

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

SESSION OF 2015 199TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 51

SENATE

THURSDAY, September 17, 2015

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

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

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Senator JOHN H. EICHELBERGER:

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for the many blessings You have bestowed upon all of us individually and on our great Commonwealth. We pray for the least fortunate among us that You would help them with their daily needs. We pray for the sick, Lord, that You would place Your healing hand on them. We ask for Your help with those suffering through hardship, that You would see them through their difficulty. For our citizens who serve as emergency service workers or in our nation's military, that You would shield them from harm's way. We in this Chamber ask for wisdom, guidance, and courage as we face difficult issues and ask for Your grace and mercy on our efforts to do Your will for Your glory. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

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

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado (Public Member), 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve until June 23, 2018, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Tina Miller, Pittsburgh, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE ARCHITECTS LICENSURE BOARD

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Architects Licensure Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice John Martine, Pittsburgh, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
COUNCIL ON THE ARTS**

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, to serve until July 1, 2017, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Susan Corbett, Glenshaw, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE BANKING AND
SECURITIES COMMISSION**

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Banking and Securities Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Gerald Pappert, Plymouth Meeting, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apt. 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Carole Gravagno, Wayne, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Conservation Commission, to serve until May 30, 2018, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Edward Kuckuck, Indiana, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apt. 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Conservation Commission, to serve until May 30, 2018, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice MaryAnn Warren, New Milford, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Cosmetology, to serve until October 14, 2017, and until his successor is ap-

pointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Karie Schoeneman, Pottsville, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, [data missing], Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Cosmetology, to serve for a term of three years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Ann Catalano, Camp Hill, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, 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 Dentistry, to serve for a term of six years, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Edmund Effort, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apartment 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Dentistry, to serve until October 6, 2020, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Dallas Stoy, Lewisberry, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Joan Tarloff, Collegeville, deceased.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF EBENSBURG CENTER

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Ebensburg Center, to serve until January 20, 2021, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Marcelle Cooney, Cresson, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF EBENSBURG CENTER

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, [data missing], Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Ebensburg Center, to serve until January 21, 2021, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Dixie Henry, Mount Union, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF EBENSBURG CENTER

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apt. 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of trustees of Ebensburg Center, to serve until January 16, 2019, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Rose Planinsek, Ligonier, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ENERGY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority, to serve for a term of four years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Sanders, Philadelphia, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF HAMBURG CENTER

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, [data missing], Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Hamburg Center, to serve until January 21, 2021, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Joanne Reckley, Temple, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE HEALTH POLICY BOARD

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Health Policy Board, to serve for a term of three years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Cecelia Dougherty, Philadelphia, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE HEALTH POLICY BOARD

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Health Policy Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice C. Michael Blackwood, Mars, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE HEALTH POLICY BOARD

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apt. 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Health Policy Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Anne Henry, Harrisburg, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE INDUSTRIAL BOARD

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, [data missing], Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Industrial Board, to serve until the third Tuesday of January 2019, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Bony Dawood, Mechanicsburg, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

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

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg, 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Kutztown University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Richard Orwig, Wyomissing, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS' EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission, to serve for a term of three years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Ray Morrow, Pittsburgh, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, to serve for a term of four years, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Richard Bruno, Bellefonte, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apt. 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure, to serve for a term of three years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Richard Turner, Mercer, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, [data missing], Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Optometry, to serve until November 14, 2015, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Lisa Hegedus, Jeannette, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, 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 Osteopathic

Medicine, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Burton Mark, Thornton, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 North 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve until March 11, 2018, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Ian Rosenberg, Pittsburgh, deceased.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apt. 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve for a term of four years, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Rohit Agrawal, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 North 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, to serve until June 11, 2018, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Craig DeFranco, Roseto, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
SOUTH MOUNTAIN RESTORATION CENTER

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, Apt. 2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of White [sic] Mountain Restoration Center, to serve until January 21, 2019, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice William Shank, Chambersburg, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
WESTERN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Western Youth Development Centers, to serve until the third Tuesday of January 2021, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Joseph Fragle, Sharon, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
WESTERN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

June 18, 2015 [sic]

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. Third Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Western Youth Development Centers, to serve until the third Tuesday of January 2021, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Loretta Hogans, New Castle, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
WESTERN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

September 17, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apartment 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Western Youth Development Centers, to serve until the third Tuesday of January 2017, and until her successor is appointed and qualified, vice Thomas Fee, New Castle, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SB 685 (Pr. No. 1000)

An Act amending the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985, providing for visiting team physician.

SB 686 (Pr. No. 1001)

An Act amending the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, providing for visiting team physician.

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 McIlhinney, and legislative leaves for Senator Argall, Senator Greenleaf, and Senator Ward.

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

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Williams, and a legislative leave for Senator Hughes.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Corman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator McIlhinney, and legislative leaves for Senator Argall, Senator Greenleaf, and Senator Ward.

Senator Schwank requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Williams, and a legislative leave for Senator Hughes.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

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

JOURNALS APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journals of the Sessions of June 8, 2015; June 9, 2015; and June 10, 2015, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the Sessions of June 8, 2015; June 9, 2015; and June 10, 2015.

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

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

YEA-47

Alloway	Dinniman	McGarrigle	Tomlinson
Argall	Eichelberger	McIlhinney	Vance
Aument	Farnese	Mensch	Vogel

Baker	Folmer	Pileggi	Vulakovich
Bartolotta	Fontana	Rafferty	Wagner
Blake	Gordner	Sabatina	Ward
Boscola	Greenleaf	Scarnati	White
Brewster	Haywood	Scavello	Wiley
Brooks	Hughes	Schwank	Williams
Browne	Hutchinson	Smucker	Wozniak
Corman	Kitchen	Tartaglione	Yudichak
Costa	Leach	Teplitz	

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journals are approved.

**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, I rise today to introduce a guest who is joining us in the gallery. Kevin Kanavy has been an intern here in my Harrisburg office since June. Kevin resides in Camp Hill and is the son of Len and Milissa Kanavy. He is a 2015 graduate of Penn State University with a degree in political science. In his free time, Kevin enjoys cooking—I did not know that because he never cooked for me, but maybe we can work on that later--golfing, and he loves Penn State football, and politics. They really go together, too. Kevin has done an outstanding job in my office, and I ask my colleagues to give him a warm Senate welcome.

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

(Applause.)

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY**

The SECRETARY. Permission has been granted to add the following items to the agenda of the meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held today off the floor: Senate Bill No. 663 and Senate Bill No. 678.

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of 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, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber for caucus as well.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of 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 LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator McIlhinney and Senator Williams have returned, and their temporary Capitol leaves are cancelled.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator FONTANA. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Kitchen.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Fontana requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Kitchen. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

NONPREFERRED APPROPRIATION BILLS OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 912 (Pr. No. 1070) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

A Supplement to the act of April 1, 1863 (P.L.213, No.227), entitled "An act to accept the grant of Public Lands, by the United States, to the several states, for the endowment of Agricultural Colleges," making appropriations for carrying the same into effect; providing for a basis for payments of such appropriations, for a method of accounting for the funds appropriated and for certain fiscal information disclosure; and making an appropriation from a restricted account within the Agricultural College Land Scrip Fund.

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

Pursuant to Senate Rule 9, the bill was laid on the table.

SB 913 (Pr. No. 1071) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act making appropriations to the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.

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

Pursuant to Senate Rule 9, the bill was laid on the table.

SB 914 (Pr. No. 1072) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

A Supplement to the act of November 30, 1965 (P.L.843, No.355), entitled "An act providing for the establishment and operation of Temple University as an instrumentality of the Commonwealth to serve as a State-related university in the higher education system of the Commonwealth; providing for change of name; providing for the composition of the board of trustees; terms of trustees, and the power and duties of such trustees; providing for preference to Pennsylvania residents in tuition; providing for public support and capital improvements; authorizing appropriations in amounts to be fixed annually by the General Assembly; providing for the auditing of accounts of expenditures from said appropriations; authorizing the issuance of bonds exempt from taxation within the Commonwealth; requiring the President to make an annual report of the operations of Temple University," making an appropriation for carrying the same into effect; providing for a basis for payments of such appropriation; and providing a method of accounting for the funds appropriated and for certain fiscal information disclosure.

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

Pursuant to Senate Rule 9, the bill was laid on the table.

SB 915 (Pr. No. 1073) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

A Supplement to the act of July 28, 1966 (3rd Sp.Sess., P.L.87, No.3), known as the University of Pittsburgh--Commonwealth Act, making appropriations for carrying the same into effect; and providing for a basis for payments of such appropriations, for a method of accounting for the funds appropriated and for certain fiscal information disclosure.

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

Pursuant to Senate Rule 9, the bill was laid on the table.

SB 916 (Pr. No. 1074) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

A Supplement to the act of July 7, 1972 (P.L.743, No.176), known as the Lincoln University-Commonwealth Act, making an appropriation for carrying the same into effect; providing for a basis for payments of the appropriation; and providing a method of accounting for the funds appropriated and for certain fiscal information disclosure.

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

Pursuant to Senate Rule 9, the bill was laid on the table.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 33, HB 60, HB 75 and HB 224 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 290 (Pr. No. 1171) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in licensing of drivers, further providing for chemical testing to determine amount of alcohol or controlled substance and for occupational limited license and providing for ignition interlock limited license; and, in driving after imbibing alcohol or utilizing drugs, further providing for ignition interlock, for prior offenses and for the offense of illegally operating a motor vehicle not equipped with ignition interlock.

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 Montgomery, Senator Rafferty.

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to speak on this piece of legislation. It is a very significant, very important piece of legislation for the Commonwealth of

Pennsylvania. This bill was first offered in May 2011 and has been introduced three times. It was passed out of the Senate Committee on Transportation three times, and we continued, during all of that process, to refine the language and work with Mothers Against Drunk Driving, PennDOT, the law enforcement community, the DA's association, and had input from the Federal government as well. We feel this legislation is the best version of any bill thus far introduced on the topic. Mr. President, you remember when you were a Member of this body, my passion about this particular piece of legislation, the ignition interlock system.

In 2013, alcohol-related crashes in Pennsylvania were over 11,000, resulting in 381 deaths. That is more than one death per day in Pennsylvania by a DUI crash. Alcohol-related deaths were 32 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2013, making it an average of each day 30 alcohol-related crashes occurred, and 22 people were injured in those crashes. Why the interlock system? Mr. President, interlocks are effective. Statistics show that that 50 to 70 percent of drunk drivers continue to drive on a suspended license. States requiring interlocks in the first offense, which is what this bill will do, such as Arizona, Oregon, and New Mexico, have had DUI deaths cut by 33 percent. This legislation is geared to preserve lives.

The guts of the bill: The bill would apply the interlock restrictions to first-time offenders with high blood-alcohol levels that under current law are subject to a 12-month license suspension. Under the terms of my bill, it would allow them to apply for and be issued an interlock limited license immediately so that they can get back on the road, they can drive to work, they can drive to their houses of worship, they can drive to pick up their children, and doing so in a controlled environment.

The most amazing thing that I have found are the people who have been previously charged with DUI reaching out to my office to support this initiative. I would like to read a portion of an email that came to my office almost 3 years ago:

I'd like to commend you on the interlock bill. I'm a contract software engineer who has had two DUIs in under the legislated 10 years. Subsequent to my first DUI I could no longer hold my job as public transportation to my work site was not available. After being put on the interlock system I am wholly impressed with its effectiveness regarding behavioral modification. Had the device been mandatory during my first DUI, I would have remained gainfully employed while addressing the issues that led to my DUI arrest.

Mr. President, statistics have shown that merely suspending the license of a first-time DUI offender is not an effective way of keeping these individuals off of the roadways. This bill would allow first-time offenders to continue to go to work, go to the doctor, pick up their children, go to houses of worship, and do so in a controlled environment where they can maintain the safety of themselves and of our roadways. This bill is smart on crime. It is an initiative which has nearly unanimous support from all of the stakeholders.

Mr. President, I truly appreciate the support I have received from the Members of the Caucus voting for this bill in the past, and, in particular, Senator Corman and his legal staff; Senator Scarnati's office; Senator Costa's office; of course my colleague on the Committee on Transportation, Senator Wozniak; Senator Dinniman, my colleague and friend from Chester County, who has been most passionate as an advocate for the advancement of

this bill. I especially want to thank both Senator Corman and my friend, Senator McIlhinney, from Bucks County, for concerns they had that allowed us to refine the bill and its language before we brought it here to the Senate of Pennsylvania. I must, as well, give a tip of the hat to the law enforcement community, and most especially to the Mothers Against Drunk Driving. This is their number-one initiative to have passed this year in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. They are passionately determined to make sure that the interlock system is available for first-time DUIs so lives will be saved in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, I want to thank my staff as well, Nolan Ritchie, who is the executive director of the Committee on Transportation; and Ryan Boop, who is my chief of staff who helped me with much of the wording in the piece of legislation that we have before us. Once again, I really do want to thank MADD and the Members of this body. I ask for an affirmative vote so we can get this to the House and get it to the Governor for his signature.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Senator Rafferty for very important work on a very important lifesaving piece of legislation.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-47

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

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.

HB 315 (Pr. No. 322) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 24, 2012 (P.L.1209, No.151), known as the Child Labor Act, further providing for definitions and for occupations and establishments.

