

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

## LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2023

SESSION OF 2023

207TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 33

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

#### THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE (PATTY KIM) PRESIDING

#### PRAYER

HON. CAROL KAZEEM, member of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, our creator, we bow before You so grateful and thankful for allowing each and every one of us here today to see yet another beautiful day. Thank You for showing us gratitude. Because we are Your chosen vessels, remind us Your purpose in which You have called us to serve.

Teach us grace, grace with patience with one another. Fill us with Your spirit of love and endurance. Grant not only us, but fill this world with peace. As we go through each day, remind us of the truth of Your Word to our minds and help us to apply Your wisdom into each and every decision we make.

We seek Your healing for our mental health. We ask that You cover and protect our families back at home. We ask for Your forgiveness, O Lord, in ways we have fallen short before You, and guide us as we learn from our mistakes. As we go on with our work and duties, may we bring glory to You.

And God's people say, Amen.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

#### LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Are there requests for leaves of absence?

The Chair recognizes the majority whip, who indicates that there are none.

The Chair recognizes the minority whip, who also indicates that there are none.

#### MASTER ROLL CALL

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

The following roll call was recorded:

#### PRESENT—203

Abney	Flick	Krupa	Rapp
Adams	Flood	Kulik	Rigby
Armanini	Frankel	Kutz	Roae
Banta	Freeman	Kuzma	Rossi
Barton	Friel	Labs	Rowe
Bellmon	Fritz	Lawrence	Rozzi
Benham	Gallagher	Leadbeter	Ryncavage
Benninghoff	Galloway	Mackenzie, M.	Salisbury
Bernstine	Gaydos	Mackenzie, R.	Samuelson
Bizzarro	Gergely	Madden	Sanchez
Bonner	Gillen	Madsen	Sappery
Borowicz	Giral	Major	Schemel
Borowski	Gleim	Mako	Scheuren
Boyd	Green	Malagari	Schlegel
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Schlossberg
Bradford	Greiner	Marcell	Schmitt
Brennan	Grove	Markosek	Schweyer
Briggs	Guenst	Marshall	Scialabba
Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Scott
Brown, M.	Haddock	Mayes	Shusterman
Bullock	Hamm	McAndrew	Siegel
Burgos	Hanbidge	McNeill	Smith
Burns	Harkins	Mehaffie	Smith-Wade-El
C Freytiz	Harris	Mentzer	Solomon
Cabell	Heffley	Mercuri	Staats
Causer	Hogan	Merski	Stambaugh
Cephas	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Steele
Cerrato	Howard	Mihalek	Stehr
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, B.	Stender
Conklin	Irvin	Miller, D.	Struzzi
Cook	Isaacson	Moul	Sturla
Cooper	James	Mullins	Takac
Curry	Jones, M.	Munroe	Tomlinson
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Topper
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Neilson	Twardzik
Daley	Kail	Nelson, E.	Venkat
Davanzo	Kaufner	Nelson, N.	Vitali
Davis	Kauffman	O'Mara	Warner
Dawkins	Kazeem	O'Neal	Warren
Deasy	Keefer	Oberlander	Watro
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Waxman
Delozier	Kephart	Otten	Webster
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Wentling
Donahue	Khan	Parker	White
Dunbar	Kim	Pashinski	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kinhead	Pickett	Williams, D.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Young
Evans	Klunk	Pisciottano	Zimmerman
Fee	Kosierowski	Probst	
Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb	McClinton,
Fink	Krueger	Rader	Speaker
Fleming			

ADDITIONS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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

### JOURNAL APPROVAL POSTPONED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the approval of the Journal of Tuesday, June 27, 2023, will be postponed until printed.

### GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members, to the left of the Speaker's rostrum, Representative Kazeem welcomes Mrs. Thelma Green, 78 years old, the wife of late Air Force veteran Freddie Miller and mother of two sons serving in the United States Army and Navy. Mrs. Green was a civil rights leader for fair housing and is the founding member of the Delaware County chapter of Mothers in Charge. Mrs. Green currently serves as a senior adviser to Representative Kazeem to support cancer patients and survivors, families serving in the United States military, and seniors in the southeast region. Mrs. Green's family, which includes her son and granddaughter, join her today. Members, please welcome Representative Kazeem's guests. Please stand.

Representative D'Orsie welcomes former House member Carl W. Nelson. He is a World War II veteran with the Army Air Corp and is a retired Dover, PA, school principal. And he is 99 1/2 years young. With him today is son-in-law Gary Kaschak. Thank you for your service. Please stand as we welcome you.

Representative Malagari is pleased to welcome Mr. Rajendra Vadgama, Meeta Dalwadi, and John Coffey. Mr. Vadgama and Ms. Dalwadi are the grandfather and mother of Representative Malagari's legislative assistant, Jojo, which we love. John Coffey is a veteran and a longtime family friend. Please stand. We are happy that you have joined us today. Thank you.

In the gallery, Representative Shusterman is hosting the Villa Maria Academy High School 10th and 12th grade students, who are taking a summer course on government and are visiting the Capitol today as part of their studies. Please stand as we say hello.

Representative Rowe has members of the Central PA Chamber visiting the Capitol today.

Also in the gallery today, we have summer interns from across Pennsylvania. Please rise and be recognized.

Let me continue with the interns up in the gallery. They are guests of Representative Bullock. Their names are Oscar Lopez, Adrian Pennick, and Jailah Johnson. Please rise and be recognized. Thank you so much for coming.

Representative Borowski has Becca Zajac, who is attending Tufts University, and Alex Fraser, who is a sophomore at Bucknell University. Please rise and be recognized.

Representative Dan William also has a guest, Vincent DiFonzo, who is attending Gettysburg College. Please rise and be recognized.

Representative Guent has her interns Mason Lumer, a senior at University of Pennsylvania, majoring in political science; Ryan Tucci, a sophomore at Arcadia University, majoring in political government and law; as well as Juliet Yavas, an incoming freshman at Northeastern University. Representative Guent, thank you for rising. Welcome.

Representative Curry has her summer interns here with us: Ada Okechukwu, who is a senior at West Chester University studying public health; Christina Kingsberry, studying her master's degree at Columbia University for narrative medicine; and we have Cintia Isles from her district office. Thank you for coming. Welcome.

### VOTE CORRECTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. For what purpose does Representative Gillen rise?

Representative Gillen, for what purpose do you rise?

Mr. GILLEN. To correct the record. I was recorded as a "yes" vote on HB 612 on second consideration. I wish to be recorded in the negative.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman. The gentleman's remarks will be spread across the record. Thank you.

### GUEST INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. We have an additional guest. Representative Watro's wife has been here in the Capitol since Monday and is now seated to the left of the Speaker. Please rise and be welcomed. Thank you for joining us.

### HOUSE RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

**No. 166** By Representatives HOGAN, BRENNAN, McNEILL, KHAN, SANCHEZ, KINSEY, MARCELL, KRAJEWSKI, BENHAM, HADDOCK, MAJOR, CEPEDA-FREYITZ and MENTZER

A Resolution designating the month of July 2023 as "Disability Pride Month" in Pennsylvania.

Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES, June 27, 2023.

**No. 167** By Representatives RABB, PARKER, MADDEN, PIELLI, HILL-EVANS and GREEN

A Resolution directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a study on board member selection for the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education and the Board of Trustees of each State-related institution of higher education.

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, June 27, 2023.

**HOUSE BILLS  
INTRODUCED AND REFERRED**

**No. 1528** By Representatives RABB, PARKER, MADDEN, PIELLI, HILL-EVANS, ROZZI and GREEN

An Act amending the act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law, providing for State System of Higher Education; and, in State-related institutions, further providing for contents of report.

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, June 27, 2023.

**No. 1529** By Representatives GUENST, D. MILLER, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, DELLOSO, GALLOWAY and MADDEN

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in personal income tax, further providing for classes of income.

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, June 27, 2023.

**No. 1530** By Representatives GUZMAN, D. MILLER, KINSEY, HOWARD, HILL-EVANS, SANCHEZ, SCHLOSSBERG, BELLMON, DELLOSO, SMITH-WADE-EL, STURLA, WARREN, HOHENSTEIN, ROZZI, GALLOWAY, MADDEN and CEPEDA-FREYITZ

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in intermediate units, repealing provisions relating to psychological services; in professional employees, further providing for definitions and providing for school social workers; and, in school health services, further providing for health services and providing for school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers and school nurses.

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, June 27, 2023.

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

**HB 493, PN 462** By Rep. KULIK

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in hunting and furtaking, providing for harvesting of certain antlered deer by senior license holders; and abrogating regulations.

GAME AND FISHERIES.

**HB 716, PN 1763 (Amended)** By Rep. BRIGGS

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in penalties and disposition of fines, further providing for inability to pay fine and costs.

JUDICIARY.

**HB 1278, PN 1764 (Amended)** By Rep. BRIGGS

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

JUDICIARY.

**HB 1371, PN 1525** By Rep. BRIGGS

An Act providing for duties of certifying officials and certifying agencies regarding the processing of certification form petitions.

JUDICIARY.

**HB 1409, PN 1577** By Rep. KULIK

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, further providing for power to set fees; and, in fishing licenses, further providing for license, permit and issuing agent fees.

GAME AND FISHERIES.

**HB 1451, PN 1635** By Rep. KULIK

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in special licenses and permits, further providing for definitions, for exotic wildlife possession permits, for menagerie permits and for exclusions.

GAME AND FISHERIES.

**BILL REPORTED AND REREFERRED  
TO COMMITTEE ON GAMING OVERSIGHT**

**HB 1089, PN 1114** By Rep. KULIK

An Act amending the act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156), known as the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, providing for social card games and tournaments.

Reported from Committee on GAME AND FISHERIES with request that it be rereferred to Committee on GAMING OVERSIGHT.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the bill will be so rereferred.

**RULES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the majority caucus chair, Representative Schlossberg, for a caucus announcement.

Mr. SCHLOSSBERG. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

There will be a Rules Committee meeting immediately upon the break.

House Democrats will caucus at 12:30. We will be prepared to return to the floor at 1:30.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There will be a Rules Committee meeting immediately upon the break.

**REPUBLICAN CAUCUS**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the minority caucus chair, Representative Dunbar, for a caucus announcement.

Mr. DUNBAR. Thank you, Madam Speaker.  
 Republicans will caucus at 12:15. Republicans will caucus at 12:15.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes Representative Schweyer for a committee announcement.

Mr. SCHWEYER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The House Education Committee will have a voting meeting in the next, we will say, 5 minutes or so, after the break in room 523 of the Irvis Office Building. We will be considering HB 1258, HB 1448, HB 1507, and any other business that comes before the committee – but we are not having any more business that will come before the committee.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The House Education Committee will meet after the break in room 523 of the Irvis Office Building.

### APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes Representative Mullins for a committee announcement.

Mr. MULLINS. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Appropriations Committee will meet in the majority caucus room immediately following the Rules Committee meeting. Appropriations Committee in the majority caucus room right after Rules. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Appropriations Committee will meet in the majority caucus room immediately following the Rules Committee meeting.

### TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes Representative Daley for a committee announcement.

Ms. DALEY. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The House Tourism and Economic and Recreational Development Committee will have a voting meeting in G-50 at 11:30, and we will be voting on HB 1173. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House Tourism and Economic and Recreational Development Committee will meet in G-50 at 11:30.

### LABOR AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MEETING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes Representative Dawkins for a committee announcement.

Mr. DAWKINS. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The House Labor and Industry Committee will meet at 11:45 in room 515 to take up HR 159 and any other business in front of the committee. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House Labor and Industry Committee will meet at 11:45 in room 515.

### GUEST INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. We have one more special guest to announce. Representative Fleming's guest is up in the gallery. Guy Seachrist, please stand and be recognized.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House stands in recess until 1:30 p.m., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

### RECESS EXTENDED

The time of recess was extended until 1:30 p.m.; further extended until 1:45 p.m.; further extended until 2 p.m.; further extended until 2:15 p.m.

### AFTER RECESS

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

### THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE (ROBERT F. MATZIE) PRESIDING

### GUESTS INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. We have some additional guests to recognize in the gallery. They are guests of Representative Ben Waxman, including his chief of staff, Aaron Davis; his constituent services member, George Minnis; and a couple of interns, Grace Busser and Ethan Fletcher. Also, Kadarrah Wintermyers is with us as well. We thank you for joining us here. Please rise and be recognized.

### HOUSE BILL INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

**No. 1531** By Representatives RABB, SANCHEZ and KRAJEWSKI

An Act amending Title 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in law enforcement background investigations and employment information, further providing for maintenance of records and for hiring report; and imposing penalties.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, June 28, 2023.

### SENATE BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

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

**SB 81, PN 652**

Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES, June 28, 2023.

**SB 209, PN 839**

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, June 28, 2023.

**SB 344, PN 688**

Referred to Committee on GAME AND FISHERIES, June 28, 2023.

**SB 460, PN 974**

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, June 28, 2023.

**SB 838, PN 973**

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, June 23, 2023.

**BILLS REREPORTED FROM COMMITTEES****HB 106, PN 1743** By Rep. HARRIS

An Act amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act, providing for hospital patient protection provisions; and imposing penalties.

APPROPRIATIONS.

**HB 791, PN 1754** By Rep. HARRIS

An Act amending the act of October 9, 2008 (P.L.1408, No.113), known as the Scrap Material Theft Prevention Act, further providing for identification requirements for sale of scrap materials to scrap processors and recycling facility operators and for penalties; and imposing penalties.

APPROPRIATIONS.

**HB 807, PN 765** By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties of the Department of Health and its departmental administrative and advisory boards, providing for perimenopause and menopause education.

RULES.

**HB 850, PN 1691** By Rep. HARRIS

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing for waiver to purchase diapers or menstrual hygiene products.

APPROPRIATIONS.

**HB 1139, PN 1689** By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in organization of departmental administrative boards and commissions and of advisory boards and commissions, providing for Cybersecurity Coordination Board.

RULES.

**HB 1163, PN 1756**

By Rep. HARRIS

An Act amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in land banks, further providing for acquisition of property and providing for municipal acquisition of real property.

APPROPRIATIONS.

**HB 1216, PN 1595**

By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act establishing the Municipal Grant Assistance Program and the Municipal Grant Assistance Program Fund; and imposing duties on the Department of Community and Economic Development.

RULES.

**HB 1231, PN 1322**

By Rep. HARRIS

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in organization of departmental administrative boards and commissions and of advisory boards and commissions, further providing for State Planning Board.

APPROPRIATIONS.

**HB 1234, PN 1325**

By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending Title 11 (Cities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in city administrator, further providing for appointment of city administrator, for employment agreement, for residency and elective city office and for powers and duties; and, in accounts and finances, further providing for powers and duties of chief fiscal officer.

RULES.

**HB 1252, PN 1688**

By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending the act of June 9, 1936 (Sp.Sess.1, P.L.13, No.4), entitled "An act imposing an emergency State tax on liquor, as herein defined, sold by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board; providing for the collection and payment of such tax; and imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board," further providing for emergency tax on liquors and amount of tax and collection.

RULES.

**HB 1289, PN 1757**

By Rep. HARRIS

An Act amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in residential real property, providing for repudiation of discriminatory real estate covenants.

APPROPRIATIONS.

**HB 1296, PN 1416**

By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending Title 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in other officers and officials, providing for law enforcement practices and policy; conferring powers and imposing duties on the Attorney General.

RULES.

**HB 1297, PN 1742**

By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in employees, providing for ballistic armor for law enforcement officers.

RULES.

**HB 1303, PN 1429**

By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending Title 11 (Cities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in mayor, further providing for execution of laws, powers of sheriff conferred and emergency powers.

RULES.

**HB 1354, PN 1495**

By Rep. HARRIS

An Act amending the the act of October 24, 2012 (P.L.1209, No.151), known as the Child Labor Act, further providing for penalties.

APPROPRIATIONS.

**HB 1419, PN 1598**

By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending Title 15 (Corporations and Unincorporated Associations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in foreign associations, further providing for termination of registration.

RULES.

**HB 1450, PN 1634**

By Rep. BRADFORD

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in decorations, medals, badges and awards, further providing for authorized decorations, medals, badges and awards.

RULES.

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

**HB 71, PN 60**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act providing for the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument on the grounds of the State Capitol to honor and remember those who have fallen in the line of duty and those left behind.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 251, PN 214**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties of the Department of General Services and its departmental administrative and advisory boards and commissions, providing for program for sale of used pursuit vehicles.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 283, PN 1769 (Amended)**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in the Secretary of the Commonwealth, providing for public meetings on proposed ballot questions.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 503, PN 1770 (Amended)**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending the act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744, No.222), known as the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, further providing for findings and declaration of policy, for right to freedom from discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodation, for definitions, for unlawful discriminatory practices, for prohibition of certain real estate practices, for powers and duties of the commission, for educational program and for construction and exclusiveness of remedy.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 573, PN 545**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties in general, further providing for departmental reports.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 651, PN 590**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act providing for the designation of the lawn of the Speaker K. Leroy Irvis Office Building within the Pennsylvania State Capitol Complex in Harrisburg as the "Irvis Equality Circle."

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 1173, PN 1767 (Amended)**

By Rep. DALEY

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

TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

**HB 1218, PN 1766 (Amended)**

By Rep. KINSEY

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing for payments for spousal personal care services.

HUMAN SERVICES.

**HB 1258, PN 1768 (Amended)**

By Rep. SCHWEYER

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 calculation of average daily membership for a dual credit course.

EDUCATION.

**HB 1332, PN 1771 (Amended)**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in provisions relating to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, further providing for powers and duties of the Secretary of the Commonwealth and for explanation of ballot question; and, in ballots, further providing for form of official election ballot.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 1415, PN 1583**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending Titles 24 (Education) and 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in membership, contributions and benefits, providing for supplemental annuity commencing 2023; and, in benefits, providing for supplemental annuity commencing 2023.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 1416, PN 1584**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending Titles 24 (Education) and 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in membership, contributions and benefits, providing for supplemental annuity commencing 2023; and, in benefits, providing for supplemental annuity commencing 2023.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 1448, PN 1632**

By Rep. SCHWEYER

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 conflict resolution instruction.

EDUCATION.

**HB 1479, PN 1665**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in boards and offices, providing for Office of Information Technology.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 1488, PN 1772 (Amended)**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in dates of elections and primaries and special elections, further providing for elections on proposed constitutional amendments.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HB 1507, PN 1723**

By Rep. SCHWEYER

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 minimum number of days or hours.

EDUCATION.

**HB 1515, PN 1718**

By Rep. KINSEY

An Act amending Title 61 (Prisons and Parole) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Nonnarcotic Medication-assisted Substance Abuse Treatment Grant Pilot Program, further providing for definitions, repealing provisions relating to establishment of pilot program, providing for establishment and further providing for county participation requirements, for use of grant funding, for powers and duties of department, for prior authorization, for report to General Assembly and for construction; imposing duties on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency; and making an editorial change.

HUMAN SERVICES.

**RESOLUTIONS REPORTED  
FROM COMMITTEES****HR 159, PN 1714**

By Rep. DAWKINS

A Resolution condemning elected members who believe that the mistreatment of workers, including the elimination of water breaks in high-temperature conditions, is acceptable.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY.

**HR 162, PN 1738**

By Rep. CONKLIN

A Resolution recognizing the month of June 2023 as "National Immigrant Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

**HR 166, PN 1758**

By Rep. KINSEY

A Resolution designating the month of July 2023 as "Disability Pride Month" in Pennsylvania.

HUMAN SERVICES.

**BILL REPORTED AND REREFERRED TO  
COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND ECONOMIC  
AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT****HB 1030, PN 1265**

By Rep. CONKLIN

An Act designating Hershey's Kisses as the official State candy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Reported from Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT with request that it be rereferred to Committee on TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the bill will be so rereferred.

**SENATE BILL FOR CONCURRENCE**

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

**SB 829, PN 983**

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, June 28, 2023.

**CALENDAR****RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. MALAGARI called up **HR 149, PN 1547**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing June 19, 2023, as "Korean-American Citizenship Day" in Pennsylvania to celebrate the first naturalization of a Korean-American citizen in 1890.

