

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2013

SESSION OF 2013 197TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 57

SENATE

TUESDAY, October 1, 2013

The Senate met at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend BERNARD F. O'CONNOR, President of DeSales University, Center Valley, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we bow in reverence to Your presence with us as we gather to consider the important work of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Governmental leaders hold in trust the welfare of the citizens. This trust is passed from one generation to the next by an election process that enables the citizens to express their will through free and fair elections. The citizens expect a robust discussion on the issues of the Commonwealth and a timely resolution of the problems we face. Action and convictions are essential. Patience and careful listening smooth the way. Not all problems can be solved, but respectful dialogue can bring clarity and understanding that satisfies reasonable expectations.

Dear God, we ask You to enlighten Your servants assembled here for this noble task. Bless them, those they love, with Your grace. May we always be grateful for Your care and Your providence. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Reverend O'Conner, who is the guest today of Senator Mensch.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

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

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

September 30, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Janet Getzey Hart, 2273 Ionoff Road, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, to serve for a term of six years or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Edward Bechtel, Slatington, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE ANIMAL HEALTH
AND DIAGNOSTIC COMMISSION**

October 1, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Duane L. Hertzler, 4733 Rock Hollow Road, Loysville 17047, Perry County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE ANIMAL HEALTH
AND DIAGNOSTIC COMMISSION**

October 1, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, James S. Holt, 251 Barneston Road, Honey Brook 19344, Chester County, Forty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice John Simms, V.M.D., Shippensburg, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE ANIMAL HEALTH
AND DIAGNOSTIC COMMISSION**

October 1, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brian K. Reed, D.V.M., M.B.A., 2564 Valley Road, Manheim 17545, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE ANIMAL HEALTH
AND DIAGNOSTIC COMMISSION

October 1, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Sheryl Long Vanco, 2195 Route 958, Bear Lake 16402, Warren County, Twenty-first Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission, to serve for a term of four years and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

October 1, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Howard H. Shreckengost, 406 Vine Street, New Bethlehem 16242, Clarion County, Twenty-first Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Clarion University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE CORONERS' EDUCATION BOARD

October 1, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, The Honorable Lyell Cook, 11319 Edinboro Road, Edinboro 16412, Erie County, Forty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Coroners' Education Board, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice The Honorable Kenneth Bacha, Greensburg, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE CORONERS' EDUCATION BOARD

October 1, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, The Honorable James L. Wilson, 30 Morris Lane, Wellsboro 16901, Tioga County, Twenty-fifth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Coroners' Education Board, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF
MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

October 1, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Ann Womble, 1520 Ridge Road, Lancaster 17603, Lancaster County, Thirteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Millersville University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Caroline Hoffer, Millersville, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

**CORRECTION TO NOMINATION
LAID ON THE TABLE**

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following communication in writing from His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, which was read as follows:

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 1, 2013

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

Please note the nomination dated May 22, 2013, for the appointment of Craig A. Snider, 400 Garden Lane, Bryn Mawr 19010, Montgomery County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2013, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Francine G. McNairy, Millersville, resigned, should be corrected to read:

Craig A. Snider, 400 Garden Lane, Bryn Mawr 19010, Montgomery County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2019, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Francine G. McNairy, Millersville, resigned.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

The PRESIDENT. The communication will be laid on the table.

RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

October 1, 2013

Senators FOLMER, EICHELBERGER, SOLOBAY and McILHINNEY presented to the Chair **SR 188**, entitled:

A Resolution urging Congress to enact legislation to reinstate the separation of commercial and investment banking functions in effect under the Glass-Steagall Act and support the adoption of Senate Bills 985 and 1282, which repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, October 1, 2013.

Senators DINNIMAN and WHITE presented to the Chair **SR 206**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution requesting that the Municipal Police Officers' Training Commission ensure that issues related to the practice of motorcycle profiling be addressed in its training curriculum in conjunction with any existing training related to profiling.

Which was committed to the Committee on LAW AND JUSTICE, October 1, 2013.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

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

SB 1066 (Pr. No. 1344)

An Act designating the bridge carrying PA Route 973 over Hoagland Run in Lycoming Township, Lycoming County, as the Bruce E. Bartley, Sr., Bridge.

SB 1097 (Pr. No. 1367)

An Act designating a portion of State Route 4007 in the Borough of Indiana, Indiana County, as the James Nance Memorial Highway.

Senator EICHELBERGER, from the Committee on Local Government, reported the following bills:

SB 1046 (Pr. No. 1304)

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, further providing for the operating reserve fund.

SB 1051 (Pr. No. 1358)

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for investment of authority funds.

SB 1081 (Pr. No. 1354)

An Act amending the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The First Class Township Code, further providing for filing and recording of ordinances.

SB 1082 (Pr. No. 1355)

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, further providing for filing and recording of ordinances.

HB 1193 (Pr. No. 2087)

An Act amending the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The First Class Township Code, further providing for removals and for appointment, compensation and training of police officers.

Senator GREENLEAF, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported the following bills:

SB 28 (Pr. No. 1421) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, further providing for the offense of simple assault and for the offense of aggravated assault; and, in falsification and intimidation, providing for the offense of false reports of child abuse and for the offense of intimidation or retaliation in child abuse cases.

SB 863 (Pr. No. 961)

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

SB 894 (Pr. No. 994)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in judicial boards and commissions, authorizing the Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners to obtain criminal history record checks.

SB 1024 (Pr. No. 1235)

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for possession of firearm or other dangerous weapon in court facility, for arson and related offenses and for sentences for second and subsequent offenses; and providing for sentencing for arson offenses.

HB 79 (Pr. No. 58)

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for compensation and retirement of justices, judges and justices of the peace.

HB 164 (Pr. No. 1941)

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

HB 1337 (Pr. No. 1815)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for surcharge for deposit into the Access to Justice Account.

Senator ALLOWAY, from the Committee on Game and Fisheries, reported the following bills:

SB 895 (Pr. No. 1422) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for organization of commission.

SB 1068 (Pr. No. 1348)

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for dog training areas.

SB 1090 (Pr. No. 1423) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for resident license and fee exemptions.

SB 1102 (Pr. No. 1424) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for disabled veterans and former prisoners of war.

HB 798 (Pr. No. 2424) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for organization of commission.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President I request a legislative leave for Senator Hughes, and a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Yudichak.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Costa requests a legislative leave for Senator Hughes, and a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Yudichak. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

JOURNALS APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journals of the Sessions of June 28, 2013, and June 29, 2013, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the Sessions of June 28, 2013, and June 29, 2013.

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?

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journals are approved.

**GUESTS OF SENATOR CHARLES McILHINNEY
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bucks, Senator McIlhinney.

Senator McILHINNEY. Mr. President, I have two guests here today. First, I would like to introduce a constituent of mine, Kaitlin Fitzpatrick, a junior wrestler at Pennsbury High School. She took second place at the FILA Body Bar Women's National Championships. She qualified for the national team and will practice at the United States Training Center in Colorado Springs for competitions in Germany and Sweden. She also won the New England and Pennsylvania freestyle championships, and she just informed me that she was invited to try out for the 2020 United States Olympic team. Please join me in giving her a warm Senate welcome.

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

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Senator, before you introduce your next set of guests, I am inappropriately garbed. Allow me to put on my hat, and you may now introduce your next set of guests.

Senator McILHINNEY. Mr. President, that is a wonderful hat. My next guests are from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, the Morrisville Little League Boys' Baseball Team. They won the Pennsylvania State title this year. The boys capped an impressive tournament run with a decisive 10-3 victory over Montoursville Little League. Please join me in giving my guests a warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Stand up, guys.

(Applause.)

**GUEST OF SENATOR ROBERT B. MENSCH
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator MENSCH. Mr. President, I note that our Chaplain for today already had to leave. The duties of his university have taken him elsewhere, but let me tell you a little bit about the Chaplain for the day. Father Bernie F. O'Connor has been president of DeSales University, formerly Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales, since 1999. Prior to that, he served as the executive vice president of the college since 1995, after having served as associate vice president for academic affairs in 1993 and academic dean in 1994. Father O'Connor joined Allentown College as an instructor in 1974. He served as an assistant professor of philosophy and chair of the philosophy department from 1980 through 1987, at which time he was named associate professor and chair of the philosophy and theology departments. In 1990, he received the Sears Roebuck Foundation Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award.

Mr. President, although he is no longer here, let us give him a warm hand and thank him for being here today.

The PRESIDENT. Will the Senate join me in saluting Senator Mensch's guest.

(Applause.)

