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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019

SESSION OF 2019 203RD OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 30

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, June 12, 2019

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

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor John K. Fetterman) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Captain DAVID E. BOYLES, Pennsylvania National Guard, Olyphant, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our God and Father, we come before You on this special day humbled and grateful for the blessings we all receive each and every day through Your active presence. Lord, I pray this morning for those who work within this Chamber. I pray You give them the grace and the confidence, the wisdom and fortitude needed to make the decisions necessary to honestly and effectively fulfill their responsibilities to the citizens of Pennsylvania. I thank You, Lord, for their willingness to serve, filling crucial roles that go far beyond legislation, reaching out to every community and home with care and support, meeting the needs of those they represent. A part of that support is shown here today through the recognition of the Pennsylvania National Guard. This recognition, which is a celebration of a relationship that stretches back to before the Revolution, a relationship between those who represent the citizen and the citizen soldier. Since that time, the Pennsylvania National Guard has played a crucial part in every conflict our country has engaged in. At every turn, soldiers and airmen stand ready to fight and defend our Commonwealth, our country, our safety, and our freedom. We stand ready to take up arms or rescue those in danger. Regardless of the mission, the PA Guard has, and will always, be ready, and we can attribute that readiness, in part, to the unwavering support by those here today.

Lord, I pray for all of those who serve in the PA Guard. Their willingness to take on the awesome responsibility of serving the Commonwealth and the country make them a part of an elite group of citizens. They stand ready to set life aside for the sake of both neighbor and stranger. Both soldier and airman have time and time again shown their readiness and willingness to do whatever is necessary to complete the mission, even to include making the ultimate sacrifice. This willingness to charge into a challenge that might require all they have to give stands as an example to the selfless character found at the foundation of every PA Guardsman. I pray for those willing to make that charge. Keep them safe, and bring them home. We offer our thanks and grati-

tude to those who never made it home. They stand as our true heroes, to whom we owe much more than we could ever repay. I pray for those within our ranks who struggle with the demons of war and the difficulties of life. I pray You give them fresh eyes to see beyond their challenges, providing them the hope necessary to choose life in those dark times.

Finally, Lord, I pray for all of those in leadership, whether in government or in the Guard. May they have discerning hearts and bold faith. Give them purity of intentions and godliness in their convictions. Help them to be humble, sincere, and courteous. I pray for Your blessing on today and all of those here to support the day. With all praise and glory, and in the name that is the truth and the light. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Captain Boyles, who is the guest today of Senator Regan.

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 PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

June 11, 2019

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, Ralph Yanora, 23 Winter Street, Pittston Township 18640, Luzerne County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, to serve until April 1, 2024, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Norman Kennard, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

RECORDER OF DEEDS, CARBON COUNTY

June 11, 2019

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Recorder of Deeds, in and for the County of Carbon, to serve until the first Monday of January 2020, vice Emmett P. McCall, deceased.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**CORRECTION TO NOMINATION
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

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

MEMBER OF THE STATE
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

June 11, 2019

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

Please note that the letter dated June 5, 2019, for the nomination of Frank Paczewski, 415 Orchard Way, Dallas 18612, Luzerne County, Twentieth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Transportation Commission, 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, should be corrected to read:

Frank Paczewski, 415 Orchard West, Dallas 18612, Luzerne County, Twentieth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Transportation Commission, 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.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

June 12, 2019

Senators YUDICHAK, FONTANA, SCHWANK, SANTARSIERO, COSTA, K. WARD, BREWSTER, BAKER, BROWNE, BLAKE, TARTAGLIONE, HAYWOOD, SABATINA and FARNESE presented to the Chair **SB 755**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, providing for the livable home tax credit.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, June 12, 2019.

Senators YUDICHAK, FONTANA, SCHWANK, SANTARSIERO, COSTA, VOGEL, HUGHES, BREWSTER, BROWNE, BLAKE and TARTAGLIONE presented to the Chair **SB 756**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 64 (Public Authorities and Quasi-Public Corporations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth Financing Authority, establishing the Veteran-owned Business Loan Guarantee Program.

Which was committed to the Committee on COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, June 12, 2019.

Senators YUDICHAK, STEFANO, FONTANA, SCHWANK, SANTARSIERO, COSTA, VOGEL, K. WARD, BREWSTER, HAYWOOD, BAKER, AUMENT, REGAN, TARTAGLIONE and J. WARD presented to the Chair **SB 757**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in veterans' pensions and benefits, further providing for amputee and paralyzed veteran's pension.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, June 12, 2019.

Senators HAYWOOD, HUGHES, MUTH, STREET, COSTA, TARTAGLIONE, LEACH and KEARNEY presented to the Chair **SB 758**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in personal income tax, further providing for imposition of tax and for amount of withholding tax.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, June 12, 2019.

Senators BARTOLOTTA, MARTIN, FOLMER and SCARNATI presented to the Chair **SB 760**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, further providing for agreements with institutions of higher education; and, in opportunities for educational excellence, further providing for definitions, for responsibilities of school entities and for concurrent enrollment agreements.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, June 12, 2019.

Senators GORDNER, BAKER, MENSCH and K. WARD presented to the Chair **SB 761**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 20, 2002 (P.L.154, No.13), known as the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, in medical professional liability, further providing for informed consent.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, June 12, 2019.

HOUSE MESSAGES

HOUSE BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

The Clerk of the House of Representatives presented to the Senate the following bills for concurrence, which were referred to the committees indicated:

June 11, 2019

HB 924 -- Committee on Health and Human Services.

HB 1325 -- Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

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

SB 661 (Pr. No. 950) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the Commonwealth Specialty Crop Block Grant Program and establishing the Commonwealth Specialty Crop Block Grant Fund.

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

SB 325 (Pr. No. 307)

An Act amending the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known as The Professional Nursing Law, providing for the definition of "certified registered nurse anesthetist"; further providing for registered nurse, clinical nurse specialist, use of title and abbreviation "R.N." or "C.N.S." and credentials and fraud; and providing for certified registered nurse anesthetist and qualifications.

HB 64 (Pr. No. 68)

An Act amending the act of July 2, 1993 (P.L.345, No.48), entitled "An act empowering the General Counsel or his designee to issue subpoenas for certain licensing board activities; providing for hearing examiners in the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs; providing additional powers to the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs; and further providing for civil penalties and license suspension," further providing for civil penalties.

HB 751 (Pr. No. 876)

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in powers and duties, further providing for power of commission to order acquisition of small water and sewer utilities; in procedure on complaints, further providing for service of complaints on parties; and, in rates and distribution systems, further providing for computation of income tax expense for ratemaking purposes.

Senator K. WARD, from the Committee on Transportation, reported the following bills:

SB 607 (Pr. No. 675)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in rules of the road in general, further providing for speed timing devices.

SB 742 (Pr. No. 919)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in inspection of vehicles, further providing for requirement for periodic inspection of vehicles.

SB 743 (Pr. No. 920)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in inspection of vehicles, further providing for requirement for periodic inspection of vehicles.

SB 744 (Pr. No. 953) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in inspection of vehicles, further providing for prohibition on expenditures for emission inspection program.

