

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2013

SESSION OF 2013 197TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 39

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, June 12, 2013

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

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

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Senator ANDREW E. DINNIMAN:

(Translation from Hebrew:)

Blessed be the Lord, blessed be the Lord now and forevermore.

We all sit in this Chamber, why do we pray? We pray to remind ourselves that there is something greater than ourselves, some spiritual belief in which we can all believe and can make a difference in each of our lives no matter what our faith is. We pray because we understand our spiritual existence. It reminds us, as we go forward in our legislation today and in the weeks ahead, of God's presence in our lives and God's presence in our actions.

We are lucky in this Chamber that we have the wonderful paintings of Violet Oakley here to also remind us that what we do today is connected to the past and to the future. And if you look at the paintings in this Chamber, and you read the words, you will see our forefathers and foremothers, you will see that the people who have been in this Chamber before, the people who created this Capitol, were not afraid of prayer. They were not afraid of God's presence, and they were not afraid of using the word of the Lord. So as we consider what we go about today, look at those paintings and read those words. They also remind us continuously of the importance of concern for the needy and the poor. As we go into the final days of this Session, we need to be ever faithful to the Quaker concept of consensus and respect for all. It was the Quakers who founded this Commonwealth, and they did so on the basis of faith, they did so on the basis of belief, and the dignity of all religious traditions out of tolerance. They did so saying and knowing that people of conscience can reach consensus, can do their best.

Finally, O Lord, let us remember that we as a Commonwealth, we as legislators, will not be remembered by how wealthy the Commonwealth is, or how wealthy any of us are as individuals, but we will be remembered if we are decent and good people, people of faith who understand that those of us in this room who have been blessed with abundance by God, have an absolute responsibility and obligation to God to share that abundance with

all within our community. So God, in the name of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, and Ruth, we ask You in great fervor to guide us, to protect us, and to lead us in these final days of deliberation in June, to make those decisions that are truly worthy of the heritage of the Commonwealth and to never forget the presence of God in our lives. Amen.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair thanks Senator Dinniman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

**REAL PROPERTY DISPOSITION
PLAN No. 1 of 2013**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following communication, which was read by the Clerk as follows:

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Office of the Governor
Harrisburg

June 10, 2013

Ms. Megan Consedine, Secretary
Senate of Pennsylvania
462 Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Mr. Anthony Barbush, Chief Clerk
House of Representatives
129 Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17125

Re: 2013 Real Property Disposition Plan

Dear Ms. Consedine and Mr. Barbush:

In accordance with Act 48 of 1981, as amended, 71 P.S. Section 651.1 et seq., I am hereby transmitting to you the 2013 Real Property Disposition Plan (May 1, 2013 Edition) for consideration by the General Assembly. The Plan was prepared by the Department of General Services and reviewed by the House and Senate State Government Committees. Please be advised that the Plan, as submitted, is approved by me as Governor. Additional copies of the Plan are available on the Department of General Services website at www.dgs.state.pa.us.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Should additional information be required, please contact Secretary Phillips at 787-5996.

Sincerely,

TOM CORBETT
Governor

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. This will appear on the Calendar as Real Property Disposition Plan No. 1 of 2013.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

June 12, 2013

Senators BROWNE and MENSCH presented to the Chair **SB 990**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of February 14, 1986 (P.L.2, No.2), known as the Acupuncture Licensure Act, further providing for medical diagnosis; and providing for liability insurance.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, June 12, 2013.

Senators ARGALL, ALLOWAY, RAFFERTY, GORDNER, BRUBAKER, SCHWANK, KASUNIC, TARTAGLIONE, MENSCH and FARNESE presented to the Chair **SB 998**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, providing for retroactive denial of reimbursement of payments to health care providers by insurers.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, June 12, 2013.

Senators WARD, VOGEL, PILEGGI, ERICKSON, BLAKE, SMITH, KASUNIC, WHITE, YUDICHAK, RAFFERTY and WAUGH presented to the Chair **SB 1006**, entitled:

An Act providing for the development of uniform standards for the use of blast furnace and steel slag aggregates in highway and road construction and maintenance.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, June 12, 2013.

Senators VANCE, BAKER, RAFFERTY, YUDICHAK, WAUGH and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SB 1007**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The First Class Township Code, reenacted and amended May 27, 1949 (P.L.1955, No.569), further providing for legal advertising.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, June 12, 2013.

Senators DINNIMAN, BREWSTER, FONTANA, HUGHES, SOLOBAY and WILLIAMS presented to the Chair **SB 1011**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for limitations of time for commencement of civil action arising from childhood sexual abuse.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, June 12, 2013.

Senators DINNIMAN, STACK, RAFFERTY, BREWSTER, FONTANA, KASUNIC, HUGHES, SOLOBAY and TARTAGLIONE presented to the Chair **SB 1012**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of sexual offenders, further providing for applicability; and imposing residency restrictions for certain offenders.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, June 12, 2013.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator GORDNER, from the Committee on Labor and Industry, reported the following bills:

HB 26 (Pr. No. 1944)

An Act amending the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd Sp.Sess., 1937 P.L.2897, No.1), known as the Unemployment Compensation Law, further providing for contributions by employees; establishing the Service and Infrastructure Improvement Fund; and further providing for the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

HB 421 (Pr. No. 1125)

An Act amending the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd Sp.Sess., 1937 P.L.2897, No.1), known as the Unemployment Compensation Law, further providing for qualifications required to secure compensation and for ineligibility for compensation.

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

SB 358 (Pr. No. 281)

An Act requiring the notification of breast density to patients who receive a mammogram.

HB 602 (Pr. No. 2020) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, further providing for definitions and for prohibited acts and penalties; and providing for ephedrine and pseudoephedrine and electronic tracking.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Hutchinson and Senator McIlhinney.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Solobay.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Pileggi requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator McIlhinney and Senator Hutchinson.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Solobay.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

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

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Journal of the Session of May 1, 2013, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of May 1, 2013.