On the question,  
Will the House adopt the resolution?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—202

Abney	Flick	Krupa	Rapp
Adams	Flood	Kulik	Rigby
Armanini	Frankel	Kutz	Roae
Banta	Freeman	Kuzma	Rossi
Barton	Friel	Labs	Rowe
Bellmon	Fritz	Lawrence	Rozzi
Benham	Gallagher	Leadbeter	Ryncavage
Benninghoff	Galloway	Mackenzie, M.	Salisbury
Bernstine	Gaydos	Mackenzie, R.	Samuelson
Bizzarro	Gergely	Madden	Sanchez
Bonner	Gillen	Madsen	Sappey
Borowicz	Giral	Major	Schemel
Borowski	Gleim	Mako	Scheuren
Boyd	Green	Malagari	Schlegel
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Schlossberg
Bradford	Greiner	Marcell	Schmitt
Brennan	Grove	Markosek	Schweyer
Briggs	Guenst	Marshall	Scialabba
Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Scott
Brown, M.	Haddock	Mayes	Shusterman
Bullock	Hamm	McAndrew	Siegel
Burgos	Hanbidge	McNeill	Smith
Burns	Harkins	Mehaffie	Smith-Wade-El
C Freytiz	Harris	Mentzer	Solomon
Cabell	Heffley	Mercuri	Staats
Causar	Hogan	Merski	Stambaugh
Cephas	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Steele
Cerrato	Howard	Mihalek	Stehr
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, B.	Stender
Conklin	Irvin	Miller, D.	Struzzi
Cook	Isaacson	Moul	Sturla
Cooper	James	Mullins	Takac
Curry	Jones, M.	Munroe	Tomlinson
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Topper
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Neilson	Twardzik
Daley	Kail	Nelson, E.	Venkat
Davanzo	Kaufner	Nelson, N.	Vitali
Davis	Kauffman	O'Mara	Warner
Dawkins	Kazeem	O'Neal	Warren
Deasy	Keefer	Oberlander	Watro
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Waxman
Delozier	Kephart	Otten	Webster
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Wentling
Donahue	Khan	Parker	White
Dunbar	Kim	Pashinski	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kinthead	Pickett	Williams, D.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Young
Evans	Klunk	Pisciottano	Zimmerman
Fee	Kosierowski	Probst	
Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb	McClinton,
Fleming	Krueger	Rader	Speaker

NAYS—1

Fink

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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

\* \* \*

Mr. PASHINSKI called up **HR 151, PN 1561**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of June 2023 as "Dairy Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the House adopt the resolution?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On that, the Chair recognizes the prime sponsor, Representative Pashinski.

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

As the chairman of the House Ag and Rural Affairs Committee, I rise today in support of HR 151, recognizing June 2023 as "Dairy Month" here in Pennsylvania.

This is an important time to recognize the invaluable contributions of our dairy industry and the hardworking men and women who make it thrive. Pennsylvania is blessed with a rich agriculture tradition deeply rooted in dairy farming, and our State has long been known as the Keystone State for this reason. We are a proud sponsor of this great month, to be one of the leading producers of milk and dairy products in the entire United States, with over 5,000 dairy farms – and the vast majority of those, by the way, are owned by family individuals. On those farms they produce delicious and nutritious dairy, while contributing more than 50,000 jobs and over \$14 billion to our economy every year.

Pennsylvania's dairy industry fosters innovation and sustainability. Our farmers have embraced cutting-edge technologies and practices to ensure the welfare of their animals, improve efficiency, and also reduce environmental effects. From robotic milking systems to advanced herd management, our dairy industry continues to evolve and adapt, staying at the forefront of agricultural innovation.

But Dairy Month is not just about numbers or the technology; it is about the people – the farmers and the families who pour their hearts and souls into this profession.

During this Dairy Month, let us extend our gratitude to the dairy farmers of Pennsylvania who ensure the availability of fresh milk, cheese, yogurt, and other dairy delights which grace our tables. We can all show our support by recognizing the challenges dairy farmers face, celebrating the incredible work they do to sustain our communities, and of course, choosing PA-produced dairy.

And this is what I would like everybody to please remember. I want you to remember, in Pennsylvania, our ag industry is over \$132 billion to the State, and it contributes so much more. We have a symbol. That symbol is a preferred label. It is called PA Preferred. When you see that symbol, I want you to spread the word that that is a PA product. It is grown in PA, by PA, and we are PA proud. And for our PA milk, look on the top of that bottle for the number 42. Now you know that is a Pennsylvania product.

In conclusion, I ask all our members to help celebrate Dairy Month in Pennsylvania with an affirmative vote for HR 151, and go out and buy some Pennsylvania milk.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

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



The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—202

Abney	Flick	Krupa	Rapp
Adams	Flood	Kulik	Rigby
Armanini	Frankel	Kutz	Roae
Banta	Freeman	Kuzma	Rossi
Barton	Friel	Labs	Rowe
Bellmon	Fritz	Lawrence	Rozzi
Benham	Gallagher	Leadbeter	Ryncavage
Benninghoff	Galloway	Mackenzie, M.	Salisbury
Bernstine	Gaydos	Mackenzie, R.	Samuelson
Bizzarro	Gergely	Madden	Sanchez
Bonner	Gillen	Madsen	Sappey
Borowicz	Giral	Major	Schemel
Borowski	Gleim	Mako	Scheuren
Boyd	Green	Malagari	Schlegel
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Schlossberg
Bradford	Greiner	Marcell	Schmitt
Brennan	Grove	Markosek	Schweyer
Briggs	Guenst	Marshall	Scialabba
Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Scott
Brown, M.	Haddock	Mayes	Shusterman
Bullock	Hamm	McAndrew	Siegel
Burgos	Hanbidge	McNeill	Smith
Burns	Harkins	Mehaffie	Smith-Wade-El
C Freytiz	Harris	Mentzer	Solomon
Cabell	Heffley	Mercuri	Staats
Causar	Hogan	Merski	Stambaugh
Cephas	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Steele
Cerrato	Howard	Mihalek	Stehr
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, B.	Stender
Conklin	Irvin	Miller, D.	Struzzi
Cook	Isaacson	Moul	Sturla
Cooper	James	Mullins	Takac
Curry	Jones, M.	Munroe	Tomlinson
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Topper
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Neilson	Twardzik
Daley	Kail	Nelson, E.	Venkat
Davanzo	Kaufner	Nelson, N.	Vitali
Davis	Kauffman	O'Mara	Warner
Dawkins	Kazeem	O'Neal	Warren
Deasy	Keefer	Oberlander	Watro
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Waxman
Delozier	Kephart	Otten	Webster
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Wentling
Donahue	Khan	Parker	White
Dunbar	Kim	Pashinski	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kinthead	Pickett	Williams, D.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Young
Evans	Klunk	Pisciottano	Zimmerman
Fee	Kosierowski	Probst	
Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb	McClinton,
Fleming	Krueger	Rader	Speaker

NAYS—1

Fink

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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

SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR A

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1216, PN 1595**, entitled:

An Act establishing the Municipal Grant Assistance Program and the Municipal Grant Assistance Program Fund; and imposing duties on the Department of Community and Economic Development.

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 1234, PN 1325**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 11 (Cities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in city administrator, further providing for appointment of city administrator, for employment agreement, for residency and elective city office and for powers and duties; and, in accounts and finances, further providing for powers and duties of chief fiscal officer.

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 1296, PN 1416**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in other officers and officials, providing for law enforcement practices and policy; conferring powers and imposing duties on the Attorney General.

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 1419, PN 1598**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 15 (Corporations and Unincorporated Associations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in foreign associations, further providing for termination of registration.

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 1450, PN 1634**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in decorations, medals, badges and awards, further providing for authorized decorations, medals, badges and awards.

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 807, PN 765**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties of the Department of Health and its departmental administrative and advisory boards, providing for perimenopause and menopause education.

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

AMENDMENTS RULED OUT OF ORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair rules the following amendments out of order for violating House rule 20: amendment A01405, amendment A01406, amendment A01407, amendment A01408, amendment A01498, amendment A01514.

RULING OF CHAIR APPEALED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. For what purpose does the gentelady, Representative Marcell, rise?

Mrs. MARCELL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to make a motion to appeal the ruling of the Chair for amendment 1514.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentelady is in order and may proceed.

Mrs. MARCELL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Please rescind; rescind. Please suspend. I apologize.

The gentelady appeals the ruling of the Chair that amendment A01514 violates rule 20. House rule 20 provides that no bill shall be passed containing more than one subject. The subject of HB 807 is providing for perimenopause and menopause education. Amendment A01514 adds a second subject to the bill by providing for xylazine awareness education.

On the question,  
Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentelady. You now may proceed. Thank you.

Mrs. MARCELL. Thank you.

Both my amendment and the underlying bill relate to the same subject, requiring the Department of Health to engage in partnerships with health-care providers and community-based health centers to educate the public about a very pressing health

issue. For those that are unfamiliar, xylazine, otherwise known as tranq, is designed as a horse tranquilizer that is being used as a cutting agent for heroin and fentanyl by humans—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentelady will suspend.

You must limit your debate to the reasons for the appeal and not the underlying amendment.

The gentelady may proceed.

Mrs. MARCELL. With my amendment, the Department of Health can start to take steps to stem the growth—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentelady will suspend.

Again, reminder, you must stick to the debate on your appeal and not the underlying amendment.

Please speak to how it maintains a single subject.

If the gentelady is prepared, you may proceed.

Mrs. MARCELL. It is important that we suspend the rules to allow me to present this amendment to the body for consideration given the public health problem that we are having right now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentelady.

On the question recurring,  
Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—102

Abney	Evans	Kinsey	Rabb
Bellmon	Fiedler	Kosierowski	Rozzi
Benham	Fleming	Krajewski	Salisbury
Bizzarro	Frankel	Krueger	Samuelson
Borowski	Freeman	Kulik	Sanchez
Boyd	Friel	Madden	Sappery
Boyle	Gallagher	Madsen	Schlossberg
Bradford	Galloway	Malagari	Schweyer
Brennan	Gergely	Markosek	Scott
Briggs	Giral	Matzie	Shusterman
Brown, A.	Green	Mayes	Siegel
Bullock	Guenst	McAndrew	Smith-Wade-El
Burgos	Guzman	McNeill	Solomon
Burns	Haddock	Merski	Steele
C Freytiz	Hanbidge	Miller, D.	Sturla
Cephas	Harkins	Mullins	Takac
Cerrato	Harris	Munroe	Venkat
Ciresi	Hohenstein	Neilson	Vitali
Conklin	Howard	Nelson, N.	Warren
Curry	Innamorato	O'Mara	Waxman
Daley	Isaacson	Otten	Webster
Davis	Kazeem	Parker	Williams, D.
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Pashinski	Young
Deasy	Khan	Pielli	
Delloso	Kim	Pisciottano	McClinton,
Donahue	Kinlead	Probst	Speaker

NAYS—101

Adams	Gaydos	Lawrence	Rigby
Armanini	Gillen	Leadbeter	Roae
Banta	Gleim	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Barton	Gregory	Mackenzie, R.	Rowe
Benninghoff	Greiner	Major	Ryncavage
Bernstine	Grove	Mako	Schemel
Bonner	Hamm	Maloney	Scheuren
Borowicz	Heffley	Marcell	Schlegel
Brown, M.	Hogan	Marshall	Schmitt
Cabell	Irvin	Mehaffie	Scialabba
Causer	James	Mentzer	Smith
Cook	Jones, M.	Mercuri	Staats
Cooper	Jones, T.	Metzgar	Stambaugh

Cutler	Jozwiak	Mihalek	Stehr
D'Orsio	Kail	Miller, B.	Stender
Davanzo	Kaufer	Moul	Struzzi
Delozier	Kauffman	Mustello	Tomlinson
Diamond	Keefer	Nelson, E.	Topper
Dunbar	Kephart	O'Neal	Twardzik
Ecker	Kerwin	Oberlander	Warner
Emrick	Klunk	Ortitay	Watro
Fee	Krupa	Owlett	Wentling
Fink	Kutz	Pickett	White
Flick	Kuzma	Rader	Williams, C.
Flood	Labs	Rapp	Zimmerman
Fritz			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

Less than a majority of the members elected to the House having voted in the negative, the decision of the Chair stood as the judgment of the House.

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

### RULING OF CHAIR APPEALED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. For what purpose does the gentleman, Representative Rowe, rise?

Mr. ROWE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to appeal the ruling of the Chair that amendment A01498, which amends HB 807, is out of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman appeals the ruling of the chair that amendment A01498 violates House rule 20. House rule 20 provides that no bill shall be passed containing more than one subject. The subject of HB 807 is providing for perimenopause and menopause education. Amendment A01498 adds a second subject to the bill by providing for hospital price transparency.

On the question,  
Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Rowe.

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

Mr. Speaker, the underlying bill deals with the duties of the Department of Health, and both the underlying bill and my amendment would require the Department of Health to educate users of medical care about issues that impact their health choices. Mr. Speaker, if groceries inflated at the same rate as health care, we would be paying \$160—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

Reminder, please limit your debate to the single subject.

Mr. ROWE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, being educated about health-care choices, whether for the issues of the underlying bill—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

A reminder, please keep your comments to the amendment and not the underlying bill. Reminder, not the substance of the amendment; stick on why the ruling of the Chair is what it is.

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

Mr. Speaker, I simply ask for a "yes" vote so we can consider this amendment and address the skyrocketing price of health-care inflation in the Commonwealth, which is the substance of the amendment.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On the question recurring,  
Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—102

Abney	Evans	Kinsey	Rabb
Bellmon	Fiedler	Kosierowski	Rozzi
Benham	Fleming	Krajewski	Salisbury
Bizzarro	Frankel	Krueger	Samuelson
Borowski	Freeman	Kulik	Sanchez
Boyd	Friel	Madden	Sappery
Boyle	Gallagher	Madsen	Schlossberg
Bradford	Galloway	Malagari	Schweyer
Brennan	Gergely	Markosek	Scott
Briggs	Giral	Matzie	Shusterman
Brown, A.	Green	Mayes	Siegel
Bullock	Guenst	McAndrew	Smith-Wade-El
Burgos	Guzman	McNeill	Solomon
Burns	Haddock	Merski	Steele
C Freytiz	Hanbidge	Miller, D.	Sturla
Cephas	Harkins	Mullins	Takac
Cerrato	Harris	Munroe	Venkat
Ciresi	Hohenstein	Neilson	Vitali
Conklin	Howard	Nelson, N.	Warren
Curry	Innamorato	O'Mara	Waxman
Daley	Isaacson	Otten	Webster
Davis	Kazeem	Parker	Williams, D.
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Pashinski	Young
Deasy	Khan	Pielli	
Delloso	Kim	Pisciottano	McClinton,
Donahue	Kinhead	Probst	Speaker

NAYS—101

Adams	Gaydos	Lawrence	Rigby
Armanini	Gillen	Leadbeter	Roae
Banta	Gleim	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Barton	Gregory	Mackenzie, R.	Rowe
Benninghoff	Greiner	Major	Ryncavage
Bernstine	Grove	Mako	Schemel
Bonner	Hamm	Maloney	Scheuren
Borowicz	Heffley	Marcell	Schlegel
Brown, M.	Hogan	Marshall	Schmitt
Cabell	Irvin	Mehaffie	Scialabba
Causar	James	Mentzer	Smith
Cook	Jones, M.	Mercuri	Staats
Cooper	Jones, T.	Metzgar	Stambaugh
Cutler	Jozwiak	Mihalek	Stehr
D'Orsio	Kail	Miller, B.	Stender
Davanzo	Kaufer	Moul	Struzzi
Delozier	Kauffman	Mustello	Tomlinson
Diamond	Keefer	Nelson, E.	Topper
Dunbar	Kephart	O'Neal	Twardzik
Ecker	Kerwin	Oberlander	Warner
Emrick	Klunk	Ortitay	Watro
Fee	Krupa	Owlett	Wentling
Fink	Kutz	Pickett	White
Flick	Kuzma	Rader	Williams, C.
Flood	Labs	Rapp	Zimmerman
Fritz			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

Less than a majority of the members elected to the House having voted in the negative, the decision of the Chair stood as the judgment of the House.

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

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1139, PN 1689**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in organization of departmental administrative boards and commissions and of advisory boards and commissions, providing for Cybersecurity Coordination Board.

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

#### DECISION OF CHAIR RESCINDED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair rescinds his announcement of agreeing to the bill on second consideration.

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

Mr. **EMRICK** offered the following amendment No. **A01509**:

Amend Bill, page 2, lines 19 through 30; page 3, lines 1 through 30; page 4, lines 1 through 14; by striking out all of said lines on said pages and inserting

(2) The Attorney General or a designee.

(3) The Auditor General or a designee.

(4) The State Treasurer or a designee.

(5) The Director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency or a designee.

(6) The Commonwealth's Chief Information Security Officer under the Office of Administration.

(7) The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security or a designee.

(8) One member of the Senate to be appointed by the President pro tempore or a designee.

(9) One member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives or a designee.

(10) One member of the Senate to be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate or a designee.

(11) One member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives or a designee.

(12) The Executive Director of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania or a designee.

(13) The Executive Director for the Pennsylvania Municipal League or a designee.

(14) The Executive Director for the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors or a designee.

(15) The Executive Director for the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs or a designee.

(16) The Executive Director for the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners or a designee.

(c) The Cybersecurity Coordination Board shall also include three cybersecurity experts that shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The cybersecurity experts must have professional experience in cybersecurity or information technology.

(d) If a member of the Cybersecurity Coordination Board sends a designee in the member's place, the designee must have a background in cybersecurity or be the cybersecurity expert of the designating board member.

Amend Bill, page 4, line 15, by striking out "(d)" and inserting (e)

Amend Bill, page 4, line 30, by striking out "(e)" and inserting (f)

Amend Bill, page 5, line 3, by striking out "(f)" and inserting (g)

Amend Bill, page 6, line 3, by striking out "(g)" and inserting (h)

Amend Bill, page 6, line 9, by striking out "(h)" and inserting (i)

Amend Bill, page 6, line 14, by striking out "(i)" and inserting (j)

Amend Bill, page 6, by inserting between lines 25 and 26

(k) Meetings of the Cybersecurity Coordination Board shall not be held using video conferencing technology. Members of the board may use teleconferencing technology, as necessary.

Amend Bill, page 6, line 26, by striking out "(j)" and inserting (l)

Amend Bill, page 6, line 29, by striking out "(k)" and inserting (m)

Amend Bill, page 7, line 11, by striking out "(l)" and inserting (n)

Amend Bill, page 7, line 12, by striking out "(l)" and inserting (n)

Amend Bill, page 7, line 20, by striking out "(m)" and inserting (o)

Amend Bill, page 7, line 25, by striking out "(n)" and inserting (p)

Amend Bill, page 8, line 3, by striking out "(o)" and inserting (q)

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative Emrick.

Mr. EMRICK. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I offer amendment 1509. The amendment addresses a number of concerns that were expressed in committee. It decreases the size of the board from 35 members to 19 members, requires designees and the appointments to have a cybersecurity or IT (information technology) background, and clarifies that the board cannot meet via Zoom or Teams, but a telephone conference is permissible, if needed.

And I believe this is an agreed-to amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Representative Kenyatta.

