

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012

SESSION OF 2012 196TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 17

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, March 14, 2012

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator John C. Rafferty, Jr.) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rabbi BRIAN I. MICHELSON, of Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom, Wyomissing, offered the following prayer:

Creator and Sustainer of the world, accept our thanks for this day and its possibilities and blessings. May we appreciate and use each day that comes to us. We pray for strength and guidance for each day's duties and each day's problems. We recognize how different we are, our talents, our dreams, our backgrounds and vocations. It is good to know that when You created each of us, You broke the mold. No one is exactly like anyone else. Even our thumbprint and voice track tell us how unique we are. Yet, we thank You that we can take these differences and mobilize them for the good of our communities, our State, and our nation. In our differences, we can think the same thoughts and move together toward a common goal. Bless and guide these lawmakers as they meet together. Thank You for our individuality and also for our common bond. Amen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair thanks Rabbi Michelson, who is the guest today of Senator Schwank.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPOINTMENT BY THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair wishes to announce the Minority Leader has made the following appointment:

Senator John Blake as a member of the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator VANCE, from the Committee on Public Health and Welfare, reported the following bills:

SB 1351 (Pr. No. 1873)

An Act amending the act of June 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), known as the Vital Statistics Law of 1953, further providing for death and fetal death registration information for certificates, for coroner referrals and for pronouncement of death by a professional nurse.

HB 1400 (Pr. No. 2652)

An Act establishing a Statewide stroke system of care by recognizing primary stroke centers and directing the creation of emergency medical services training and transport protocols; and providing for the powers and duties of the Department of Health.

HB 1960 (Pr. No. 2674)

An Act amending the act of November 24, 1999 (P.L.884, No.54), known as the Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers Act, further providing for definitions and for regulations.

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

SB 1395 (Pr. No. 1925)

An Act designating State Routes 3035 and 3033 in Robesonia Borough, Heidelberg Township, North Heidelberg Township and Penn Township, Berks County, as the Captain David Eric Pannabecker POW-MIA Memorial Highway.

SB 1429 (Pr. No. 1968)

An Act designating the bridge carrying State Route 114 over Interstate 81 in Silver Spring Township, Cumberland County, as the Corporal Paul Walters Memorial Bridge.

RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SR 246 (Pr. No. 1929)

A Concurrent Resolution memorializing Congress to re-evaluate the enhanced emission inspection program as required by the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be placed on the Calendar.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request legislative leaves for Senator Brubaker and Senator Ward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Solobay and Senator Stack, and legislative

leaves for Senator Kasunic, Senator Washington, Senator Williams, and Senator Yudichak.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pileggi requests legislative leaves for Senator Brubaker and Senator Ward.

Senator Costa requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Solobay and Senator Stack, and legislative leaves for Senator Kasunic, Senator Washington, Senator Williams, and Senator Yudichak.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Senator PILEGGI asked and obtained leaves of absence for Senator ORIE and Senator FOLMER, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

Senator COSTA asked and obtained a leave of absence for Senator HUGHES, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

JOURNALS APPROVED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Journals of the Sessions of January 25, 2012, and January 26, 2012, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the Sessions of January 25, 2012, and January 26, 2012.

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Journals are approved.

**GUESTS OF SENATOR JUDY SCHWANK
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Berks, Senator Schwank.

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce to my colleagues Rabbi Brian Michelson and his wife, Mrs. Holly Michelson, who is sitting up in the gallery. Rabbi has been in residence at Temple Oheb Sholom for 14 years. Both he and his wife are the parents of two daughters. Mrs. Michelson also

has a role in the synagogue as well, as a teacher of Hebrew in the religious school. I am so delighted to have them here today, Mr. President, and I ask that my colleagues join me in welcoming them.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Schwank please rise so that the Senate may give you its usual warm welcome.

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

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.

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

SB 209 (Pr. No. 1981) -- 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, providing for disclosure by school entities of certain interscholastic athletic opportunity information.