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

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 return said bill to the House of Representatives with information that the Senate has passed the same without amendments.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 606, SB 640, SB 751, SB 773, SB 785, HB 857, SB 868 and HB 874 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

PREFERRED APPROPRIATION BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 1000 (Pr. No. 1232) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act to provide from the General Fund for the expenses of the Executive and Judicial Departments, the State Government Support Agencies and the General Assembly of the Commonwealth, the public debt and the public schools for the fiscal year July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, for certain institutions and organizations, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; to provide appropriations from the State Lottery Fund, the Tobacco Settlement Fund, the Aviation Restricted Account, the Hazardous Material Response Fund, The State Stores Fund, the Milk Marketing Fund, the Home Investment Trust Fund, the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund, the Tuition Account Guaranteed Savings Program Fund, the Banking Fund, the Firearm Records Check Fund, the Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority Fund, the Oil and Gas Lease Fund, the Home Improvement Account, the Cigarette Fire Safety and Firefighter Protection Act Enforcement Fund, the Insurance Regulation and Oversight Fund, the Pennsylvania Racehorse Development Restricted Receipt Account, the Justice Reinvestment Fund and the Multimodal Transportation Fund to the Executive Department; to provide appropriations from the Judicial Computer System Augmentation Account to the Judicial Department for the fiscal year July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016; to provide appropriations from the Motor License Fund for the fiscal year July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, for the proper operation of several departments of the Commonwealth and the Pennsylvania State Police authorized to spend Motor License Fund money; and to provide for the appropriation of Federal funds to the Executive Department of the Commonwealth and for the payment of bills remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 57, SB 126 and SB 127 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 175 (Pr. No. 2179) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 24, 2006 (P.L.91, No.29), known as the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Benefit Act, further providing for application for compensation and for Commonwealth indebtedness; and providing for reports.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 263 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 296 (Pr. No. 1091) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in falsification and intimidation, further providing for false alarms to agencies of public safety; and, in sentencing, providing for sentencing for offenses involving false alarms to agencies of public safety.

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

SB 296 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I move that Senate Bill No. 296, Printer's No. 1091, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 388, HB 400 and SB 411 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 447 (Pr. No. 1037) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 6, 1951 (P.L.69, No.20), known as The Landlord and Tenant Act of 1951, providing for death of a tenant.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 455, SB 604, SB 731 and HB 735 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL AMENDED

HB 823 (Pr. No. 2036) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 25, 1945 (P.L.1050, No.394), known as the Local Tax Collection Law, further providing for bonds of tax collectors, for basic education programs for tax collectors, for criminal history record information and for deputy tax collectors.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on second consideration?

Senator BROOKS offered the following amendment No. A3340:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 9, by striking out "basic "

Amend Bill, page 1, line 9, by inserting after "continuing":
permanent basic and continuing

Amend Bill, page 12, line 30, by inserting after "Continuing":
and Continuing

Amend Bill, page 13, line 9, by inserting after "renewal":
and of continuing education to be met by persons qualified as tax collectors as condition for renewal

Amend Bill, page 13, line 11, by striking out "AND QUALIFICATION" and inserting:

, qualification and continuing education

Amend Bill, page 14, line 7, by inserting after "collector":
and may not be required to retake the basic qualification examination

Amend Bill, page 19, by inserting between lines 15 and 16:

(i) Each qualified tax collector shall be required to obtain two hours of mandatory continuing education during his four-year term of office.

(j) The topics for continuing education may include any of the topics of the courses listed under subsection (b)(1).

(k) The department shall inform qualified tax collectors of the continuing education requirement upon issuance of certificates.

(k.1) The Pennsylvania State Tax Collectors' Association and any other organization or individual may offer continuing education courses. Each course offered shall be reviewed and approved by the department to ensure the course complies with the criteria in subsection (j).
Attendance at an annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State Tax Collectors' Association or a similar organization that includes an educational component shall qualify as one hour of continuing education.

(l) (1) Renewal of qualification shall be completed prior to the tax collector's final year in office, upon completion of continuing education requirements as set forth in this section. The tax collector shall bear the cost of the program and qualification unless the municipality agrees to pay for the cost in whole or in part.

(2) The department shall issue a renewed qualified tax collector certificate to each tax collector upon the tax collector's successful completion of the continuing education requirements.

(m) Within thirty days of the department issuing a renewed qualified tax collector certificate to a tax collector, the department shall,

electronically or by mail, provide a copy of the renewed qualified tax collector certificate to the municipal secretary or clerk of the municipality for which the tax collector was elected.

(n) If the tax collector fails to successfully complete the continuing education requirements, the tax collector shall be deemed ineligible to be placed on the ballot for the office of tax collector at the end of the tax collector's current term of office.

Amend Bill, page 19, line 16, by striking out "I" and inserting:

(o)

Amend Bill, page 20, line 11, by striking out "J" and inserting:

(p)

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

It was agreed to.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 874 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 879 (Pr. No. 1238) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the establishment of a savings program by the Treasury Department to encourage savings accounts for individuals with disabilities; establishing the Pennsylvania ABLE Savings Program and the ABLE Savings Program Fund; and imposing duties on the Treasury Department.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 898 and HB 907 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 1001 (Pr. No. 1233) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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 funding, for State Workers' Insurance Board and for expiration; in the Tobacco Settlement Fund, further providing for use; in the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development Fund, further providing for distribution; in general budget implementation, further providing for the Department of Community and Economic Development and for the Pennsylvania State Police; providing for 2015-2016 budget implementation and for 2015-2016 restrictions on appropriations for funds and accounts; and making related repeals.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 55, ADOPTED

Senator CORMAN, without objection, called up from page 9 of the Calendar, **Senate Resolution No. 55**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution establishing a forestry task force to study issues concerning the renewal and management of this Commonwealth's forests; providing for an advisory committee; and directing the Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee to provide administrative support to the task force.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

YEA-47

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The resolution is adopted.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator CORMAN, from the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, reported the following bills:

SB 663 (Pr. No. 1156) (Rereported) (Concurrence)

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.

SB 678 (Pr. No. 1121) (Rereported) (Concurrence)

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in the State System of Higher Education, further providing for definitions.

RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator CORMAN, from the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, reported the following resolution:

SR 136 (Pr. No. 979)

A Resolution condemning economic, social, cultural and other boycotts of Israel and growing incidents of anti-Semitism.

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

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 1****SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS**

SB 663 (Pr. No. 1156) -- 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.

On the question,
Will the Senate concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 663?

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 663.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

YEA-47

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

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 inform the House of Representatives accordingly.

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 678 (Pr. No. 1121) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in the State System of Higher Education, further providing for definitions.

On the question,
Will the Senate concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 678?

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 678.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

YEA-47

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

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 inform the House of Representatives accordingly.

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

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

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF AUCTIONEER EXAMINERS

September 16, 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 June 9, 2015, for the appointment of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners, to serve until October 15, 2015, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Mary Louise Doyle, Pottstown, resigned.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice William Schafer, New Castle, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apartment 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years and until her successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Sharon Dell, Martinsburg, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jonathan McCullough, Holland, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Joseph Grice, Mars, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Mary K. Topper, 223 Pine Street, Apartment 3A, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Kathleen McConnell, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Cosmetology, to serve for a term of three years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Stephen Wallin, Southampton, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Brenda L. Rios, 1224 N. 3rd Street, Unit 502, Harrisburg 17101 [sic], Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve for a term of four years, and until her successor is appointed and quali-

fied, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Maria DeMario, Media, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE REGISTRATION BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS AND GEOLOGISTS

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists, to serve for a term of six years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Joseph Mackey, Mount Bethel, resigned.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

July 30, 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 my nomination dated July 10, 2015, of Jacob M. Maldonado, 133 State Street, #2, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Psychology, to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Joseph French, State College, whose term expired.

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

TOM WOLF
Governor

NOMINATIONS RETURNED TO THE GOVERNOR

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

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

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

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

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

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

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, 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 COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF
CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, James Davis, Esquire, 400 Mountain View Drive, Brownsville 15417, Fayette County, Thirty-second Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of California University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, or until his successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

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

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, The Honorable Larry Maggi, 269 East Buffalo Church Road, Washington 15301, Washington County, Forty-sixth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of California University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, or until his successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Dr. 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 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Dr. 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 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Dr. Audrey F. Bronson, 1601 North 72nd Street, Philadelphia 19151, Philadelphia County, Seventh 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 Robert Taylor, New Hope, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

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

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, 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 BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Leslie 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 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, 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 STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, 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 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, John Mitchell, 3509 Tyson Road, Newtown Square 19073, Delaware 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 *[sic]* Roberts, Edinboro, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH OF THE
COMMONWEALTH SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Kevin Washo, 200 West Washington Square, Apartment 2402, Philadelphia 19106, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Pittsburgh of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education, to serve until October 5, 2018, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Morgan O'Brien, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, The Honorable 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 PENNSYLVANIA
BOARD OF PROBATION AND PAROLE

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Leo Dunn, 3508 North 2nd Street, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, to serve until October 3, 2018, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Randy Feathers, Altoona, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

May 15, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Andrew G. Place, 583 Garner Run Road, Waynesburg 15370, Greene County, Forty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania *[sic]* Public Utility Commission, to serve until April 1, 2020, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than 6 months beyond that period, vice James Cawley, Esquire, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
RETIREMENT COMMISSION

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, 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 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Janet 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

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH
SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

May 7, 2015

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, The Honorable Ronald Donatucci, 2336 South 21st Street, Philadelphia 19145, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Temple University of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education, to serve until October 14, 2017, or until his successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

NOMINATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Senator WILLIAMS, on behalf of Senators KITCHEN, COSTA, EICHELBERGER, TEPLITZ, BREWSTER, SCHWANK, SABATINA, BARTOLOTTA, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, BOSCOLA, DINNIMAN, AUMENT,

GREENLEAF, HUTCHINSON, PILEGGI, MENSCH, RAF-FERTY, VULAKOVICH, YUDICHAK and FARNESE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 180**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, on behalf of my colleague, Senator Kitchen, who drafted this resolution, and certainly on behalf of a grateful nation and those of us who come from that class that was disenfranchised from the right to vote, on this particular day we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The history of this country has a few moments in time that have been recorded in history that define how we view each other as Americans. Certainly, this most extraordinary moment where President Johnson, driven by a band of Americans of all stripes, not just African Americans, who thought it appropriate that the frustrations of a class of people housed primarily in the South were denied consistently the right to express themselves as Americans. They were allowed to go to war, they were allowed to pay taxes, they were allowed to go to work, they were allowed to do a variety of other things, but in the most fundamental area that we define ourselves as a democracy, they were denied the right to do that freely and unencumbered. So the Civil Rights Act is a very significant mark, not just for African Americans, but America as a whole. We celebrate this, and for those who all follow that, we remember that the Voting Rights Act has been amended at least five times, which has occurred to benefit not only African Americans but many others who also have been disenfranchised of a number of civil rights, and we appreciate that history and we honor that history today as my colleague, Senator Kitchen, provides this resolution.

We thank all of you for supporting it and we thank the Commonwealth for following what we now no longer find a burden but allow for all Pennsylvanians and all Americans to participate in this franchise of voting rightfully and freely, and, most importantly, we hope more people do it come election season.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Senator Williams for a very important and monumental piece of legislation and an important commemoration of the 50-year anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. We also thank Senator Kitchen for her advocacy on this important Voting Rights Act.

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

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

PERMISSION TO ADDRESS

The PRESIDENT. Speaking of 50, the Chair takes note of a certain birthday being recognized by Tony Lepore, the well-known and loyal Senate staffer. I am not sure which side of 50 he is on, but I suspect it is the wrong side. We all want to wish him a happy birthday.

SENATE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Senators FARNESE, DINNIMAN, KITCHEN, SABATINA, TARTAGLIONE, GREENLEAF, MENSCH, COSTA, BREWSTER, SCHWANK, FONTANA, RAFFERTY, VULAKOVICH, YUDICHAK and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 181**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing September 21, 2015, as "International Day of Peace" and supporting the ideals observed at this worldwide event.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator FARNESE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the following resolution honoring September 21, 2015, known as the U.N. "International Day of Peace." William Penn founded Pennsylvania on the principles of peace, freedom, and equality. Today, I ask that we honor those principles and come together to promote the ideals of peace and human rights across the globe.

In 1981, the United Nations International Day of Peace was established in promotion of global cease-fire and nonviolence. In 2001, September 21 was designated as the Day of International Peace that would be celebrated each year. This day is known as Peace Day in the United States and is an opportunity for States, cities, communities, and individuals to join our brothers and sisters around the world in commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace within and among all nations and peoples. On Peace Day, at noon in all time zones, people of all nationalities and religions will observe a minute of silence for peace. Additionally, individuals will come together through diverse peace education activities, nonviolent skill building, music, marches, spiritual activities, art projects, community events, environmental efforts, and intercultural dialogues, all for the purpose of forwarding a culture of peace.

Peace Day in Philadelphia, a Philadelphia region initiative that encourages broad-based participation in the International Day of Peace, calls upon all public officials, organizations, neighborhoods, community groups, and individuals to actively engage in the global day of local opportunity. In 2014, more than 30 diverse peace-related events took place across the region from September 15 through September 21. Additional peace community building, safety, and youth activities were organized in neighborhoods across the city of Philadelphia by the police department.

This year, the United Nations global theme for peace day is "Partnerships for Peace - Dignity for All." This theme recognizes the essential role that civil society and NGOs have played in the U.N.'s peace-building activities and the work of the U.N. over 70 years to promote and create conditions for universal human rights and dignity for all people. I encourage, Mr. President, all Pennsylvanians to actively participate in Peace Day activities in their areas and to take time tomorrow to put aside conflicts and reflect upon what global peace can accomplish.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair agrees that wherever peace is possible, we all have a responsibility to make peace happen.

