

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**Legislative Journal**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009

SESSION OF 2009 193RD OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 24

**SENATE**

WEDNESDAY, April 1, 2009

The Senate met at 11 a.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Joseph B. Scarnati III) in the Chair.

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Reverend RON SCHMIDT, Pastor of Davisville Church, Southampton, offered the following prayer:

If you would join me in prayer, please.

Almighty God, on this first day of April, we thank You once again for another day of life, because if You had just given us one day, You would have been most generous. And so once again, we thank You for Your blessings, so often undeserved, upon our country and our State in which we live. Your good hand has been upon each one of us, and we are indeed grateful.

Father, I personally thank You for these Senators. They are Your servants, these men and women who serve this great State of Pennsylvania, and we recognize on this day that all authority is derived from You. So with that in mind, would You give each one, today, a sense that what they are doing is significant. May we approach Your work with freshness and vitality. And as we do, would You help us to be humble leaders before You and those we serve, knowing that You resist the proud, but You give grace to the humble.

Almighty God, thank You for each family represented here this morning. May we treasure our family members as gifts that You have given to us. You have established the family to be a blessing to us. You have established the family to be the foundational fabric of our society. And so with that in mind, strengthen each marriage in this room. Strengthen relationships with spouses and children so that these leaders can give themselves fully to the task before them with sound minds and free hearts.

Father, You are a refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble. Forgive us for the ways that we have forgotten You. We acknowledge that life can be difficult at times, and therefore, we require wisdom that only You can give. Would You give us that God-given ability to live life with skill. Would You give us discernment to make choices, wise choices that please You first. Give us the ability to deal with difficult people and issues that You have allowed to be placed in our paths, so we can grow through them. Give us the balance to listen to those we represent but also to listen to Your voice with keenness and to do the right thing when called upon to do so.

Father, would You help those in our State who are unemployed. May this Chamber be a catalyst to help create jobs in the days ahead. These are tremendous days of uncertainty. I pray for our Governor. I pray for mayors across our State, as they deal with budgets greatly reduced. May these difficult days be filled with opportunities to trust You and to reach out to our neighbors in need, in Your name.

And so, Father, this morning, I invoke Your presence here today. We acknowledge our dependence upon You, and we ask Your continued blessing upon us, upon this Senate Chamber as a whole, and upon each Senator. Protect us from those who would do us harm. I ask this all in the name of Jesus, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Reverend Schmidt, who is the guest today of Senator Greenleaf.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

(The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled.)

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR**

**NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following communications in writing from His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, which were read as follows and referred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations:

**MEMBER OF THE STATE  
BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, B.J. Clark, 611 East Darby Road, Havertown 19083, Delaware County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve until June 14, 2010, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Coury, Jr., Homer City, resigned.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

## JUDGE, COMMONWEALTH COURT

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Gregory E. Dunlap, Esquire, 613 Sweetbriar Drive, Harrisburg 17111, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge, Commonwealth Court, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice The Honorable Rochelle S. Friedman, mandatory retirement.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS,  
CAMBRIA COUNTY

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Gregory E. Dunlap, Esquire, 613 Sweetbriar Drive, Harrisburg 17111, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Cambria County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice The Honorable Francis J. Leahey, mandatory retirement.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS,  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Gregory E. Dunlap, Esquire, 613 Sweetbriar Drive, Harrisburg 17111, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Montgomery County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice The Honorable William T. Nicholas, mandatory retirement.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Stephanie Moore, R.R. 2, Box 397, Millerstown 17062, Juniata County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Allegheny, Magisterial District 05-2-02, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice Elaine M. McGraw, mandatory retirement.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, B.J. Clark, 611 East Darby Road, Havertown 19083, Delaware County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Chester, Magisterial District 15-1-03, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice Robert L. Davis, mandatory retirement.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Stephanie Moore, R.R. 2, Box 397, Millerstown 17062, Juniata County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Chester, Magisterial District 15-4-02, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice James J. Charley, Jr., mandatory retirement.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, B.J. Clark, 611 East Darby Road, Havertown 19083, Delaware County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Dauphin, Magisterial District 12-1-01, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice Ray F. Shugars, mandatory retirement.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Sam Cohn, 491 Hillside Drive, Mountville 17554, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Mercer, Magisterial District 35-3-03, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice William L. Fagley, resigned.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

March 31, 2009

To the Honorable, the Senate  
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Nina Tinari, 6401 Church Road, Philadelphia 19151, Philadelphia County, Seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Washington, Magisterial District 27-3-10, to serve until the first Monday of January 2010, vice Jay H. Dutton, mandatory retirement.

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
Governor

**BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED**

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following Senate Bills numbered, entitled, and referred as follows, which were read by the Clerk:

April 1, 2009

Senators STOUT, RAFFERTY, FONTANA, WAUGH, BOSCOLA, O'PAKE, ERICKSON, ALLOWAY, TARTAGLIONE, KASUNIC, WASHINGTON, SMUCKER, WOZNIAK, LOGAN, STACK, MUSTO, WARD, COSTA, WONDERLING and FARNESE presented to the Chair **SB 688**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for revocation of habitual offender's license, for driving while operating privilege is suspended or revoked, for permitting violation of title, for homicide by vehicle and for habitual offenders.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, April 1, 2009.

Senators VANCE, ERICKSON, MELLOW, WASHINGTON, BAKER, O'PAKE, ORIE, ALLOWAY, STACK, BROWNE, TARTAGLIONE, RAFFERTY, MUSTO, ROBBINS, TOMLINSON, COSTA, WAUGH, PICCOLA, KASUNIC, KITCHEN, PIPPY, WONDERLING, FERLO, BOSCOLA, EICHELBERGER, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, LOGAN, YAW, FARNESE and LEACH presented to the Chair **SB 699**, entitled:

An Act providing for protection of abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned adults; establishing a uniform Statewide reporting and investigative system for suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment of adults; providing for protective services; and prescribing penalties.

Which was committed to the Committee on AGING AND YOUTH, April 1, 2009.

Senators GORDNER, COSTA, ALLOWAY, FONTANA, RAFFERTY, STACK, TARTAGLIONE, KITCHEN, STOUT, O'PAKE, BAKER and LOGAN presented to the Chair **SB 710**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 21, 1984 (P.L.1253, No.238), known as the Speech-Language and Hearing Licensure Act, further providing for definitions, for the board, for licensure, for

applications, for examinations and for fees; providing for the use of a title; and further providing for waivers, for enforcement and for injunction.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, April 1, 2009.

Senators M. WHITE, WAUGH, BRUBAKER, D. WHITE and EARLL presented to the Chair **SB 712**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The First Class Township Code, in sewers and drains, further providing for sewer and drainage systems connections.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, April 1, 2009.

Senators M. WHITE, WAUGH, D. WHITE and EARLL presented to the Chair **SB 713**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, in sanitary sewers, further providing for sanitary sewer connections.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, April 1, 2009.

Senators M. WHITE, WAUGH, D. WHITE and EARLL presented to the Chair **SB 714**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of February 1, 1966 (1965 P.L.1656, No.581), known as The Borough Code, in sanitary sewers, further providing for ordinances to require sewer connections.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, April 1, 2009.

Senators M. WHITE, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, SCARNATI, KITCHEN, ORIE, TOMLINSON, ROBBINS, RAFFERTY, WOZNIAK, YAW, WAUGH and FERLO presented to the Chair **SB 715**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for special plates for recipients of the Medal of Honor and the Purple Heart.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, April 1, 2009.

Senators M. WHITE, KITCHEN, ROBBINS, STOUT, WAUGH and O'PAKE presented to the Chair **SB 716**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing, in hunting and furtaking licenses, for license costs and fees.

Which was committed to the Committee on GAME AND FISHERIES, April 1, 2009.

Senators M. WHITE, PILEGGI, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, KITCHEN, ERICKSON, ALLOWAY, WILLIAMS, TOMLINSON, ROBBINS, RAFFERTY, COSTA, WOZNIAK, BROWNE, STOUT, YAW, KASUNIC, WAUGH, BRUBAKER, O'PAKE, BOSCOLA and FERLO presented to the Chair **SB 719**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, in health and accident insurance, further providing for coverage for mammographic examinations and ultrasound screenings of the breast.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, April 1, 2009.

