

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**Legislative Journal**

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015

SESSION OF 2015 199TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 29

**SENATE**

TUESDAY, May 12, 2015

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

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Mike Stack) in the Chair.

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Reverend JOSEPH SMITH, Pastor of Indiana Wesleyan Methodist Church, Indiana, offered the following prayer:

Thank you, and I am here in the interest of inviting and welcoming God's presence with us today. I am reminded of a brief little poem I came across years ago:

He was just a little fellow, and on the week's first day,  
He was walking home from Sunday School and dawdling on the way.  
He scuffed his shoes into the grass and found a caterpillar,  
He found a fluffy milkweed pod and blew out all the filler.  
A bird's nest in the tree overhead so wisely placed on high,  
Was just another wonder that caught his eagle eye.  
A neighbor watched his zigzag course and hailed him from the lawn,  
Asked him where he had been that day and what was going on?  
He said, "I have been to Sunday School," then turned a piece of sod,  
Picked up a wiggly worm and said, "I have learned a lot from God."  
"A very fine way for a boy to spend his time,  
And if you will tell me where God is, I will give you a brand new dime."  
Quick as a flash his answer came, nor was his accent faint:  
"I will give you a dollar, Mister, if you tell me where He ain't."

Please pardon the poor grammar, but as we pray today we invite the presence of our God.

Father, thank You for the privilege to be here and thank You for the service of each of these who give of their time and their interest in our State. Now, Lord, Your blessing in wisdom and grace for this Session today, would Your hand be upon each one and would You help us to be aware of Your presence. Help us to acknowledge Your power. O God, help us to depend upon You today for Your grace and strength, and for Your blessing and Your mercy to us. We thank You and we ask all of this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Pastor Smith for the very beautiful prayer, and he is the guest today of Senator White.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR**

**RECALL COMMUNICATION  
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

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

**MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICINE**

April 10, 2015

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 the nomination dated April 17, 2015, for the appointment of Gregory A. *[sic]* Dunlap, Esquire, 613 Sweetbriar Drive, Harrisburg 17120 *[sic]*, Dauphin County, Eleventh *[sic]* Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Medicine, to serve for a term of three years, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months *[data missing]*, vice Solomon Isaacson, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF  
Governor

**CORRECTIONS TO NOMINATIONS  
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

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

**MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF  
CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF  
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Sarah Cassin, 1110 Yverdon Drive, Apt. C5, Camp Hill 17011, Cumberland County, Forty-fifth *[sic]* Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of California University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until June 3, 2019, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice The Honorable R. Tyler Courtney, Greensburg, resigned, should be corrected to read:

Sarah Cassin, 1110 Yverdon Drive, Apt. C5, Camp Hill 17011, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of California University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until June 3, 2019, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice The Honorable R. Tyler Courtney, Greensburg, resigned.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, *[data missing]*, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve until June 11, 2016, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Christopher Decker, Shohola, resigned, should be corrected to read:

Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve until June 11, 2016, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Christopher Decker, Shohola, resigned.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Dr. Pamela Gunter-Smith, 134 W. Springettsbury Avenue, York 17403, *[data missing]*, Twenty-eighth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2020, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Wendy Beetlestone, Wynnewood, resigned, should be corrected to read:

Dr. Pamela Gunter-Smith, 134 W. Springettsbury Avenue, York 17403, York County, Twenty-eighth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2020, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Wendy Beetlestone, Wynnewood, resigned.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Dr. Jean Jones, 203 Linda Lane, Meadville 16335, *[data missing]*, Fifti-

eth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2020, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice A. Lee Williams, Slippery Rock, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Dr. Jean Jones, 203 Linda Lane, Meadville 16335, Crawford County, Fiftieth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2020, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice A. Lee Williams, Slippery Rock, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

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

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Donald F. Mayer, 205 Sherwood Drive, Chambersburg 17202, Franklin County, Twenty-second *[sic]* Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2018, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Ronald Henry, Bryn Mawr, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Donald F. Mayer, 205 Sherwood Drive, Chambersburg 17202, Franklin County, Thirty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2018, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Ronald Henry, Bryn Mawr, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

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

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Leslie Anne Miller, 1111 Barberry Road, Bryn Mawr 19010, Delaware County *[sic]*, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2018, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Christopher Franklin, Paoli, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Leslie Anne Miller, 1111 Barberry Road, Bryn Mawr 19010, Montgomery County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2018, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Christopher Franklin, Paoli, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

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

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Cythina [sic] Shapira, 111 Hawthorne Road, Pittsburgh 15238, Allegheny County, Thirty-eighth [sic] Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2018, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jane Earll, Erie, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Cynthia Shapira, 111 Hawthorne Road, Pittsburgh 15238, Allegheny County, Thirty-eighth [sic] Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2018, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jane Earll, Erie, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF  
LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF  
THE COMMONWEALTH [sic] SYSTEM OF HIGHER ED-  
UCATION

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, [data missing], Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania of the Commonwealth [sic] System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jerry Swope, Lock Haven, resigned, should be corrected to read:

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF  
LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF  
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

May 12, 2015

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

Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania of the Commonwealth [sic] System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jerry Swope, Lock Haven, resigned.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICINE

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Sherri Luchs (Public Member), 6154 Spring Knoll Drive, Harrisburg 17111, [data missing], Fifteenth 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 Solomon Isaacson, Philadelphia, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Sherri Luchs (Public Member), 6154 Spring Knoll Drive, Harrisburg 17111, Dauphin County, Fifteenth 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 Solomon Isaacson, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICINE

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of John Mitchell, 3509 Tyson Road, Newtown Square 19073, [data missing], Twenty-sixth 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 George Roberts, Edinboro, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

John Mitchell, 3509 Tyson Road, Newtown Square 19073, Dauphin County, Twenty-sixth 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 George Roberts, Edinboro, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of The Honorable Lydia Kirkland, 6834 Gorsten Street, [data missing], for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve until October 1, 2019, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Lloyd White, Harrisburg, deceased, should be corrected to read:

The Honorable Lydia Kirkland, 6834 Gorsten Street, Philadelphia 19119, Philadelphia County, Fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve until October 1, 2019, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Lloyd White, Harrisburg, deceased.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE  
RETIREMENT COMMISSION

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Joan Stern, 135 S. 19th Street, Philadelphia 19103, [data missing], First

Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Public Employee Retirement Commission, to serve until October 27, 2020, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice John Egan, Fort Washington, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Joan Stern, 135 S. 19th Street, Philadelphia 19103, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Public Employee Retirement Commission, to serve until October 27, 2020, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice John Egan, Fort Washington, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE  
RETIREMENT COMMISSION

May 12, 2015

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

Please note that the letter dated May 7, 2015, for the nomination of Janet L. Yeomans, 517 Kauffman Street, Philadelphia 19147, [*data missing*], First Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Public Employee Retirement Commission, to serve until October 27, 2015, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Christ Zervanos, Harrisburg, resigned, should be corrected to read:

Janet L. Yeomans, 517 Kauffman Street, Philadelphia 19147, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the public Employee Retirement Commission, to serve until October 27, 2015, or until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Christ Zervanos, Harrisburg, resigned.

TOM WOLF  
Governor

**HOUSE MESSAGE**

**SENATE BILL RETURNED WITH AMENDMENTS**

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 266**, with the information the House has passed the same with amendments in which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The PRESIDENT. Pursuant to Senate Rule 13(c)(2)(i), the bill will be referred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations.

