

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Legislative Journal

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2011

SESSION OF 2011 195TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 17

SENATE

TUESDAY, March 8, 2011

The Senate met at 11 a.m., Eastern Standard Time.

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Jim Cawley) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend ROBERT SIEBER, Retired Pastor of Faith Bible Church, Port Royal, offered the following prayer:

Let us bow for prayer.

Heavenly Father, we come before You this morning in total awe and humility for the great and powerful Almighty God that You are. We come through no merit of our own, but only because of Your love, mercy, and grace.

Father, You are the Holy God, and so we come this morning asking forgiveness for when we have failed You, and at the same time, we come seeking Your blessing as we proceed throughout the rest of this day.

Heavenly Father, this Senate body has convened and will be taking part today with the Representatives in listening to the Governor give his proposals on how he sees this great Commonwealth moving forward during these extremely difficult and trying times. We pray, Lord, that this group of Senators will listen to the Governor's upcoming proposals, that attention to his suggestions will be heard, meditated on, and eventually debated in this great Senate Chamber in a way that will bring financial stability to our people in this State.

Father, it is also a privilege this morning to not only come to You and bring our petitions to You, but we also ask, Father, that what these Senators will eventually be debating would bring honor and glory to You. We ask, Father, that as time unfolds, these duly elected representatives of the people of Pennsylvania would both consider the agenda laid out by the Governor in a spirit of friendly cooperation and that they would cast their votes in light of the tenets put forth in Your holy word, our Bible, so as to best serve this State and her people. This we pray in Your holy and magnificent name. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Reverend Sieber, who is the guest today of Senator Corman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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:

March 8, 2011

Senators M. WHITE, YAW, SCARNATI, PILEGGI, YUDICHAK, ORIE, D. WHITE, PIPPY, EARLL, WAUGH, KASUNIC, BROWNE, ERICKSON, WARD and WILLIAMS presented to the Chair **SB 602**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 19, 1984 (P.L.1140, No.223), known as the Oil and Gas Act, further providing for bonding.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, March 8, 2011.

Senators GREENLEAF, SOLOBAY, LEACH, FONTANA, YUDICHAK, BREWSTER, M. WHITE, WASHINGTON, PILEGGI, PIPPY, MENSCH and FARNESE presented to the Chair **SB 750**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, extensively revising provisions on anatomical gifts in the areas of authorizations, procedure, amendment, revocation, refusal, receipt, for rights and duties of hospitals and organ procurement organizations, prohibitions, limited immunity, the Governor Robert P. Casey Memorial Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Trust Fund, and providing for contributions to the fund; and making editorial changes.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, March 8, 2011.

Senators CORMAN, ROBBINS, D. WHITE, BROWNE, ALLOWAY, BRUBAKER, EARLL, EICHELBERGER, FOLMER, FONTANA, PICCOLA, SMUCKER, VOGEL, M. WHITE, YAW and BOSCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 752**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 10, 1999 (P.L.491, No.45), known as the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, further providing for Uniform Construction Code Review and Advisory Council, for revised or successor codes and for exemptions.

Which was committed to the Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, March 8, 2011.

Senators EARLL, PIPPY, BAKER, VANCE, WAUGH, ERICKSON, MENSCH, PICCOLA, PILEGGI and FARNESE presented to the Chair **SB 790**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, further providing for shipment of wine into Commonwealth.

Which was committed to the Committee on LAW AND JUSTICE, March 8, 2011.

Senators WOZNIAK, PICCOLA, EARLL, McILHINNEY and FERLO presented to the Chair **SB 793**, entitled:

An Act providing for reorganization of school districts, for reorganization plans, for exceptions, for transfer of property and assets, for initial board of school directors, for operational date and transfer of authority, for collective bargaining and for powers and duties of the Department of Education; and prescribing penalties.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, March 8, 2011.

Senators TOMLINSON, ERICKSON, PICCOLA, FONTANA, BROWNE, M. WHITE, RAFFERTY, BOSCOLA, EICHELBERGER and PIPPY presented to the Chair **SB 794**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for technology grants for equipment and services.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, March 8, 2011.

Senators WAUGH, RAFFERTY, WARD, ORIE, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, SMUCKER, WOZNIAK, BRUBAKER and PICCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 798**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in grounds and buildings, providing for a prototypical school facility design clearinghouse.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, March 8, 2011.

Senators WAUGH, COSTA, ALLOWAY, EICHELBERGER, FERLO, FONTANA, WOZNIAK and WASHINGTON presented to the Chair **SB 799**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preliminary provisions, further defining "motor vehicle" and "vehicle" and defining "motorized recreational vehicle."

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, March 8, 2011.

Senators WAUGH, VANCE, RAFFERTY, WARD, ERICKSON, ORIE, ALLOWAY, EICHELBERGER, FERLO, EARLL, PILEGGI, FONTANA, WOZNIAK and BRUBAKER presented to the Chair **SB 800**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 17, 1981 (P.L.435, No.135), known as the Race Horse Industry Reform Act, further providing for the composition of the State Horse Racing Commission.

Which was committed to the Committee on COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, March 8, 2011.

Senators ROBBINS, COSTA, ERICKSON, FERLO, FOLMER, FONTANA, ORIE, PICCOLA, SMUCKER and FARNESE presented to the Chair **SB 804**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 45 (Legal Notices) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for additional publication in legal journals; and providing for electronic publication of legal advertising.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, March 8, 2011.

Senators ROBBINS, SCARNATI, ERICKSON, FERLO, FOLMER, FONTANA, ORIE, PICCOLA, SMUCKER and FARNESE presented to the Chair **SB 805**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 45 (Legal Notices) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for additional publication in legal journals; and providing for electronic publication of legal advertising.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, March 8, 2011.

Senators RAFFERTY, ORIE, TOMLINSON, D. WHITE, BRUBAKER, WAUGH, EARLL, M. WHITE, ERICKSON, BOSCOLA and PICCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 806**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in preparation for conduct of primaries and elections, further providing for the meeting of election officers on election day.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, March 8, 2011.

Senators RAFFERTY, BROWNE, ORIE, WAUGH, BREWSTER, ERICKSON, FARNESE and FONTANA presented to the Chair **SB 807**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in minors, further providing for penalties for selling or furnishing liquor or malt or brewed beverages to minors.

Which was committed to the Committee on LAW AND JUSTICE, March 8, 2011.

Senators RAFFERTY, BROWNE, KASUNIC, FARNESE, BRUBAKER, LEACH, BREWSTER, EARLL, BAKER, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, TOMLINSON, ERICKSON, M. WHITE, SOLOBAY, GREENLEAF, BOSCOLA, YUDICHAK and WOZNIAK presented to the Chair **SB 808**, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for exemptions and special provisions relating to taxation.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, March 8, 2011.

Senators RAFFERTY, GREENLEAF and BROWNE presented to the Chair **SB 809**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 22, 1933 (P.L.853, No.155), known as The General County Assessment Law, further providing for subjects of taxation; repealing provisions relating to limitation upon taxation and to valuation of mobilehomes or house trailers; and further providing for recorder of deeds in certain counties to furnish record of conveyances and compensation.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, March 8, 2011.

Senators RAFFERTY, BROWNE, KASUNIC, FARNESE, WAUGH, BREWSTER, ERICKSON, ARGALL, ALLOWAY, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, SOLOBAY, GREENLEAF, BOSCOLA and YUDICHAK presented to the Chair **SB 810**, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for exemptions and special provisions relating to taxation.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, March 8, 2011.

Senators RAFFERTY, ORIE, PIPPY, MENSCH, STACK, ARGALL, TOMLINSON, GREENLEAF and BOSCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 811**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 20, 2002 (P.L.154, No.13), known as the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, further providing for medical professional liability insurance, for Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error Fund and for actuarial data; and providing for conflict.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, March 8, 2011.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair wishes to announce the President pro tempore has made the following appointments:

Senator John P. Blake as a member of the Capitol Preservation Committee.

Senator John R. Gordner as a member of the Capitol Preservation Committee.

Senator Timothy Solobay as a member of the Mining Reclamation Advisory Board.

Senator Patricia H. Vance as a member of the Capitol Preservation Committee.