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 gentlewoman from Venango, Senator White.

Senator M.J. WHITE. Mr. President, I rise to ask for an affirmative vote on this bill and to thank the Leadership on both sides of the aisle for moving it as quickly as they have through the process. This is not a new bill. This bill passed the Senate unanimously last Session, but was not taken up by the House of Representatives. This year, I have sicced the Girl Scouts on the House, and hopefully we can get some movement.

This bill provides that in grades 7 through 12, schools must provide information on a form prepared by the Department of Education to the department for posting on the department's Web site as to the amount of resources it spends on boys' sports and girls' sports. Recent audits in some areas have shown that there is severe disparity in scholastic athletic opportunities for young women in our schools. Some schools are doing a magnificent job, but the gap is huge. Other research has shown that young women who participate in competitive sports in school have much better outcomes across the board. They are more likely to

graduate, they have better health, they make close friendships, and, generally, are more successful. Two of the studies that have come out recently show that these benefits last well into their 40s. They have better earning power and generally better health and physical fitness.

This is for all of the young women in this Commonwealth who deserve an opportunity for a college scholarship to participate in NCAA sports. We had the Mighty Macs here from Immaculata University this week. They are wonderful role models for girls on teamwork and friendship. I hope we can, once again, pass this bill unanimously and get prompt action in the House of Representatives.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, I also rise to support Senator White's bill, and I thank her for her leadership on this matter, which the Committee on Education unanimously approved. This is a matter of equity and opportunities, and as you heard in the invocation, this is also a matter of possibilities. We want to make sure that every single resident of this Commonwealth has the greatest possibility to participate in athletics and to excel. I think Senator White has made the case in a very articulate manner. I hope we will unanimously support this as we did in the Committee on Education.

I also rise because, as being one of the hosts of the Mighty Macs this week, I want to say, Senator White is absolutely correct. They are role models, and they paved the way, and now we here in the Senate today are going to continue to pave the way of equity and opportunity in athletics in this Commonwealth.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

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-47

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

NAY-0

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 790 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 884 (Pr. No. 2003) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 15 (Corporations and Unincorporated Associations) and 54 (Names) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Title 15, making extensive revisions, additions and deletions to preliminary material on general provisions; to corporation material on general provisions, on incorporation, on corporate powers, duties and safeguards, on officers, directors and shareholders, on fundamental changes, on registered corporations, on insurance corporations, on foreign business corporations, on incorporation and on foreign nonprofit corporations; to material on limited liability companies; and to material on business trusts; in Title 54, further providing for general provisions and for corporate and other association names; and making related repeals.

Considered the third time and agreed to,
And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-47

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

NAY-0

A majority of 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 1329 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1373 (Pr. No. 2011) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for six months limitation and for deficiency judgments.

Considered the third time and agreed to,
And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-47

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

NAY-0

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

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

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS REREFERRED

SB 10 (Pr. No. 173) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for health care services.

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

HB 61 (Pr. No. 29) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for collection of court costs, restitution and fines by private collection agency.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 86 (Pr. No. 1680) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for dealing in proceeds of unlawful activities, for the unlawful disposition of motor vehicles and for investigation by police officers; and repealing the Motor Vehicle Chop Shop and Illegally Obtained and Altered Property Act.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 210, SB 345 and SB 819 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 932 (Pr. No. 1007) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 4, 1996 (P.L.911, No.147), known as the Telemarketer Registration Act, further providing for duration of a listing.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 968 and HB 1026 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 1036 (Pr. No. 1301) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 1, 1956 (1955 P.L.1944, No.655), referred to as the Liquid Fuels Tax Municipal Allocation Law, further providing for allocated money.