**BILL INTRODUCED AND REFERRED**

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

May 12, 2015

Senators SMUCKER, SCARNATI, AUMENT, WHITE, FOLMER, CORMAN, WARD, McGARRIGLE and MENSCH presented to the Chair **SB 6**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for the establishment of the Achievement School District and for its powers and duties.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, May 12, 2015.

**BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES**

Senator BROOKS, from the Committee on Aging and Youth,

reported the following bill:

**HB 753 (Pr. No. 1052)**

An Act establishing the Pennsylvania Long-term Care Council; providing for its powers and duties; and repealing related provisions of the Public Welfare Code.

Senator TOMLINSON, from the Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, reported the following bills:

**SB 538 (Pr. No. 519)**

An Act amending the act of July 2, 1993 (P.L.345, No.48), entitled

"An act empowering the General Counsel or his designee to issue subpoenas for certain licensing board activities; providing for hearing examiners in the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs; providing additional powers to the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs; and further providing for civil penalties and license suspension," providing for reporting of sanctions and criminal proceedings and for temporary and automatic suspension.

**HB 140 (Pr. No. 124)**

An Act amending the act of December 14, 1982 (P.L.1211,

No.279), entitled "An act providing for ridesharing arrangements and providing that certain laws shall be inapplicable to ridesharing arrangements," providing for a short title; further providing for definitions and for motor carrier laws not applicable to ridesharing; and making editorial changes.

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

**SB 404 (Pr. No. 894) (Amended)**

An Act establishing guidelines and procedures governing certain investigations and interrogations of correctional officers; authorizing certain civil suits by correctional officers; and providing for impact of collective bargaining agreements and for summary suspensions.

**SB 655 (Pr. No. 650)**

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176),

known as The Fiscal Code, in special funds, further providing for expiration.

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

**SB 609 (Pr. No. 892) (Amended)**

An Act establishing a task force on prostate cancer and related

chronic prostate conditions; and providing for powers and duties of the task force, the Department of Health, the Insurance Department, the Department of Aging and the Department of Human Services, and for prevention and education strategies.

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

**SB 438 (Pr. No. 389)**

An Act designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 982 over

the Loyalhanna Creek, Westmoreland County, as the Lance Corporal Joseph E. Roble Memorial Bridge.

**RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

Senator VANCE, from the Committee on Public Health and

Welfare, reported the following resolution:

**SR 113 (Pr. No. 885)**

A Resolution urging the Commonwealth to adopt and utilize person-first language with respect to people with disabilities.

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

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Vogel.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Berks, Senator Schwank.

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Wiley and Senator Williams.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Corman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Vogel.

Senator Schwank requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Wiley and Senator Williams.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Senator CORMAN asked and obtained leaves of absence for Senator BROWNE and Senator GREENLEAF, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

**JOURNAL APPROVED**

The PRESIDENT. The Journal of the Session of March 3, 2015, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of March 3, 2015.

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

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

**YEA-47**

Alloway	Eichelberger	Mensch	Vance
Argall	Farnese	Pileggi	Vogel
Aument	Folmer	Rafferty	Vulakovich
Baker	Fontana	Scarnati	Wagner
Bartolotta	Gordner	Scavello	Ward
Blake	Haywood	Schwank	White
Boscola	Hughes	Smith	Wiley
Brewster	Hutchinson	Smucker	Williams
Brooks	Kitchen	Stefano	Wozniak
Corman	Leach	Tartaglione	Yaw
Costa	McGarrigle	Teplitz	Yudichak
Dinniman	McIlhinney	Tomlinson	

**NAY-0**

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journal is 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 rise to recognize the Pennsbury High School Girls' Varsity Bowling Team, which won the State championship tournament in Lancaster in March. It was the team's second time competing in the State tournament and their first time winning regionals and the State championship in the same year. It was a tremendous accomplishment for the school and program. I congratulate them for representing our area so well at the State championship tournament. Please join me in giving them a warm Senate welcome.

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

(Applause.)

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

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

**GUESTS OF SENATOR JAY COSTA PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, it is my honor to introduce outstanding young men and women from the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf who are with us here today in the Senate. WPSD is the largest comprehensive center for deaf education in Pennsylvania and is fully accredited by the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf. The students at WPSD either live in school dormitories or commute to our school. Many afterschool activities, sports, and other things along those lines create a fun and safe social environment for the students as part of the WPSD process and curriculum. WPSD has a beautiful 21-acre main campus in the Pittsburgh area, in my Senate district, which is simply seven miles from downtown Pittsburgh. WPSD reaches across Pennsylvania now by giving children the opportunity to attend school through their Choices for Children program and the Scranton School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing children.

Mr. President, as we all know, typically when we want to give a warm welcome to our guests from the WPSD who have been here in the past, and I ask my colleagues to join me, but the manner in which we do it, as you recall, is by demonstrating with our hands and waving our hands as jazz hands. I ask my colleagues to join me in giving the appropriate acknowledgment and recognition to those fine students, Matt Campion, and many others who are here today from WPSD.

The PRESIDENT. Will Senator Costa's friends, our young friends from WPSD, please rise so that the Senate may give you its usual warm welcome.

("Jazz hands" sign language applause.)

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

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Berks, Senator Schwank.

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to welcome and introduce a group of very bright and energetic young women from the Junior League of Reading. The Junior League is an organization that seeks to develop the potential of women and positively impact the community through issue-based initiatives. Their current work focuses on youth leadership development and civic engagement for the next generation.

So, Mr. President, with us today we have leaders from Junior League and also the young girls who they are shepherding through a leadership process. These young girls have demonstrated a strong commitment to their communities through their attendance at the Junior League's Young Women's Summit. They have utilized their leadership and team-building skills to create community service projects that have addressed such issues as bullying, helping senior citizens, recycling, learning about the Armed Forces, children with serious illnesses, and studying the issue of homelessness in our community. I am sure that with the support that they have received from their peers and mentors, we will be seeing many of their faces here in the Capitol again. These young women are our future, and it is a future that looks very promising from here, Mr. President. Would you join me in welcoming these girls from Reading, Pennsylvania, today.

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

(Applause.)

**GUESTS OF SENATOR DAYLIN LEACH  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator LEACH. Mr. President, today I have the distinct honor of welcoming three people who have the sublime pleasure and life-changing experience of interning in my office. We have Josh Wollman from Wissahickon High School, graduating and attending the University of Richmond; We have Shoshana Fishbein from Muhlenberg College, where I used to teach and my legacy is apparently still talked about at length; and Gavriel Rubenstein, who attends Harriton High School, who is graduating and will be attending Franklin & Marshall College in the fall. Please welcome my guests.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

(Applause.)

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

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

**GUEST OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Jefferson, Senator Scarnati.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Mr. President, today I have a guest in the gallery. He has been job shadowing myself and my office today. His name is Joey Kerle. He is 19 years old and attends the University of Pittsburgh. His parents are Maria and Dan. He also enjoys football, lifting weights, and kayaking. So, please welcome my guest here today.

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

(Applause.)

**GUESTS OF SENATOR ROBERT F. TEPLITZ  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator TEPLITZ. Mr. President, I rise to recognize my guests. First is Kelsi Lingle and her family. Kelsi is a second-grader at Susquenita Elementary School in my district. She is the winner of my 2014 Fire Prevention Week poster contest. Kelsi is joined today by her parents, Tara and Gary, and her sister, Hailey. Kelsi's colorful poster depicts the importance of checking your smoke alarms, which is an essential precaution and great advice for all of us. According to the National Home Protection Association, the risk of dying in reported home structure fires is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms. That is why it is so important that we regularly check our smoke alarms to make sure they are working, as Kelsi advises. So, Mr. President, I ask that my Senate colleagues join me in congratulating Kelsi Lingle on winning my Fire Prevention Week poster contest and welcoming her and her family to the Senate today.