Senators GORDNER, ALLOWAY, BOSCOLA, COSTA, EARLL, KITCHEN, LOGAN, MUSTO, O'PAKE, RAFFERTY, ROBBINS, SMUCKER, TARTAGLIONE, WASHINGTON, WAUGH, WILLIAMS and WOZNIAK presented to the Chair **SB 720**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 20, 2001 (P.L.969, No.116), known as the Dormitory Sprinkler System Act, further providing for the sprinkler system program.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, April 1, 2009.

Senators RAFFERTY and BOSCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 721**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of January 8, 1960 (1959 P.L.2119, No.787), known as the Air Pollution Control Act, further providing for environmental quality board; and providing for control of emissions from halogenated solvent cleaning facilities and for control of trichloroethylene.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, April 1, 2009.

Senators RAFFERTY, TARTAGLIONE, BROWNE, ERICKSON, MUSTO, SCARNATI, O'PAKE, WAUGH, WONDERLING, LOGAN, PIPPY, EICHELBERGER and BOSCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 723**, entitled:

An Act providing for a memorandum of understanding between the Commonwealth and the United States Department of Justice or Department of Homeland Security.

Which was committed to the Committee on LAW AND JUSTICE, April 1, 2009.

Senators RAFFERTY, WASHINGTON, TARTAGLIONE, BRUBAKER, BAKER, ERICKSON, ORIE, MUSTO, WILLIAMS, FONTANA, WONDERLING, LOGAN and BOSCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 724**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, barring the presence of sexual offenders in protected areas.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, April 1, 2009.

Senators RAFFERTY, TOMLINSON, WASHINGTON, ERICKSON, GREENLEAF, YAW, MUSTO, WAUGH, PICCOLA and M. WHITE presented to the Chair **SB 725**, entitled:

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

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, April 1, 2009.

Senators RAFFERTY, ORIE, GREENLEAF, WAUGH, WONDERLING, FARNESE and EICHELBERGER presented to the Chair **SB 727**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 4 (Amusements) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for license or permit application hearing process and public input hearings.

Which was committed to the Committee on COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, April 1, 2009.

Senators RAFFERTY, TARTAGLIONE, ERICKSON, ORIE, MUSTO, BROWNE, WAUGH, PICCOLA, PIPPY, EICHELBERGER, WONDERLING, D. WHITE and BOSCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 729**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in limitation of time, providing for limitation for life of victim; and further providing for no limitation applicable and for other offenses.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, April 1, 2009.

### RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following Senate Resolution numbered, entitled, and referred as follows, which was read by the Clerk:

April 1, 2009

Senators FOLMER, M. WHITE, BAKER, ALLOWAY, VANCE, PICCOLA, SMUCKER, EICHELBERGER, BRUBAKER, BROWNE, CORMAN, WAUGH, YAW and D. WHITE presented to the Chair **SR 61**, entitled:

A Resolution expressing opposition to Federal labor legislation eliminating secret ballots or requiring compulsory arbitration.

Which was committed to the Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, April 1, 2009.

### BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator BROWNE, from the Committee on Finance, reported the following bills:

#### **SB 211 (Pr. No. 790) (Amended)**

An Act amending the act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156), known as the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, further providing for definitions, for prize limits, for insured games, for limited sales, for recordkeeping, for eligible organizations' use of locations for conducting small games of chance, for separate individual prize limitations and for advertising.

#### **SB 212 (Pr. No. 791) (Amended)**

An Act amending the act of July 10, 1981 (P.L.214, No.67), known as the Bingo Law, further providing for rules for licensing and operation.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Pileggi.

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Baker and Senator Mary Jo White, and legislative leaves for Senator Earll and Senator Tomlinson.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Berks, Senator O'Pake.

Senator O'PAKE. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Kitchen.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pileggi requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Baker and Senator Mary Jo White, and legislative leaves for Senator Earll and Tomlinson.

Senator O'Pake requests a legislative leave for Senator Kitchen.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
JOURNALS APPROVED**

The PRESIDENT. The Journals of the Sessions of March 24, 2009, and March 25, 2009, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the Sessions of March 24, 2009, and March 25, 2009.

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I move that further reading of the Journals be dispensed with and that the Journals be approved.

On the question,  
Will the Senate agree to the motion?

The yeas and nays were required by Senator PILEGGI and were as follows, viz:

**YEA-50**

Alloway	Ferlo	O'Pake	Vance
Argall	Folmer	Orie	Vogel
Baker	Fontana	Piccola	Ward
Boscola	Gordner	Pileggi	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Pippy	Waugh
Brubaker	Hughes	Rafferty	White, Donald
Corman	Kasunic	Robbins	White, Mary Jo
Costa	Kitchen	Scarnati	Williams
Dinniman	Leach	Smucker	Wonderling
Earll	Logan	Stack	Wozniak
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Stout	Yaw
Erickson	Mellow	Tartaglione	
Farnese	Musto	Tomlinson	

**NAY-0**

A majority of the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

The PRESIDENT. The Journals are approved.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
GUESTS OF SENATOR RICHARD L. ALLOWAY  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Alloway.

Senator ALLOWAY. Mr. President, I rise today to offer a condolence citation to honor the memory of a York County native, Officer David Tome. The 31-year-old from Spring Grove High School attended Harrisburg Area Community College's Police Academy in 2002 and was hired by the Northern York County Regional Police Department in 2003. On October 21, 2008, Officer Tome was investigating a fatal accident on Route 15 near Clear Springs Road, Franklin Township, York County, when he was struck by another vehicle and died instantly. Officer Tome was killed in the line of duty. It is men and women like Officer Tome, putting their lives on the line every day, who make our communities safer places.

In the gallery today is the late Officer Tome's wife, Dody; son, Elijah; daughter, Joslyn; mother, Karen Reeve; father, Donald Tome; and stepfather, David Reeve, Sr. Others with the family include the following members of the Northern York County Regional Police Department: Chief Segatti, Officer Bentzel, and Officer Bollinger, and also a good friend, Theresa Grove. I would like to welcome them.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Alloway please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

The PRESIDENT. Senator Mary Jo White has returned, and her temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
GUESTS OF SENATOR ANDREW E. DINNIMAN  
AND SENATOR EDWIN B. ERICKSON  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chester, Senator Dinniman.

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, it is a pleasure to introduce a guest of both myself and Senator Erickson. They are the Megaw family from my district, who actually won an auction and got a book of Violet Oakley's paintings, and they wanted to come and see the Capitol to see the paintings directly. They live in Senator Erickson's district and are also good friends of mine, and if the Senate could welcome the Megaw family, I would appreciate it. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Dinniman and Senator Erickson please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

**CALENDAR**

**THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

**BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION  
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**SB 9 (Pr. No. 356)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act requiring identification of lawful presence in the United States as a prerequisite to the receipt of public benefits.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-41

Alloway	Erickson	Piccola	Vogel
Argall	Folmer	Pileggi	Ward
Baker	Gordner	Pippy	Waugh
Boscola	Greenleaf	Rafferty	White, Donald
Browne	Kasunic	Robbins	White, Mary Jo
Brubaker	Logan	Scarnati	Wonderling
Corman	McIlhinney	Smucker	Wozniak
Costa	Mellow	Stack	Yaw
Dinniman	Musto	Stout	
Earll	O'Pake	Tomlinson	
Eichelberger	Orie	Vance	

NAY-9

Farnese	Hughes	Leach	Washington
Ferlo	Kitchen	Tartaglione	Williams
Fontana			

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

**SB 136 (Pr. No. 782)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the Regulatory Review Act, providing for acceptable data.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-50

Alloway	Ferlo	O'Pake	Vance
Argall	Folmer	Orie	Vogel
Baker	Fontana	Piccola	Ward
Boscola	Gordner	Pileggi	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Pippy	Waugh
Brubaker	Hughes	Rafferty	White, Donald
Corman	Kasunic	Robbins	White, Mary Jo
Costa	Kitchen	Scarnati	Williams
Dinniman	Leach	Smucker	Wonderling
Earll	Logan	Stack	Wozniak
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Stout	Yaw
Erickson	Mellow	Tartaglione	
Farnese	Musto	Tomlinson	

NAY-0

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

**SB 155 (Pr. No. 125)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 22, 2005 (P.L.474, No.94), known as the Breach of Personal Information Notification Act, further providing for notification of breach.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-50

Alloway	Ferlo	O'Pake	Vance
Argall	Folmer	Orie	Vogel
Baker	Fontana	Piccola	Ward
Boscola	Gordner	Pileggi	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Pippy	Waugh
Brubaker	Hughes	Rafferty	White, Donald
Corman	Kasunic	Robbins	White, Mary Jo
Costa	Kitchen	Scarnati	Williams
Dinniman	Leach	Smucker	Wonderling
Earll	Logan	Stack	Wozniak
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Stout	Yaw
Erickson	Mellow	Tartaglione	
Farnese	Musto	Tomlinson	

NAY-0

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 237** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

**SB 387 (Pr. No. 385)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Venango, Senator Mary Jo White.

Senator M.J. WHITE. Mr. President, most of this body has heard this speech before. Every time we add another category of victim to raise an assault to an aggravated assault, we make kind of a joke out of the entire assault legislation. It started out where assault on a judge, I believe, was the first one, was raised to an aggravated assault--and a police officer might have been the first one--and then it went on from there and exploded. We have since added caseworkers, schoolteachers, mental health workers, I think the category is up to about 30 now, and today, we are adding transportation workers.