RECESS

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for purposes of meetings of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held in the Rules room immediately, to be followed by the Committee on Aging and Youth, to be followed by the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, to be followed by a Republican caucus to be held in the Majority Caucus Room.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, at the conclusion of the three meetings, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber for caucus as well.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of meetings of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, the Committee on Aging and Youth, the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, to be followed by Republican and Democratic caucuses, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 421 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL AMENDED

HB 1483 (Pr. No. 2358) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 5, 2012 (P.L.995, No.112), known as the Portable Electronics Insurance Act, further providing for authority of vendors of portable electronics and for termination of portable electronics insurance.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator WHITE offered the following amendment No. A3738:

Amend Bill, page 5, line 13, by inserting after "means":
provided the vendor policyholder or affected enrolled customer agrees to receive such notice electronically. For purposes of this section, an enrolled customer's provision of an electronic mail address to the insurer or vendor policyholder shall be deemed an agreement to receive notice by electronic means if a disclosure is provided to the enrolled customer stating that an enrolled customer's provision of an electronic mail address shall be deemed an agreement to receive notices electronically

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

It was agreed to.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR
REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES
AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS**

Senator ROBBINS, from the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, reported communications from His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, recalling the following nominations, which were read by the Clerk as follows:

**SECRETARY OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

September 20, 2013

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated September 11, 2013, for the appointment of Mike Downing, 123 Stanford Court, Mechanicsburg 17050, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, as Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources, to serve until the third Tuesday of January 2015, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice The Honorable Richard J. Allan, Camp Hill, resigned.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

September 20, 2013

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated May 28, 2013, for the appointment of Denise Tervo, Nuin Center, 5655 Bryant Street, Suite 107, Pittsburgh 15206, Allegheny County, Thirty-eighth Senatorial District, as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Tracy Steen, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

August 26, 2013

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated May 22, 2013, for the appointment of William E. Harner, Ph.D., 6 Farmhouse Lane, Carlisle 17013, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, as Secretary of Education, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice The Honorable Ronald J. Tomalis, Harrisburg, resigned.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

September 20, 2013

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated July 11, 2013, for the appointment of Mike Downing, 123 Stanford Court, Mechanicsburg 17050, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, as Secretary of Environmental Protection, to serve until the third Tuesday of January 2015, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice The Honorable Michael Krancer, Bryn Mawr, resigned.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

September 20, 2013

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated June 3, 2013, for the appointment of Bryan Troop, 2 South Market Street, Apartment 205, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Forty-eighth Senatorial District, as a member of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, to serve until September 21, 2015, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Daniel D. Yun, M.D., Ph.D, Landsdale, resigned.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF WHITE HAVEN CENTER

September 20, 2013

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated June 6, 2013, for the appointment of Stephanie Moore, 349 Orchard Road, Millerstown 17062, Juniata County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, as a member of the Board of Trustees of White Haven Center, to serve until the third Tuesday of January 2019, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Catherine Warren, Hazleton, resigned.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

NOMINATIONS RETURNED TO THE GOVERNOR

Senator ROBBINS. Mr. President, I request that the nominations just read by the Clerk be returned to His Excellency, the Governor.

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

The PRESIDENT. The nominations will be returned to the Governor.

**REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES
AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS**

Senator ROBBINS, from the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, reported the following nominations made by His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, which were read by the Clerk as follows:

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 11, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Susanne A. Burns, PO Box 626, Clarion 16214, Clarion County, Twenty-first Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Clarion University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years and until her successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF
INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 5, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Joyce R. Fairman, 414 Randall Court, DuBois 15801, Clearfield County, Twenty-fifth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Indiana University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Carolyn P. Snyder, Kittanning, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

June 12, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Edward Mihelcic, Ph.D., OTR/L, 344 North Ninth Street, Indiana 15701, Indiana County, Forty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure, to serve for a term of three years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Andrea L. Mowen, Chambersburg, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

COMMONWEALTH TRUSTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF PITTSBURGH OF THE COMMONWEALTH
SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 3, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Robert J. Kania, Jr., 1616 Cook School Road, Upper Saint Clair 15222, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as Commonwealth Trustee of the University of Pittsburgh of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education, to serve until October 5, 2016, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Ira Gumberg, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA BOARD
OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

June 26, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Edward Burke, SCI Rockview, Box A, Bellefonte 16823, Centre County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve for a term of six years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice C. James Fox, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA BOARD
OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

June 26, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Leslie M. Grey, 1001 State Street, Suite 1009, Erie 16501, Erie County, Forty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve for a term of six years or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Judith E. Viglione, New Cumberland, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA BOARD
OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

June 26, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Lloyd A. White, 1101 South Front Street, Suite 5100, Harrisburg 17104, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve for a term of six years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

June 14, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Gladys M. Brown, Esquire, 2302 Rudy Road, Harrisburg 17104, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, to serve until April 1, 2018, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Wayne E. Gardner, Downingtown, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

NOMINATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE

Senator ROBBINS. Mr. President, I request that the nominations just read by the Clerk be laid on the table.

The PRESIDENT. The nominations will be laid on the table.

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Senator ROBBINS,
That the Senate do now resolve itself into Executive Session for the purpose of considering certain nominations made by the Governor.

Which was agreed to by voice vote.

NOMINATIONS TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator ROBBINS. Mr. President, I call from the table certain nominations and ask for their consideration.

The Clerk read the nominations as follows:

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 11, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Susanne A. Burns, PO Box 626, Clarion 16214, Clarion County, Twenty-first Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Clarion University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years and until her successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 28, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, The Honorable Janis Creason, 320 Mollie Drive, Harrisburg 17112, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Kimberly Gray, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 28, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, George N. Pajovich, Jr., 15 Carriage Circle, Royersford 19468, Montgomery County, Nineteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Patrick Oates, Plymouth Meeting, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 28, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas Weida, MD, 1011 Handsome Place, Lititz 17543, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Andrew J. Behnke, M.D., Carlisle, resigned.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 22, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Craig A. Snider, 400 Garden Lane, Bryn Mawr 19010, Montgomery County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2019, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Francine G. McNairy, Millersville, resigned.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 7, 2013

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

In conformity with the law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Marie A. Conley, 742 S. 80th Street, Harrisburg 17111, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2016, and until her successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 7, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Christopher H. Franklin, 1642 Knobb Hill Lane, Paoli 19301, Chester County, Nineteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2014, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Harold C. Shields, Allison Park, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 7, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jonathan B. Mack, 156 Timbersprings Drive, Indiana 15701, Indiana County, Forty-first Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2016, and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 7, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, David M. Maser, 1420 Locust Street, 6Q, Philadelphia 19102, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2016, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Kenneth M. Jarin, Newtown, resigned.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 7, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Guido M. Pichini, 24 Upland Road, Wyomissing Hills 19609, Berks County, Forty-eighth Senatorial Dis-

trict, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2016, and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 7, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Aaron A. Walton, 4283 Forest Glen Drive, Allison Park 15101, Allegheny County, Fortieth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2016, and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

June 5, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Joyce R. Fairman, 414 Randall Court, DuBois 15801, Clearfield County, Twenty-fifth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Indiana University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Carolyn P. Snyder, Kittanning, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

May 31, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jim Ludlow, 7958 Woodsbluff Run, Fogelsville 18051, Lehigh County, Sixteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Kutztown University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Ramona D. Turpin, Reading, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

June 3, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Bruce A. Brod, M.D., 831 Robert Dean Drive, Downingtown 19335, Chester County, Nineteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Medicine, to serve for a term of four years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Carol E. Rose, M.D., Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

June 3, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Marilyn J. Heine, MD, FACEP, FACP, 900 Twining Road, Dresher 19025, Montgomery County, Twelfth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Medicine, to serve for a term of four years or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Dr. Stephen L. Schwartz, Warrington, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

June 3, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Sukh Dev Sharma, M.D., F.A.C.P., F.A.C.C., 4914 Tramarlac Lane, Erie 16505, Erie County, Forty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Medicine, to serve for a term of four years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice James W. Freeman, M.D., Shippensburg, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

June 12, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Edward Mihelcic, Ph.D., OTR/L, 344

North Ninth Street, Indiana 15701, Indiana County, Forty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure, to serve for a term of three years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Andrea L. Mowen, Chambersburg, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

June 26, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Edward Burke, SCI Rockview, Box A, Bellefonte 16823, Centre County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve for a term of six years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice C. James Fox, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

June 26, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Leslie M. Grey, 1001 State Street, Suite 1009, Erie 16501, Erie County, Forty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve for a term of six years or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Judith E. Viglione, New Cumberland, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

June 26, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Lloyd A. White, 1101 South Front Street, Suite 5100, Harrisburg 17104, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve for a term of six years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period.

TOM CORBETT Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

June 14, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Gladys M. Brown, Esquire, 2302 Rudy Road, Harrisburg 17104, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, to serve until April 1, 2018, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Wayne E. Gardner, Downingtown, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF
CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

June 3, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Donna B. Rovito (Public Member), 3449 Huckleberry Road, Allentown 18104, Lehigh County, Sixteenth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, to serve for a term of four years and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL
WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

May 22, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Dr. James K. Matta, Sr., 747 McCaslin Street, Pittsburgh 15217, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

On the question,
Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations?

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I am very honored and pleased to ask my colleagues to support the nomination of a wonderful person to the Pennsylvania Utility Commission, and

that is Gladys M. Brown. Gladys has been a vital part of the functioning of this Senate for more than a generation. She is not only a very valued, hardworking, and outstanding member of our Senate Democratic staff, she is also exceptionally well-qualified to be a PUC Commissioner. Gladys has the legal training and legislative experience to be an excellent Commissioner. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and also received her law degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Her experience is broad and multifaceted. She has worked for the Department of State here in Harrisburg prior to her term in the Senate, and clerked for United States District Court Judge Paul Simmons of the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Gladys has been involved in utility and consumer protection issues virtually since the first day she stepped into the Senate. Her experience ranges from fiber-optic legislation in the 1990s, to all the deregulation legislation that passed through this Chamber - gas, electric, and telephone - and have been signed into law over the past 20 years. Gladys is resourceful and her input is relied upon by Members and staff on both sides of the aisle. All of us have come to rely upon Gladys for her knowledge, her thorough understanding of the issues, her professionalism in presenting arguments, and capturing the essence of very complex matters.