The PRESIDENT. Will Kelsi and her family please rise to be welcomed by the Pennsylvania Senate. Keep up the good work, Kelsi.

(Applause.)

Senator TEPLITZ. Mr. President, I would also like to welcome to the Senate Matthew Jenkins and his family, who are also seated in the gallery. Matthew is a ninth-grader at Hershey High School, and he is the winner of my 2014 "There Ought To Be A Law" essay contest. Matthew is here today with his parents, Cindy and Dave. His proposal called for requiring high school students to complete and pass a personal finance course in order to graduate. The proposed course would cover retirement plans, preparing and filing State and Federal taxes, and credit management.

If this proposal sounds familiar, it is because a similar bill has been proposed by my colleague, Senator Williams, a bill that I have cosponsored. Senate Bill No. 101 would provide economic and personal finance instructions in Pennsylvania schools. I am very impressed that this young man's proposal is not only a commonsense measure, but one that is actually going through the legislative process. I think we may have a future lawmaker in the gallery.

So, Mr. President, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Matthew Jenkins on winning my "There Ought To Be A Law" essay contest, and welcoming him and his parents to the Senate today.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Teplitz, the future lawmaker Matthew Jenkins, and his family, please rise so that we may welcome you to the Pennsylvania Senate.

(Applause.)

#### **GUESTS OF SENATOR RYAN AUMENT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. With three guests, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Aument.

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I will take one shot with all three guests. It is certainly my pleasure today to introduce Robert Sheesley, Peter Mecuri, and Robert Torres, who represent three Pennsylvania chapters of the Health Information Management Systems Society. The society consists of over 2,500 Pennsylvania health information technology professionals who work diligently in our hospitals, provider practices, independent consultant companies, and health plans to improve quality and reduce the costs of healthcare through the use of technology. We thank them and their colleagues for the services they give to Pennsylvanians every day. Please join me in offering my guests from HIMSS our usual warm welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Aument please rise to be welcomed to the Pennsylvania Senate.

(Applause.)

#### **GUEST OF SENATOR DAVID G. ARGALL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, in the gallery today is Alexandra Kohr, a junior at Williams Valley Junior-Senior High School, shadowing me as part of a work experience. I think she chose, as you might all imagine, a very, very interesting day to visit the Senate of Pennsylvania. I believe that she saw many of our standing committees at work this morning, and I hope that she will long remember this experience. I am sure that she will. Please give her our traditional Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guest of Senator Argall please rise so that we may welcome you to the Pennsylvania Senate.

(Applause.)

#### **RECESS**

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for purposes of a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations to be held in the Rules room, 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 meeting of the Committee on Appropriations, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber for a caucus.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations, 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.

#### **LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

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

#### **LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Columbia, Senator Gordner.

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Wagner, and legislative leaves for Senator White and Senator Corman.

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

Senator FONTANA. Mr. President, I request legislative leaves for Senator, Senator Teplitz, and Senator Williams.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Gordner requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Wagner, and legislative leaves for Senator White and Senator Corman.

Senator Fontana requests legislative leaves for Senator Williams, Senator Dinniman, and Senator Teplitz.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

#### **CALENDAR**

#### **THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

#### **BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**SB 3 (Pr. No. 889)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the medical use of cannabis in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

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

On the question,

Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lebanon, Senator Folmer.

Senator FOLMER. Mr. President, please excuse my voice. It seems like I am losing it as I speak, but I want to thank you and the rest of the Members here. The journey to help children, their parents, veterans, and other sick people has been a very long one for me, but it has also been a very gratifying one. It began with two parents who visited my office to ask if I would consider cosponsoring legislation to bring medical cannabis to Pennsylv-

nia. Little did I know how a simple request would change my world view of diseases, medicine, and the treatment of patients. But it really has.

Mr. President, this is the second time the Senate has considered medical cannabis as a treatment option for people with diseases and debilitating conditions, and I want to, once again, ask my colleagues to support this important initiative in Senate Bill No. 3. At this point, Mr. President, I will not rehash--and no pun intended--the reasons why I believe this legislation is needed. I have previously done that, and I thank the Members of the Senate for their great patience in the past and for their careful consideration of this proposal today. Hopefully, a majority of you will again support Senate Bill No. 3, which I believe in its current form represents a solid foundation for consideration and deliberation by the House. I believe Senate Bill No. 3 is a fair compromise, as the advocates clearly did not get all of what they wanted. Some are so disappointed that they cannot support Senate Bill No. 3 in its current form. I am sorry we could not get more. We really did try.

At the same time, I understand why those of you with concerns cannot bring yourselves to support Senate Bill No. 3. As I have said before, and I will say it again today, you are not my enemy. I, too, have opposed bills I could not support in my heart and I understand and appreciate your dilemma with Senate Bill No. 3, because I have been there. Hopefully, as this journey continues, you, too, will be convinced and join us in future support.

In the interim, let me simply thank, one more time, everyone who has worked on Senate Bill No. 3, and I want to especially put out to the Leadership here in my Caucus and also the Leadership and my good friends across the way, and all of the Members who are supporting this. Hopefully, in a few minutes you will see the fruits of your labors when the Senate votes to pass Senate Bill No. 3. Finally, I hope you will be proud of all of the work that has gone into this legislation and proud of the effort to add more arrows to the quiver of sick people and their medical professionals as they are fighting their various diseases and disabilities.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator LEACH. Mr. President, I just want to, again, echo the words of Senator Folmer and thank a few people who have been helpful in this effort, and the first person I would like to thank is Senator Folmer. When we began this journey, I was, as I am on many of my journeys, Mr. President, all by myself. But Senator Folmer came up to me and volunteered to be a partner, and he has been an absolutely terrific partner, on an issue that just his presence on the bill gave it so much credibility and so much forward momentum, and he did so in a way that was not only very, very helpful, but he did it despite the fact that it was much harder for him to do it in his district than it was for me. He had a lot more explaining to do, and not everyone in life is willing to take that courageous step.

There have been many advocates along the way who have been extremely helpful, everyone from national MPP to Pittsburgh NORML and many medical advocacy groups and many individual doctors who gave their time to come and testify before our committees and explain the benefits and explain the importance of giving their patients this option. I want to thank the Senators who are here today, and frankly, it is rare in Pennsylvania

that we change our minds on issues. I strive to do it more myself, but it is rare. Often, minds are made up and partisan or ideological lines are drawn and people just do not move from them. When we started out with this, Mr. President, we may have had six votes. Today, we are going to have almost 40 votes more than that. A lot of that was just done through individual hard work, conversations, showing people the research, and having people change their minds, again, sometimes to their political detriment, at least initially. I do not think I can say it is to their political detriment anymore, since we now have 88 percent of the people in Pennsylvania supporting giving people this option.

I would like to thank the mothers who were the initial advocates and were later joined by the veterans, and joined by the cancer patients, and joined by the patients with Crohn's disease and others, but the first group was the mothers. These were the people who had sick children, and, frankly, when you have a sick child, there is nothing in the world more important or compelling. I have been here for 13 years and I have seen advocacy groups on every issue imaginable, paid lobbyists and people from districts come in, but I have never seen a group of people more effective, more committed than the moms who started this whole push to give their children, their sick children, one more shot at life. I want to thank them. What you have done is truly remarkable.