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, SABATINA, TEPLITZ, BAKER, GREENLEAF, FONTANA, ARGALL, BREWSTER, DINNIMAN, KITCHEN, PILEGGI, SCAVELLO, BARTOLOTTA, BLAKE, ALLOWAY, YUDICHAK, COSTA, SCHWANK, VOGEL, BOSCOLA, RAFFERTY, AUMENT, MENSCH, HAYWOOD, WARD and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 182**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act on July 26, 2015.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, since its passage, the Americans with Disabilities Act has made important strides in all areas of life as we know it, from curb cutouts to accessible hotels and medical facilities, to speech, hearing, and visual aids at public events. In 1990, when President George H.W. Bush signed this law, no one could have realized the importance of this act and the impact it would have on laws and decisions in this nation throughout the foreseeable future.

Mr. President, with the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with disabilities gain more options for leaving their homes to run errands or to go to work, greater job opportunities, security in the workplace, and the ability to become more active in their communities. This act has brought many changes, whether big or small, and all have been monumental. Yet, disabled persons still have many barriers to break down, such as adequate educational support, job training and placement, and the ability to put aside money for expenses and other necessities later in life. As elected officials, we have a responsibility to help address these gaps and insure the Commonwealth continues to meet the needs of our growing disabled population.

Mr. President, today I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. I ask that they acknowledge the strength and resolution of disabled residents who have waited patiently for change and who have worked hard to overcome challenges. Mr. President, on October 20, it is "Americans with Disabilities Day." I ask my colleagues to please join with me and understand for a short period of time what a disabled person goes through, whether in a wheelchair, whether eyesight, you name it. We are going to have visual aids that are going to help you, and I am challenging my colleagues to please join in so you have a small window of what we go through every day. I hope that we can continue working to make Pennsylvania a better place for everyone, both for the disabled and nondisabled.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks the Senator for a very compelling and important issue.

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

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

Senators TARTAGLIONE, KITCHEN, SABATINA, TEPLITZ, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, DINNIMAN, COSTA, SCAVELLO, PILEGGI, SCHWANK, FARNESE, HUGHES, RAFFERTY, YUDICHAK, HAYWOOD and MENSCH, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 183**, entitled:

A Resolution observing September 15 through October 15, 2015, as "Hispanic Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania in recognition of the achievements of Hispanic Americans in our Commonwealth.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, just as the United States is a melting pot of cultures, ethnicities, and religions, so, too, is Pennsylvania. Many residents in this Commonwealth are of Hispanic heritage. Their rich traditions and customs were introduced to this State by some of the nation's earliest settlers during the 1400s. Today, Hispanic Americans are the largest minority ethnic group in the nation. Their dedication and contributions have enabled this nation to become a global leader and an emblem of liberty, justice, and innovation. Hispanics played a significant role in these achievements, and for that, we owe our sincere thanks.

Mr. President, I ask that you please join me in recognizing September 15 through October 15 as "Hispanic Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania. I encourage all residents in the State to learn more about Hispanic culture and to celebrate its presence in our daily lives.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

Senators DINNIMAN, WOZNIAC, TEPLITZ, KITCHEN, GREENLEAF, COSTA, TARTAGLIONE, SABATINA, BREWSTER, SCAVELLO, SCHWANK, PILEGGI, FONTANA, SCARNATI, RAFFERTY, VULAKOVICH, WARD, AUMENT and HAYWOOD, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 184**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of September 2015 as "Hunger Action Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, perhaps many of us do not realize this, but 1.8 million Pennsylvanians experience some

degree of hunger every day, and 536,000 of those are children, and much of the remainder are senior citizens. There are some problems, Mr. President, that are very difficult to solve. Hunger is not one of them. All it takes is people of good will, and some good, smart programs to end the problem of hunger in this Commonwealth.

In my county, Chester County, we have worked diligently to solve this problem and we are making great progress. Over 30 years ago we started our efforts, and they continue today. For example, when I was county commissioner, we were able to establish what was called the Chester County Gleaning Program. Gleaning is based on the biblical concept of leaving the four corners of the field for the poor, homeless, widow, or widower. Using that biblical concept in a modern way, we have been able to harvest, at no expense to government, at this point, more than a million pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to our citizens in need. This program has grown into what we now call the Chester County Food Bank. It is a program that not only feeds those in need, but takes the excess crop and through a process either cans it or jars it or flash-freezes it, so that every child who is in certain school districts where they have a free lunch program goes home with flash-frozen food or dried fruits and other foods for the weekend.

I am simply bringing up examples in Chester County because I want all of us in Pennsylvania to understand that this is a solvable problem. Many of our houses of faith throughout our county, including inter-faith gardens, are grown. We have corporations now which allow their workers time during lunch and other times during the day, who have raised beds of food that they use to feed those who are hungry, and we thank those corporations. So together as a community, we understand and are addressing the problem of hunger. In declaring it "National Hunger Action Month" here in the Commonwealth, what the Senate is doing is calling on all Pennsylvanians in every corner of this State, in every county, to simply use their hands, use the fertile soil that we have been blessed with, and to feed those who are in need. As I said, Mr. President, there are some problems that are difficult to solve, hunger is not one of them. Just think of the amount of food that is wasted every day in so many places here in Pennsylvania.

Finally, Mr. President, we have to remain vigilant against regulations and rules that hurt the poor and those who are hungry, rather than help. This gives me an opportunity to speak against a new regulation that has just come out of the Department of Agriculture and is now being instituted in Pennsylvania. As you know, we, through our Meals on Wheels program, deliver to the homes of those who are homebound a hot meal every day. Now the Federal government is telling us we can only have 650 calories in that meal because they say they are worried about people gaining too much weight or worried about diabetes. Just like many other regulations, it might be based on good intent, but it is hurting so many people and we need to stand up and change the implementation of this regulation in Pennsylvania.

I can tell you in my district when Meals on Wheels and other organizations go out to deliver the food, we are not talking about people who are overweight, we are talking about people who are malnourished. We are talking about people who have just come out of hospitals and other situations, and this is their only meal of the day. If the Federal officials and the State officials who are doing this regulation think that 650 calories a day is enough for

some, then let them try to live on 650 calories a day. What we need to do is understand that regulations, even those of good intent, can hurt people, and that is exactly what the government, and we, as we put that regulation into effect here in Pennsylvania, are doing to those who are hungry.

So, Mr. President, in ending, September is Hunger Action Month, and I plan not only to urge all of us to continue the wonderful efforts in this State to feed the poor, to feed the hungry, so many who are senior citizens, but we also have to speak out against a Federal regulation that is currently being implemented in this Commonwealth that is hurting those who depend on that one meal a day. Mr. President, let me give you one example. When we deliver the food, we deliver, in addition to the meal, milk and a roll. That milk and roll is saved and used the next day for breakfast. Under these regulations, we can no longer do that. This is absurdity, this is insanity, and we, as a Senate and Pennsylvanians, must insist that regulations, even those that might initially have a good purpose, lose their credibility when they hurt those who need food within this Commonwealth. Six hundred and fifty calories a day is not enough for any human being in this Commonwealth, and as part of National Hunger Month, Mr. President, let us make sure that this regulation, if it is going to be implemented in the State, is done so with humanity, with care, and let us make sure that every individual in this Commonwealth, including those who are homebound and poor, have a decent meal each and every day of the year.

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 EICHELBERGER, GREENLEAF, SABATINA, TEPLITZ, SCAVELLO, SCHWANK, PILEGGI, DINNIMAN, BARTOLOTTA, FONTANA, BREWSTER, WHITE, RAFFERTY, VULAKOVICH, TARTAGLIONE, HUTCHINSON, MENSCH, COSTA, BAKER, AUMENT and FARNESE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 185**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of September 2015 as "Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month" and September 26, 2015, as "Brain Aneurysm Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator EICHELBERGER. Mr. President, 1 out of 50 people have a brain aneurysm. I did not realize it was that many. Most likely, these people who are apt to have a brain aneurysm are between the ages of 35 and 60. It happens with women more than men, and there are not any warning signs that we are aware of for that. They are usually not detected until they rupture. We hear about people who have a brain aneurysm and we think that means they usually say that whenever somebody has one that ruptures.

Each year about 30,000 Americans will have a brain aneurysm rupture. Forty percent of them will die. Three thousand to

4,500 of them will never make it to a hospital. They will be dead before they get to a hospital. This is a very serious problem in our country and in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Help is coming for this very deadly condition. Advancements have been made regarding detection of aneurysm, and research continues on their prevention and treatment. Through efforts by survivors and people who have had a loved one with an aneurysm, funding is raised to support this research. One such event is the Pittsburgh Brain Aneurysm Run/Walk on Saturday, September 26, at Pittsburgh's Southside Trail. I attended the event that was held in Pittsburgh last year--that is the one that is held in western Pennsylvania at Point State Park--and have heard some very interesting and moving stories from people who have suffered the pain and loss of losing someone to this medical condition, and heard some very moving stories of hope and promise from others who were gathered there. Although I cannot make this year's event, I am making a contribution and would ask those who can also help financially to do so with this tremendous effort. I want to thank everybody who is helping with that and those in the Chamber today and ask for their support for voting for this resolution and allowing me to bring attention to this very important issue.

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 TEPLITZ, WOZNIAK, FONTANA, BREWSTER, DINNIMAN, SCAVELLO, COSTA, BOSCOLA, AUMENT, RAFFERTY and HUGHES, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 186**, entitled:

A Resolution designating September 25, 2015, as "Fairweather Lodge Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TEPLITZ. Mr. President, this resolution designates September 25, 2015, as "Fairweather Lodge Day" in Pennsylvania. Dr. George W. Fairweather was an innovative psychologist and humanitarian who conducted research in the mental health field that led to the patients' rights movement in psychiatry. He shared his work through his book, *Community Life for the Mentally Ill: An Alternative to Institutional Care*. Dr. Fairweather developed the Fairweather Lodge Program to provide support and supervision to people with chronic mental illness and to assist them with community living skills development. Many organizations across our Commonwealth are modeled after the program, and there are more than 100 Fairweather Lodges in the nation. One of these lodges is located in my district, New Visions specialized community residence. It is my honor to assist them in receiving Senate recognition for their important work.

Mr. President, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Dr. Fairweather and the Fairweather Lodge programs across Pennsylvania by designating September 25, 2015, as Fairweather Lodge Day 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.

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. Gerald Ney, Mr. and Mrs. William Smedley, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nolt, Mr. and Mrs. Jere Duke, Mr. and Mrs. William Loercher and to Adele L. Slavin by Senator Aument.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Joshua Mitchell by Senator Boscola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Grace E. Baker and to Richard Alfred Smith by Senator Browne.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Guido A. Pisani by Senator Gordner.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Center at The Open Link and to Family Caregivers Network by Senator Mensch.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Caden Hall by Senator McIlhinney.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Nick Camarata and to Zachary T. Psota by Senator Mensch.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Eric F. Schell by Senator Scavello.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Joshua Turner and to Salvatore Lombardo, Jr., by Senators Scavello, Baker, and Blake.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to John McNesby by Senator Tartaglione.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Reverend Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Gadsden by Senator Teplitz.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Adele Ward Bole and to Bensur Creative Marketing Group by Senator Wiley.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Vissotski, Ray King, Elizabeth Burczyk, Plymouth Christian Church and to Mohegan Sun Pocono by Senator Yudichak.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jennie Gogick, Stephen J. Fendler and to Temple B'nai B'rith by Senators Yudichak and Baker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Dr. and Mrs. Stanley Dudrick, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bohlin and to Mr. and Mrs. David Hawk by Senators Yudichak, Baker, and Blake.

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 Henry Reddy by Senator Kitchen.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Pascal M. Zambito by Senator Teplitz.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

SB 685 and **SB 686.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY

The following announcement was read by the Secretary of the Senate:

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2015

9:00 A.M.

STATE GOVERNMENT (public hearing Hrg. Rm. 1
on the Voter Choice Act - Senate Bill No. North Off.
495)

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator RAFFERTY. Mr. President, very briefly, when we talked about the ignition interlock legislation, and I deeply appreciate the unanimous votes here in the Senate of Pennsylvania, I failed to mention a couple of names which I wanted to bring to the attention of the Senate and to the public watching. Certainly, Mr. President, we had a lengthy hearing in Lancaster County at the invitation of my friend and colleague from Lancaster County, Senator Smucker. He put together a very informative hearing of the Senate Committee on Transportation, which I chair, and the Senate Committee on Judiciary, chaired by Senator Greenleaf. We had a number of testifiers talk about the DUI situation here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with some suggested remedies to the problem. Probably the star witness, and the one who I think gave the most informative and educational testimony, was the district attorney for Lancaster County, Craig Stedman. So, I want to make sure I mentioned their names to thank them, along with the DAs association, for working on this piece of legislation. Once again, I thank my colleagues for the vote.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BROWNE. Mr. President, yesterday my colleague on the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the gentleman from Philadelphia, had an opportunity to give his thoughts on what he believed were the facts and circumstances surrounding the conversations about a General Appropriation Act over the last several months, especially in relation to the actions by myself, my colleagues, Senator Corman and Senator Scarnati, in relation to how we are approaching our obligation to finalize the General Appropriation Act for the 2015-16 year. He used words and phrases such as, an interest in delay, to deceive, to be untrue, and with all due respect for my co-chair from Philadelphia, I wanted to take the opportunity to rise today and just give an alternative perspective on what I believe is a more accurate account of the

affairs that have occurred over the last several months in relation to our joint obligation to advance the fiscal affairs of the Commonwealth.

As everyone knows, the Governor had presented his first fiscal plan to the citizens of Pennsylvania where he is looking to, as he has said, pursue a fundamental shift in the way things operate in Harrisburg. We see it as a fundamental shift in the government's relationship to the private sector, pursuing certain themes of jobs that pay, schools that teach, and government that works. Some of the fiscal dynamics of this proposal are that it presents to this Assembly and to the Commonwealth the largest increase in spending that I have seen since I have been here, a 10-percent increase into the General Fund, and the largest increase in taxes of over \$4 billion into the General Fund. Some have said it is in excess of a combination of States across the country in terms of what the Governor is looking to do. He is sincere about this being the right way to go, to change the way the Commonwealth's finances have been handled over the last 4 years.

