asthma. And by the way, RGGI does not increase utility bills. In surrounding States – and there are 10 of them who have participated in RGGI, some since 2005 – in surrounding States, utility bills for consumers have decreased 2.3 percent on average. This is not supposition; this is, like, actually what happens.

So, Mr. Speaker, we must be a part of RGGI. We will bring in nearly \$2 billion in economic growth and create 30,000 direct jobs, that you cannot outsource, in the fastest growing industry in America: clean energy and energy efficiency. We will grow our economy, we will put more money back in the pockets of customers, and we will improve our quality of life, making Pennsylvania a better place to live, a better place to work, and a better place to raise a family.

I ask my colleagues to vote "no" on this resolution. Mr. Speaker, this is not a vote against anyone. This is a vote for all workers. This is a vote for families. This is a vote for a livable Pennsylvania for our children and our grandchildren.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentlewoman, Representative Oberlander, on the resolution.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I stand in support of Senate Concurrent Regulatory Review Resolution No. 1, disapproving RGGI. You have already heard that this is a tax, and the only body able to implement a tax is the House, not the Governor. You have already heard about how uncompetitive it is going to make us in our neighboring States. You have already heard the cost of increase to electric bills for all of our constituents as well as our manufacturers. And you heard about how this does not deal with the environmental concerns that it claims to, because we have already made major reductions in those greenhouse gases.

So I am going to talk to you a little bit about why, in addition to those reasons, I am so absolutely opposed to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, and that is because my backyard has the Keystone power plant. And I would welcome any one of you to come to my district or to come to the good gentleman's district next to mine in Indiana County, and I would dare you to check out our clean air; our fresh, clean waters; and forests. And I would challenge you to say that these are polluters, because they have invested millions, if not billions, of dollars in clean energy technology.

The Keystone Generating Station in Shelocta, Plumcreek Township, my district, had a recent \$1 billion – this is a quote that I am reading from one of the employees there, one of my constituents, who said that they want to live on a good planet. They work there. They want fresh water, clean air. They are not destroying the earth. The company has spent \$1 billion to make sure that they are being good environmental stewards. They spent that money on a continuous emissions monitoring system, and they continue to upgrade those systems. And now they are being cut off at the knees.

It was not that long ago that the Republican Policy Committee went to Homer City and saw the investment that they were providing in scrubbers to make sure that those emissions were not being spewed into the environment. We were able to see the number of jobs that that created – good-paying, family-sustaining jobs.

The generating plant that I mentioned in my district has employee compensation of over \$24 million for 166 employees. This plant supports 1100 jobs in Armstrong County. That is a big deal – 1100 jobs. What measures do we go to in this legislature to attract that kind of employment? The plant overall has a direct impact of \$359 million, an indirect of \$186 million, for an overall impact of \$544 million. Think about that. All four of those coal-fired plants – the Keystone, the Conemaugh, the Cheswick, and the Homer City – support 8,170 jobs. What lengths do we go to to have 8,000 jobs in our Commonwealth? This is so absolutely critical that we do not support Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

And I will leave you with this. This is a quote from the StateImpact PA report: " 'This is nothing more than an assassination of blue collar jobs across PA, which in turn will disrupt and ruin thousands of families, mine included,' said Eric

Baker, who works for the...Keystone Generating Station in Armstrong County."

And I implore you to vote "yes" on SCRRR 1.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Webster, on the resolution.

Mr. WEBSTER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I will try to be a little bit brief because we have heard many of these arguments and statements previously, and in similar fashion, perhaps. But personally, I will be here today to vote for RGGI and against this Senate resolution because I could not go home otherwise. I will explain that to you.

For one, because we have to reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions, carbon emissions in Pennsylvania. We have to move carbon counts and costs into a market in Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania included. We need to have all the externalities and the costs of livelihoods and flooding and business expenses and cleanups and human life be part of the accounting on the ledger in the economic model. It needs to be one thing.

And because in my neighborhood, in suburban Montgomery County, 147 of my neighbors still live in hotels because their homes were destroyed in the last 100-year flood – which happened to be the third 100-year flood we have had in 18 months in suburban Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. One hundred and forty-seven of my neighbors are already feeling and paying for the impact of floods and climate change personally.