Senator Don White as a member of the Mining Reclamation Advisory Board.

Senator John N. Wozniak as a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania and as a member of the Capitol Preservation Committee.

Senator E. Eugene Yaw as a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator McIlhinney.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pileggi requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator McIlhinney.

Without objection, the leave will be granted.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Senator COSTA asked and obtained leaves of absence for Senator DINNIMAN and Senator WASHINGTON, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS JOURNALS APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journals of the Sessions of February 15, 2011, and February 16, 2011, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the Sessions of February 15, 2011, and February 16, 2011.

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-47

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| Alloway | Erickson | Mensch | Tomlinson |
| Argall | Farnese | Orie | Vance |
| Baker | Ferlo | Piccola | Vogel |
| Blake | Folmer | Pileggi | Ward |
| Boscola | Fontana | Pippy | Waugh |
| Brewster | Gordner | Rafferty | White Donald |
| Browne | Greenleaf | Robbins | White Mary Jo |
| Brubaker | Hughes | Scarnati | Williams |
| Corman | Kasunic | Smucker | Wozniak |
| Costa | Kitchen | Solobay | Yaw |
| Earl | Leach | Stack | Yudichak |
| Eichelberger | McIlhinney | Tartaglione | |

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journals are approved.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator McIlhinney has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS GUESTS OF SENATOR JOHN EICHELBERGER PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Blair, Senator Eichelberger.

Senator EICHELBERGER. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce two groups of students from my district who have come to the State Capitol to learn about the legislative process and meet legislators from back home and see them at work here today. They come from five high schools and are members of the Bedford County Teens Against Tobacco Use, and Students Against Destructive Decisions. These two groups focus on promoting a message of drug-free living among their peers and other members of the local community. Their host today is Andrea Hanlon from Personal Solutions in Bedford.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to please join me in welcoming this group from Bedford, Everett, Chestnut Ridge, Hyndman, and Northern Bedford County High Schools.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Eichelberger please rise so the Senate may give you its usual warm welcome. (Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR MICHAEL BRUBAKER PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator BRUBAKER. Mr. President, I would like to introduce a group of very bright young ladies who are seated in the gallery today. These young women are Susan Spence, Rebecca Kauffman, Lara Dailey, Maya Asante, Marion McKenzie, Seo Jin Moon, and Grace Kim. If I mispronounced their names, please forgive me. I will produce the names in writing for the record.

These students are young ladies who attend Linden Hall School for Girls. This school, Mr. President, has the distinct honor of having the highest average SAT for any girls' school in the country, and they are located right here in Pennsylvania in my Senate district. The school was founded in 1746. Joining them also is their teacher, Erica Rhodside. It is an honor and a privilege to introduce them, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Brubaker please rise so the Senate may give you its usual warm welcome. (Applause.)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, for the information of the Members, the intention of the order of business for today will be, after the Governor's Budget Address, at approximately 1 o'clock, to have a Republican caucus in the Majority Caucus Room, after which we will return to the floor to finish today's Calendar.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks the gentleman for that information.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ESCORT THE GOVERNOR TO THE HALL OF THE HOUSE

The PRESIDENT. The President pro tempore has appointed following Senators to act as a committee on the part of the Senate to escort the Governor to the Joint Session: The gentleman from Lycoming, Senator Yaw, Chair; the gentleman from Lehigh, Senator Browne; and the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Brewster. The committee will leave immediately to discharge its duties.

SENATE PROCEEDS TO HOUSE TO HEAR GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

The PRESIDENT. The time has come in our order of business to assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives for a Joint Session. The Members of the Senate will please form a line in the center aisle immediately behind the Sergeant-at-Arms in order that we may proceed to the Joint Session.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair now declares a recess of the Senate.

AFTER RECESS

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

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 71 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 79 (Pr. No. 64) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in bases of jurisdiction and interstate and international procedure, providing for foreign depositions and subpoenas; and repealing provisions relating to foreign depositions and evidence.

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-47

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| Alloway | Erickson | Mensch | Tomlinson |
| Argall | Farnese | Orie | Vance |
| Baker | Ferlo | Piccola | Vogel |
| Blake | Folmer | Pileggi | Ward |
| Boscola | Fontana | Pippy | Waugh |
| Brewster | Gordner | Rafferty | White Donald |
| Browne | Greenleaf | Robbins | White Mary Jo |
| Brubaker | Hughes | Scarnati | Williams |
| Corman | Kasunic | Smucker | Wozniak |
| Costa | Kitchen | Solobay | Yaw |
| Earl | Leach | Stack | Yudichak |
| Eichelberger | McIlhinney | Tartaglione | |

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Hughes and Senator Kitchen.

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Orie and Senator Corman.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Costa requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Hughes and Senator Kitchen.

Senator Pileggi requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Orie and Senator Corman.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 273 (Pr. No. 769) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general principles of justification, further providing for definitions, for use of force in self-protection, for use of force for the protection of other persons, for grading of theft offenses and for licenses to carry firearms; and providing for civil immunity for use of force.

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 Franklin, Senator Alloway.

Senator ALLOWAY. Mr. President, my legislation today would provide that all Pennsylvanians have the right to use force to protect themselves if someone has unlawfully and forcefully entered their dwelling, residence, or occupied vehicle. In addition, any person who is in a place where they have a legal right to be would have that same right to protect themselves when lethally attacked, provided they are not engaged in a criminal activity or in illegal possession of a gun.

Mr. President, this is an important right for all citizens. This is a basic God-given right to protect yourself when you are attacked, and I ask for an affirmative vote today. Thank you.

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-43

| | | | |
|----------|--------------|----------|---------------|
| Alloway | Eichelberger | Orie | Vance |
| Argall | Erickson | Piccola | Vogel |
| Baker | Ferlo | Pileggi | Ward |
| Blake | Folmer | Pippy | Waugh |
| Boscola | Fontana | Rafferty | White Donald |
| Brewster | Gordner | Robbins | White Mary Jo |
| Browne | Greenleaf | Scarnati | Williams |

Brubaker
Corman
Costa
Earl

Kasunic
Leach
McIlhinney
Mensch

Smucker
Solobay
Stack
Tomlinson

Wozniak
Yaw
Yudichak

NAY-4

Farnese

Hughes

Kitchen

Tartaglione

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 325 and **SB 606** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 237, SB 302, SB 303 and **SB 304** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 328 (Pr. No. 305) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in pupils and attendance, further providing for suspension of operating privilege.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

Upon motion of Senator PILEGGI, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill was laid on the table.

SB 328 TAKEN FROM TABLE

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I move that Senate Bill No. 328, Printer's No. 305, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The PRESIDENT. The bill will be placed on the Calendar.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 344 (Pr. No. 438) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 74 (Transportation) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for public-private transportation partnerships; and making a related repeal.

Upon motion of Senator PILEGGI, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill was laid on the table.

SB 344 TAKEN FROM TABLE

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I move that Senate Bill No. 344, Printer's No. 438, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The PRESIDENT. The bill will be placed on the Calendar.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 449 and **SB 468** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 508 (Pr. No. 508) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating U.S. Route 62 in Mercer County as the Mercer County Veterans Highway.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 566 and **SB 639** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Senators RAFFERTY, PILEGGI, STACK, SCARNATI, FARNESE, TARTAGLIONE, BAKER, COSTA, McILHINNEY, MENSCH, ERICKSON, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, FONTANA, CORMAN, KITCHEN, HUGHES, TOMLINSON, BROWNE, BREWSTER, EARLL, WASHINGTON, PIPPY and BRUBAKER by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 58**, entitled:

A Resolution congratulating pitcher Roy Halladay for receiving the 2010 Cy Young Award and for his outstanding season with the Philadelphia Phillies.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, it is an honor for me to be able to stand here today and present this resolution before the Senate of Pennsylvania honoring Roy Halladay for his achievements in the last baseball season, culminating in his winning of the Cy Young Award.

Roy Halladay, a former pitcher from the Toronto Blue Jays, came to the Phillies at the beginning of the 2010 season. He is a really decent man, a good family man with an incredible work ethic, a routine he follows day in and day out that makes him an outstanding pitcher not only in the National League, but Major League Baseball. Halladay is a seven-time all-star selection. He pitched the 20th perfect game in Major League Baseball history on May 29, 2010, against the Florida Marlins, retiring 27 batters, including 11 strikeouts, no hits, no runs, and no errors.