Mr. KENYATTA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And I want to thank the chairman and his team for their work on this. This is an agreed-to amendment and I would ask for an affirmative vote.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—203

Abney	Flick	Krupa	Rapp
Adams	Flood	Kulik	Rigby
Armanini	Frankel	Kutz	Roae
Banta	Freeman	Kuzma	Rossi
Barton	Friel	Labs	Rowe
Bellmon	Fritz	Lawrence	Rozzi
Benham	Gallagher	Leadbeter	Ryncavage
Benninghoff	Galloway	Mackenzie, M.	Salisbury
Bernstine	Gaydos	Mackenzie, R.	Samuelson
Bizzarro	Gergely	Madden	Sanchez
Bonner	Gillen	Madsen	Sappey
Borowicz	Giral	Major	Schemel
Borowski	Gleim	Mako	Scheuren
Boyd	Green	Malagari	Schlegel
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Schlossberg
Bradford	Greiner	Marcell	Schmitt
Brennan	Grove	Markosek	Schweyer
Briggs	Guenst	Marshall	Scialabba
Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Scott
Brown, M.	Haddock	Mayes	Shusterman
Bullock	Hamm	McAndrew	Siegel
Burgos	Hanbidge	McNeill	Smith
Burns	Harkins	Mehaffie	Smith-Wade-El
C Freytiz	Harris	Mentzer	Solomon
Cabell	Heffley	Mercuri	Staats
Causar	Hogan	Merski	Stambaugh
Cephas	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Steele
Cerrato	Howard	Mihalek	Stehr
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, B.	Stender
Conklin	Irvin	Miller, D.	Struzzi
Cook	Isaacson	Moul	Sturla
Cooper	James	Mullins	Takac
Curry	Jones, M.	Munroe	Tomlinson
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Topper
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Neilson	Twardzik
Daley	Kail	Nelson, E.	Venkat
Davanzo	Kaufer	Nelson, N.	Vitali
Davis	Kauffman	O'Mara	Warner
Dawkins	Kazeem	O'Neal	Warren
Deasy	Keefer	Oberlander	Watro
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Waxman
Delozier	Kephart	Otten	Webster
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Wentling
Donahue	Khan	Parker	White
Dunbar	Kim	Pashinski	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kinthead	Pickett	Williams, D.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Young
Evans	Klunk	Pisciottano	Zimmerman
Fee	Kosierowski	Probst	
Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb	McClinton,
Fink	Krueger	Rader	Speaker
Fleming			

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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 pro tempore. The bill as amended will be reprinted.

**SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR B**

**BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION**

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 106, PN 1743**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act, providing for hospital patient protection provisions; and imposing penalties.

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

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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, the Chair recognizes the prime sponsor, Representative Mehaffie.

Mr. MEHAFFIE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would just like to give a shout-out to all the nurses in the balcony. Thank you for being here today.

I want to take a quick minute and thank my co-primes, the good gentlelady from Bucks County, the good gentlelady from Lackawanna County, and I would like to thank all the cosponsors that got on this bill.

This bill is not easy, but today we are going to make a choice, and to me, this is an easy choice. This is a choice to not only help nurses, but help hospitals. We have been doing this for almost two decades, talking about this bill, and it has changed dramatically. We listened to the concerns. We listened to all of those that were out there to voice their opinion on how important this is to you, one way or another, and we made drastic changes to this bill.

We know we have a problem. We have a problem with nurses in the hospitals. We do not have a nurse shortage; we have a nurse retention problem. We are not keeping nurses in the hospitals. The turnover is near 30 percent and we need to change that environment, and today we get a chance to change that environment.

Today we are going to plug the leaks in the bucket. We are going to work with the nurses and listen to what they say. They are by the bedside; I am not. But going across this good State and listening to what they want – the phone calls, and all the things that they have said – this environment has not gotten better since the pandemic. It has gotten worse. You cannot do what we do to nurses in these hospitals. It is not fair, it is not right, and this is the way to fix it. This brings nurses back to the bedside. This bill will help that today.

In 2020 we called our nurses health-care heroes. They held hands of patients who were passing away. They were the family. We put signs in our yards. We had parades. We did things to honor them. They are our friends. They are our neighbors. They are our family members. Let us honor them today. Let us pass HB 106 and support our nurse heroes.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

### GUEST INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. We will take a moment before we continue the debate. To the left of the Speaker, we have a very special guest, the son of Representative Mihalek, Dresden Stuck. Welcome. Please rise and be recognized. Stand up and wave, will you? Attaboy. Welcome.

The Chair thanks the chamber for your indulgence.

### CONSIDERATION OF HB 106 CONTINUED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes Representative Tomlinson.

Miss TOMLINSON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As a co-prime, I rise in full support of HB 106. Before I ever ran for office, this was an issue I was very familiar with. I come from a family of nurses. My grandmother and aunt were both nurses. My sister was an ER (emergency room) nurse for the last 10 years and just recently transferred to the surgical unit, among many other family members in the profession.

Nurses do not choose this career for the money, the hours, or the benefits. They enter this field because they want to save lives, help people, and serve their community.

This is not a new problem; we have had hearings and many discussions on the topic for years. This issue does not only affect our nurses, it affects our entire State, every district, each and every one of all of our constituents. Whether you are Democrat or Republican, union or nonunion, it does not matter, because the consequences of doing nothing affect us all.

We often hear things like this will bankrupt hospitals, that there are not enough nurses, and that they cannot possibly meet these ratios, which all make for great talking points, but unfortunately that is just not true. And without all stakeholders actually coming to the table, my fellow co-primes and I filed amendments in an effort to address these concerns, because the true goal here is making sure every nurse has the ability to do their job, patients get the care they deserve, and hospitals are successful.

When speaking to my sister, she mentioned that every single ER nurse that she started with 10 years ago is no longer at the bedside due to burnout, the lack of proper staffing, and the working conditions that creates. She also mentioned how dangerous it is to be losing so many experienced nurses at the bedside, because as a patient, on your worst day, you want that experienced nurse by your side.

Currently we have 81,000 outstanding nursing licenses, with more nurses graduating each year. I have heard repeatedly, and data shows, many would return if working conditions improved, meaning, if ratios were implemented. I do not believe anyone in this room can rationalize that a 24-bed ER should have less than 6 nurses. Remember, ratios are based on beds, not the amount of people in the waiting room.

As far as the financial burden, the facts do not support that either, and unfortunately, we never talk about the financial impact that it is already having. Many nurses are leaving to become travel nurses, and in those contracts, they get the proper ratios and an increase in pay, which in turn, costs hospitals more, not to mention the amount of money hospitals lose in reimbursements because of reoccurring visits due to lack of care. It is very simple. The more patients versus one nurse equals more room for error, errors that could cost a nurse their career, and more importantly, cost the patient their life.

I understand in our rural areas, retaining nurses and properly staffing our hospitals is more of a challenge, and I do not fault them for that, which, again, is why we filed amendments in an effort to ease that burden. Our nurses have been sounding the alarm for years, and sadly, many patients and nurses have already suffered the consequences of the lack of proper care and staffing.

I would like to end with this. I asked my sister to give me an example of why we need this legislation from a nurse's perspective. She is not a union nurse, but just the same, has tons of stories that paint quite a compelling case – many unthinkable shifts that she has worked that could keep us here all day. But she decided that her last day in the ER was the perfect example of why we need to pass HB 106.

In her words:

"I had four ICU patients all at once that day. Patient one was constantly seizing and I was trying to intubate because he did not have an open airway. Patient two, 70-years-old, urosepsis patient with a BP of 60, who also needed an IV, but veins aren't visible, so I needed an ultrasound ASAP (as soon as possible). Patient three was a stroke patient who received TPA (tissue plasminogen activator), which requires constant neuro checks, so that means you are required to stay with that patient one on one for a minimum of 1 hour. Patient four was finally able to get a bed on the ICU (intensive care unit) floor and needed to be transferred, but was covered in urine and feces, and only a nurse can transfer that patient in case something goes wrong along the way."

I would ask that you all just try to imagine that for a minute. All four of those patients needed immediate care, lifesaving care, all at the same time. How do you prioritize that? How do you pick one life over another? Or even worse, imagine if one of those four patients was your family member? It is unimaginable. It is unacceptable. And it is happening every day."

As legislators, we come to Harrisburg with the goal of making life better for those in our districts and around the Commonwealth. That is what this bill does. So I ask you, as my friends and colleagues, for the sake of our nurses, constituents, and hospitals, please vote "yes" on HB 106.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentlelady and recognizes Representative Venkat. The gentleman waives off.

The Chair recognizes the majority chair of the House Health Committee, Representative Frankel.

Mr. FRANKEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

First, I want to thank the two prime sponsors of this legislation who just spoke for their tireless work over so long a time on this issue. A few things are not in dispute in this bill. First, everyone agrees that nurses are essential to quality patient care. Second, people recognize there is a nursing workforce problem. Hospitals point to external factors; nurses state that the conditions in the hospitals are what are driving nurses away. But nobody disagrees that we need more nurses at the bedside.

But I believe there is also a third factor we should all agree on. Everybody in this room and everybody in this discussion wants hospitals and our health-care system to succeed. Something struck me about the debate yesterday in discussing amendments to exempt hospitals from requirements for safe staffing. We heard legislators state that the Department of Health would use this legislation to fine hospitals into bankruptcy, that we had to exempt critical access hospitals, rural hospitals, and small hospitals because otherwise, the department would use this opportunity to put them out of business. It struck me because those are the same hospitals that the Department of Health, and this body, have been desperately trying to protect and support. In fact, the very language used in an amendment to exempt some types of hospitals from safe staffing requirements was pulled from a bipartisan bill last year and endorsed by the Department of Health to direct tens of millions of dollars directly to those same hospitals.

Other amendment language came from the creation of our Rural Health Redesign Center, created specifically to help rural hospitals thrive. The Department of Health does not want hospitals to go out of business – far from it – they desperately need these hospitals to succeed. So does this legislature. And I deeply believe so do nurses fighting for better working conditions so they can do the job that they love.

In remarks opposing this legislation, members have said that the Department of Health would have no choice but to put struggling hospitals out of business. This is also not true. This legislation includes allowances for mass influx of patients and provides DOH with discretion over fines. If you are concerned about how the department will use that discretion, the good news is that all of our interests are aligned. We all want and need rural hospitals to be open and healthy.

I am supporting this bill because I believe that rural Pennsylvanians and low-income Pennsylvanians deserve the same quality of care in hospitals that patients receive at the University of Pennsylvania hospital, which already meets these ratios. My "yes" vote is a vote for nurses, patient safety, and for our health-care system as a whole. Please support HB 106.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the House Republican chair of the Health Committee, Representative Rapp.

Ms. RAPP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I want to make it very clear that I value all health-care practitioners, including nurses – especially nurses.

It is no secret that I oppose this bill for a variety of reasons. However, my opposition to this bill in no way reflects my opinion of the work that nurses do; rather, my opposition to this bill reflects the realities of what this bill will ultimately do.

We all agree that there is a nursing shortage in this Commonwealth and that solutions must be found. However, this bill will affect hospitals negatively with the health-care services they provide, particularly in rural areas of the Commonwealth. Thirty-two percent of acute care hospitals in this Commonwealth have 100 beds or fewer. In rural counties, that number is 56 percent. Twenty-two percent of counties rely exclusively on small bed-size acute care hospitals. Small-size hospitals make up at least 40 percent of acute care hospitals in the northwest, northcentral, northeast, and southcentral regions of the State. To ignore this reality under this bill is dangerous.

Yesterday several amendments were filed to try to make this bill better. Real, substantive amendments were offered to craft a bipartisan bill. Instead of those amendments being accepted, they were opposed because the main proponent of the bill was against those amendments. Amendments were offered to address the emergency department, to address the fines, to address where the fines go, to address alternatives to the rigorous staffing requirements, to exempt our most vulnerable hospitals, and to address allowing hospitals to file exceptions. They were all voted down. This bill creates a one-size-fits-all approach to mandated staffing ratios, with extreme sanctions for our hospitals.

With the amendment approved yesterday, this bill will provide for sanctions with a minimum of \$1,000 and with a maximum of \$2,500 per violation. For any hospital, whether it is a small community hospital or one that is a part of big health system, this is unsustainable. As I indicated yesterday, a hospital could face fines between \$51,000 and \$127,500 in one day. At a time when many hospitals are still struggling from the pandemic, the answer is not to take away resources from them.

Worse yet, this bill requires the Department of Health to increase the severity of sanctions, thereby eventually requiring the Department of Health to suspend or revoke a hospital's license for violations. How does this help patient safety? How does this help the nurses when their hospital's license is revoked and they are now out of a job? Why would we grant the Department of Health this type of authority under this bill?

Another part of this amended bill is troubling. It prohibits a hospital from diminishing the staffing levels of its ancillary staff when establishing a staffing plan. This clause does nothing but dictate how a hospital employs various staff throughout the hospital.

This bill is being promoted as a patient safety bill, but make no mistake, with what I have been outlining in this bill, this bill is targeted to ensure that the labor unions can dictate how a hospital utilizes its professional resources. This bill is an attempt to legislate collective-bargaining issues on all hospitals statewide. Mandating staff ratios when hospitals are struggling to find nurses is not going to suddenly create a pool of ready-to-work nurses, regardless of what is being said.

The State Department of Human Services itself, according to the fiscal note that we received today, will need 500 additional nurses, according to that fiscal note; 500 additional nurses just for the Department of Human Services. This fallacy has been pushed by the proponents of this bill and it is now treated as a fact.

In speaking to various hospitals and health systems over the past several years, there are hospitals that have union contracts that mandate staff ratios. That is more appropriate than legislating this issue on all hospitals. I question whether those hospitals can meet the ratios right now, even though they are mandated in a contract. Over 300 hospitals signed a letter opposing this legislation. Over 400 nurses individually signed this letter using their name and their hospital that they are affiliated with. They did not hide behind a contract or a group speaking for them. They know this legislation will hurt hospitals and their profession.

I ask my colleagues to vote to oppose this legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentlelady and recognizes Representative Borowski.

Mrs. BOROWSKI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise today in support of HB 106 and thank and commend the makers of the bill for working so hard to address one of the many stressors impacting the delivery of bedside care in health-care facilities across our Commonwealth.

I will vote today to move this bill forward with the full knowledge that this is not a silver bullet to solve the challenges and obstacles which are making it more difficult for nurses to stay at the bedside, for hospitals to hire those nurses, and for new nurses to be trained and properly supported as they reenter or enter the profession.

I spent 30 years working in acute care facilities; not in direct patient care, but in administration. During that time, I watched as nurses, who felt they were not being heard, unionize to elevate their voices and concerns. I have seen administrators struggle to address the needs of hospital inpatients who are sicker and in need of more intensive care through staffing and resources.

The situation we find ourselves in has been years in the making. Let us not let today be our first and last action to address the critical state of health care in our Commonwealth. Again, I will be a "yes" vote but call on my colleagues and all the stakeholders on both sides of the issue to work together to develop necessary and needed legislation to address the need to expand and enhance the pipeline of nurses entering the profession; to secure more nursing school instructors and preceptors; to allow nurses to train not only in the classroom, but in hospitals; to provide supports for nurses looking to reactivate their licenses through easily accessible and affordable programs; to address reimbursement and uncompensated care; and most importantly, continue to eliminate the social determinates which make people sicker and bring them to the hospitals more in need.

We are in crisis when it comes to health care in our Commonwealth. This is an important first step, but certainly not the last. I urge my colleagues to support HB 106. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentlelady and recognizes Representative Rossi.

Mrs. ROSSI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in opposition of HB 106 because government-mandated nurse ratios will put hospitals, especially rural hospitals, in a crisis, and this cannot be denied. The worst-case scenario is that a mandate such as this could force safety-net hospitals out of business, and this is a reality that we should all be concerned about, especially those who have constituents that live in one of those 48 rural counties where the nearest hospital can be up to an hour away.

For many of those counties, hospitals are the number one job provider in those areas, so this bill can have dire consequences to many people. If hospitals close, not only do the nurses lose their jobs, but so does everyone else in that hospital, and we should all keep this in mind.

This bill would put a strain on other health-care providers such as nursing homes. They are essential, and there are not enough R.N.s (registered nurses) to go around and meet the demands of both facilities that service health care to the people in our communities. We keep hearing it over and over from just about any hospital you talk to, that there are just not enough nurses to go around, and this bill does nothing to fix that.

What we see today is that nurses graduating college are not choosing to move to rural areas to start their careers, and this bill only makes that reality and the shortage in those areas worse.

Another big concern that I have is the wait times for the patients that need care. The wait time is already excessive in many cases, and to avoid fines when a patient could be seen, hospital ERs will be forced to make people wait even longer than they already do. In order to stay in check with the nurse ratio that this bill would require, hospitals have stated there will certainly be times when they will be forced to divert in order to stay in compliance, especially when staff calls off with no replacement available to fill in. Keep in mind, certain units require specific requisites, so this is not as easy to do as it may sound, especially in smaller rural areas. The next nearest hospital can be up to an hour away and this hurts the people in need of the care.

I just do not see how this bill fixes the problem, nor does it help the people in need of the care in the Commonwealth. The workforce across PA in general has shortages, not only with nurses, but this mandate puts a further strain on hospitals mainly in the rural areas that are struggling financially now that all the COVID money has run out.

I strongly oppose this bill, and I would urge my colleagues to vote "no." Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Mayes.

Rep. MAYES. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

There is dignity in all work. There must be dignity for those who take care of us when we are ailing and when we are sick. There must be dignity in our health-care systems. There must be dignity in our hospitals, where the priority is people and not profits. There must be dignity for nurses who have been called to take care of the sick and the recovering and the dying, like one of my favorite nurses, Michelle Boyle, from the 24th Legislative District.

There is dignity in the Patient Safety Act. There is dignity in the fight for workers' rights. And there is dignity in what is devalued because it is women's work.

So I ask my colleagues today to vote "yes" on HB 106. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Bonner.

Mr. BONNER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HB 106, the legislation mandating that every hospital in Pennsylvania must have the same exact nursing staff ratios, is a thoughtful, but a misguided, step. Unless we want to follow the path of California, Canada, and Europe, government should not be mandating nurse staffing ratios.

The House Health Committee had a 90-minute hearing on this issue before it has come to the floor for a vote. We were educated for 90 minutes on this issue. That is far too less information that we need to have to make an informed and proper decision. A 90-minute hearing does not give us the expertise to pass judgment on how hospitals should function and how many staff members they should have on duty.

One size does not fit all, and yet that is what this bill is directing, that one size fits all 158 hospitals in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Not all hospitals are of the same size. Not all hospitals perform the same type of medical procedures nor encounter the influx or withdrawal of patients with different degrees of sickness. Hospitals must remain flexible to address the health-care demands of our citizens, and this bill will eliminate all flexibility within our health-care systems.



I believe that I have as much background and experience as most of you in health-care matters, and I tell you, I do not have the experience to make this particular judgment based upon a 90-minute hearing. I have served on the UPMC (University of Pittsburgh Medical Center) Board, the Allegheny Health Board, and I was chairman of the board for 35 years at the Grove City Medical Center. I no longer serve on those boards. I resigned several years ago. I have not talked to any of those institutions about this legislation. I have had no contact whatsoever, nor have I ever received their support in any election. What I am saying today is based upon 35 years of my own observations of how hospitals function and how staffs operate within that setting.

I can tell you this, that in 35 years as the chairman of a hospital board, we had nursing representation at every single board meeting. Our director of nursing was there, and we had a member who was long retired, but a professor of nursing on our board for most of my 35 years. Nursing was always present at the table. We listened to them. We obtained information on staffing levels, and we reviewed staffing levels every single month of our meetings. Staffing levels were a major concern to us, and we used the flexibility that we had to make sure the needs of our patients were met at our hospital. Telling us exactly how much staff we should have within our hospital will eliminate that flexibility that our hospital used to survive for decades before its merger.

Actually, the United States is doing fairly well in nurse staff ratios without a government mandate. The average nurse-to-bed ratio worldwide is 1.41 nurses to a bed. The United States has 2.93 nurses per bed, twice the worldwide rate. England is first with 3.09 nurses per bed. Canada follows the United States at 2.5 nurses per bed. Now, I know nurses per bed is a different ratio than nurses per patient, but it is the most available statistic to give us a fair comparison as to nursing staff levels. And the United States is in a strong position with nursing staff levels. We will lose flexibility if we mandate staffing levels.

Carol Ann Gioia, president of the Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders, said, "When the government is involved, it becomes more complicated and more complex when they're not in this environment." She is the president of the Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders.

Dr. Val Arkoosh, Acting Secretary of the Department of Human Services, recently said that our hospitals are in a more fragile state than at any other time in her memory.

HB 106, putting more government mandates on hospitals, more costs, and inflexible standards will only increase the fragility of those hospitals. The American Nurses Association believes that staffing plans must remain flexible to adjust to patient demand that can vary from hour to hour, shift to shift, and day to day. And they reject mandated staffing levels, the American Nurses Association.

The Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians issued a statement on May 25, 2023, calling HB 106 impractical and unworkable in real-world settings, and warned that the bill will actually hinder access to care. Additionally, the physicians noted that mandated staffing levels will likely trigger a violation of Federal law because hospitals will be stopped from taking emergency patients, and that violates Federal law if we stop taking them due to staff shortages.