SB 745 (Pr. No. 922)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in inspection of vehicles, further providing for prohibition on expenditures for emission inspection program.

SB 746 (Pr. No. 923)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in inspection of vehicles, providing for date for emissions testing equipment.

SB 748 (Pr. No. 925)

An Act designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 50 in Independence Township, Washington County, as the Lt. Col. Juanita L. Warman Memorial Highway.

HB 65 (Pr. No. 69)

An Act designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 3047 over the South Branch of Blacklick Creek, Blacklick Township, Cambria County, as the Private First Class Steve L. Klosz Memorial Bridge.

HB 1065 (Pr. No. 1226)

An Act designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 3033 over Redbank Creek in Brookville Borough, Jefferson County, as the CPL James Slagle 2nd Ranger Battalion Army Ranger WWII Memorial Bridge.

RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL, from the Committee on Communications and Technology, reported the following resolutions:

SR 47 (Pr. No. 951) (Amended)

A Resolution establishing a legislative task force on the delivery of high-speed broadband services and directing the Joint State Government Commission to establish an advisory committee to conduct a study on the delivery of high-speed broadband services in unserved areas and underserved areas of this Commonwealth and to report its findings and recommendations to the Senate.

SR 48 (Pr. No. 952) (Amended)

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a review of the compliance of telecommunication carriers with the high-speed broadband deployment mandates of the Public Utility Code and to report findings and recommendations to the Senate.

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

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journal of the Session of March 27, 2019, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of March 27, 2019.

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

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

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

YEA-50

Argall	DiSanto	Leach	Stefano
Aument	Farnese	Martin	Street
Baker	Folmer	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Blake	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Boscola	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H
Browne	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Corman	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Costa	Langerholc	Scavello	
Dinniman	Laughlin	Schwank	

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journal is approved.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Senators REGAN, IOVINO, ARGALL, AUMENT, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, BLAKE, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER, BROOKS, BROWNE, COLLETT, COSTA, DINNIMAN, FARNESE, FOLMER, FONTANA, GORDNER, HUGHES, HUTCHINSON, KILLION, LANGERHOLC, MARTIN, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, SANTARSIERO, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, VOGEL, J. WARD, L. WILLIAMS, YAW and YUDICHAK, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 159**, entitled:

A Resolution designating June 12, 2019, as "National Guard Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Senator Regan.

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, Senator Iovino and I offer this resolution designating today as "National Guard Day" in Pennsylvania. In 1755, the General Assembly passed Pennsylvania's first militia law creating a voluntary militia, which laid the foundation for the Pennsylvania National Guard. Today, our Commonwealth is the second largest and most deployed National Guard force in the nation, comprised of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard. Pennsylvania's militiamen and subsequent National Guardsmen and women have played a role in every major military action from the French and Indian War to the Global War on Terrorism. Pennsylvania's citizen soldiers

continue to serve with honor and distinction today in military and disaster relief roles. Pennsylvania's National Guard force, led by Adjutant General Anthony Carrelli, reaches from the Joint Force Headquarters located at Fort Indiantown Gap, Lebanon County, to almost 90 communities across the Commonwealth. The Pennsylvania National Guard employs about 3,600 in a full-time capacity, while another 16,400 men and women serve in a traditional part-time basis, making the PA Guard one of the Commonwealth's top 10 employers.

Today, we remember the citizen soldiers, ordinary people who make extraordinary sacrifices. We owe them our deepest gratitude.

**GUESTS OF SENATOR MIKE REGAN
AND SENATOR PAM IOVINO
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

Senator REGAN. As part of National Guard Day, I am proud to have with us Major General Anthony Carrelli, the 53rd Adjutant General of Pennsylvania, and several National Guard members.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Regan and Senator Iovino, our Pennsylvania National Guard members, please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator Iovino.

Senator IOVINO. Mr. President, I am honored to cosponsor this resolution designating today as National Guard Day in Pennsylvania. In war and in peace, Pennsylvania National Guard soldiers and airmen have responded to emergencies at home, weather disasters, and served bravely abroad in high-tempo combat operations. Currently, as of this moment, there are more than a thousand members of the Pennsylvania National Guard deployed throughout the globe to include Afghanistan, Poland, and the Middle East. At home, the Pennsylvania National Guard's outstanding performance was on display in 2018, when our soldiers and airmen provided support for Hurricane Florence and winter storms Toby, Quinn, and Riley, and three separate devastating flooding events.

Pennsylvania National Guard members serve as role models, as community volunteers, and as civic leaders throughout this Commonwealth. It is their dedication and service that has led to this distinction of Pennsylvania's National Guard as top-ranking National Guard in the country.

By designating June 12, 2019, as National Guard Day in Pennsylvania, the Senate recognizes these men and women, and their families, for their dedicated service to this Commonwealth and this nation, and commends them for the outstanding performance of their duties around the world and the Global War on Terror, and in response to national disasters here at home. Thank you, Bravo Zulu, and well done to the Pennsylvania National Guard.

**GUEST OF SENATOR PAM IOVINO
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

Senator IOVINO. Mr. President, it is also my honor this morning to introduce Captain David Boyles, Chaplain in the Army National Guard as our guest Chaplain today. Chaplain

Boyles was born in Pittsburgh. While pursuing a career in the culinary arts, he met Lieutenant Colonel Doug Ferry, who at the time was serving as the New York State Chaplain. It was through Chaplain Ferry's mentorship and encouragement that Chaplain Boyles pursued an education in biblical studies that would eventually lead to the Army chaplaincy. In the fall of 2013, Chaplain Boyles took his oath and joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard as a fully commissioned chaplain. He is attached to the 228th Brigade Support Battalion, where he continues to serve today. Chaplain Boyles, also in 2017, became the chaplain for the Recruiting and Retention Battalion of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard.

Apart from his time with the Recruiting and Retention Battalion, Chaplain Boyles has been involved in many State-activated duty missions, including the visit in Philadelphia by Pope Francis, supporting the 228th Brigade Support Battalion during a rotation at the National Training Center, and the ongoing training with the Pennsylvania Homeland response force. Chaplain Boyles' awards include multiple Army Achievement Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Pennsylvania Service Ribbon, and the Army Service Ribbon. Chaplain Boyles, his wife Emily, and two children currently reside in the Borough of Throop. Thank you, and let us give a warm welcome to Chaplain Boyles.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guest of Senator Iovino please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

GUESTS OF SENATOR MIKE REGAN AND SENATOR PAM IOVINO PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair now invites General Carrelli to the rostrum.

Adjutant General CARRELLI. Good morning, everyone. It is my great honor to be here today to address this body, to first thank you for your support of our many programs here in Pennsylvania, support of the National Guard, our Guardsmen, our family members and, of course, our veterans. As was previously described in the resolution, thousands of Guardsmen have recently returned from deployments. We have over 1,000 Guardsmen to date currently deployed, and we have thousands of others preparing for upcoming deployments. The ops tempo of the domestic operations has continued to increase year by year by year. Over the past year, we had over 1,000 people, our Guardsmen, respond to floods here in the Commonwealth just alone; hundreds of people deployed to other States, and, of course, to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to support hurricane disaster relief in other States. There is a lot of tempo, there is a lot of sacrifice, but I could not be prouder of the force that we maintain here in Pennsylvania.