On October 6, 2010, his first post-season appearance, Roy Halladay pitched a no-hitter against the Cincinnati Reds in the first game of the National League Division series. And with his October 6 game, Roy became the first pitcher since Nolan Ryan in 1973 to pitch two no-hitters in one season. On September 21, 2010, Roy Halladay became the first pitcher to win 20 games in a season since 1982, and one week later he completed his 21st victory, helping the Philadelphia Phillies clinch their fourth consecutive National League East title.

Roy Halladay was unanimously chosen as the recipient of the 2010 National Cy Young Award, making him only the fifth pitcher in history to win the award in both the National League and the American League, having won the award for his play with the Toronto Blue Jays in 2003.

Mr. President, I ask for a affirmative vote to send a message of congratulations to Roy Halladay, an outstanding pitcher, the number one pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies.

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 Ruth Gilbert by Senator Alloway.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Elizabeth Rivera by Senator Boscola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Angela Rice, Karen Whitehill, Patricia Schoenen, Jody Davis, Megan Dagnall, Jaquelyn de Jess and to Cynthia Staffieri Workman by Senators Boscola and Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. John Nash, Colonel Kerry Kachejian, Jane Schultz, Jeannine Ginsburg, Noemi Viveros, Brittany Maupin, Daniel John Shappell, Yajaira Clark, David McFadien, Foundation for Learning in Tredyffrin and Easttown, Ridge Fire Company of Spring City and to Nousoma Communications, Inc., by Senator Dinniman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Garage Community and Youth Center of Kennett Square by Senators Dinniman and Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Seven Points Marina of Hesston by Senator Eichelberger.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the members of the Northampton Township Volunteer Fire Company and Southampton Fire Company No. 1 by Senator Greenleaf and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Petty Officer First Class Michael A. Lensbouer by Senator Kasunic.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Kandase R. Klase, Amber L. Wilson, Jessica E. Brennan, Maria A. Marlin and to Vicki L. Fluck by Senator Mensch.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Sandra L. Rossi and to Caleb Lee Cathcart by Senator Robbins.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Christopher Mitchell by Senator Scarnati.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. James Sims, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Vallone, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore A. Trapuzzano, Joseph Vincent Magnone and to the Waynesburg-Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company by Senator Solobay.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Cassie Musser, Tyler Claypool and to the members of the Mohawk High School FFA Square Dance Teams by Senator Vogel.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Sarah Bishop by Senator M.J. White.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Barbara B. Hudock, Robert E. Steele, Robin Holman, Walter E. Hill IV and to Matthew G. Gasteiger by Senator Yaw.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Rick Allen Mosley by Senator Yudichak.

RECESS

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness to be held in the Rules room immediately.

The PRESIDENT. For the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness to be held in the Rules room immediately, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, today's proposal by our new Governor is the first step in a long and difficult process. As work begins on the next State budget, the undebatable truth is that we have limited resources to meet seemingly unlimited needs. We could use this afternoon to go through the Governor's budget line by line, finding many worthwhile programs recommended for spending reductions. I imagine some of my colleagues will do exactly that. However, that approach does not respond to the economic reality of our time. Academics and professional economists might say the Great Recession is officially over; try telling that to the citizens of Pennsylvania who are still suffering from record high unemployment, to the citizens who see their family and friends leaving Pennsylvania to look for jobs in other States, and to the citizens who are losing their homes to foreclosure.

It is clear that the taxpayers of Pennsylvania cannot shoulder a heavier burden, and we should be honest in this debate. Our choice is to make significant spending reductions or to raise taxes. Those who argue for spending to be restored in certain line items, without explaining how we pay for those restorations, are offering a false choice. We simply cannot increase spending and avoid tax increases. We cannot spend what we do not have. We

must make the difficult decisions needed to balance our budget today, so that Pennsylvania is positioned for a brighter tomorrow.

The best way to frame our budget discussion this year is to focus on this fundamental question: what is our goal for Pennsylvania? Different people will have different answers, of course, but my goal is for Pennsylvania to emerge from the Great Recession as a world leader in the 21st century economy. To do that, we must create a climate that brings jobs and capital investment to the Commonwealth, that allows Pennsylvanians to stay here, and that attracts people from other States and countries to live, work, and raise their families here in Pennsylvania.

Any student of history will tell you that we cannot tax ourselves to prosperity. We must craft this budget with limited State tax dollars and disappearing Federal aid. As elected officials, none of us here today have faced a budget problem of this magnitude. We must dedicate ourselves to fiscal discipline, and to limited, transparent, and efficient government. We must refocus on the core functions of government. And we must introduce competition into areas like education, which have traditionally been government monopolies.

The decisions we make as part of the coming budget will not be easy and sacrifice will be necessary. Solving today's problems will require an unwavering focus on the long-term impacts of our decisions. Things will not turn around in days, weeks, or even months, but they will turn around, and today is the first step in that long process.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I just want to provide a few remarks regarding the Governor's Budget Address earlier today, but also the comments of my friend and colleague, Senator Pileggi, the Majority Leader.

Let me begin by stating that we recognize the difficult dilemma that we find ourselves facing relative to our ability to spend resources in this Commonwealth as we go forward, and we recognize that we all have tough decisions to make in that respect and that regard. We heard the budget today and saw it differently. We believe, that while we recognize the constraints, we are very concerned that this particular Budget Address has really placed the emphasis on working families and children in a manner to try to balance this particular budget this particular year. As was stated by many, the budget shortfall is about \$4 billion, and the efforts to generate additional revenue are not going to be part of the conversation. We recognize that.

So what do we do and how do we make those decisions about what we do? At the end of the day, Mr. President, it becomes an issue of prioritization. How do we prioritize the spending in this particular budget to meet the needs of Pennsylvanians? And we did hear, Mr. President, from Pennsylvanians about a number of those issues. We believe that the area that is going to be taking the biggest hit and the area we have the greatest concern about is the area of education.

Nearly \$2 billion will be extracted from education, from kindergarten students to our college students. Two billion dollars; it is significant. We are not suggesting that we go out and raise taxes to replace that \$2 billion. All we are saying is that that is an emphasis that has been placed on this particular budget regarding education funding that we believe does not need to be that deep or that Draconian.

We believe we have made great progress over the past 7 or 8 years in education. All we need do is take a look at our scores, and I am happy to see that the Pre-K Counts program and Head Start program are going to be, for the most part, left untouched, but all you need to do is look at the education results and our scores and how we have succeeded in this Commonwealth relative to the scores and how we stack up as a State in this country, as a leader among the States in this country about the success that we have had, given the investments we have made in education. As it relates to those folks that we are trying to help the most in education, we set on a course a number of years ago to try to close the disparity between those who are doing very, very poorly in low-income communities, and those higher-income communities where students were doing much better. We have closed that gap significantly, and we need to continue to be able to do that.

This budget extracts out nearly \$1 billion, in our estimation, of the budget. That does not allow us to continue that very successful progress that we have made, and our fear is that we are going to regress. We believe that by extracting out a billion dollars-plus out of the education budget, and specifically doing it by doing away with the Accountability Block Grant program, and by doing away with reimbursements to charter schools, and by doing away with other line items in that budget, and tutoring dollars, we believe that collectively that is nearly a billion dollars, as well as other cuts that are going to take place in that education line item. And then to say we are going to continue to fund basic education at the same level, is not being truthful with the people of Pennsylvania. We need to make certain that people know that.

Two hundred and fifty-nine million dollars in accountability block grant, early childhood education, the 1 to 3 age group, the 3 to 5 age group, the money that is being used in all of our school districts across this Commonwealth for full-day kindergarten are going to be wiped out. In the city of Pittsburgh, tens of millions of dollars are going to be lost for the early childhood stuff. Not the pre-K stuff, the early childhood stuff is going to be wiped out. Charter school reimbursement, the school districts have to find the money from somewhere in order to drive those dollars to the charter schools. They are going to end up taking out of their basic education line item. And I can go on.