You know, I am always amazed by Pennsylvania. You know me personally, right? I was a Philly kid, Air Force, and a few other things along the way, and I came in here to serve with each of you as a Representative of Pennsylvania. I am very proud of Pennsylvania. So I did not expect and I do not expect and I am always surprised when we are last or bottom 10 or last quartile in any category. But U.S. News & World Report has us at 36th in economic growth – and we have talked about the numbers and different directions – and 36th in economic growth means we are bottom third. And I am really, really proud of Pennsylvania, and I do not like it when we are bottom third in anything.

So along with the costs of the environmental concerns, I think this is really important that we do take that step forward to create a new dynamic in Pennsylvania in economic growth: in new jobs – union jobs – and innovation pushed forward by union workers; an opportunity to rethink infrastructure and to rethink energy; economic opportunities that we are going to miss, because it is time to move into the future; wind farms, large-scale solar, geothermal – all of these things that we can do to create a dynamic economy in Pennsylvania. We need to get out of the status quo thinking and move forward. That is why I am here, elected, because I think Pennsylvania should be number one in just about everything.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE (JESSE TOPPER) PRESIDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman. The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Westmoreland, Mr. Eric Nelson.

Mr. E. NELSON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to start out by agreeing with the previous speaker: Pennsylvania is at the top of the list in energy generation. We are a number one energy exporter in PJM power grid, and that is jobs, jobs, jobs. We are the number two energy producer in the nation, Mr. Speaker. And all of us want a clean environment. So much so, Mr. Speaker, that if we look at the State of Pennsylvania, we already exceed the standards from the Paris climate accords. It is fact. But you know who does not exceed those accords is China. While we are looking at almost immediate closure of our coal-fired power plants and natural gas plants, China, on the other hand, has gone in the other direction, and just within these last 2 years, Mr. Speaker, has built 43 new coal-fired power plants. Fact. Reality. Thirty-eight gigawatts of power.

In our region, Westmoreland County, Tenaska invested and built a plant, was almost \$1 billion of new investment and hundreds of thousands of working-family man-hours to generate low-cost, clean energy. China is building 18 new blast furnaces, 40 gigawatts of new coal-fired power plants on the books to be built, but here in Pennsylvania, we are slitting our own throats.

Earlier a good gentleman, well respected for his commitment to the environment, said RGGI is time-tested, and it is accurate. It is tested and proven. Mr. Speaker, it is proven to increase electricity rates and drive heavy industry out of the States. Proven. The fact is that RGGI States, Mr. Speaker, their energy rates have increased over 1,000 percent since RGGI started in 2009. That is fact. Tested and proven that it will cost working-family jobs both in the dozens of power plants that will not be built and the plants that will be closed.

Mr. Speaker, in order for us to move forward, we have to do it together, and together means the State of Pennsylvania should not be slapping additional taxes on our energy generators when other States in the PJM are not experiencing those same taxes. The earlier speaker mentioned Energy Harbor; indeed, a company that is under criminal investigation in Ohio and Illinois. He mentioned about their nuclear power plants, but Energy Harbor's investment, Mr. Speaker, has been right across the border in Ohio and West Virginia in old coal-fired plants that are going to be cleaning our clocks when our rates go up and theirs stay the same.

Mr. Speaker, we must have a bipartisan vote to say "no" to targeted tax increases. If all the States of PJM are not participating in the program, then we are doing nothing but killing working-class jobs for working-class families. Mr. Speaker, we should support this, move it forward, and establish business reliability in Pennsylvania. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the lady from Monroe, Ms. Madden.

Ms. MADDEN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Judging from the remarks we have heard today on this floor, Pennsylvania's involvement in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative has been a lightning rod for discussion, and many of the people who have strong feelings about it are justified in their opinions. I am sympathetic to my friends and colleagues whose districts are more dependent on the fossil fuel industry. At the same time, we are seeing more and more examples each and every day of the devastating impacts of climate change on our nation and our planet, with leading health and medical journals

recently calling the 1.5-degree Celsius rise in global temperatures, quote, the "greatest threat to public health." In short, we need action to curtail rising global temperatures.

Does RGGI solve everything? No. But it is a step in the right direction. For Pennsylvania, it is imperative that we combat climate change by joining a coalition of 11 other States in the mid-Atlantic region in RGGI.