We are the second largest force, and we certainly are the best force. I implore your support to be able to continue to do the programs that we do to maintain such fine men and women in your Pennsylvania National Guard. They are a vital resource, and

we cannot afford to lose them. As our Guardsmen become more and more successful in their civilian careers, the more we call them to State duty, the more we call them to Federal duty, the more they sacrifice from their own civilian jobs. Many of our Guardsmen lose money to come on orders, and we are asking them to do more and more and to sacrifice more and more from their families. That is why we put a huge emphasis this year on the military family education program, and I thank you for your great support so far on that bill. We look forward, hopefully, to quickly getting that all the way finished and to Governor's desk. That is an important step to show the families and our Guardsmen that their sacrifices do matter and that the people of Pennsylvania care enough to lead the country with this initiative that Pennsylvania would be the first to do.

I have a number of Guardsmen that I brought here with me today. I would like them to stand as I call their names.

First, our Commander of the 171st Air Refueling Wing out of Pittsburgh, Colonel Mark Goodwill, from Butler.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. Representing the 193rd Special Operations Wing, Commander Colonel Stacey Zdanavage, from Mountain Top.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. The Commander of the 111th Fighter Wing, Colonel Bill Griffin, from Perkaskie.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. All three of our Air Force Wings created history this year in Pennsylvania. Each one of those wings has a distinguished history and has won multiple Air Force outstanding unit awards. Annually, the Air Force designates its best of the best of all squadrons across the Air Force, all components, the active, Reserve, and Guard, and they pick only a top few to designate the outstanding unit award, and all three of the wings have many different awards throughout their history. This year, for the first time in Pennsylvania history, all three Pennsylvania wings were selected for outstanding unit awards for the Air Force. Congratulations, gentlemen.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. As everyone here knows, this past year was a catastrophe with flooding in Pennsylvania. Historic flooding that we have seen throughout the Commonwealth, areas that we have never seen flooding before saw flooding, and a lot of it was unpredictable. Some of these short microburst thunderstorms caused local flooding in areas, rising waters all the way up through the rooftops, people stranded in vehicles, and your Pennsylvania National Guard jumped to the call and answered that call in some of the most hazardous conditions you could imagine. We brought a few Guardsmen here today who participated in some of those rescue missions. Over the past summer, the Pennsylvania Guard picked up 18 Pennsylvanians off the rooftops of their homes and off the rooftops of vehicles that were flooded. I can guarantee you there would be less people sitting at the family table around Pennsylvania communities if it was not for these brave Guardsmen and women. A few of them are here today, and I want to show our appreciation to them for responding with essentially no notice to the call to fly these missions in some of the most dangerous conditions that you would ever encounter. Some at night, all of them in poor weather, moving the retrieval wires amongst power lines and trees and antennas. It was some of the most hazardous things we have ever

asked these Guardsmen to do, including some of their combat missions.

I introduce Captain Zachary Krise, from Hanover.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. Staff Sergeant Jonathan Vass, from Doylestown.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jason Jakubowtiz, from Palmyra.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. First Lieutenant Matthew Groff, from Lancaster.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. And Sergeant First Class Michael Moy, from Bethel.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. Again, these gentlemen are some of the many Pennsylvania heroes who risked their lives this year to save others in their community.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. I also have two Guardsmen representing the hundreds who traveled to other States around the country and some of the territories of the United States during hurricane operations.

Please stand, Master Sergeant George Roach, from Garnet Valley.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. And Technical Sergeant Matthew Pierce, from Harrisburg.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. Again, many hundreds of Guardsmen responded with essentially no notice to go fight those deadly storms throughout our country, not only worried about saving the communities here in Pennsylvania but also throughout the United States as well.

Thank you very much for your service.

Lastly, I introduce, and this is no disrespect to this body, but I introduce what I consider the three most important people in this room today. That is family members of our National Guardsmen.

I introduce first, Mrs. Kathy Rutherford, from Bellefonte.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. Mrs. Ashley Branoff, from Shippensburg.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. And Mrs. Jesse Denny, from Camp Hill.

(Applause.)

Adjutant General CARRELLI. Ashley and Jesse are spouses of Guardsmen who were deployed this past summer with the division. They just returned right before the holidays. If you want to know fresh about what our families sacrifice, please talk to both of them, along with Mrs. Rutherford. Mrs. Rutherford's daughter is currently a Pennsylvania Guardsman deployed to Poland, so she is helping out with the family. All three of these family members not only serve right alongside their Guardsmen families, they also help other Guardsmen families. They participate in our family support group activities, and they make phone calls to make sure that the rest of our families of our deployed

are taken care of and that all their needs are being met. They are not on the payroll. There is nothing that we do currently in our legislature that funds them. They do it out of the goodness of their heart. They do it to support their own families and to support other families in Pennsylvania.

As I have mentioned earlier, the military family education program, we would be the first State to make a statement that our family members do matter and that they may not wear a uniform, but their service is just as important as those who serve in the military by wearing a uniform. So again, ladies, thank you so much for coming here today, but thank you especially for what you do for our families.

We have a number of other Guardsmen who are up in the gallery. Again, I thank you all for your service and your attendance here. I thank this body for your support and hospitality today to have Guard Day at the Capitol.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR KRISTIN PHILLIPS-HILL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from York, Senator Phillips-Hill.

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise to introduce three guests, who are seated in our gallery. Christian Snouffer, his mother, Jackie, and his father, Brad, reside in the borough of Yoe in York County. Mr. President, Christian was recently honored for his work as a member of Troop 69 of the Boy Scouts, based out of the Salem Lutheran Church in Jacobus. In fact, Christian received not one, not two, but three conservation awards. Christian received awards from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the Pennsylvania Game Commission, and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry. To say that Christian exemplifies the spirit of the Boy Scouts of America is an understatement. Mr. President, we are grateful to have the Snouffer family join us today in the Senate gallery, and I am incredibly thankful to have Christian and his parents as constituents.

Mr. President, I ask that we give Christian and his family a warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Phillips-Hill please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR THOMAS H. KILLION PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator KILLION. Mr. President, it is my pleasure this morning to introduce Ana Puig and Will McCarter, who are serving as interns in my Capitol and West Chester district offices.

Ana, who interned here in the Capitol with Senator Folmer last year, will enter her junior year at the University of Pittsburgh this fall. She is a double major in psychology and political science. Will, who is also my constituent, will be a junior at Penn State University this fall, where he is a member of the Schreyer Honors College and the Paterno Fellows program. It has been my pleasure to have these two talented future lawyers, both looking to go to law school, work in my office this summer, and I have no doubt they have bright futures ahead of them.

Mr. President, Ana and Will are seated in the Senate gallery today, and I ask that we extend our traditional warm welcome to them.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Killion please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUEST OF SENATOR MICHAEL J. FOLMER PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator FOLMER. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce Emmet Baerg, who is shadowing me for the day. Emmet is a junior at Cedar Crest High School in Lebanon County and is the son of Kenton and Marylou Baerg. He is a member of the Cedar Crest Boys' Varsity Tennis Team, a member of the United States Tennis Association, and was actively involved in fundraising and organizing his school's annual Mini-THON for several years. In 2017, he was a recipient of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives' Leadership Award. In his free time, Emmet enjoys reading and playing tennis.