What is going to happen at the end of the day? It is going to mean increased taxes at the local school district level. That is my belief. This is going to be passing down--it is going to shift the consequences. The things we do not want to do here are now going to be done at the local school district level in that particular area.

Higher education. At our State-related schools and State System schools, 50 percent reductions. Unconscionable. We cannot let that stand. We need to work together, particularly in this Chamber, particularly in this General Assembly, to restore, as much as possible, to those State-related, State System schools. As it relates to some of the State-relateds, like the University of Pittsburgh in particular, it goes even further because we federalized a big chunk of the money a number of years ago, and those dollars are gone, so not only do we lose those dollars over and above the 50-percent cut that is proposed, but we also lose the ability to access Federal research dollars that help drive the economy in the city of Pittsburgh and the surrounding area. We need to work to restore some of those funding blocks because they are

crucial.

And finally, as it relates to education and jobs. The Governor mentioned jobs, jobs, jobs, and we agree. That is our highest priority in the Senate Democratic Caucus. We focused our whole jobs plan, our PA Works plan, around the idea of creating jobs and putting in place various programs. We believe that is what we need to do. But yet, this budget takes those precious dollars, dollars that should be driven out for workforce development and job training dollars, dollars that are important to help sustain programs and workforce training programs that help allow people to get back into the workforce in a more permanent way, to help our school districts prepare to have the students come out of high school and into college with the opportunity to be able to be well-prepared to enter the workforce and be able to meet the demands of the private sector, that they have as it relates to the skill and work they need to do, we cut those programs. We do not think that is appropriate.

And finally, as it relates to the cost of higher education, some estimates are that the loss of 50 percent of funding is going to end up meaning a 20- to 25-percent increase in higher education costs, in addition to the things I just mentioned. We should not be going down that path. Mr. President, there are a number of other areas that we could have done, things in this budget, to meet the needs of Pennsylvanians, and we failed to do that. My hope is over the course of the next 3 weeks, as we start to focus on each of the lines in this budget, that we take time to be able to work to do what is necessary.

We recognize that there needs to be shared pain, we recognize that. At the end of the day though, this budget does not present a proposal that provides for shared pain. We clearly see the pain that is going to go to our school districts and to our students, our high school and college students, and we see the pain that is going to go to our parents and our workforce. We see that pain. What we do not see is pain being shared by the corporate community and the business community.

Senator Pileggi mentioned earlier about how we need to make certain that when we go down a path, that we look at some of the things that we do. Just by example, when we were in roughly this same situation a couple of years ago, back in 2009, we froze the phaseout of the capital stock and franchise tax. We recognized that we all needed to share the pain. We put into place a freeze on the capital stock and franchise tax. That is what we should be doing this year. We all want to see it continue to go away. We think that is a logical business tax reduction that we believe is important. It is not to be done this year though, when we are looking at a budget that is so Draconian with such large losses.

Likewise, when decisions were made by the administration in February, I believe, to put into place an accelerated depreciation issue that took an interpretation from an existing Department of Revenue, turned it around and provided the tax benefits to the corporate community at the same time we were shutting out benefits, as Senator Kitchen and Senator Stack have talked about, to the adultBasic program, we think that is moving in the wrong direction. It is failing to be compassionate and recognize what we need to do for the greater good of this Commonwealth.

But at the end of the day, it needs to be shared, it needs to be fair. We recognize the constraints. We want to work within the constraints, but at the same time we want a fair and balanced budget that is going to inflict pain, as we say, across the board. It is not going to provide a special place for one segment of soci-

ety at the expense of working people, at the expense of working families, at the expense of children and families. That is not where we need to be. We all need to share in this situation, and my hope is, as this Chamber works together to make changes to this budget, that we keep those guiding principles in mind as we move forward.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Senator Joseph B. Scarnati III) in the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Centre, Senator Corman.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, just a few remarks today, as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, on the Governor's budget proposal. And it is just that, a proposal. It is a blueprint for us to begin our work. As the oversight body, we are going to begin hearings starting next week. My colleague from Philadelphia and I will chair those hearings and begin the process of reviewing the Governor's proposal and then putting our stamp on it somewhere along the way.

I was encouraged by the comments from the gentleman from Allegheny that they are not looking for new revenue. If that indeed is the case, then we are already pretty close, because we know, essentially, how much money there is to spend if we are not looking at new revenue. The budget delay of 2 years ago was when the former Governor proposed a large tax increase of about \$2 billion and our spend number was \$2 billion apart. Therefore, it took a long time to negotiate an agreement. If we have all taken the revenue idea, as Governor Corbett has suggested, off the table, then clearly, we are very close, and now it is matter of figuring out where those line items ultimately end up.

To Governor Corbett's credit, he made a lot of difficult decisions. I cannot imagine a Governor in modern history, in his first year as Governor, having to make a more difficult budget proposal. Now, just remember, 8 years ago, when we had a modest recession going on—not nearly what we have lived through the past couple of years—we did not have the stimulus money going away, as we do this year. Governor Rendell, at that time, could not get a budget proposal together by March. If you recall, we had that bifurcated budget. Remember, we had the first budget, which he hated with every fiber of his being, and then we reconvened 3 weeks later to put a new budget together.

So, this Governor stepped up to the plate today and made some very difficult decisions that, I still think, showed a lot of innovation. Yes, there is no question there will be less money going to our school districts than there was in years past. Having said that, the Governor proposed many new, innovative ideas to try to assist our school districts, ideas that they have been asking for for years that have gone unanswered as far as relieving them of mandates, allowing them to deal with their personnel in the best way that they see fit so that they can deal with some of the decrease in money that may be coming from the State, freeing up their hands so they can deal with their budgets better.

And just to sort of dispel a misnomer that gets repeated a lot, it has not come up on the floor today, but I saw it already in a report, that if we do not fund things here at the school level, then it will just mean higher property taxes at the local level. You forget about Act 1. Act 1 of a few years ago does not allow for a large property tax increase, only at the rate of inflation. So

there will not be significant property tax increases at the local level. The local school districts are going to make the same decisions that we are here at the State, that our friends at the Federal government need to start making, which is balancing our budgets, getting our revenues and expenditures in line. We have not had to do that here for a few years.

This is what we are doing this year. We have so much revenue coming in, and that means we only have the ability to expend to so much. So, in making some of these difficult decisions, as Governor Corbett has done, he has allowed for some innovation, some new ideas at the local level to deal with that, and because of Act 1, there will not be significant property tax increases and the school districts will have to make decisions as well. Hopefully, we will assist them in giving them more flexibility to make those decisions as we proceed.

I do want to say that when I talked about how there is no sacrifice in the business community, there is a billion dollars' worth of cuts in this budget for the Department of Community and Economic Development. It is over a billion dollars. Most of that money goes to small and large businesses for different sorts of subsidies to assist in creating new jobs. So there is a significant amount of money that goes to our business community that will not be there to assist them in job creation that we have deemed necessary in the past. We are going toward a different way of job creation in the future, which is trying to keep our tax burden down.

I understand the desire to continue to freeze the capital stock and franchise tax, but, Mr. President, we are now in the third administration of this phaseout. You know, this was what, an 8-year phaseout, and we are now in the third administration of it because we do not have the will to bite the bullet and phase it out. We all know it is terrible for business. We all know it is an unfair tax. We all agreed to phase it out. Either we are going to do it or we are not going to do it. We are now in our third administration of trying to phase this thing out.

It is time to phase it out. It is time to renew that commitment. It is a matter of our word. We gave our word that we were going to phase this thing out so we can create a better business climate and create jobs here in Pennsylvania. I applaud the Governor for having the courage to put a budget together that includes that phaseout.

So, as I said, Mr. President, this is the beginning. The Governor actually said that, and I will repeat it. This is the beginning. We are going to put our stamp on this. We are going to review—I do not know of a Governor's budget we all agreed on, other than, I guess, Governor Rendell's first one, quickly. Every other budget introduced in the history of Pennsylvania, the Governor sets out the blueprint. We will hold our hearings. We will review it.