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

HB 1054 (Pr. No. 3214) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 23, 1945 (P.L.913, No.367), known as the Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law, further providing for continuing professional competency requirements.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1080 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL REREFERRED

SB 1115 (Pr. No. 1982) -- 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, further providing for definitions; and providing for the distribution of special education funding for student achievement and instruction of eligible students and for special education accountability.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 1200 (Pr. No. 2009) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 62 (Procurement) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for sole source procurement and for emergency procurement.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1223 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 1261 (Pr. No. 1625) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in municipal authorities, further providing for purposes and powers.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILL REREFERRED

SB 1296 (Pr. No. 1983) -- 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, further providing for manner of election or approval; providing for performance review; further providing for election of assistant district superintendents, for term and salary of assistants and for removal; providing for superintendents of schools or buildings and of supplies; and making an editorial change.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 1298 (Pr. No. 1864) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 19, 1974 (P.L.973, No.319), known as the Pennsylvania Farmland and Forest Land Assessment Act of 1974, further providing for definitions and for appeals.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1382 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILLS REREFERRED

SB 1398 (Pr. No. 1927) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 6, 1989 (P.L.169, No.32), known as the Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act, further providing for Underground Storage Tank Environmental Cleanup Program and for Underground Storage Tank Pollution Prevention Program.

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

SB 1406 (Pr. No. 1934) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 24 (Education) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in private colleges, universities and seminaries, further providing for certification of institutions.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Senators GREENLEAF, DINNIMAN, COSTA, RAFFERTY, TARTAGLIONE, BOSCOLA, ERICKSON, KASUNIC, BAKER, BREWSTER, KITCHEN, WAUGH, STACK, ALLOWAY, FONTANA, D. WHITE, PILEGGI, ORIE, FARNESE, BROWNE, SCHWANK, SOLOBAY, WARD, FERLO, EARLL, PIPPY and BRUBAKER, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 269**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of March 2012 as "Brain Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator GREENLEAF. Mr. President, I rise, along with Senator Dinniman, to offer this resolution recognizing March 2012 as "Brain Injury Awareness Month." This is a major issue, particularly in Pennsylvania. It is the leading cause of disability and death from birth to age 40. Over 130,000 Pennsylvanians are living with a long-term disability resulting from a traumatic brain injury, and more than 50,000 Pennsylvanians are treated and released from emergency rooms for a traumatic brain injury annually. It is estimated that there are 50,000 to 125,000 mild traumatic brain injuries, or concussions, resulting from sports and

recreational activities in Pennsylvania every year. There are leading institutions in the State and nation for brain injuries, including the Penn Center for Brain Injury and Repair at the University of Pennsylvania, the Moss Rehabilitation Research Institute, the Brain Trauma Research Center at the University of Pittsburgh, and the Center for Injury Research and Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The best approach in dealing with this issue is awareness, prevention, and treatment of brain injuries. This effort, this resolution, along with Senator Dinniman, and approximately 23 other Members of the Senate who cosponsored this resolution with us, will help to bring this issue to awareness. We have seen all too often, if you have an impact on the sports field or recreational field, it is treated with not a lot of seriousness. These statistics show that it is a serious situation, and we have to be very sensitive of how we deal with these injuries. Awareness is one of the major things that we must do, and adopting this resolution will go a long way in helping that. Thank you very much.

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, I rise with Senator Greenleaf, as the two of us are co-chairs of the Brain Injury Caucus in the Senate. We share our concern, and we continue efforts for prevention so that people learn more about what causes brain injury, and not get into those situations. The Senate already took some action this year on the matter of concussions and to immediately get people off of the field and not to come on the field until cleared by a physician.

We also want to note the tremendous research that is going on in institutions in the Commonwealth, and the tremendous treatment programs. In my district, we have Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital, which is part of the Main Line Health system, and Bryn Mawr is one of the best hospitals in the nation. We also have Moss Rehabilitation Research Institute and other institutions in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and throughout the Commonwealth who help those who have brain injuries.