In my district in Monroe County, tourism provides one of the largest revenue streams. We have gorgeous outdoor recreational areas, mountain climbing, biking, white water rafting, boating, family picnic areas, water parks, ziplining, wild animal parks – you name it, we have got it in the Poconos. I do not mind saying it is a wonderful place to live and a great place to visit. That is also why it is of the utmost importance that we protect the clean air and the clean water we are known for in our region.

Additionally, northeast Pennsylvania served a critical role in this country's industrial revolution. We led this nation through innovative developments and industries. We were crucial in the formation of unions and child labor laws. Companies invested in our region and we flourished together. There is no reason to restrict that ingenuity today. The spirit of innovation and resourcefulness remains as strong as ever. I believe that that means using the available infrastructure funding to invest in cleaner energy, in providing opportunities for workers via trade and tech schools, and of course, working diligently to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure we give our children and grandchildren and all future generations a chance to enjoy the beauty of the Commonwealth.

To my friend and colleague's point, from Chester County, our country invented the technology to produce solar panels and cleaner energy, yet we import 60 percent of the solar panels we use from China. It is incumbent upon us to take those available infrastructure dollars and invest in diversifying our energy portfolio. RGGI starts us on a path to give the next generation the tools to compete, while also making cleaner energy a priority here in Pennsylvania. That is why I support RGGI and will be voting "no" on this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman from Susquehanna, Mr. Fritz.

Mr. FRITZ. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise to join my numerous colleagues in opposing the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, or RGGI. Pennsylvanians and U.S. citizens right now are suffering from the worst inflation, the worst inflation we have experienced in 40 years. Consumer costs, energy costs are skyrocketing, but here we stand debating a tax. Yes, RGGI is that, plain and simple: a tax. It adds costs to Pennsylvanians' energy bills. That fact alone is reason to oppose RGGI.

But I will provide some background that adds to the justification to oppose this policy. On May 19, 2020, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's own Citizens Advisory Council voted to not support adoption of RGGI. That same month, May 7, 2020, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee also voted to not support RGGI. Additionally, Mr. Speaker, a large and growing number of labor unions stand united against this policy. We all know – it is undeniable – those hardworking blue-collar workers are the heartbeat of our Commonwealth. Mr. Speaker, RGGI is soundly opposed by a broad swath of Pennsylvanians.

But I will also speak to another reality. Pennsylvania is losing business at an incredibly alarming rate. Forty years ago, PA was home to over 100 Fortune 500 companies. Today, today Pennsylvania is down to only five. Why? The reason is that Pennsylvania, regulatorily, is punitive, and the cost to operate a business in PA is, frankly, way too high compared to other States. Frankly, we have priced ourselves out of the market. Mr. Speaker, RGGI only adds to that dynamic in making PA more unwelcoming and more adversarial to our current businesses.

I urge my colleagues to stand with the many, many Pennsylvanians that oppose RGGI, and I respectfully urge your support of this resolution. Just say "no" to new taxes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair not seeing anyone else seeking recognition, we will turn to the leaders.

The question is, will the House adopt the resolution?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Centre County, the majority leader, Mr. Benninghoff.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your allowing me to rise to share some comments on RGGI, but I only have one, and that is to remind us that Pennsylvania has already been doing a great job at reducing our emissions from 2005 to 2017 by the conversion of our natural gas by 22 percent. There were a lot of things I was going to say – matter of fact, I have got four pages here; I was going to expound my wisdom on you – but, Mr. Speaker, I am so proud of our members and the work that they have done and the energy they have put in there. There is nothing I could say that would be better than what they have done.