There are clearly things in this budget that I would like to see changed. You can probably guess some of the ones that I would, but Governor Corbett made the difficult decisions. He put a blueprint out for us. We now have to put our stamp on it, review, and allow all of the interests to come in and testify before us, and then hopefully, long before June 30, we can agree to a budget and move Pennsylvania not only to the point where we are economically sound, where our revenues match our expenditures, but that we also plan for growth into the future, which is what we are all looking for here in Pennsylvania.

So, Mr. President, this is a good start, and I am looking forward to working with the other side of the aisle as well as the

other body and the administration to get a budget that reflects the economic times that we are in but also puts us on a path to growth in the future.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator HUGHES. Mr. President, I am looking forward to working with my colleague in going through the arduous 3-week process of line-by-line analysis and department-by-department conversation with the leaders of the administration to try to figure out how we can kind of rework the framework of this budget suggestion that was put up today. I guess I have to follow up on comments made by our Democratic Leader a few minutes ago that really shape our particular view about this.

I do not think there is anywhere in this budget that you can see any shared sacrifice in reference to who has to take the brunt of trying to balance this State budget. What we do see very clearly is, in terms of spending in basic education—I do not think we need to overlook this—almost a \$1.1 billion cut in spending for basic education. What we do see in spending for higher education, or investments in higher education—I would rather use that term, investments in higher education—there is almost \$1 billion in cuts in investments for higher education.

We need to be very clear about what we are talking about here. Back in the region from where I hail, spending for Temple University goes from \$164 million down to \$82 million. That is a 50-percent decrease. Lincoln University, from \$13 million to \$6 million; a 50-percent cut. Cheney University, West Chester University, and all the universities that are part of the 14 State System of Higher Education university system, 50-percent cuts. Even Penn State University, with its regional campuses in southeastern Pennsylvania, the overall budget goes from \$304 million down to \$152 million; that is a 50-percent cut. And if you drive west to southwestern Pennsylvania, to the University of Pittsburgh and its related campuses across that region, \$160 million down to \$80 million; that is a 50-percent cut.

Now, Mr. President, what does that translate to? It translates largely to dramatic increases in tuitions, probably in the 20- to 25-percent area, to try to recoup some of the losses that occur from State budget cuts. What does it also translate to, Mr. President? It probably translates into a significant number of jobs being eliminated on these campuses. All kinds of jobs. Teaching positions, administrative positions, support positions, folks doing all kinds of work on these campuses, more than likely will have to lose their jobs, and students will have to have their tuitions increased, which makes this so much more difficult, Mr. President, because investments that we need to be making to get us through the recession will be stunted.

We will not be able to make these investments anymore. The children will be denied the opportunity to realize their dreams by going to one of these fine universities because it will be out of the reach of their pocketbook. They will not be able to afford it, now because of the cuts being talked about in Washington, D.C., in terms of student loans and student grants from Washington, D.C., that come down to the State level. So we are losing support in Washington, and we are losing support here in Pennsylvania. What do we say to these students? They are taking a brunt, a significant brunt, a severe brunt. Higher education becomes only an option for those who are privileged, those who can afford it.

Back to basic education. I am not sure how we get away from the fact that if there are \$1.1 billion in cuts for our schools, how do local school districts make up for that loss? They have to find the money somewhere. Are we suggesting that they should just cut back also, that their class sizes should increase dramatically, and these issues that they have to confront—what do we say to them? What do we say to these local school districts? They are going to have to bear the brunt of this cut.

The problem with all of this, Mr. President, is it is not a shared sacrifice. It is not balanced. There is no evenness in what the Governor presented to us. The only good thing about this day is that the Governor presented us a proposal, not a final done deal. We now have the opportunity to go back in and try to address these issues and try to move these issues around and, hopefully, gain some balance so that if there is going to be sacrifice, it is shared by everybody.

What we know about our corporate friends in the business community is they did not take a haircut. They did not take any kind of cuts in any of the support that they get in Pennsylvania. And in fact, leading into the budget, last week, while the State was cutting the adultBasic program that so many of us have led the fight on—so many of us have stood on this floor, Senator Stack, so many of the rest, Senator Costa, and I have stood on this floor and fought for the adultBasic program and tried to urge this General Assembly and administration to find a resolve for this—while we were losing 42,000 people off of the adultBasic program for their health insurance, while that was happening, the administration made a conscious decision to provide a \$200 million tax cut to major corporations in Pennsylvania.

When you talk about shared sacrifice, Mr. President, there is no sharing in that. There is only one group of folks who got cut in that mix, and that was the 42,000 people who got cut off adultBasic, not even counting the half-million or so individuals who were on the waiting list to utilize the adultBasic program. So, starting last week, before this budget was presented by the Governor, the business sector got a \$200 million tax cut.

In this budget proposal, there are even more tax cuts offered up by the administration—pushing back, renewing the phaseout of the capital stock and franchise tax, which was discussed earlier. That is a fine agenda for us to go on, but you do not pursue that agenda in difficult economic times. You do not do that. And if you do it, you have to moderate that in some fashion. You have to moderate that at some level to make sure there is some shared sacrifice, but there is no shared sacrifice here.

And need I mention, Mr. President, those individuals—and I want you to draw a picture right now, close your eyes and draw this picture, and I want you to think of the fanciest boardroom in the fanciest business office in the nation, maybe in the world. I want you to think of the executives of Shell Oil and BP and the executives of all of the major drilling companies that are operating here in Pennsylvania. Those CEOs and board members, I want you to picture them. They are sitting in that boardroom right now, or maybe they are sitting on their yachts, or maybe they are traveling in the Caribbean, because it is cold here but it is warm in the Caribbean, or maybe they are in the south of France. Wherever they may be, I want you to picture them and understand this, that right now, those executives, those big shots, those heavyweights, those big dogs, that is what we like to call them, they are laughing all the way to the bank, because once again, once again, we have a proposal on the table that indicates

that they do not need to pay their fair share to this Commonwealth, to the taxpayers, and especially to those local communities where they are drilling in this Commonwealth, making tons of money, hand over fist, but not paying their fair share.

They get a break. Again. Again. They get left off the hook in this proposal. Now, how fair is that? Where is the sacrifice borne by everybody in that conversation? These individuals, when they put their business model together, Mr. President, to come to Pennsylvania to drill in Pennsylvania where we have the motherlode of shale -- not just in Pennsylvania, not just in the northeast region, not just in the northeast corridor, we have the motherlode of shale throughout the United States of America. And if you drill down past Marcellus and you go even deeper to the Utica reserves, we probably have the motherlode of shale in the entire world. That is what has been reported. And these guys have the rights to it, and they are just drilling, drilling, drilling.

When they set up their business model, they knew at some point they were going to have to pay a fee to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because that is good business practice. Why did they know that? Well, they know that because they pay a fee in West Virginia. They know that because they have to pay a fee in Texas. They know that because they have to pay a fee in Oklahoma. They know that because they have to pay a fee in Alaska. They have to pay a fee just about everywhere else, but then they come to Pennsylvania.

So they have this business model, they have this spreadsheet - I have to pay for this; I have to pay for that; I have to pay for this; my cost of doing business; and then there is a tax I have to pay, a number I have to pay in Pennsylvania. So year one goes past, and they do not have to pay it. Year two goes past, they do not have to pay it. Year three goes past, they do not have to pay it. Year four goes past, they do not have to pay it. Now, years five, six, and seven, the years are just growing and growing and growing, and they are not paying a dime.

And yet, while we let those guys go - those fat cats, those big shots, those big dogs - while we let those guys go, they are just laughing. BP, Shell, and all the rest of them are just rolling in the dough, rolling in the dough. Are we looking good here in Pennsylvania? They are rolling in the dough, but we are cutting \$1 billion out of the schools of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and we are cutting almost \$1 billion out of our higher education institutions and forcing tuition increases of 20 to 25 percent and probably laying off people at each and every one of those universities.

There is no fairness there. How do we let these guys off the hook? How do we let them off the hook? Even in a modest proposal, a modest program that was offered up recently, they get left off the hook time and time again, and it is not fair. It is not right. It is not appropriate. And I am glad that what we heard today was only a proposal, because if we have some good sense and we want to do the right thing for the people, especially the children, we will revisit these guys and revisit some kind of assessment that needs to be put on their backs.