But what people do not realize is the number of brain injuries that occur each year, and the devastating consequences for individuals who have severe brain injury trauma. So I rise with Senator Greenleaf and urge the Senate to adopt this resolution and continue our programs of prevention, research, and the best possible treatment options.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

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

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

SPECIAL ORDER OR BUSINESS GUESTS OF SENATOR ELISABETH J. BAKER PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Luzerne, Senator Baker.

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise to introduce the Blue Knights of Wyoming Seminary and

their field hockey team, who are the reigning 2011 Class AA field hockey champions. The Wyoming Seminary Girls' Field Hockey Team has won the Class AA title three times in the past 4 years, and this win will mark the fifth State title that they have attained since 2001. It is also the school's first repeat championship. The team is here today with their head coach, Karen Klassner, and Alexis Kropp, the director of communications at Wyoming Seminary. It is also fitting that we honor these talented student athletes on a day when the Senate considered Senator Mary Jo White's legislation on gender equity in sports, and the establishment of data on interscholastic athletic opportunities in Pennsylvania schools.

Many of these young women will be continuing their academic and athletic careers at our nation's Division I, Division II, and Ivy League schools on academic and athletic scholarships. Field hockey has helped them achieve their goal of a quality education, and it has taught them leadership skills and how to work with others. They are talented young ladies. I am very pleased to join Senator Argall, Senator Gordner, Senator Blake, and Senator Yudichak in asking the Senate to join us in congratulating the Wyoming Seminary Field Hockey Team for their outstanding dedication and sportsmanship, and we wish them the best in the future.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The would the guests of Senator Baker please rise so that the Senate may give you its usual warm welcome.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR DAVID G. ARGALL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Schuylkill, Senator Argall.

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, every year, Pottsville Area High School sends us a large group of students to observe the workings of the House and the Senate, and after just having met them, I have to tell you that the quality of questions that they grilled me on rivals any college that I have ever visited. So I certainly ask the Members of the Senate to greet our friends here from Pottsville Area High School today.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Argall please rise so that the Senate may give you its usual warm welcome.

(Applause.)

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 Sergeant First Class Pamela Murphy, Michael Swankler, Brandon Krone, Dakota Berkheimer, Carson Berkheimer, Jacob V. Bradley, Ryan Allen Blair and to by Senator Alloway.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Bortnick, Jessica Kutza, Eleanor H. Oravitz, Kendall A. Belletti, Tyler F. McGeehan, Paul Webster Wagner and to the Blue Mountain School District by Senator Argall.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. John F. Callahan, Evan Barrett Haggarty and to the Dallas Kiwanis Club by Senator Baker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Gerard Hosie by Senator Blake.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Daniel James Duryea by Senator Boscola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mary Stubbmann, Jennesys Aviles, Polly Beste, Llyena Boylan, Barbara Diamant, Lindsay M. Kessler and to Shalome Sine by Senators Boscola and Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Keith Groller, Mary Lisicky, Michael Polaha and to Jacqueline Adamshick by Senators Boscola, Browne and Argall.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Gregory Douglas Williams by Senator Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert A. Allwein and to the Sacred Heart HealthCare System of Allentown by Senators Browne, Boscola and Mensch.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Saint Joseph Regional Health Network of Reading by Senator Browne and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Neil Shelley, Esther Schwartz, Virginia L. Good and to Tomlinson Bomberger Lawn Care, Landscape and Pest Control of Lancaster by Senator Brubaker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Lee E. Sausman, Jr., Ed Ruth, Edward R. Book, R. Franklin Campbell, David Taylor, Frank Molinaro, Steven Reinford, Mifflin County 4-H and to the Pennsylvania State University Wrestling Team by Senator Corman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable Timothy J. Solobay by Senator Costa.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Brown, Dr. Donald G. Meyer, Bryan Baker, Kerri Downes, Bruce Nixdorf, Marc Ferry, Brett T. Wesson, Janet Bernhard, Constance W. Bretz, Fred Mack, Jr., Betty Peterson, Mark Nixon, Missy Ranshausen, Hope Hand, Bradley Burns, Inc., of Wayne, Chester County SCORE of West Chester, Malvern Retreat House, Vishay Intertechnology, Inc., of Malvern, Woodlynde School, Rising Phoenix Tai Chi Arts Club of West Chester University and to the Hope Hand of Newtown Square by Senator Dinniman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Gollomp and to the Upper Main Line YMCA by Senators Dinniman and Erickson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Marie E. Moughan, Jeffrey T. Goggins, Gerald B. Rorer and to Peter Classen by Senators Dinniman and Leach.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Marc Lowenberg by Senators Dinniman and Rafferty.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Bayard Rustin High School Marching Band by Senators Dinniman, Erickson and Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. Lynn E. Garn and to Debra E. Topinka by Senator Eichelberger.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. Happy Craven Fernandez by Senator Farnese.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Pittsburgh City Council by Senator Ferlo.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Master Sergeant John M. Berger, Joshua Hertzog, Devin Deibert, Esther