So many professional groups – hospitals, nursing organizations, physicians – oppose this legislation. We should listen to them. Only one State has mandated nursing staff levels: California. It is now being reported that 20 percent of the

hospitals in California are in financial distress. We cannot lead our Pennsylvania hospitals down that same road.

The expert nurse – and there was only one who testified at that 90-minute hearing – calling for mandated staffing levels, I asked her a question. I asked her, "Did you perform a financial analysis of what your recommendation will do to Pennsylvania hospitals?" And she said no.

We should not adopt this legislation with a government mandate to increase staffing levels in our hospitals when we do not know the actual cost of this particular bill. It is inexcusable for us to pass such significant legislation, with a 90-minute hearing, when we have no idea what the actual cost will be – and trust me, there will be a tremendous cost to increasing the staffing levels of our hospitals.

If this approach to hospital care is so compelling, why then has only one State, California, adopted it? Several states, including New York and Illinois, have studied it and they rejected it. Massachusetts put it on the ballot for their voters to consider mandated staffing levels. Over 70 percent of the voters of Massachusetts said, no, this is not good for our hospital systems. It is not good for our patients and their hospital care.

Our hospitals are in a fragile condition and they need our help, but HB 106, further pushing our hospital system towards socialized medicine, is not the answer to this problem. In fact, it will then become part of the problem. Now is not the time to impose mandates on our fragile hospitals, nor is Pennsylvania, with a very high population of elderly people who need hospital care, it is not the place to mandate staffing levels to meet the demands of our State.

Thank you, and I appreciate your attention and your support.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Kinkead.

Ms. KINKEAD. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in support of HB 106. My sister is a nurse, and throughout her career I have watched her move from place to place, as she has lived and worked in toxic environments and she has been constructively fired for her pregnancy and has been forced out of jobs because she had the audacity to prioritize her children.

We have to address the toxic environment that we create for our nurses in many places, and this, HB 106, while it does not address some of the things that my sister has experienced, it does address the environment that we are demanding that our nurses work in in terms of why it is that they became nurses in the first place.

So I asked my sister if she had any thoughts on this bill. My sister is, perhaps, one of the most politically apathetic people that I know. She largely does not follow anything that we do in this chamber, but the Patient Safety Act is something that she came and actually attended a hearing on it. This is something that she has prioritized, in a way that she has never gotten involved in politics before, because it matters. And so this is what she had to say: "Nurses want to care for people. It is fundamentally why they became nurses. They do not, however, want to do so at the risk of the patient and at the sacrifice of their own well-being. The Patient Safety Act will protect patients and nurses equally. It will force hospitals to do what we all know they can, which is to make working environments safe and bring nurses back to the bedside. When nurses have confidence that they can do the job they became nurses to do, they will come back to the profession, and we will all be better and safer for it."

So on behalf of my sister and nurses across Pennsylvania, I ask you all to vote "yes" on HB 106. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Schemel.

Mr. SCHEMEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

We have heard today that this bill is all about nurses, and you have been asked, all of you, to put your hands over your ears and do not listen to the people that actually run hospitals, who know how hospitals are run, who know about safety scores that all hospitals are scored by, and said, listen only to nurses. Listen to people that want to have a government mandate impacting the contractual relationships between individuals who work at hospitals.

Mr. Speaker, I have spent over a decade on a hospital board, chairman of the board of Waynesboro Hospital. I have spent time in the past on the board of a hospital system. I know about these discussions. I know what hospitals go through as they attempt to keep themselves financially stable so they can continue to serve the communities they serve.

Interestingly, I heard a member earlier today talk about corporations and profits. Hospitals are almost all nonprofit organizations, many barely able to remain open.

Mr. Speaker, I find this piece of legislation particularly insensitive to the needs of small hospitals that serve rural communities. Waynesboro Hospital, a hospital of under 100 beds, has tried for years to meet the open nursing positions it already has. If you are an individual, a graduate of high school, and want to become an R.N. nurse in my community, our hospital is so desperate to hire you, they will cover the cost of your education. Yet they cannot fill those open positions. But now we will be told, callously, well, you have 2 years to fill open positions you have not been able to fill for years, and when you are still not able to fill them, we are going to fine you every single shift. Now, what does that say to people in rural communities that have no other options? If you live with the luxury of having some of the world's best hospitals close to your home and in your environment, maybe you do not understand what it is like to live in a community where the next hospital is over an hour away. Maybe you are insensitive if you happen to live near one of the world's greatest teaching hospitals and you do not know what it is like to live in a place where your only access to an emergency room is the small local hospital that can barely stay afloat and cannot meet those staffing requirements already. Maybe you do not understand.

We attempted to fix this yesterday through amendment and the amendment was not passed. So now those small hospitals that serve over half of the rural communities of Pennsylvania are left with nothing, with no solution, and only 2 years until they have to face these penalties.

Mr. Speaker, in my time in the legislature, I cannot think of a more monumentally bad policy. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Munroe.

Mr. MUNROE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to go on record here to say that I have heard a lot of discussion over these past several days from very important groups, very important groups. We just heard not that long ago from a former chairman of a hospital board, somebody that indicated that they had heard from people that had quote, unquote, "run hospitals." We heard from groups that have the words "health system" in it. Commerce, lobbyist groups, union groups, nurses, doctors. You know who we have not heard

from? The largest portion of your constituents – patients. That is what I am here to represent right this very moment, because I was one.

And most of you in this room probably know that I was diagnosed with cancer back in 2019. And the day before Thanksgiving, I got the news that no cancer patient ever wants to know, and that is that I had fevers. I had no immune system. I had to go into the hospital. And every morning I had a doctor that came in, would spend 3, 4 minutes with me, but it was the nurses that every moment overlooked and oversaw my health care. When I woke up in the middle of the night and I was confused because of the fevers that I was running, it was a nurse named Kevin at Abington Hospital that oversaw my health.

So I just wanted to sit here and remind everybody that all the conversations that we have had in this Capitol Building these last several days, all the lobbyist groups that we all talked about, the number one group that you have to remember, the largest group in your districts, are patients, and I strongly urge and support HB 106. And from one patient – and by the way, every single one of you, whether you like it or not, at some point is going to need a hospital bed. So you have to ask yourself, when you are in that bed and you are looking up, do you want a nurse that has four patients or more than that? I would take the one that has four patients or less.

So thank you very much, and please support HB 106.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

A general reminder. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery, they are here as guests of the House, and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House. We would thank those guests to please comply.

The Chair recognizes Representative Heffley.

Mr. HEFFLEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to HB 106. I do not believe that mandating staffing ratios is going to mysteriously solve our nursing shortage. Mandating staffing ratios in hospitals that are already struggling is not going to solve the problem. It is just another government mandate and another burden put on those people that are trying to take care of people that are sick and need care.

I heard some talk a little bit about California. California has these mandates in place. And under their last survey, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality conducted an analysis on overall quality for 2015 to 2020. The analysis placed California in the fourth quartile among worst States nationally. Pennsylvania ranked in the second quartile. California ranks 40th in hospital beds per capita, and in this year alone, three hospitals have already filed for bankruptcy in California. And I would just ask, why would we model a system that has failed?

Here in Pennsylvania, our State hospitals, in the cost analysis from the majority party, the Democratic Party, in your cost analysis alone states that the State hospitals would need an additional 500 nurses. Where are the State hospitals going to find 500 nurses to fill that void? And if they do not, is DHS going to be fined by the DOH? Or are they just going to shut down beds? We know what closing the State hospitals has done to folks that have behavioral health needs in our community, to people that have intellectual disabilities and need that level of care are now turned out. They cannot find the services in the community, and now we are going put more mandates on State hospitals for 500 nurses that they simply cannot find.

I represent a rural part of this Commonwealth, and I have got to say, I am amazed at the quality of care that the individuals in my district are receiving. Our hospital networks have stepped up, building two brand-new, world-class, state-of-the-art hospitals in Carbon County. Phenomenal. These hospital networks have expanded access to care throughout the entire region under the current model, without staffing ratios, using new technologies. When people, my neighbors and my family members, when they needed cancer care, they were traveling to Philadelphia or the Lehigh Valley. If you wanted to deliver a baby, now it is 45 minutes away. It could be even longer if these ratios go into effect. We are going to be shutting down beds because we will not have people to meet these, just, created ratios that have really no basis on quality of care, as cited by the California example.

The other concern I have is, we have a world-class, a model of behavioral health, walk-in center. We all talk about the need for behavioral health services. As Republican chairman of the Human Services Committee, I hear it on a daily basis. Hospitals that are now expanding and they are providing behavioral health services are going to have to roll that back because they are going to need those nurses in their acute care, and there is not going to be that walk-in center for somebody that is in crisis. You vote for this, you are denying access to behavioral health care in the end, because it is proven. You are not providing any higher level quality of care, because California has cited that it does not work, and we have heard examples of other States that were going to adopt it but backed out of it.

We should be about passing policies that are going to make the lives of every resident in this Commonwealth better. Increasing access to health care is vitally important for the quality of life. This bill does nothing, but will limit access, especially in rural communities, to health care.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask for a negative vote on HB 106. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Webster.

Mr. WEBSTER. Thanks. Thanks, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to start a little bit personally, because it is personal. I am the son of a registered nurse, and my mom worked for over 40 years, 11 to 7, night shift, in the maternity ward of a community hospital. And I was there every morning when she came home from work and would hear all of those stories about the shift work: how many were on the floor, how many were not, how many in the maternity ward, how many deliveries there were, how many babies, and how many things they had to respond to to make it work and keep those women who were delivering babies and those babies healthy and strong every night.

My colleague, our colleague from Allegheny County spoke of dignity. Oh yeah. If you want to see dignity on a human face, you want to see pride, take a look at any nurse who comes off that good shift. They worked hard, they had challenges, and they got the job done to take care of their patients. That is personal, it is powerful, and in all the details of the outcomes, it is what makes our health-care system work in Pennsylvania and the United States. It is the nurses at the bedside that perform all the connecting glue between, you know, the high technologies, the expert physicians, and the patients that need all those services. So on that personal note alone, I would vote for HB 106.

And I would also like to talk a little bit about a better vision, because I hear the arguments around how hospitals have to operate and the difficulties and the challenges and all the economic pieces of this puzzle, and I cannot help notice that every one of those arguments against this bill are status quo arguments: Now, let us just keep things the way they are. Let us not envision a better system. And I think that sense permeates so many things we do in this chamber.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to stray for just 15 seconds and come back to the point here, but I think it is really important to recognize that there could be a different dynamic – right? – if, I do not know, if there were counselors and librarians in our schools, whether that is a rural district or a suburban district, or Norristown Area High Schools where I serve and other colleagues of mine share that school district. If there were 10 or 15 retired schoolteachers who got a cost-of-living increase and were part of one of those communities—

### POINT OF ORDER

Mr. CUTLER. Point of order, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman, the Republican leader, may state his point of order.

Mr. CUTLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's personal testimony, but I think he went far afield of discussing nurse staff ratios and patient safety.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman and reminds the speaker to please stay on topic.

Mr. WEBSTER. Sure. Because that is the point, to create that whole dynamic on our vision. If there were 6 or 8 nurses in a rural hospital, or 15 in a suburban hospital, or 30 more available, a whole bunch of other things are possible, right? That independent pharmacy on Main Street might stay open. The pizza shop on the corner would sell more pizzas because there would be a dynamic effect economically. That rural community might have enough economic activity to keep their dentist.

There are a whole lot of other things that all come together economically when we have a vision that takes us beyond the challenges and the status quo environment today. And I suppose you get the point, but I will say it out loud – it is a common adage, right? – our systems today, our system of hospital care, in particular, is penny-wise and pound-foolish, and we have a choice to be wiser. We can support HB 106, we can support nurses, because simply, we can do better across the board.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes Representative Kazeem.

Ms. KAZEEM. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

When I first started in health care in hospitals, and even in nursing homes, a profession known to many as no days off, the staffing ratios was one of the first concerns I had after being put in a position with a 1-to-7 ratio. I remember immediately saying to myself, oh, this is why it is high turnaround rates within the nurses and the caregivers. And most of all, I said, how are we prioritizing the patients this way?

Safe staffing then became my number one concern because of the inability to attend to patients was not prioritized. This was now a major safety concern. I have seen patients not prioritized

in the way the caregivers, the nurses, the families would want to, not because they did not want to, but because of the amount of patients that they had to attend to, and in many cases, unfortunately, depending on the patient's circumstance, some were attended swiftly than others.

My sister, who is still currently a nurse, who dedicates her time day in and day out, busting many doubles to provide care to many patients – I cannot even begin to tell you the inadequate staffing ratio that my sister, Chervon, along with her colleagues who are also nurses, has to actually put up with at times; the physical strain that it also puts on them. But despite that challenge, my sister, along with many nurses across our State, they do not stop. They kept and they continue to keep going in day in and day out.

This legislation is important. It is an important part of keeping hospitals and patients safe and assuring that they will receive the best care possible – something I am sure we all will want here. This legislation also sets safe standards. This is a bill that actually provides a step forward to allowing me to know that my family, all Pennsylvanians, and also my community will receive higher quality care and our needs will be met sufficiently.

I know firsthand, and I saw the rise of the infant mortality rate in my community starting in 2010 – unfortunately, even still to present because of this same very issue we are talking about here today – and unfortunately, some of those patients that I know that experienced it were close loved ones of mine.

I will end off by saying this for those that are still unsure of what this means or worried about who operates or runs the hospital – which, just so I can explain, the caregivers, the nurses are the ones who actually operate the hospitals. Let me remind you that staffing and what that means is, it actually is the process of determining and providing the acceptable number of nursing personnel to achieve a desired level of care to meet patients' demand.

So on behalf of all the nurses, the caregivers, the health-care professionals in our Commonwealth who come home every day, or even a half a day, with a stiff neck, tight shoulders, pulled muscles, pulled back, swollen ankles, migraines, sciatica, and every other issue, I am asking you to vote "yes" on HB 106 and put those patient needs first, and let us start supporting our health-care workers. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Cepeda- Freytiz.

Mrs. CEPEDA-FREYTIZ. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I stand here before you urging you to support HB 106. I also stand here on behalf of my dad, Luis Cepeda, also known as Papi, because that is what I called him. Everybody knew him as Papi.

Papi was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in June of 2021, and a year ago today Papi was admitted into the hospital for the very last time. I am going to ask for some patience. While my dad was in the hospital, and obviously because of hospital rules, I could not spend the night. Visiting hours were from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. But due to the lack of nurses and the lack of nurse-to-patient ratios, my dad oftentimes would have to sit for 20 minutes or more at a time in his bloody stool and his bloody piss, because my dad was dying.

I remember coming in one morning, into his room, with this horrible scent and smell, and he was all stained and bloody. And I remember looking, running across the aisles of the hospital for a nurse to help me, to assist. Oftentimes I tried to be helpful, but I would get scolded for trying to meddle in the nurses'

responsibilities. And while all the nurses were always pleasant and they tolerated me, because I was always screaming and yelling because every time my dad called for a nurse, no one came around. Everyone knew he was dying, and I felt it so unnecessary and cruel. I felt it very cruel to put that pressure on nurses to pick and choose which patient they should prioritize. Obviously, my dad, because he was dying, was not on that priority list.

I hear across the aisle the talk about mandates this, mandates that. Where was the mandate to take care of my dad, regardless of his short life, because it only took a matter of days before my dad's life ended? And nothing pissed me off more—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlelady will suspend.

Mrs. CEPEDA-FREYTIZ. Excuse me.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlelady will suspend.

No members may use indecent or profane language. The gentlelady, please stay on topic. You may proceed.

Mrs. CEPEDA-FREYTIZ. I apologize, Mr. Speaker.

Nothing angered me more or broke my heart more than to see my dad in so much agony and pain on the last days of his life. And again, I thank and admire the work of the nurses because you were patient not only with my father, but you were very patient with myself and my feelings of desperation because I knew what was coming. I knew it was my dad's last days.

On July 2 it will be a year since my dad passed away, and I urge you to please vote "yes" to HB 106, because the nurses, they give so much of their time, heart. They do this out of love, and it is unfortunate that their time was limited with my dad. It is unfortunate that they were put in a predicament and could not really provide my dad with the care that he so desperately needed on his dying days.

Thank you so much, and on behalf of Papi, I urge you to please support HB 106.

Thank you for the nurses.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Diamond.

Mr. DIAMOND. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have sat here for an hour and I have listened to the very passionate individual stories from everybody who has debated here, and I appreciate that very much. I know nurses. I have spoken to nurses in my own district. I have spoken to people who run hospitals in my district. And I myself have been a patient and I have woken up, and it is, like, where is my nurse? I have been there. We all want a nurse there all the time.

So I appreciate all the passion in this debate, but, Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this bill, because this august body is simply not competent to this task. We are no more competent to this task – determining how many nurses should be in every hospital in every county in Pennsylvania – than we are to the task of determining how many astronauts should man a mission to the International Space Station. This body is just not capable of making these decisions. The people who are capable of making these decisions are the folks who run our hospitals, and surprisingly, they are all against this. They are all against this. And look, they are not my favorite people – all right? – but they are against this. I mean, I think they have compounded this problem and their shortage in Pennsylvania with some of the things they have done over the last few years, but look, they are the ones who are competent to this task. This body is simply not competent to this task. We would love to think that we are. We would love to think that we are so in control of the world that we can just legislate it and it will happen.

Mr. Speaker, this body is not competent to this task. I ask for a "no" vote on HB 106, because we might as well legislate that there are more stars in the sky.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Madden.

Ms. MADDEN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of HB 106, and I am really excited to be able to vote for this bill today because I am going to get to do two things today. I am going to be able to fix a problem with my "yes" vote, and I am going to be able to keep my word to nurses.

For every day that I have been in office, we have known that this has been a problem. We have heard from our nurses back home, very good support from our constituents back home. We had a rally in May in support of our nurses in this bill. There was a lot of cowbell, a lot of people. It was a great rally. I hear a lot from a particular friend who is a nurse, and her name is Connie. And I know Connie because she is also a Delta, and in my community, if you are a Delta, you are doing a lot of work in the community and you are working with your other elected officials. So I have come to know Connie pretty well. And she is an ER nurse in Monroe County, and before the COVID pandemic, I would meet with Connie and the other nurses and they would talk about how difficult it is to work in these hospitals with unsafe patient-to-staff ratios, and it was a problem. And I said if only we were in the majority, we would get this done for you. And so we made a promise when we got in the majority we would handle this.

So I thank the maker of this bill for this, and I thank you for all the support that I am seeing from our union brothers and sisters, because we are going to get this done for you, right? For years and years we have been hearing from JNESO (Jersey Nurses Economic Security Organization) and SEIU (Service Employees International Union) Healthcare about how unsafe it is to be in our hospitals right now as a nurse; how they are overworked, how they are asked to do tasks that they cannot possibly get to in a timely way.

So I stand here excited and thrilled for Connie, for Ann Marie, for Antonia, for Faye, for all the nurses who work in Monroe County and all the nurses who work across this Commonwealth who we are going to vote "yes" and we are going to pass this bill today on final passage and we are going to keep our word today.

I do not always leave this building with a smile on my face, but today I am. Vote "yes" for HB 106. Thank you so much.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Sappey.

Ms. SAPPEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This afternoon I rise in support of HB 106 and in memory of my Aunt Julia, who passed away so unnecessarily and so tragically in a hospital that was tremendously understaffed. My aunt went in for a hip replacement. That is not terminal. She went in for a hip replacement and she came out and she was in her room and she was doing okay, but the button on her chair fell off and she asphyxiated in reaction to the anesthesia that she had been given, and there was no nurse on the floor at the time, they were so stretched thin.

That afternoon my family's life changed forever. Aunt Julia was named for my great grandmother. My daughter is named for my Aunt Julia. And the nurses who were working that day, their lives changed forever too. This is not the way they want it, this is

not the way they want to go home at night, and this is not the way they want to live the rest of their lives. They signed up to serve. They wanted to wish Julia well and walk her out the door strong and able to go on with her life. She died way too soon.