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I move that further reading of the Journal be dispensed with and that the Journal 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-48

Alloway	Erickson	Mensch	Tomlinson
Argall	Farnese	Pileggi	Vance
Baker	Ferlo	Rafferty	Vogel
Blake	Folmer	Robbins	Vulakovich
Boscola	Fontana	Scarnati	Ward
Brewster	Gordner	Schwank	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Smith	Waugh
Brubaker	Hughes	Smucker	White
Corman	Hutchinson	Solobay	Wiley
Costa	Kasunic	Stack	Williams
Dinniman	Kitchen	Tartaglione	Wozniak
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Teplitz	Yaw

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Journal is approved.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

GUESTS OF SENATOR MICHAEL BRUBAKER PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator BRUBAKER. Mr. President, it is an honor for me today to introduce four very special young people the 36th Senatorial District. They are the winners of the student challenge essay contest. We do this several times a year as a competitive process. With us in the gallery are Isabella Astuto, who is in 3rd grade from Kraybill Campus of Lancaster Mennonite School; Evan Pritchard is in 7th grade, from Landisville Middle School; Robby Maddox, from Doe Run Elementary School; and Timothy Markovits is in 11th grade, from Lancaster Mennonite High School. Mr. President, they entered a competitive contest, and they wrote their thoughts and feelings on paper. They then submitted them and an independent panel does this review, selects these students, and honors them with a day in the Capitol. They are here with us today in the gallery. I ask for the warmest of Senate greetings. I deeply appreciate it.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Brubaker please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR KIM L. WARD PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Westmoreland, Senator Ward.

Senator WARD. Mr. President, I am very happy and honored today to host a group of young folks who have won the Westmoreland County fire prevention awards. They wrote essays and drew pictures on how to prevent fires and how to escape from a fire. What they did is so important to all the young people in their age group and beyond. It is a great thing for them to do because it educates and brings awareness to something so important. Fires can be so deadly if we do not know how to handle them. I want to congratulate those who are here today: Nicholas Nagy, Camille Ferace, Grace Collier, Sarah Semekoski, and Luke Postle, and their families. I welcome them to Harrisburg.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Ward please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR LEANNA WASHINGTON PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator Washington.

Senator WASHINGTON. Mr. President, I am so proud to welcome a great group of students from Central High School in Philadelphia. These students won the John S. Bradway Mock Trial Competition in Philadelphia. The group is sponsored by Temple University James E. Beasley Law School. The round-robin style mock trial competition is offered each spring to about 30 public and parochial high school teams. Students simulate trials and play parts of lawyers and witnesses considering civil issues and cases based on real issues such as hate crimes and constitutional law. The Central High School team went on to represent Philadelphia at the State Mock Trial finals at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The statewide winner, Quigley Catholic High School in Beaver County, will represent Pennsylvania in the National High School Mock Trial Competition finals. These teams are counseled by experienced volunteers who guide them in researching the issues and cases, crafting their arguments, and competing at the highest level. These coaches give so much of their time and talent to help these students excel.

With all the news articles about the challenges that Philadelphia schools are facing, Central High School is a great example of how students can excel when we think creatively and form lasting partnerships with other schools, organizations, and businesses. These are bright, motivated young adults who are going to do big things. I want to congratulate each and every one of them for their hard work, their dedication, and their well-deserved win at the regionals. I am so grateful to host them today, and I ask the Senate to give them our usual warm welcome.

The participating students are Danielle Williams, Gabriel Gluskin-Braun, Ella Comberg, Darien Carter, Nacoya Hunt, Dayanah Oberton, Jeanette Yust, Stuart Gethers, Talia Charme Zane, Angelique Vidra, Samira Jaji, Hanane Mohamed, Melisa Nelson, Alexis Smith, Marvin Barnhill, and Hunter Cohen. The coaches, who are very important, are R.M. Romoff, Central High School Mock Trial Coach; Attorney Roberta West, from Temple

LEAP; and Attorney Julian Thompson, attorney coach. Please join me giving them a warm welcome and congratulate them.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Washington please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

Senator WASHINGTON. Mr. President, I also want to say that Senator Williams' mother is very involved in the program.

GUESTS OF SENATOR ROBERT F. TEPLITZ PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Dauphin, Senator Teplitz.

Senator TEPLITZ. Mr. President, I have two guests today and I will introduce them together. They are summer interns in my office, and we are very happy to have them and welcome them today. The first is Katheryn O'Hara, who is a student at Lebanon Valley College, class of 2015, where she is pursuing her bachelor of arts degree in international studies, international affairs, and Spanish. At LVC she is a member of the diversity action committee, the bias response team, and the Hispanic alliance, where she is the president. Katheryn graduated from Central Dauphin East High School and is from this area.

We are very happy to have her with us this summer, along with David Levine, who is a member of the class of 2016 at Bowdoin College in Maine, where he is an at-large representative in the college student government and a member of the Bowdoin College debate team. David is a graduate of Harrisburg Academy across the river, where he was a member and captain of the Harrisburg Academy Quiz Bowl team. We are very happy to have both of them with us this summer. We look forward to a great experience for them and great work from them now and in all their future endeavors. I ask the Senate to please join me in welcoming them as our guests today.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Teplitz please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Hutchinson has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

GUESTS OF SENATOR ELDER A. VOGEL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Beaver, Senator Vogel.

Senator VOGEL. Mr. President, I have members of the Beaver County Chamber of Commerce who are here today visiting with myself and other Senators, as well as our Representatives in the House. They are in the Senate gallery right now watching us here this morning for a little bit. I ask that the Senate give them our usual warm welcome. Thank you very much.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Vogel please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

RECESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 Republican caucus to be held in the Majority Caucus Room beginning immediately.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber immediately.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. For purposes of Republican and Democratic caucuses, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Baker, Senator Rafferty, and Senator Alloway.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Pileggi requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Baker, Senator Rafferty, and Senator Alloway. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 84 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 145 (Pr. No. 1212) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of August 24, 1963 (P.L.1175, No.497), known as the Mechanics' Lien Law of 1963, providing for the definition of "costs of construction"; and further providing for right to lien and amount, for priority of lien and for discharge or reduction of lien on payment into court or entry of security.