Now, we had stated in the beginning that we are very concerned about what this financial proposal means to the future competitive position of Pennsylvania and our ability to create wealth and opportunity, and for our revenue capacity to continue to grow so that we can mutually meet what we believe are the most important obligations of this government to its citizens. If we were going to consider his proposal, either in whole or in part, since he is considering expanding the role of government, expanding its breadth in terms of its costs on the private sector, we must also take seriously those components of our budget that are putting our finances at risk, that, at this point in time, in terms of our current financial position, are making us insolvent and without that, that fundamental shift will not happen and we will not be able to right the ship of the Commonwealth. The Senator from Philadelphia had mentioned that this has no effect on the current general appropriation conversation. I respectfully disagree with that, because a budget and a financial proposal is a strategy and it presents a vision.

The Governor has presented his vision that this is the right way for the Commonwealth to move financially, and he requires us to do this in order to solidify the strength and the fiscal position of Pennsylvania. Well, we believe that in order to do that, there are some fundamental changes we need to make within the obligations of this government to insure that those financial circumstances, those circumstances that have put us in an insolvent position even before we talk about additional revenue, are put on more solid footing. One of the fundamental things we are asking the Governor to consider is the experience of this Commonwealth in relation to providing retirement security for its school districts and State workers. We have talked about big numbers on this floor in relation to our pension challenges, numbers that exceed what we tend to talk about when it comes to our general appropriation obligations, debt in the range of \$65 billion. This debt essentially symbolizes one thing, and that is the inability of this government to manage the risks that are associated with managing a defined benefit plan, managing management risks, investment risks, and longevity risks. These are risks that the entire economy had decided over a long period of time that they could not manage either, that if they were going to sustain their affairs, the ability to manage investment risks in a volatile capital market, the ability to manage how long people are going to live while they were managing their market risk was too much and

they got out. So, our willingness to consider getting out is not unusual. It is happening everywhere, all across the planet it is happening.

So, we are looking for a fundamentally different approach reflecting on that history, being honest, taking off the veil and saying we are going to be around forever, so, we do not have to worry about it. We encapsulated that approach in Senate Bill No. 1, which, in addition, looks to make some changes in regard to the plan benefit provision for current workers. The most important component is that fundamental shift, that recognition that the Commonwealth, if we are going to sustain our fiscal affairs, can no longer manage the risks associated with the defined benefit system. That is what, in the context of the original proposal, we asked the Governor to consider. Now, during the course of our negotiations on the budget, given the very different perspectives we have had, we came into June without an accommodation and understanding and decided to advance what we believed was the most responsible approach in regard to managing the fiscal affairs of the next fiscal cycle, understanding that what we do here is an annual fiscal budget.

The conversations, in regard to where the administration wants to take us, is we have to consider things on a multiyear basis. We have always done things here on an annual basis because it maintains the accountability of the executive and, most importantly, keeps the legislature as engaged in the process as possible by doing things on an annual basis. We encapsulated that approach in House Bill No. 1192, notwithstanding comments regarding what that proposal that went to the Governor included. It was a balanced approach that included reasonable assumptions that are used in budgeting in public and private sector enterprises all over this country, changing assumptions from a prospective payment to a reimbursement method, accounting cash flow basis to accrual basis, these things happen all over the place--things that companies do to manage cash flow--made important investments in education, healthcare, and human services, maintained line items 70 percent the same as what the Governor proposed, maintained our competitive position in Pennsylvania's cost structure, relative to where we have been in relation to the private sector, while spending \$1 billion more than we had in the prior year, a 3-percent increase in spending.

Now, the Governor, of course, disagreed with us. It was not enough in line with his agenda and his priorities in regard to what he believes is his marker of success for a General Appropriation Act in 2015-16. And since that time we have, like he has, been in the building aggressively and proactively seeking common ground with the Governor. In seeking that mutual accommodation, which tends to be if you want to start at the most fundamental level coming to a middle ground between the parties, it is important to provide some detail as to what has happened. To his credit, the Governor, in seeking accommodation with us, has looked to adjust his spending requests from \$31.9 billion to \$31.2 billion, between a \$600-million to \$700-million reduction, moving it from a 10-percent increase to a 7-percent increase. Now, it is important to note that is a 22-percent reduction from his original request, 22 percent less of an increase than what he originally proposed.

What have we done? Well, a month ago we made a sincere attempt to meet the Governor's priorities for what we know is one of his most important priorities and things that are important

to us, it was reflected in a smaller scale in House Bill No. 1192, and that was to fully fund his basic education spending request and provide for a revised general appropriation spending amount of \$30.65 billion, \$448 million more than in House Bill No. 1192, an increase of \$1.5 billion over last year when considering our cash flow provisions, 5.8 percent higher than it was last year, which is above our revenue capacity to sustain itself. It is important to note, in terms of mutual accommodation, not being dishonest, not being deceitful, a 44-percent increase in spending relative to the request that was made in House Bill No. 1192, \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion. Now, I think it is important to note, in regard to the Governor's reaction to that, his reaction to our proposal to him was that it was not deceitful, it was not insincere. In fact, the Governor had called this proposal meaningful. So to say that what we have been trying to do to come to a final decision on the general appropriation process does not match what the Governor is saying, the Governor had said that what we had presented to him, in terms of an alternative, was meaningful. He has decided that is not meaningful enough and that we need to go further, that in order to close the general appropriation process at this point in time, we need to come to a spending number at \$31.3 billion.

Now, in terms of relative accommodation, what does that mean? That means that the Governor, in terms of where he was, is coming down 22 percent. We are being asked to spend another \$640 million more than what we did. So, essentially, that takes it up another billion dollars in terms of a proposal that we advanced and we believe was responsible for the managing of the fiscal affairs of this Commonwealth in 2015-16. We need to come up 100 percent from where we were and the Governor is willing to come down 22 percent, while maintaining a need for additional revenue. It is not just \$99 million from a shale tax, which is the projection at this point in time when it comes to realizing receipts from the shale industry. A personal income tax increase from 3.07 to 3.49, limiting exemptions on the sales tax, increasing cigarette taxes by a dollar, increasing taxes on other tobacco products, all of these are needed in order to raise \$1.9 billion in this cycle and raise \$3.5 billion in both cycles on an annualized basis. So, increase spending by 100 percent under House Bill No. 1192 and agree to a tax increase of \$3.5 billion. That is where we are in terms of accommodation on the General Appropriation Act.

How about the pension proposal that we need to have the Governor take serious consideration of in order to consider his fundamental shift in terms of where the Commonwealth is financially and fiscally going forward? The Governor, in response to what we had provided, presented what is called a stacked hybrid approach, which essentially says, after a certain amount of salary, that every dollar after that goes into a different platform, which in this case is a defined contribution plan. That number that he is talking about right now is \$75,000. Now, our plan in Senate Bill No. 1 reflected a fundamental shift away from the current platform to make sure that 100 percent of all payroll did not subject the Commonwealth to the same level of risk. When you look at the implementation of this plan, since it is on the future workforce and the fact that so few of our workers start at \$75,000, and it is adjusted for inflation every year, our information, just on the State workforce, of those who would qualify for this proposal, is 1.5 percent of the workforce would qualify. Because it would start at under \$75,000, and that \$75,000 would be

adjusted for inflation every year, you would have to essentially be over \$75,000 when you came in. So, what the Governor calls historic in terms of what is necessary for us to manage the risks associated with providing for retirement security is a plan that changes from the status quo for 1.5 percent of the total payroll paid by this Commonwealth and school districts.

Now, we understand that the Governor's proposals are important to him in terms of where he would like to bring the Commonwealth. He is asking for this government to work and for us to accommodate, but when you consider where we are presenting our proposals and where the Governor is presenting his, that accommodation at this point in time sincerely, regardless of our sincere efforts to move the process forward, be honest, be open, be engaged, has not occurred at this point.

So, yesterday in the committee we decided to advance a proposal that will do what is necessary at this point in time to use the resources available to us while we continue to engage with the Governor to make sure we can meet our commitments to our constituents, to our agencies, and to our programs, knowing that our citizens are continuing to pay their taxes, both at the State and the Federal level. We believe we need to use all of our resources at our disposal to make sure that while we are trying to continue to work with the Governor, our obligations are met. What we have heard is, you only have one option. You only have one option to make sure that these obligations are met, but unfortunately, that is not consistent with what is going on from the standpoint of the administration. At this point in time, this government, on a budget, a total budget of \$56 billion, if you take it in quarters, which would be \$14 billion, has already spent \$7 billion of Federal and State dollars. They have used their authority to spend Federal dollars under health and safety, they have used their authority under their ability to present waivers to the Assembly, they have used their authority to pay payroll under Federal law to keep the government running, to use whatever efforts and approaches are at their disposal to insure that this government can continue to meet its obligation. So, to say that the only approach is to go forward and get a General Appropriation Act done and meet an accommodation right now without advancing what we did through committee is not being sincere. Because we have the ability, we have the resources to make sure that while we continue to engage with the Governor, and we will continue to do that, to make sure that our obligations are met and we fulfill our needs in terms of our school districts, our programs, and our agencies.

The Governor has said that he wants to take this government in a different direction, that it needs to go in a fundamentally different direction than it has in the last 4 years. Regardless of the need to change, some things need to remain the same, and that is, in order to reach a consensus, it requires accommodation. These Caucuses, the Senate Republican Caucus and the House Republican Caucus, based on the facts that have occurred over the last 9 months, have sought that out, have reached out to the Governor, have provided accommodations in order for that to happen. We need to continue to work with the Governor. We know that he is sincere about his interest in making sure that the Commonwealth meets its obligations to its citizens, but the only way to make sure that this government does not work on a partisan basis, is not broken, as he said last night in his press conference, is for us to understand that each party has priorities and interests that they need to meet on behalf of their constituents.

The Senate Republican Caucus and the House Republican Caucus, over the last several months, have reached out and done that, and we will continue to reach out to the Governor to make sure that, in the end, we are able to pass a final General Appropriation Act that meets his interests and the interests of all the citizens of this Commonwealth for this year and for years to come.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator FARNESE. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to talk about where we are in the budget and the stopgap budget that we will be voting on in this Chamber most likely tomorrow. I want to recognize for a moment, Mr. President, the schools, nonprofit, and human services organizations that we have let down, all of us have let down, by failing to pass a budget. I do not think it is fair to say that we understand their frustration or what they and their families are dealing with right now. I do not think it is fair because until we have to close our doors or ask our staff to work without pay, buy supplies with money from our own pockets, we really cannot say that we understand what they are dealing with day in and day out and what they are really facing moving forward with each day, each week that this budget impasse continues. Quite frankly, there is no sense in standing up here and throwing blame back and forth because, at the end of the day, we are really in this together, and it does not get us any further to the goal of getting a responsible budget that moves Pennsylvania forward by sitting here throwing mud at each other. So, I really do not want to go down that road, and, quite frankly, I think it is a little bit late for that.

The teacher in Philadelphia who buys school supplies with his or her own money is in this with the teacher doing the same exact thing in Fayette County. The folks who are suffering the most from this budget impasse are the same individuals who have devoted their entire lives to making Pennsylvania a better place to work and a better place to live. These people - schools and organizations - provide essential services to our most vulnerable populations. They may not be making, Mr. President, a lot of money, but they are doing great work, critically important work. These are the same folks who need property tax relief and a real investment in education to brighten the future of this Commonwealth, to brighten the future of their children and their children's children. We have teachers and service providers who work long hours in two and three jobs, but are still struggling.

I remember a few months ago, my good friend from Berks County, Senator Schwank, came up and talked about some of the folks in her district who were dealing with making ends meet, working two and three jobs dealing with the minimum wage, and, you know, Mr. President, that is no different than anywhere else around this State. The point I am trying to make is that folks, whether you are in Philadelphia County, Berks County, wherever it might be, Fayette County, we are all in this together. We are all tied together in this budget impasse, because like each and every one of us, they see their friends, they see their neighbors, they see their close loved ones going through this each and every day, trying to keep the doors open, trying to keep businesses going, trying to prevent people from getting laid off. We saw this a few years ago, as well. I think when I look at this and when I try to get my arms around what we are doing and what we say to these

folks, I think the starting point, at least for me, personally, is that we are in this together, each and every one of us.

If we can get a message to folks across the State that we are in this together, we understand to the point that we hear you, we may not understand exactly what you are going through because, like I said, it is impossible for us to understand the frustration and what you are up against each and every day, but we need good teachers, we need good schools, we need a robust social service community. That is imperative to be able to move Pennsylvania forward. We saw what happens when these essential community-serving nonprofits and schools lose funding. We saw doors close and saw staff members let go. I do not want to see this happen again. We saw that happen in 2010 and 2011. The folks who came into our offices in 2009 and talked about difficulty, by the time 2010 came around, 2012, the doors were closed by the last 4 years.

We need to get back on track again. We need to get back on track from the devastating cuts that were made over the last several years. We cannot do that. The point I am trying to make is we cannot do that with a quick fix. It is not going to solve the problem. We need a comprehensive plan, one that will not leave Pennsylvanians in the same position next month when the stopgap budget expires. We are struggling to get through the next year. We need to come together, Mr. President, each and every one of us in this building, in this Chamber, on this floor, and move forward with a plan that is in the best interest of all citizens. We all know we cannot heal a broken leg with a Band-Aid, but we need to get back on track and look at this thing from an approach that we are all in this together, that fixing something tomorrow that is going to rise up and rear its head again in another 30 to 45 days does not get Pennsylvania any closer to what it really needs to do.