This does not need to happen. And I have heard how much we have been talking about the hospitals and all of the organizations and the expertise that we have considered on this legislation, and I just want to say, I have been working in State government for 17 years. We have been talking about this for a very long time. It is time that we support our nurses because they support us and our families. We have got to stop putting them in the position of going home at night losing patients for routine procedures. This is not okay. And so I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of HB 106, as I will be doing today. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Krueger. The lady waives off.

The Chair recognizes Representative Ciresi.

Mr. CIRESI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be brief in my comments.

I am a brother of a nurse and an uncle of a nurse, whom I heard from throughout our pandemic. And when the good colleague from Lebanon County speaks about we should mandate how many stars there are, maybe we should mandate how many stars there are, because every one of these nurses were the stars throughout the last couple of years, especially through our pandemic. That is what we should be looking at.

And when I heard the comments that we only had a 90-minute hearing and this is not enough time and the good gentleman who served on the hospital board, whom I respect for his service on the hospital board and thank him for his service, this was not a 90-minute hearing. We have been hearing about this for years. And not only that, Mr. Speaker, every one of us in this chamber should never have to mandate this. The hospitals should have known this. They should have listened to their staff when they told them that they needed more support. This should not be our job to mandate how many nurses should be at the bedside. But look, it has become our job because we have seen what has happened in this Commonwealth because we do not have enough nurses at the bedside.

Today I am proud to stand with my Republican colleague whose bill this is, who has been trying to get this across the board for a few years now, both my Republican colleagues and my colleagues behind me who are nurses, whom we should applaud every day for the service that they give to our Commonwealth and our people. I am proud to stand with them and say we need this bill, HB 106.

Does it fix all of our problems? It does not, but it gives our patients an opportunity in those hospitals to be heard. We have heard from multiple ones of our colleagues who have told us of the horror stories in the hospitals where they have been in, and not for any nurse's fault or maybe not for any administrator's fault, but we must have safe staffing.

I am proud to say that I am the brother of a nurse and the uncle of a nurse and I will support the nurses as far as we have to. They are the heartbeat, and yes, we should mandate that every one of them should be a star.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative for his relative brevity.

The Chair recognizes Representative Schlossberg.

Mr. SCHLOSSBERG. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I hope my speech will be brief regardless of relativity.

I rise today first to reflect on the obvious, that this is one of the more difficult and complex public policy issues that any of us who are in this chamber have had to vote on. This legislation has been a long time coming, and it has been worked on and amended by stakeholders who have been having this conversation for quite some time.

Mr. Speaker, I will be voting for this legislation. I do so, like other speakers, including the gentlelady from Delaware County, with some trepidation, because I do have hospitals in my district who are deeply concerned about the specific implementation. I have hospitals who believe that it is not a matter of nursing shortages, but a matter of the amount of nurses that we simply produce, and they are deeply concerned with the impacts that this legislation could have on their ability to care for patients.

That being said, at the end of the day, I will still be voting "yes," and I do so proudly. And I do so for a couple of reasons. First and foremost, I think it would be foolish to view this piece of legislation in isolation. This is one of a series of measures that the legislature will be taking, including the tax credit that we approved earlier in the year, that will, hopefully, in the long run, comprehensively address the unquestioned shortage of legislators – of nurses that we have; we are fine on legislators – of nurses that we actually have.

But second, and perhaps more importantly, to be perfectly honest, I am viewing this legislation as being part of the process. I do not think anybody in this room is naive enough to assume that the Senate is simply going to take up this piece of legislation, run with it, and approve it as is and send it to the Governor's desk. By voting "yes" today, I think we are continuing the process. A "no" vote ends this legislation. It means that we are not going to actually address this nursing shortage that we legitimately do have. A "yes" vote sends this legislation over to the process, where I sincerely hope that stakeholders can get together, can meet, and can come to a solution that will ultimately do what I think everyone in this chamber wants to do: take care of nurses and take care of patients.

I will be voting "yes," Mr. Speaker, and I urge my colleagues to do the same. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes Representative Probst.

Mrs. PROBST. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I was not going to talk on this today, but I feel like now after listening to the stories, I would be upset with myself if I did not tell this story. Like the gentlelady from Berks County, a year ago today my mother fell, she broke her shoulder, and she had to go get surgery. And she came out of the surgery and she went to a unit called the telemetry unit. I never even heard of it. They said, well, she is having trouble waking up.

So later on that night, it goes by. I could not see her because visiting hours were over. And the next morning when I got there, the nurse, who was a travel nurse, looked at me and said, "Is your mom verbal?" and I said, "Yes, she's verbal." Come to find out she had a brain bleed for 24 hours and nobody caught it because of the lack of nurse-to-patient ratio; traveling nurses coming into the hospital not knowing the doctors, not knowing the way the hospital operates, missing this. And you can sit and laugh. It is not funny when people die. My mother went to hospice and died 6 days later.

We need to do the best we can to listen to our nurses because that is what we are here to do. I heard a comment saying that we should not be making these decisions. Well, if not us, then who? Nobody is listening to the nurses. Everyone is only listening to the CEOs (chief executive officers) of a hospital.

I am here for the nurses, I am here for patient care, and I am here for safety. And more importantly, I am here to represent my mother today. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Khan.

Mr. KHAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise for the first time in this chamber to ask you to support HB 106, the Patient Safety Act. I am going to tell you two quick stories, tell you why I support the bill, and then get off, and we are almost done.

Nurses like me know all too well the fear of going to work and feeling like they are going to harm a patient because of the effects of unmanageable workloads. I know because I experienced that at the hospital nearly on a weekly basis. Even at a magnet hospital, very often I felt like I needed at least two of me to get my job done, because I was assigned too many patients because there was no minimum nurse staffing standards required by the hospital. I found myself taking shortcuts so I could get to all my patients on time. I often felt guilty that I could not do aspects of my job, like check the telemetry monitors every 2 hours, so that we could check on patients like my good colleague from Monroe's mother, because I was overburdened with other tasks.

As a former president of the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, I know that nurses like me across the Commonwealth feel the same way. I knew on the floor that I was missing things that I could not monitor. One time – and I have not told this story before – rushing to complete my nursing tasks, I accidentally hung the wrong medication on a patient. It was a heart medicine, and the patient's heart rate went up really high. And I am grateful to my nursing colleague at the change of shift who noticed it and told me the next day, very gently, that I had hung the wrong bag. Fortunately, that patient was unharmed, but in our Commonwealth, unfortunately, due to the fact that there is no safe minimum nursing standards, overburdened nurses all over are making avoidable errors like I did on the floor. Worse, they are also unable to do some of the most fundamental things that you can do as a nurse: patient assessment.

Unsafe staffing levels lead to nurses missing imminent signs of danger. In research – I am a Ph.D. researcher – and I can tell you that that is called failure to rescue. You have too many patients and you miss the signs. On my first day off nursing orientation, the first day off orientation I had a patient that was not doing well, but I did not have time to stay with him because I had too many patients. It was not until that I had to call a, quote, "rapid response" that that patient was able to get the attention that he needed. Unfortunately, he ended up coding and he ended up in the ICU. Our nurses experience situations like this all the time. Our nurses are burned-out – physically, emotionally, mentally – and they are leaving the bedside as a result.

A survey of tens of thousands of nurses show that the majority of hospital nurses cite chronic hospital understaffing as the chief reason that they are burned-out and why they are leaving their jobs. That is the problem. The only way to attract and retain nurses is by addressing high patient loads, and HB 106 addresses that.

We have 9,000 nurses graduating from Pennsylvania nursing schools all over the Commonwealth; 9,000 a year. This problem will fix itself if we enact safe staffing standards. Oregon just passed safe staffing standards, a bill just like HB 106, and California did it 20 years ago, so we would be the third State that passed this. When California passed their law, nursing staffing increased – get this – by 35 percent compared to other States. Was that just a blip and went away? No, it is still, 20 years later, still high, and patients in California receive 2 to 3 more hours of RN care than patients do in Pennsylvania hospitals. California staffing legislation saves lives significantly by helping prevent complications before they got worse. Failure to rescue, what I mentioned, was 37 percent less in California than other states that did not have these minimum ratios.

The evidence is strong that if we pass the Patient Safety Act, in Pennsylvania, we would save 100 lives a month. Think of that the next time you are in caucus. Every month in Pennsylvania, because of this safe staffing act that we pass, HB 106, an entire caucus of people would be saved.

I could not be more proud of this bipartisan bill, which I helped to write, and I am proud of the bill's co-prime and cosponsors; the Health Committee; Chair Frankel; our leader, Matt Bradford; and this body for moving this bill. And I am proud of the Tomlinson amendment, which addresses the concerns about rural hospitals and the concerns of the fines. But mostly, I am proud of the nurses. The nurses who are here in this gallery, I see you. Why not listen to the nurses?

Listen to, but you do not have to just listen to them; you can listen to the countless peer-reviewed NIH (National Institutes of Health)-funded studies that tell us that the standards in this bill work, that the standards in this bill will not have negative repercussions, as has been described, and will save lives. Why do not we listen to all the researchers who tell us that this bill will save hospitals money, including the hundreds of millions saved in Pennsylvania per year? Like the \$93 million a year saved in length-of-stay in Pennsylvania; \$93 million saved a year in Pennsylvania because of this bill. Money will be saved by hospitals because they are not going to be readmitting the same patients. Studies show that this decreases readmissions. It decreases falls. But to say nothing of the 11,500 – excuse me, 1,150 Pennsylvania lives saved a year because of this bill. What is one life worth to you? What is five lives saved in all of our districts a year worth to you? And lastly, why not listen to the nurses, some of whom are watching on the live stream, who have been asking for us for years to pass this bill?

I must gently correct the good gentleman from Mercer. The ANA does in fact, does support this bill. They released a letter in support of HB 106. The American Nurses Association supports this bill, as does the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, as do the unions, as do nursing advocacy groups, as do patient advocacy groups.

I want to close by saying that nurses are tired. They are tired from the pandemic. They are tired from not feeling supported. They are tired of hearing, we stand with you. They are tired of hearing that we support you. But when it comes to do the one thing, like get HB 106 passed, too often we fall short. Now is the opportunity to stand with our nurses. The nearly a quarter million nurses in Pennsylvania are watching this body. The bedside nurses in this community will thank you. The bedside nurses in your community will thank you. Believe me, there are a lot of nurses. Nurses are everywhere.

Join me in standing with the true heroes of the pandemic, our Pennsylvania frontline nurses, and show that you truly support nurses. Please vote for HB 106. Thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative and recognizes Representative Kosierowski.

Mrs. KOSIEROWSKI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And I stand here today in support of HB 106. As a registered nurse myself, it is very important today for us to support this bill. Very few of you in this room, probably one or two of you in this room can actually say you have taken an assignment on a floor. We work here on the House floor, and it always struck me funny when I started here. You would refer to the House floor as, when are we going back to the floor? Who is speaking on the floor? What bills are we running on the floor. But for me, as a registered nurse of 25 years, I worked on a different floor. I worked on a medical surgical floor. I worked on a telemetry floor. I worked on a trauma floor. I worked in a post-anesthesia care unit floor. I worked in preoperative floors. And to deliver the care that I wanted to do for my patients, it is very important to be able to have enough nurses for our patients.

We take care of our constituents here, and I have taken care of patients. And when my patients would ring a call bell on the House floor – see, I am getting confused here – on the floor, the patients were not looking for the doctors. They were not looking for the respiratory therapists. They were not looking for the X-ray technicians. They were not looking for dietary. Certainly not looking for the billing department. They were looking for the nurses. They were looking for their nurse. And we need to be able to take care of our patients. All of us will be a patient someday, and many of us have used that call bell, either for our families or for ourselves. And then with an assignment of too many patients, it is impossible to deliver the care that our patients deserve. And that is why I stand here today in support of HB 106, with the full knowledge that there are challenges.

There are challenges with this bill. There are challenges to our hospitals to make sure they have nurses available. There is a workforce shortage – I am well aware of that – but I am also well aware of the fact that we have nurses here in the Commonwealth. We just have nurses that do not want to go back and work in environments that are too challenging. Direct-care nurses, bedside nurses, are desperately needed in the hospitals, and we have them here. We graduate new nurses here in our Commonwealth that want to go back and work in hospitals, but we need to make sure those environments are safe so that those nurses can deliver the care that our constituents and our patients deserve.

So with that, I want you to understand something. Nurses are the most trusted profession, and as a nurse myself, I am asking you to trust me and I am asking you to vote "yes" on HB 106.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the Representative.

Before recognizing the leaders, are there any other speakers that would wish to be recognized?

Seeing none, the Chair recognizes the Republican leader, Representative Cutler.

Mr. CUTLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I think we have several things that we can agree on after hours of debate. This bill deals with serious matters that will affect our health-care industry and workers and the ability of facilities to meet the needs of us as patients. I think that we can agree that there are challenges today – challenges with our

workforce, challenges with facilities – but we also have to recognize that there is, indeed, a nursing shortage across this country as we currently speak, and Pennsylvania, despite our graduates, is not immune to that.

But I do believe, Mr. Speaker, that we fool ourselves if we believe that simply mandating a one-size-fits-all nurse-to-patient ratio requirement will suddenly produce more nurses. In fact, I actually worry that it would make a dire situation worse. Mr. Speaker, the reason I say that is because I have been in many of the hospitals across the Commonwealth, and if I may share a personal story, like many of the speakers before me. I think it is important to recognize that I, too, have a sister who was a nurse. I am married to a nurse. My mother was a nurse. I had aunts that were nurses. And I even had the distinct privilege of seeing my own grandmother go back in her forties to get her GED (general equivalency diploma) and put herself through nursing school, and actually, was able to attend her graduation. I was proud of each and every one of their efforts. But the one thing that they made clear to me, in all the different settings that they worked, is that patients differ from facility to facility. And I saw that myself, as an x-ray technologist who worked as a per diem X-ray tech. I worked in a facility that is no longer open. It is between myself and the good gentleman that neighbors me in Chester County. It was Jennersville Hospital. I did per diem work there, and they have since closed. They are certainly something I would call a rural hospital. They did have an emergency room; they did have a unit. And I can tell you from personal experience that their critical care unit did not have the same level of acuity when it came to patients as, say, for example, the level II trauma center that I worked in in Lancaster or any of the level I trauma centers that I ever attended.

In talking to my sister, who worked both in the burn unit and the transplant unit, they did in fact – without the government telling them – have a strict 2-to-1 requirement because of the acuity levels of their patients. So, Mr. Speaker, an ICU patient in Lancaster is different from an ICU patient in Wellsboro at Soldiers and Sailors or in Coudersport at Charles Cole Memorial. That is just the reality of the facilities that they represent. Very different than a transplant center, perhaps, in Hershey, or a large level I urban trauma center.

So we have to wonder what will happen to our smaller health systems and independent hospitals and other health-care providers if this bill is passed and not drastically changed or improved. I know that the good gentleman from the Lehigh Valley indicated that this is just part of the process. Well, Mr. Speaker, I think part of the process is getting a bill right. I think that we have to have a serious discussion about the acuity levels of patients and the differences across the Commonwealth and the differences in those health-care facilities. We also have to recognize the different facilities in fact employ different methods in order to care for their patients. For example, psychiatric hospitals have a team-based approach that includes more than just nurses.

I am proud of the efforts that we, as a chamber, did during the pandemic, that we stood up for nurses with loan-forgiveness programs and financial support and other efforts that we undertook in a bipartisan way during the budget. We have shown that there are ways to help incentivize nurses and get more people into all health-care professions.

But let us go back to a moment and discuss what will happen. Now, thankfully, this bill does have a 2-year time window in it, but it will take 2 to 4 years to produce the nurses, whether they

be associate degree-level positions or bachelor's-level positions. Mr. Speaker, if we do not have the nurses when that 2-year bell rings, quite simply, they will census manage at that point. They will shut beds down. What does that mean? Well, Mr. Speaker, that means that your time in the ER could be longer. You could be diverted from one facility to another. And we heard from many of our rural colleagues – and let me be clear, you do not need to live in the midstate, in the rural section of the Commonwealth, to have challenges or difficulties in getting to a hospital. I live in the bottom of Lancaster County, and it is more than half an hour to get to a hospital. So, Mr. Speaker, the truth is, longer wait times, more diversions, the inability to transfer patients out of the ERs – those are all very impactful things on all of us as patients. And like many of you, I have been a patient in these facilities for a variety of surgeries, in an emergency room for a cardiac workup, and I think that we would all agree, and one of the prior speakers said it, when we need a bed, we need to make sure it is available.

And, Mr. Speaker, while I agree that there is a dire situation in terms of staffing here in the Commonwealth right now, I personally believe, rather than picking a number, we should be looking at ways to get more nurses into the field, getting more graduates that would be available to work. And we can have those discussions simultaneously. To simply say that this is either pro-nurse or pro-patient or pro-hospital is a gross oversimplification of the impacts of this bill.

I think we can be all of those things. I think we can be pro-patient. We can be pro-nurse. But we have to do it in a thoughtful way and understand that the units are different, that the impacts are different. But most importantly, Mr. Speaker – and this is something I think we would agree on – when we need a bed as a patient, we need to make sure that it is open, and we should not force it closed by passing this bill. I urge a "no" vote.

### THE SPEAKER (JOANNA E. McCLINTON) PRESIDING

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.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS—119

Abney	Flick	Krueger	Probst
Bellmon	Frankel	Kulik	Rabb
Benham	Freeman	Kuzma	Rader
Bizzarro	Friel	Labs	Rozzi
Borowski	Gallagher	Madden	Ryncavage
Boyd	Galloway	Madsen	Salisbury
Boyle	Gergely	Major	Samuelson
Bradford	Giral	Malagari	Sanchez
Brennan	Green	Marcell	Sappery
Briggs	Guenst	Markosek	Schlossberg
Brown, A.	Guzman	Marshall	Schweyer
Bullock	Haddock	Matzie	Scott
Burgos	Hanbidge	Mayes	Shusterman
C Freytiz	Harkins	McAndrew	Siegel
Cephas	Harris	McNeill	Smith-Wade-El
Cerrato	Hogan	Mehaffie	Solomon
Ciresi	Hohenstein	Merski	Steele



Conklin	Howard	Metzgar	Sturla
Curry	Innamorato	Miller, D.	Takac
Daley	Isaacson	Mullins	Tomlinson
Davanzo	Kaufner	Munroe	Vitali
Davis	Kazeem	Neilson	Warren
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Nelson, N.	Waxman
Deasy	Kerwin	O'Mara	Webster
Delloso	Khan	Ortitay	White
Delozier	Kim	Otten	Williams, D.
Donahue	Kinthead	Parker	Young
Emrick	Kinsey	Pashinski	
Evans	Kosierowski	Pielli	McClinton,
Fiedler	Krajewski	Pisciottano	Speaker
Fleming			

NAYS—84

Adams	Flood	Kutz	Rossi
Armanini	Fritz	Lawrence	Rowe
Banta	Gaydos	Leadbeter	Schemel
Barton	Gillen	Mackenzie, M.	Scheuren
Benninghoff	Gleim	Mackenzie, R.	Schlegel
Bernstine	Gregory	Mako	Schmitt
Bonner	Greiner	Maloney	Scialabba
Borowicz	Grove	Mentzer	Smith
Brown, M.	Hamm	Mercuri	Staats
Burns	Heffley	Mihalek	Stambaugh
Cabell	Irvin	Miller, B.	Stehr
Causer	James	Moul	Stender
Cook	Jones, M.	Mustello	Struzzi
Cooper	Jones, T.	Nelson, E.	Topper
Cutler	Jozwiak	O'Neal	Twardzik
D'Orsie	Kail	Oberlander	Venkat
Diamond	Kauffman	Owlett	Warner
Dunbar	Keefer	Pickett	Watro
Ecker	Kephart	Rapp	Wentling
Fee	Klunk	Rigby	Williams, C.
Fink	Krupa	Roae	Zimmerman

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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 791, PN 1754**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 9, 2008 (P.L.1408, No.113), known as the Scrap Material Theft Prevention Act, further providing for identification requirements for sale of scrap materials to scrap processors and recycling facility operators and for penalties; and imposing penalties.