Mr. President, please join me in giving a warm Senate welcome for Mr. Emmet Baerg.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guest of Senator Folmer please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUEST OF SENATOR JOHN T. YUDICHAK PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Luzerne, Senator Yudichak.

Senator YUDICHAK. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce Cassidy Eckrote, who is interning in my district office for the second straight summer. Cassidy is a remarkable young woman who graduated in May from Penn State University with a business management degree. Cassidy was the class salutatorian. Also, at Penn State University, Cassidy served as the student ambassador for the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce Connect Program. This summer, Cassidy is initiating a school supplies drive for the SHINE After School Program that serves 1,000 students in northeastern Pennsylvania. Cassidy aspires to attend law school in Washington, D.C., in the fall of 2020, and I have no doubt that she will become an exceptional attorney and soundly defeat me in a future election.

Even with that, please welcome to this Senate, Cassidy Eckrote. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guest of Senator Yudichak please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR DANIEL J. LAUGHLIN PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Erie, Senator Laughlin.

Senator LAUGHLIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce some special guests of my own. On this day, we plan to name a bridge in honor of my wife's uncle, who passed away 53 years ago today as a member of the Marine Corps. For now, for the

introductions, I introduce my wife, Peggy; her cousin, Tim Considine, and his lovely wife, Denise Considine. They made the long trip from Erie to be here today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Laughlin please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR ANDREW E. DINNIMAN PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to introduce some guests of mine today, Marilyn and Nicole Hemstreet and Diane and Rick Tolen. These are individuals who have helped a number of our charities in Chester County, most recently, the Chester County Food Bank, a charity which I started about 20 years ago with a county gleaning program. It now, probably, has evolved into one of the best food banks in the country. We are very proud of it, and we are very thankful for citizens such as Marilyn and Nicole and others who have generously supported this effort to feed those in need. Even in Chester County, which is the wealthiest county in the Commonwealth, we still have a significant number of people who are in need, and we are grateful to our citizens who help each other. I ask that we give them a warm welcome.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Dinniman please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR RYAN AUMENT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to introduce my guests for the day, the young ladies on the Warwick High School Track and Field Team. The team is here today for us to congratulate them for winning first place during the 2019 PIAA State Track and Field Championships. Edging out second place winner North Penn with 29 points, the Warwick girls' team secured the State title by finishing the day with a total of 44 points. Some highlights from their win include three medals in the 100-meter dash final, a third place finish in the 200 meter and 3,200 meter, silver medals in the 4x100, and a fourth place finish in the 400 meter. The girls are joined today by their coaches, Alex Daecher and Bobby Rhoads; Warwick School District athletic director, Ryan Landis; and many proud parents. Together, Coach Daecher, Coach Rhoads, and the entire Warwick High School Track and Field Team exemplify teamwork, dedication, and leadership to the sport.

As such, please join me in welcoming and congratulating the young ladies of the Warwick High School Track and Field Team, their coaches, and other guests to the Pennsylvania Senate.

The PRESIDENT. Would the State champs please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR ROBERT TOMLINSON PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator TOMLINSON. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Bensalem High School Robotics Team, known as the Fightin' Robotic Owls. They are under the guidance of coaches Kevin McKay, Virginia McKay, Steven Rosenberg, Danna Walker, Josh Luther, and Jim Hawk. I am honored to congratulate them on winning the 2019 FIRST Mid-Atlantic District robotic championship. The Fightin' Robotic Owls advanced to the Detroit FIRST world robotics championship, where they competed against more than 400 teams from over 12 countries. Here, they captured first place, winning their division. Next, they competed against five other division winners for the championship title. The Fightin' Robotic Owls finished the final tournament with a record of two wins, one loss, and two ties, and as world championship semifinalists.

Mr. President, I ask that you join me in welcoming the world championship semifinalist, Fightin' Robotic Owls, and their coaches to the Senate today.

The PRESIDENT. Would the world champs please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR DAVID G. ARGALL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, in the gallery we have members of two historic Boy Scout units, Cub Pack 777 and Scout Troop 777. I know a little bit about their history dating back to the early 1960s growing up as a kid in those units. I do not believe they have ever been introduced in the gallery before, and so I am pleased to welcome them here. They are here only because of the work of a lot of hardworking moms and dads who have kept these units alive for generation after generation, including some alumni from the units. And for my friend from south Philadelphia, I should note, they are from Tamaqua. Please give them a warm welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Argall please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR SHARIF T. STREET AND SENATOR ANTHONY H. WILLIAMS PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise, along with my colleague, Senator A.H. Williams, and our colleagues from the House of Representatives, Representative Sims and Representative Kenyatta, to acknowledge one of our first responders, Dante Austin. Our guests who have joined us include Amber Hikes, executive director of the Philadelphia Mayor's Office of LGBT Affairs; Nellie Fitzpatrick, an attorney with the law firm of Laffey, Bucci & Kent LLP; and Francisco Cortes, the interim director and youth program manager of Galaei. I rise because we

recently lost Deputy Sheriff Austin. He passed away at the young age of 27. He was a graduate of George Washington High School, and was an outstanding track and field athlete. He joined the United States Army, was in the service for 6 years, and was honorably discharged. He went on to receive a degree from Rosemont College. While serving as deputy sheriff, Dante became the first appointed LGBTQ liaison for the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office. He served and protected both this country in Armed Services and the people of Philadelphia as a sheriff's deputy.

For further remarks, I will turn to Senator Williams.

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, thank you to the Members of the Chamber and those who are visiting with us today. America, Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia lost an extraordinary American on June 7 in Dante Austin. Dante was a man who never let any person's perspective, stereotype, or definition define him or limit him. To say that Dante was a bright light would only diminish the balance, optimism, and extraordinary personality that he conveyed when he lit up a room when he walked in. Most important to all of us who are gathered in this Chamber today, Democrat or Republican, rural, urban, or suburban, those of us who honor the creed and the blessing of being an American, those of us who define patriotism and the ultimate act of taking up service on behalf of it, protecting citizens in the Army and protecting citizens on the ground in Philadelphia, Dante did that with extraordinary diligence, commitment, and discipline, and because of that he was honored in the service.

When he came home, he took up another fight, and that was recognizing in ways that, frankly, many of us are struggling with today, an orientation that sometimes limits, defines, and diminishes human existence. Dante, despite all of that, remained committed to this country, to this State, and to the city, and most importantly, to all Philadelphians, and all human beings who seek compassion, humanity, respect, and dignity for all other individuals. He did this in a way that, frankly, taught all of us. While he was only 27 years old, his old soul guided many of us in ways that we would not expect. Frankly, his passion to do that is represented by those who love him and will continue to love him. A person who will never be forgotten, a soul that will always be a part of us, and so today we ask the Senate, in privilege and in honor, to stand in a moment of silence to recognize this extraordinary American story and this extraordinary human being.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. For a moment of silence, let us all rise.