I want to thank my staff and Senator Folmer's staff and the staff of some of the Members of the House we are working with, and the Governor's staff, for working so hard to get the exact wording of what I believe is a terrific bill. It is not a perfect bill. Perfection is elusive in legislation, and if you are only willing to accept perfection, you are never going to make progress at all, but this is a much better bill than was passed last Session. This is a very, very good bill that is going to get people the help they need, and so I am very grateful to my staff in particular for helping me with this. To name a couple of them, although all of them were involved, my chief of staff, Zack Hoover; my issues director, Jonathan Tew; Steve Hoenstine, my man in Harrisburg who tracked down every rumor, and there were millions of them to track down; and M.P. Tomei, who has just become a crusader and coordinated with the moms and was the likeable face for my office, so we are very grateful to M.P. for that.

Finally, Mr. President, I just want to say thank you to all of you again. At the end of the day, this is really about one thing. It is about getting the best medicine in the most effective delivery method to people who are sick. If any one of us were sick, if any one of us had a sick child or sick brother or sick mother, this is the only thing in the world we would care about, and we are doing something today that is going to make such a huge difference in the lives of so many people, and it is truly something we should all be proud of.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Cumberland, Senator Vance.

Senator VANCE. Mr. President, let me preface this by saying I can count, and I know with the things I am saying the issue will not be supported, but I would be remiss if I did not mention several things. The first is to say that I do not know if marijuana does all of the things that it is claimed to do, and we will never be able to until we move it from a Schedule 1 to Schedule 2 to be tested. If it does pass these tests, I would be very supportive. Right now, let us think of the people from whom we are hearing,



and I think we need to look at that. Both the AMA and Pennsylvania Medical Society oppose this bill. I thought the interesting thing was that the American Academy of Ophthalmology, people who say that marijuana helps glaucoma, ophthalmologists caution that marijuana has side effects which endanger the user's eye health. The thing that surprised me most of all was that the American Epilepsy Society, on the use of marijuana to treat children with seizures, found no significant reduction in seizures in the majority of patients, while 20 percent of cases reviewed seizures worsened. Now, I know that is not what people want to hear, but those are the facts as I know them.

We have talked about doctors and nurse practitioners prescribing it. It is illegal for doctors and nurses to prescribe Schedule 1 drugs under Federal law. I hope people know that this is cash only. Banks will not take the money from the sale of marijuana. In Colorado, for instance, they have warehouses with guards to protect the cash. Is that what we want in Pennsylvania? We are going to grow it. The pharmacists are not going to handle this after it is grown. They call it dispensers. What kind of qualifications would a dispenser have? Then we are talking about setting up a board. I wonder if the other licensing boards know that we are going to borrow money from them, \$1.3 million--it is borrow, I do not mean to indicate it is not--to set up a board.

I think there are so many red signals and flashing lights. The first thing we should all do is do no harm. In an effort to try and solve problems, do we really want to harm children or adults? I certainly do not. In my life as pediatric nurse, I cared greatly about kids, and still do. I say, again, I understand the horse is out of the barn, but I would feel very remiss if I did not mention some of these cautionary things.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cambria, Senator Wozniak.

Senator WOZNIAK. Mr. President, I have just a few short questions for the prime cosponsor of the bill, if he does not mind.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Wozniak asks the maker of the bill, Senator Folmer, if he is willing to stand for, for lack of a better word, interrogation, several questions of interrogation.

Senator FOLMER. Yes, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Folmer agrees. You may proceed, Senator Wozniak.

Senator WOZNIAK. Mr. President, we had this discussion yesterday, but I just want to verify it because I was approached by some of the pharmacies about being able to distribute this medicine. It is my understanding, and if I have this right, just say okay and we are good. Now, it is my understanding you have the FDA and you have a pill, it is a Schedule 3, or whatever it might be, and a regular pharmacist can simply, they get that, and the doctor prescribes it, and you go and you pick up your prescription for this particular type of medicine. But because it is a Schedule 1 drug by the Federal government, there is not a pharmacy in Pennsylvania that is presently allowed to distribute this as a medicine. To do so, they would have to become licensed as a purveyor of a Schedule 1 drug.

Senator FOLMER. That is correct, and that is why we created the dispensary scenario.

Senator WOZNIAK. Okay, so any pharmacy or any small business or large business or chain store can make application to become a dispensary of a Schedule 1 drug?

Senator FOLMER. Yes, but they will have to meet some qualifications, background checks and so forth, and there are other things, too. But, yes, basically you are correct.

The PRESIDENT. Point of order to the Senators. Please address your responses and your questions to the Chair. Although we can all obviously hear what we are each saying, that is our procedure here in the Senate. So, thank you, gentlemen.

Senator WOZNIAK. Mr. President, okay. I think we had the meeting of minds of what I wanted to hear. So if you are a legitimate business, if you have the background checks, and if you have a good record of the way you are dispensing the medicines prescribed today, you have an opportunity, through some of the rules inside the language of this bill, to become a dispensary of the Schedule 1 medicine that is medical marijuana. Is that correct, Mr. President?

Senator FOLMER. Mr. President, that is correct.

Senator WOZNIAK. Mr. President, okay, thank you very much. I am done with my interrogation.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Wagner and Senator Teplitz have returned, and their respective leaves are cancelled.

And the question recurring,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-40

Alloway	Folmer	Pileggi	Vogel
Argall	Fontana	Rafferty	Vulakovich
Bartolotta	Gordner	Scarnati	Wagner
Blake	Haywood	Scavello	Ward
Boscola	Hughes	Schwank	White
Brewster	Kitchen	Smith	Wiley
Corman	Leach	Stefano	Williams
Costa	McGarrigle	Tartaglione	Wozniak
Dinniman	McIlhinney	Teplitz	Yaw
Farnese	Mensch	Tomlinson	Yudichak

NAY-7

Aument	Brooks	Hutchinson	Vance
Baker	Eichelberger	Smucker	

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

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

**SB 284 (Pr. No. 783)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for special motorcycle plates for veterans.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

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

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-47

Alloway	Eichelberger	Mensch	Vance
Argall	Farnese	Pileggi	Vogel
Aument	Folmer	Rafferty	Vulakovich
Baker	Fontana	Scarnati	Wagner
Bartolotta	Gordner	Scavello	Ward
Blake	Haywood	Schwank	White
Boscola	Hughes	Smith	Wiley
Brewster	Hutchinson	Smucker	Williams
Brooks	Kitchen	Stefano	Wozniak
Corman	Leach	Tartaglione	Yaw
Costa	McGarrigle	Teplitz	Yudichak
Dinniman	McIlhinney	Tomlinson	

NAY-0

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

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

**SB 285 (Pr. No. 163)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for Veterans' Trust Fund.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-47

Alloway	Eichelberger	Mensch	Vance
Argall	Farnese	Pileggi	Vogel
Aument	Folmer	Rafferty	Vulakovich
Baker	Fontana	Scarnati	Wagner
Bartolotta	Gordner	Scavello	Ward
Blake	Haywood	Schwank	White
Boscola	Hughes	Smith	Wiley
Brewster	Hutchinson	Smucker	Williams
Brooks	Kitchen	Stefano	Wozniak
Corman	Leach	Tartaglione	Yaw
Costa	McGarrigle	Teplitz	Yudichak
Dinniman	McIlhinney	Tomlinson	