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.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—119

Abney	Fiedler	Klunk	Rozzi
Bellmon	Fleming	Kosierowski	Salisbury
Benham	Frankel	Krueger	Samuelson
Benninghoff	Freeman	Kulik	Sanchez
Bizzarro	Friel	Labs	Sappety
Bonner	Gallagher	Madden	Schemel
Borowski	Galloway	Madsen	Scheuren
Boyd	Gergely	Malagari	Schlossberg
Boyle	Gillen	Marcell	Schweyer
Bradford	Giral	Markosek	Scott
Brennan	Greiner	Marshall	Shusterman
Briggs	Grove	Matzie	Siegel
Brown, A.	Guenst	McAndrew	Solomon
Bullock	Guzman	McNeill	Steele
Burgos	Haddock	Mehaffie	Sturla
Burns	Hanbidge	Merski	Takac
C Freytiz	Harkins	Metzgar	Tomlinson
Cephas	Harris	Miller, D.	Topper
Cerrato	Hogan	Moul	Venkat
Ciresi	Hohenstein	Mullins	Vitali
Conklin	Howard	Munroe	Warren
Curry	Innamorato	Neilson	Webster
Daley	Isaacson	Nelson, N.	Wentling
Davis	James	O'Mara	White
Dawkins	Jozwiak	Otten	Williams, C.
Deasy	Kauffman	Parker	Williams, D.
Delloso	Kazeem	Pashinski	Young
Donahue	Kenyatta	Pielli	
Dunbar	Kim	Pisciottano	McClinton,
Ecker	Kinsey	Probst	Speaker
Evans			

NAYS—84

Adams	Fritz	Lawrence	Rapp
Armanini	Gaydos	Leadbeter	Rigby
Banta	Gleim	Mackenzie, M.	Roae
Barton	Green	Mackenzie, R.	Rossi
Bernstine	Gregory	Major	Rowe
Borowicz	Hamm	Mako	Ryncavage
Brown, M.	Heffley	Maloney	Schlegel
Cabell	Irvin	Mayes	Schmitt
Causer	Jones, M.	Mentzer	Scialabba
Cook	Jones, T.	Mercuri	Smith
Cooper	Kail	Mihalek	Smith-Wade-El
Cutler	Kaufner	Miller, B.	Staats
D'Orsie	Keefer	Mustello	Stambaugh
Davanzo	Kephart	Nelson, E.	Stehr
Delozier	Kerwin	O'Neal	Stender
Diamond	Khan	Oberlander	Struzzi
Emrick	Kinthead	Ortitay	Twardzik
Fee	Krajewski	Owlett	Warner
Fink	Krupa	Pickett	Watro
Flick	Kutz	Rabb	Waxman
Flood	Kuzma	Rader	Zimmerman

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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 850, PN 1691**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing for waiver to purchase diapers or menstrual hygiene products.

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.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—131

Abney	Freeman	Lawrence	Rader
Bellmon	Friel	Mackenzie, M.	Rozzi
Benham	Fritz	Mackenzie, R.	Ryncavage
Bizzarro	Gallagher	Madden	Salisbury
Borowski	Galloway	Madsen	Samuelson
Boyd	Gergely	Major	Sanchez
Boyle	Gillen	Mako	Sappey
Bradford	Giral	Malagari	Schlegel
Brennan	Green	Marcell	Schlossberg
Briggs	Guenst	Markosek	Schweyer
Brown, A.	Guzman	Marshall	Scott
Bullock	Haddock	Matzie	Shusterman
Burgos	Hanbidge	Mayes	Siegel
Burns	Harkins	McAndrew	Smith-Wade-El
C Freytiz	Harris	McNeill	Solomon
Cabell	Heffley	Mehaffie	Steele
Cephas	Hogan	Merski	Stender
Cerrato	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Struzzi
Ciresi	Howard	Miller, D.	Sturla
Conklin	Innamorato	Mullins	Takac
Curry	Isaacson	Munroe	Tomlinson
Daley	Kaufer	Neilson	Venkat
Davis	Kazeem	Nelson, E.	Vitali
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Nelson, N.	Warren
Deasy	Khan	O'Mara	Waxman
Delloso	Kim	Ortitay	Webster
Donahue	Kinkead	Otten	White
Emrick	Kinsey	Parker	Williams, C.
Evans	Kosierowski	Pashinski	Williams, D.
Fiedler	Krajewski	Pielli	Young
Fleming	Krueger	Pisciottano	
Flick	Kulik	Probst	McClinton,
Flood	Labs	Rabb	Speaker
Frankel			

NAYS—72

Adams	Ecker	Kerwin	Rigby
Armanini	Fee	Klunk	Roe
Banta	Fink	Krupa	Rossi
Barton	Gaydos	Kutz	Rowe
Benninghoff	Gleim	Kuzma	Schemel
Bernstine	Gregory	Leadbeter	Scheuren
Bonner	Greiner	Maloney	Schmitt
Borowicz	Grove	Mentzer	Scialabba
Brown, M.	Hamm	Mercuri	Smith
Causar	Irvin	Mihalek	Staats

Cook	James	Miller, B.	Stambaugh
Cooper	Jones, M.	Moul	Stehr
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Topper
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	O'Neal	Twardzik
Davanzo	Kail	Oberlander	Warner
Delozier	Kauffman	Owlett	Watro
Diamond	Keefer	Pickett	Wentling
Dunbar	Kephart	Rapp	Zimmerman

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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 1163, PN 1756**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in land banks, further providing for acquisition of property and providing for municipal acquisition of real property.

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.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—130

Abney	Frankel	Krueger	Ryncavage
Adams	Freeman	Kulik	Salisbury
Barton	Friel	Kuzma	Samuelson
Bellmon	Fritz	Labs	Sanchez
Benham	Gallagher	Madden	Sappey
Bizzarro	Galloway	Madsen	Schlegel
Bonner	Gaydos	Malagari	Schlossberg
Borowski	Gergely	Marcell	Schweyer
Boyd	Gillen	Markosek	Scott
Boyle	Giral	Marshall	Shusterman
Bradford	Green	Matzie	Siegel
Brennan	Guenst	Mayes	Smith-Wade-El
Briggs	Guzman	McAndrew	Solomon
Brown, A.	Haddock	McNeill	Steele
Brown, M.	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Struzzi
Bullock	Harkins	Merski	Sturla
Burgos	Harris	Miller, D.	Takac
Burns	Heffley	Mullins	Tomlinson
C Freytiz	Hogan	Munroe	Twardzik
Cephas	Hohenstein	Neilson	Venkat
Cerrato	Howard	Nelson, N.	Vitali
Ciresi	Innamorato	O'Mara	Warren
Conklin	Isaacson	O'Neal	Watro

Curry	James	Otten	Waxman
Daley	Kaufar	Parker	Webster
Davis	Kazeem	Pashinski	Wentling
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Pielli	White
Deasy	Khan	Pisciottano	Williams, C.
Delloso	Kim	Probst	Williams, D.
Donahue	Kinthead	Rabb	Young
Evans	Kinsey	Rader	
Fiedler	Kosierowski	Rigby	McClinton,
Fleming	Krajewski	Rozzi	Speaker

NAYS—73

Armanini	Flick	Kutz	Owlett
Banta	Flood	Lawrence	Pickett
Benninghoff	Gleim	Leadbeter	Rapp
Bernstine	Gregory	Mackenzie, M.	Roae
Borowicz	Greiner	Mackenzie, R.	Rossi
Cabell	Grove	Major	Rowe
Causar	Hamm	Mako	Schemel
Cook	Irvin	Maloney	Scheuren
Cooper	Jones, M.	Mentzer	Schmitt
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mercuri	Scialabba
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Metzgar	Smith
Davanzo	Kail	Mihalek	Staats
Delozier	Kauffman	Miller, B.	Stambaugh
Diamond	Keefer	Moul	Stehr
Dunbar	Kephart	Mustello	Stender
Ecker	Kerwin	Nelson, E.	Topper
Emrick	Klunk	Oberlander	Warner
Fee	Krupa	Ortitay	Zimmerman
Fink			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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 1231, PN 1322**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in organization of departmental administrative boards and commissions and of advisory boards and commissions, further providing for State Planning Board.

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 maker of the bill, Representative Sappery.

Ms. SAPPEY. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

This is a very simple, but important, piece of legislation that would include representatives from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to the State Planning Board. The State Planning Board was established in 1929 as an advisory board within the Governor's Office and charged with studying demographic, economic, and developmental trends and preparing strategic plans to promote the welfare of the Commonwealth. The Secretaries of the following departments are presently ex officio members on the State Planning Board: Agriculture, Community and Economic Development, Environmental Protection, Conservation and Natural Resources, Human Services, and Transportation.

The board's study of economic and development trends encompasses the identification of and conservation of the State's historic heritage. To this end, the board has identified the need for assistance from PEMA and PHMC. The bill would amend the code to add the director of PEMA and the executive director of PHMC as ex officio members of the board.

This is a Local Government Commission bill, and it also passed out of the Local Government Committee unanimously, and I ask my colleagues for a "yes" vote. Thank you.

On the question recurring,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—128

Abney	Freeman	Kuzma	Rader
Adams	Friel	Madden	Rozzi
Bellmon	Gallagher	Madsen	Ryncavage
Benham	Galloway	Major	Salisbury
Bizzarro	Gaydos	Malagari	Samuelson
Borowski	Gergely	Marcell	Sanchez
Boyd	Gillen	Markosek	Sappery
Boyle	Giral	Marshall	Schlegel
Bradford	Green	Matzie	Schlossberg
Brennan	Guenst	Mayes	Schweyer
Briggs	Guzman	McAndrew	Scott
Brown, A.	Haddock	McNeill	Shusterman
Bullock	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Siegel
Burgos	Harkins	Merski	Smith-Wade-El
Burns	Harris	Mihalek	Solomon
C Freytiz	Hogan	Miller, B.	Steele
Cephas	Hohenstein	Miller, D.	Sturla
Cerrato	Howard	Moul	Takac
Ciresi	Innamorato	Mullins	Tomlinson
Conklin	Isaacson	Munroe	Venkat
Curry	James	Neilson	Vitali
Daley	Jozwiak	Nelson, N.	Warren
Davis	Kaufar	O'Mara	Waxman
Dawkins	Kazeem	Oberlander	Webster
Deasy	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Wentling
Delloso	Khan	Otten	White
Donahue	Kim	Parker	Williams, C.
Dunbar	Kinthead	Pashinski	Williams, D.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Young
Evans	Kosierowski	Pisciottano	
Fiedler	Krajewski	Probst	McClinton,
Fleming	Krueger	Rabb	Speaker
Frankel	Kulik		

## NAYS—75

Armanini	Fink	Krupa	Roae
Banta	Flick	Kutz	Rossi
Barton	Flood	Labs	Rowe
Benninghoff	Fritz	Lawrence	Schemel
Bernstine	Gleim	Leadbeter	Scheuren
Bonner	Gregory	Mackenzie, M.	Schmitt
Borowicz	Greiner	Mackenzie, R.	Scialabba
Brown, M.	Grove	Mako	Smith
Cabell	Hamm	Maloney	Staats
Causer	Heffley	Mentzer	Stambaugh
Cook	Irvin	Mercuri	Stehr
Cooper	Jones, M.	Metzgar	Stender
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Struzzi
D'Orsie	Kail	Nelson, E.	Topper
Davanzo	Kauffman	O'Neal	Twardzik
Delozier	Keefer	Owlett	Warner
Diamond	Kephart	Pickett	Watro
Ecker	Kerwin	Rapp	Zimmerman
Fee	Klunk	Rigby	

## NOT VOTING—0

## EXCUSED—0

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.

**VOTE CORRECTION**

The SPEAKER. For what purpose does the gentlelady, Representative Green, rise?

Ms. GREEN. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I rise to correct the record on HB 791. I was recorded in the negative and I ask that I be recorded in the affirmative.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentlelady. The information will be spread across the record.

**BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION**

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1289**, **PN 1757**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in residential real property, providing for repudiation of discriminatory real estate covenants.

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 maker of the bill, Representative Fleming.

Mr. FLEMING. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

More than 10 years ago, friends of mine were buying a house in Camp Hill, Cumberland County. They were meticulous about going through their deed documents prior to closing and found the following passage: "No race or nationality other than the Caucasian shall use or occupy any building upon any lot, except that this covenant shall not prevent occupancy by domestic servants of a different race or nationality employed by an owner or tenant."

My friends were horrified and checked with their Realtor and attorney and worked to ensure that the language was not enforceable and making it clear that the language did not reflect their values. The language they found in their deed documents was a restrictive covenant. HB 1289 would create a pathway for homeowners to repudiate restrictive covenants based upon protected classes in the Human Relations Act from their deed through the county recorder of deeds office at little or no cost to the homeowner.

One may ask, why does this matter? The shameful legacy of restrictive deed covenants and practices like redlining have created massive inequality in wealth and homeownership rates among people of different races. Since wealth is often tied to the value of your home, restrictive covenants have contributed to the current 6-to-1 wealth gap between White households and Black households, and since wealth is generational, we need to take steps to address these inequalities or the gap will remain or grow worse.

Twenty-two other States have already addressed ways to nullify and repudiate the language in unenforceable deed restrictions. Pennsylvania should join this growing nonpartisan list, which includes States like Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, Texas, Wyoming, and more. Because of how land records accumulate over time, it does not make sense to cut out the offensive language, but we can allow property owners and community association members to record their own repudiation to nullify the sting of these words through the creation of a form that they can file with the county recorder of deeds.

I would like to thank the chairmen and staff of the Judiciary Committee, as well as the good gentleman from Franklin County for working with me to build consensus on this legislation.

It is long past time for Pennsylvania to become the 23d State to disavow restrictive covenants, and there is no better time to address this important issue. Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving some of your time, and I encourage a "yes" vote.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative Rabb.

Mr. RABB. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

In 1945 my father's father purchased a property for \$1,000 in an all-White neighborhood called Highland Manor in Shelbyville, Kentucky. One thousand dollars was a lot of money in postwar Kentucky, particularly for my grandfather, who was the sole physician to the Black community of this small town some 30 miles outside of Louisville, where he was often paid in corn, vegetables, hogs, sweet potato pies, and so forth.

The problem with my grandfather's new property was that due to a restrictive covenant on the deed, he was technically not allowed to live on the land that he had just purchased. But he bought it knowing that but did not meet the seller intentionally in

order to ensure the sale would go through. He had to hide his race to get what he wanted for the benefit of his family, something that all Americans want and deserve. When the White seller found out he had sold his property in an all-White neighborhood to a Black man, he was shocked and upset. He tried to buy the property back from my grandfather, but my grandfather refused.

You see, what my grandfather did in 1945 was technically illegal, but the statute that allowed for racist so-called covenants in real estate was fundamentally unethical. And to quote Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: "Any law that uplifts human personality is just. Any law that degrades human personality is unjust. All segregation statutes are unjust because segregation distorts the soul and damages the personality. It gives the segregated a false sense of inferiority."

Ultimately, this matter went to court, and years later my family received a favorable ruling with the help of their attorney, Spottswood Robinson III, who would become the first Black judge appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals by then President Lyndon Johnson. That attorney was referred to my family by Thurgood Marshall, who was at the time an attorney with the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) Legal Defense Fund.

But you see, this bill is important because a government elected by the people for the people cannot function from a moral foundation that is willfully ignorant of its past misdeeds, whose vestiges infect current policies, practices, and resource allocations. Institutional amnesia – or worse, collective apathy or denial of systemic bigotry – in fact validates and inspires further bigotry and disinformation around why racial disparities endure. Some elected officials and their minions want to ban even references to some of our nation's most infamous atrocities and structural failings. They want to whitewash history while pledging to stand for liberty and justice for all.

The good gentleman from Dauphin County has worked assiduously and in good faith in a bipartisan manner to formally end an ugly, protracted era in our Commonwealth and our nation because he understands that words matter. Progress matters, however subtle it may be. His bill does not seek to erase history. His legislation actively unfetters our State from racist legal practices that led to the greatest single factor fueling the staggering racial wealth imbalance we suffer from today: homeownership in intentionally racially segregated neighborhoods across our Commonwealth.

I applaud my colleague's championing of this issue, for without such efforts, we affirm past injustices and prevailing myths about meritocracy and hard work with our institutional silence. We cannot change the past, but we can learn from history that we must continually coauthor collaboratively and in good faith to embrace the complexities, contributions, and consequences of all who came before us.

Thank you, Madam 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.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—200

Abney	Flood	Kutz	Rigby
Adams	Frankel	Kuzma	Roae
Armanini	Freeman	Labs	Rossi
Barton	Friel	Lawrence	Rowe
Bellmon	Fritz	Leadbeter	Rozzi
Benham	Gallagher	Mackenzie, M.	Ryncavage
Benninghoff	Galloway	Mackenzie, R.	Salisbury
Bernstine	Gaydos	Madden	Samuelson
Bizzarro	Gergely	Madsen	Sanchez
Bonner	Giral	Major	Sappety
Borowski	Gleim	Mako	Schemel
Boyd	Green	Malagari	Scheuren
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Schlegel
Bradford	Greiner	Marcell	Schlossberg
Brennan	Grove	Markosek	Schmitt
Briggs	Guenst	Marshall	Schweyer
Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Scialabba
Brown, M.	Haddock	Mayes	Scott
Bullock	Hamm	McAndrew	Shusterman
Burgos	Hanbidge	McNeill	Siegel
Burns	Harkins	Mehaffie	Smith
C Freytiz	Harris	Mentzer	Smith-Wade-El
Cabell	Heffley	Mercuri	Solomon
Causer	Hogan	Merski	Staats
Cephas	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Stambaugh
Cerrato	Howard	Mihalek	Steele
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, B.	Stehr
Conklin	Irvin	Miller, D.	Stender
Cook	Isaacson	Moul	Struzzi
Cooper	James	Mullins	Sturla
Curry	Jones, M.	Munroe	Takac
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Tomlinson
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Neilson	Topper
Daley	Kail	Nelson, E.	Twardzik
Davanzo	Kaufer	Nelson, N.	Venkat
Davis	Kauffman	O'Mara	Vitali
Dawkins	Kazeem	O'Neal	Warner
Deasy	Keefer	Oberlander	Warren
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Watro
Delozier	Kephart	Otten	Waxman
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Webster
Donahue	Khan	Parker	Wentling
Dunbar	Kim	Pashinski	White
Ecker	Kinthead	Pickett	Williams, C.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Williams, D.
Evans	Klunk	Pisciottano	Young
Fee	Kosierowski	Probst	Zimmerman
Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb	
Fink	Krueger	Rader	McClinton,
Fleming	Krupa	Rapp	Speaker
Flick	Kulik		

NAYS—3

Banta	Borowicz	Gillen
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NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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 1354, PN 1495**, entitled:

An Act amending the the act of October 24, 2012 (P.L.1209, No.151), known as the Child Labor Act, further providing for penalties.

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 maker of the bill, Representative Young.

Mrs. YOUNG. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

There are efforts currently underway in State legislatures across the country to roll back long-standing child labor laws. Lawmakers in Wisconsin are considering legislation that would allow children as young as 14 to serve alcohol. In March, Arkansas Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders signed a bill that eliminates work permits for minors, which require employers to verify a child's age and obtain their parent's consent. In Iowa, Gov. Kim Reynolds signed legislation that permits children to work more hours during the school year and later during the summer.

This comes at a time when the U.S. Department of Labor reports a 283-percent increase in the number of minors employed in violation of child labor laws from 2015 to 2022. Additionally, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, there has been a 275-percent increase in child labor cases filed in 2023 compared to last year, and a 119-percent increase in number of entities cited.

My legislation, HB 1354, would double the criminal fines for violations of Pennsylvania's Child Labor Act from \$500 to \$1,000 for first time offenses, and from \$1500 to \$3,000 for subsequent violations of the law. These amounts have remained the same since at least 2012 and are lower than most of our neighboring States. For an example, Delaware and Maryland both allow for penalties up to \$10,000 for first-time violations.

Unfortunately, there are many recent examples of child labor law violations from across our Commonwealth. This April, a Perry County roofing contractor was accused of employing a 12-year-old and a 15-year-old. In February, a McDonald's franchise operator in Erie and Warren Counties was found illegally employing 154 minors who were 14 and 15 years old outside of the hours permitted by law, and operating deep fryers without required safety mechanisms to prevent injury. Additionally, in October 2022, a 17-year-old worker fell 24 feet from the roof of a home improvement store in New Castle.