(Whereupon, the Senate en bloc stood in a moment of silence in solemn respect to the memory of DANTE M. AUSTIN.)

CALENDAR

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

SB 200 CALLED UP OUT OF ORDER

SB 200 (Pr. No. 943) -- Without objection, the bill was called up out of order, from page 7 of the Second Consideration Calendar, by Senator CORMAN, as a Special Order of Business.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 200 (Pr. No. 943) -- 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 preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in school directors, further providing for school director training programs; in certification of teachers, further providing for continuing professional development, providing for trauma-informed education and further providing for postbaccalaureate certification and for Pennsylvania School Leadership Standards; in school safety and security, further providing for definitions, for School Safety and Security Committee, for school safety and security coordinator and for school safety and security training and providing for trauma-informed approach; in early learning programs, further providing for duties of department; and, in the State Board of Education, further providing for powers and duties of the board and for powers and duties of Council of Basic Education and Council of Higher Education.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

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 immediately in the Majority Caucus Room.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, Senate Democrats will meet around the podium here for a brief meeting.

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.

RECESS

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations to be held in the Rules room in the rear of the Chamber immediately.

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

Senator FONTANA. Mr. President, the Democratic Members of the Committee on Appropriations should meet in the Rules room for a Committee on Appropriations meeting immediately.

The PRESIDENT. For the purpose of an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Appropriations, 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

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

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

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Dinniman and Senator Haywood.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Gordner requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Scarnati, and a legislative leave for Senator Corman.

Senator Costa requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Dinniman and Senator Haywood.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 25 (Pr. No. 507) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known as The Professional Nursing Law, further providing for title, for definitions, for State Board of Nursing, for dietitian-nutritionist license required, for unauthorized practices and acts not prohibited, for temporary practice permit, for graduates of schools of other states, territories or Dominion of Canada, for persons entitled to practice, for certified registered nurse practitioners and qualifications, for scope of practice for certified registered nurse practitioners, for prescriptive authority for certified registered nurse practitioners, for Drug Review Committee, for professional liability, for reporting of multiple licensure, for continuing nursing education, for punishment for violations, for refusal, suspension or revocation of license, for reinstatement of license and for injunction or other process; and providing for the expiration of the State Board of Nursing's power to license certified registered nurse practitioners.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

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

On the question,

Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington, Senator Bartolotta.

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, today I rise to ask my colleagues to support full practice authority for nurse practitioners. This Chamber has supported this bill a number of times in previous legislative Sessions, but we have yet to see the measure cross the finish line and be signed into law. Given the support we have seen in the past, I am optimistic that this year we will finally give our nurse practitioners and the thousands of

patients they serve the legislative victory that they deserve. This is an issue that transcends partisan lines because it focuses entirely on insuring quality healthcare access for patients with the most extraordinary needs. It offers the promise of expanded access to care and better patient outcomes without increasing the cost to consumers, the goal that the *Scranton Times-Tribune* once called the holy grail of the public policy debate of our age.

Across the State and throughout the nation, we face a healthcare crisis that shows no sign of easing. Over the past decade, crippling healthcare costs have weighed down employers, State budgets, and middle class families. As more patients pour onto our Medicaid rolls, there are fewer and fewer doctors ready and willing to treat them. The challenge is not exclusive to new patients, even existing Medicaid patients face the prospect of being turned away by their doctors. Rural communities, like mine, have been hit the hardest. Many patients in my district, including Beaver, Greene, and Washington Counties, face travel times measured in hours, not minutes, for critical appointments, if they can find someone to treat them at all. Congress is hopelessly deadlocked on the future of healthcare in this country. Waiting for D.C. to fix this crisis is simply not an option.

We have an army of experienced, knowledgeable, qualified, nurse practitioners who are ready to fill the growing demand for services, and studies have proven that healthcare outcomes for patients treated by certified nurse practitioners are every bit as good as patients treated by doctors. They do not lack the experience, the training, or the know-how to treat patients. The only thing they lack is the legal authority to do the job in their specialty on their own. That is what we need to change.

I am thankful to be joined in this effort, not only by a number of dedicated lawmakers, but also some of the most passionate, devoted advocates whom I have had the pleasure of meeting throughout my time in the Senate. Senator Boscola has played a critical role in helping to get the bill through the Senate in multiple Sessions, and her leadership on this issue is deeply appreciated. Twenty-two States, the District of Columbia, and every VA in our nation benefits from the practice of authorized nurse practitioners. Additionally, we have gotten the support of a number of statewide and national advocacy organizations such as the Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania, the National Academy of Medicine, AARP, Pennsylvania Rural Health Association, the National Governors Association, the Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders, Penn Medicine, the University of Pennsylvania Health System, and many, many, more. While in many of these organizations, individuals have been the public face of the issue, the real leaders are the thousands of nurse practitioners and advocates who have made their voices heard on this issue through the years. Every year, we pack the Capitol Rotunda for a nurse practitioner's rally in support of full practice authority, and I ask you to join me in making next year's rally a celebration of what we have accomplished for patients instead of another call to action for lawmakers.

Lastly, full practice authority is the right thing to do for patients, for underserved communities, and for the dedicated and hardworking nurses who serve them. I urge my colleagues to cast an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 25.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, before us again is an important bill that modernizes and updates the nurse practitioner profession here in Pennsylvania. For many years, we have been working on this, as Senator Bartolotta alluded to. We have made many, many compromises and continue to do so. We all hear about the increasing costs of healthcare. We hear about underserved communities and people having to drive for over an hour to get to a clinic just for a routine checkup. When they do so, a lot of times they are seeing a nurse practitioner or a physician assistant. Personally, I see a lot of nurse practitioners myself. They are very professional, very well educated, and they take the time to spend with you.

The bill updates and expands the role of certified nurse practitioners by allowing them to practice independently after meeting certain requirements. The bill includes a provision I recently sponsored that added necessary safeguards to insure that consumers are protected as well. Under the bill, nurse practitioners would be required to practice with a physician for 3 years and 3,600 hours before they provide care independently. This remains one of the longest transition periods in the nation to practice independently. With that being said, we need to balance access to care with the need to protect patients by insuring quality training and preparedness of independent nurse practitioners. We need to make healthcare more accessible by giving people additional care options closer to where they live. This bill does that. The legislation also provides better care in areas of the Commonwealth that have limited access to primary care physicians. The bill would give patients expanded access to experienced, well-trained nurse practitioners who could provide good, affordable care in places where it is needed the most.