You know, I keep saying, when are we going to get to the pizza delivery man and the taxi driver, who have to go into dangerous neighbors for their livelihoods? Pretty soon, everything will be an aggravated assault, and it will not matter. We are not talking about the level of injury; we are talking about the status of the victim, and I think we are heading down a very bad path here.

The fact that we are now at 30-plus exceptions to the assault regulations is telling you that this is automatically upping the penalty, often putting a prison sentence or a criminal record onto a person who commits these crimes. And I am not saying they should not have a criminal record. I am simply saying that to keep increasing this category to expand to an ever-growing number of victims is creating an artificial distinction that pretty soon is going to become untenable.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-42

Alloway	Fontana	Orie	Vogel
Argall	Greenleaf	Pileggi	Ward
Baker	Hughes	Pippy	Washington
Browne	Kasunic	Rafferty	Waugh
Corman	Kitchen	Robbins	White, Donald
Costa	Leach	Scarnati	Williams
Dinniman	Logan	Smucker	Wonderling
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Stack	Wozniak
Erickson	Mellow	Stout	Yaw
Farnese	Musto	Tartaglione	
Ferlo	O'Pake	Tomlinson	

NAY-8

Boscola	Earll	Gordner	Vance
Brubaker	Folmer	Piccola	White, Mary Jo

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

**SB 442 (Pr. No. 783)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, in health and accident insurance, providing for group health policies to continue for period of time after termination of employment or membership in health maintenance organizations.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,

Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana, Senator Don White.

Senator D. WHITE. Mr. President, I rise to ask for an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 442. This legislation amends the Insurance Company Law to create a mini-COBRA small employer group health plan in this Commonwealth. Senate Bill No. 442 extends the COBRA guidelines, permitting temporary continuation of insurance coverage provided by small employers to groups who plan to employ 2 to 19 individuals. Currently, COBRA provides former employees, retirees, spouses, former spouses, and dependent children the right to temporary continuation of health coverage at their own personal expense for up to 18 months at group rates when coverage is lost. However, these benefits only apply to employers with 20 or more employees under current Pennsylvania law. It is estimated that the mini-COBRA proposal included in Senate Bill No. 442 could provide an important safety net to thousands of individuals who work for small businesses.

As you know, Mr. President, the Senate passed this bill last September, but it did not clear the House of Representatives before the end of Session. Events recently in Washington stress the need for the General Assembly to act quickly to finally enact this measure as soon as possible. The Federal Stimulus Act approved in February provides a 65-percent Federal subsidy for up to 9 months for COBRA premiums. However, until Senate Bill No. 442 becomes law, thousands of Pennsylvanians are not able to elect COBRA coverage and therefore are ineligible for the benefits afforded under the Federal stimulus. This is especially critical as we have seen Pennsylvania's unemployment skyrocket over the past few months and currently stands at over 7.5 percent.

Before we vote on this bill, I would also like to thank my colleagues across the aisle, in particular, my co-chairman, the minority chairman, Senator Mike Stack, who has been very supportive of this measure and has added distinct advice in this bill.

In closing, Mr. President, I think it is important to realize that Senate Bill No. 442 is not a silver bullet and will not solve all of the problems with Pennsylvania's healthcare system, but it is a step in the right direction. And remember, also, it is a pragmatic step in the right direction to improve the accessibility and affordability of healthcare. And most significantly, it does not cost the Pennsylvania taxpayers one dime. This measure is already in place in many other States, and it is time we make it part of our healthcare network. I ask for an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 442.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Stack.

Senator STACK. Mr. President, I also want to urge passage of this bill, and I want to commend Senator Don White once again for his great work on this important issue. One of the most promising aspects of this national stimulus effort is that it promises immediate aid for those who have lost their jobs for healthcare. Help is coming soon for those who need assistance in getting over the unemployment divide, protecting their families, and preserving hope, while our country and our economy rebounds from this nationwide recession.

I am pleased with this emphasis on helping people maintain health insurance coverage that has been included in the stimulus legislation, and I want to applaud the Obama administration for their efforts to include those who worked for businesses under this protective umbrella. Under this program, stimulus money will be used to help the unemployed manage their healthcare costs, enabling displaced workers the opportunity to purchase health insurance and healthcare benefits at a discounted rate through COBRA.

I have introduced the amendment that has won the support of the Blues, the Insurance Department, the Federation of Independent Businesses, and, of course, the Insurance Federation, and now, of course, Republicans and Democrats here in the State Senate. Apart from the technical changes aimed at making it easier for businesses and insurers to administer a mini-COBRA benefit, my amendment adds language that allows those who receive mini-COBRA health insurance coverage to receive Federal subsidies to purchase COBRA health insurance benefits.

We would not have been able to get this included without the hard work of Senator Don White and his excellent staff. So, hopefully, this window of coverage will provide working people with enough time to get back on their feet, find a new job, and, hopefully, attain affordable health insurance benefits, because after all, that is in everyone's interest. One way or another, if folk's are not insured, all of us are going to have to pay.

So, once again, thank you, Mr. President. I urge passage, and I thank you all for your time.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Hughes.

Senator HUGHES. Mr. President, I do not want to belabor the moment, but I do want to thank our two Senators for getting together and working this issue out and trying to advance the cause of coverage for those who need coverage. We are still working in an environment in this Commonwealth and across this nation, where we have a growing number of individuals who are falling into that, if you will, bottomless pit of not having the coverage necessary and, consequently, their health is suffering, our economics are suffering. I want to thank our leaders for advancing this issue and advancing this agenda in the battle that we are waging in trying to provide full coverage for those who need it the most.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-50

Alloway	Ferlo	O'Pake	Vance
Argall	Folmer	Orie	Vogel
Baker	Fontana	Piccola	Ward
Boscola	Gordner	Pileggi	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Pippy	Waugh
Brubaker	Hughes	Rafferty	White, Donald
Corman	Kasunic	Robbins	White, Mary Jo
Costa	Kitchen	Scarnati	Williams
Dinniman	Leach	Smucker	Wonderling
Earll	Logan	Stack	Wozniak
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Stout	Yaw
Erickson	Mellow	Tartaglione	
Farnese	Musto	Tomlinson	

NAY-0

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

**SB 488 (Pr. No. 784)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in provisions relating to minors, further providing for the offense of purchase, consumption, possession or transportation of liquor or malt or brewed beverages.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Rafferty.

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, I will be very brief in my remarks. I want to thank the chair of the Committee on Judiciary, Senator Greenleaf, and the Majority Leader, Senator Pileggi, for moving this bill forward. I think it is a significant piece of legislation that actually encourages underage individuals to be responsible in those instances where there is an underage drinking party and someone needs emergency assistance. So I encourage an affirmative vote, and I thank the Chair for the opportunity to address the Senate.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-50

Alloway	Ferlo	O'Pake	Vance
Argall	Folmer	Orie	Vogel
Baker	Fontana	Piccola	Ward
Boscola	Gordner	Pileggi	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Pippy	Waugh



Brubaker	Hughes	Rafferty	White, Donald
Corman	Kasunic	Robbins	White, Mary Jo
Costa	Kitchen	Scarnati	Williams
Dinniman	Leach	Smucker	Wonderling
Earll	Logan	Stack	Wozniak
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Stout	Yaw
Erickson	Mellow	Tartaglione	
Farnese	Musto	Tomlinson	

NAY-0

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 573** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

**SB 605 (Pr. No. 655)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The yeas and nays were taken agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution and were as follows, viz:

YEA-49

Alloway	Folmer	Orie	Vogel
Argall	Fontana	Piccola	Ward
Baker	Gordner	Pileggi	Washington
Boscola	Greenleaf	Pippy	Waugh
Browne	Hughes	Rafferty	White, Donald
Brubaker	Kasunic	Robbins	White, Mary Jo
Corman	Kitchen	Scarnati	Williams
Costa	Leach	Smucker	Wonderling
Dinniman	Logan	Stack	Wozniak
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Stout	Yaw
Erickson	Mellow	Tartaglione	
Farnese	Musto	Tomlinson	
Ferlo	O'Pake	Vance	

NAY-1

Earll

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION REREPORTED FROM COMMITTEE AS AMENDED OVER IN ORDER

**SB 142** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 123, SB 149, SB 241, SB 304 and SB 351** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 464 (Pr. No. 781)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for use of volunteer time by health care professionals in meeting continuing education requirements.