At a time when long-standing worker protections are under attack across the country, we must ensure the penalties for exploiting Pennsylvania's children are high enough to deter criminal behavior, because when fines are too low, they are seen as just another cost of doing business.

So for these reasons, Madam Speaker, I ask all members for an affirmative vote. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the maker of the bill.

The Chair recognizes Representative Benninghoff.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Would the maker of this stand for a couple quick questions for clarification, please?

The SPEAKER. The gentlelady indicates that she will.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. I thank you both.

Real quickly – I do not serve on this committee – I was just curious of how broad brush this is. In the instance of the Amish community, would this be applicable?

Mrs. YOUNG. Can you please repeat your question?

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Would this be applicable in the Amish community that often have young people working on their workforce?

Mrs. YOUNG. This proposed legislation only changes the penalties. Does that answer your question?

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. My apologies. I did not hear the answer to that.

Mrs. YOUNG. It only changes the penalties. The proposed legislation only changes the penalties.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Not necessarily the application?

Mrs. YOUNG. Only changes the penalties.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. And they are all increases on those penalties?

Mrs. YOUNG. Yes, they are only increases: from \$500 to \$1,000, and \$1500 to \$3,000.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Okay. And again, I apologize, but I do have concerns that there are certain areas of employment where some young people—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will suspend.

The gentleman can ask questions or speak on the bill.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I will ask you the question; if you do not have the answer, that is all right, I will speak on the bill itself. But I do have concerns whether or not this is applicable in some of our communities where we are lacking emergency personnel. There are some fire companies that have junior firefighter programs. Would they then also have to get – would they still be able to get working papers to do that, because in some instances, they need to have papers in order to be doing those types of ride-alongs?

Mrs. YOUNG. So I am— I do not think I am clear about what is unclear to you. The legislation is simply changing the penalties. That is it. It is not the language. If there are any businesses or entities that are exploiting children or violating children's rights, well, then they will be held to this part of this legislation. It is only fines changing. So I hope that answers your questions. But that applies to, it applies to anyone who employs minors, children.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Thank you.

Madam Speaker, for a moment on the bill itself?

The SPEAKER. Yes, you may, sir. Thank you.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. I thought earlier in the maker's comments she talked about removing permit requirements or impediments to that. I was not sure which way it was said. I was just concerned that there are certain instances where people are required to get work permits at certain ages and I just did not want to impede on the part in rural Pennsylvania when we are trying to make sure we have more and more younger people getting involved in fire services or EMS (emergency medical services)

that would be any impediment to that. That was the rationale behind some of my questions. I will debate where I am on the vote, bill.

Thank you for answering the questions.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative Mackenzie.

Mr. MACKENZIE. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

First of all, I would like to commend the maker of this bill for bringing forward this legislation. I think when we look at the issues of child labor here in Pennsylvania, we need to make sure that we are striking a balance where we are encouraging young people to get experience and get involved in the workforce. At the same time, the legislation also is intended and in place to protect our children who are in workplace situations from being exploited, taken advantage of, or put in dangerous situations.

Unfortunately, we are seeing an alarming rise of issues where children are being exploited across the entire country, and also here in Pennsylvania, and so increasing fines and penalties is an appropriate action to take at this time. It is not expanding the issues or the scope of where children can and cannot work. This is after a conviction has already been found or a violation of the law has been found; we are simply increasing the penalties there. And again, I think that is a good thing. I think we could actually go a lot further than this legislation and it is a good start.

Again, I thank the gentlelady for bringing this up, but as was discussed in committee and here on the floor yesterday with some of the amendments, I think there are greater issues around unaccompanied minors, around children who do not have proper adult supervision, where they are really being exploited and taken advantage of, put in very dangerous situations. And so we have talked with the majority chair that we are going to have a hearing on this issue and this child labor exploitation that is going on to further address this issue, and we will do that in the coming weeks and months.

But at this point in time, I think this is a positive step. I would like to encourage an affirmative vote, and again thank the gentlelady for this legislation that she put forward to highlight the issue of child labor and child exploitation. 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.

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—180

Abney	Flick	Lawrence	Roae
Adams	Flood	Leadbeter	Rowe
Armanini	Frankel	Mackenzie, M.	Rozzi
Barton	Freeman	Mackenzie, R.	Ryncavage
Bellmon	Friel	Madden	Salisbury
Benham	Fritz	Madsen	Samuelson
Bernstine	Gallagher	Major	Sanchez
Bizzarro	Galloway	Mako	Sappay
Bonner	Gaydos	Malagari	Schemel
Borowicz	Gergely	Marcell	Scheuren
Borowski	Gillen	Markosek	Schlegel
Boyd	Giral	Marshall	Schlossberg
Boyle	Green	Matzie	Schmitt
Bradford	Guenst	Mayes	Schweyer
Brennan	Guzman	McAndrew	Scialabba

Burgos	Haddock	McNeill	Scott
Burns	Hanbidge	Mehaffie	Shusterman
C Freytiz	Harkins	Mentzer	Siegel
Cabell	Harris	Mercuri	Smith
Causer	Hogan	Merski	Smith-Wade-El
Cephas	Hohenstein	Mihalek	Solomon
Cerrato	Howard	Miller, B.	Staats
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, D.	Stambaugh
Conklin	Irvin	Moul	Steele
Cook	Isaacson	Mullins	Stehr
Cooper	James	Munroe	Stender
Curry	Jones, M.	Mustello	Struzzi
Cutler	Jones, T.	Neilson	Sturla
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Nelson, N.	Takac
Daley	Kail	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Davis	Kaufner	O'Neal	Twardzik
Dawkins	Kauffman	Oberlander	Venkat
Deasy	Kazeem	Ortitay	Vitali
Delloso	Kenyatta	Otten	Warren
Delozier	Khan	Owlett	Watro
Donahue	Kim	Parker	Waxman
Dunbar	Kinhead	Pashinski	Webster
Emrick	Kinsey	Pickett	Wentling
Evans	Klunk	Pielli	White
Fee	Kosierowski	Pisciotto	Williams, C.
Fiedler	Krajewski	Probst	Williams, D.
Fleming	Krueger	Rabb	Young
	Krupa	Rader	
	Kulik	Rapp	McClinton,
	Kuzma	Rigby	Speaker
	Labs		

NAYS—23

Banta	Gleim	Keefer	Nelson, E.
Benninghoff	Gregory	Kephart	Rossi
Davanzo	Greiner	Kerwin	Topper
Diamond	Grove	Kutz	Warner
Ecker	Hamm	Maloney	Zimmerman
Fink	Heffley	Metzgar	

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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

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

The SPEAKER. The House will briefly be at ease.

The House will come to order. Members, please take your seats.

CALENDAR CONTINUED

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1032, PN 1041**, entitled:

An Act establishing the Solar for Schools Grant Program; and providing for powers and duties of the Department of Community and Economic Development.

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

AMENDMENT RULED OUT OF ORDER

The SPEAKER. The Chair rules the following amendment out of order for violating House rule 20: amendment A01060.

RULING OF CHAIR APPEALED

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

Mr. LEADBETER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

To appeal the ruling of the Chair.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman, Representative Leadbeter, appeals the ruling of the Chair that amendment A01060 violates House rule 20. House rule 20 provides that no bill shall be passed containing more than one subject. The subject of HB 1032 is establishing the Solar for Schools Grant Program, a simple grant program to encourage schools to utilize solar energy to reduce energy costs. Amendment A01060 adds a second subject to the bill by providing for the decommissioning of solar energy facilities, a complex regulatory scheme affecting agreements between solar energy facilities and landowners, financial assurance requirements, and preemption of local laws.

On the question,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the maker of the motion, Representative Leadbeter.

Mr. LEADBETER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

We must appeal the ruling of the Chair to allow all aspects of solar projects funded through this program to be considered. We must appeal the ruling of the Chair as responsible stewards of the environment to include important decommissioning of consumable technology like solar panels.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Those in favor of sustaining the Chair's decision will be voting "aye"; those opposed, "no."

On the question recurring,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—102

Table listing names of members who voted 'YEAS' (102 total): Abney, Bellmon, Benham, Bizzarro, Borowski, Boyd, Boyle, Bradford, Brennan, Briggs, Brown, A., Bullock, Burgos, Burns, C Freytiz, Cephas, Cerrato, Evans, Fiedler, Fleming, Frankel, Freeman, Friel, Gallagher, Galloway, Gergely, Giral, Green, Guent, Guzman, Haddock, Hanbidge, Harkins, Harris, Kinsey, Kosierowski, Krajewski, Krueger, Kulik, Madden, Madsen, Malagari, Markosek, Matzie, Mayes, McAndrew, McNeill, Merski, Miller, D., Mullins, Munroe, Rabb, Rozzi, Salisbury, Samuelson, Sanchez, Sappey, Schlossberg, Schwyer, Scott, Shusterman, Siegel, Smith-Wade-El, Solomon, Steele, Sturla, Takac, Venkat.

Table listing names of members who did not vote: Ciresi, Conklin, Curry, Daley, Davis, Dawkins, Deasy, Delloso, Donahue, Hohenstein, Howard, Innamorato, Isaacson, Kazeem, Kenyatta, Khan, Kim, Kinkead, Neilson, Nelson, N., O'Mara, Otten, Parker, Pashinski, Pielli, Pisciotano, Probst, Vitali, Warren, Waxman, Webster, Williams, D., Young, McClinton, Speaker.

NAYS—101

Table listing names of members who voted 'NAYS' (101 total): Adams, Armanini, Banta, Barton, Benninghoff, Bernstine, Bonner, Borowicz, Brown, M., Cabell, Causer, Cook, Cooper, Cutler, D'Orsie, Davanzo, Delozier, Diamond, Dunbar, Ecker, Emrick, Fee, Fink, Flick, Flood, Fritz, Gaydos, Gillen, Gleim, Gregory, Greiner, Grove, Hamm, Heffley, Hogan, Irvin, James, Jones, M., Jones, T., Jozwiak, Kail, Kaufer, Kauffman, Keefer, Kephart, Kerwin, Klunk, Krupa, Kutz, Kuzma, Labs, Lawrence, Leadbeter, Mackenzie, M., Mackenzie, R., Major, Mako, Maloney, Marcell, Marshall, Mehaffie, Mentzer, Mercuri, Metzgar, Mihalek, Miller, B., Moul, Mustello, Nelson, E., O'Neal, Oberlander, Ortity, Owlett, Pickett, Rader, Rapp, Rigby, Roae, Rossi, Rowe, Ryncavage, Schemel, Scheuren, Schlegel, Schmitt, Scialabba, Smith, Staats, Stambaugh, Stehr, Stender, Struzzi, Tomlinson, Topper, Twardzik, Warner, Watro, Wentling, White, Williams, C., Zimmerman.

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

Less than a majority of the members elected to the House having voted in the negative, the decision of the Chair stood as the judgment of the House.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

Mr. STRUZZI offered the following amendment No. A00542:

- Amend Bill, page 5, by inserting between lines 10 and 11 (3) The department shall give preference in award decisions to eligible applicants in close proximity to coal-powered electric generation plants that have closed or will close within one year of the effective date of this paragraph. Amend Bill, page 5, line 11, by striking out "(3)" and inserting (4) Amend Bill, page 5, line 16, by striking out "(4)" and inserting (5) Amend Bill, page 5, line 20, by striking out "(5)" and inserting (6) Amend Bill, page 5, line 23, by striking out "(6)" and inserting (7) Amend Bill, page 5, line 28, by striking out "(7)" and inserting (8) Amend Bill, page 6, line 2, by striking out "(8)" and inserting (9)



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

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

Mr. STRUZZI. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak on my amendment. It is a very simple amendment that will give preference for these grants to install solar energy to schools that are being closed because of the closure of coal-fired electric generation plants. As you all know, the Homer City Generating Station in my district announced that it was going to be decommissioning here this summer – actually, beginning in July – and while we are deeply troubled and saddened by the loss of 129 direct jobs, and hundreds more within the community, there are also impacts on the local school district. Homer-Center School District stands to lose \$750,000 annually from their budget. While that does not sound like a lot, for a small rural school, that is a significant loss.

So I am simply asking that schools like Homer-Center that are being impacted by the closure of these coal-fired electric generation plants be given some preference in this grant application process so that they can recoup some of those losses by installing solar panels to reduce their energy costs, and I ask that you please give this amendment thoughtful consideration.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the maker of the amendment.

On that question, the Chair recognizes the maker of the bill, Representative Fiedler.

Ms. FIEDLER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I would like to briefly thank the maker of this amendment. I appreciate the sponsor's dedication to his community, and I support this body's efforts to invest in all corners of the Commonwealth. I would respectfully ask for a "yes" vote.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the maker of the bill.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—203

Abney	Flick	Krupa	Rapp
Adams	Flood	Kulik	Rigby
Armanini	Frankel	Kutz	Roae
Banta	Freeman	Kuzma	Rossi
Barton	Friel	Labs	Rowe
Bellmon	Fritz	Lawrence	Rozzi
Benham	Gallagher	Leadbeter	Ryncavage
Benninghoff	Galloway	Mackenzie, M.	Salisbury
Bernstine	Gaydos	Mackenzie, R.	Samuelson
Bizzarro	Gergely	Madden	Sanchez
Bonner	Gillen	Madsen	Sappey
Borowicz	Giral	Major	Schemel
Borowski	Gleim	Mako	Scheuren
Boyd	Green	Malagari	Schlegel
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Schlossberg
Bradford	Greiner	Marcell	Schmitt
Brennan	Grove	Markosek	Schweyer
Briggs	Guenst	Marshall	Scialabba
Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Scott
Brown, M.	Haddock	Mayes	Shusterman
Bullock	Hamm	McAndrew	Siegel
Burgos	Hanbidge	McNeill	Smith
Burns	Harkins	Mehaffie	Smith-Wade-El
C Freytz	Harris	Mentzer	Solomon

Cabell	Heffley	Mercuri	Staats
Causer	Hogan	Merski	Stambaugh
Cephas	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Steele
Cerrato	Howard	Mihalek	Stehr
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, B.	Stender
Conklin	Irvin	Miller, D.	Struzzi
Cook	Isaacson	Moul	Sturla
Cooper	James	Mullins	Takac
Curry	Jones, M.	Munroe	Tomlinson
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Topper
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Neilson	Twardzik
Daley	Kail	Nelson, E.	Venkat
Davanzo	Kaufner	Nelson, N.	Vitali
Davis	Kauffman	O'Mara	Warner
Dawkins	Kazeem	O'Neal	Warren
Deasy	Keefer	Oberlander	Watro
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortity	Waxman
Delozier	Kephart	Otten	Webster
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Wentling
Donahue	Khan	Parker	White
Dunbar	Kim	Pashinski	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kinhead	Pickett	Williams, D.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Young
Evans	Klunk	Pisciottano	Zimmerman
Fee	Kosierowski	Probst	
Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb	McClinton,
Fink	Krueger	Rader	Speaker
Fleming			

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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?

Ms. KLUNK offered the following amendment No. A01002:

Amend Bill, page 4, by inserting between lines 8 and 9

(2) The application shall include an affidavit to ensure that a contractor or subcontractor performing construction, reconstruction, demolition, repair or maintenance work on a solar energy project funded under this act meets all of the following requirements:

(i) Maintains all valid licenses, registrations or certificates required by the Federal Government, the Commonwealth or a local government entity that is necessary to do business or perform applicable work.

(ii) Maintains compliance with the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd Sp.Sess., 1937 P.L.2897, No.1), known as the Unemployment Compensation Law, and bonding and liability insurance requirements as specified in the contract for the solar energy project.

(iii) Has not defaulted on a project, declared bankruptcy, been debarred or suspended on a project by the Federal Government, the Commonwealth or a local government entity within the previous three years.

(iv) Has not been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony relating to the performance or operation of the business of the contractor or subcontractor within the previous 10 years.

(v) Has completed a minimum of the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration's 10-hour safety training course or similar training sufficient to prepare workers for any hazards that may be encountered during their work.

Amend Bill, page 4, line 9, by striking out "(2)" and inserting (3)

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

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative Klunk.

Ms. KLUNK. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Today I rise to ask my colleagues to support amendment A01002. This amendment takes language from Act 50 of 2021 and Act 96 of 2021 that placed obligations on contractors and subcontractors to ensure compliance with laws pertaining to licensure, unemployment compensation, workers' compensation, criminal convictions, and safety training. The amendment would also prohibit the use of contractors that have had issues on prior projects or those that have been debarred. Both referenced acts dealt with the broadband projects that we passed last session and all, all of those provisions were in both of those bills and received very broad bipartisan support.

In York County we have had issues with past projects in the transportation arena with some bad contractors, so this language is very important when it comes to taxpayer dollars. We want to ensure that only responsible contractors are hired for those projects.

So, Madam Speaker, I am asking for an affirmative vote. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentlelady.

The Chair recognizes the maker of the bill, Representative Fiedler, on the amendment.

Ms. FIEDLER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I would like to thank the sponsor of the amendment for thinking about the safety of workers on the job, and I would also like to ask for a "yes" vote on this amendment.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the maker of the bill.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—203

Abney	Flick	Krupa	Rapp
Adams	Flood	Kulik	Rigby
Armanini	Frankel	Kutz	Roae
Banta	Freeman	Kuzma	Rossi
Barton	Friel	Labs	Rowe
Bellmon	Fritz	Lawrence	Rozzi
Benham	Gallagher	Leadbeter	Ryncavage
Benninghoff	Galloway	Mackenzie, M.	Salisbury
Bernstine	Gaydos	Mackenzie, R.	Samuelson
Bizzarro	Gergely	Madden	Sanchez
Bonner	Gillen	Madsen	Sappey
Borowicz	Giral	Major	Schemel
Borowski	Gleim	Mako	Scheuren
Boyd	Green	Malagari	Schlegel
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Schlossberg
Bradford	Greiner	Marcell	Schmitt
Brennan	Grove	Markosek	Schweyer
Briggs	Guenst	Marshall	Scialabba

Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Scott
Brown, M.	Haddock	Mayes	Shusterman
Bullock	Hamm	McAndrew	Siegel
Burgos	Hanbidge	McNeill	Smith
Burns	Harkins	Mehaffie	Smith-Wade-El
C Freytiz	Harris	Mentzer	Solomon
Cabell	Heffley	Mercuri	Staats
Causer	Hogan	Merski	Stambaugh
Cephas	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Steele
Cerrato	Howard	Mihalek	Stehr
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, B.	Stender
Conklin	Irvin	Miller, D.	Struzzi
Cook	Isaacson	Moul	Sturla
Cooper	James	Mullins	Takac
Curry	Jones, M.	Munroe	Tomlinson
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Topper
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Neilson	Twardzik
Daley	Kail	Nelson, E.	Venkat
Davanzo	Kaufner	Nelson, N.	Vitali
Davis	Kauffman	O'Mara	Warner
Dawkins	Kazeem	O'Neal	Warren
Deasy	Keefer	Oberlander	Watro
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Waxman
Delozier	Kephart	Otten	Webster
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Wentling
Donahue	Khan	Parker	White
Dunbar	Kim	Pashinski	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kinkead	Pickett	Williams, D.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Young
Evans	Klunk	Pisciottano	Zimmerman
Fee	Kosierowski	Probst	
Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb	McClinton, Speaker
Fink	Krueger	Rader	
Fleming			

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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

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

Mr. DAVANZO offered the following amendment No. A00539:

Amend Bill, page 6, by inserting between lines 8 and 9  
(9) A grant award received under this act shall be contingent upon the equipment, including photovoltaic or solar thermal devices, related to the solar energy project being produced or manufactured in the United States. For the purpose of this paragraph, equipment shall be considered produced or manufactured in the United States if at least 75% of the articles, materials and supplies are produced or manufactured in the United States.

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

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative Davanzo.

Mr. DAVANZO. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I rise today and offer amendment A00539 for the simple fact that I want to make HB 1032 better. I want to

make certain that solar panels and equipment that are installed on the schools in Pennsylvania are not polluted with Chinese pollution. We want them made right here in America.