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 pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Westmoreland, Senator Ward.

Senator WARD. Mr. President, I would like to speak just for a couple of moments about Senate Bill No. 145, which amends the Mechanics' Lien Law. This bill will protect homeowners from a mechanics' lien being filed by a subcontractor against their property if they have already paid the prime contractor in full. It is basically a consumer protection bill. This issue has been a problem for years but it really came to a head just a few years ago with all the tornadoes that moved through the area. One company in particular completed a number of jobs for residents and failed to pay the roofing supplier. In turn, the roofing supplier exercised their right and they filed a mechanics' lien against the property owners, even though they already paid. Then the company left town, disconnected their contact sources, had no phone, and these residents were left on their own to fight. This bill will fix that problem going forward. The bill states that subcontractors do not have the right to put a lien on a residential property if the owner or tenant has already paid their contract price in full. It has been worked on for two legislative Sessions, and it has support of the bankers, title insurers, mechanical contractors, and the realtors. I thank Senator Gordner and Senator Tartaglione for helping move this through the committee. It has been a long process, and I humbly ask my colleagues for their support on this bill. 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-48

Alloway	Erickson	Mensch	Tomlinson
Argall	Farnese	Pileggi	Vance
Baker	Ferlo	Rafferty	Vogel
Blake	Folmer	Robbins	Vulakovich
Boscola	Fontana	Scarnati	Ward
Brewster	Gordner	Schwank	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Smith	Waugh
Brubaker	Hughes	Smucker	White
Corman	Hutchinson	Solobay	Wiley
Costa	Kasunic	Stack	Williams
Dinniman	Kitchen	Tartaglione	Wozniak
Eichelberger	Mellhinney	Teplitz	Yaw

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 150, SB 303, SB 305, HB 571 and SB 700 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 738 (Pr. No. 1213) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for distribution system extension and expansion plans to increase natural gas usage in this Commonwealth.

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 pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Northampton, Senator Boscola.

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, I rise today to give reasons why I am voting "no" on Senate Bill No. 738, although I understand why a lot of Members will be voting in the affirmative. I am concerned about several issues. First, I believe this bill unfairly subsidizes the expansion of natural gas lines in a free market. So, as a result, this bill, in my mind, is an end-around to the free market principles this country was founded upon.

But there are two bigger issues that concern me even more. One is that this legislation deals with the likely potential of defaults of customer payments. It allows for customers who would be served by new lines to pay for those lines. It sounds like a reasonable approach, and I believe it is, but what this bill fails to address is the issue of default of payments. So, for instance, what happens is a payment is spread across a period of about 20 years, and the homeowner who signs the agreement, if they sell the home after 4 years, it is not clear who is responsible for that unpaid debt. Let me make this clear, when you are going to expand a gas line, it is very expensive. So on these 20-year period contracts, you could be paying \$200, \$300 a month. You enter this agreement, and your house is sold. Who is responsible for that debt? Does it follow the individual who signed the agreement, or does it stay with the property? And if it stays with the property, should the potential buyer of the property be informed of the customer charge?

My concern is knowing that these lines are expensive, and knowing that you can enter into a 20-year contract, why not just agree and say, I will sign a 20-year contact knowing that I will only be in the home for about 3 years, and there is no clear clarification on who is going to pay that debt. I know what is going to happen, that debt will be passed on to existing ratepayers, and that is not fair. While I realize that Senator Pileggi's amendment that went into the bill in the Committee on Appropriations attempts to alleviate the concern of the unpaid debt that will be spread across the rate base, the issue of default is still a major concern in the legislation.

Another reason I oppose this bill is the potential devastating effect it could have on the replacement of current aging infrastructure. Mr. President, it was only 2 short years ago that natural gas explosions devastated neighborhoods in Allentown and Philadelphia. At that time, we found out how old our deteriorating gas lines were, how many of those lines were cast iron, how many were bare steel, and how long it would take natural gas

distribution companies to replace that aging infrastructure. Now, as a result of that, last year our big priority in this Chamber, and we worked hard, was to bring about a distribution system improvement charge, commonly referred to as a DSIC. For those unfamiliar with the DSIC, the DSIC allows for an accelerated replacement schedule for aging infrastructure. We stood in this Chamber and unanimously approved the DSIC bill because it was the right thing to do. Now we are here again, 16 months later saying, well, the replacement maybe is not all that important, we should be expanding.

Mr. President, some of our gas utilities in this Commonwealth have yet to even be approved for a DSIC, and some have not even filed for one. Yet, we are here today talking about expansion before replacement. These DSIC projects will now be competing for the same limited capital investment dollars as the expansion projects required by Senate Bill No. 738. That was foolhardy; the same that the passage of Senate Bill No. 738 will not affect the replacement plans of our gas utilities, and heaven forbid if we have another gas explosion. I am quite familiar with companies, and usually if they could expand they would rather expand into a new market before they replace. But we have said here constantly, we have issues with old pipes and we do not need explosions happening in the future.

So, Mr. President, while the reasoning behind Senate Bill No. 738 is very well-intended and very noble, the consequences of passing this bill would put our residents at risk for another deadly explosion due to our existing deteriorating infrastructure. I understand why a lot of Members will be voting "yes." I just wanted to put on record why I will be voting "no" on this legislation. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lycoming, Senator Yaw.

Senator YAW. Mr. President, I would like to address Senate Bill No. 738. The impetus for this bill started, actually, in Bradford County about 2 years ago. The Center for Rural Pennsylvania had a hearing, and during the course of that hearing it became pretty apparent that a significant part of Pennsylvanians were not served by natural gas, although we are sitting on one of the largest gas deposits in the world. Now, it would seem to me that we should at least have the opportunity to make use of that particular resource. So, as we studied the situation, as I said, about 50 percent of the households in Pennsylvania do not have access to natural gas service, what we did was, in working with the Public Utility Commission, we came up with a plan whereby the utilities themselves are encouraged to take a look at their own status, take a look at their customer base, take a look at their service area, and come up with a plan as to how they can increase the availability of natural gas service to certain areas. This has to be submitted to the PUC and approved by it.