I thank Senator Bartolotta for being such a champion, and I remember Senator Vance being such a champion as well. Two strong champions of this bill. I hope it now gets to the Governor's desk in the near future.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues for their passion and their work on this very important issue. Healthcare is a big issue for all of us in Pennsylvania and will be into the future. I believe this is the third time that we are going to move it out of the Senate. We have yet to have a hearing on this very important issue, and I would like, if it comes back here to the Senate and we get another shot at it, to hold a hearing so that we can gather the statistical facts from both sides. It is a very confusing issue. We hear things from both sides, but I think we have a lot of talking points from both sides. I am going to vote "no" again today, and maybe we will get another shot at it. Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Argall, and a legislative leave for Senator Martin.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Gordner requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Argall, and a legislative leave for Senator Martin. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Dinniman and Senator Haywood have returned, and their temporary Capitol leaves are cancelled.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-44

Argall	DiSanto	Laughlin	Schwank
Aument	Farnese	Leach	Stefano
Baker	Folmer	Martin	Street
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Blake	Haywood	Mensch	Tomlinson
Boscola	Hughes	Muth	Vogel
Brewster	Hutchinson	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Anthony H
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Williams, Lindsey
Costa	Killion	Scarnati	Yaw
Dinniman	Langerholc	Scavello	Yudichak

NAY-6

Browne	Gordner	Regan	Ward, Kim
Corman	Phillips-Hill		

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.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 93, SB 112, SB 118, SB 174 and SB 223 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 314 (Pr. No. 292) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act establishing the Pennsylvania Rural Health Redesign Center Authority and the Pennsylvania Rural Health Redesign Center Fund.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, for the past several years I have been working with the Department of Health, specifically, Dr. Rachel Levine and Janice Walters, as well as former Secretary Dr. Karen Murphy and Lauren Hughes, along with the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, Andy Carter and Stephanie Watkins, on an innovative pilot project that could prove to be the real lifesaver for hospitals serving smaller communities around our State. Representative Pickett is advancing a companion bill in the House.

There are special challenges that come with providing quality accessible services in rural areas. The financial struggles of critical access in rural hospitals, especially those with a higher percentage of patients with Medicare and government programs, have become more acute because reimbursement costs lag. Most of the qualifying hospitals are running in the negative. In fact, one in three are operating with margins in the red. These facilities are indispensable in the healthcare network. They serve 1.8 million Pennsylvanians. Equally consequential, they are significant employers and economic generators, with these hospitals being among the top five employers in their respective communities. When a rural hospital closes, it knocks a crippling hole in healthcare and mortgages the future of the surrounding areas. It is a national trend that must be reversed. If this problem exists in a strong economy, we can only imagine the fiscal distress that these vital institutions will face if we have a downturn.

The good news is a solution is underway, but it needs our legislative approval. The rural health model initiative is the kind of policy departure from the usual and customary that Pennsylvania needs to test more often. By guaranteeing an adequate level of payment for a fixed period of time, known as the global payment, instead of a fee-for-service model, it allows hospitals and health systems to shift their focus back to progressively extending, rather than painfully restricting, services and operations. It will initially be funded with a \$25-million grant from CMS, along with participation from health insurance companies and other government funders. If so much time and energy is not devoted to keeping the doors open or agonizing about available funds to make payroll, it clears the way for a greater emphasis on community intervention such as behavioral health, substance abuse treatment, and home healthcare. In fact, former Secretary Murphy said the communities and these hospitals will be more able to be focused on health and preventative health.

This plan is the result of an uncommon collaboration between State and Federal agencies, health insurers, private institutions, and their association. It sends a strong signal about our commitment to rural communities, for the families, and the employers. The Rural Health Redesign Center puts Pennsylvania in the forefront of the nation by prioritizing the viability of hospitals that are providing critical services. The initial five participants have been identified: Barnes-Kasson Hospital, Endless Mountains Hospital, Geisinger Jersey Shore, UPMC Kane, and Wayne Memorial Hospital. They very much appreciate the responsibilities this approach involves, and they are prepared to deliver. It is exciting to imagine what they will be able to do with the latitude this initiative offers. An additional 18 hospitals have signaled their interest for year two of this 5-year pilot. This model is a policy investment in a positive direction for small community healthcare designated and designed to be productive, effective, and impactful. I urge an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 314.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Argall	DiSanto	Leach	Stefano
Aument	Farnese	Martin	Street
Baker	Folmer	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Blake	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Boscola	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H
Browne	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Corman	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Costa	Langerholc	Scavello	
Dinniman	Laughlin	Schwank	

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 318, SB 321, SB 432, SB 536, HB 547, HB 548 and SB 572 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL OVER IN ORDER TEMPORARILY

SB 575 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order temporarily at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 593 (Pr. No. 678) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 15986, on that portion of Interstate 79 northbound over West 16th Street in the City of Erie, Erie County, as the Thomas J. Kennedy, Jr., Memorial Bridge; and designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 4011 over Pine Creek, Hegins Township, Schuylkill County, as the A. Donald Buffington Memorial Bridge.

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 Erie, Senator Laughlin.

Senator LAUGHLIN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on Senate Bill No. 593, which designates a bridge on Interstate 79

northbound in Erie as the Thomas J. Kennedy, Jr., Memorial Bridge. It is appropriate that we are considering this bill today. Fifty-three years ago today, on June 12, 1966, Marine Captain Kennedy was serving as the Senior Battalion Advisor to the 5th Battalion, Vietnamese Marine Brigade, when he and his comrades were pinned down by heavy enemy fire. The command post where Captain Kennedy was serving was destroyed by enemy mortar and rifle fire. The ensuing barrage killed the Battalion Commander, the Battalion Surgeon, key staff officers, and numerous soldiers. Despite suffering multiple shrapnel wounds during the attack, Captain Kennedy found a radio and, literally, with his last breath, called in a situation report. This important information enabled the battalion to set up a defensive perimeter and ultimately repulse the repeated enemy attacks. Despite his mortal wounds, Captain Kennedy's report prevented enemy forces from overrunning the remaining battalion. Upholding the greatest tradition of the United States Marine Corps, Captain Kennedy's last action saved the lives of others. In recognition of his valiant service, Captain Kennedy was posthumously awarded the Silver Star and he was laid to rest among America's heroes in Arlington National Cemetery.

According to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Web page, Captain Kennedy is forever honored on panel 8E, line 42, of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The comments page for Captain Kennedy on that Web site include several heartfelt tributes from his peers, friends, and from regular citizens who wanted to honor his service and sacrifice. Perhaps the most poignant tribute is the one posted on Veterans Day 2006 by the family of George J. Harris of the U.S. Marine Corps. The family wrote (*reading:*)

Dear Capt. Kennedy,

What a journey this has been. That clearing by the river tore three families apart that day; Yours, Lt. Armstrong's and ours. Through all of this, I have gotten to know your daughter, Anne. You must be so proud of her, I am sure that she has her father's spirit as she continues to honor you in her everyday life. My family and I came to Arlington to visit you recently, I hope you knew we were there. I must say, aside from the other Kennedy buried at Arlington, you have a wonderful final resting place there along the path under the trees.

Please know that we think of you often and remember. I hope that in some way you know all of this.....I look forward to shaking your hand one day when we meet in Heaven.

Semper Fi, Sir! OORAH!

Mr. President, in the gallery, my wife, Peggy, and her cousin, Tim Considine, and his wife, Denise, are here with us today. This is a special occasion for Peggy and Tim, as this measure honors their Uncle Tom. There is nothing I can add now except to call on my colleagues to approve this bill to rename this bridge in recognition of Captain Kennedy's honorable service to our nation. So, thank you.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Baker.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Gordner requests a legislative leave for Senator Baker. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

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-50

Argall	DiSanto	Leach	Stefano
Aument	Farnese	Martin	Street
Baker	Folmer	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Blake	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Boscola	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H
Browne	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Corman	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Costa	Langerholc	Scavello	
Dinniman	Laughlin	Schwank	

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.