Put up the vote, support our people of Pennsylvania, and I will go sit down and be quiet.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

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

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the lady from Clarion, Ms. Oberlander, the majority whip.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. For purposes of verification of the board, the Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, the minority whip, Mr. Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—130

Armanini	Galloway	Mackenzie, R.	Rapp
Benninghoff	Gaydos	Major	Rigby
Bernstine	Gillen	Mako	Roae
Bizzarro	Gillespie	Maloney	Rossi
Boback	Gleim	Markosek	Rothman
Bonner	Gregory	Marshall	Rowe
Borowicz	Greiner	Masser	Ryan
Boyle	Grove	Matzie	Sainato
Brooks	Hamm	McNeill	Sankey

Brown, A.	Harkins	Mentzer	Saylor
Brown, R.	Heffley	Mercuri	Schemel
Burns	Helm	Merski	Schmitt
Causser	Hennessey	Metcalf	Schroeder
Cook	Hershey	Metzgar	Silvis
Cox	Hickernell	Mihalek	Smith
Culver	Irvin	Millard	Snyder
Davanzo	James	Miller, B.	Sonney
Davis, T.	Jones	Mizgorski	Staats
Dawkins	Jozwiak	Moul	Stambaugh
Day	Kail	Mustello	Struzzi
Deasy	Kaufner	Neilson	Tomlinson
Delozier	Kauffman	Nelson, E.	Toohil
DelRosso	Keefer	O'Neal	Topper
DeLuca	Kerwin	Oberlander	Twardzik
Diamond	Kim	Ortitay	Warner
Dowling	Klunk	Owlett	Wentling
Dunbar	Knowles	Peifer	Wheeland
Ecker	Kulik	Pennycuick	White
Emrick	Labs	Pickett	Williams, C.
Farry	Lawrence	Pisciottano	Zimmerman
Fee	Lewis	Polinchock	
Flood	Longjetti	Puskaric	Cutler,
Fritz	Mackenzie, M.	Rader	Speaker

NAYS—70

Benham	Fitzgerald	Krueger	Sanchez
Bradford	Frankel	Lee	Sappey
Briggs	Freeman	Madden	Schlossberg
Bullock	Guenst	Malagari	Schweyer
Burgos	Guzman	McClinton	Shusterman
Carroll	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Sims
Cephas	Harris	Miller, D.	Solomon
Ciresi	Herrin	Mullery	Stephens
Conklin	Hohenstein	Mullins	Sturla
Cruz	Howard	Nelson, N.	Thomas
Curry	Innamorato	O'Mara	Vitali
Daley	Isaacson	Otten	Warren
Davis, A.	Kenyatta	Parker	Webster
DeLissio	Kinthead	Pashinski	Welby
Delloso	Kinsey	Rabb	Williams, D.
Driscoll	Kirkland	Rozzi	Young
Evans	Kosierowski	Samuelson	Zabel
Fiedler	Krajewski		

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—3

Gainey	Quinn	Wheatley
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The majority of the members elected to the House having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was concurred in.

Ordered, That the clerk inform the Senate accordingly.

**THE SPEAKER (BRYAN CUTLER)
PRESIDING**

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Speaker recognizes the gentleman, Representative Dan Miller, for a caucus announcement.

Mr. D. MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Democrats will caucus in person at 6:35.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

For the information of the members, there will be no further votes this evening; however, we will be doing some housekeeping. I will ask the rule 17 speakers to please come to the well of the House and we will recognize you in the order that we have you on our list.

For what purpose does the gentleman, Representative Neilson, rise?

Mr. NEILSON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to correct the record for Representative Driscoll. The last vote was, he should have been a "yes" not a "no."

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appreciates the gentleman's remarks. They will be spread upon the record.

I apologize. Perhaps you would like to consult with your leadership.

For what purpose does the gentleman, Representative Harris, rise?

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Please disregard.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman. Your comments will be spread upon the record.

BILLS RECOMMENDED

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

HB 1665;
HB 1679;
HB 1680;
HB 1947;
HB 2045;
HB 2072; and
SB 324.

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

BILLS REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that the following bills be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar:

HB 527;
HB 774;
SB 478;
SB 479; and
SB 524.

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

BILLS TABLED

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that the following bills be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar:

HB 527;
HB 774;
SB 478;
SB 479; and
SB 524.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1596**, **PN 2178**, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing separate and distinct and integrated amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for qualifications of electors, for method of elections and secrecy in voting and for election and registration laws and providing for election audits and for the election and qualifications of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

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

BILL TABLED

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 1596 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 leader moves that HB 1596 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 922**, **PN 911**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, in liability and compensation, further providing for compensable injuries, subrogation and proration.

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

BILL TABLED

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 922 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 leader moves that HB 922 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.

The SPEAKER. The Speaker wishes to wish everyone safe travels and happy holidays as they head back to their districts.
We will now be turning to rule 17 speakers.

**THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
(ZACHARY MAKO) PRESIDING****STATEMENT BY MR. C. WILLIAMS**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will come to order.
And the Chair recognizes Representative Craig Williams to speak on Act 58 of 2019.

And the Chair wants to remind the speakers of 5 minutes.
Representative Williams.

Mr. C. WILLIAMS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I am a former Federal prosecutor. I deal in facts. I rise today to discuss what I view as two crises occurring in our Commonwealth, and more specifically, in Philadelphia.

The first is a crisis of violence. That violence has led to the bloodiest year in Philadelphia's history, with now 530 murders; 530. That is 530 families who have lost loved ones; 530 lives that have ended too soon. The murder rate in Philadelphia is up 13 percent over the last year and up 55 percent over 2019.

Instead of leadership, what do the people of Philadelphia get? Blame-shifting. And that is the second crisis, a crisis of leadership. The mayor of Philadelphia went to a microphone and blamed the General Assembly for not outlawing straw purchases of guns in Pennsylvania, which of course is already a Federal crime and already a State crime in Pennsylvania. Similarly, the Attorney General has now twice gone to a microphone and said the General Assembly is at fault for the number of murders in Philadelphia for not having done enough; in fact, yesterday said we have not lifted a finger. A crisis of leadership.

I am a Marine colonel with 28 years in the service, including in combat. In all my years in the Marines, I was never taught that the way to lead out of a crisis is to find someone else to blame. Instead, we identify the problem and find a solution – or get fired.

This General Assembly, led by the House Republican Caucus, has worked to provide tools for Philadelphia leaders and the Attorney General to crack down on violent crime in Philadelphia, especially crimes committed with guns. Let us start back in 2019

with the passage of Act 58. Act 58 gave the Attorney General concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute gun crimes in the city of Philadelphia, including felons in possession of guns and straw purchases of guns. That legislation passed the Pennsylvania House 194 to 3, nearly unanimous. It was signed into law by Governor Wolf in July of 2019.

Instead of embracing the responsibility given to him by the people represented by the Pennsylvania General Assembly, the Attorney General instead decided to embrace the Philadelphia district attorney. Rather than capitalizing on that authority to prosecute gun crimes, he went to Twitter and said this: "We did not seek this. And we do not plan to use it to act unilaterally or go around..." the district attorney. In later interviews he said this: "I didn't seek this law and I didn't advocate for it... and it doesn't change anything." When given authority to go after gun crimes, he said no.

During the 2 years that the Attorney General had the authority to prosecute gun crimes concurrently, we found not one instance of him taking use of that authority. We believe this concurrent authority is important. It is important to give law enforcement every tool at its disposal and all the help we can muster with prosecution of gun crimes in Philadelphia. That is why I have joined with the gentlelady from Philadelphia to put forward a bill to reauthorize Act 58, which will again give the Attorney General the tools to prosecute these violent gun crimes and straw purchases of firearms in Philadelphia.

But our efforts to extend law enforcement do not end there. We recently enacted a budget, signed by Governor Wolf, in which I sought and received \$1.5 million in funding for the Philadelphia district attorney and the district attorney of Delaware County to hire more prosecutors exclusively to prosecute gun crimes as deputized Federal prosecutors. This money will be used to prosecute felons found in possession of guns or ammunition, which has historically proven as an effective tool in fighting violent crime. Further, the General Assembly has appropriated about \$7 million the last 3 years for the joint local-State firearm task force.

The issue of violent crime is not easy to solve. I know that. It will not be solved by the General Assembly, a prosecutor, or a mayor, but we can do it together. We are working hard in Harrisburg to find these tools. We have been doing it every day. I am a prosecutor. I deal in fact.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker thanks Representative Williams for speaking on Act 58.

STATEMENT BY MR. CONKLIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker recognizes Representative Conklin to speak on congressional redistricting.

Mr. CONKLIN. I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the majority chair of the House Government Committee will lead you to believe that the congressional redistricting process has been fair and transparent, but it has been anything but. The process has been continued through the charades and the partisan and secretive attempts to continue to hold onto waning power. And let me explain this to you.