I want to thank the good lady from Philadelphia on HB 1032. This is an agreed-to amendment. We have to do some cleanup language in the Senate. But I want to be certain what a "yes" vote means for this amendment. A "yes" vote is to vote for American manufacturing, American jobs. Let us send a message to the solar manufacturers that Pennsylvania and the United States is open for business. This is a vote for American families. A "no" vote against this amendment is a vote against American manufacturing, a vote against American jobs. A "no" vote here, as I stated earlier, will allow solar panels made in China, by child labor, in China pollution, to be installed on the rooftops of our schools that educate our children. We must not allow this to happen.

With the previous and past administration running us into RGGI (Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative) and we did not even get a return on American jobs here. Let us send a message to our workers right here in America: We stand with you, we support you, we want American jobs, we support American jobs. I ask for a "yes" vote on amendment A00539.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the maker of the amendment.

On that question, the Chair recognizes the maker of the bill, Representative Fiedler.

Ms. FIEDLER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I would like to thank the maker of this amendment. And while we may come from different places, we both agree that materials should ideally be locally sourced and manufactured as much as possible.

I believe there is more work to be done on this issue and I look forward to accomplishing it in a bipartisan manner. That said, I would again like to thank the maker of the amendment for his interest in the legislation, and I would like to ask members for a "yes" vote on this amendment.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—203

Abney	Flick	Krupa	Rapp
Adams	Flood	Kulik	Rigby
Armanini	Frankel	Kutz	Roae
Banta	Freeman	Kuzma	Rossi
Barton	Friel	Labs	Rowe
Bellmon	Fritz	Lawrence	Rozzi
Benham	Gallagher	Leadbeter	Ryncavage
Benninghoff	Galloway	Mackenzie, M.	Salisbury
Bernstine	Gaydos	Mackenzie, R.	Samuelson
Bizzarro	Gergely	Madden	Sanchez
Bonner	Gillen	Madsen	Sappey
Borowicz	Giral	Major	Schemel
Borowski	Gleim	Mako	Scheuren
Boyd	Green	Malagari	Schlegel
Boyle	Gregory	Maloney	Schlossberg
Bradford	Greiner	Marcell	Schmitt
Brennan	Grove	Markosek	Schweyer
Briggs	Guenst	Marshall	Scialabba
Brown, A.	Guzman	Matzie	Scott
Brown, M.	Haddock	Mayes	Shusterman

Bullock	Hamm	McAndrew	Siegel
Burgos	Hanbidge	McNeill	Smith
Burns	Harkins	Mehaffie	Smith-Wade-El
C Freytiz	Harris	Mentzer	Solomon
Cabell	Heffley	Mercuri	Staats
Causer	Hogan	Merski	Stambaugh
Cephas	Hohenstein	Metzgar	Steele
Cerrato	Howard	Mihalek	Stehr
Ciresi	Innamorato	Miller, B.	Stender
Conklin	Irvin	Miller, D.	Struzzi
Cook	Isaacson	Moul	Sturla
Cooper	James	Mullins	Takac
Curry	Jones, M.	Munroe	Tomlinson
Cutler	Jones, T.	Mustello	Topper
D'Orsie	Jozwiak	Neilson	Twardzik
Daley	Kail	Nelson, E.	Venkat
Davanzo	Kaufner	Nelson, N.	Vitali
Davis	Kauffman	O'Mara	Warner
Dawkins	Kazeem	O'Neal	Warren
Deasy	Keefer	Oberlander	Watro
Delloso	Kenyatta	Ortitay	Waxman
Delozier	Kephart	Otten	Webster
Diamond	Kerwin	Owlett	Wentling
Donahue	Khan	Parker	White
Dunbar	Kim	Pashinski	Williams, C.
Ecker	Kinthead	Pickett	Williams, D.
Emrick	Kinsey	Pielli	Young
Evans	Klunk	Pisciottano	Zimmerman
Fee	Kosierowski	Probst	
Fiedler	Krajewski	Rabb	McClinton,
Fink	Krueger	Rader	Speaker
Fleming			

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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

On the question recurring,

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

Mr. TOPPER offered the following amendment No. A00543:

Amend Bill, page 2, lines 13 through 20, by striking out all of said lines and inserting

- (1) A school entity.
- (2) A community college.
- (3) The Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.
- (4) The Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 29 and 30 "School entity." A public school, charter school, cyber charter school, private school, nonpublic school, intermediate unit or area career and technical school.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative Topper.

Mr. TOPPER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

This amendment would include all school entities in our Commonwealth, and I believe that that would be an important addition to the bill, and I ask for an affirmative vote on the amendment. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair recognizes the maker of the bill, Representative Fiedler.

Ms. FIEDLER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I would like to thank the maker of the amendment; however, given that this amendment would add in private and nonpublic schools to receive public taxpayer dollars, I would respectfully ask members for a "no" vote. Thank you.

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

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—101

Adams	Gaydos	Lawrence	Rigby
Armanini	Gillen	Leadbeter	Roae
Banta	Gleim	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Barton	Gregory	Mackenzie, R.	Rowe
Benninghoff	Greiner	Major	Ryncavage
Bernstine	Grove	Mako	Schemel
Bonner	Hamm	Maloney	Scheuren
Borowicz	Heffley	Marcell	Schlegel
Brown, M.	Hogan	Marshall	Schmitt
Cabell	Irvin	Mehaffie	Scialabba
Causar	James	Mentzer	Smith
Cook	Jones, M.	Mercuri	Staats
Cooper	Jones, T.	Metzgar	Stambaugh
Cutler	Jozwiak	Mihalek	Stehr
D'Orsie	Kail	Miller, B.	Stender
Davanzo	Kaufer	Moul	Struzzi
Delozier	Kauffman	Mustello	Tomlinson
Diamond	Keefer	Nelson, E.	Topper
Dunbar	Kephart	O'Neal	Twardzik
Ecker	Kerwin	Oberlander	Warner
Emrick	Klunk	Ortitay	Watro
Fee	Krupa	Owlett	Wentling
Fink	Kutz	Pickett	White
Flick	Kuzma	Rader	Williams, C.
Flood	Labs	Rapp	Zimmerman
Fritz			

NAYS—102

Abney	Evans	Kinsey	Rabb
Bellmon	Fiedler	Kosierowski	Rozzi
Benham	Fleming	Krajewski	Salisbury
Bizzarro	Frankel	Krueger	Samuelson
Borowski	Freeman	Kulik	Sanchez
Boyd	Friel	Madden	Sappey
Boyle	Gallagher	Madsen	Schlossberg
Bradford	Galloway	Malagari	Schweyer
Brennan	Gergely	Markosek	Scott
Briggs	Giral	Matzie	Shusterman
Brown, A.	Green	Mayes	Siegel
Bullock	Guenst	McAndrew	Smith-Wade-El
Burgos	Guzman	McNeill	Solomon
Burns	Haddock	Merski	Steele
C Freytiz	Hanbidge	Miller, D.	Sturla
Cephas	Harkins	Mullins	Takac
Cerrato	Harris	Munroe	Venkat
Ciresi	Hohenstein	Neilson	Vitali
Conklin	Howard	Nelson, N.	Warren
Curry	Innamorato	O'Mara	Waxman
Daley	Isaacson	Otten	Webster
Davis	Kazeem	Parker	Williams, D.
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Pashinski	Young
Deasy	Khan	Pielli	
Delloso	Kim	Pisciottano	McClinton,
Donahue	Kinhead	Probst	Speaker

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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 as amended?

Ms. WHITE offered the following amendment No. A00538:

Amend Bill, page 4, by inserting between lines 29 and 30

(f) E-Verify program requirement.—

(1) An employer or contractor contracted to complete a solar energy project under the program shall verify the employment eligibility of an employee through the E-Verify program and shall keep a record of the verification for the duration of the employee's employment.

(2) If the department or the Department of Labor and Industry determines that an employer or contractor contracted to complete a solar energy project for an eligible applicant under the program failed to comply with paragraph (1), the eligible applicant must refund to the department the total amount of grants awarded for the solar energy project.

Amend Bill, page 4, line 30, by striking out "(f)" and inserting (g)

Amend Bill, page 5, line 3, by striking out "(g)" and inserting (h)

Amend Bill, page 6, line 9, by striking out "(h)" and inserting (i)

Amend Bill, page 6, line 19, by striking out "(i)" and inserting (j)

Amend Bill, page 6, line 25, by striking out "(j)" and inserting (k)

Amend Bill, page 6, line 29, by striking out "(k)" and inserting (l)

Amend Bill, page 7, line 3, by striking out "(l)" and inserting (m)

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

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative White.

Ms. WHITE. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

My amendment simply requires employers and contractors who receive a grant under this program to utilize E-Verify to ensure that their workers are legal residents and eligible for employment in Pennsylvania. This requirement serves as an important safeguard to protect the integrity of our workforce and ensure that any job opportunities resulting from this program are given to individuals who are authorized to work in our great Commonwealth.

The E-Verify program is an essential tool in combatting unauthorized employment and maintaining fairness in Pennsylvania's workforce. By mandating that participating employers and contractors use E-Verify, we can help prevent the use of illegal labor, promote compliance with our nation's immigration laws, and even support Pennsylvania workers.

Recent studies approximate that there are nearly 17 million illegal immigrants currently living in the United States, which is a 16-percent increase in the first 2 years of the Biden administration. Our Democrat President's border crisis is resulting in hundreds of thousands of illegal border crossings each month.

How can this legislation not include an E-Verify requirement? Under no circumstances should an illegal immigrant take the job of a union worker. Under no circumstances should the Pennsylvania House of Representatives pass legislation without basic provisions to protect Pennsylvania workers, to not allow for illegal immigrants to undercut our workforce's wages.

Please support my amendment and send a clear message that you stand with America's and Pennsylvania's workers and not with an illegal anti-union labor practice. Thank you very much. Please vote "yes" on amendment A00538.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentlelady.

### MOTION TO TABLE AMENDMENT

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative Bradford.

Mr. BRADFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise to make a motion.

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

Mr. BRADFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise to make a motion to table amendment A00538 pursuant to rule 59.

The SPEAKER. Representative Bradford moves that amendment A00538 be laid on the table.

On that question, members are reminded, the motion to lay on the table is debatable by only the leaders, the maker of the motion, the maker of the amendment under consideration, and the prime sponsor of the bill.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

The SPEAKER. On the motion, the Chair recognizes Representative Bradford.

Mr. BRADFORD. Madam Speaker, as everyone knows, HB 1032 would establish a Solar for Schools Grant Program within the DCED (Department of Community and Economic Development). This amendment would require an employer contracted to complete a solar energy project under the program to utilize the Federal E-Verify system. However, as you well know, current law requires the usage of just such a system for all new hires and would be duplicative. For that reason I ask that we motion to table at this time.

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes the maker of the amendment, Representative White.

Ms. WHITE. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I urge this chamber to oppose the tabling of this very, very important amendment. We absolutely must protect union workers, American workers, and Pennsylvania workers, and by tabling this amendment, the voices of Pennsylvanians will not be heard. By tabling this amendment, we will not be protecting union wages here in Pennsylvania. Allowing this bill to continue

without these protections is an absolute insult to the workforce that every American deserves to be able to participate in but are being taken advantage of because illegal immigrants are coming into our country, coming into our Commonwealth, and undermining our very, very competent and capable well-trained workforce.

I urge that this amendment be considered, that it not be tabled today, and that we all stand on the side of Pennsylvania's workforce.

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentlelady.

On that question, the Chair recognizes Representative Cutler.

Mr. CUTLER. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, the good gentleman has offered, in his motion to table, for the 10th time this session, in a few short weeks, that in fact we do not need to include this because it is covered elsewhere in law. Well, Madam Speaker, I would simply remind the members who were here last session, we included provisions for prevailing wage in the tax credit package even though it was in fact prevailing law because we felt it necessary to show that we supported union jobs here in the Commonwealth. That was at the request of the current majority. We did include that even though it was "duplicative," to use his words, because it is a boots and straps and suspenders kind of approach. I think we should do the same thing for the good lady's E-Verify amendment. And furthermore, if it is in fact already current law – and I think we both would agree that it is – then it does not hurt to put it in this bill because it is already law.

I urge the motion to table to be defeated for the following reason. We had a great and robust debate on a bill earlier. We saw what we could do, and we were on a good roll here on a bunch of amendments. I thought we could keep that streak going, but we just could not. So let us finish the debate on this amendment. Let us wrap up the day's business. Let us stop using the motion to table and actually have debates and votes.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On that question, the Chair recognizes, for the second time, the maker of the motion, Representative Bradford.

Mr. BRADFORD. Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I will be brief.

I want to work with the good gentlelady from Philadelphia on union jobs. I know that we can do that here in Pennsylvania. And our caucus looks forward to a speedy passage not only in this body, but in the Senate, of misclassification, improving our UC (unemployment compensation), our prevailing wage, a constitutional right to organize. We can do all this together, Democrats and Republicans, pro-union Democrats, pro-union Republicans. It is a glorious day in the Pennsylvania House when I hear this pro-union rhetoric coming from the side opposite. We have come a long way here in Pennsylvania. Now, let us table this so we can do some real prolabor, pro-union business in Pennsylvania.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the motion?

The following roll call was recorded:

YEAS—102

Abney	Evans	Kinsey	Rabb
Bellmon	Fiedler	Kosierowski	Rozzi
Benham	Fleming	Krajewski	Salisbury
Bizzarro	Frankel	Krueger	Samuelson
Borowski	Freeman	Kulik	Sanchez
Boyd	Friel	Madden	Sappey
Boyle	Gallagher	Madsen	Schlossberg
Bradford	Galloway	Malagari	Schweyer
Brennan	Gergely	Markosek	Scott
Briggs	Giral	Matzie	Shusterman
Brown, A.	Green	Mayes	Siegel
Bullock	Guenst	McAndrew	Smith-Wade-El
Burgos	Guzman	McNeill	Solomon
Burns	Haddock	Merski	Steele
C Freytiz	Hanbidge	Miller, D.	Sturla
Cephas	Harkins	Mullins	Takac
Cerrato	Harris	Munroe	Venkat
Ciresi	Hohenstein	Neilson	Vitali
Conklin	Howard	Nelson, N.	Warren
Curry	Innamorato	O'Mara	Waxman
Daley	Isaacson	Otten	Webster
Davis	Kazeem	Parker	Williams, D.
Dawkins	Kenyatta	Pashinski	Young
Deasy	Khan	Pielli	
Delloso	Kim	Pisciottano	McClinton,
Donahue	Kinhead	Probst	Speaker

NAYS—101

Adams	Gaydos	Lawrence	Rigby
Armanini	Gillen	Leadbeter	Roe
Banta	Gleim	Mackenzie, M.	Rossi
Barton	Gregory	Mackenzie, R.	Rowe
Benninghoff	Greiner	Major	Ryncavage
Bernstine	Grove	Mako	Schemel
Bonner	Hamm	Maloney	Scheuren
Borowicz	Heffley	Marcell	Schlegel
Brown, M.	Hogan	Marshall	Schmitt
Cabell	Irvin	Mehaffie	Scialabba
Causar	James	Mentzer	Smith
Cook	Jones, M.	Mercuri	Staats
Cooper	Jones, T.	Metzgar	Stambaugh
Cutler	Jozwiak	Mihalek	Stehr
D'Orsie	Kail	Miller, B.	Stender
Davanzo	Kaufer	Moul	Struzzi
Delozier	Kauffman	Mustello	Tomlinson
Diamond	Keefer	Nelson, E.	Topper
Dunbar	Kephart	O'Neal	Twardzik
Ecker	Kerwin	Oberlander	Warner
Emrick	Klunk	Ortitay	Watro
Fee	Krupa	Owlett	Wentling
Fink	Kutz	Pickett	White
Flick	Kuzma	Rader	Williams, C.
Flood	Labs	Rapp	Zimmerman
Fritz			

NOT VOTING—0

EXCUSED—0

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

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

The SPEAKER. It is Chair's understanding that all remaining amendments have been withdrawn. The Chair thanks the gentlemen, Representative Kephart and Representative Pisciottano.

On the question recurring,  
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.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER**

The SPEAKER. It is the Chair's understanding that the gentleman from Chester County is celebrating a birthday today. Happy birthday to our colleague, Representative Friel.

**HOUSE BILLS  
INTRODUCED AND REFERRED**

**No. 1532** By Representative MADSEN

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

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1533** By Representatives PISCIOTTANO, SANCHEZ, CIRESI and MARSHALL

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in equipment standards, further providing for unlawful activities; in other required equipment, further providing for restraint systems; and abrogating regulations.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1534** By Representatives BURNS, BRENNAN, MADDEN, KHAN, SANCHEZ, RABB, BENHAM, HILL-EVANS, GALLAGHER and CIRESI

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in financial responsibility, further providing for required financial responsibility.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1535** By Representatives BURNS, GIRAL, MADDEN, VENKAT, KINSEY, KHAN, HANBIDGE, MADSEN, GALLAGHER, T. JONES, SANCHEZ, JAMES, DONAHUE and CEPEDA-FREYTIZ

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for renewal of registration.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1536** By Representatives RYNCAVAGE and R. MACKENZIE

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in sales and use tax, further providing for definitions and for exclusions from tax.

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1537** By Representatives GLEIM, M. MACKENZIE, HAMM, KRUPA, KAUFFMAN, SCIALABBA, KEEFER, FINK, T. JONES, M. JONES and ZIMMERMAN

An Act amending the act of February 13, 1970 (P.L.19, No.10), entitled "An act enabling certain minors to consent to medical, dental and health services, declaring consent unnecessary under certain circumstances," further providing for mental health treatment and for liability for rendering services; and providing for applicability.

Referred to Committee on HEALTH, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1538** By Representatives SOLOMON, MADDEN, SANCHEZ, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, GUENST, HILL-EVANS, D. WILLIAMS and GREEN

An Act amending the act of November 22, 1978 (P.L.1166, No.274), referred to as the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Law, establishing the Public Safety Resident Communications Program.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1539** By Representatives GROVE, GREINER, HAMM, ROWE, STAATS, JAMES, MOUL and MENTZER

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, providing for miscellaneous provisions relating to recovery audits.

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1540** By Representatives PARKER, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, GUENST, RABB, MADDEN and PASHINSKI

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, further providing for Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence.

Referred to Committee on AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, June 28, 2023.

**No. 1550** By Representatives FRIEL, FIEDLER and SAMUELSON

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in corporate net income tax, further providing for definitions, for imposition of tax, for reports and payment of tax and for consolidated reports; and, in general provisions, further providing for underpayment of estimated tax.

Referred to Committee on FINANCE, June 28, 2023.

## SENATE RESOLUTION FOR CONCURRENCE

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

### SR 136, PN 984

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, June 28, 2023.

## SENATE BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

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

### SB 683, PN 929

Referred to Committee on HEALTH, June 28, 2023.

### SB 740, PN 856

Referred to Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, June 28, 2023.

### SB 750, PN 972

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION, June 28, 2023.

### SB 756, PN 797

Referred to Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, June 28, 2023.

## BILLS RECOMMITTED

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that the following bills be recommitted to the Committee on Appropriations:

HB 807;  
HB 1032;  
HB 1139;  
HB 1216;  
HB 1234;  
HB 1296;  
HB 1419; and  
HB 1450.

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 358 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.

### **STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Conklin for a committee announcement.

Mr. CONKLIN. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

For those members of the State Committee who were looking forward to more votes this evening, I apologize. I do not want to disappoint. That meeting is canceled, but I have good news. State Government, tomorrow at the first break, in Irvis 523. We will be voting on SB 829; first break tomorrow in Irvis 523.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The State Government Committee will meet tomorrow at the first break in Irvis 523.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes Representative Samuelson for a committee announcement.

Mr. SAMUELSON. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I would like to announce, pursuant to rule 45, that the public hearing of the Finance Committee, which convened on Tuesday, June 27, and was recessed, will reconvene at 9:30 on Thursday, June 29, and we will be meeting in room G-50, Irvis, to continue our discussion; G-50 Irvis, 9:30 tomorrow, Thursday, June 29.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Finance Committee will meet at 9:30 on Thursday, June 29, in room G-50, Irvis.

### **BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER**

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

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The SPEAKER. The Chair is in receipt of a motion by the gentleman from Westmoreland County, Representative Davanzo, that the House now adjourn until Thursday, June 29, 2023, at 11 a.m., e.d.t., unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

On the question,  
Will the House agree to the motion?  
Motion was agreed to, and at 5:39 p.m., e.d.t., the House adjourned.