The PRESIDENT. This bill has now passed and will be sent to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

(Applause.)

HB 619 (Pr. No. 614) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the annual designation and holiday observance June 19 as "Juneteenth National Freedom Day" in this Commonwealth.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise to support this measure. I do so in the tradition of my predecessor, Senator Shirley Kitchen, who advocated for the recognition of a Juneteenth holiday by the Commonwealth years ago. Many may not know what Juneteenth is, but for those who do not, you should understand that this is an important day in American history. You see, while it was September 22, 1862, that President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation declaring all enslaved persons in the Confederate States of America in rebellion free, this is a big country, and we did not have the Internet back then, and there were areas of the country that were not--did not feel compelled by President Lincoln's proclamation. But by the time we reached June 18, 1865, the Union Army had defeated forces in the South and had marched to the furthest stretches of the Confederacy. When General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, with 2,000 Federal troops to occupy Texas on behalf of the Union, the following day, on the balcony of Galveston's Ash-

ton Villa, Granger read aloud the contents of General Order No. 3, announcing the total emancipation of all those held as slaves. He announced that slavery was over in every corner of the United States.

So, on June 19 throughout this country, starting in Texas, people acknowledge what has become known in parts of the South as Freedom Day, a day when America became that much closer to living out the true meaning of its creed. For it was written back in 1776 that all men were created equal and endowed with certain unalienable rights which included life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, but for many of us whose hue was a little darker, that creed did not begin to manifest itself until June 19, 1865. So on this day, which will be commemorated every year on June 19, Pennsylvanians and people throughout the country will acknowledge a day when America became a little bit better because we all became a little bit freer.

So, I urge an affirmative vote on this bill. I thank all of those who have done the work to bring this to pass, most especially, my predecessor and your former colleague, State Senator Shirley Kitchen. Thank you so much.

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-50

Argall	DiSanto	Leach	Stefano
Aument	Farnese	Martin	Street
Baker	Folmer	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Blake	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Boscola	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H
Browne	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Corman	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Costa	Langerholc	Scavello	
Dinniman	Laughlin	Schwank	

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.

SB 633 (Pr. No. 863) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the declaration of a public health emergency, for duties of the Department of Health, for temporary regulations and for immunity from liability.

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 Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, very briefly, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting Senate Bill No. 633. This is legislation that creates a Public Health Emergency Act that allows for Pennsylvania to be in the position to address public health emergencies across Pennsylvania. That would be defined as an occurrence of imminent threat or a disease or condition of public health importance that has two of the following as part of it: believed to be caused by a bioterrorist event, a biological, chemical, or nuclear agent, a chemical or nuclear attack; a natural disaster, an accidental chemical release or a nuclear incident; as well as a disease outbreak, including an outbreak of substance abuse disorder, along those lines. It has to result in death or the belief that there will be serious long-term disabilities applied along with that. This would allow the Governor, based upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Health, to declare this public emergency and also have a responsibility to disseminate the declaration to the public as quickly and as appropriately as possible. More importantly, it activates, within 72 hours, the PEMA director is required to be able to bring together the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council to allow them to begin to administer and effectuate the changes that need to be made as it relates to complying with the emergency order.

Mr. President, this legislation has passed this body on at least one other occasion. It passed here unanimously in the past, and, unfortunately, it was not considered in the House. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure that would address the public health emergency to move it on to the House for further consideration. Thank you.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Argall	DiSanto	Leach	Stefano
Aument	Farnese	Martin	Street
Baker	Folmer	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Blake	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Boscola	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H
Browne	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Corman	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Costa	Langerholc	Scavello	
Dinniman	Laughlin	Schwank	

NAY-0

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 675 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 698 (Pr. No. 835) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985, further providing for definitions, for physician assistants and for physician assistant license.

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-50

Argall	DiSanto	Leach	Stefano
Aument	Farnese	Martin	Street
Baker	Folmer	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Blake	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Boscola	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H
Browne	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Corman	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Costa	Langerholc	Scavello	
Dinniman	Laughlin	Schwank	

NAY-0

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

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

SB 699 (Pr. No. 836) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

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-50

Argall	DiSanto	Leach	Stefano
Aument	Farnese	Martin	Street
Baker	Folmer	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Blake	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Boscola	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H

Browne	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Corman	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Costa	Langerholz	Scavello	
Dinniman	Laughlin	Schwank	

NAY-0

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

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

SB 700 (Pr. No. 846) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for construction and renovation of buildings by school entities; and establishing a grant program for maintenance projects.

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-49

Argall	DiSanto	Martin	Street
Aument	Farnese	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Baker	Folmer	Mensch	Tomlinson
Bartolotta	Fontana	Muth	Vogel
Blake	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Boscola	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brewster	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H
Brooks	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Browne	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Collett	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Corman	Langerholz	Scavello	
Costa	Laughlin	Schwank	
Dinniman	Leach	Stefano	

NAY-1

Hutchinson

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

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

SB 712 (Pr. No. 845) -- 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 Treasury Department, further providing for investment of moneys.

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-50

Argall	DiSanto	Leach	Stefano
Aument	Farnese	Martin	Street
Baker	Folmer	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Blake	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Boscola	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H
Browne	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Corman	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Costa	Langerholz	Scavello	
Dinniman	Laughlin	Schwank	

NAY-0

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 724 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 22 and **SB 28** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 45 (Pr. No. 21) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 21, 1937 (P.L.774, No.211), referred to as the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission Act, further providing for emergency vehicles.

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 60, SB 66, SB 81, SB 94, SB 107, SB 123, SB 140, SB 149, SB 217, HB 233, HB 235, HB 276, HB 297, HB 315, SB 320, SB 332, SB 337, SB 351, SB 356, SB 396, HB 404, SB 454, SB 481, HB 502, HB 504 and HB 522 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 531 (Pr. No. 566) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, providing for findings regarding firearms and ammunition; and, in preemptions, providing for regulation of firearms and ammunition.

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

SB 531 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that Senate Bill No. 531, Printer's No. 566, 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

HB 538, SB 569, SB 601, HB 615 and SB 619 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 723 (Pr. No. 944) -- 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 high schools, further providing for courses of study.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 729 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 733 (Pr. No. 945) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the Pennsylvania Gaming Economic Development and Tourism Fund Capital Budget for 2019; itemizing projects to be assisted by the Department of Community and Economic Development, together with their estimated financial costs; authorizing recurring payments for certain projects; and making appropriations.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

HB 808 (Pr. No. 901) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, providing for power to set fees; in fiscal affairs, further providing for collection fee for uncollectible checks; in fishing licenses, further providing for non-resident and tourist licenses, for one-day resident fishing license, for license, permit and issuing agent fees and for license and permit packaging options; in special licenses and permits, further providing for net permits, for boat and net licenses for boundary lakes, for permits for protection and management of particular fish, for permits for the use of explosives, for Lake Erie fishing permits and for fishing guide and charter boat permits; in regulated fishing lakes, further providing for licenses and for fees; in dams, bar racks and migration devices, further providing for obstructing migration of fish; in preliminary provisions, further providing for fees; and, in registration and titling of boats, further providing for issuing agents, for fees and for notice for boats and related equipment.