Gladys, as we all know, is easy to work with. She is intelligent, professional, and honest. She is forthright and she is fair. She is detailed and she is dedicated. She is a wonderful person, friendly, approachable, and open. Many of you may not know this, but Gladys is also very active in her church here in the Harrisburg area, where she hails from. She is a woman of deep faith, conviction, and strength. She can quote Scripture and Bible passages and has often corrected many of our colleagues when in speeches on the floor they strayed from conveying what the Bible actually says.

In addition, Gladys is very active in her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, and I am certain some of her sister sorority members, some of whom are here today, share in the pride that we in this Chamber feel about her. In fact, she has even spurred them on to be more active in the legislative process, so much to the point that I am wearing a pink shirt today, not because of breast cancer awareness in October, but rather it is one of the colors of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. But most importantly, Mr. President, Gladys is extremely committed to her family, and this strong bond has helped forge the foundation, the person who she is today. The Governor has selected a person with unimpeachable character, impeccable credentials, and a commitment to this Commonwealth. The Governor has made an exceptional choice. I know I speak for the Members of our Caucus and the whole Senate when we say we are sorry to see Gladys move on. We certainly will miss her and wish her well. The Senate's loss is Pennsylvania's gain.

Mr. President, I would be remiss if I did not say a few thank you's to individuals who helped make this day happen. One is to Governor Corbett, who, in fact, made the nomination of this outstanding person to serve in this important capacity, but also individuals like Steve Aichele, the Governor's chief of staff at the time, as well as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, Senator Scarnati, Senator Pileggi, and Senator Tomlinson, for their support in allowing this day to come and for promoting Gladys to the Public Utility Commission.

Mr. President, it is not very often where we have the opportunity to help assist our staff continue to grow and move on to higher and loftier heights. I am very, very honored and pleased today to ask all of you to support our friend Gladys Brown in an affirmative vote to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I rise to commend the Governor on his wise choice of Gladys Brown to be nominated to the Public Utility Commission. I congratulate her on that nomination, and on behalf of my Caucus ask for an affirmative vote on her nomination confirmation. As the Minority Leader, Senator Costa, ably described, she is a consummate professional with a long, detailed record of service and experience that will benefit the Commission and the people of the Commonwealth with her as a Commissioner. The really rare commodity that she brings is a certain joy and universal constant pleasantness to work. Sometimes in this Chamber it can become acrimonious, or sharp-elbowed, or unpleasant, and she always comes with the kind of smile—I am looking across the room and I see her smiling now—which makes problem-solving a lot easier. It makes it easier for us to do our work on behalf of the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and that unique quality is going to certainly now benefit the people of the Commonwealth through the Public Utility Commission rather than the Senate of Pennsylvania. So, I certainly urge an affirmative vote, congratulate her on her record of service to this point, and wish her the best in her future service to the Commonwealth. I know she will be missed by the Senators in the Republican Caucus, and certainly the Democratic Caucus.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I will confess that this moment is particularly personal to me. While Gladys has served while I have been here for almost 15 years, she also served my dad. Many of you who are a part of this Chamber realize that my father, Hardy Williams, was a Member of this Senate and a person, frankly, who had some extraordinary accomplishments in his life. He was a person who served his nation as a lieutenant in the Army in the Korean conflict. He was a person who came home and got a law degree at the University of Pennsylvania and served at one of the extraordinary law firms in Philadelphia. He was a person who was gifted with oratory skills and intellect that rival many people in this nation. But what people do not necessarily always know is that my father kept a common touch. He came from a really extraordinarily challenging economic background and some challenging set of circumstances. He never lost that. He was always a believer in people meeting those challenges with every level of excellence that they had.

One of the first things he told me when I got to the Senate was, do not lean upon your own perspective; talk to other people that you respect and believe in. One of the persons he advised me to talk to immediately was Gladys Brown. It clearly did not take me very long to understand why. Aside from keeping me out of trouble, introducing bills which were clearly not constitutional, she had a soothing effect upon my ego when it was presented to me that I was wrong about a position I was taking. On behalf of

my father though, Gladys, what you do not see, you see that smiling face, you see that disposition, but what you do not necessarily know is that for Gladys to come from Harrisburg, for Gladys to excel as a woman, for Gladys to excel as an African American and, frankly, to be sometimes divided by partisan activities is something that my father loved about her. Gladys never looked at the glass as half-empty. As matter of fact, she only sees the glass as being poured in and fulfilling its ultimate level. Gladys only sees the best in us and the best in all possibilities. Gladys and my father shared a unique bond because they enjoyed life at its ultimate level, and that is to enjoy all human beings, regardless of where you come from or how you start. If you live in this country, if you live in this great State, then you too can enjoy the opportunity presented to you if you truly, truly work to a level of excellence. Gladys has done this in such a way, not to be self-effacing, not to be a braggadocio, not to be egotistical, in fact, she does it in such a way that she shines the light upon the other person and sort of deflects it from her with grace and dignity and with extraordinary pride for the other person.

I think our service in the Senate is benefitted by her excellent work, but, more importantly, where she is going to go. As Commissioner for the PUC, those people who my father fought for, that you fight for, that we fight for, is not the protection of the rich but, frankly, those who are the least among us, the most vulnerable among us, those who are trying to make sure that they too are protected equally by law and policy and by justice. Gladys Brown is not just a choice, she is the best choice. She is the best example that the Senate and Governor can send to the PUC. For those reasons, on behalf of my father, my family, myself, and for the Members of this Chamber, I ask that we not just affirm the vote but stand in applause for that vote. Thank you, Gladys, and thank you to the Senate.

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

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, I am so honored to stand here today to urge confirmation for our very own Gladys Brown. One of the most universally liked and admired Senate staffers ever, I have relied on Gladys's experience and advice on many, many issues over many, many years. In my role as Democratic chair of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, Gladys demonstrated a wealth of knowledge and understanding on a wide range of utility-related issues, and I know she will be a huge asset to the commission because of the skills and experience she brings to the table. Best of all, Gladys always looked out for the little guy, and I know she will continue to be that strong voice for our consumers and ratepayers on the commission, just like she was here in the Senate.

Mr. President, with Gladys's confirmation, we now have two women serving on the Public Utility Commission for the first time in more than 30 years, and I am talking two extremely exceptionally-qualified women. Gladys, I have always been proud of what you have accomplished, proud of the reputation you have earned here in the Senate, proud to call you my friend, and proud to voice my unequivocal support for your long-overdue confirmation. Like my Leader said, the Senate's loss today is certainly the PUC's gain.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations?

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly. (Applause.)

NOMINATION TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator ROBBINS. Mr. President, I call from the table a certain nomination and ask for its consideration.

The Clerk read the nomination as follows:

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 22, 2013

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, The Honorable Carol T. Aichele, 2424 Dickson Lane, Malvern 19355, Chester County, Nineteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2018, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Constance H. Davis, Bellefonte, whose term expired.

TOM CORBETT
Governor

On the question,
Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination?

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, I understand that this is the nomination of Secretary of State Carol Aichele to the State Board of Education. First, I want to thank the chair of the Committee on Education, my colleague, Senator Folmer, for having at least temporarily put a hold on this nomination and joining with me because we wanted simply--we know the Majority can always get its way--but we wanted simply to raise certain questions that at least the Majority would understand in confirming this nomination.

It is simply this, I want to give you a little history, if I may. In the 1960s, Senators sat in the same seats that you are sitting in, and in 1963 they passed what was called the Administrative Code for Pennsylvania. In that Code, they incorporated the policies involving the Pennsylvania State Board of Education. They went out of their way, those who sat in our very seats 50 years ago, to make sure that they would do the very best to keep politics out of the State Board of Education. Now, let me tell you what they did. I do not believe there is anyone here who was here 50 years ago. Some of you might have been 30 years ago, 20 years ago, but not 50 years ago. What they did was this: they said that anyone nominated for the State Board of Education would have a 6-year term so that no one Governor could ever get control of the State Board of Education. They went on and said that not even the Secretary of Education, who was an appointee of the Governor, would have a vote on the State Board.

In the last 50 years, this Chamber has respected precedent and we have never nominated a Member who is currently serving as a cabinet Secretary to the State Board of Education. Each of our cabinet Secretaries, Mr. President, have plenty of boards that they can serve on. In fact, by statute, they are assigned to certain boards that they can serve on. There have been certain people who are already on the State Board who then became cabinet members, but never has this body allowed and confirmed, and never has a Governor nominated someone who was already a cabinet member to serve on the State Board of Education.

Now, even if I lose this particular point, and the Majority has its will, I feel good that at least I was at the table as a Member of this body, and I thank the Majority for allowing this nomination to be heard, this particular nomination to be separated, that I have been given at least the privilege, and I thank the Majority Leader, and I particularly thank all my Republican colleagues for being able to state the point.

I am, by occupation, a history professor. Let me tell you, if an institution does not protect its own integrity, if an institution does not respect 50 years of precedence, that institution will not be respected by the public, and every time we refuse to respect the integrity and our nonpartisan precedence, it adds another drop in the polling numbers, whether it be U.S. Congress, or whether it be the Senate of the State of Pennsylvania.