I would like to address some of the questions that have been raised and the risk to the consumers or the risk to residents as far as paying for this. Pennsylvania has always had the policy of pay as you go. It is the same way for electric utility lines. If you want to have lines extended, then you have to pay for it. We have a policy in this State, we do not socialize the cost of those, and it is the same way with the gas service. This bill does not change any gas service policies that are already in existence. It is still the type of proceeding whereby the customer that wants the service will probably end up paying for it. What we have done is that we have tried to make it a little bit easier for the customer to pay by

stretching it out over a period of years. But that is no different than any other payment provision that you enter into when you buy a house. When it was said that it is not clear if you enter into a 20-year agreement and when you sell the house, who pays for it or what happens to it? That is all part of closing. That is no different than a mortgage that is taken out or any other home equity loan. If you sell a house and you have a home equity loan for 20 years, somehow it has to be cleared up, and that will be done.

So, I do not think that this bill, in any way, Mr. President, has anything to do with increasing costs. All we are trying to do is make the utilities take a look at their situation and do what they can to provide additional service to residents. It does not take away any assets or have any effect on the reconstruction of their infrastructure. We are not taking any of that money in any way. This would all be new money which would come directly from the potential users, who would have to pay it. So, with that, Mr. President, I ask for an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 738.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Alloway and Senator Baker have returned, and their temporary Capitol leaves are cancelled.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Ferlo.

Senator FERLO. Mr. President, I rise in support of the bill and would like to talk about what I think is a pro-consumer viewpoint. Obviously, I represent the core of the city of Pittsburgh, and for many decades, obviously, as the large urban area of the three-county area that I represent, there is decades-long infrastructure investment, whether we are talking about water, sewer, electric lines or other basic utilities. Obviously, that has not always been the case in small towns and even more rural areas even within my three-county Senate district. There has been a history and the reality, financially and economically, is that infrastructure is not only the opportunity and the burden for both the private sector, be it a privately owned utility, the fact of the matter is most infrastructure historically has been done as a tri-part relationship of investment by both the public sector, the private sector, and certainly, the individual homeowner or ratepayer in this case. I think it is important that we try to provide an opportunity for those who do not benefit from water and sewer lines, from those who do not benefit from the extension of natural gas lines to small private residences, as well as commercial buildings and other opportunities. When you think about the cost of home heating oil, I do not know what the current daily report is on that burden financially, but I suggest that home heating oil is significantly more costly than the natural gas purchase per volume.

So, I think we have an opportunity here both in terms of employment and jobs with utility companies being able to extend natural gas lines, and there is a higher degree of safety involved and inspection when this happens. I think it is still an activity that would be reviewed and regulated by the Public Utility Commission. I think it is an expansion with the opportunity for rural homeowners to be provided a benefit and opportunity for cost

savings, and I think it is consistent with what has been the historical development of larger urban areas. We just happen to benefit from the larger scale of our investment and from the area of critical mass. You do not have that in small rural areas, and obviously you might have a smaller number of property owners over a very long stretch of roadway. I think overall this is a pro-consumer bill. I sympathize and empathize with some of the criticisms and concerns that my colleague spoke about earlier, but overall I am very pleased to be supportive of this bill. Thank you.

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, I also rise to support the bill. We just had a group of constituents from Tredyffrin Township who have a gas line about three blocks from their house, and they said that they want natural gas but they would have to pay all the money upfront. If I understand this bill correctly, it would be able to be paid over a 10-year period of time, and that is feasible. It was very frustrating for these individuals who wanted to save money on home heating, to see the gas line within a block or two of their house, and yet to get access to it, they would have to put up the total amount of money. By spreading it out, it enables more to do so.

Let me say one final thing, if I may, Mr. President. While certainly we in the suburbs see the importance of natural gas and what it can do for our consumers, we urge those from the natural gas areas to also be sensitive to our needs, to understand—for example, there are several bills I put out, and I appreciate Senator Yaw allowing a discussion to take place on these, which he has. For example, we have all this land that has been eased, and if natural gas goes through the eased land, we would like those easements to be replaced. We have problems with gas coming into Pennsylvania through the port of Philadelphia, of water runoff occurring when the lines are put in. So if we work together, if we work in partnership, if those areas that have natural gas can be sensitive and positive to what we experience in the suburbs in our environmental issues and on our land easement issues, we will all prosper together, we will all work together.

So as part of that spirit, I rise to support this, but I also urge, and I know the chairman of this committee will respond, because he told me so, that we will make an effort so that we all can reach a consensus and work together to make sure this natural gas is done in the most environmentally safe way possible.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-46

Alloway	Farnese	Pileggi	Vogel
Argall	Ferlo	Rafferty	Vulakovich
Baker	Folmer	Robbins	Ward
Blake	Fontana	Scarnati	Washington
Brewster	Gordner	Schwank	Waugh
Browne	Greenleaf	Smith	White
Brubaker	Hughes	Smucker	Wiley
Corman	Hutchinson	Solobay	Williams
Costa	Kasunic	Stack	Wozniak

Dinniman	Kitchen	Tartaglione	Yaw
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Teplitz	
Erickson	Mensch	Vance	

NAY-2

Boscola	Tomlinson
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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

HB 891 and **HB 987** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 25 and **SB 31** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILLS REREFERRED

SB 57 (Pr. No. 26) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

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

SB 78 (Pr. No. 1208) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of January 25, 1966 (1965 P.L. 1546, No. 541), referred to as the Higher Education Scholarship Law, establishing the Distance Education Program.

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

HB 82 (Pr. No. 2013) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for actions for costs of care of seized animals.

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

HB 89 (Pr. No. 744) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for DARE plate and for payments to special funds.