So the message I am trying to say, Mr. President, I am not really doing a very good job at it and I apologize, but the message I am trying to get across is that I think we need to look at each other and know that we understand that we are going through difficult times, but it is not just one area, it is not just nonprofits or social services. Those same folks who are working at those nonprofits, they have a spouse or a loved one or a family member who is a schoolteacher, who is going to work right now without a contract or without a salary or is going into their own pocket to buy books and paper and pencils, and that is the same person who needs property tax relief. Everything is intertwined. All of the dots need to be connected. If we just try to solve one piece of this foundation, and we take that out, my fear is that the entire foundation will crumble. We cannot have that happen.

So as we move forward, we understand what is going to happen tomorrow, talking about a stopgap budget, but in my opinion, I am looking at trying to do what we need to connect all of the dots and to give Pennsylvania the strong footing it needs to move forward.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, it was not my intention to speak on petitions today, but I feel compelled to respond to some of the comments made by my friend and colleague, a person for whom I have a great amount of respect and certainly a person who understands and knows the ins and outs of the budget process, as I was once a chairman of the Committee on Appropria-

tions, but also understanding the nuances of our pension system. So, in no way am I attempting to change my position or try to persuade people to the contrary, but there are a couple of things that I feel I have to respond to and take exception to.

There was a dialogue by the gentleman about the Governor's budget proposal. While the gentleman made reference to the Governor's recommendation for a tax proposal to do certain things, what struck me as odd was that he failed to give a full accounting of what the Governor wants to do with the proceeds that he wants to generate from the tax increases. The Governor wanted to provide property tax relief to every single homeowner in Pennsylvania. Now, I am not sure why the gentleman left out that part of the equation, but that is what the proposal would have done along those lines, but that has gone nowhere in this Chamber.

Senate Democrats have put together a property tax proposal that lies in committee that drives out almost \$1,900 per household. It has not gone anywhere in this Chamber. We want it to. Apparently, the other side does not deem it to be an appropriate piece of legislation to move forward. That is unfortunate. The House of Representatives has sent us House Bill No. 504 that talks about property tax relief here in this Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. That is another bill that for 8 or 9 months has stalled in this Chamber, not because we have stalled it, but obviously because the other side does not deem it worthy. As we stand here today we have not had an opportunity to put up any type of a vote, as the House has done, on property tax relief in this Commonwealth. Instead, we choose to be very critical of a broad-based proposal that the Governor has put out that is very comprehensive and very bold in its approach.

Now, we can talk about a number of things that were put forth along those lines, but we also need to point out that, I presume in the calculation of the dollars that the Governor wants to put together, is the conversation about a Marcellus Shale extraction tax. Asking the Marcellus Shale community to be a part of what we do here in Pennsylvania in terms of as we look to our natural resources, having them be a part of what we do with respect specifically to our education community, but more broadly helping us address some of our fiscal activities here in the Commonwealth. I did not hear a word during that conversation about Marcellus Shale. I have not heard anything on this side of the building about having a legitimate and sincere conversation about Marcellus Shale. What we have heard is that they are not going there. Zero has been the response to Governor Wolf's proposal with respect to the Marcellus Shale industry.

Now, I recognize that some would argue that it is at a rough stage right now. The price of gas is low and maybe it is not in our collective best interest to be able to do that, but I have to tell you what we find to be the case in this Commonwealth and across this country where there is drilling going on, the fact of the matter is, these folks are crying with two loaves of bread under their arms, and we have to come to grips with that. We have to recognize that we have an obligation to the people of Pennsylvania to utilize some of those resources to be able to invest back in our Commonwealth. The Governor did not wake up one morning in March and say, I think I want to tax the Marcellus Shale community, or I think I want to take those dollars and put them into education. Folks, that idea, quite frankly, came from the people of Pennsylvania, and do you know what? People in this Chamber, Members on both sides of the aisle,

believe in that position. They put out legislation before this Governor got here and after he was elected put out legislation to do the very same thing. That is the direction we want to go. The gentleman failed to even talk about the desire that the Governor is looking to with respect to Marcellus Shale.

More importantly, I think what we have to recognize is that there are a number of points that I think we have to talk about. There was a conversation about how we do annual budgets here. We do, obviously, we do, but we always have an eye toward the out-years, where we are going to be at. I served as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, along with Senator Corman, and that was the focus of what we had done in the past, and I know it is the focus of what everybody does. We look to this year, but we also have a balance sheet that recognizes where we are going to be in year 2 and year 3. That is our responsibility to do that. The fact of the matter is, in our belief, the past 4 years, and the budget that was passed by the other side of the aisle this year, that has represented a view of an annual budget to the detriment of the Commonwealth in a variety of ways. We certainly know the reduction in education without proper funding at that level has led to a reduction in our scores across this Commonwealth. We were a leader in the nation when we made investments in education. We were a leader in this nation at all grade levels and also at all subject matters. Today we are not, and it is directly related to the disinvestment in education.

Human service programs: doors have closed the past the 4 years. Services in the past 4 years have been reduced. The budget that was put forth not by the Governor but by the other side of the aisle and passed by the Republicans continues to cut services and continues to make certain that those folks who are providing those services continue to be paid wages that are far below what they should be and they need to be. We think we need to make those investments, and that is what this Governor is talking about, using those resources toward that end.

With respect to economic development and job growth, we have gone from 7th to 48th in the country. Why? Because we have taken an approach where we are going to do one budget a year, provide for gimmicks and false choices and false assumptions to go from one year to the next, without any regard to what we are going to do in future years. This Governor wants to change that approach.

So not only did we disinvest in education and cause our kids to do poorly, not only did we go from 7th to 48th in job growth, we also cost the Commonwealth taxpayers a lot of money on property taxes. We may have cut education and stood here and said we did not raise taxes. You raised taxes. You raised them at the local school district level. There is no question about it. Seventy percent of the school districts in the past 4 years have raised those taxes because we failed to fund them at the appropriate level. We have ratcheted down their controls where they could escape, having to go through referendums, but they still got to a place where they had to raise additional revenue because we disinvested. We are down to about 32 percent or 33 percent of the share of public education in this Commonwealth. This Governor, between his proposal and what he wants to do with property tax, brings it to 50 percent, where rightfully it should be. That is what we are trying to fight for.

Now, with respect to other aspects of what has been done here in the past 4 years and what they want to continue this year, is additional tax revenue that the taxpayers have to pay. There was

a reference with respect to this multiyear approach that I referenced and also with respect to how we deal with our bond rating. We have had three bond rating reductions in the past year and half or so, five over the past 4 years. What has that resulted in? We all know it has resulted in higher borrowing costs. Who pays the bill for the higher borrowing costs? You and I do not pay for it, but we do as taxpayers. That is who is paying the extra \$135 million for additional borrowing costs that year in and year out--annually we have to do borrowing in this Commonwealth. We do it every year. I think this year it is going to be \$17 billion. We are paying more basis points because of the things we have done, because we have had bond downgrades, specifically related, in part to pensions obligations, costs, and structure--and I will get to pensions--but also in major part because of what we failed to do here in terms of providing for appropriate sustainable revenue to sustain what it is we do here in Pennsylvania. The spending that we employ and the gimmicks that we employ, that is what has gotten us to a point where we have had these downgrades and has caused us to spend more money in this Commonwealth. This Governor, because the people of Pennsylvania told him, we want you to fix that, has taken steps to be able to do that.

So the people of Pennsylvania elected him to make investments in education, look to the Marcellus Shale community, fix our structural deficit, those are the things that he wants to do. Folks, beyond that, the annual budgeting that we have done, that they are all so proud of and we have questions with, has resulted in this Commonwealth being \$1.3 billion short for 2015-16. You guys, us, House Democrats, House Republicans, and the Governor sat down at your request and we reached a consensus on what the number is. Tell me what the true budget structural deficit is. They all did that. I was not there, but as Members of the Committee on Appropriations, that was what was done. They all agreed it was \$1.3 billion for 2015-16, they all agreed it was \$2.1 billion for 2016-17, structural deficit. That means we have no choice but to look to find resources outside of the gimmicks that are \$1.5 billion in House Bill No. 1192.

Let me just walk through a couple of them so we understand. We are talking about a commitment to public schools as it relates to the PlanCon program, \$306 million. I know you are going to say that the Governor wants to do that, that is fine. Let us take that off the board, but we can go beyond that in terms of one-time gimmicks. School employee Social Security payments, payments delayed and passed onto school districts, we talked about this during the budget when we had the discussion about House Bill No. 1192, \$87 million. Child welfare payments to counties shifted into next year as I understand it, \$170 million. Questionable cuts to managed care programs shifted to next year and likely illegal, \$187 million. Questionable cuts to our nursing facilities that subject us to further legal action, \$60 million, and the list goes on. Taking one-time transfers, depleting those extra pots that we have, \$15 million from the Small Business First Fund; Insurance Regulation and Oversight Fund, \$13 million; SciTech and GI Bill Restricted Revenue Account from PHEAA, \$10.5 million, and the list goes on. Machinery and Equipment Loan Fund, taking more money from there again, like we did last year, and the list goes on. That is not the way we do annual budgets. We have to come to grips with reality that we have a structural deficit that needs to be addressed. This Governor is trying to do that. That is what is disappointing.

Now, I want to get to another point. There was a question raised about pension proposal, and let me be clear, folks, and to the people watching this program, we recognize we have to address pensions. We recognize we have to address it. We put forth a proposal in the last year and a half of borrowing primarily and the double dip of the charter schools. All of you rejected the pension piece and continue to do so, but recognize that we have to do the charter school stuff, and I applaud our colleagues for recognizing that. But this Governor has put on the table a far-reaching proposal that, whether you like it or not, which to us represents a significant step forward and represents compromise.

The Governor started over here with a borrowing plan, and that is really all he had on the table, a borrowing plan which would have made sense, with appropriate restrictions and covenants, that would have told us what we can do is to provide immediate and long-term relief to our school districts and the Commonwealth, but that has been rejected, and that is fine. That is still part of his proposal. Now he has gone forward, week after week after week, inching closer and closer to where all of you want to be in Senate Bill No. 1, which is over here. He started here. He is now over here. He is like at the 5-yard line or the 10-yard line. He has progressed, in my view, 90 yards to your goal line. And do you know what? You guys have maybe moved from the goal line to like the 1-yard line, with one minor tweak, one change to Senate Bill No. 1. To me, that is not a fair and appropriate way to try to negotiate a budget on an issue that we both recognize needs to be resolved.

When you talk about the things that we agree upon, with respect to Senate Bill No. 1, that we could probably do tomorrow, shared risk is a major part of that, which Senator Browne introduced us to that 5 years ago and was a good thing. It was the first time I think we had done that. We also talked about some of the other areas of what we agree upon. The revenue neutrality of Option 4, that is a major change that needs to be addressed. The anti-spiking provisions, we have done that in this Chamber before with some counties, and we need to continue to do it with the Commonwealth. Those three things are things that we feel need to be done and will be done. All of you have rejected, basically, the borrowing provisions, but the Governor has put on the table two interesting components that go further than what we wanted to go, but we recognize that we have to get a deal done. We have to get a deal done with all of you because you control the legislative process.

So, the Governor put on the table, and we stand with him, or most of us--some of us on this side of the aisle stand with him, because it is not something that many of our Members want to do. But at the end of the day, I recognize that we have to get a deal done so we can make better investments in education, we can fund human service programs, we can take care of economic development, we can look to the Marcellus Shale community. By the way, before I go back to pensions, I guarantee you, put a Marcellus Shale bill on this floor today, I guarantee it passes at 4 or 4.5 percent. Republican Members want it, my Members want it, and the people of Pennsylvania want it. We need to go forward and do something like that.

Similarly, with the pension bill that we put on the table, we would have the votes to be able to get something done if we want to go down that path, but I will say to you, with respect to the stacked hybrid, we think it is an appropriate way to go. We think it is something that addresses 20 percent of the workforce.

Maybe a small portion of total dollars, but at the end of the day, at least 20 percent of the workforce, and, the provision with respect to the defined contribution to every single new employee who chooses to participate in that program, it represents an opportunity for them to have what all of you said to us is that you would like to see them have the portability and eliminate the risk. That is what the DC does, I presume, and that is what these employees would have the opportunity to do. So, we think that is why it is a significant offer that is on the table geared toward compromise.

With all due respect to my colleagues on this issue, none of you have moved. We need to meet somewhere in the middle. We are well past the middle now, we are well past the middle, and to continue to say that we are the ones, through the stopgap process, who are causing harm to other folks, that is just simply not accurate and not true. We have the ability to negotiate and want to negotiate and compromise. You have to compromise. Standing pat on pensions and not moving from Senate Bill No. 1, standing pat on wine and spirits and saying it must be divestiture or nothing else, that is not negotiating. You are holding out for your position and only your position in that regard, and it is harmful to the people of Pennsylvania. That is what we are doing, and that is wrong.

Those are some of the things that I wanted to chat about. I think what is most significant is that today, if we had the opportunity to vote on some of the measures that this Governor put forth, they would pass this Chamber, and we should do that.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BROWNE. Mr. President, I appreciate the comments of the Democratic Leader I guess on my comments. My main point to getting up on the floor was to respond to the characterization by Senator Hughes in regard to what we have been trying to do to accommodate the Governor in finalizing a General Appropriation Act, calling it dishonest, deceitful, and delay. We can get into a disagreement regarding how far each one has come; probably not productive. But at least in terms of percentages, I will reinforce them. The Governor is looking to come down 22 percent on his spending, we would have to come up over 100 percent on ours to accommodate where the Governor has been. We have accommodated 45 percent higher than where we started. You may disagree with the context of House Bill No. 1192. You may disagree with that as a means to responsibly advance the fiscal affairs of this Commonwealth. We do not. We believe it is a responsible means on which to accommodate our obligations.