So, a letter was sent to my friends and colleagues - Senator Scarnati, Senator Pileggi, and Senator Robbins. We sent that way back in June and asked them to consider this nomination, and we did so raising two points. The first point is, are there potential conflicts of interest with a cabinet Secretary serving on the State Board, especially if that cabinet Secretary has control over the licensure of social workers, over school nurses, who work in that institution? And when you vote today, you ignore that question of conflict of interest if you vote in the affirmative. The second question that our Caucus would bring to your attention is, are you saying today that what we have done for 50 years is meaningless and has no value? Because that is what you are doing. The problem is the Majority can do what it wants today, but a year from now there might be a new Majority, and someone will be standing up on the other side of the aisle trying to remind this Caucus that there are precedents that we should abide by. It is about time both Caucuses respect the integrity of the institution and respect what has been the policy for 50 years. Anyone who wants to read the record, I will share it with you. Senators rose, stood up, spoke, and made it clear that the State Board of Educa-

tion is off-limits for any Governor to try to get control, and one of the ways we have respected that has been by making sure that no current cabinet Secretary is nominated.

I am sure there will be those on the other side, if they wish, who can respond, but, you know we will listen it out. The key point is, as you vote, you are voting for a change in the precedence of this institution, and in my judgment, that is sad. We do not argue Ms. Aichele's qualifications or her capability. She is a capable person. I served with her on the board of commissioners of my county, but this is not a question of capability. This is a question of whether we will make sure that the State Board of Education remains nonpartisan. By the way, the other thing to think about in your vote is, how do we say to the Secretary of Education by statute, you do not have a vote, but it is okay to put another cabinet member on the same board who does have a vote?

Thank you, very much, Mr. President, and thank you for allowing me to go on. I deeply appreciate that, and I thank my colleagues for listening.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, Senator Dinniman referenced a letter dated June 18. I would just like to offer that for the record.

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

(The following letter was made part of the record at the request of the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator COSTA:)

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
Harrisburg, PA

June 18, 2013

To: Senator Joseph P. Scarnati, Senate Pro Tempore
Senator Dominic Pileggi, Majority Leader
Senator Bob Robbins, Majority Caucus Secretary

This letter reiterates the previous request of the Senate Democratic Caucus that Secretary of the Commonwealth Carol Aichele's nomination as a voting member of the State Board of Education not be considered. To be clear, our request has nothing to do with Secretary Aichele, her character or abilities; rather, the basis of our concern is grounded in the principle and precedent of the nomination itself.

The nomination of a sitting cabinet member from another agency to the State Board of Education is unconventional and, perhaps, unprecedented. Based on research and collective recollections we could not find, recall, or were made aware of a situation where a cabinet member from a separate department under the governor's jurisdiction was seated as a voting member of the State Board of Education.

If this nomination proceeds, our concern is that a cabinet member would hold dual responsibilities -- across multiple disciplines. It clearly would be unusual and unorthodox. As significant, the nomination could conceivably raise questions involving perspective and political motivation.

We are extremely concerned that establishing a pattern of appointing sitting cabinet members could begin the process of politicizing the board and potentially create unintended conflicts. This may result in hobbling the board and its operations. Appointed positions involving education have a long history of not being political in Pennsylvania government.

For example, unlike any other cabinet secretary in Pennsylvania, the Secretary of Education's term of office does not end concurrently with the governor's on the third Tuesday in January. Rather, the Secretary serves for a fixed four-year term. While the Secretary is the Chief Executive Officer of the Board of Education, he/she is not a voting member of the Board.

Similarly, members of the Board serve six-year terms, which is longer than the governor's term in the hope of fostering the independence of Board members from their appointing authority. Additionally, board members continue to serve in the staggered terms.

The non-political construction of the board dates to 1963 when the board's name was changed to the State Board of Education in the Administrative Code of 1929. When the board's statutory authority was moved into the Public School Code in 1988, the staggered terms were continued through the completion of the terms of the then-sitting members of the board, and then affixed, going forward, for subsequent board members.

Pennsylvania's Supreme Court has ruled that a statute containing fixed terms of office with staggered expiration dates demonstrates the legislature's intent that the appointee not be subject to removal by their appointing authority. The Court ruled in that case the appointing authority could remove the appointee because the statute in question did not contain a section explicitly providing for staggered terms. Although the statute as amended in this instance does not expressly provide for staggered terms, as mention previously members of the Board continue to serve staggered terms of office. We believe this lack of authority for removal is an indication that it was the Legislature's original intent to make each member and, in turn, the Board, less susceptible to political pressure.

Given these precedents, we believe it is not good precedent nor public policy for any governor to appoint cabinet members from other departments or agencies to the State Board. The governor already has entities to articulate and execute his education policies: the Secretary of Education and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

The Senate Democratic Caucus believes the State Board should remain an independent voice on education policy for the students, teachers, schools and taxpayers of this Commonwealth. For these reasons, we request that the nomination of the Secretary of the Commonwealth as a voting member of the State Board of Education not be considered.

Respectfully,

JAY COSTA
Senator, Minority Leader

CHRISTINE M. TARTAGLIONE
Senator,
Minority Caucus Secretary

ANDREW E. DINNIMAN
Senator, Minority Chair,
Senate Education Committee

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

Senator ERICKSON. Mr. President, I will make two points today, the first point being that it is certainly the Governor's prerogative and duty to appoint members to various boards, including the State Board of Education. Governor Corbett has seen fit to appoint Secretary Carol Aichele to the State Board of Education. In the past, we have had situations where governors of another party have made suggestions as to appointments for various boards. Because it was that Governor's prerogative, we supported those individuals, and I suggest that today we need to continue that precedent.

Let me, for a moment, then pick up on something that the previous speaker indicated, that Secretary Aichele is extremely capable. She was the Chester County Controller; a county commissioner; she has a rich and substantial background in education and education-related activities, including being a member of the Board of Directors of Student Services at West Chester University; a member of the Tredyffrin/Easttown School Board, and she was its president; on the Council of Trustees at West Chester University; and on the Board of Directors of Delaware Valley

Friends School. Furthermore, Secretary Aichele taught in middle school and elementary school. She taught math and science. This is an individual who has substantial experience both in education policy formulation and hands-on teaching activity. She is extremely well-qualified. It would be a shame not to take advantage of this rich base of experience. We need her on the Board of Education.

She is a person of exceptional integrity, and she will use that training and background to help the State Board of Education establish good and viable policies for our education system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and her integrity is such that she will avoid any conflicts. With this in mind, I urge an affirmative vote on Secretary Aichele. Thank you.

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

Senator STACK. Mr. President, just to briefly chime in on the issue. I have met Ms. Aichele and find her to be a very bright woman, very well-qualified, but in this particular time when we have so many challenging issues in education and we are trying to get the best possible education for our kids, in some regards, even a passable education is a good thing considering the challenges we have, we are trying to do the best we can to get the political process out of education. So, what my colleague Senator Dinniman is trying to do, and I greatly respect his background, his passion, and his understanding of the education system, is to protect the process. I am someone who, maybe at some time in the future, might be really concerned about this. I may, in fact, wish to eat my words at a later time, but the fact of the matter is, we have not allowed someone to go right from the cabinet and become a member of the State Board of Education for the obvious reason that it becomes that person's political appointee who is there to serve the interests of their benefactor. That is a dangerous thing, particularly in light of all the obstacles we are dealing with in education and the problems we are dealing with in our kids failing. Also, we are witnessing more and more people in the education business to make money, to line their own pockets, to benefit themselves against the interests of our kids and our parents.

So, for purposes of the process, if we have anything here, we have a process. The best we can do is try to protect the process, whether it is a Democrat or a Republican who is in the front office, in the governorship, we, as Pennsylvania legislators and as people who are really closest to the actual electorate, the taxpayers, the ones who really know what is going on with them, I think we have a duty to protect the process. So, I support Senator Dinniman's motion and I urge my fellow colleagues to support Senator Dinniman and do the same.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, for the second and last time, all I want to say is, as you vote today, this is not about Carol Aichele. This is about whether a policy that has been here for 50 years in this body, that when Senators sat here 50 years ago and adopted a policy to protect and make sure that the State Board of Education is not politicized in any way, to make sure that we would not even give an acting and a sitting Secretary of Education a vote on that board. In voting for Ms. Aichele, you vote against that precedent of 50 years. My esteemed colleague from Delaware County, I do not disagree with any of the gentle-

man's comments about qualifications. The issue, as my esteemed friend from Philadelphia said, is not qualifications. It is precedence and it is about what this body does, because, always remember, the Majority can do one thing today, but there is always a new Majority that can do something else tomorrow. I thank you again, Mr. President, and I presume we will have a roll-call vote.

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I rise briefly to urge an affirmative vote on the Governor's nomination of Secretary Aichele to the State Board of Education. The facts are that she is an eminently qualified individual who would provide a new set of experiences and ideas for the Board of Education.

I have to disagree with my colleague. This is about looking for the most qualified people, it is about qualifications. This individual is qualified and there is no legal impediment, there is no statutory, regulatory, or other impediment to the appointment of this individual to this position. If an individual, a Member of this body feels that there should be, there is a process by which we can introduce a bill to create a statute to prohibit classes of people from serving on certain boards. We have other statutes that do that. One does not exist in this case. Again, I urge an affirmative vote.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PILEGGI. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Gordner.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Williams and Senator Smith.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pileggi requests a legislative leave for Senator Gordner.