Hernley, Natalie E. Williams, Karly I. Reigel and to Leah S. Henrich by Senator Folmer.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Caleb C. Gilbert, Ryan Solomon, Ryan Joseph Powers, Brent Michael Zerby, Shaun Scott Weiss, Sierra Lakotah Cleaver, Aaron Charles Mowery, Justin Philmore Cornell, Alexander James Shiber and to Andrew Paul Pursel by Senator Gordner.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Major John M. Gallaher by Senators Greenleaf and Piccola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Peterson and to Bible Way Baptist Church of Philadelphia by Senator Hughes.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to C.J. Popovich, Pam Tokar-Ickes and to the Wesley United Methodist Church of Connellsville by Senator Kasunic.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Reverend Martha A. Lang, Veronica Joyner, Paula Peebles and to Priscilla Woods by Senator Kitchen.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Emilie M. Melvin, Elisabeth A. Wagner, Allison R. Longo, David Gilmour and to Ryan Sarnacki by Senator Leach.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Charles Stanley Hughes, Stanley J. Niedzwiki, Benjamin Jong Boo Reinert, Chase Matthew Asplundh, Brittany Kunkel and to Anthony Steven Collora by Senator McIlhinney.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jean J. Schmidling, Eric Erickson, Jeffrey Richard Buehler, Brian Bodine, New Hope Historical Society, New Hope/Lambertville Restaurant Week, Yardley Olde Fashioned Christmas Parade, New Hope Celebrates Pride Week and Parade, Anthony's IV Pizza, Customer's Bank and to Havana Restaurant and Catering by Senators McIlhinney and Tomlinson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Keri L. Cunnane, Andrianna Ferri, Kelsey M. Trumpp, Theresa C. Marlin, Aleia M. Boccardi, Amy Cummings-Leight, Gabrielle M. Medina and to Megan J. Maskornick by Senator Mensch.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to J. Delton Plank by Senators Mensch and McIlhinney.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Allison Lusk, Benjamin Thomas Mooney, Katherine Stewart, Jaden Pasquinnelli, Rome Smathers, North Allegheny Senior High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad and to the North Allegheny Senior High School Junior Varsity Cheerleading Squad by Senator Orie.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable Andrew E. Dinniman, Gertrude M. Leck, Palma D. Baker, Sarah Nader, Mary Skulski, William Middleton, Albert R. Bilovsky and to John A. Ross, Nichole Philipp and to Margaret H. Greenland by Senator Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Cadet Second Lieutenant Martin A. Sipe and to Henry F. Devens III by Senator Pippy.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Chief James Keyser, Jonathan Simkins, Cody Luke Marchese, Evan James Friend, Meagan A. West and to the American Legion Post 901 by Senator Rafferty.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable Stanley Scott and to Luke David Bizal by Senators Rafferty and Dinniman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. Dennis J. Charlton, Margaret Lydia Wertz, Jon Hagen Grzegorzewski, Samuel James Tome, Cody Copeland and to the League of Women Voters of Mercer County by Senator Robbins.