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 489, SB 643, SB 678 and SB 695** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL REREFERRED

**SB 7 (Pr. No. 501)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 24 (Education), 71 (State Government) and 72 (Taxation and Fiscal Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in retirement for school employees as to membership, contributions and benefits, further providing for actuarial cost method; in administration and miscellaneous provisions, further providing for administrative duties of board; in retirement for State employees and officers as to contributions, further providing for actuarial cost method; in administration, funds, accounts, general provisions, further providing for administrative duties of board; providing for taxpayer protection; and repealing certain provisions of the Fiscal Code.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 73, HB 89, HB 90, SB 95, SB 104, HB 221, SB 294, HB 341, SB 356 and SB 373** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL REREFERRED

**SB 396 (Pr. No. 311)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act reenacting and amending the act of July 8, 1986 (P.L.408, No.89), known as the Health Care Cost Containment Act, further providing for sunset; and making editorial changes.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 472** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 490 (Pr. No. 853)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, further providing for organization of agency.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

## BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 501, SB 556 and SB 594** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

## BILL REREFERRED

**SB 663 (Pr. No. 852)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in support matters generally, further providing for liability for support; and, in child custody, further providing for consideration of criminal conviction.

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

## BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 687 (Pr. No. 673)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions for planned communities, further providing for applicability of local ordinances, regulations and building codes.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

**SB 688 (Pr. No. 674)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions for condominiums, further providing for applicability of local ordinances, regulations and building codes.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

## BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 691** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator VOGEL, from the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs, reported the following bills:

**SB 78 (Pr. No. 54)**

An Act amending the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, further providing for definitions and for revocation or refusal of kennel licenses.

**HB 188 (Pr. No. 1559)** (Amended)

An Act amending the act of June 30, 1981 (P.L.128, No.43), known as the Agricultural Area Security Law, further providing for definitions and for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements.

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

**SB 1 (Pr. No. 886)** (Rereported)

An Act amending Titles 24 (Education), 51 (Military Affairs) and 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, extensively revising pension provisions: for the Public School Employees' Retirement System, in the areas of preliminary provisions, of membership, contributions and benefits, of School Employee's Defined Contribution Plan and of administration and miscellaneous provisions; for health insurance for retired school employees, in the area of preliminary provisions; for military pensions, in the area of military leave of absence; for boards and offices, in the area of Independent Fiscal Office; for the State Employees' Retirement System, in the areas of preliminary provisions, of membership, credited service, classes of service and eligibility for benefits, of State Employees' Defined Contribution Plan, of contributions, of benefits and of administration, funds, accounts, general provisions; and providing, as to the revisions, for construction and administration, for applicability, for funding, for liability, for State Employee member statements and for State Employees Retirement Board obligations.

**SB 514 (Pr. No. 509)** (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of November 24, 1976 (P.L.1163, No.259), referred to as the Generic Equivalent Drug Law, further providing for definitions, for substitutions, for posting requirements, for powers and duties of Department of Health and for immunity of pharmacists under certain circumstances.

**RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

Senator VOGEL, from the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs, reported the following resolution:

**SR 95 (Pr. No. 811)**

A Resolution urging Federal and State regulatory agencies to utilize science-based data in evaluating crop protection chemistry and nutrients.

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

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 1**

## BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 1 (Pr. No. 886)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 24 (Education), 51 (Military Affairs) and 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, extensively revising pension provisions: for the Public School Employees' Retirement System, in the areas of preliminary provisions, of membership, contributions and benefits, of School Employee's Defined Contribution Plan and of administration and miscellaneous provisions; for health insurance for retired school employees, in the area of preliminary provisions; for military pensions, in the area of military leave of ab-

sence; for boards and offices, in the area of Independent Fiscal Office; for the State Employees' Retirement System, in the areas of preliminary provisions, of membership, credited service, classes of service and eligibility for benefits, of State Employees' Defined Contribution Plan, of contributions, of benefits and of administration, funds, accounts, general provisions; and providing, as to the revisions, for construction and administration, for applicability, for funding, for liability, for State Employee member statements and for State Employees Retirement Board obligations.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

### SENATE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Senators TOMLINSON and BROWNE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 122**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of May 2015 as "Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TOMLINSON. Mr. President, I ask for unanimous consent on behalf of Senator Browne and myself to consider this resolution designating May 2015 as "Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month." Mr. President, as we head into the summer months when more people are out enjoying the great weather, we must remember important basic steps to protect our skin like using sunscreen. Sadly, more than 2 million Americans are diagnosed with skin cancer each year, and melanoma is the most common form of cancer among young adults 25 to 29 years of age. While it is highly treatable if caught early, it is still a devastating disease. Mr. President, more importantly, this resolution particularly comes close to my heart since one of my former employees, Megan Crompton, lost her father, Robert Reitzel, earlier this year to melanoma that spread to his lungs.

I ask for your support of this resolution to bring further public awareness of melanoma and other skin cancers to the residents of the Commonwealth.

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 RAFFERTY, HAYWOOD, BREWSTER, TEPLITZ, SCAVELLO, WOZNIAK, KITCHEN, GREENLEAF, WHITE, SMITH, DINNIMAN, VULAKOVICH, COSTA, PILEGGI, WARD, SCHWANK, AUMENT, ALLOWAY, FARNESE, BOSCOLA and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 123**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of May 2015 as "Lupus Awareness Month" and May 10, 2015, as "World Lupus Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, this morning we had a meeting of the Lupus caucus downstairs, had coffee, and chatted about any furtherance in retarding this debilitating disease. Sixty-five thousand Pennsylvanians, 1.5 million Americans, and 5 million people worldwide every day struggle with the debilitating consequences of Lupus, a potentially fatal disease that can damage any part of a Lupus patient's body. In a disease like Lupus, the immune system effectively loses its way. Instead of warding off foreign invaders like viruses and bacteria, the immune system attacks healthy cells, causing inflammation and pain, leading to permanent damage. There is no cure for Lupus and no known cause. It is very important for us to continue with research, medication, and treatment for those suffering from Lupus and let them know that the Pennsylvania Senate is thinking of them at this time. I ask for an affirmative vote on this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Thank you, Senator Rafferty, and please keep up the fight.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senators AUMENT, GREENLEAF, RAFFERTY, PILEGGI,

BARTOLOTTA, DINNIMAN, HUTCHINSON, FONTANA, ALLOWAY, VULAKOVICH, SCAVELLO, YUDICHAK, SMITH, COSTA, BOSCOLA and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 124**, entitled:

A Resolution designating May 12, 2015, as "Pennsylvania Health Care Information Technology Awareness Day."

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, Act 121 of 2012 established the Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Authority and created a health information exchange here in Pennsylvania. Since the passage of Act 121, Pennsylvania's hospitals and health systems have outpaced hospitals nationally in their adoption and use of clinical information technology and information management systems. However, there is still much work to be done to lower healthcare costs in Pennsylvania and across the nation. The intent of this resolution is to continue promoting better healthcare through broader adoption of advanced healthcare information technology and management systems. I respectfully ask 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, HAYWOOD, TEPLITZ, EICHELBERGER, FONTANA, HUTCHINSON, PILEGGI, FARNESE, SCHWANK, SMITH, DINNIMAN, GREENLEAF, BAKER, COSTA, RAFFERTY, ALLOWAY, AUMENT and MENSCH, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 125**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of May 2015 as "Law Month" in Pennsylvania and urging lawmakers, lawyers, judges and schools to participate in related events.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator Tartaglione.