They need to pay to do business in Pennsylvania, even if it is only a little bit. It is their contribution for the destruction of the roads and highways that they are doing and for, at the very least, targeting those fees to try to protect the environment, because right now, we do not have enough people paying attention to them and we need to make sure there are more people watching what they are doing and keeping an oversight of what they are

doing to make sure they do not destroy the environment, our precious environment, in this Commonwealth.

So if anyone wants to say that there has been shared sacrifice in this budget proposal, I think they are missing it, and I think they are missing it badly. We need to return to this document. We need to go through the 3 weeks of budget hearings. We need to modulate this. We need to work with this. We need to be conscious and thoughtful about what is in the best interests of the people in the Commonwealth. We need to make sure that if there is going to be sacrifice, that it has to be, in fact, shared. It has to be shared, and that children and families cannot carry on their backs the balancing of this State budget. What this State budget proposal does, Mr. President, is balance this budget on the backs of working families and children. And those working families and children did not cause this recession that we are in. The recession that we are in, the financial collapse that caused this recession, was not caused by average working people in this Commonwealth. They did not cause that. It was other folks who caused this recession. The budget should not be balanced on their backs. Hopefully, we will have the good sense to make the appropriate changes.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator David G. Argall) in the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Westmoreland, Senator Ward.

Senator WARD. Mr. President, today, as we all know, and have been discussing in this Chamber, Governor Corbett announced his budget for fiscal year 2011-12. None of us should be or probably were surprised with the rollback in spending that he outlined. He made it very clear that the rubber has hit the road, and that we can no longer spend more than we have. His decision to make hard choices so early in this administration demonstrates the enormity of the Commonwealth's financial situation.

As the budget hearings begin in the coming weeks in both Chambers, and without further Federal stimulus bailouts--which provide a false inflation to our revenue--this body should heed the concerns of the taxpayers all across the Commonwealth, and those concerns are no more taxes. We cannot ask our hardworking residents to pay any more. The taxpayers paying the freight have nothing left to keep these programs going. They have nothing left to fund the feel-good programs that have been propped up by the last 8 years of spending. They have no more money to keep allowing methadone users the luxury of traveling to the clinic of their choice on the taxpayer's dime. In the district in which I represent, hardworking taxpayers are infuriated by the handouts from the Department of Public Welfare to individuals who receive methadone treatment. They cannot understand why so many people get free taxicab transportation to clinics 50 miles away from their home to get their methadone, and for many users, this has been going on for years, 10 years, 15 years.

According to a report by the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee report, authorized by this body, \$32.5 million was spent on methadone maintenance transportation alone in fiscal year 2009-10. This is a 26-percent increase from 2 years ago. And over the last 3 years, these transportation costs have accounted for 38 percent of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program. I have proposed legislation which limits spending

for transportation and have asked the Department of Public Welfare to limit the trips to the closest available clinics. An individual who lives 5 miles from a clinic should not be traveling 50 miles to a clinic one way. Not on the taxpayer's dime. We cannot afford that any longer. And this is just one example of out-of-control spending and why we need to support this Governor in his attempt to rein it in.

There will be those who will be quick to argue that changes to these programs are too tough. I argue that the changes are essential to putting Pennsylvania back on a responsible fiscal track. Just this morning, in a conversation with the Acting Secretary of the Department of Public Welfare, we found ourselves linking the merits of another bill, the E-verify legislation, to the future cost savings in the Welfare Department. His experience in another State that began holding contractors accountable for hiring illegal workers, through mandatory participation in the Federal E-verify system, saw a significant reduction on the welfare burden because those illegal workers left the State when they were no longer able to collect from the public coffers. We must take a strong stance against our Commonwealth becoming a State for perpetual handouts for those who are here illegally and those who refuse to work for years on end.

Our challenge this year is to reconcile our moral concerns which will arise when social programs are cut. We need to have the fiscal courage that will put Pennsylvania back on the right economic track. We must not commit our Commonwealth to spending forever and ever, without some type of responsible restraint. We have to commit to facing these challenges, and we need to do it to the best of our ability.

And I am not standing here today to argue the line-by-line budget items that the Governor laid out, because while there will be a lot of give-and-take on some of the individual line items, as negotiations move forward on the budget, the Governor's Budget Address set the right tone by recognizing and insisting that Pennsylvania must live within its means and not continue to spend money that we do not have. It is simple. It is the way we all run our homes. I thought Governor Corbett said it best today in his address when he said, we now have to prioritize the must-haves with the nice-to-haves.

Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Stack.

Senator STACK. Mr. President, I have heard, I have to say, a lot of thoughtful things from Members on the Republican side and on the Democratic side. There are things I disagree with, and there are things I agree with. One thing is for sure: we are in a tough situation, and there is no way we are going to be able to solve this problem unless we work together.

There is something I want to talk about. People say, Senator Stack, do not tell me you are going to talk about adultBasic again. I will talk about it until I feel that we are solving that problem. Mr. President, I heard the Governor talk today about jobs, jobs, jobs, and helping working Pennsylvanians, but when it comes to the adultBasic health insurance program that has helped thousands of working Pennsylvanians obtain healthcare, the silence was deafening.

Now, I know the Governor has a tough job to do, we all know that, but during his Budget Address, the long-awaited Budget Address, he did not make one single mention of the adultBasic program. Zero. Not one peep. So, I am here to stand up—I know

it may sound old-fashioned or cliché—but I am here to stand up for the little guy. He said that the budget proposal separates the must-haves from the nice-to-haves. You cannot possibly think that basic health insurance is a luxury. Sure, it is something that is nice to have. It is nice to have it if you do not want to get critically ill, or become bankrupt and ruined. But it is certainly not a luxury, and we all better know that. It is a lifeline, not only for the—and I have heard different estimates, some say it is 40,800, some say it is 42,000, some say it is 41,000, but it is over 40,000—hardworking men and women who were on the adultBasic program, and a half-million who were on the waiting list. Take a look at that waiting list and that shows you the depth of this problem. A half-million people on the waiting list. These are working people with no insurance and, right now, no hope any kind of insurance.

I just want to point out another thing that folks have not talked about. Between 66 and 70 percent of the people on the adultBasic program—these are the working Pennsylvanians who are not poor enough for other kinds of insurance and cannot afford their own health insurance—66 to 70 percent of these people are working women. So how can you be for jobs, jobs, jobs, and not be for women, women, women? But it is as if on March 1, the adultBasic program and its recipients vanished into thin air. How can we simply forget 41,000 Pennsylvanians?

Look, I understand. We have talked about this. I know that the issue of a substitute for adultBasic or something that helps us solve the problem is going to be discussed as the budget negotiations go on between the leadership on the Republican side, on this side, in the House and the Senate. I respect that. I am glad that it is going to be on the radar, but that does not mean that we should not act now. My legislation, Senate Bill No. 420, as I have said on this floor many times before, would allocate the General Assembly's almost \$190 million in budget reserves to fund the operating expenses for the adultBasic program for at least a year, or for less than a year, or for more than a year. I am flexible.

We could also pass Senator Costa's Senate Bill No. 729 to use a portion of the current year's budget surplus. We could use Representative DeLuca's proposal to use money from the Automobile CAT Fund, or we could pass Senator Kitchen's Senate Resolution No. 43, and have the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee study the issue and give us their recommendations. And, in the hallway today, I just spoke with Auditor General Jack Wagner. He has some very good ideas, and he is also flexible and believes we could do a hybrid.

So, all these options buy us time to keep these good people insured. Or, instead, we could pay a lot more when these people get really, really sick, as they are guaranteed to do if they do not have health insurance. So, ultimately, our goal has got to be to keep them insured until the Federal health exchange is enacted in 2014. This new administration may have put the adultBasic program out of its mind, but I have not. And I am not going to let the adultBasic program disappear without a fight, Mr. President. So, we have to find a way to fund this crucial program, and if we cannot do that, we have to make another plan. But ignoring thousands of people will not make them go away, like voila, as if they never existed.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Erickson.

Senator ERICKSON. Mr. President, today, as everyone has said, we heard the Governor give his Budget Address. He talked about the State as a safety net. He talked about preserving core functions. I am, of course, very concerned that we do that, particularly those people with developmental and intellectual disabilities and people in our mental health system. It appears that the budget did do that.