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Enos Crowe, Corporal Jeffrey A. Kunselman, Corporal Randy A. Yohe, Major Kimberly A. Leemhuis, Sergeant Alan F. Pifer, Trooper Donald A. Cameron, Perry Swanson, Austin James Eugene Cooper, Benedictine Sisters of Saint Joseph Monastery, Clearfield County Conservation District and to the Rural and Urban Leadership Program by Senator Scarnati.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Edward Pitchford by Senators Scarnati and Vance.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jessica T. Wolfe, Matthew Hughes, Aaron J. Messersmith and to Katarina I. Zambanini by Senator Schwank.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jane P. Marshall, Thomas M. Koraido, Braelyn Tracy, Victoria Buchtan, Trax Farms of Finleyville, Filer-Sadlek American Legion Post 954, Hopewell High School Girls' Basketball Team and to the members and coach of the Canon-McMillan Senior High School Wrestling Team by Senator Solobay.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Francesco Nunzio Semola, Daniel H. Grace, Thomas Patrick Dooley, John M. Elliot and to Stephanie A. Redeagle by Senator Tartaglione.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Lieutenant Luke Woodson, Daniel Maggiani, Dennis Kostenbauder, Daniel D. Williams IV, John K. Sauers, Jesse J. Martin, Timothy F. Curran and to the Suburban One League by Senator Tomlinson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Tim Scanlin, Alan J. Vogenberg and to the Bristol Riverside Theatre by Senators Tomlinson and McIlhinney.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Madhukar Panday, A. Clayton Brant, Eugene Giza, Gerald Schwillie, John H. Klinepeter and to the members of the 258th Engineer Combat Battalion Society by Senator Vance.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Susquehanna Chorale by Senators Vance and Piccola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shannon, Reverend Raymond Boccardi, Dario Marasco and to Helen Jane Jacobson by Senator Vogel.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Shane Michael Jogun, Adam Scott Myers, Kerrie Gill, Sr., and to Fang Wong by Senator Ward.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Bishop Eric A. Lambert II, David M. Lynch and to Cedar Park Presbyterian Church by Senator Washington.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to George B. Ripley, Travis A. Sowers, Jeremy C. Farmer and to Liam P. Brennan by Senator Waugh.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Connor Link, Mary Ann Gueguen and to Clement Rosenberger by Senator D. White.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rourke and to Armeida Mae McElravy by Senator M.J. White.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr., and to Mabel Brazington by Senator Williams.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend Ralph E. Johnson by Senator Wozniak.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert A. Bartron and to Brent Robert Maxwell by Senator Yaw.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Donato Farole, John Lopata and to the students of the Lehigh Area Middle School by Senator Yudichak.