Senator Costa requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Williams and Senator Smith.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Hughes has returned, and his legislative leave is cancelled.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination?

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

YEA-26

Alloway	Erickson	Pileggi	Vogel
Argall	Folmer	Rafferty	Vulakovich
Baker	Gordner	Robbins	Ward
Browne	Greenleaf	Scarnati	White
Brubaker	Hutchinson	Smucker	Yaw
Corman	McIlhinney	Tomlinson	
Eichelberger	Mensch	Vance	

NAY-23

Blake	Ferlo	Schwank	Washington
Boscola	Fontana	Smith	Wiley
Brewster	Hughes	Solobay	Williams
Costa	Kasunic	Stack	Wozniak
Dinniman	Kitchen	Tartaglione	Yudichak
Farnese	Leach	Teplitz	

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

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RISES

Senator ROBBINS. Mr. President, I move that the Executive Session do now rise.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator CORMAN, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the following bills:

SB 21 (Pr. No. 1427) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in provisions and responsibilities for reporting suspected child abuse, further providing for definitions and for persons required to report suspected child abuse; providing for privileged communications; further providing for persons permitted to report suspected child abuse, for reporting procedure, for documentary evidence on a child subject to report and for taking child into protective custody; and, in organization and responsibilities of child protective service, repealing provisions relating to taking child into protective custody.

SB 22 (Pr. No. 1386) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for penalties for failure to report or to refer.

SB 23 (Pr. No. 1428) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for definitions and for disposition of founded and indicated reports; and providing for expunction of information of perpetrator who was under 18 years of age when child abuse was committed.

SB 27 (Pr. No. 1388) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for exchange of information.

SB 30 (Pr. No. 1429) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for definitions; repealing provisions relating to immunity from liability; further providing for establishment of pending complaint file, Statewide central register and file of unfounded reports; repealing provisions relating to amendment or expunction of information; and providing for disposition of reports upon completion of investigation, for requests for reviews of indicated reports for requests for appeals of indicated reports and for immunity from liability.

SB 31 (Pr. No. 1430) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for definitions, for persons required to report suspected child abuse and for reporting procedure; and repealing provisions relating to definitions, school employees, administration, investigation, responsibilities of county agency for child protective services and report information.

SB 33 (Pr. No. 1431) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for protection from employment discrimination.

SB 1042 (Pr. No. 1432) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of September 26, 1951 (P.L.1539, No.389), known as The Clinical Laboratory Act, further providing for definitions, for inspection, for unlawful conduct and for penalty.

HB 89 (Pr. No. 744) (Rereported)

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

HB 1481 (Pr. No. 2160) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, providing for electronic delivery of information and posting of policies and endorsements and for risk management and own risk solvency assessment.

Senator MENSCH, from the Committee on Aging and Youth, reported the following bill:

SB 1116 (Pr. No. 1425) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for services for prevention, investigation and treatment of child abuse and for investigation of reports.

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

HB 88 (Pr. No. 529)

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in rights and immunities, further providing for leaves of absence for certain government employees.

RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SR 161 (Pr. No. 1223)

A Resolution urging the Congress of the United States to commend Korean-American veterans of the Vietnam Conflict for their valor and loyal service to the United States.

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

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

SENATE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Senators TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER, KITCHEN, WOZNIAK, TEPLITZ, ARGALL, ERICKSON, STACK, FONTANA, FARNESE, WASHINGTON, RAFFERTY, YUDICHAK, GREENLEAF, SMITH, BROWNE, DINNIMAN, PILEGGI, ALLOWAY, HUGHES, BAKER, FERLO, GORDNER, BLAKE, SCARNATI, COSTA, VULAKOVICH, KASUNIC and BRUBAKER, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 208**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of October 2013 as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, we know that the labor force helps to fuel our economy, but too many Pennsylvanians have been unable to find work for too long. In August, our unemployment rate rose to 7.7 percent. Unemployment for disabled persons is nearly double that rate. There are too many Americans with disabilities who want to work, who are talented, hardworking, and capable, but who cannot work because there are not enough job opportunities available to them, and there are not enough investments in technology and training to allow them to find employment.

This sector of the workforce is overlooked all too often. As we work to reduce the unemployment rate in Pennsylvania, we must remember to include better strategies for employing individuals with disabilities. We must start approaching our job creation, workforce preparation, and hiring strategies differently in order to make a change. We must acknowledge those with additional challenges who have overcome extreme hurdles so that they can support themselves and their families, and so they can contribute to the Commonwealth.

Today, I stand here to declare the month of October 2013 as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania. The theme of this month is: Because We Are Equal to the Task. It is important to remember that we must encourage and support young persons with disabilities to seek their ambitions and we must expand our ideas of what we can achieve. I encourage all citizens to become better informed of disabilities so they can break down those barriers to hiring and incorporating themselves into the workforce, because it is not about what individuals cannot do at work, it is about what they can do.

We must promote and allow equal access to work for persons with disabilities, and we must recognize their vital economic contributions. National Employment Disability Awareness Month provides all Pennsylvanians with the opportunity to appreciate that people with disabilities have the ability to work, want to work, and can work.

Today, Mr. President, we have a number of pieces of equipment for the Members to try, for wheelchairs, for eye distortion, for hearing, just so that people could get a little taste of what it is like to be in that position. I hope next year more people will

come forth and work with us so that they can feel what it is like. I ask all my colleagues for an affirmative vote on this resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chester, Senator Dinniman.

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, I want to recognize Senator Tartaglione for her outstanding work on behalf of people with disabilities. Today in our caucus, Senator Tartaglione explained some of the personal difficulties she has as a person. I want you to know that here sits in this wheelchair a marvelous human being, a human being who has worked day in and day out so she herself can overcome her disabilities. A human being who deeply cares about every child and every adult with a disability. As we pass this resolution, Mr. President, I want to make sure that the citizens of this Commonwealth know, if you are disabled, you have an advocate. The people should also know that Senator Tartaglione has overcome these difficulties that she has experienced in her own life, and is an absolute model for the people of this Commonwealth on how to overcome disabilities and fully contribute to her work here in the Senate. If we are going to talk about workplace opportunity, Senator Tartaglione is a model of someone who works hard, has overcome those disabilities, and is an inspiration for each and every one of us who sit in the Senate.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

Senators TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER, WOZNIAK, TEPLITZ, ARGALL, ERICKSON, STACK, FONTANA, FARNESE, WASHINGTON, RAFFERTY, GREENLEAF, SMITH, BROWNE, DINNIMAN, WHITE, PILEGGI, ALLOWAY, FERLO, BLAKE, COSTA, BRUBAKER and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 209**, entitled:

A Resolution designating September 10, 2013, as "World Suicide Prevention Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, this year marks the 11th year that the World Health Organization, in collaboration with the International Association for Suicide Prevention, has sponsored "World Suicide Prevention Day." Every year, more than 1 million deaths result from suicide. While traditionally it has been considered a major public health problem among high-income countries, suicide became a growing problem in countries of other income levels, too.

Suicide is entirely preventable, but the stigma that often surrounds it is hard to overcome. Too many people, including health professionals, hold negative misconceptions about suicide, and as a result, fail to discuss it. Governments and communities, influenced by the stigma of suicide, fail to allocate sufficient funds to support public health initiatives on it. We must look past

these stereotypes and misconceptions so that we can start to discuss, become aware of, and provide education on suicide and suicide prevention. Suicide attempts may be reduced by taking such steps as becoming physically and mentally healthy and developing good relationships with friends and family. Further, prevention can be achieved through early identification and effective treatment of suicidal individuals. This includes preventing the occurrence of relapses through post-intervention services.

Today, in the gallery, I would like to recognize Govan Martin and Rebecca May-Cole, who are co-chairs of the Pennsylvania Adult/Older Adult Suicide Prevention Coalition located in Harrisburg. This coalition is the only statewide, nonprofit organization solely dedicated to suicide prevention in the entire State. They work to educate and collaborate with communities to prevent suicide, reduce the stigma associated with suicide, and to offer support for anyone affected by suicide. I thank them for being here today in recognition of this important day.

Mr. President, I offer this resolution for the many individuals who are struggling with or have lost their lives to suicide, and for family members and friends of those individuals. At this time, I ask all my colleagues for an affirmative vote on this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senators TARTAGLIONE, TEPLITZ, WASHINGTON, WILLIAMS, GREENLEAF, RAFFERTY, WOZNIAK, FERLO, ERICKSON, VULAKOVICH, DINNIMAN, PILEGGI, COSTA, HUGHES, ALLOWAY, YUDICHAK, SOLOBAY, MENSCH, FONTANA and BLAKE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 210**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing September 15 through October 15, 2013, as "Hispanic Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I am pleased to offer this resolution recognizing September 15 through October 15 as "Hispanic Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania. In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson first recognized Hispanic Heritage Week. It was later expanded to a full month to include the anniversaries of the independence of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Chile, and to recognize Columbus Day, also known as Dia de la Raza.