I, too, am concerned, as previous speakers have indicated, about the adultBasic program. We must do something to provide medical care to those people who cannot afford it, those people who are chronically ill. So, having said that, let me please share with you what we are trying to accomplish.

We have, on a number of occasions, indicated that it is not a matter of providing just insurance. It is a matter of providing a medical home for people, someplace where people can go and someplace where people can get direct medical care. Senate Bill No. 5 was passed in this Chamber last Session. It passed unanimously. It is the bill that would establish new clinics and support the expansion of existing clinics. That bill is currently in the Committee on Public Health and Welfare. Senator Vance has agreed to run it out as soon as possible. There will be some money attached to it that can be used to, again, start new clinics and also to provide some support for existing clinics. But that is not enough. We need to look at other mechanisms to treat this whole problem in a much more holistic fashion.

So, let me run through a few of the things that we have done. We have convened an internal working group and we are doing the following: We are looking at the people who have gone from adultBasic into the Special Care program. The Special Care program is much more expensive, of course, on a monthly basis for those individuals. There is a way, however, we think, to subsidize that cost. And that cost can be subsidized by taking some money from the Blues and from the for-profit insurance companies. We have been talking to them. They are willing to continue those conversations. And, in fact, the Blues across the Commonwealth already are supporting clinics.

In addition to that, we are looking at the potential to get an insurance product that would wrap around the existing Special Care program, or wrap around the clinics program, perhaps even better, that would be for catastrophic kinds of occurrences. If somebody goes to a clinic and the doctor says, hey, you need to go into the hospital. Obviously, they do not have insurance. Well, there is a model that has been constructed by Dr. Zane Gates from Altoona that has an insurance product that has hospital-only insurance that is low-cost insurance. That is something that we are also reaching out to our hospitals on and trying to put into the mix.

We are looking into specialty physician networks. Senator Brubaker has a bill where if community health clinics are not readily available, it would create physician, hospital, and partner volunteer programs. We are looking at continuing education credits for healthcare providers who volunteer at the health clinics. Senator Browne has that bill.

We are looking into a physician loan forgiveness program that will tend to keep our physicians and dentists in the Commonwealth. I have that bill. We are looking also--Senator Vance has a bill to allow the sale of low-cost prescription drugs, and we are looking at creating an Internet program at the Department of Health to assist low-income insured individuals in assessing

prescription assistance programs. That is a bill that Senator McIlhinney has.

In the future, we would like to introduce an electronic medical records bill that would implement medical safety automation systems. We are looking at healthy living communities and supporting those. We are looking at a high-risk pool mechanism to obtain affordable health insurance, Senator Folmer has that.

These are some of the things that we are doing. Again, we are working internally. Much of this has been formulated. We are, again, in the process of talking to our insurers to see if we can get support, and we will, of course, be reaching out across the aisle to get support and ideas from other people relative to, again, a more holistic approach to solving our healthcare problem for people who really do need and deserve that care.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Williams.

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, let me start with the obvious. Democrats get it. We get it. There is a fixed amount of money to spend, and we do not plan to spend over a dime more. We are not running around with the old slogans of "tax and spend." We have been taught and elected with a perspective on fiscal responsibility and accountability, and I am sure there are many who, when the Governor made his public comments, looked to me when he started talking about choice, of which we share a common bond. I was certainly happy to hear that included in his opening comments.

But I want to make sure we are all clear with understanding the framework, that I have read the entire budget. I am an old economics major from Franklin and Marshall, and to drive an economy, it does seem to me, when people talk about the private sector, he is absolutely right. The private sector will drive us and drive this nation. But to create a private sector, you have to actually have rules to the process. That is where government comes in.

And so I draw our attention to a very narrow portion of that, one on which we will comment, I would guess, for some period of time, the subject of the Marcellus Shale. And I am not going to lament on the taxing issue. We will just talk about its existence. But since you want to talk about it, let me just refer to the one point that he did make - let us make Pennsylvania the Texas of the natural gas boom. Well, I want you to understand something: Texas taxes the big boys.

But even if you do not want to do that, let us talk about the underlying considerations, that being the comment that these resources, by the way, belong to the people who own those mineral rights. Those people are getting their fair share by working out their own leases with companies doing the drilling. That is how it should be. That is the American way. Well, in Pennsylvania, we decided to go one step further. We are fair to not only the folks who own the land, but to those who do not own the land because of the consideration of a commonwealth. I think the Governor knows and the department heads know that some of that land is not owned by an individual, it is the Commonwealth's land. So, we are due something in return because there has been no agreement. That is why the previous Governor had to put a cap on drilling on game lands within Pennsylvania. That whole conversation is up to some confusion level. I am not sure whether we are still doing that or not, but the reality is if we are

going to drill, that is the Commonwealth's lease, not an individual's lease.

And further to that end, there are individuals who will now seek legislation in Harrisburg called pooling. If you have lot A here, and there is lot B in between, and lot C over there, well, they are talking about introducing a bill that says the person in the middle who does not come to an agreement, guess what? We as a Commonwealth can supercede them, saying they are blocking the fracking process, and we will drill right underneath them. That is not the American way, and it is certainly not the Pennsylvania way.

So there is a lot to be considered when it comes to the rights of individuals in terms of the process which has already been set up. There is a lot more work to be done. And those who apparently are going to do that work, headed by Lieutenant Governor Jim Cawley, are going to be leading a Marcellus Shale commission to oversee how we can build around this new industry and make certain that we do this well, while protecting our lands, our drinking water, our air, and our communities, all while growing our workforce.

"I've directed Jim and the commission to get back to me with findings in 120 days." The clock is ticking, and as that clock ticks, the only people of whom I am aware on that commission come from the oil and gas industry. There is an old phrase that my grandmother taught me, which is: the fox is watching the hen house. There is nothing fair or objective or, frankly, makes me feel warm at heart or fuzzy about that commission.

If the Governor truly does want to achieve some level of protection for drinking water, air, and most significantly, communities, we might want to have a community leader or two, all across Pennsylvania. With all due respect to people who think this is a boom of the west, it is a boom of Pennsylvania. There will be drilling lines all over Pennsylvania. It will not just be the west, it will be the east. It will be all parts, because that is the intent. If it is going to be the boom land, then we are going to distribute that natural gas not just in Pennsylvania, but all across this country and, frankly, probably across the world. In order to do that, you have to drill lines, and that means all of us should participate and all of us should share, not just those individuals who have figured out how to come to some accommodation for a contract they are probably ill-prepared to read.

The most significant thing in that conversation is not the assessment or the taxes, it is how it is to work in Pennsylvania. This is a telling moment for all of us. If we are going to have an industry that is going to carry us into the next century, if we are going to have an economy structured around such a boom, then that industry should certainly be honestly, fairly, and objectively constructed by all parties and participants, not just those from the industry.

So while I am heartened to hear that we will have an educated, competitive workforce that can go to work, I am most concerned about the industry in which they will choose to work. Will it be fairly constructed so that wages are properly distributed, that contracts are fairly created, and, ultimately, will the Commonwealth financially benefit by the consequence of this boom? In every other State in America, with the exception of Pennsylvania, they are most heartily at work with preparing an economy that is fair to the industry, fair to the individual, and fair to that State. We should do no less. In fact, we should do more.

We are not scaring anyone away by having this conversation. In fact, as we talk today, the industry has consolidated, bought up many of the small mom-and-pop operators, and are beginning to consolidate in the northeast and, in particular, Pennsylvania. That is a good thing, and we will encourage that to happen. We will also not do it at the sacrifice of safe drinking water, air, and revenues to the Commonwealth that owns the land from which they will drill. We will be partners at the table, equal partners, not pushed around by them and not pushed around by us. It will be a partnership. If, in fact, it is a boom, it will be one borne out of honest, fair, open, transparent negotiations. And I hope that we start with that commission, which will be broadly set by all participants in that process.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Northampton, Senator Boscola.

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, one of the issues that the Governor pointed to today was that we have to live within our means, and I completely agree with that. As our economy begins to recover slowly, the last thing we need is a tax increase. And I do believe the Governor when he said, quote, "We must tax no more. Because the people have no more to give." We understand that. We have to run government like a household and live within our means, but when you live within your means, like a family, you have to prioritize your budget. We agree that government has grown largely in the last several years, and we clearly need to resize, rethink, and reinvent our government.