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

HB 108 (Pr. No. 99) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, further providing for expiration.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 126 and **SB 128** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 137 (Pr. No. 1067) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 21, 1984 (P.L.1253, No.238), known as the Speech-Language and Hearing Licensure Act, further providing for title of act, for short title, for declaration of policy, for definitions, for creation of board, appointment and term of members and officers, for powers and duties of board, for license required and persons and practices not affected and exclusions, for requirements for licensure and for application and fees; providing for certification for audiologists using intraoperative monitoring; further providing for examinations, for refusal to issue and revocation, for requirement of a medical examination, for renewal fees and records, for limitation of renewal time and new license and for certification to the board; providing for use of title; and further providing for enforcement of certification to board, for impaired professionals, for penalties, for injunction against lawful practice and for appropriation.

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 just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 252, SB 401, HB 488 and **HB 515** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 546 (Pr. No. 510) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating the bridge carrying State Route 88 over the Ten Mile Creek connecting Jefferson Township, Greene County, and East Bethlehem Township, Washington County, as the Lieutenant General William M. Keys Bridge.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 601, SB 606, SB 622, SB 699, SB 706 and **SB 773** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

HB 784 (Pr. No. 1425) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for permit extensions; and making a repeal.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 860, SB 862, SB 869, SB 878, SB 883, SB 886 and **SB 899** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 914 (Pr. No. 1025) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act creating the Insurance Regulation and Oversight Fund; and providing for its use.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 925 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 963 (Pr. No. 1107) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Governor, to dedicate, grant and convey a right-of-way for a roadway situate in East Hanover Township, Lebanon County.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

SB 964 (Pr. No. 1108) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Governor, to grant and convey to First Capital Equities, Inc., certain land of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania situate in East Hanover Township, Lebanon County, being a portion of Fort Indiantown Gap lands.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 975, SB 976, SB 994, SB 995 and SB 996 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILLS REREFERRED

HB 1124 (Pr. No. 1936) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 7 (Banks and Banking) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for definitions, for license requirements, for exceptions to license requirements, for general requirements, for mortgage loan business prohibitions, for requirements as to open-end loans, for application for license, for prelicensing and continuing education, for licensee requirements, for licensee limitations, for surrender of license, for authority of department, for suspension, revocation or refusal, for penalties, for applicability and for procedure for determination on noncompliance with Federal law.

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

HB 1128 (Pr. No. 1377) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 12 (Commerce and Trade) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, codifying the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Sales Finance Act and the Goods and Services Installment Sales Act; making conforming amendments to Titles 7 and 42; and making related repeals.

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

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 104, ADOPTED

Senator PILEGGI, without objection, called up from page 8 of the Calendar, **Senate Resolution No. 104**, entitled:

A Resolution urging the President of the United States and Congress to support the adoption of House Bill 1014.

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

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington, Senator Solobay.

Senator SOLOBAY. Mr. President, Senate Resolution No. 104 urges the President and Congress to support the adoption of House Bill No. 1014. Basically, House Bill No. 1014--we have approximately 1,800 Pennsylvania National Guard military technicians who have the possibility of being furloughed because of the budgetary sequestration. It is very critical to our State that the

National Guard maintain their training and readiness to ensure that whenever they are called upon they can answer the needs domestically and the operations of Pennsylvania.

When the Department of Defense exempted uniform personnel from sequestration, they did not include the more than 53,000 National Guard technicians nationwide. House Bill No. 1014, which was introduced in Congress, also exempts military technicians from this sequestration. The President, Congress, and the Department of Defense agreed to exempt uniform personnel so that this would not have a limitation on the impact of our military readiness. Our Department of Military and Veterans Affairs does not desire to furlough any of our military technicians. So, therefore, our Senate resolution urges the President of the United States, as well as Congress, to support and adopt House Bill No. 1014. I also thank our chair, Senator Baker, and vice chair, Senator Robbins, for a letter they sent on our behalf in support of not doing the furlough of our military technicians.

I ask for unanimous adoption of Senate Resolution No. 104.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, I rise to support this resolution. Chairman Solobay covered all of the reasons why it is important to the Pennsylvania National Guard. We have 1,800 technicians who have been impacted by this. These are men and women who wear the uniform of service and provide that added benefit to those who are flying our planes. We need to ensure that they are able to provide that level of service, and this resolution urges the President to support the adoption of the House Bill. It is a high priority for the Pennsylvania National Guard Association, and I join my colleague in urging an affirmative vote.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

YEA-48

Alloway	Erickson	Mensch	Tomlinson
Argall	Farnese	Pileggi	Vance
Baker	Ferlo	Rafferty	Vogel
Blake	Folmer	Robbins	Vulakovich
Boscola	Fontana	Scarnati	Ward
Brewster	Gordner	Schwank	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Smith	Waugh
Brubaker	Hughes	Smucker	White
Corman	Hutchinson	Solobay	Wiley
Costa	Kasunic	Stack	Williams
Dinniman	Kitchen	Tartaglione	Wozniak
Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Teplitz	Yaw

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The resolution is adopted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator Patricia H. Vance) in the Chair.

SB 379 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator WAUGH. Madam President, I move that Senate Bill No. 379, Printer's No. 302, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

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

SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Senators VOGEL, WARD, FERLO, KASUNIC, WOZNIAK, ERICKSON, MENSCH, ROBBINS, RAFFERTY, GREENLEAF, STACK, ARGALL, BAKER, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, BROWNE, TEPLITZ, SMITH, YAW, BREWSTER, WAUGH, ALLOWAY, WHITE, FOLMER, HUTCHINSON, SCHWANK, PILEGGI, COSTA, VULAKOVICH, BOSCOLA and BRUBAKER, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 160**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of June 2013 as "Dairy Farmers Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Beaver, Senator Vogel.