Considered the second time and agreed to,  
Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for third consideration.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 515** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL REREFERRED

**SB 628 (Pr. No. 673)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in post-trial matters, prohibiting the imposition of the death sentence in cases of mental retardation.

Upon motion of Senator PILEGGI, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 642** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 53, ADOPTED

Senator PILEGGI, without objection, called up from page 4 of the Calendar, **Senate Resolution No. 53**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of April 2009 as "Pennsylvania One Call System Month."

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. 56, ADOPTED**

Senator PILEGGI, without objection, called up from page 4 of the Calendar, **Senate Resolution No. 56**, entitled:

A Resolution designating April 16, 2009, as "Healthcare Decisions Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Erickson.

Senator ERICKSON. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about an issue that sometimes we like to try to ignore, "Healthcare Decisions Day." It is a component of a national effort designed to raise public awareness of the importance of planning ahead for healthcare decisions when patients are unable to speak for themselves.

We have in the Commonwealth the statutory means for all competent adults to control their healthcare, either directly through a living will, indirectly through a healthcare power of attorney, or through a healthcare agent or representative. However, not everyone has an advance directive. We are simply trying to highlight the desirability of having a Healthcare Decisions Day that will increase awareness and public knowledge of the benefits of advance healthcare directives. We are naming April 16, 2009, as "Healthcare Decisions Day." I urge passage of this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS  
SENATE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED**

Senators ORIE, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, BAKER, BOSCOLA, BROWNE, BRUBAKER, COSTA, DINNIMAN, EARLL, ERICKSON, FERLO, FOLMER, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, HUGHES, KASUNIC, LOGAN, O'PAKE, PILEGGI, PIPPY, RAFFERTY, ROBBINS, STACK, STOUT, TARTAGLIONE, TOMLINSON, WASHINGTON, WAUGH, WONDERLING, WOZNIAC, YAW and D. WHITE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 68**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of April 2009 as "Alcohol Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator Orie.

Senator ORIE. Mr. President, I would like to submit my remarks for the record, and I ask my colleagues for an affirmative vote.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

*(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator ORIE:)*

Mr. President, today, I am offering a resolution designating April 2009 as "Alcohol Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania. Simply put, this resolution is aimed at getting the public to focus attention on the dangers of alcohol use and abuse, particularly among young people. While I wish this resolution were not necessary, reality says that it is. Alcohol is a factor in the four leading causes of death among people between 10 and 24 years of age. These include vehicle crashes, unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide. Approximately 9.7 million current drinkers in the U.S. are between 12 and 20 years of age, and alcohol is the drug most frequently used by high school seniors.

Alcohol use is also related to sexual violence. It is linked to as many as two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes of teens and college students. It is a major factor in unprotected sex among young people, increasing their risk of contracting HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

When you combine drinking and driving, the outcome is deadly. In 2006, 545 people died in alcohol-related crashes in Pennsylvania. On average each day, 37 alcohol-related traffic crashes occurred, and 1.5 persons were killed. The problem is even greater with teen drivers. Teenage drunk driving is responsible for one in four vehicle accidents. These accidents are the number-one killer among 15- to 20-year-olds. One teen is killed in the United States every 60 minutes because of teen drunk driving. In 2005, approximately 3,467 teens were killed and 281,000 more suffered injuries due to driving under the influence.

It is clear that alcohol, when used in excess, is as dangerous as any other deadly weapon. And it is vital that we make our young people aware of that fact so that they can make better decisions about alcohol use. I am pleased by all of the good work that is being done to combat drinking, from Students Against Drunk Driving to Mothers Against Drunk Driving to the State Police and to the Liquor Control Board, which is again hosting a conference to bring together educators, students, counselors, law-enforcement officials, and other concerned community leaders to share strategies to combat underage and high-risk drinking. "Project Blueprint: A 'How To' Conference on Building Effective Strategies to Reduce Dangerous and Underage Drinking" will be held April 2 and 3 in New Cumberland. This is the Liquor Control Board's seventh annual conference to share experiences and best practices in alcohol education.

Through our efforts, we can call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, hospitals, and schools to discourage underage consumption of alcoholic beverages and support alcohol recovery programs throughout this Commonwealth. Mr. President, I ask for an affirmative vote for "Alcohol Awareness Month."

And the question recurring,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators ORIE, VANCE, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, BAKER, BOSCOLA, BROWNE, BRUBAKER, COSTA, DINNIMAN, EARLL, ERICKSON, FARNESE, FERLO, FOLMER, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, HUGHES, KASUNIC, KITCHEN, LEACH, LOGAN, MELLOW, MUSTO, O'PAKE, PILEGGI, PIPPY, RAFFERTY, ROBBINS, STACK, STOUT, TARTAGLIONE, TOMLINSON, VOGEL, WASHINGTON, WAUGH, WONDERLING, WOZNIAC and YAW, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 69**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of April 2009 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator Orié.

Senator ORIE. Mr. President, I would like to submit my remarks for the record, and I ask for an affirmative vote.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

*(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator ORIE:)*

Mr. President, today, I am pleased to offer a resolution designating April 2009 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania and to raise public awareness about abuse and neglect. Both the Family Support Alliance and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape have been committed to providing child abuse prevention and treatment services to families, social service organizations, and schools throughout Pennsylvania. Their missions are to help prevent abuse, through counseling, training, and reporting.

Child abuse crosses all racial, economic, and geographical boundaries and has reached epidemic proportions across this nation and throughout this Commonwealth. Each year, more than 1 million children in the United States are documented as the victims of child abuse, and at least 1,500 children die as a result. Children under the age of 4 account for 81% of the fatalities. In 2007, 46 Pennsylvania children died as a result of abuse and neglect, and over 4,162 cases of child abuse were reported. The damaging effects of child abuse include school failure, alcohol and drug abuse, and physical and psychological difficulties.

Child abuse can and must be prevented, and we must raise awareness and public attention so that families learn they have access to community resources which offer support, information, and guidance to help stop or prevent abusive behaviors or conditions. While we have accomplished a great deal - enacting the newborn Safe Haven law, passing a child abuse reform package, and allowing children to testify via videotape - we cannot stop there. That is why I am sponsoring legislation placing the Federal Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 into State law. The Commonwealth must partner with these organizations so they can help more children and families in need. They are a valuable safety net and lifeline to children who have nowhere to turn, and they provide a core service that we cannot do without.

Mr. President, I ask for an affirmative vote for "Child Abuse Prevention Month."

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators ORIE, MELLOW, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, BAKER, BOSCOLA, BROWNE, COSTA, DINNIMAN, EARLL, ERICKSON, FERLO, FOLMER, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, HUGHES, KASUNIC, LOGAN, MUSTO, O'PAKE, PILEGGI, PIPPY, RAFFERTY, STACK, STOUT, TARTAGLIONE, TOMLINSON, WASHINGTON, WAUGH, WONDERLING, WOZNAK, YAW and D. WHITE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 70**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the first day of April 2009 as "Lupus Alert Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator Orié.

Senator ORIE. Mr. President, I would like to submit my remarks for the record, and I ask for an affirmative vote.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

*(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator ORIE:)*

Mr. President, today, I am offering a resolution designating April 1, 2009, as "Lupus Alert Day" in Pennsylvania. This resolution is designed to alert citizens of a disease which goes hidden from many individuals and their families. Lupus is a chronic inflammatory disease which causes the immune system to attack the body's own tissue and organs. Symptoms of lupus often mimic less serious illnesses, fooling carriers and their families, and therefore, those who have the disease go untreated.