We traveled to multiple locations in the Commonwealth to hear from certain citizens about how congressional boundaries should be drawn; however, these hearings were held solely in Republican-represented districts and not in the most populated

parts of each region. Hearings were generally held during work hours, on weekdays, and in places with no mass transit accessibility. Mr. Speaker, at no point were public hearings held in districts where most of the population growth has occurred and where the largest number of citizens could participate, and there was no remote participation possible. This differed from the Legislative Reapportionment Commission, which has allowed virtual and in-person participation for the hearings, and from how we do business on this House floor today.

Then we have the so-called congressional redistricting Web site. This Web site was strictly partisan, Mr. Speaker. It is even titled the "PA Congressional Redistricting PA House Republican Caucus." Mr. Speaker, as the Democratic chair of the House State Government Committee, I had no input on the information going into these sites, no input on the hearing schedule or selecting testifiers. And I was caught completely by surprise when a citizens' map, 1 of 17 submitted to the site, was selected as the preliminary congressional map. Mr. Speaker, more than 17 maps were submitted but stopped at the gate. Citizen mappers who tried to upload these maps to the Republican Web site but could not were told, quote, "Maps over a certain population deviation would not 'validate.' We have no idea what that specific deviation was or who decided it." Mr. Speaker, I can tell you that it was not the House Democratic Caucus, nor was this required by the law.

During the House State Government's informational meeting on the preliminary congressional map that was selected, there were more questions than answers, and not just from the Democrats; Republican members on the committee had the same questions and were equally appalled by the map, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the map was unveiled on a Wednesday, with an informational meeting held on said map the next day. Attempts to add testifiers were summarily denied by the majority, further casting a shadow on the allegedly open and transparent process.

At 8 a.m. the following Monday, less than 5 days after the map was selected – by one person, Mr. Speaker – the members of the House State Government Committee were asked to vote on that map and several blank shell plans. Committee members were asked also to vote on changes to the citizens' map with no viewable map, no data, no shapefiles, or any other information available to compare to their changes. Mr. Speaker, I may as well have been voting on a blank piece of paper. The majority did not have the votes to pass the map. Why did they not have the votes? Because several Republican members were upset with how their counties had been divided.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday we were provided with notice on the House floor that the State Government voting meeting would be called to vote on the citizens' map. Less than 24 hours before this sudden vote, the gentleman, of the majority party, shared an amendment and a map of what the changes would be. Not surprisingly, Mr. Speaker, the concerns of the Republican committee members who would not vote for the citizen map or the previous amendment looked to have been magically addressed, were able to get the modified map of the citizen map voted through. Honestly, even now we cannot say for sure the full impact of the new map because the gentleman of the majority party rushed through the language without giving it to the Democrats – the administration and the stakeholders were also unnecessarily uninformed – and the time to analyze the plan that could potentially impact 13.1 million Pennsylvanians and 330 million Americans. Because of this, I and the Democratic members of the committee voted "no" to this proposal. We cannot

support a bill without information to complete an analysis and without giving them time for the public to weigh in.

Mr. Speaker, this is not transparency. This is a bold-faced attempt to end democracy itself so Republicans can continue to hold power in a State where Democrats have a 600,000-plus voter registration advantage.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, as I have repeated and stated, this process has not been transparent or bipartisan. Not only have the House Democrats been in the dark, but it is my understanding that—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind the gentleman that he is stuck to 5 minutes.

Mr. CONKLIN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. So please wrap up your comments.

Mr. CONKLIN. For that, Mr. Speaker, I will wrap up.

We had the opportunity to do what the Governor did. Seventy maps were submitted and looked at. The Governor is taking open testimony from everyone. We could have done better. The citizens of Pennsylvania deserve better, Mr. Speaker, and I believe that we can do better in the future. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman for speaking on congressional redistricting.

STATEMENT BY MR. GROVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes Representative Grove to speak on congressional redistricting.

Representative Grove.