Senator VOGEL. Madam President, today I offer a resolution designating the month of June as "Dairy Farmers Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania. Dairy farming is a strong family tradition, with 98 percent of dairy farms being owned by families, dependent on family labor, and it is an industry that my family and I are especially proud to have been a part of for the past 136 years. Agriculture is our Commonwealth's number-one industry, and dairy farming is the primary economic driver. There are more than 7,400 dairy farms throughout the State with a total of 541,000 cows producing nearly 11 billion pounds of milk each year, all of which helps contribute to more than \$5 billion annually to our State's economy and providing 40,000 jobs. Pennsylvania's dairy farms have been a part of our picturesque rural landscape for centuries and contribute to the historical, cultural, environmental, and economic success of our Commonwealth. For this reason, I would like to recognize June as Dairy Farmer Appreciation Month in Pennsylvania, and I ask for unanimous adoption.

Thank you, Madam 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 Mr. and Mrs. William Schaeffer, William E. Laughman, Sr., and to Michael Bramson by Senator Alloway.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. David Rimple and to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mickowski by Senator Baker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert T. Fortney by Senators Blake and Teplitz.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Gertrude Ellen Seip Sauerzopf by Senator Boscola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Sarah-Jane E. Pacek, Caroline McAllister, Julia E. Hyzy, Ashley T. Klein by Senator Brewster.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Chief Ron Stahley and to the Schnecksville Community Fair by Senator Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Denise Maiatico, Marie K. McConnell, Boyle Construction, Inc., and to HindlePower, Inc., by Senator Browne and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. John F. Magill, Jr., Bryce Daniel Wilkins and to the Mifflin County Future Problem Solvers Team by Senator Corman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Chris Tabakin and to Community Volunteers in Medicine by Senator Dinniman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jeffrey R. Westphal by Senators Dinniman and Erickson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Margaret Emma Fessler, Beverly Henry, Judy Uhrich and to Nan Gift by Senator Folmer.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Hess, Chief Leo Sokoloski, Brandon Elijah Lee Greco, Mackenzie Garrett Ian Greco and to Jack Bachtell by Senator Gordner.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Nicholas Pleim, Michael A. Spencer and to Alec Matthew Smilowski by Senator Greenleaf.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Josephine Wilson by Senator Hughes.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Belle Lettres Club by Senator Hutchinson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Viola Antonet Disanto Palumbo by Senator McIlhinney.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert A. Young, Kevin Crilley, Jeff Stauffer and to the Valley Caf by Senator Mensch.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Nancy C. Payne, Claire V. Edwards, John T. Rickenbach, Ann R. Jennings, Lawrence Lembo, Helena Keating, Richard Parsons, Jacob Denson and to Mrs. Russell McCauley, Jr., by Senator Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert Mangan and to Jacob Travis Gery by Senator Rafferty.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford by Senators Rafferty and Scarnati.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Rebekah Petty, Carmen P. DeRose, Jr., Michele R. Czerwinski, Anderson Coach and Travel and to VisitMercerCountyPA by Senator Robbins.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend Monsignor Dennis T. Hartgen, Nicholas Graziano, William M. Donner, Phillip J. Stutzman and to Norman A. Ulrich IV by Senator Schwank.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Allegheny County Council by Senator Smith.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Stephen J. Parish, Jr., and to National Duncan Glass Society, Inc., by Senator Solobay.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Ali N. Shubar and to Douglas Jaymes Caristo by Senator Stack.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Sandra Jeong Lane, Dina Yarmus, William Greenlee and to the Norris Square Civic Association by Senator Tartaglione.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to R. Geoffrey Boodey by Senator Tomlinson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Waldner, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hock, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Kerlin and to Mr. and Mrs. John Usaitis by Senator Vance.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Ambridge Regional Distribution and Manufacturing Center by Senator Vogel.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Kevin H. Oury by Senator Vulakovich.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Richard A. Kydd, Sr., Chanta'l Hardy, Marie DeLany and to Jennifer Powell-Folks by Senator Washington.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Adrian L. Campbell, Dylan Paul Smith, Ryan David Smith, Linc James Reinalda, Mason Alexander Snyder and to Wolf Organization, Inc., by Senator Waugh.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jonathan Scott Hunyady and to Stephanie Lynn Russick by Senator White.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Valerie Smith and to Barbara Johnson-Dent by Senator Williams.

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 Herbert A. Bensley and to the family of the late John H. Ellis III by Senator Baker.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Eugene Walker by Senator Kitchen.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Lydia L. DiNardo Battistone and to the family of the late Mary Ann Naser by Senator Solobay.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Joy Elizabeth Forte by Senator Williams.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator VOGEL. Madam 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 358, HB 26, HB 421 and HB 602.

And said bills having been considered for the first time,

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013

10:00 A.M.	SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING FORMULA COMMISSION (to consider Special Education Funding in PA)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.
10:00 A.M.	URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (public hearing on the Future of PA's Cities, Large and Small)	York College York, PA

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2013

Off the Floor	AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS (to consider Senate Bill No. 1003)	Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.
Off the Floor	APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 57, 137, 267, 391, 428, 437, and 1002; and House Bills No. 108, 326, 493, 1124 and 1437)	Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2013

9:30 A.M.	ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (to consider Senate Bill No. 946 and House Bills No. 34 and 1325)	Senate Maj. Caucus Rm. 156
10:00 A.M.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bills No. 497 and 931; and House Bills No. 1223, 1225 and 1229)	Room 8E-A East Wing
10:00 A.M.	TRANSPORTATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 322, 676, 984 and 1010)	Room 8E-B East Wing
11:30 A.M.	JUDICIARY (to consider House Bills No. 22, 513 and 1217)	Room 8E-B East Wing
Off the Floor	RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider Senate Bill No. 526; and certain executive nominations)	Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2013

9:00 A.M.	EDUCATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 871 and 1030; and House Bill No. 1141)	Senate Maj. Caucus Rm.
9:30 A.M.	FINANCE (to consider Senate Bills No. 456 and 922; and House Bills No. 1172 and 1359)	Room 8E-A East Wing
9:30 A.M.	URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (to consider House Bill No. 1122)	Room 461 Main Capitol

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2013

10:00 A.M.	URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (public hearing on the Future of PA's Cities, Large and Small)	Reading Chamber of Commerce & Industry Wyomissing
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TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2013