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, as we all know, the legal field is critical, not only from our perspective as lawmakers, but especially as citizens of this State and nation. Not only does the legal profession uphold the law and defend the rights of the accused, but they also help bring justice to the victims. The American Bar Association hosts "Law Month" each year to celebrate this important field of work, to pay respect to those professionals in the field, and to bring attention to the important role of our court systems.

This year, the month-long event will begin on May 1, 2015, in recognition of the theme "Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law." Magna Carta reminds us of the struggles we have endured in the past to achieve the rights we enjoy and often take for granted today. It reminds us of how much work remains so that everyone around the world may enjoy these same liberties some day. I encourage all residents of Pennsylvania to learn about the Magna Carta during this month so that they better understand and appreciate their many freedoms. At the same time, Mr. President, I ask my colleagues for their support of this resolution designating the month of May 2015 as Law Month in Pennsylvania.

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 BOSCOLA, FONTANA, HAYWOOD, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, WOZNIAK, EICHELBERGER, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, SCAVELLO, COSTA, RAFFERTY, AUMENT, VULAKOVICH and BREWSTER, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 126**, entitled:

A Resolution commending the Pennsylvania Academy of Audiology for its efforts to educate Pennsylvanians about the importance of having regular hearing screenings, and recognizing the month of May 2015 as "Better Hearing Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, I offer this resolution recognizing May as "Better Hearing Month." The American Academy of Audiology cites hearing loss as the third most common health problem in the nation, after arthritis and heart disease. It currently affects more than 48 million people here in the United States. Although hearing problems are commonly associated with the normal aging process, 1 out of 3 of all persons are hearing impaired by age 65. Due to this fact, Mr. President, it is important to encourage all Pennsylvanians to be aware of their hearing health. Those who suffer with hearing loss tend to have increases in other health issues such as early onset of dementia, depression, or anxiety. These issues often affect individuals' job performance and participation in social activities as well. Audiologists are the qualified healthcare professionals who can best determine the course of treatment for hearing loss, which may include hearing aids, assisted listening devices, and listening rehabilitation. Therefore, I wish to thank my Senate colleagues for participating and joining me in designating May as Better Hearing Month in this Commonwealth. 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 WARD, YAW, FONTANA, EICHELBERGER, TEPLITZ, HUTCHINSON, PILEGGI, MENSCH, BAKER, FOLMER, SMUCKER, BOSCOLA, BLAKE, YUDICHAK, SMITH, GREENLEAF, GORDNER, VOGEL, COSTA, BARTOLOTTA, ALLOWAY, RAFFERTY, DINNIMAN, AUMENT, VULAKOVICH and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 127**, entitled:

A Resolution designating May 12, 2015, as "Industrial Resource Center Appreciation Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator WARD. Mr. President, industrial resource centers were established by the General Assembly in 2001 through Act 31 to serve the manufacturing industries in our great Commonwealth. These centers provide technical services and much-needed expertise to Pennsylvania's small and mid-sized manufacturers in areas such as innovation, process improvement, and technology acceleration.

During the last 10 years, they have positively impacted manufacturing in our State by helping to create or retain jobs in over 1,300 manufacturing businesses and facilitating over \$1.5 billion of manufacturing investment. I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in recognizing and acknowledging the important role these centers serve in Pennsylvania's economy. 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 BAKER, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, HAYWOOD, TEPLITZ, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, RAFFERTY, ALLOWAY, SCHWANK, DINNIMAN, YUDICHAK, AUMENT, VULAKOVICH, HUGHES and MENSCH, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 128**, entitled:

A Resolution commemorating the 100th anniversary of the enactment of the Workers' Compensation Act in this Commonwealth.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, there are many instances involving individuals, organizations, institutions, and events when we hold 100th anniversary celebrations, but it is not so common for us to acknowledge the centennial of a State law, as we do in this resolution. The development of the workers' compensation system, the product of the "Grand Bargain," was a landmark balancing act that has proved quite durable and a substantial catalyst for improving health and safety standards in the workplace. The circumstances compelling action a century ago certainly sound familiar. There was a substantial outcry over an appalling toll of deaths and injuries among workers, an epidemic some said, and ordinarily divergent interests were applying heavy pressure on legislators to help solve the crisis. That they were serious a solution would stand up is evidenced by approval of a constitutional amendment that gave rather specific authorization for the General Assembly to act. The Workers' Compensation Law, approved in 1915, forever changed the landscape for employees and employers in respect to occupational safety. No longer would an injury or an illness be as catastrophic both physically and financially. An unpredictable and unsatisfactory system built around litigation was exchanged for a more predictable and more reliable insurance system.

Pennsylvania was by no means an early adopter, but action 4 years after the first lasting State law in Wisconsin was not bad by legislative standards. This was the foundation on which worker protection and worker safety continues to be built. There have been 10 major sets of amendments, the most notable making disease covered by the law. Workers' compensation is firmly fixed as a structure in the legal and regulatory landscape, but the details are flexible. There will always be disagreements over cost and coverage levels, there will be workplace changes, fraudulent practices, occasional court cases that require fixes, and as technology and techniques evolve, there will be new risks apparent and new remedies warranted. Worker safety will dominate, but discussions for precaution and prevention remain key pieces for the most effective and most economical strategy. The premises and purposes of the workers' compensation law have held up remarkably well for a century. The expectation is that they will continue to endure in the future. So please join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the enactment of the Workers' Compensation Act here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. What an important anniversary that is to celebrate. Thank you for noting that.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senators BAKER, TARTAGLIONE, SCAVELLO, EICHELBERGER, FONTANA, SMITH, DINNIMAN, GREENLEAF, PILEGGI, BROOKS, RAFFERTY, COSTA, ALLOWAY, AUMENT, MENSCH, VULAKOVICH and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 129**, entitled:

A Resolution designating May 13, 2015, as "Missing Adult Persons Remembrance Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, we will be presenting this resolution tomorrow at a press conference at 10 a.m., here in the Rotunda of the Capitol. It will recognize missing adult persons throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Victim advocates, family, lawmakers, and others will be there to commemorate, to celebrate, and to honor those whom we have lost who are missing persons. So I ask you to please join us tomorrow here in the Capitol at 10 a.m., as we recognize and honor the memory of those who are missing persons here in the Commonwealth.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Thank you, Senator Baker, for a very important 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 SCHWANK, WOZNIAK, FONTANA, EICHELBERGER, DINNIMAN, SCAVELLO, GREENLEAF, SMITH, COSTA, PILEGGI, RAFFERTY, AUMENT, VULAKOVICH, BROWNE, HUGHES, MENSCH and BOSCOLA, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 130**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of May 17 through 23, 2015, as "CPA Week of Service" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Berks, Senator Schwank.

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, this resolution designates the week of May 17 through 23 as "CPA Week of Service" in Pennsylvania. As we all know, our certified public accountants are essential to the operation of so many entities throughout the Commonwealth, from businesses small and large to nonprofits to governments of all sizes. CPAs are essential to the fiscal health of those institutions. Now, this week, the Pennsylvania Institute of CPAs has challenged CPAs throughout the Commonwealth to offer their services to organizations and individuals all over Pennsylvania through training on fiscal health and well being. They will offer cleanup services in communities, and they

will be offering hands-on classes on fiscal stability for organizations. In other words, Mr. President, they will be showing how much they are dedicated to the well-being of their customers in the Commonwealth. I hope that we would join in congratulating them on this effort.