The difficult point I have with Governor Corbett's budget—I will get into this more in a month from now after the hearings of the Committee on Appropriations take place—but one of my concerns is that when he prioritized, it seems that the priority was not given to our educational institutions. I look at, and I think our school districts were prepared for the fact that they knew they were going to get some cuts, that there was going to be pain, and that it would have to be shared. We all understood that. But what has happened is our basic educational system subsidy was cut, but so was higher education by 50 percent.

Now, that means middle class families are going to have to pull more out of their pocketbook for an education. It is shameful, actually, given the fact that our Department of Corrections budget did not take a hit. So, our corrections budget went up, and our education budget went down. To me, that is the wrong priority. And I bet, if we went around this entire State and talked to people sitting around the coffee shop and asked them, would you rather see cuts in education or corrections, they would say corrections every time, yet this budget does not cut it, but cuts education. That is one of the areas, I think, in the next several weeks and months as we go through this budget process, that we need to sit down together as Democrats and Republicans and figure out how not to do this on the backs of hardworking Americans and Pennsylvanians.

I do want to say that I agree with the Governor on the mandates. Look, we are going to get rid of mandates. We are going to untie the hands of school district mandates. I am all for that, but at the same time, I am not for cutting our educational system to the point that we are, especially when other areas of the budget were not cut. And I even agree with him on the capital stock and franchise tax phaseout, because I do believe that the business community is the better creator of jobs in this Commonwealth.

Again, and I want to reemphasize, I agree with most of the points the Governor made. I do not think the priority is in the right place, though, when it comes to educational funding, and I will talk about that later, in the next couple of weeks as we move forward. But I am just hoping that the Republicans on the other side of the aisle, the administration, can come together and work with us to help improve and maybe not so drastically cut those education funds. Thank you.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator RAFFERTY, from the Committee on Transportation, reported the following bills:

SB 631 (Pr. No. 638)

An Act designating the section of State Route 23 that is situated between Chester County's border with Montgomery County and State Route 100 as the Medal of Honor Grove Highway.

SB 723 (Pr. No. 707)

An Act designating the bridge that connects South Williamsport to Williamsport, known as the Market Street Bridge, carrying U.S. Route 15 over the Susquehanna River in Loyalsock Township, Lycoming County, as the Carl E. Stotz Memorial Little League Bridge.

SB 745 (Pr. No. 744)

An Act amending the act of July 5, 1984 (P.L.587, No.119), known as the Rail Freight Preservation and Improvement Act, further providing for contracts, procurement and sale of property and competition in award of contracts.

Senator BAKER, from the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, reported the following bills:

SB 264 (Pr. No. 241)

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for burial details for veterans.

SB 456 (Pr. No. 443)

An Act amending the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code, in special powers and duties of counties, further providing for flags to decorate graves.

SB 623 (Pr. No. 641)

An Act amending Title 62 (Procurement) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for contracting with veteran-owned small businesses; and imposing duties on the Department of General Services and other Commonwealth purchasing agencies.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

SB 264, SB 456, SB 623, SB 631, SB 723 and SB 745.

And said bills having been considered for the first time,
Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for second consideration.

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES (Continued)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Blake.

Senator BLAKE. Mr. President, I have just a few comments to echo those that have already been noted by my colleagues. I am new to this Chamber, but I am not new to this process. Having seen budgets passed and understanding the priorities that are reflected in the Governor's budget, I have some comments I would like to render today for the record.

First and foremost, I acknowledge the previous comments of Senator Corman that this is just a blueprint and that we will have our chance to put our stamp on it. Thank goodness for that. The Democratic Caucus, as my colleagues have said, understands the difficulty that the Governor faces in coming upon this budget cycle, and we acknowledge the necessity for austerity. But as the budget does reflect priorities, Mr. President, I think there is no one in the State who would argue that education is not the most important priority that this State government has to its people, and to see upward of \$2 billion in cuts to public education and higher education should give us great pause. Despite the austerity that we should show, this is not a reflection of priorities, it is the worst economic development strategy that we could undertake as a Commonwealth.

I will also say, as someone who is familiar with the effects of community and economic development programs in this Commonwealth, they have shown great value. In the past 8 years, we have seen that State investments have driven significant private investment and the State has retained jobs, which has guaranteed that infrastructure could be built for long-term assets for this Commonwealth. These programs have staved off a worse impact of this national recession in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, yet this budget takes DCED and cuts it by one-third. This budget cuts into programs that have real value for local governments.

Mr. President, I think that we have an obligation to guarantee a vigorous debate on the priorities of this budget, and I look forward to participating in it and joining my colleagues in the battle to get a better plan for our citizens. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

The following announcements were read by the Secretary of the Senate:

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2011

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| 9:00 A.M. | BANKING AND INSURANCE (public hearing on the nomination of Michael F. Consedine as Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner) | Rm. 8E-B East Wing |
| 9:00 A.M. | PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE (to consider the nomination of Acting Secretary Eli N. Avila as the Secretary of Health) | Room 461 Main Capitol |

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| <u>TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2011</u> | | | 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Conservation & Natural Resources) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 10:00 A.M. | CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (public hearing on gas explosion and pipeline safety) | Symphony Hall 3rd Floor, Rodale Rm. 23 N. 6th St. Allentown | <u>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011</u> | | |
| 10:00 A.M. | INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS (informational hearing on strategies and challenges in streamlining State Government) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Revenue) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| <u>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2011</u> | | | 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Health) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Governor's Budget Office/Executive Offices and Office of the Governor) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | 1:00 P.M. | LEGISLATIVE REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION (for the purpose of a public hearing to receive testimony from individuals interested in being considered for the position of Commission Chair) | Rm. 8E-B East Wing |
| 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Treasury Department) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - PA State System of Higher Education) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Labor & Industry) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | <u>THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011</u> | | |
| <u>THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011</u> | | | 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Environmental Protection) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of General Services) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Transportation) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Public Utility Commission) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Aging) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Insurance Department) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | <u>MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2011</u> | | |
| <u>FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2011</u> | | | 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Office of Auditor General) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 9:30 A.M. | JUDICIARY (public hearing on the use of DNA in criminal investigations) | Independence Visitor Ctr., 6th & Market Streets Phila., PA | 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Judicial Department) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| <u>MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011</u> | | | 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - State Related Universities) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - SERS/PSERS) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | <u>TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2011</u> | | |
| 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Office of Attorney General) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Education) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Military & Veterans Affairs) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Corrections/Probation & Parole) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| <u>TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011</u> | | | 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Community & Economic Development/PA Housing Finance Agency) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - PA Liquor Control Board) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | <u>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2011</u> | | |
| 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - PA State Police) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. | 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Public Welfare) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| 1:00 P.M. | EDUCATION (public hearing - informational briefing from the Dept. of Education on status of the Keystone exams and implementation of PA's Value Added Assessment System (PVAAS) disclosure via Act 104 of 2010, capabilities of PVAAS system in evaluating student achievement and the new 4-year cohort graduation rate) | Rm. 8E-A East Wing | 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of Agriculture) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| | | | 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Gaming Control Board) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| | | | <u>THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011</u> | | |
| | | | 9:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - Department of State) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |

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| 10:30 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (Budget Hearing - PEMA/Homeland Security) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
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MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2011

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| 9:00 A.M. | JUDICIARY (public hearing on the issue of joint and several liability) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
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TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2011

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| 10:00 A.M. | LOCAL GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bills No. 375, 386, 725, 726, 828 829, 830, 831, 832 and 834) | Rm. 8E-A East Wing |
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RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Senator Waugh.

Senator WAUGH. Mr. President, as we conclude this day--you and I both have been here awhile--it is another exciting and, I think, a productive day, as we heard our new Governor kick off his budget ball, so to speak. We heard a lot of perspectives. I look forward to the days and weeks ahead as we hear more of that. Just on a personal note, I liked a lot of what we heard today. I think there is a really positive atmosphere here as we get into this new budget that focuses on fiscal responsibility.

But my role now, at the end of the day, is to move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at 10 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 4:06 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.