11:15 A.M.	JUDICIARY (public hearing to discuss Senate Bill No. 848, antitrust)	Rm. 8E-B East Wing
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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2013

2:00 P.M.	GAME AND FISHERIES (public hearing to gather information about: overview of elk herd in PA; elk viewing and economic development; overview of Keystone Elk County Alliance; and 100th Anniversary of the Reintroduction of the Elk Program in PA)	Elk County Visitors Ctr. Benezette
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PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator HUGHES. Madam President, I rise today on June 12, 18 days prior to us getting a budget for the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I rise today, Madam President, having left two rallies here in the Capitol that speak to the clear and unequivocal needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Madam President, I rise in the context of the fact that this past Friday in the city of Philadelphia, 3,783 folks who work for the Philadelphia School District received pink slips indicating that by summer's end they would no longer be needed to provide an education for the students of Philadelphia who so desperately need a quality education to help them make their dreams become a reality. I rise today, Madam President, on this day, June 12, in the context of the fact that also in the great city of Allentown, Pennsylvania, where 120 individuals who work hard, work with great commitment and great passion to provide an education for the students who live in that great city of Allentown, they also received pink slips. I rise today, Madam President, in the context that in our great city of York, Pennsylvania, school employees have been asked to take a 40-percent pay cut. Madam President, a 40-percent pay cut. Let me say that one more time, Madam President, a 40-percent pay cut. Almost half of their salaries are being taken from them in order for their schools to continue to be open.

In none of these communities, Madam President, does the budget crisis exist for those individuals who had the responsibility of turning the dreams of their students into reality; in none of those communities were those school employees, those teachers, those administrators, those bus attendants, those bus drivers, those classroom aides, or lunchroom workers, in none of those communities are any of those individuals responsible for the economic plight that exists within their district. None of them. The economic crisis that exists within those districts and districts across Pennsylvania goes directly to the front office, the Governor's Office in this Commonwealth. A callous decision has been made to provide a billion dollars in tax giveaways, Madam President, to the wealthiest corporations in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And in the same breath, a billion dollars of cuts for public education in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

So consequently, 120 school employees in Allentown received pink slips. Employees for the school district of York received a 40-percent pay cut, 3,783 school employees in the city of Philadelphia received pink slips. In addition, which I might add in the city of Philadelphia, just for financial reasons, resized the school district and closed 23 schools. If you take 23 schools as a whole, Madam President, I suggest that would be either the third or fourth largest school district in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We are not talking about a small amount. We are talking about a large amount. We are talking about people who

have the responsibility of turning dreams into realities of our young people. Their opportunity is being snatched away. The districts are being consolidated, closed down, and opportunities for academic success are being snatched away.

Children and families in too many school districts in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are being forced to have to pay extra fees to participate in band, to participate in afterschool programs, to participate in sports teams, to participate in the drama club or the chess club, or to get extra help after school, are being asked to pay fees. Most of these children come from families who are in communities that do not have any money. They do not have any dough. They do not have any cash. They do not have any extra income sitting in their pockets so that they could pay these extra fees. All they have is the hope that someone would step up for them and say we are going to help you get the money that you need, we are going to provide the resources that you need, we are going to get you the support that you need so that your children can turn their dreams into reality. Just like we were when we were kids. Someone believed in all of us - a teacher, an educator, a school bus driver who when we got on that bus in the morning had a smiling face and an encouraging word and said, how are you doing, little Johnny; how are you doing, little Suzy? Going to have a great day today. We were off to school and that was just encouraging and supportive. Someone who worked in the cafeteria, the gym teacher, the band teacher, someone who said, you know what, you are struggling with that class, I am going to give you a little extra help, but these folks are now summarily being dismissed from our public schools across the Commonwealth. They are a part of over 20,000 people who work in public education across the State who have lost their job because this administration decided to give \$1 billion in tax breaks to the wealthiest corporations in the Commonwealth and snatch \$1 billion in funding from public education.

That is what we are dealing with. That is what we are confronted with. At the same time, when there is a resolve in front of us, we should take advantage of it to help find the dollars to help these students, to help these classrooms, to help these teachers, to help these school districts take the pressure off of local taxpayers because they have also had to raise property taxes. Seventy percent of school districts have had to raise property taxes in the last 2 years to pay for the cuts from Harrisburg from the administration, at the same time that there is a solution right in front of us. A solution, which we for some reason seem to be afraid of, seem to be fearful of, and it is quite amazing. It is interesting, as we get older, we always seem to be reminded to turn to the lessons that we were taught when we were young people, very young, and most times those lessons were taught to us, in my case, when I was in Sunday school. If you take care of somebody, if you do good for someone, then that good will be available to you and all of those whom you care about. If you look out for someone else, that benevolence, that help, that support, that interest in someone else's issues will come back and help you.

I say that because we have a solution in front of us that would help about a half-million people in Pennsylvania. People are working every day, many of them working two, three, and sometimes four jobs on a daily basis. They are trying to make ends meet. They are not making a lot of money. They have drive, they have perseverance, they have faith--they have to have faith because if they did not have faith, my best guess is that they would not be able to make it through. They really would not. They work

every day. They are cleaning bodies of the infirm, the elderly, those who are sick, those who are the disabled. They are helping folks get to their job. They are providing security for us, which is even more important on a daily basis as the level of violence seems to rise on a daily basis. They work in our neighborhoods, they work in our communities. They do the work that just about all of us would not know how to do if we were asked to do it ourselves. But, all of us depend on these individuals. They work in this building. They service this building. They work every day. They are real people with real lives.

The thing that they are missing, because they have everything else - they have the drive, they have the determination, they show up early, very early, they work the late shift, the overnight shift, they work the early shift. They take the early bus. Some of you may understand what that means. They put it in. The thing that they are missing, the thing that is absent in their lives, because they are bringing it every day. The thing that is absent in their lives is health insurance. The ability to go to a doctor and to get a problem taken care of, healthcare. We all know about it. Every one of us in this building, or at least those of us who sit in these grand chairs in this Chamber, 50 Senators, the 203 House Members, the folks in the administration, we all have health insurance. We understand the value of that. Folks who will have a problem, but they have insurance, that is the first question. They are taken care of.