Mr. GROVE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Today the House State Government Committee moved out HB 2146. For the first time in history, we moved out a citizens' map, a map developed by a citizen utilizing constitutional requirements of compact, contiguous districts. A map that was developed without partisan data, which was a clear delineation by the Supreme Court when they made their ruling, landmark ruling in *League of Women Voters v. Commonwealth* in 2018. That map also had zero deviation, a specific criteria upheld by the United States Supreme Court. This map, done by a citizen, was put into legislative form, vetted; we had a hearing with the citizen mapmaker where she disclosed how she made all of her decisions developing that map.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to say that we did some slight adjustments. Slight adjustments mean 95 percent of the population, 95 percent of those original districts, geographic areas, are still within our updated map. Five percent changes, and all we did, all those minor changes, is increase compactness, take care of some Voting Rights Act issues, where we took the Third Congressional District and increased African-American voting age population from 49 percent to above 52 percent. We also took into account citizens' input on adjusting from comments we saw on our Web site, paredistricting.com, a tool we have been using for months as we went around the State to gather public input on how we should develop maps, building communities of interest. Taking public input has been such an important part of our process to make sure we built a map that citizens could be proud of at the end of our legislative process.

Mr. Speaker, that process is real simple. It started with the hearings of congressional districting 101, a hearing with stakeholder groups who wanted to see changes and give us input on how to do a better model. Then we took the case with eight

regional hearings all across the State in different parts of the State to gather citizen input and group inputs and citizens' group inputs on what their map should look like as we move forward. We finalized that with a hearing in Harrisburg to discuss the importance of zero deviation and the constitutional implications of ensuring that it is zero, as well as a review of the data that we received from the Census Bureau by Center for Rural Pennsylvania – all important aspects of developing good congressional maps, Mr. Speaker.

Then we had citizens actually develop their own maps. We had 19 maps that were verified on our system. We looked through those maps and selected a map that met all the constitutional criteria – zero deviation, compact, contiguous – met all those ramifications we needed. We had a hearing with that mapmaker where she laid out exactly how she made her decisions, and members could ask her questions about that map development. We learned a lot in that hearing. We learned she did not use partisan data – again, a huge step forward from previous map processes and ensured that we met that guidance by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. We later then looked at the map and realized that we needed to increase the compactness of it. It helps that eye test for citizens to say these are smooth lines, these are not gerrymandered lines, and we did so without, again, using partisan data because we know the importance of that Supreme Court case and adhering to it.

Mr. Speaker, on the floor today, through the work of the State Government Committee, the citizens of Pennsylvania have the first time ever a citizens' map that sets the boundaries for congressional districts moving forward. Even better, Mr. Speaker, the mapmaker, Amanda Holt, is known in the entire mapmaking world. She is an advocate for redistricting reform. She actually sued this body in 2011, and the Supreme Court cited her map to throw out Republican-drawn maps, as the Philadelphia Inquirer put it. She was also appointed to the Governor's Redistricting Reform Commission, where she served and took input and was part of that process. That means the Governor trusts her. That means we have an individual who drew nonpartisan maps that were constitutional that the Governor trusts and the General Assembly trusts. That means we have a basis of understanding with the Governor and we can bring forward a map that the citizens of Pennsylvania can be proud of.

We had a great process, an open process, a transparent process. And we have for the first time in history a citizens' map.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman for speaking on congressional redistricting.

STATEMENT BY MR. RYAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes Representative Ryan to speak on the World War I Christmas Truce.

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, first of all, thank you very much, and I think it is appropriate that we have an Army veteran who has been deployed and a Marine veteran who has been deployed as well.

This story is a piece of history that John Zubeck brought to my attention, and I was unbelievably thankful that he did. Anyone who has been deployed in the military sees the impact it has on your families. When people are separated from their families at a period of time when others are celebrating, those people that are

servicing in combat or in harm's way or any forward deployed unit and actually away from their families are maintaining a vigil so that the rest of us can enjoy this time in peace.

This is a story that was written by A.J. Baime and Volker Janssen, and I would like to just read it into the record because I think it is an interesting commentary on the tremendous sacrifices that so many made, and particularly around Christmastime, when we see sometimes the divide that we all have all experienced in this chamber, perhaps we can all learn a very powerful lesson from this and perhaps even we can come together.

And the story goes this way: "On Christmas Eve 1914" – and, Mr. Speaker, contrary to popular belief, I was not there – "in the dank, muddy trenches on the Western Front of the first world war, a remarkable thing happened. It came to be called the Christmas Truce. And it remains one of the most storied and strangest moments of the Great War – or of any war in history.