April 1, better known as April Fools' Day, is a day to bring awareness to this disease, because lupus affects so many, but individuals are fooled by its severity. While many of us have heard of this autoimmune disease, few of us know that lupus strikes more people than leukemia, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, and cystic fibrosis combined. Lupus affects 1 out of 185 Americans, most of whom are women between the ages of 15 and 45. However, the disease reaches men and children as well. Our goal is to educate people about its symptoms and dangers so that they can seek treatment if necessary.

Mr. President, I thank all of those who give their time to address this disease, and I ask for an affirmative vote for "Lupus Alert Day."

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators O'PAKE, FOLMER, STACK, BAKER, WILLIAMS, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, STOUT, LEACH, KASUNIC, RAFFERTY, DINNIMAN, MUSTO, PILEGGI, ERICKSON, LOGAN, BROWNE, COSTA, WOZNAK, BOSCOLA, WONDERLING, EARLL, PIPPY, TARTAGLIONE, FERLO and WASHINGTON, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 71**, entitled:

A Resolution designating May 2, 2009, as "Childhood Stroke Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania; and urging citizens to support the research and educational endeavors of Pediatric Stroke Network, Inc.

Which was read, considered, and adopted by voice vote.

Senators TARTAGLIONE, BRUBAKER, STACK, BAKER, RAFFERTY, O'PAKE, FARNESE, FERLO, WILLIAMS, KASUNIC, COSTA, ERICKSON, PILEGGI, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, ROBBINS, HUGHES, EARLL, BOSCOLA, GREENLEAF, LOGAN, ALLOWAY, D. WHITE and MUSTO, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 72**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing April 8, 2009, as "National Start! Walking Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Berks, Senator O'Pake.

Senator O'PAKE. Mr. President, I offer the following prepared remarks on behalf of Senator Tartaglione.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

*(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentleman from Berks, Senator O'PAKE, on behalf of the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator TARTAGLIONE.)*

Mr. President, in an effort to continue our support of the important work of the American Heart Association, Senator Brubaker and I are today requesting consideration of a resolution recognizing "National Start! Walking Day."

Mr. President, each year, 1.26 million Americans suffer a new or recurrent coronary attack. Cardiovascular disease is the nation's leading cause of death, with direct and indirect costs estimated to be \$475.3 billion in 2009. More physical activity can help improve these statistics. In addition to increased life expectancy, regular walking has many proven benefits for an individual's overall health. Walking can lower both bad cholesterol and high blood pressure and can reduce the risk of stroke. Mr. President, the purpose behind "National Start! Walking Day" is to get Americans to become more physically active by walking. By increasing awareness of the importance of physical activity to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, we can save thousands of lives each year.

I ask my colleagues to join Senator Brubaker and me in proclaiming April 8, 2009, as "National Start! Walking Day" in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Brubaker.

Senator BRUBAKER. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate Senator Tartaglione and thank Senator O'Pake for his attention to this resolution naming April 8 as "National Start! Walking Day" in Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, regular physical activity not only reduces cardiovascular disease and increases life expectancy, but also saves money. If 10 percent of Americans began a regular walking program, \$5.6 billion in heart disease costs could be saved. By promoting a culture of physical activity, businesses can decrease healthcare costs, increase productivity, and improve the quality of life and longevity of the United States workforce.

Mr. President, along with my colleagues, Senator Tartaglione and Senator O'Pake, I ask for an affirmative vote and proclaim October 8, 2009, as "National Start! Walking Day" here in Pennsylvania.

And the question recurring,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators SMUCKER, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 73**, entitled:

A Resolution designating April 4, 2009, as "Thaddeus Stevens Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Smucker.

Senator SMUCKER. Mr. President, this resolution honors Thaddeus Stevens, a prominent figure in the 19th century whose legacy is still to be seen in Lancaster, across the Commonwealth, and across our nation. As a State legislator, he was instrumental in establishing the free public school system, providing funding for colleges, and putting a constitutional limit on State debt. As a Congressman, he was strenuously anti-slavery and was a leader in securing adoption of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution.

As an indication of the depth of his principles, he insisted on not being buried in a cemetery because most, at that time, were limited by race. Upon his death, Stevens left a generous bequest to establish a school for the relief and refuge of homeless, indigent orphans. Today, we know that institution as the Thaddeus Stevens School of Technology, which provides an outstanding industrial skills education to citizens from across Pennsylvania. We support their important mission through the State budget each year. This resolution designates April 4, the 217th anniversary of his birth, as "Thaddeus Stevens Day," and I ask for its immediate adoption.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators FONTANA, BOSCOLA, DINNIMAN, FERLO, KASUNIC, STOUT, ROBBINS, ARGALL, BRUBAKER, COSTA, EARLL, FARNESE, HUGHES, LOGAN, MELLOW, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY, TARTAGLIONE, WASHINGTON, M. WHITE, WONDERLING, ERICKSON, MUSTO, TOMLINSON, WILLIAMS, ORIE, GORDNER, BAKER, GREENLEAF, WAUGH, ALLOWAY and WARD, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 74**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the week of April 12 through 18, 2009, as "National Library Week 2009" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Fontana.

Senator FONTANA. Mr. President, this resolution recognizes the week of April 12 through April 18 as "National Library Week 2009." Mr. President, this year's theme of National Library Week is "Worlds Connect @ your library."

Our nation's school, academic, public, corporate, and special libraries make a difference in the lives of millions of Americans, today, more than ever. Librarians are trained professionals, helping people of all ages and backgrounds find and interpret the information they need to live, learn, and work in the challenging economy of today's world. Libraries are places for opportunity, education, self-help, and lifelong learning. They play a vital role

in supporting the quality of life in their communities. I encourage all residents in this Commonwealth to visit their libraries during National Library Week.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators STACK, RAFFERTY, STOUT, SCARNATI, FERLO, BAKER, WILLIAMS, FOLMER, TARTAGLIONE, ORIE, PILEGGI, MELLOW, BOSCOLA, EARLL, MUSTO, ERICKSON, McILHINNEY, WOZNAK, O'PAKE, GREENLEAF, FARNESE, ALLOWAY, BRUBAKER, ROBBINS, LOGAN, PIPPY, DINNIMAN and WARD, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 75**, entitled:

A Resolution designating April 19 through 26, 2009, as "Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Stack.

Senator STACK. Mr. President, I rise today with my friends and colleagues, Senator Dinniman and Senator Leach, to seek unanimous consent for immediate consideration of a resolution honoring April 19 through 26, 2009, as "Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust" here in Pennsylvania.

From 1933 to 1945, 6 million Jews across Europe were systematically slaughtered under Hitler's Nazi regime. The majority of these people suffered greatly before their death. Additionally, millions of other people - gypsies, disabled people, prisoners of war, Christians, and other people who resisted Hitler's agenda - were also tortured and killed. The history of the genocide of millions of people who were targeted by the Nazis is nothing short of horrifying, yet it is a part of history that must never be forgotten, because it must never be repeated.

By honoring the "Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust," we in Pennsylvania can insure that the men, women, and children who suffered and died will never be forgotten. We can also pledge to condemn all forms of anti-Semitism, ethnic intimidation, and hatred.

Mr. President, I have also worked closely with Senator Dinniman on this resolution and other issues that relate to this, and I ask the Chair to recognize Senator Dinniman.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chester, Senator Dinniman.

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, I rise in support of Senator Stack's resolution. I know Senator Leach also wishes to rise after me in support of the resolution. I first want to, as a member of the Jewish community of this Commonwealth, thank Senator Stack for introducing this resolution and for his service and support for Jewish causes throughout the Commonwealth. Senator Stack, last weekend, received the Man of the Year award from Rabbi Isaacson's synagogue, Congregation Beth Solomon Syna-

gogue, which is in his district, and we congratulate Senator Stack on that.

The Holocaust is so important to remember, but we remember it in a way so that not only do we show our respect for people of the past, but that we make sure that it does not happen again. There are many holocausts that surround us in the world today: people dying from hunger, people dying in civil wars throughout the world. It is incumbent upon each and every one of us not only to show our respects to all who have suffered in the past, whether it be in the German Holocaust or whether it be in holocausts that have happened throughout our history as human beings, but that we commit ourselves today to making sure never again, never again for any ethnic group, never again for any religious group.

All that it takes for hatred to surface, and for the horror that comes from hatred, is for good people to be silent and not remember the past and not work with every ounce and fiber of their bodies to make sure that the past does not repeat itself for any ethnic group, any religious group, or for any human being within our society.