The PRESIDENT. It sounds like a very worthy effort. And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

**CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS**

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following resolutions, which were read, considered, and adopted by voice vote: Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Kirchner by Senator Aument.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert J. Kasper, Sr., by Senator Baker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Zach Shupe by Senator Boscola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Greg Baker by Senator Brewster.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Kathy Alvaro, Karen Dearborn, Jane Brown-Heft and to National Penn Bank by Senator Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Bryan Tuk, Gregory Coates and to Morgan Reilly by Senators Browne and Rafferty.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center by Senator Fontana.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Andrea A. Lawful-Trainer and to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern Pennsylvania by Senator Haywood.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Robert C. Fisk by Senator McGarrigle.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Paul H. Smith by Senator Scavello.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Chief Coleman McDonough and to Robert Fragasso by Senator Smith.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend Sturgis S. Poorman, Jr., by Senator Tomlinson.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jared Bosiljevac, Steven Bienvenue and to Timothy Mullen by Senator Vulakovich.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dante Vallozzi by Senators Ward and Stefano.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Pepperman by Senator Yaw.

**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 Herman F. Hellberg and to the family of the late Miriam M. Feldstein by Senator McIlhinney.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Denise Siano by Senators McIlhinney and Tomlinson.

**POSTHUMOUS CITATION**

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

A posthumous citation honoring the late Paulette A. Bradford was extended to the family by Senator Brewster.

**BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION**

Senator SMITH. 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 78, SB 404, SB 438, SB 538, SB 609, SB 655, HB 140, HB 188 and HB 753.**

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, MAY 13, 2015

9:00 A.M.	EDUCATION (public hearing on The Educational Opportunity and Accountability Act)	Room 8E-B East Wing
9:00 A.M.	ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (to consider the nomination of Cindy Dunn as Secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; and Senate Bill No. 513)	Room 461 Main Capitol
9:30 A.M.	AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS (joint informational meeting with the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on Industrial Hemp - Senate Bill No. 50 and House Bill No. 967)	Senate Maj. Caucus Rm.
9:30 A.M.	BANKING AND INSURANCE (to consider the nomination of Robin Wiessmann for the Secretary of Banking and Securities; and a public hearing on the competitiveness of the banking industry in Pennsylvania)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.
1:30 P.M.	VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (public hearing on E-911)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.
Off the Floor	RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider certain Executive Nominations)	Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015

9:30 A.M.	LABOR AND INDUSTRY (public hearing on the effects that changes to the unemployment compensation system have on seasonal workers)	Erie Public Library
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**PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES**

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

Senator SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge and recognize this week as "Food Allergy Awareness Week" across the nation, and the month of May as "Food Allergy Action Month." According to FARE, the Food Allergy Research and Education organization, 6 million children, or 1 in 13, have a food allergy. While reactions can range from mild to life-threatening, there is currently no cure. We also do not know what causes food allergies. This is why we need to continue to raise awareness and insure that we are protecting those at risk while research into finding a cure continues. Pennsylvania has made strides in recent years to better protect children with severe food allergies from anaphylactic shock, a severe allergic reaction. Currently, students can self-carry their medication at school with physician and parental approval. In just the last Session we passed Act 195 of 2014 to permit schools to stock epinephrine medication in order to treat individuals in the event of a reaction in school, where students spend so much time.

Pennsylvania law does not go far enough to keep pace with these staggering statistics. Rates of food allergies among children have grown 50 percent between 1997 and 2011. Even the very first reaction can be life-threatening, and roughly a quarter of young people experience their first allergic reaction at school, where they may not have access to prescribed medication. This is why I am introducing Senate Bill No. 839, which takes protection one step further by requiring public and private schools to stock epinephrine auto injectors. An epinephrine auto injector can save a child's life by opening his or her airways until emergency personnel arrive. According to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, these devices are not only safe and effective but absolutely necessary. Adverse side effects are rare and the benefits of quick action almost always outweigh the risk.

I have also introduced Senate Bill No. 709, which would permit certain eating establishments to stock epinephrine auto injectors, and Senate Bill No. 710, which would allow public sector entities, like libraries and municipal buildings, to stock these devices. In short, Mr. President, we must get these lifesaving devices into as many accessible locations as possible. My legislation includes safeguards requiring the Department of Health to adopt regulations for the possession and administration of the medication and training programs. With food allergies affecting 15 million Americans, we simply cannot afford to wait. Mr. President, I thank the Chamber for its time and attention on this important matter.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, yesterday I participated in a meeting of the Senate Committee on Finance in which Senate Bill No. 1 on pension reform was passed. No presentations were made that showed us any detail or analysis, no spreadsheets or charts on any feature of the legislation. There was no information about the dollars that would be available to new employees upon retirement, no information and detail about the savings that were purported for the Commonwealth, no legal analysis that showed how we could take benefits away from current employ-

ees, no clear analysis of how a \$58 billion pension deficit would be addressed, and no detailed analysis, charts, or otherwise, on the impact of the changes on the Commonwealth. What we heard instead were superficial statements like, these concepts have been discussed before, and most private sector companies have defined contribution plans.

However, yesterday we did not vote on these generalities or on the previous conversations over the last 2 years that were mentioned. Instead, we voted on a very, very detailed plan with specific implications for our Commonwealth that the public and the Senate had not discussed. I cannot imagine any enterprise, nonprofit corporation, or other operation that would have such a decisionmaking process that would impact several hundred thousands of employees and the communities in which they live based upon these generalities and illusions to past discussions. This decisionmaking process is not just appalling, it is a breach of the public trust. The Senate Committee on Finance yesterday made a sham of our legislative process.

Now, today I learned that thousands of new employees, who have worked 25 years or more as teachers or State workers, would have pension benefits after 25 years of working at less than \$16,000 a year, and that is not for a lifetime. The Committee on Finance yesterday approved this immoral plan. The pension policy that the Committee on Finance adopted will only exacerbate the impending crisis in the Commonwealth, and that is the crisis that comes from the increasing number of aging individuals who will retire. Most American workers nearing retirement have saved less than \$25,000. That is the private sector. Nearly a third have less than \$1,000 saved for retirement. That is the private sector. We cannot afford to allow aging Pennsylvanians to end up on public assistance because of myopic, short-sighted legislation that leaves them in poverty that we may adopt in the next day. A thorough discussion of Senate Bill No. 1 is needed to assure that we do not pass a law now that asks future taxpayers to pay more to make up for this generation's mistakes. We must also answer the moral question of what kind of retirement do we want to provide for our citizens? Mr. President, do we want to provide retirement with dignity, or retirement in poverty?

To the citizens of the Commonwealth, I have to apologize for my participation in this breach of public trust. I am new to the Senate and will not accept this kind of conduct. I am truly ashamed of being a part of that legislative sham of the Senate Committee on Finance yesterday. I encourage all citizens of the Commonwealth to contact their State Senator in the hours ahead to inform them to vote "no" on Senate Bill No. 1.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lackawanna, who plays the guitar and sings, and is a great Senator, Senator Blake.

Senator BLAKE. Mr. President, I was not planning to speak on Petitions and Remonstrances today, but I look back on the busy day and know it is late and we all want to get home, but I had a couple of experiences the past couple of days, some of which were outlined by my friend and colleague, Senator Haywood, regarding very important legislation that has been moving very quickly through this Chamber.