Hispanics are the earliest European settlers in this nation, tracing their roots back to as early as the 1400s. Since then, those roots have flourished and spread, making Hispanics the largest minority ethnic group in the United States today. With the Hispanic population providing so many contributions to our State and nation, it is time we recognized their integral role in our past, present, and future. Mr. President, I am asking my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month in Pennsylvania,

and encouraging residents to learn about the history of their fabulous and fascinating culture by celebrating its emergence in our daily lives.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senators TARTAGLIONE, KITCHEN, BREWSTER, WOZNIAK, GREENLEAF, TEPLITZ, BAKER, ARGALL, ERICKSON, STACK, FONTANA, FARNESE, WASHINGTON, RAFFERTY, SMITH, BROWNE, DINNIMAN, WAUGH, WHITE, PILEGGI, HUGHES, ALLOWAY, FERLO, HUTCHINSON, BLAKE, SCARNATI, COSTA, VULAKOVICH, SOLOBAY, KASUNIC and BRUBAKER, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 211**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of September 2013 as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, every 48 minutes someone in the U.S. is paralyzed from a spinal cord injury. Of more than 270,000 Americans living with paralysis, 44,000 are veterans. The diagnosis of paralysis holds many challenges and obstacles that individuals must overcome. While there is no cure, every day we are closer to finding the key that will open the door to a full recovery for individuals with spinal cord injuries.

Advances in research have come a long way in the past few decades, offering a hopeful future for many individuals. A number of these advances are the outcome of injuries suffered by our nation's athletes. In 1985, college football player Marc Buoniconti was paralyzed by a neck injury during a game. Months later, his father, Football Hall of Famer Nick Buoniconti, started the Buoniconti Fund and The Miami Project to cure paralysis, two organizations with which I am personally familiar that have made many advances to find a cure.

The Miami Project is responsible for Buffalo Bills player Kevin Everett's ability to walk today thanks to a new treatment discovered through this project. Unfortunately, Mr. President, there are not enough stories like this one. While professional athletes receive a lot of attention, thousands of people suffer spinal cord injuries every day. Their stories go untold and their plights are unknown. Many of them are unable to access the state-of-the-art treatments that are readily available to others. They deserve recognition and they deserve access to treatments. That is why I offer this resolution marking September as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month." In the latest medical advances, the Food and Drug Administration approved human trials for stem cells last year. It is believed that the stem cells may allow the regeneration of nerve cells in patients with spinal cord injuries.

Mr. President, for every person who suffers the result of a spinal cord injury, we owe them our support in the search for a

cure for paralysis as well as our support for technological advancement that, in the meantime, allows those living with spinal cord injuries to contribute to society and to the economy. Mr. President, I hope this resolution will serve as a reminder that with the best treatment and support, every Pennsylvanian can live with dreams and be a viable part of their community.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senators WASHINGTON, DINNIMAN, FARNESE, FERLO, ERICKSON, BREWSTER, GREENLEAF, BLAKE, BAKER, KASUNIC, KITCHEN, STACK, SMITH, TEPLITZ, SCHWANK, BROWNE, FONTANA, COSTA, PILEGGI, GORDNER, VULAKOVICH, YUDICHAK, RAFFERTY, ALLOWAY, SOLOBAY, MENSCH, BRUBAKER, WILLIAMS, HUGHES and TARTAGLIONE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 212**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of October 2013 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator WASHINGTON. Mr. President, I rise as a survivor of domestic violence to ask my colleagues for a unanimous vote making October "Domestic Violence Awareness Month." With the way things are going in terms of economics in the State of Pennsylvania and the United States of America, domestic violence will be at an alarming height. I just want to say that families that have domestic violence in the family, children imitate what they see their parents doing in the household, which causes a lot of problems when they go to school. This is a very important issue that should be addressed on a wider scale, but today I ask for a unanimous vote.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senators WASHINGTON, FERLO, GREENLEAF, DINNIMAN, ERICKSON, STACK, ARGALL, FARNESE, BREWSTER, BLAKE, KITCHEN, TEPLITZ, SCHWANK, BROWNE, FONTANA, COSTA, VULAKOVICH, YUDICHAK, RAFFERTY, BAKER, ALLOWAY, SOLOBAY, BRUBAKER, WILLIAMS, TARTAGLIONE and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 213**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of October 2013 as "Bullying Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator WASHINGTON. Mr. President, the 2010 Center for Safe Schools and Communities examined bullying levels in grades 3 to 12, in 25 counties. They reported that bullying is the most common during elementary and middle school, but also occurs in high school. What is happening in our schools today as a result of funding could lead to a lot of things going on. I ask my colleagues for a unanimous vote on this resolution.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senators KITCHEN, WASHINGTON, TEPLITZ, DINNIMAN, WOZNIAC, FERLO, STACK, RAFFERTY, SMITH, GREENLEAF, ERICKSON, ARGALL, WHITE, WILLIAMS, VULAKOVICH, ALLOWAY, MENSCH, COSTA, PILEGGI, BRUBAKER, KASUNIC, VANCE, BAKER and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 214**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of October 2013 as "Pharmacist Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator KITCHEN. Mr. President, whether we call them our pharmacist, druggist, apothecary, caregiver, or health professional, make no mistake, your pharmacist is a vital component in our healthcare system. One of the oldest professions, pharmacists help to improve our health and control costs. They help us and they help doctors avoid taking and prescribing the wrong mix of powerful and complex medications. They also save us money and they save our lives.

The American Pharmacists Association has more than 62,000 members nationwide. The Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association counts 2,300 members. "Pharmacists Month" in Pennsylvania is a time to thank and recognize the good work of pharmacists all over the Commonwealth. It is also a time for you to get to know your pharmacist better. After all, if you know your pharmacist, you will better know your medicine, which is the theme of Pharmacists Month.

Thank you, Mr. President. I ask for an unanimous vote on this resolution.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator EICHELBERGER, on behalf of Senators WHITE, WASHINGTON, GREENLEAF, ERICKSON, TEPLITZ, SMITH, DINNIMAN, ARGALL, FARNESE, FOLMER, KASUNIC, FONTANA, RAFFERTY, WOZNIAC, PILEGGI,

HUGHES, FERLO, COSTA and SOLOBAY, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 215**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the week of October 13 through 19, 2013, as "Credit Union Week" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Blair, Senator Eichelberger.

Senator EICHELBERGER. Mr. President, credit unions are individual, independent cooperatives founded by individuals working together toward economic advancement, and uniting people seeking a way to improve their future. Pennsylvania currently has 499 credit unions, which empower their customers to improve their economic situations by serving the financial needs of 3.7 million members associated with local, State, regional, and international organizations sharing the same commitment to serving credit union members. The unselfish efforts of volunteers organized through credit unions have benefitted many worthwhile causes throughout this Commonwealth and beyond.

Therefore, I ask you to join me in supporting this resolution recognizing the week of October 13 through October 19 as "Credit Union Week" in Pennsylvania. Thank you.

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

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

Senators FERLO, ERICKSON, DINNIMAN, VULAKOVICH, BREWSTER, WASHINGTON, FONTANA, STACK, HUGHES, FARNESE, SMITH, RAFFERTY, YUDICHAK, BROWNE, GREENLEAF, ALLOWAY, GORDNER, BRUBAKER and COSTA, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 216**, entitled:

A Resolution congratulating Alcoa on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator FERLO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a resolution congratulating Alcoa on their 125th anniversary of its incorporation here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Today, aluminum is easily recognized as the miracle metal, with so many varied uses for consumers, the aeronautic and auto industries, uses in our military, and uses too numerous to mention here during resolutions.

Alcoa began in 1888 as the Pittsburgh Reduction Company when its cofounders, Charles Martin Hall and Alfred E. Hunt, opened a smelting plant on Smallman Street in my district, in the city of Pittsburgh. Hall, a chemist, had 2 years previously discovered a new, cheaper method for the production of aluminum using electrolysis, a process that is still used today. In 1891, the company outgrew the Strip District location and moved its operations up the Allegheny River to the town of New Kensington,

PA. Later renamed the Aluminum Company of America, Alcoa quickly became a major aluminum producer participating in all aspects of the industry, from mining of bauxite to production and recycling. In 1910, Alcoa introduced aluminum foil, with all of its many uses to consumers and businesses. In 1962, Alcoa teamed with our great Pittsburgh Brewing Company, producers of Iron City Beer, and invented the aluminum pull tab that quickly became the standard can for all of America. The historical lineage of this company and the development of its varied products is significant and can be read as well as viewed online at the company's Web site. It is a great history of the city of Pittsburgh as well.

With the success of the company, Charles Martin Hall became one of Oberlin College's most prominent benefactors. A statue of him, of course made of aluminum, resides on campus. Alfred E. Hunt went on to organize a cavalry division of the Pennsylvania National Guard and he fought in the Spanish-American War. A Pennsylvania National Guard armory named for him in Pittsburgh hosted a number of historical concerts and events. And by the way, this building was built roughly around 1909. But there were historical events in the Hunt Armory in Shadyside, Pittsburgh, that included speeches, overflow crowds of 5,000, 6,000, 7,000 people, speeches by President and candidate Dwight Eisenhower, President Harry Truman, Hadley Stephenson, and countless other historical figures, concerts, and cultural events. Last month, I was proud to nominate it as a historic landmark in recognition of its value to the heritage of the city and of our Commonwealth, and because of architectural quality deserving of preservation.

Today, Alcoa has its corporate headquarters in New York City, but employs over 3,200 Pennsylvanians and maintains its operations headquarters on the North Shore of Pittsburgh, a building that was built during my tenure as council president. The Alcoa Foundation supports a number of sustainability efforts at home and across the world and is a long-established philanthropic benefactor. The Hunt Foundation, likewise, has contributed greatly to the cultural and educational greatness of the city of Pittsburgh and our region.