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTIONS

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

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Susan Virginia Hallowell, to the family of the late Anne F. Cahill, to the family of the late Elizabeth L. Raab, and to the family of the late Shaun Patrick Barton by Senator McIlhinney.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Staff Sergeant Edward F. Greiner, Jr., by Senator Orie.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator PILEGGI. 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 1351, SB 1395, SB 1429, HB 1400 and HB 1960.

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

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognize the gentlewoman from Northampton, Senator Boscola.

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, I am soon going to be introducing legislation that would legalize small sports betting pools. I call them friendly pools. For somebody who might not understand what I am talking about, if you have ever participated in a Super Bowl pool, or a football pool, or currently--which a lot of people are doing--an NCAA bracket. Currently, if you sell a ticket to a pool like this, or if you organize an event like an NCAA tournament pool, you could be charged with bookmaking under Title 18, Section 5514. It is a first-degree misdemeanor punishable with a sentence of 5 years imprisonment, a minimum of 2 1/2 years, and a maximum fine of \$10,000. That is if you do an NCAA tournament pool, if you organize it or sell a ticket to it, or a football pool.

So what this legislation does is say that these types of pools are legitimate and legal here in Pennsylvania. Mr. President, most Pennsylvanians have either played one of these friendly pools at some point or they know someone who has. These pools are fun, and they are spirited and harmless in the way that it tests one's knowledge and luck at sports. No games are being fixed, no one is losing their life savings, and amateurs who run these pools do not receive any compensation. With reasonable constraints, I believe this legislation should be legalized.

Under this proposal, betting pools would be legal if the entry amount is \$20 or less, there is no more than 100 participants, there is an established social, professional, and familial relation-

ship between the contestants, and all pool proceeds are awarded to the contestant or to a clearly identified charity. The reality is, Mr. President, that many law-abiding citizens participate in betting pools at work, with their families, or with friends, or at local clubs, or social organizations. This own building has many pools being circulated today as I speak. All I am trying to say is, why do we want to penalize law-abiding citizens? Why do we want to make them criminals to actually sell a pool ticket?

We are going through March Madness right now and I, Mr. President, have done my own bracket. I am very proud of it. The only thing is, I am disappointed that Villanova is not on this bracket, because if they were, I would have them going all the way--which I would probably lose, but I would still do that because they are my alma mater. I do have Michigan State being the winner. So, Mr. President, all I am saying is, please help me, legislature, pass this legitimate legislation that says betting pools should be legal in Pennsylvania. It is a commonsense bill.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, now for something completely different. This weekend, we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day, and I want to take this opportunity to wish all Pennsylvanians a happy St. Patrick's Day. All too often, St. Patrick's Day has become a day for celebrating, sometimes to excess, and celebrating not just our Irishness, those of us who are Pennsylvanians and Americans with an Irish ancestry, but just a day for a party.

I would like to take a moment to say that we should remember the man on St. Patrick's Day, Saint Patrick himself, who through hard work and determination, turned a pagan nation Christian. And today when you visit Ireland, Catholic churches and Protestant churches proudly carry the name of Saint Patrick. The man, through his humbleness, intensity, and devotion to his faith, was able to turn an island nation to Christianity, and taught that island to persevere and to be accommodating. When at one time the island nation to the east of us came in, they were not so upright in accommodating other religions. But when you visit Ireland today, and I know there are troubles in the north that, fortunately, have been quelled, the Irish Catholics, the Irish Protestants live in peace.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, when I was studying international law, was of Jewish ancestry. So Ireland is a very tolerant country, and it takes its basis in the teaching of Saint Patrick, a simple man, teaching the truth and teaching people how to coexist. All of us, no matter what house of worship we attend, believe in the one God and thank Him for His many blessings.

So on this St. Patrick's Day, let us take a moment to do that and to realize the importance of Saint Patrick's teachings, and also, those of us Irish Americans, or Americans of Irish ancestry, as I like to say, the role we play in the Commonwealth, not only in governing here today and building our cities, suburbs, and rural areas, but the history that we have. From the colonel of the Pennsylvania Long Rifles in the Revolutionary War, who was from Ireland, to General Meade of Irish ancestry, the victor at the Battle of Gettysburg, the Irish have played a prominent part in the freedoms that we so enjoy in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and this country. To each and every one of the people in Pennsylvania, whether you are Irish or not, blessings on this St. Patrick's Day.

Thank you, Mr. President.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lehigh, Senator Browne.

Senator BROWNE. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess to the call of the Chair awaiting a communication. No further roll-call votes are to be taken.

The PRESIDENT. The Senate will be in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

HOUSE MESSAGE

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL

The Clerk of the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House has concurred in amendments made by the Senate to **HB 934**.

BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Jim Cawley) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bills:

HB 934 and **HB 1355**.

RECESS

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, March 26, 2012, at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 2:28 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.