Mr. President, it is important for me to premise my remarks by simply talking about the Senate Democratic Caucus's position on pension reform. We know that there is an issue. We know that



there is a problem. We have been, for the past couple of years, trying to embark upon dialogue to address that problem, and certainly Governor Wolf, when he came into office, put forth a plan that we thought might provide a decent solution, a decent future. There are four things that the Senate Democratic Caucus has always believed in with pension reform. We did not want to increase our unfunded liability, we did not want to impair contracts and find ourselves in court with our current retirees or employees, we wanted to guarantee some semblance of reasonable retirement security for our workers, and we wanted to see if we could provide fiscal or budgetary relief for our General Fund and our school districts who are reeling under the weight of the obligations.

I think it is important, Mr. President, if I could talk very quickly about how we got here. Back in 1997, that was the last time that the employer contributed, the employer meaning the Commonwealth, contributed what it was supposed to contribute as a result of an actuarially-required contribution, 1997, the last time we did it in full. In 2000, our systems were dealing with surpluses. PSERS, our Public School Employee Retirement System, was 123-percent funded, and SERS, 132-percent funded. We were sitting pretty. In 2001, Act 9 enhanced the member benefits increasing the multiplier and dealing with retroactive awards and benefits that were believed at that time to be appropriate, but they have since come to bite us, Mr. President. In 2002 we granted an unfunded COLA and we arbitrarily limited the employer contributions rate. In 2003, Act 40 restrained the growth in employer contributions. Of course, we hit the recession, 2008-09 returns were in the negatives for both of our systems, removing significant value. Then in 2010, we did Act 120, which was important reform to protect the Commonwealth and our school districts from the spike in pension contributions that would have visited upon them and our local taxpayers in 2012 and 2013.

Act 120 was good reform, and Senator Browne, the prime sponsor and maker of Senate Bill No. 1, and we send our best wishes out to our colleague and hope that his recovery is swift, the gentleman worked for a long time on Senate Bill No. 1. We commend his work, but we certainly were not privy to it. So what I want to say about what happened in the past 2 days is that on Friday at 4:30 p.m., a bill, 410 pages, was put into print for the first time for Members of the Senate to see. We come in on Monday and it is across the desk and referred to the Committee on Finance, and as you heard from my colleague, it was put through the Committee on Finance on a party-line vote. It did not have a hearing, did not seek stakeholder input, did not have much transparency to that process, Mr. President.

Mr. President, there are three things that really matter for this Caucus. I think, one, we believe that some elements of Senate Bill No. 1 may have legal problems, constitutional questions attached to them. That is the first issue. The second thing is the process. Taking a bill of such enormous consequence to our taxpayers and to our workers and hammering it through in 3 days in the Senate is probably not good public policy, probably not what the people expect of us legislatively when they want a deliberative democracy to work for their best interests. The third thing is the actual substance of the bill itself. I just outlined the failure of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to make its contributions to the pension systems. We, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, have met 40 percent of our actuarially-required contributions to

our system for the past 13 years. We rank 49th in the nation in terms of meeting our actuarially-required contributions to our pension system. So, as an employer, we have not done our job.

The employees, on the other hand, have been paying their share, Mr. President. In fact, whether they pay 6.25 percent or 7.25 percent, which is, by the way, twice the national average that employees in most State pension systems pay, they make their payment every paycheck, Mr. President. And our systems are well managed. SERS and PSERS are well-managed systems. Keep in mind the three things that make up a pension: employer contribution, employee contribution, and investment returns. It turns out that for PSERS, 15 percent of that is from the employees, 15 percent of that is supposed to be from the employers, and 70 percent of the benefits we pay are from investment returns that these systems generate; 70 percent. They are well-managed systems. It is just that they are completely unfunded, and we failed to make that contribution for over a decade.

So, Mr. President, I was not going to speak today. I know that tomorrow we are going to have a debate here on the floor to move Senate Bill No. 1 along. I take the Republican Leader at his word. Senator Corman says this is just the first step and we will have an opportunity, hopefully, through an amendment process, whether it be in the House or back over here, at some time in the days and weeks ahead. I sincerely hope that is true because we do need to revisit this legislation. It is punitive to our workers insofar as future benefits are decreased. It is absolutely ignoring the unfunded liability, in my opinion, because all it does in changing benefits and employer contributions going forward is deal with cash flow issues going forward. It does not deal with the \$55 billion unfunded liability. So we have a situation, Mr. President, where we have an imperfect bill and we need to work on it to improve it. We need to consider the Governor's plan that can provide relief to our General Fund during this budget cycle as well as to our school districts, and we need to consider the dignity of work and the value of retirement security for our workers.

I appreciate the indulgence of the Chamber, and I appreciate your patience, Mr. President. Thank you very much.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a dedicated and well-respected public servant from Allegheny County in the Pittsburgh area who unfortunately passed away last week, Allegheny County Councilwoman Barbara Daly Danko. While I have not been able to be with the family the last 2 days at services and culminating with Mass earlier today, I do want to extend my thoughts and prayers and those of my colleagues, I hope, to Barbara, her family, friends, and the communities that we had the pleasure of serving together. Mr. President, those individuals who had the opportunity to meet Barbara Daly Danko came to meet somebody who, I think, was recognized as a dedicated, committed, thoughtful public servant, and I believe that as a community, we have been a better community because of her and her service. I have had the great fortune of working with Barbara Daly Danko over the course of a number of years where, first, she served in the capacity as State committee member as part of our district. She also was a ward leader, in the largest ward in the city of Pittsburgh, but I think her most profound work was her work on Allegheny County Council. And as I men-

tioned to my colleagues, she was a committed, dedicated, and thoughtful public servant who will be missed.

Mr. President, Barbara was dedicated, obviously, to the communities that she represented, but she was also dedicated to the young men and women with whom she came into contact in the course of her work as a professor at the University of Pittsburgh and at the Community College of Allegheny County, where she was a political science teacher. More importantly, she was a friend to so many folks in the community, and, as I mentioned earlier, the students with whom she worked as part of her class. Barbara was dedicated to the issues that she held dear, and most notably, helping women and minority-owned businesses succeed, which was something that she worked hard on. She became involved in politics because of her dedication to wanting to help those around her. Mr. President, in our district, I could always count on Barbara Daly Danko to be present at one of our community events, whether it was a town hall meeting, whether it was a meeting with the Attorney General, whoever it might be, she was there in the community meetings helping to participate and lending her support to the efforts that were taking place, but also lending a listening ear to the people of the community, constituents, and the businesses that she served along those lines. She truly and simply wanted to make her community a better place for everyone, and every day that she was in office she worked toward that end.

Most importantly, she stood strong in the face of adversity and, quite frankly, was very willing to vote for what she believed was right, but not always what was popular. For that, Mr. President, as I said, she earned the respect of so many of her colleagues in Allegheny County and myself and those individuals with whom she served. Mr. President, as I mentioned, Barbara was a dedicated, committed, thoughtful public servant, and she was dedicated to her family, as well. To all of those individuals, I provide my sympathies to them for this great loss of a very committed individual, a woman who, I think, made a difference at least as it relates to the 14th Ward in the city of Pittsburgh and the district that she served on Allegheny County Council and the county as a whole. In our senatorial district and our region, Barbara Daly Danko made a difference. In life, that is all we can ask for, knowing that in our time here, we made a difference and we made it a better place for many others, and she has done that.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of Barbara Daly Danko, who certainly made a difference in Pennsylvania.

### RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Columbia, Senator Gordner.

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 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 recessed at 4:43 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.