But these individuals, over a million of them in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, they do not have health insurance, but they work every day, they have a window of opportunity, a solution to their problem. It is right in front of us. It has been provided to us. Plus the money to pay for it. Four billion dollars a year is coming to Pennsylvania to provide health insurance for about 500,000 working people in Pennsylvania. And by the way, most of these working individuals are women. They have families, they are working every day, and they just need a little bit of help. The program is right there. It is right within our grasp to take. It is right there. Three independent studies have said it is okay to do, Pennsylvania. Over half of the States in the nation have said we are going to take this program, we are going to put it in place in our State, we are going to make it work for our citizens. And, quite frankly, it just does not help those who do not have insurance, it helps everyone, including those of us who have insurance because it has the opportunity to lower our own personal rates because everyone else is covered. Right there in front of us. It is like this glass of water. You are thirsty, it is right there in front of us. It is paid for, the water is in the glass, the glass is sitting right there, it is right there in front of us, but someone is pulling it away from us, not allowing us to have it. The health insurance is there. The coverage is in place. Help is available for those who need the insurance. But we keep getting stall tactics day in and day out from the front office about why this cannot be done.

We have some smart people in Pennsylvania. Smart enough to know that if 25 other States can do it, surely we can do the same thing. Our own Independent Fiscal Office was created, they provided a study and it is independent, it looks at the dollars, it is a bipartisan operation, it is nonpartisan, it has no political bent, it has no axe to grind, it is right there in front of us, it tells us the information that we ask for. The question was asked, will this work for Pennsylvania? They came back, no issue, no problem, it is going to work.

The Pennsylvania Economy League, surely no leftist progressive organization, no liberal organization, studies it. Results: it works. Take advantage of it. It is good for Pennsylvania. It is good for the folks who need insurance, but it is good for everyone else. It will put people to work. We have an unemployment rate that is far too high in the Commonwealth. This program will put 35,000 to 40,000 people to work. The RAND report, another non-left, non-liberal, non-progressive organization provides us a study and also says, it is going to work for Pennsylvania. It makes a difference in people's lives and it has an impact on the Commonwealth. Three reports: provide insurance. The money comes in from Washington, take the money, do not worry, it will not be an issue. The financial impact is so large on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in a positive sense that it will not cost the State any money to do this. It will not be a burden on the Commonwealth's fiscal coffers.

Again, returning back to what we all were taught in Sunday school - if you help one another, the blessings will come back tenfold. That is what we were taught. If we provide this insurance to these individuals, if we receive the funds from Washington that have been promised to us, if we provide the insurance, we will not only put people back to work, we so desperately need that, we will be able to save spending that is currently going on in Pennsylvania, and that same spending will be utilized in other areas of the State budget. Which goes back to my original issue - providing financial support to struggling school districts. It works. It works dramatically. We help someone else and the help for someone else helps this group over here. We provide insurance for those who need it, and the result from that is that we are able to provide financial support for struggling schools. Maybe those 120 folks who were laid off in Allentown, maybe some of those folks can get their jobs back. Maybe those school workers in York will not have to confront a 40-percent pay cut. I cannot imagine a 40-percent pay cut. Maybe those 3,783 employees who just received a pink slip in the school district of Philadelphia, maybe some of those folks can get their jobs back, and they can return to the mission that they set upon when they were younger deciding to go into education and try to breathe life into some young person and help them realize their dreams.

The crime in all of this, and in fact it is a crime, is that we place two groups in jeopardy of not being able to advance their circumstances, by not taking the dollars that are targeted for them and using them in a way that makes the most sense. The money is there for us. Help the people who need the help. The crime is that the folks who have the most in this Commonwealth will benefit. The crime is that they have always been able to benefit from this process. The crime is that those who have gotten still seem to be able to get, but those who have been denied, I do not know, maybe it is just this continual specter of having a big foot on their neck to keep them there and not allow them to move up.

All of the reports indicate, all of the research indicates, all of the studies indicate that this is the right thing to do with the health insurance, and if we make the right decision on that, we are put into a position where we can provide the appropriate support for those who need more funds in their classrooms to turn around their academic situation, again, to turn the dreams of these students into reality. We will have, by June 30, a decision that must be made with respect to the State budget. I imagine that we will go through, based on what I have heard so far, so many dips and turns, and wiggles and waggles, and all kinds of things

to do to figure out how to get a balanced budget when it is always the same. The straightest path is the easiest path to take, it is the most responsible path to get us out of here on June 30 and will do the most good for the most people.

We have to make a decision, Madam President. We have struggled in this Chamber far too long on issues that are too right for too many people. When presented with an opportunity to help those who need the help the most, there are some folks who seem to want to turn away. This issue of expanding Medical Assistance and providing healthcare to the half-million people who deserve, it not just helps them but helps those of our children who need some financial support in their classrooms. We should be able to do that, we should be able to focus on their needs. We should be able to focus on their concerns. We should have the willingness, the intellectual capacity, and the heart and the guts to turn to them and say, we are here for you as a State and not turn our backs on those who need us. There are many who are walking the halls right now, Madam President, and they are the very wealthy few. They are working to try to advance their issue and their cause. The folks we are trying to help could not get to Harrisburg because they are working right now. The folks we are trying to help could not get to Harrisburg because they are in a classroom right now teaching or helping. The folks we need to help are not just them, but I submit are ourselves. When we help the least of these, we help us all.

Madam President, with 18 days left, it is about the decision of doing the best for the most who deserve us to stand for them. They have no lobbyist, they have no high-priced talent to represent their needs. We are charged with responding to their concerns. Let us do the right thing, Madam President. Let us do the right thing. Thank you.

RECESS

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

Senator WAUGH. Madam President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, June 17, 2013, at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 2:07 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.