Therefore, Mr. President, I respectfully ask that all the Senators join me in supporting this resolution congratulating Alcoa on its 125th birthday and 125 years in operation, and wishing them many more years of success in Pittsburgh, our Commonwealth, and across the globe. Thank you.

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

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

Senators WOZNIAK, TOMLINSON, DINNIMAN, KASUNIC, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, ERICKSON, KITCHEN, TEPLITZ, VULAKOVICH, BREWSTER, WASHINGTON, ARGALL, STACK, FARNESE, SMITH, RAFFERTY, YUDICHAK, BROWNE, YAW, PILEGGI, ALLOWAY, HUGHES, FERLO, HUTCHINSON, SCARNATI, COSTA, SOLOBAY, BRUBAKER and MENSCH, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 217**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of October 2013 as "Blindness Awareness Month," and October 15, 2013, as "White Cane Safety Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cambria, Senator Wozniak.

Senator WOZNIAK. Mr. President, freedom to move at will from place to place without barriers is one of our most basic human rights, and for people who are blind or visibly impaired, the white cane helps to make such freedom of movement possible. The white cane demonstrates and symbolizes a blind or visually impaired person's ability to achieve a full and independent life and his or her capacity to work productively in competitive employment. Since its founding in 1910, the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind and its member agencies have tirelessly supported and promoted the interests of people who are blind or visually impaired and provided essential services to assist blind Pennsylvanians in achieving self-reliance and autonomy. The Commonwealth supports the vitally important work of the Pennsylvania Association of the Blind as they enhance the public awareness about ways to prevent and treat blindness and other serious vision impairments that are highlighted by these events during the month of October in each year. The Senate recognizes this month as "Blindness Awareness Month," and October 15 in particular as "White Cane Safety Day." So, I ask for unanimous support for this resolution recognizing the role of this important organization.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

Senator COSTA, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 218**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of October 2013 as "Arts and Humanities Month" in Pennsylvania and calling upon Pennsylvanians to celebrate and promote the arts and culture in their communities and in this Commonwealth.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise to offer and sponsor this resolution today recognizing the importance of the arts, cultural, and humanities organizations in our Commonwealth by declaring October 2013 as "Arts and Humanities Month." The arts and humanities embody much of the accumulated wisdom, intellect, and imagination of humankind. Mr. President, the arts and humanities enhance and enrich the lives of every American and play a unique role in the lives of our families, our communities, and our country. Additionally, arts and humanities organizations provide civic pride and community participation, as well as promote volunteerism. Arts and humanities events include various venues such as natural history and art museums, musical festivals, concerts, plays and other performances, historic organizations, and commemorative events. They are important to provid-

ing the destination for tourists, attracting and retaining businesses, and providing economic revitalization. Nonprofit arts and humanities organizations are active and direct contributors to local businesses in the communities in which they are located and provide a substantial direct financial benefit as well. The Americans for the Arts Study, Mr. President, recently found that the nonprofit arts industry strengthens Pennsylvania's economy by generating \$2.55 billion in total economic activity annually and by supporting the full-time equivalent of 81,000 jobs here in Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, thank you, and I would like to thank my colleagues for joining me and recognizing these important community and statewide organizations.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS

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

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. Sharon Gavin Levy, Eric T. Shirk, Darla Frack, Sam C. Canone, Helene M. Whitaker, Bridget A. Dorsey and to Janine M. Reppert by Senator Boscola and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. Lisa S. Issac by Senator Brewster.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Erwin by Senator Brubaker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend and Mrs. Nelson R. Roth by Senator Corman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Donna Horvath by Senators Dinniman and Brubaker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert Holliday by Senators Dinniman and Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Nicholas John Osmon by Senator Erickson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Reverend Dr. Albert Franklin Campbell, Virgil Hall Hodges, Sallie G. Holloman Daniels and to Pamela Hamm by Senator Hughes.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Tyler Stephenson and to the Carnegie Library of The Perkiomen School by Senator Mensch.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Margaret M. Stichter by Senator Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Risa Vetri Ferman and to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Montgomery County by Senator Rafferty and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Ruth Higgins Raught by Senator Scarnati.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the school board, administration, faculty, staff, parents, and students of Reading School District by Senator Schwank.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Charles J. Adams III by Senator Schwank and others.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to William J. Guarnere and to Edward James Heffron by Senator Stack.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Rochester Free Methodist Church by Senator Vogel.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mandy Bodnor Leas, Wayne Schuckert, John Kuzemchak, Pam Prah and to the 1999 Shaler Area High School Boys' Baseball Team by Senator Vulakovich.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Vicki Whelan and to Sandra J. Neithercoat by Senator White.

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 Dr. Charles William Burmeister by Senator McIlhinney.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator ALLOWAY. 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 28, SB 863, SB 894, SB 895, SB 1024, SB 1046, SB 1051, SB 1066, SB 1068, SB 1081, SB 1082, SB 1090, SB 1097, SB 1102, SB 1116, HB 79, HB 88, HB 164, HB 798, HB 1193 and HB 1337.

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2013

Table with 3 columns: Time, Committee/Topic, and Location. Includes entries for 9:30 A.M. (Communications and Technology), 10:00 A.M. (Finance), 10:30 A.M. (Public Health and Welfare), and 1:00 P.M. (Education).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013

Table with 3 columns: Time, Committee/Topic, and Location. Includes entry for 10:00 A.M. (Urban Affairs and Housing).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2013

Table with 3 columns: Time, Committee/Topic, and Location. Includes entry for 9:00 A.M. (Game and Fisheries) which is cancelled.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2013

Table with 3 columns: Time, Committee/Topic, and Location. Includes entry for 9:30 A.M. (Urban Affairs and Housing).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2013

Table with 3 columns: Time, Committee/Topic, and Location. Includes entry for 10:00 A.M. (Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness).

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2013

Table with 3 columns: Time, Committee/Topic, and Location. Includes entry for 1:00 P.M. (Judiciary).

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Alloway.

Senator ALLOWAY. Mr. President, today, along with my colleague, the esteemed Senator from Chester County, I am announcing the introduction of the Pennsylvania Pet Protection Package. We have heard many things in the recent past about the PPP, the public-private partnership, we are going to rename this one the Pet Protection Package. The purpose is to improve the lives of animals who will one day become beloved members of our family.

Despite my light-hearted remarks today, I cannot over-emphasize the importance of this effort in terms of animal welfare. While millions of loving families in Pennsylvania have opened their homes to pets, many animals across the State still suffer from neglect, mistreatment, and abuse. I am hopeful that this rally will serve as a call to action for pet owners to voice their support for additional protections for vulnerable animals.

the week of October 20 through October 26 as "Adopt a Shelter Pet Week" in Pennsylvania. I am hopeful that these events and my resolution will result in more animals finding their way to loving, forever homes.

I do not want to be accused of lapping up too much attention on the Senate floor today, so I will conclude my remarks by simply inviting all of my colleagues to participate in the "Bring your Dog to Harrisburg" rally. I hope all of you can make it, but I promise I will not hound you if you do not.

Thank you, Mr. President, and I promise, no more doggone puns.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Ferlo. How are you going to follow that, Senator Ferlo?

Senator FERLO. Mr. President, this is tough. I have to get to a couple of serious issues, but I am just impressed with the eloquence of my colleague. I know if Senator Dinniman were here, he would really embellish on this issue because both of these colleagues are very concerned about animal welfare. I think we all are, it is the basic humanity in us. I know, in particular, many returning veterans have adopted pets or have been united with pets and they seem to be a significant part of the veteran's life, especially trying to readapt to society back home with all of the problems and travails they face.

Mr. President, if I could quickly turn to a couple of other critically important issues, I will try to be brief. Obviously, the Federal shutdown of our government is in full swing. I think it could be reasonably argued that both sides of the aisle, both the House and Senate of the Federal government, deserve some level of blame given their dysfunction. I think it is clear, based on a very small but certainly vocal group within the Republican House, who has pretty much waylaid our democracy. They have waylaid it to the extent that, despite the passage of Federal so-called Obamacare, the Affordable Care Act, despite the fact that the House overwhelmingly 43, 44, or 45 times has voted to repeal Obamacare, which is really just rhetoric and nonsensical in terms of the reality of how legislation actually gets passed, approved, and signed or vetoed by a sitting President, who takes claim to a signature piece of legislation, and now we are at this brink of dysfunction. I think it is really serious. I think people should be and are rightfully up in arms. I have made it clear many times, Mr. President, in this Chamber, and certainly in the communities that I represent, that I have never been a big fan of the Affordable Care Act, so-called Obamacare. I think it is time that our country moves to a national single-payer system, a system that provides comprehensive coverage, not unlike the Federal Medicare system which everybody appreciates and respects, done and passed by Congress under the Lyndon Johnson Administration, a system that administratively only ekes out less than 3-percent administrative overhead costs, unlike private or so-called nonprofit health insurance companies that reap 10- to 12-percent in excess revenue and have obviously extremely high executive salaries and all the aspects of the consumer's concern about questioning what is truly nonprofit. That goes for Highmark as well as UPMC's insurance model and the private sector, locally, within the Commonwealth and certainly around the country.