You had mentioned property taxes, I will add that on. I did not mention that because the only thing I mentioned was the taxes that are needed to fund the General Fund, \$1.9 billion to fund the Governor's request into the General Fund, \$3.5 billion on an annualized basis. We need another \$4 billion for the property taxes. So, I will mention that. Another \$4 billion in income taxes, sales taxes in the Tax Code of the Commonwealth to get to the property taxes, that is fine. Marcellus Shale, I did mention that. The point is that we are putting way too much emphasis on this tax, even if we can come to an accommodation on what it is as to the grander scope of the Governor's spending. In 2015-16, based on his numbers, revised to the \$31.3 billion he wants to spend, \$99 million of \$1.861 billion in taxes. Next year, \$353

million of \$3 billion. So, let us keep it in perspective on what it means. There is a lot more that is necessary, and I think we tend to not talk about that as much as we should. The things that are really the key components of making his fiscal proposal work are mainly personal income taxes and sales and use taxes.

Finally, in regard to the calculation of a structural deficit, that conversation has to do with identifying what the ending balance is, the negative ending balance of \$1.3 billion. It does not mean that we have to find just one approach on which to fill that. We have used very responsible approaches to fill that. The Social Security calculation, changing from a prospective payment to a reimbursement method, done all over the place; weighting county child welfare, going from cash to accrual basis. These things are done from a cash management perspective in organizations across the country. Using unencumbered funds, taxes that people already paid that are not encumbered to meet current obligations. So in other words, we leave ending balances in these funds, do not use them, they are not encumbered, but raise taxes in order to fill the hole. All of these things are responsible ways to address that deficit. It does not mean we have to raise taxes to fill that if we have other means to do it.

So, my main point in getting up was to state, in regard to our interests, Senator Corman, Senator Scarnati, and myself, that we have moved forward. We have moved forward to try to find accommodation here, and because we have been reasonable in moving forward, we feel it is necessary at this point in time to move forward to meet our obligations. The pension plan the Governor is proposing is a move from where we are now. However, we are at 100 percent of the workforce, in regard to the change in platform, to move the risk away from the Commonwealth, based on our calculations as a percentage of payroll on a new workforce. What we calculate is 1.5 percent. So, we are at 100 percent, the Governor is at 1.5 percent - that is for an increase in taxes, that being the compromise. He has compromised, but where are we in regard to that accommodation? That is what we are talking about. There needs to be a greater recognition of this important matter to the fiscal affairs of Pennsylvania before we can really come to a decision on a final appropriations product.

I appreciate the comments of the Minority Leader and look forward to continuing to work with him as we finalize our budget. Thank you.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I appreciate the gentleman's response, as well. At the end of the day, the people of Pennsylvania want us to forge a compromise. They want us to resolve these issues, and we want to do the same thing. We think now is the time. We think reasonable and responsible proposals are on the table that, to us, are the linchpin that need to help us resolve some of the other things that need to be done. We cannot even get to a revenue discussion until we resolve the pension piece and the wine and spirits privatization or divestiture. Those are the first two things that need to be resolved, as we understand, for us to move forward together. We cannot get past those two things, and that is what we want to be able to work on. That is what the people of Pennsylvania want us to resolve as soon as possible, and that is what we look forward to working with our colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I am wondering if my good friend, the Minority Leader, would -- not stand for interrogation, but since we are not in Session officially, we are in Session, but not in Regular Session, we are doing Petitions and Remonstrances, we would like to have a little conversation back and forth on some questions.

The PRESIDENT. The rules are always that we should have decorum here, but on Petitions and Remonstrances, we tend to favor a civil Dodge City type of approach. So Senator Costa, if you are ready to go, why do not you gentlemen go back and forth.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I am happy to entertain any questions. I think I probably know where the gentleman is going, but I am happy to entertain any questions that he may have.

The PRESIDENT. I think we will all be entertained to see you both go at it. So with that, Senator Costa, will you please stand for a question-and-answer interrogation from the Majority Leader?

Senator Corman, please proceed.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, maybe this is a good way to do it because a lot of members in the media do not like our behind-the-scenes negotiations, so maybe we can negotiate a little bit here.

I heard the Governor say yesterday in his press conference that he received nothing on a severance tax, and I heard the Democratic chairman of the Committee on Appropriations talk about it extensively in the meeting of the Committee on Appropriations yesterday, and the gentleman just brought it up here today. So, I guess my question is for the Senator from Allegheny County who introduced the severance tax proposal for your Caucus, Senator Brewster, he introduced that earlier. If we could sit down and negotiate--this is hypothetical, no commitments here--but if we could sit down and negotiate a fair and reasonable severance tax that they so desperately need, are we done with tax increases? Is that all we need? Apparently, it raises a whole lot of money. So, I am asking if a fair and reasonable tax increase, if the gentleman from Allegheny County who introduced the bill, can get to, are we then done? We will not need any more tax increases?

The PRESIDENT. It is a very interesting question.

Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I say to the gentleman first and foremost, I think it would be a wonderful opportunity and a wonderful idea to sit down with Senator Brewster. It was he who probably 4 years ago introduced the first piece of legislation saying that we should do a Marcellus Shale increase and drive the proceeds to education. So, Senator Brewster was in front of the curve long before we figured out what needed to be done along those lines.

Certainly, it depends upon the level of revenue and what the percentage might be. It is always the function of prices of gas and other factors that need to be part of that. So, we are at a different place and time in terms of the prices that would dictate how much revenue we would receive. My answer to you is that we would likely and probably need to have a conversation on other types of revenue enhancements to get us to a place where we can address the acknowledged, by both parties, structural

deficit that we have for next year's funding just to do this year's budget and costs to carry.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, could the gentleman illuminate me on the other revenue increases that he is suggesting that we need to take a look at?

The PRESIDENT. Senator Costa, you can or cannot, if you wish, but if you wish, please illuminate the gentleman.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I would be happy to. I think those are the things that have been considered by both of us in these negotiations when we talk about a revenue number that we would need. As you recall, Mr. President, the framework of what has been on the table has been, if we give you privatization and we give you Senate Bill No. 1, that together we would generate about \$1.6 billion or \$1.7 billion in new revenue. In that conversation about the different types of revenue, we have had conversations about a cigarette tax, vendor discount, sales tax exemptions, and possibly looking at a PIT up to 3.49, maybe. Those are some of the considerations that we both talked about in the meetings along with the House Republicans and Democrats.

The PRESIDENT. Thank you, Senator Costa.

Do we have a deal, Senator Corman?

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, not quite. The severance tax that we talked about earlier, I think the gentleman said about 4 percent or 5 percent, something in that area. If you keep the impact fee, we still have to pay the impact fee we have to these communities that have been relying on it since it passed, under current prices that we have today, what do you think that would generate on top of the impact fee for the General Fund?

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I believe that in some of the meetings that we have had with or without the Budget Secretary, over and above this year and over and above the impact fee, if we would adopt, for example, the Governor's proposal, would generate, I believe, just shy of \$100 million, or \$99 million this year. I think that number rises to about \$500-some million next year, which would be inclusive of the impact fee. So, this year, probably a little bit under \$100 million. If it was the Governor's proposal after he has taken off the floor and after he has removed the cap on the impact fee portion, I think it could generate this year \$100 million.

That is part of the equation, in my view, and I think in our view. We think it is imperative that the people of Pennsylvania who sent this Governor here to make investments in education and to look at the Marcellus Shale community that we have an obligation to them that before we look to them for any additional revenue beyond the Marcellus Shale, anywhere through this process, that they want us to look to the Marcellus Shale community to be part of the solution. The amount of money we generate for Marcellus Shale, quite frankly, is nowhere near where it was originally projected or proposed to be. We know we are past that and, the Governor's revised projections reflect that. At the end of the day, it is in our collective best interest to stand together and say to the people of Pennsylvania, whatever the outcome of this budget discussion and what we may end up doing with respect to new revenue, it is imperative that we send a message that we heard loud and clear that all of you wanted us to do Marcellus Shale at a reasonable and responsible rate. That is what we would do, and that is what we would believe the debt revenue would generate this year.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I am done with my questions, but I would like to make a few comments. I thank the Leader for joining me in this conversation.

I just think it is important that we put everything in the right perspective. The handout that the Governor gave us recently requests an increase of revenue this year through taxation of \$1.9 billion. As the gentleman suggests, he is correct that he was willing to drop it down to around \$1.6 billion. Fully annualized though, it really equals out to about \$3.7 billion next year. So, the \$1.9 billion that we talked about just for this year, the shale tax that they love to talk about, that everyone wants to keep railing that we could fund education, and we could fund social services, I have even seen proposals in the past that we could fund transportation, all of these things that this could fund is \$99 million. Now, \$99 million out of \$1.6 billion. Should it be part of the equation? Maybe, but let us put it in the right perspective that it is not even near what the Governor has requested as far as revenue. It is a fraction. As the Democratic chairman of the Committee on Appropriations said yesterday, it is *de minimis*. It is *de minimis* in its impact of the total desire for revenue increases that this Governor has put out there.

Now look, I am not saying we should not do it. I am not saying it will not be part of a package someday. As the gentleman mentioned, we do have Members of our Caucus who could be supportive of it. We certainly do not want to hurt the industry. I just want to put it into perspective that it is. Of all the money that the Governor is requesting, it is *de minimis* in the amount. What he wants, and the big problem that we have, is he wants a personal income tax increase. He wants a sales tax increase. He wants to broaden the base of the sales tax to a tune of a fully annualized tax increase of \$3.7 billion.

I know the gentleman sort of accused us of not negotiating, so let us sort of go back and look at some of the past here. I am not interested in a "he said/she said." I am not sure why he got so emotional yesterday. We had a nice meeting at the residence. The Governor laid out his proposals. He officially rejected ours of a month ago, but he laid out others, to his credit. I know there are proposals that he went further than he would normally like to go, so I give him credit for that. Let us just review a little bit. By the way, as much as he was excited last night and said how we rejected it, we did not reject anything. I did not reject anything on his proposal yesterday. We just have to go back and look at it. We were honest with him at the time, particularly in the pension proposal, there were a couple of things in there that had thrown up red flags to us, like the pension obligation bond, and the stacked hybrid, but we would go back and see if we could work with it and maybe come to some sort of resolution.

A month ago we proposed that we could fund the Governor's number one priority. The number one priority has been basic education funding. He wants \$400 million for basic education funding. House Bill No. 1192, the budget that the Governor vetoed, had \$100 million for the basic education subsidy. So, we offered to come up \$300 million and we would find \$300 million in recurring revenues to pay for that new investment. In return, we wanted the Governor to embrace our pension reform plan. Now, not Senate Bill No. 1, which passed the Senate that had over \$20 billion in savings that would have allowed us to have budget relief so we could make other investments that maybe the gentleman on the other side would like. So, we came from there down to a bill that the House could pass, which changed our

plans significantly. We then changed it again for the Governor to try to enhance things for the workforce that he thought were appropriate, and we agreed to do that by increasing the State's contribution to the plan.

So, we came down three times to get to the proposal we asked the Governor to embrace. So he would get \$300 million for basic education in recurring revenues, and we would get our watered-down pension reform plan that we still think is important because it would reduce and almost eliminate the risk to the taxpayers. What a great day it would be for school districts. School districts would get more money for their schools, the amount of money that the Governor is asking for, \$400 million, and they would get pension reform, their number one priority, which is the reason why they are raising taxes. Now, is it short-term relief pension reform? No. We tried to achieve that but, unfortunately, we could not get support for that, but we still put a plan together that would reduce or ultimately eliminate the risk for taxpayers moving forward. What a great day for schools. Now, the Governor rejected that. I understand that. I understand that he could not embrace our pension proposal.

So, what his new proposal essentially is--and, again, we have not seen it, so we have to wait--instead of \$300 million, he went \$3.8 billion in taxes, and instead of your pension reform plan, we will give 10 cents on the dollar of your pension reform plan. I know the previous speaker said about a goal line and how the goal line keeps moving down and the Governor is on the 1-yard line. I understand we have not seen the whole thing, but the issue that we talked about, when Senator Browne and I met with the Governor a couple of weeks ago, that the stacked hybrid was not something we could embrace. Quite frankly, it does not impact anybody. It has very little impact. It is nice to say you have 401(k) components in this plan, as the Governor has suggested, and as the previous speaker has suggested, but if you put the bar that it does not go into effect until \$75,000 in salary to the workforce, it impacts very few people. It is a nice idea. We have a 401(k) and we have an option out there that you could go, if you wanted to. I will bet when the Governor changed--I think it was Wolf Products--from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan, I do not think he put an option out there, well, you can keep your DB plan up to a certain salary, but then we are going to move you to a DC plan. He did not do that because it did not make good business sense. He moved them all to a DC plan, a lucrative DC. To his credit, he matched their contribution on top of the automatic contribution. It is a very fair plan for his employees. But he did not leave an option to keep in the DB, and he was right not to do that in his own company, and we were right not to do it here in the two plans, the PSERS and the SERS plan.

So, to his credit, he has embraced some of our concepts. I am not knocking him for it, but he has not been able to get to where we think is the cornerstone of pension reform, which is eliminating the risk in the future for the taxpayers. The taxpayers, unfortunately, have seen our funds mismanaged, have seen investments go poor, particularly in 2008, no fault of anyone. A lot of people make decisions based on assumptions. Assumptions do not always come true. As a matter of fact, the one thing we know about assumptions is: Either you will be wrong to the good or wrong to the bad, but you are probably going to be wrong. So, people made decisions on assumptions that did not work out. People made investments that they thought would work out and

they did not work out and, so, therefore, the taxpayers were caught holding the bag.