"British machine gunner Bruce Bairnsfather, later a prominent cartoonist, wrote about it in his memoirs. Like most of his fellow infantrymen of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, he was spending the holiday eve shivering in the muck" – keep in mind, these were trenches – "trying to keep warm. He had spent a good part of the past few months fighting the Germans. And now, in a part of Belgium called Bois de Ploegsteert, he was crouched in a trench that stretched just three feet deep by three feet wide, his days and nights marked by an endless cycle of sleeplessness and fear, stale biscuits and cigarettes too wet to light.

" 'Here I was, in this horrible clay cavity,' Bairnsfather wrote, '...miles and miles from home. Cold, wet through and covered with mud.' There didn't seem the slightest chance of leaving – except in an ambulance.'

"At about 10 p.m..." he "noticed a noise. 'I listened,' he recalled. 'Away across the field, among the dark shadows beyond' " and these are his words " 'I could hear the murmur of voices.' He turned to a fellow soldier in his trench and said, 'Do you hear the Boches [Germans] kicking up that racket over there?'

" 'Yes,' came the reply. 'They've been at it some time!'

"The Germans were singing carols, as it was Christmas Eve. In the darkness, some of the British soldiers began to sing back. 'Suddenly...' " he "...recalled, 'we heard a confused shouting from the other side. We all stopped to listen. The shout came again.' The voice was from an enemy soldier, speaking in English with a strong German accent. He was saying, 'Come over here.'

"One of the British sergeants answered: 'You come half-way. I come half-way.'

"What happened next would, in the years to come, stun the world and make history. Enemy soldiers began to climb nervously out of their trenches, and to meet in the barbed-wire-filled 'No Man's Land' that separated the armies. Normally, the British and Germans communicated across No Man's Land with streaking bullets, with only occasional gentlemanly allowances to collect the dead unmolested. But now, there were handshakes and words of kindness. The soldiers traded songs, tobacco and wine, joining in a spontaneous holiday party in the cold night.

"Bairnsfather could not believe his eyes. 'Here they were – the actual, practical soldiers of the German army. There was not an atom of hate on either side.'

"And it wasn't confined to one battlefield. Starting on Christmas Eve, small pockets of French, German, Belgian and British troops held impromptu cease-fires across the Western Front, with reports of some on the Eastern Front as well. Some accounts suggest a few of these unofficial truces remained in effect for days."

These were actions not sponsored by a command, but it was sponsored by the heart, the spirit, the soul, and the solemnity of those who have served in harm's way. And for all of those that are forward deployed in the United States and in other military services, we ask you to please have Godspeed, and you are in our prayers and thoughts.

And, Mr. Speaker, thank you so much for the time, and, John, thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman for reminding us of the humanity during a troubling time during Christmas.

REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Mr. RABB submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

In 1780, the Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery was introduced in Pennsylvania, the first abolition law in the United States. While it preceded full emancipation by 85 years, legislators at the time felt the need to exploit loopholes in the law, keeping Black people enslaved. Decades later, a State Senator from Philadelphia named Samuel Breck introduced the Act for the Entire Abolition of Slavery, but it failed with a vote of 14-13 – a closer gap, but ultimately still a failure.

Generations of Black Pennsylvanians still face the repercussions of these failures until this day. Their lives, nor liberty as equals were not valued then, and Black people still face great disparities today throughout many facets of life. The whitewashing of history serves no purpose other than to alleviate any potential guilt or the shadow of wrongdoing or harm at the hands of government – both past and present. Acknowledging these matters serves to help us learn from these mistakes and prevent them from happening again.

I have put forth a concurrent resolution with growing bipartisan support that commemorates the 200th anniversary of the introduction of the Act for the Entire Abolition of Slavery in Pennsylvania so we can avoid the missteps and misdeeds of generations of Pennsylvania lawmakers. It is our duty as State legislators to examine the past – warts and all – accept our shared history, and make sound, equitable policies that learn from it, understanding that despite our different constituencies and worldviews, we have intertwined destinies – whether or not we like to admit this – fates we can help shape for the benefit of future generations in this moment.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes Representative Toohil, who moves that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 12 m., e.s.t., or unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

On the question,
Will the House agree to the motion?
Motion was agreed to, and at 6:52 p.m., e.s.t., the House
adjourned.