So I rise in support of this resolution, and I also ask the Chair to recognize Senator Leach.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Leach.

Senator LEACH. Mr. President, I rise in support of this resolution in a couple of different contexts. First, as a Jewish American, I am honored and pleased to be part of this resolution, and I thank the co-authors of this resolution for introducing it and for their remarks. I also want to make a couple of discreet, very brief remarks on a different aspect of the resolution, specifically the Armenian Genocide. My wife is Armenian, her family is Armenian, and that is how I became as familiar as I am with the situation there.

The Armenian Genocide, also known as the Armenian Holocaust, refers to the deliberate and systematic destruction of the Armenian population by the Ottoman Empire during and just after World War I. Over 1.5 million Armenians - men, women, and children - were killed from 1915 to 1923, and it is important that we remember their story. When Hitler was talking about the ongoing Holocaust in the 1940s, he said, "nobody remembers the Armenians." And he had a point in the sense that this is not something we have been focused on, but it is something that we should be focused on.

I am proud to say that in the House, when I introduced the Armenian Genocide resolution, it passed unanimously every time, and I hope and anticipate that it will pass unanimously in the Senate. But this is not a noncontroversial issue. It is controversial to the point where the United States Congress would not even bring the Armenian Genocide recognition resolution up for a vote, the argument being, well, we have a good relationship with Turkey. In fact, some members of my own community, some organizations, for example, the National Anti-Defamation League, have taken what I view to be unfortunate positions with regard to the Armenian Genocide because Turkey has a reasonable relationship with Israel.

As a Jewish American, I can say we would never accept the idea that, well, we have a good relationship with Germany now, so we cannot recognize or acknowledge the Holocaust. And I think the same standard has to apply with the Armenian Geno-

cide. The only reasonable question to ask in terms of recognizing a genocide is whether or not a genocide occurred, not what the political ramifications are of telling the truth. The truth should always be told, and I am grateful to my colleagues here in the Senate today for being one more voice for the truth on this issue.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Farnese.

Senator FARNESE. Mr. President, not to belabor the point, but I just want to rise not only in support of this resolution and the fine work of my colleagues on this, but again, to recognize the individuals whom this resolution forces us to recognize today and the horror that it brings to the attention of this body.

And of course, in the next couple of weeks, I look forward to celebrating Passover with many of my Jewish friends and those Jewish residents in my community in the First District.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

Senators STACK, ORIE, WILLIAMS, BAKER, BOSCOLA, RAFFERTY, FERLO, BROWNE, SMUCKER, GREENLEAF, TARTAGLIONE, KASUNIC, STOUT, FONTANA, HUGHES, ROBBINS, MUSTO, PICCOLA, WONDERLING, KITCHEN, MELLOW, ERICKSON, TOMLINSON, WARD, LEACH, ALLOWAY, FARNESE, EARLL, COSTA, BRUBAKER, O'PAKE, LOGAN, GORDNER and YAW, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 76**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of April 2009 as "Autism Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Stack.

Senator STACK. Mr. President, this resolution names April as "Autism Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania. As you know, this Chamber has a number of very strong advocates on the issue of autism, including yourself, Senator Pileggi, Senator Rafferty, Senator Orie, and in fact, everyone in this Chamber.

Autism spectrum disorders are developmental disabilities that often interfere with a person's ability to communicate and relate with others. Symptoms range from mild to severe, and people with the disorders often learn to interact and react to sensations in different ways.

There are many theories on what causes autism, but even today, it remains a mystery. The symptoms usually appear during the first 2 or 3 years of life, and interestingly enough, autism is four times more prevalent in boys than in girls. The earlier the intervention, the quicker doctors and parents can work together to improve the child's development. In addition, the more access families have to autism-specific programs and care, the better the quality of life for the individual living with autism.

Pennsylvania is doing its part. The Department of Public Welfare has created a Bureau of Autism Services to provide expertise

and support for all State agencies that serve Pennsylvanians with autism. As we mark Autism Awareness Month in Pennsylvania, we need to continue to support individuals living with autism and their families through early intervention and programs that fit their unique needs.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator Orie.

Senator ORIE. Mr. President, I rise today to ask for my colleagues' support for this resolution, which recognizes April 2009 as "Autism Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Thanks to the work of healthcare organizations, family advocates all across Pennsylvania, community groups, and legislators, more people are aware of the effects of autism and how prevalent the disease is. Although much of autism is a mystery, the number of people across the United States diagnosed with autism over the past 15 years has risen by a staggering 2,000 percent.

About 1 in 150 American children suffer from some form of autism. Latest studies show that as many as 1 in 150 kids age 10 and younger may be affected by autism or a related disorder, a total of nearly 300,000 children in the U.S. alone. The problem is five times as common as Down syndrome and three times as common as juvenile diabetes.

Last July, this body, with the strong support of Senator Don White and Senator Mike Stack, as well as the leadership on both sides of the aisle and leadership from former Speaker Denny O'Brien, enacted one of the best, and now the nationwide model, when Act 62 was adopted to provide autism insurance coverage. It is my understanding that as of today, 20 States have adopted Pennsylvania's lead and used Pennsylvania as the national model.

Although a cure for autism has not been found, those who suffer from its effects can reach their greatest potential through early diagnosis, appropriate education, and intervention. That is why it is so important to continue our commitment to provide programs and support services for autistic children and adults.

So today and throughout the month of April, I urge all Pennsylvanians to take time to raise awareness and change attitudes about autism and those who suffer from this disease.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

### CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following resolutions, which were read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Ilda Ramirez and to Devin Kime by Senator Alloway.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Bryan Schaeffer, Shaun Schaeffer, Kayla Oxenrider, Shana Sborz, Amy Zehner, Randolph L. Gormley, Dorothy L. Murtha, Peter J. Bamford, Wilhelmina Payne, Eric Benkert, Zach Barket, Oscar M. Haag, Anthony J. Avezano, Blue Mountain Eagle Foundation of Pottsville and to the citizens of the Borough of Walnutport by Senator Argall.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rowan, Brandon Ford, Kieran Ficken, Ashley Stryker, Matthew Neumann, Jennifer Moretz, Andrew Wildenberg and to Brigid Louise Smith by Senator Baker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend T. Scott Allen, Vivian Walsh, Trudy Leavitt, Mary T. Serulli, Daniel James Carney, Kristopher P. DeWitt, Christopher Delmundo Foss, Joseph DeMarco, Michael W. Popp, Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley, J.G. Petrucci Company, Inc., of Bethlehem, Lehigh Valley Industrial Park, Inc., and to the citizens of the Borough of Fountain Hill by Senator Boscola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Fred Austin, David Boltz, Thomas Bavaria, Joseph Palhofski, Marian Cunningham, Olive Hawk, Jean Keller, Audrey Newton, Dorothy Reimer, Connie Savoia, Winifred Worley and to the Landis Community Outreach Center of Lafayette College by Senators Boscola, Browne, and Wonderling.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable Maureen E. Lally-Green, the Honorable Richard B. Klein, the Honorable Correale F. Stevens, Dr. Larry Lipkis, Lauren Briskie, Janel Linette Paukovits, Kayla E. Toncik, Mollie Maher, Gabrielle Gosciniak, Kathleen Jordan, Melinda Noelle Lehman, Spencer John Alvin Jones, Kristofer R. Rivers, Colin Thomas Ackerman, W. Ryan Schuster, Ricky J. Kocher, Jr., Matthew Mezger, Caroline Mary Vail, Kristin Cichowski, Kaushik Annam, Shikha Saxena, Adam Luke Bastidas, Brittany Castle, Michael J. Roche, Christopher Harold Whittaker, Michael Thomas Showak, Alex S. Bourreza, Kara Eichelberger, Margaret Diacont, Sarah Elizabeth MacDougall, Ghamar Bitar, Tyler Blaine Minnich, Mahmoud Djindjiev, Minuteman Press and to the Valley Contra Dance Society by Senator Boscola and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Henry Acres, Doris Klase, Cynthia Caddoo, Cecelia Nancy Steiner, Marcus Rabenold, Bernice Rabenold, Richard Musser, Joseph James Bennett II, Mildred Gillingham, Mary Walbert, William Gillingham, Alex Albert Stiles, Patty Carlis and to Curtis M. Rabe by Senator Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Very Reverend Daniel G. Gambet by Senators Browne and Wonderling.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable James B. Martin and to the Miracle League of the Lehigh Valley by Senator Browne and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rehlich, Mr. and Mrs. Rodger Dourte, Mr. and Mrs. James Adams, Jordan Cordell Yarbrough, Zachary Ryan Stoner, Calvin E. Ewell, Grassland FFA Chapter of New Holland and to the Warwick Senior High School Girls' Soccer Team by Senator Brubaker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. William Settle, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Woods, Jr., Dr. George T. Dawe, Master Sergeant Jim Scott, Andrew T. Dittmann, Tameka Basehore, Kyle S. Kerstetter, Harold D. Bloom, Larry R. Shutt, Ashley Weiss, Robert D. Hart, Paul Lawrence Wagner, Robert A. Shull and to Thompsettown-Delaware Elementary School by Senator Corman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Marjorie Krogh, Sam Sherlock and to Vincent Mark Provenza by Senator Costa.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Misty Thurber by Senators Costa and Logan.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Sister R. Patricia Fadden, Dr. Clifford E. DeBaptiste, Mary Ellen Josephs, Marian B. Wright, Leon Thomas, Elizabeth Metzker, Kathryn Metzker, Edna F. Cramer, Lorraine Andersen, Lisa Scottoline, Stephen S. Aichele, Maillie, Falconiero and Company, LLP, Bentley Systems, Incorporated, of Exton, and to the East Whiteland Township Volunteer Fire Association by Senator Dinniman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Kwesi Koomson by Senators Dinniman and Erickson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Nathan M. Schenker and to Advanced Workstations in Education of Chester by Senators Dinniman and Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. Jaclyn Gleber by Senators Dinniman and Rafferty.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Joyce Herncane, Patrice Wylie, Elaine Toomey, Alan Temofonte, William Wright, Patty Casillo, John Wilson, Lance Langensiepen, Dallas Brooks Evans, Lorena Whitsel, Pennsylvania Game Commission's Public Safety Dispatchers, Central High School Mock Trial Team, Bishop Guilfoyle High School Girls' Basketball Team of Altoona, Boy Scouts of America Troop 25 of Huntingdon and to the First United Methodist Church of Huntingdon by Senator Eichelberger.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Randy Wanger and to the Bayard High School Boys' Varsity Ice Hockey Team of West Chester by Senator Erickson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Chester County Council of the Boy Scouts of America by Senator Erickson and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dennis Philipp, Sandra Miles, Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania and to the 1873 National Historic Landmark Masonic Temple of Philadelphia by Senator Farnese.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the University of Pittsburgh, Pitt Men's Study, by Senator Ferlo.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to John Witter, Patricia Reich, Daryl Kreitz, Bob Page, Stan Kreitz, Kathryn Kirkwood, Mackenzie Cressman, Timothy James Guss, Karen Beyerle and to Dennis Habecker by Senator Folmer.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Michael Myron Spak by Senator Fontana.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Dean Von Blohn, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Vivaldo, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Schlegel, Jr., the Honorable Esther Cotner, Jill Martz Yisreal, Joshua Brian Herrold, Robert Wolfe, Susan Hoffman, Grace Eudora Roadarmel, Margaret Ladonis, James H. Miller and to Kevin Romine by Senator Gordner.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Catherine G. Smith, Heather Fellmeth, Geoffrey Eill, Andrew White, Nicholas John Ward, John Hill, Margaret Brown, James Swartley, Richard Hillier, Rosalie K. Hooper, Raymond F. DeLaurentis, Heather E. Fesmire, Julia A. Hennessey, Bryanna M. Gallagher, Upper Moreland Free Public Library, Weinrich Bakery of Willow Grove and to the citizens of Warrington Township by Senator Greenleaf.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Alta S. Leary Elementary School of Warminster by Senators Greenleaf and Tomlinson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Volunteer Firemen's Association of Montgomery County by Senator Greenleaf and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend Dr. Albert F. Campbell, Laura Harmon and to Barbershop Talk Human Family Day Foundation, Inc., of Philadelphia, by Senator Hughes.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Patrick Trimbath, Margaret Golden, Darlene Watkins and to David Andrew Puskar by Senator Kasunic.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend Dr. Repsie M. Warren by Senator Kitchen.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Kimberly E. Selsor, Patricia Sharp, Laura L. Maniscalco, Gabrielle J. Loeb, Peter Cornog, Alexander J. Trumpler, Drew DeSantola, Amy Neering, Vivian Angelucci, Arlene Smucker, Ellen Berman Lee and to Sarah A. Brosnan by Senator Leach.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Charles McClintock, Andrew P. Drake, Jr., and to the Salvation Army McKeesport Corps Worship and Service Center by Senator Logan.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Rabbi Howard Hersch, Barley VanClief, Kelly Steelman, Michael Leff, Albert Jones, Michael Leather, Elizabeth Rowland, Kristina Sandquist, Kaitlyn Utermark, Joshua Wortzel, Ashley Mullican, Deborah Colgan, John Burke, Dee Dee Bowman, Kimberly Kane, Earl Bierman, Barry DiNola, Bill Setzer, Sue Schneck, Margaret Bork, Perry Alexander Lawton, Eric Kammler, Michael D. Macikanycz, Joel Howard, Ernest Santone, Friends of the Delaware Canal, Bucks County Conference and Visitors Bureau, Yardley Face and Body Spa, Concerto Fusion, Atomica Design Group and to Triumph Brewery Company by Senator McIlhinney.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. and Mrs. Edward G. Boehm, Jr., Leah Catherine Gotchel, Anthony Rusnak, Brian Reese, Raymond A. Posluszny, Gerald S. Clum, Matthew Hardy, Michael Nicolescu, Matthew DeAngelo, Michael A. Loschiavo, Judith Gardner Price, Joseph G. Price, Dan Meuser, Gordon Florey, Louis Costanzo, Jean Rosetti and to the Northeast Regional Office of CONCERN by Senator Mellow.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Joseph Healey, William Uggiano, Irene Gavornik, Lucas E. Carrelli, Marianne S. Lavelle and to Brian A. Zingaretti by Senator Musto.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Holleran, Ned E. Diefenderfer, Kevin Yeagle, Vincent T. Shemanski, Fred E. Richardson, Joshua R. Scarcella, Timothy James Guss, Chad C. Miller, Andrew R. Harakel and to Richard Matthew Grant by Senator O'Pake.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Chief Raymond C. Strickland III by Senators O'Pake and Rafferty.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Thomas Stephen Waruszewski, Brittney Faust, Cara Hertneky, Alex Kluthe, Camron Tod Underwood, Brian Robinson, Ryan M. Miller and to Kayla Miller by Senator Orié.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Technical Sergeant Robert Blake Taylor, Katie Nolan, David Nolan, Regan Houser, Joseph Wagner, Ryland Von Kampen, Keith Wilhelm, Braxton Danner, John Hall, Donald L. Hess III, Greg Schrum, Colby Bell, Crystal Cyphert, Hershey High School Girls' Swimming and Diving Team, Hershey High School Boys' 400-Yard Freestyle Relay Team, Hershey High School Boys' 200-Yard Freestyle Relay Team, Hershey High School Boys' 200-Yard Medley Relay Team and to the Hershey High School Boys' Swimming and Diving Team by Senator Piccola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Sergeant Jeanna M. Preece, Brendan Sean Keane, Kyle G. Schiltz, Buckminster Forest Kellorgg, Brian F. Della Fera, Frank C. Hess, Jr., Alexander D. Leary and to Jonathan T. Campbell by Senator Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Anthony F. Frost, Jr., Stella Radley, Henry Reid Walther, Lauren Yost, Gregory Michael Strunak, Charlie Wehrum, Thomas Cook, Amy Zoeckler, Angela Torchia, Christina DeSantis, Heather Nicole Crossley, Kathryn Amrhein and to the 99th Regional Support Command of the United States Army Reserve by Senator Pippy.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Tabytha A. Lauer, Lynn M. Kern, Lisa P. Barrett, Benjamin William Meck, Liana N. Collins, Lisa M. Bassett, Sara E. Tritt, Melissa A. Sattler, Rebecca E. Rich, Marya K. Graham, Nicolle Maioriello, Diana C. Bauza, Maya A. Mudambi and to Kyle Joseph Gutshall by Senator Rafferty.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Elmwood Park Zoo by Senator Rafferty and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Kevin Joseph Leskovec, Kristy Tucci, Kyle Joseph Edwards, Derek Louis Tordella and to Robert W. Schneider by Senator Robbins.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable Frank Langianese, Master Sergeant Jason M. Murray, Thomas L. Snyder, Aaron M. Leonard, Amanda Wood and to Heidi Heatherdale by Senator Scarnati.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jill Witmer, Eli G. Geisenberger, Michael J. Bassett and to the Lampeter-Strasburg High School Girls' Basketball Team by Senator Smucker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Sherman, Mr. and Mrs. Gene McDaniel, Mr. and Mrs. Blair Beglin, Pauline Guest, Robert M. Laick and to Susanna Rose Setto by Senator Stout.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable Michael A. Nutter, the Reverend William Horace Gage, Elder Teto T. Saunders, David Ciszkowski, Greg A. Rosenbaum, Tommie Culp, Matthew McCarthy, Clayton Laudenslager, John Livingstone and to Linda Williams by Senator Tartaglione.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Herbert J. Slack, Neil Watson, John Miraski, Harold Mitchener, Scott Dengler, Thomas Heston, Wayne White, Kevin Walter, Richard Woodmender, Ashley Woodmender, Frank J. Walter, Sr., Frank J. Walter, Jr., Thomas Walter, Sean James Black, James Springer, Sr., Mel Shapiro, Steve Rymond, Jack Dillon, Steve Eckman, Joseph Gottschall, Jr., Robert Walter, Marty Leicht, Kevin Sobolowski, Jeremiah J. Lodise, Bensalem Ramblers and to the Bensalem Christian Day School by Senator Tomlinson.



Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert Kominsky by Senators Tomlinson and McIlhinney.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Loretta Vasso by Senators Tomlinson and Washington.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jake Kraybill, Erin Guty, Megan Daniels, Patrick Boynton, Jane N. Kemp, Cory Ryan Egolf, Marlene A. Fuller, Deep C. Gupta, Friends of Colonel Denning, Reager and Adler, PC, of Camp Hill, Dickinson College, Messiah College, Harrisburg Chapter of Executive Women International, Special Olympics Pennsylvania Area M Games and to the Highland West Shore Girls' Softball Association by Senator Vance.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jerry Barnes and to Gary B. Quigley by Senators Vance and Piccola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Patrick Johnson and to Garrett Spencer Ott by Senator Vogel.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. Steven C. Ender and to Eli Smith by Senator Ward.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Pearl R. Morris, Scott Dinsmore, Garrett D. Page, Burton Siegel, John F. Washington, Sr., and to Troop 72 of the Boy Scouts of America by Senator Washington.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Master Sergeant Rory D. Pearson, Brady S. Rodkey, Amanda Smith, Barry Barshinger, Channing Ramos, Shawn Gunnel, Michael J. Lyter, Matthew C. King, Christopher D. Cezar, Christopher E. Abrahamsen, Cody J. Eberly, Gregory L. Johnson, Brian Resetar, Glen Wallick, Jr., Gary Dietz, Diane Keith, Christopher Burns and to the York County Library System by Senator Waugh.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the York County Planning Commission by Senator Waugh and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Frank C. McKinney, Jayne E. Clawson and to Cody James Turner by Senator D. White.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. William H. Kaufman, Aaron J. O'Leary, Curtis Schnur, Jeff Messer, Troy Paul Nunes, Martha Altmire, Bob Quigley, Dave Florie and to Michael Joseph Spaid by Senator M.J. White.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend Damone B. Jones, Sr., Betty Dowdy, Ethan Leatherbarrow, Nick Halbert-Brooks and to the Presbytery of Philadelphia Head Start Learning Tree by Senator Williams.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to David L. Mathias, Richard Nalichowski, Margaret N. Graves and to Bernice Orenstein by Senator Wonderling.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Emmaus High School Girls' Varsity Swimming and Diving Team by Senators Wonderling and Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Womeldorf, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Kitchick, the Very Reverend Monsignor Paul A. Lenz, Lee Johnson, Michelle McGinness, Claudia Gomez, Brandie Conway, Robert Thompson, Andy Stacy, Ward Reeder, Jr., Anita Casper, Debra Zinck, Mary White, Lisa White, April Strouse, Diane Schoonover, Ellen Michael, Albert J. Pagano, Frank Dell Brown, Aaron John Dreikorn, Keith Charles Henry, Cory Robert Henry, Brad E. Vermilion, Emily Hansen, Benjamin C. Grove, Kevin Podolak, Philipsburg-Osceola Mountie Competition Cheerleading Squad,

Forest Hills Junior High School Cheerleading Squad and to the Richland Elementary School Cheerleading Squad by Senator Wozniak.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to General and Mrs. Claude Swanson Astin, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Stiber, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Bond R. Brungard, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Temple, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Lewis Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Bright, the Reverend Ralph Christianson, Ronald A. Walko, Clifford A. Rieders, Philippa Follert, Lester Loner, Judith Jones, William P. Welch, Carmen Gonzalez and to Aaron Lee Lind Burlew by Senator Yaw.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Tompkins family of Montrose and to Mr. and Mrs. Rick Empet by Senators Yaw and Baker.

### CONDOLENCE RESOLUTIONS

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following resolutions, which were read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Katelynn M. Hunt by Senators Dinniman and Rafferty.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Vincent F. Ries and to the family of the late Margaret Garrity Cotton by Senator McIlhinney.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Richard D. Orr by Senators McIlhinney and Greenleaf.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Tommy L. Snelbaker by Senator Piccola.

### POSTHUMOUS CITATIONS

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following citations, which were read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

A posthumous citation honoring the late Richard Stockton Taylor, Jr., was extended to the family by Senator Browne and others.

A posthumous citation honoring the late Eric Kreitz was extended to the family by Senator Folmer.

A posthumous citation honoring the late William E. Bauder was extended to the family by Senator M.J. White.

### BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator VOGEL. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now proceed to consideration of all bills reported from committee for the first time at today's Session.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

#### SB 211 and SB 212.

And said bills having been considered for the first time,

Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for second consideration.

### PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Brubaker.

Senator BRUBAKER. Mr. President, I would like to thank Senator Fontana for bringing National Library Week to our atten-

tion. Senator Smucker, Senator Folmer, and I represent parts of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Library Association recently received 70 applicants for successful early learning programs. There were two winners in this category, the Library System of Lancaster County, and the Lititz Library System. Senator Smucker, Senator Folmer, and I would like to congratulate these two outstanding libraries on their award, which recognizes best practices for services and programs for children under the age of 6. Let us give a warm congratulations, if we could, please, to the Lancaster County Library System and the Library System of Lititz for their outstanding work.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, earlier this week, on Monday, I rose to provide remarks dealing with the University of Pittsburgh Men's Basketball Team, and also acknowledged the fine efforts of the Villanova University team. And in my remarks, Mr. President, I failed to recognize another outstanding team from the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Pittsburgh Women's Basketball Team. So today, I rise to provide some congratulatory remarks to the University of Pittsburgh Women's Basketball Team for their outstanding season as well.

Mr. President, the young ladies, the Lady Panthers, finished this year with a 25-8 record. They again, for the second consecutive year, made the NCAA Sweet Sixteen in the NCAA tournament. Two years ago, in 2007, their first appearance in a number of years, they moved to the second round. The highest ranking they achieved this year was a number-14 ranking, and I want to send congratulations to Coach Agnus Berenato, who has now been with the University of Pittsburgh for 6 years and has been doing an outstanding job.

Mr. President, two individuals will be graduating from that team, Shavonte Zellous and Xenia Stewart. Miss Zellous has achieved a number of firsts for a woman. She is now the career scoring leader in the University of Pittsburgh, not only for the women's team, Mr. President, but also for the men as well. She also set a single season record this past year with an excess of 700 points scored. And academically--and I think that is equally as important as the achievements that I have just mentioned--Miss Zellous has already graduated and is currently enrolled in a graduate program. And likewise, Miss Stewart has had an outstanding career at the University of Pittsburgh. She, too, is on course to graduate this April.

I just wanted to take a few moments to recognize the fine work of the Lady Panthers this year and thank them for the great success they have had, and hopefully, they will continue to do so in the years to come.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Rafferty.

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, very briefly, while my colleague was talking about seasons, I want to remind everyone that Villanova, from eastern Pennsylvania, representing the Commonwealth, is in the Final Four, and we want to wish them well.

And speaking of seasons, Senator Stack and I were talking this morning about the beginning of the baseball season, and this Sunday night, the Philadelphia Phillies embark on a defense of the world championship, and we want to wish them well.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

### RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Pileggi.

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, April 20, 2009, at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 12:15 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.