We are climbing this steep mountain to pay off those decisions and those market returns to the tune of—we used to have a contribution level of about \$600 million in 2006, and these are rough numbers, they can be off by a little bit, to now where we are pushing \$3 billion and we are going to go higher. That is where the gentleman talks about disinvestment and talks about not putting money into things. When you have put so much money as we have in pensions, that limits our ability to invest somewhere else. That is why we want to do pension reform. We want to be able to invest in Pennsylvania. We want to do some of the things he is talking about, but you cannot continue to ask the taxpayers to keep ponying up, keep ponying up, keep ponying up. We made mistakes, you have to pay for them, without at least telling them we are never going to make this mistake again. We are never going to make this mistake again, we are going to eliminate the risk so you do not have to ever worry about having to go through this again. It is going to be painful to do this process, but you do not have to worry about it again.

So, at the end of the day, the biggest issue before us is not pension reform, as much as it is our number one issue that we think needs to be done. It is not liquor privatization, that is an important issue we think needs to be done. The Governor's proposal, I have heard different views of it. There might be a lot there we can work with. Again, when we see the details, we can ascertain that, but those are sort of side noise issues. They are important, but they are sort of side noise issues. What is before us, what is keeping us here now in late September, mid-September—by the way, today is my father's birthday. Former Senator J. Doyle Corman is 83 years old today. I had to throw that in there, since I am not going to be home, I figure I better, at least, wish him a happy birthday. I think he served with Senator Costa in his career.

Anyway, here we are in mid-September, and the issue before us is not pensions that is keeping us here, it is not liquor that is keeping us here, what is keeping us here is a \$3.8 billion fully annualized tax increase. It is a tax increase on the personal income. It is a tax increase on sales tax, it is a broadening of the base of the sales tax. It is a new tax on new tobacco products. It is a tax on Marcellus Shale. It is removing vendor discount, and the list goes on and on and on. That is what is before us. That is what is keeping us here, \$3.8 billion, fully annualized—the Governor's numbers, not mine—tax increase. We do not have the votes for that. I mean, it is a simple math equation. We need 26, 102, and 1. I respect the Governor for wanting something different than what we passed in House Bill No. 1192, but \$3.8 billion, we do not have the votes for that, and that is a fact, and we will never have the votes for it. I suspect you will have a tough time ginning up the votes in the other Caucus for that. Maybe I am wrong. Maybe there are more people over there who want to embrace that kind of a tax increase.

Look, I love talking about investment, and, again, some of the things that the gentleman is talking about I am for. I would like to do it. But, as we all do in our homes, we prioritize our spending. What is the most important thing? I would like to do a lot of different spending in my house than what I do, but I have priorities. I have three kids. I am saving for their college education. I am a big investor in the Tuition Account Program, trying to hopefully someday afford to send them to college. We prioritize,

as everybody does. It is pretty simple. You do that in your business. I think when the Governor came in and went back to his business and saved the business, I do not think he did it by raising prices. I think he went in by reforming his business, finding inefficiencies, making his product at a rate even better, to his credit. He obviously had success. Well, that is what we are asking here. How can we keep going back to the taxpayers and saying, you know what, we just need more from you. We just need more, \$3.8 billion fully annualized more than we have today.

We messed up pensions. We have to pay that off. We have other expenses that we need more for. Harrisburg needs more, so you need to pay more. That is what is being asked. There are things around the edges we can try to do, as we have agreed to do, to help out with the Governor's number one priority. We want to meet, we offered to meet the Governor's number one priority, which was \$400 million for the basic ed subsidy. He could walk away from that with a victory, a well-earned victory on his part, and he could embrace pension reform, which I think gets him reelected, quite frankly. If he does pension reform, gets that money for schools, and does something on liquor privatization, who is going to run against him? That is a big day. That is a big day for this Governor. He just has to embrace it. He has to come our way and embrace real pension reform. I know the unions are tough. I know they are tough. They do not want this, and I get that, but the Governor did not need them the first time around. He did it on his own.

And I understand that they talk a lot about his mandate and how he talked a lot about the severance tax, and he did. That was the number one ad. He did it a lot, and so I understand that. I am a pretty decent student of campaigns and I watch them, but I do not see everything. I do not remember the campaign ad that says, I want to raise your taxes \$3.8 million fully annualized. That does not count the property tax issue, that is another issue altogether off to the side. I do not remember him saying, I am going to raise your PIT, I am going to raise your sales tax. Here is my campaign, vote for me. I am closing sales tax exemptions. I am raising your PIT, vote for me. I did not see that. I did not see that in the campaign. He did talk about investments, sure, everyone is for that, but now we have to pay for it. How are we going to pay for it? People are not so much for that.

So, we are going to continue to work every day. As I said, I do not know why the Governor got the idea that we rejected his offer. We will listen to it. Hopefully, we will get it in writing soon so we can ascertain the details and we can begin to see what we can do with it. Hopefully, it is something that is workable. I am not sure, but hopefully it is, and we will continue every day to negotiate. I know the Senator from Erie talked about how he gets yelled at for being home and not being here solving the budget problems. We will meet any day, any time. I have been to Pittsburgh for the Governor, I have been to York, and he came to my district in Bellefonte. Any time, any place, that we can meet to try to resolve this, but \$3.8 billion is the issue before us. That is the issue. Other issues are side issues, \$3.8 billion fully annualized tax increase, his numbers. I have the sheet, he gave it to me. I would be happy to share it with the other side. That is the issue that we cannot seem to resolve. So until we resolve that, we are going to be here, but we will try. We will try any way we can to get around to resolving this, but this \$3.8 billion fully annualized tax increase is what is holding us here, and hopefully the Governor will understand that, take part of the victory, we

will take part of the victory, we will move this issue forward and get a budget done and get this through for the people of Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, since we have this new format, and I kind of enjoy it, I would like to continue the tradition. I ask the Majority Leader if he would stand for a brief period of conversation.

Senator CORMAN. Absolutely, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. He agrees to do it, Senator Williams, and you may proceed.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, as long as he is nice to me.

The PRESIDENT. At a condition, Senator.

Senator WILLIAMS. I will try my best, even though he is punching me in the mouth every time, but that is okay.

Senator CORMAN. Temple just killed us in football. How much nicer can we be?

Senator WILLIAMS. Exactly. Happy birthday to your father. I did not get to serve with your father. My dad did, so I got to know in him in an indirect way over several years. He is quite an elegant, charismatic, kind, and generous person, so on behalf of the Williamses, on behalf of the Costas, and on behalf of the Democrats, we say happy birthday, Senator.

Senator CORMAN. Thank you. Are we done?

Senator WILLIAMS. No. That was the kinder, gentler part.

Senator CORMAN. Here it comes.

Senator WILLIAMS. So, I heard a lot of conversation about the cornerstones, and we will get to the \$3.8 billion number that you talked about, but let us start with the cornerstone of the pension issue, the underfunding. I ask, you mentioned the year 2006, we contributed at X level, and since that time there has been a decline. Who was the Governor in 2006?

Senator CORMAN. I believe it was Governor Rendell.

Senator WILLIAMS. Yes, I believe it was also. Over the last 4 years, because admittedly, this is the first budget that this Governor, Governor Wolf, has proposed. There have been 4 other years with a Republican House, a Republican Senate, and a Republican Governor that had an opportunity to do something on the cornerstone of fixing pension problems. Who was the Governor during that period of time?

Senator CORMAN. The last 4 years? That was Governor Corbett.

Senator WILLIAMS. Governor Corbett. During that period of time, were you chairman of the Committee on Appropriations?

Senator CORMAN. Yes.

Senator WILLIAMS. So you are quite familiar with the problems that were present and have been present that we are debating today, correct?

Senator CORMAN. Yes.

Senator WILLIAMS. Was there any attempt on behalf of the Republican Caucus—I may have missed that moment—that said we are not passing a budget, Governor Corbett, unless we fix this pension problem?

Senator CORMAN. Good question. No. We certainly had pension bills out there that Governor Corbett wanted in a significant way that we wanted. We did not have the votes to do it. So, therefore, we could not get it done. Fortunately, now, we do have

the votes and we passed Senate Bill No. 1, but, at the time, the gentleman is correct, we did not have the votes.

Senator WILLIAMS. So, under a Republican Governor, a Republican-controlled House and Senate, the votes were not there. Now, under a Democratic Governor, magically the votes appear. So could you tell me why there was a sea change in the Republican Caucus in wanting to address this problem so urgently under the new administration?

Senator CORMAN. Sure. The last 4 years, at least the last 2 years, we had 27 Members of the Republican Caucus. Now we have 30. That gives us enough votes to pass it. The new Members who came in are all very supportive of pension reform, and that gave us the votes to get it accomplished.

Senator WILLIAMS. So you are saying to me that when that vote occurs, the Members who were opposed to it before will still be opposed to it?

Senator CORMAN. Everyone evolves in their positions, but clearly we did not have 26 votes 2 years ago, or last year. I think we put up 28 or 29 this time around, so whether some Members were opposed to it but are now for it, I cannot tell you that, but clearly we have enough votes now.

Senator WILLIAMS. If you have 29, there are some old "no" votes that are now for it.

Senator CORMAN. I do not know if we had a vote on it. We were just short of votes.

Senator WILLIAMS. Right. I do not think we did either. So when you said "no" votes, I am just taking you at your word.

So for the record, though, we had a Corbett administration, a Republican administration, several years of underfunding, and as a zenith a Democratic Governor under Ed Rendell, and now we have a new Governor who wants to fix it, but we do not have agreement upon that. But the cornerstone portion that you relate to, does it have any impact upon this current budget with all the holes that we have in terms of revenue shortages?

Senator CORMAN. No.

Senator WILLIAMS. You made mention several times that the reason that we are here is the \$3.8 billion tax increase.

Senator CORMAN. \$3.8 billion.

Senator WILLIAMS. What did I say?

Senator CORMAN. \$2.8 billion.

Senator WILLIAMS. No, I said \$3.8 billion.

Senator CORMAN. I am sorry.

Senator WILLIAMS. I did not stumble. I am okay with saying \$3.8 billion because the \$3.8 billion goes toward what you mentioned, and as many of our colleagues had mentioned on that side of the aisle over the last 4 years, we have operated under an administration that said, do not spend anything, do not raise revenue, we are going to cut everything to do that. So the \$3.8 billion that you are referencing is not new spending, it is actually, in fact, returning revenue that Pennsylvanians have actually asked for. Unless I missed something in your district or my district, many of them, when we poll them, are saying we want you to spend money on highways, bridges, schools, healthcare, social agencies, or maybe that is not Pennsylvania. Is that correct?

Senator CORMAN. I am not sure what the question is.

Senator WILLIAMS. The question is you referenced \$3.8 billion in tax increases.

Senator CORMAN. Yes.

Senator WILLIAMS. The tax increase is to simply pay for something. The "somethings" that are not being paid for are some of the things that I think Pennsylvanians have been asking for.

Senator CORMAN. In some districts, maybe not in other districts. They are not asking for a tax increase to pay for it.

Senator WILLIAMS. They are not asking for bridges to be repaired?

Senator CORMAN. Well, first of all, bridges are under the Motor License Fund, so that does not equate to the fund that we are at here. We already did the transportation bill to deal with that, so that does not really impact the General Fund budget.

Senator WILLIAMS. Are they asking for schools to be funded?

Senator CORMAN. They ask for schools to live within their means, like everybody else.

Senator WILLIAMS. I am sorry?

Senator CORMAN. They are asking schools to live within their means, like everybody else. So therefore, do they want schools funded? Yes, but they are not asking us, and, look, we have been at this since June 30, and I have not had one Member of the Senate Republican Caucus come to me and say my constituents want me to raise their taxes.

Senator WILLIAMS. No, but you have had, certainly, a Member from Chester who said he wants a school district to remain open. I can pick 12 other districts that are in Republican areas where their school districts are already closed because they do not have enough revenue. I suggest to you, rather than me rattling them off and putting Members on the spot, that we do not have an artificial debate. There are Republican Members who have school districts that are perilously close to being closed and need revenue from the State to keep them open. Would we not agree to that?

Senator CORMAN. If we could get a General Fund bill passed, obviously the money would flow to those school districts and they would stay open, if we can do that without a tax increase.

Senator WILLIAMS. So the answer to that question is?

Senator CORMAN. If we could do that without a tax increase, then we get the General Fund done, then money will flow to their schools and they will not be in danger of closing.

Senator WILLIAMS. They have been raising taxes at the local level because we did not do it at the State level for the last 4 years, so they are used to that.

So, let me suggest this, and then I will close off. I apologize. Because I am trying to be friendly.

Senator CORMAN. You are.

Senator WILLIAMS. So, the \$3.8 billion does represent some level of spending which is necessary, or do you think that the \$3.8 billion is not necessary at all?

Senator CORMAN. Well, we passed a budget here on June 30 that did not raise any new revenue. We think that it met a lot of our priorities, the responsibility of State government. As with any budget, are there areas we would have liked to spend more? Sure. But we did not want to go back to the people of Pennsylvania and say, we need more money from you to match our desire to spend more money somewhere else. So, no, we do not believe that any of that \$3.8 billion is necessary. Although we did offer the Governor \$300 million to meet his number one priority above what we did in House Bill No. 1192.

Senator WILLIAMS. Okay. That was it. So you are comfortable with, and I want to make sure that we are clear about this, you mentioned that you passed a budget without raising taxes and met the needs of all the Pennsylvanians that you think are important. I ask you this question: Governor Corbett passed four budgets under a similar perspective - no taxes, no additional revenue. The only thing I saw, and most Pennsylvanians saw, was to do that, we have to cut, or transfer that spending or those tax increases to local school districts. So are you suggesting that pattern that we saw under the previous administration is the plan that the Republicans want to take up, specifically the Senate Republicans, and in particular, you?