When you begin to look at what the immediate impacts are—and I want to thank the Democratic Senate staff. I believe all of our Senate Democratic Web sites, by the end of the day or

tomorrow, will have specific, concrete, factual information about the impact of the Federal shutdown as it proceeds through the day and into the week. But when you look comprehensively, and I will not go through each and every detail, but it certainly is a whack job on the quality of life for middle-class and working-class families throughout our Commonwealth. Look at, even from the small business point of view, the tremendous detrimental impact that the Federal shutdown will soon have on many Small Business Administration loans, the SBA's flagship, the 7(a) loan as well as the 504 loans, those are going to go into regression and not be fully funded. How many times has rhetoric in our own Chamber, when we talk about the small business community being the backbone of our American economy, and yet we are going to have this dysfunction? I can tell you as board treasurer of the Urban Redevelopment Authority of the city of Pittsburgh and having worked with many small businesses, this program is very vital to continuing, reopening, and reenergizing small businesses. And this is just one of many aspects of the small business community that are going to be adversely affected by this shutdown.

I think it is outrageous the way we have treated our veterans coming back from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and locations around the globe. I find it reprehensible and unpatriotic that veterans, even under this Obama Administration, have to wait upwards of 2 to 3 years to get their benefits. This shutdown will do nothing and, in fact, it is going to further delay and hurt military families here in our Commonwealth. I am not an auditor but I do not understand why several hundred thousand veterans cannot get their immediate benefits instead of having this backlog. I do not understand why the presumption from the Federal government, the Veterans Administration, should be that they are deserving and qualified for the benefits, and then do a post-audit. I cannot believe that any military veteran who has been honorably discharged, who has fought in a war and is deserving of benefits, in many instances at varying levels, is going to come back and lie about their right to their benefits, disability benefits, or partial disability benefits. It just does not make any sense to me. That would be a crime. I do not believe they would do that. They should be given their benefits and then do a post-audit. You could easily, in a matter of a few weeks, eliminate the backlog of thousands of veterans waiting for their benefits. That should be done and do a post-audit and then hold people legally or criminally accountable if they are trying to scam the Federal government.

It is outrageous. For all of us who go to Veterans Day parades, wave the American Flag, and call ourselves patriots, this is the way to be patriotic: give these veterans the benefits that they deserve and worry about the audit and accountability afterward. This is reprehensible. Now, with the Federal government shut down, I think it is even more outrageous that military families who struggle each and every day and go through many trials and tribulations, when husbands and wives, either party are off to war, it is very disrupting to the family. We know the tremendous detrimental impact that these veterans face when they return. I can go through a whole litany of divorce and financial calamities and broken homes and just all kinds of chaos, but they went and fought. When they come back, they sure as heck deserve those benefits. So give them the damn benefits and do a post-audit. That is a comment to this VA under a Democratic President and a Democratic administration in Washington.

When you look at all of the other aspects of these cuts and what is going to slow down, you look at the Head Start programs that are going to have to start folding up their tents, all of the community action programs that provide a lot of vital services to low-income families throughout all of the 67 counties, and I could go on and on. It is true, Social Security checks will go out, but it is going to slow down the process for new applications of SSI and Social Security, and the same goes with benefits for veterans. I will not go through the whole litany. I encourage folks to visit all of the Democratic Senators' Web sites to look at a delineated list of these impacts. We should be speaking up loudly and clearly in a bipartisan way to demand that the Federal government come to reconciliation, whatever is needed, to get government back working and fully funding these vital programs. You can live to fight another day on Federal Obamacare and whatever other issues that the tea party cabal has, the stranglehold they have on Speaker Boehner and others in the Congress.

On a separate and distinct issue, Mr. President, I will be very brief in closing. I think my colleagues certainly know my concern about the fracking process and the advent of the Marcellus Shale industry in our Commonwealth and certainly out in the western portion of our State. I am not going to stand here--I never have denied the fact that this industry has brought wealth to individuals and some property owners, either some who are actively farming and others that never intended to farm but they happen to hold land and they are getting assets and wealth and royalties. I respect that. I have been working on community and economic development for 25 years as a public official. The fact of the matter is that I do not deny the wealth building, job creation, the fact that new tax revenue is being collected, jobs are created whether by subcontractors, whether the folks coming into the Commonwealth, or existing jobs, I deny none of that. I am not going to do that, but I do think we moved so quickly with the advent of this industry that there are serious concerns about the impact this industry has had, albeit disparate in nature and not all fully recorded and not well documented by a dysfunctional State Department of Environmental Protection, in my opinion, including the leadership at the top which trickles down. I am concerned about detrimental impacts environmentally to our land, air, water, quality of life, and adverse impacts, and other billion-dollar industries that we have in this Commonwealth, including agriculture, tourism, fishing, hunting, and the like.

Now, we have a situation in Allegheny County which is clearly \$40 million to \$50 million in deficit potentially under the general operating budget. We have a younger, new county executive, Rich Fitzgerald. I identify with him on so many of the good things he has brought into county government, but we have a principle difference of opinion on two issues, first being the fracking that is going to be going on in and around the airport. I think it has been done in a whimsical manner. Contracts were signed. We had an inept county council that did not even take the time to read or understand what the contract provisions are. There are any number of protections that could have been added before the fracking started in and around the airport. That has happened legally. What is happening now, at least in my Senate district, is the potential fracking either in or around the perimeter of two parks in Allegheny County, Deer Lakes Park as well as Harrison Hills Park in the 38th State Senatorial District, which obviously, I am very opposed to. In Allegheny County, to the benefit of others who may not be aware, we have a great geogra-

phy and geology in Allegheny County. We have nine great county parks encompassing over 12,000 acres. It is estimated that some 12 million visitors a year visit and utilize the various parks for all types of recreational purposes.

Deer Lakes Park and Harrison Hills Park, in my Senate district, are now being considered as possible locations for deep-well fracking, albeit within the park proper. At Deer Lakes, the proposal is for horizontal fracking. The oil and gas industry has flooded the media and elected officials about the benefits--they only talk about the benefits with fracking and totally dismiss, in an arrogant fashion, the serious and growing concern about the environmental threat to our air, water, parks, and other viable industries, as well as to adjoining property owners. There is not enough time in the Senate for me to ever outline all of those issues, but I have introduced Senate Bill No. 1100 calling for a statewide moratorium on fracking. I encourage folks to visit my Web site to learn more about the actual legislation, its cosponsorship, and what it purports to do should it gain traction. It would not shut down the industry. Over 6,500 wells have already been dug or are in operation; close to 14,000 have been permitted, or are in some level or stage of permitting, which, Mr. President, you being an attorney, know that is the equivalent of a formal contract, which we cannot renege on lest we face tremendous burden, and any judge would deem the Commonwealth would have to pay off that contract.

So, the point is, for the next several years, there is going to be an awful lot of fracking going on in the State. It gives us time to take a step back, like New York State and others, to really evaluate what the heck we are doing. What are the detrimental impacts? I call attention on my Web site, PennEnvironment, a statewide environmental advocacy group, to a recently issued report entitled, "Who Pays the Cost of Fracking?" It is a good analysis of their concern, which is the fracking moving closer and closer in proximity to playgrounds, child day care centers, schools, elementary schools, and the like, because as you know, people are looking for the buck and there are all kinds of opportunities with universities and public schools. We have frack wells right at reservoir locations, believe it or not.

So, again, it is an opportunity to take a step back. But locally, within Allegheny County, the county council, along with our county executive, is now debating an ordinance sponsored by county Councilwoman Barbara Danko, calling for a 3-year hold on drilling exploration of surface or subsurface development related to natural gas extraction on any property within the boundary of any county park. Obviously, I oppose drilling in and around our community parks, and I want to use this time just to begin to encourage the community to communicate to their respective county council member. Again, these are not full-time county council members like the city of Pittsburgh, but it is important that people speak up now, very loudly, very clearly, and communicate to their elected officials.

In closing, Mr. President, I am conducting a town hall forum, inviting residents who have similar concerns as I do, and other concerns, to attend the meeting specifically on the potential fracking activity of the Marcellus Shale industry involved with Deer Lakes and potentially Harrison Hills Parks. That town hall forum is going to be conducted in my district on Wednesday, October 30, at 7 p.m. I do not believe the meeting will go longer than 9 p.m., but we want to get people started at 7 p.m. sharp. It will be at the Highlands Middle School auditorium, which is on

Broadview Boulevard in Natrona Heights, which is actually the upper part of Harrison Township. I want to encourage folks who are interested and concerned about the disruption that may be a reality in Harrison Hills Park and Deer Lakes Park. These are beautiful, pristine parks where a lot of public investment has been made. In Harrison Hills there is a trail named after Rachel Carson. To think there is going to be fracking going on, I just cannot believe it. It is just a terrible proposal and it is all based on the attempt by the county to balance the budget on the back of our environment. I am opposed to it and I hope folks who share my concern will come out on Wednesday, October 30, at 7 p.m., to a town hall forum on fracking in these parks at Highlands Middle School auditorium. Folks can certainly contact my office in Natrona Heights or Lawrenceville for further information.

Mr. President, thank you for the extra time.

HOUSE MESSAGE

HOUSE BILL FOR CONCURRENCE

The Clerk of the House of Representatives presented to the Senate the following bill for concurrence, which was referred to the committee indicated:

October 1, 2013

HB 1356 -- Committee on Judiciary.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lehigh, Senator Browne.

Senator BROWNE. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, October 2, 2013, at 11 a.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate adjourned at 5:52 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.