Senator CORMAN. What I am suggesting is that we passed a balanced budget under this Senate, in concurrence with the House, that did not raise taxes, that met our obligations and responsibilities, and many of the needs of the people of Pennsylvania. Again, are there areas where we would have liked to have spent more? Absolutely. But not at the cost of a tax increase. People at home do not get to raise their revenue anytime they want, they have to live within their means. We, in government, had to figure out ways to do the same. So, House Bill No. 1192 was a budget that we supported and that we think was balanced. We got a lot of criticism in the budget before, that it was not balanced, it was full of gimmicks, but it came in hundreds of millions over the revenue estimate. So we think that the budget that we passed, obviously, because we all voted for it, was a good budget and we stand behind it.

The PRESIDENT. Let me interject here, because I notice the presence of another Senator on the floor. For purposes of maintaining our decorum, why do we not return to our customary style of debating by directing the question to the Chair and the Chair will then direct it to the person who is the object of the inquiry, and that way we can maintain our balanced, fair, and what is another word I am looking for?

Senator WILLIAMS. Senatorial splendor.

The PRESIDENT. Senatorial splendor. Exactly. Together.

So, Senator Corman, you were about to give an answer.

Senator CORMAN. Just finally, look, I think when Governor Corbett came into office we had a structural deficit of about \$4.2 billion because the stimulus money went away. We put the stimulus money into the General Fund spending as a way to offset costs. So when he got here we had about a \$4.2 billion structural deficit. As the gentleman agreed, at the end of this year, we are at \$1.3 billion. So we are driving that down without raising taxes. Sure, you can have a huge tax increase and drive it all down in one year. That is the easy way to do it, I suppose, but we have driven it down from \$4.2 billion to \$1.3 billion.

So, we are hopeful that as the economy continues to move forward, that we can continue our restraint in our spending, Mr. President, that this will ultimately end our structural deficit problems, and again, everything is an estimate. We will know at the end of the fiscal year whether we were successful or not, but it has been imperative that we do not raise taxes, and so we have accomplished that in our budget bill. I understand why you did not support it. I understand why the Governor vetoed it. There are different priorities, and I respect that.

Again, it might not be an easy vote, but the easy thing to do is to raise taxes to raise enough money, to go to the people of Pennsylvania and say, give us more money, this will solve all of our budgetary problems. I do not think it is good for the econ-

omy. I do not think it is good to take money out of people's pockets. They could be buying things, they could be spending on their children, they could be investing in their communities, than to give it to us for us to redistribute in the way that we see fit. The Governor has a different viewpoint of that, and I get that. Hopefully, we will come to some resolution very soon. But from \$4.2 billion to \$1.3 billion--

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I apologize, but I was asking questions.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair noted that you were in the process, you had asked Senator Corman, he was talking to his colleagues to get some numbers for you to answer your question. This is my understanding.

Senator WILLIAMS. I wanted to follow the format that you suggested.

Senator CORMAN. I was filibustering.

Senator WILLIAMS. That is, I ask a question to you, you interpret it for him so he does not get offended, he answers it to me, and then I get to ask another question, like I saw everyone else do.

The PRESIDENT. Exactly. He is still answering you.

Senator WILLIAMS. Is that what that was?

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I think I have about 7 hours and 5 more minutes of this question that I could answer and then we will be done.

The PRESIDENT. I would really like him to get to the end of his answer. So, please continue. He is finished.

So, now, Senator Williams, it appears Senator Corman has finished that last inquiry. He has answered your last question to the best of his ability. Now, do you have another question?

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, we have had a lot of conversation about not raising taxes, continually. We have had the gentleman suggest that they passed a balanced budget of which there was about \$200 million in liquor money that the Governor said he would not support that they put in there anyway. So, to the public, understand that is not a responsible position to take because, just like in the gentleman's household, who, when he talks about when we do not have money, he goes and talks to his wife and they agree to a process. There are two people married together - the legislature and the Governor. His wife, because he is a happily married guy, does not go spend \$200 million that they know they do not have, because that is not responsible in terms of a relationship. So to suggest that the budget was balanced, fair, and appropriate I think is a little bit of an exaggeration, but we will stand on that.

To get to where they were the last 4 years--matter of fact, let us talk about last year under Governor Corbett. No taxes, passes a budget. This is sort of a "yes" or "no" answer, I am sure it will be longer than that, but at my last count, so the public will know, they did not raise taxes, but the public should know that they spent \$2.4 billion in one-time revenue. Just like that stimulus money that we should have spent, last year we spent \$2.4 billion in revenue that we cannot find, and gimmicks and gum and shoe-strings that do not exist. I think that the gentleman is aware of that because it is documented, documented quite publicly along the board. So, I ask the gentleman is he aware of whether it is \$2.4 billion or \$100 million? One-time revenue, how much does he think it represented of last year's Corbett budget without raising taxes?

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, do I have a time limit on my answer?

The PRESIDENT. Are you done with your question?

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I am.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, do I have a time limit on my answer?

The PRESIDENT. You know what, I think it is going to be like the Republican debate last night, you have 11 seconds to answer, Senator Corman.

Take as much as time as you need.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, a couple of things to address the previous comment. When we passed the budget, that had \$200 million--

The PRESIDENT. Time is up.

No, continue.

Senator CORMAN. --that had \$200 million in revenue from liquor privatization, we also passed a liquor privatization bill that went along with it. Now, the Governor vetoed that and so, obviously, the money that we hoped would be there would not be if we do not do liquor privatization. Nevertheless, it was responsible because we did pass a bill along with the estimate of the \$200 million. Now look, all of these are estimates and you never know, as we said, last year I think we had a whole bunch of money in there for small games of chance and that did not come through, but we still finished way ahead at the end of the year.

To get to the gentleman's question, absolutely, we used one-time sources, and I will take the gentleman's word for the number. I do not have it off the top of my head. That is not uncommon that we have a source of money that we put into the General Fund to help pay off some of our bills. One of the reasons in the past that we had a Rainy Day Fund was to help offset when revenues go down. We took from the Rainy Day Fund and put it into the General Fund. Well, that is one-time money. That is not recurring money. Clearly, if you have a \$30 billion budget, you do want to have \$29 billion of one-time revenues. But if you have a \$30 billion budget without \$2 billion, I would not call that irresponsible. Does it set you up for challenges in the future if the economy does not grow? Absolutely. There is no question about it. We are banking, and hopefully, the economy will grow as it did last year. We had a significant amount of one-time revenue. We did grow quite a bit more than what we had originally estimated. It lessened our challenges because of that. As I said, we have gone from \$4.2 billion down to just over \$1 billion, so we are in the right direction. In a perfect world, maybe we would not use any one-time revenue resources, but I certainly would not call it irresponsible budgeting practices to use some one-time revenue when doing a budget, particularly if it staves off a tax increase, because a tax increase is forever. The Johnstown Flood Tax was supposed to pay off the Johnstown flood. I think that we paid that thing off a few years ago, but it is still there. A tax increase is forever. Hopefully, we do not need that, but using one-time sources to help offset that, I think, is a responsible way of budgeting if it is to the level that we did.

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I thank the gentleman for standing for our conversation. Hopefully, it illuminated and enlightened many folks. I would like to close with some closing comments, if it is appropriate.

The PRESIDENT. Feel free to make some comments, Senator.

Senator WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I suggest that we finally figured out why we have been here for 6 or 7 months while those school districts are trying to figure out why they do not have money, why those social service agencies are trying to figure out why they are not funded, and we finally figured out why those folks who do not have a pension are trying to figure out why we have not finally figured out the pensions, because we are worried about \$3.8 billion in tax increases.

So let us get to the bogeyman conversation that gets rolled out like an old friend, constantly. An old friend who is always there and very convenient when my friends on the other side of the aisle want to scare Pennsylvanians and, frankly, Americans into doing nothing.

So what they do is say, hey, we want better schools, we want jobs, we want potholes fixed, but do you know what? That money is going to fall like manna and we are going to figure out how to do it, and so they rob us other ways. They increase fees, they move and reduce the structural problem up here and move it to local government, but understand something, all the time you are paying more money in terms of taxes.

Let us just take that straight on. Governor Corbett, 4 years, no tax increases. I asked the gentleman on the other side of the aisle, is Pennsylvania better off? Are schools better off? Are your jobs more secure? Because Governor Corbett said no taxes and no investment in anything, and so, therefore, we are supposed to feel better about that. I will compare that any day to Governor Rendell. Ed Rendell, Governor of Pennsylvania, did raise taxes. We are in the bottom quartile of all States across this country in terms of job creation. Under Governor Ed Rendell we zoomed to 7th. Our schools performed at extraordinary levels. They are in the tank, as we speak today. So yes, shout about the bogeyman, but after you get past the bogeyman, the taxpayer just simply wants to know this: What am I getting for my investment? Just as I suggest that husband and wife at home--and people always roll that out, I think that is another one of those warm blanket moments. We want to run government like we run our households, when you do not have the money, we do not spend it. No, you do not. You go find another job, because you are going to send your kid to college. So you find additional revenue. You make smart investments. You do a thing that generates more revenue for Pennsylvania.

So, this \$3.8 billion that the gentleman was speaking about, it is the bogeyman, apparently, of all bogeymen. Understand something, Pennsylvanians, he is not asking you to raise taxes to invest in a plan of past failures under the previous administration, and frankly, under the Republican control, because under that Senate plan, we went to the bottom quartile. Those budgets that they bragged about that they passed with no taxes, your school systems fell apart and your local governments had to increase taxes. That is a fact. By the way, those of you who have been on unemployment for several years, you can thank the Republicans for those budgets that they passed in the last 4 years.

So, here is the deal. For our nominal increases--I know we want to say \$3.8 billion, trust me, there is not a billionaire, millionaire, average worker who is going to pay \$3.8 billion. It is going to be a nominal increase that we are talking about across the board. But for that, we will get results, just like under Governor Ed Rendell. Just like under Governor Ed Rendell in 2006 that my friend referenced, we will pay our pension obligation for the first time since 2006. That is what Democrats do. It will be the

first time that we made investments in 4 years to school districts across Pennsylvania without putting the burden on our local school boards to raise taxes. The State will take up that responsibility. Teachers, nurses, and counselors will return to school districts across Pennsylvania. In particular, by the way, those that are fundamentally broke ones, those that do not have any money, those that are in Republican and Democratic districts.

So, we can roll out the bogeyman, we can talk about how we save our houses, and we can talk about all those familiar phrases that go back as far as I can remember Ronald Reagan using them. Ronald Reagan was a President of the United States who had a historic run, but unfortunately, that era is over. The era of Governor Tom Corbett is what we are cleaning up right now with \$3.8 billion, \$3.8 billion represents a deficit left behind by a previous administration and 4 years of Republican budgets which have been crammed down the throats of all Pennsylvanians, and here we are today talking about the bogeyman. We should have been talking about the bogeyman every year for 4 years, and those "no" votes should have been "yes" votes on the pension problem back then.

Pennsylvania, this is nothing more than a commercial, a setup for a campaign to say, this Governor could not get it done. That is all we are experiencing. Seven months of people, and by the way, the indignation will carry on tomorrow when we do a stop-gap budget that we will vote against because it will give those social agencies, which they will claim they are concerned about, less money. Four years they have been cutting social service agencies, 4 years they have been cutting school district money, now, all of the sudden, they want to fix the pension, provide for social service agencies, and fund school districts. Now, I do know that--I am a person who has faith--maybe there was an epiphany. Maybe there was a moment that they discovered there was a greater cause for all of Pennsylvania. I do not know. I suspect I am a little bit more cynical. I think it is rooted in not the \$3.8 billion bogeyman, I think it is rooted in the fact that Governor Tom Wolf has arrived in Pennsylvania, said there is a new sheriff in town, and said things will change. We will pay our responsibilities, we will fix this pension problem, we will take up new ideas, such as how we provide alcohol to Pennsylvanians. We will take up ideas which are not conventional and independent thinking of traditional Democrats, because we are concerned about all Pennsylvanians. We can do it in a responsible, fair, and economically sound way. Gimmicks do not solve problems. Slogans do not solve problems. By the way, returning to the past certainly does not solve the problems that present ourselves today.

I am grateful this moment happened. I am glad that they rolled up and decided to talk, because I think Pennsylvanians are enlightened about what we are debating about. Until now, they did not really care about the Governor, the Democrats, nor the Republicans. Now we can point aim at the \$3.8 billion bogeyman. We can talk about how we got to \$3.8 billion, why we got to \$3.8 billion, what was left behind and the misery that you feel. Connect the dots, Pennsylvania. That is right. Your school district is connected to what they talked about - no taxes, no new revenue, and, by the way, no anything. Anybody can scream from the top of their lungs and spin numbers all you want to, their districts and our districts have suffered. They have been cut to the bone. The marrow is now bleeding, and Pennsylvanians, for the first time ever, voted out a governor in 4 years because

they were fed up with how we conduct ourselves. I hope that means, I will tell you in selfish terms, hey, if Governor Tom Corbett comes back, we will get more Democrats in the Senate so we can actually fix the problems that we need to fix.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. It looks like we have set a record for Petitions and Remonstrances, and it looks like we have come to the end.

I also wanted to extend my happy birthday wishes to Senator Corman's dad, Senator Doyle Corman, 83 years young.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Mike Stack) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bills:

SB 663 and **SB 678**.

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, sorry to keep you here. It has been a couple of weeks. We got the wind out of us today, and maybe that will reduce tomorrow. Who knows?

I move that the Senate do now recess until Friday, September 18, 2015, at 10 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 4:10 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.