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

HB 808 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that House Bill No. 808, Printer's No. 901, 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 ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 826 (Pr. No. 2085) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for sports raffles for charity; and making related repeals.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

HB 859 (Pr. No. 2086) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in 911 emergency communication services, further providing for definitions, for telecommunications management, for counties, for fund, for telephone records, for inventory and for termination of chapter.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SB 91 (Pr. No. 724) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of December 18, 2001 (P.L.949, No.114), known as the Workforce Development Act, in industry partnerships, further providing for definitions, for industry clusters, for interdepartmental cooperation and for industry and labor market research and providing for dissemination of industry and labor market research to educational institutions.

SB 200 (Pr. No. 943) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in school directors, further providing for school director training programs; in certification of teachers, further providing for continuing professional development, providing for trauma-informed education and further providing for postbaccalaureate certification and for Pennsylvania School Leadership Standards; in school safety and security, further providing for definitions, for School Safety and Security Committee, for school safety and security coordinator and for school safety and security training and providing for trauma-informed approach; in early learning programs, further providing for duties of department; and, in the State Board of Education, further providing for powers and duties of the board and for powers and duties of Council of Basic Education and Council of Higher Education.

SB 456 (Pr. No. 451) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of December 15, 1986 (P.L.1585, No.174), known as the Private Licensed Schools Act, further providing for definitions and for license fees and providing for multibranch training schools.

SB 669 (Pr. No. 813) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 67 (Public Welfare) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in medical assistance hearings and appeals, further providing for definitions; in public welfare generally, providing for adoption opportunities and for family finding and kinship care; establishing the Kinship Care Program and the Subsidized Permanent Legal Custodianship Program; making related repeals; and making editorial changes.

HB 384 (Pr. No. 354) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for classes of licenses.

HB 1172 (Pr. No. 1989) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of July 2, 1993 (P.L.345, No.48), entitled "An act empowering the General Counsel or his designee to issue subpoenas for certain licensing board activities; providing for hearing examiners in the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs; providing additional powers to the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs; and further providing for civil penalties and license suspension," providing for licensure by endorsement.

SENATE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Senator SCAVELLO, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 160**, entitled: entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of June 2019 as "Amateur Radio Month" and the week of June 16 through 22, 2019, as "Amateur Radio Week" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Monroe, Senator Scavello.

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, I offer this resolution recognizing the month of June 2019 as "Amateur Radio Month," and the week of June 16 through 22 as "Amateur Radio Week" in Pennsylvania. Amateur radio operators are celebrating more than a century of the miracle of the human voice broadcast over the airwaves. Amateur radio continues to provide a bridge that brings people, societies, and countries together in friendship and the sharing of ideas. Amateur radio operators have provided countless hours of community services in emergencies and to other local organizations throughout the decades. Amateur radio operators demonstrate their value in public assistance by providing free radio communications for local parades, bike-a-thons, walk-a-thons, fairs, and other charitable public events. Amateur radio services are provided wholly uncompensated, and the American Radio Relay League, ARRL, is the leading organization for amateur radio in the United States. ARRL Amateur Field Day exercises are taking place on June 22 and June 23, and are a 24-hour emergency preparedness exercise and demonstrations of the radio amateurs' skills and readiness to provide self-supporting communications without further infrastructure being required. The Eastern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Association is holding its annual field day activities at Big Pocono State Park.

Thank you all for joining me in recognizing the month of June 2019 as Amateur Radio Month, and the week of June 16 through 22 as Amateur Radio Week in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

Senators AUMENT, REGAN, J. WARD, HUGHES, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, L. WILLIAMS, KEARNEY, BLAKE, IOVINO, BREWSTER, PHILLIPS-HILL, BROWNE, SANTARSIERO, BAKER, VOGEL, KILLION, MARTIN, HUTCHINSON, BARTOLOTTA, FOLMER, COSTA, SCHWANK, MUTH, SABATINA and YUDICHAK, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 161**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing June 27, 2019, as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day" and the month of June 2019 as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I am pleased to offer this resolution which designates June 27, 2019, as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania, and the entire month of June 2019 as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania. The brave men and women of the

United States Armed Forces who proudly serve this country and risk their lives to protect our freedom deserve the investment of every possible resource to insure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being. The challenges of serving in combat, for many of our veterans, does not stop once they return home. A new challenge begins for many of our servicemen and women, one they must fight every day and can cause them to struggle, often in silence.

For those who are not familiar with it, post-traumatic stress injury can occur after exposure to extremely traumatic events including, but not limited to, combat, sexual assault, torture, abuse, life-threatening accidents, natural disasters, or inter-personal violence. Post-traumatic stress is a very common injury to the brain that is treatable and repairable. Post-traumatic stress has historically been viewed as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw in the individual's brain or character, and the term carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception. Additionally, referring to post-traumatic stress injury as a disorder not only perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness, but it also discourages those suffering from post-traumatic stress from seeking proper and timely medical treatment. Destigmatizing the condition by referring to the invisible wounds it causes in the brain as injury rather than a disorder is viewed as more honorable and can favorably influence individuals affected and encourage them to seek help without fear of retribution or shame.

We know that proper and timely treatment can decrease suicide rates. Additional education and awareness can help encourage most people suffering with PTSD to seek help. Please join us to raise awareness for post-traumatic stress injury by designating June 27, 2019, as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day in Pennsylvania, and the month of June 2019 as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Senator Regan.

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, I join Senator Aument in support of this important resolution highlighting post-traumatic stress injuries, which are prevalent in our veteran population. As many of us are aware, 22 veterans commit suicide each day, at around 30 suicides per 100,000 veterans. Their suicide rate is more than double the rate of the general population. While post-traumatic stress does not automatically lead to suicide, among people who have had a diagnosis, approximately 27 percent have also attempted suicide. As chairman of the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, I am committed to addressing veteran suicide. This summer we will be holding roundtable discussions along with members of our Congressional delegation, the State Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, the Federal VA, and the many veterans' organization and nonprofits that are on the front lines of this 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 DiSANTO, COLLETT, J. WARD, ARGALL, BAKER, FONTANA, KILLION, KEARNEY, BARTOLOTTA, FOLMER, DINNIMAN, SCHWANK, PHILLIPS-HILL, MARTIN, VOGEL, IOVINO, COSTA, BROWNE, SABATINA and AUMENT, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 162**, entitled:

A Resolution designating June 15, 2019, as "Elder Abuse Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator DiSANTO. Mr. President, I rise today, along with Senator Collett, to designate Saturday, June 15, as "Elder Abuse Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania. On this day, we join the United Nations and International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse in recognizing this global social issue, which affects the health and rights of millions of older adults. Pennsylvania is home to more than 3 million residents over the age of 60, and by next year, this demographic will constitute more than one in four State residents. The Pennsylvania Department of Aging, in partnership with its network of 52 local Area Agencies on Aging, works hard to protect our seniors by providing protective services and other programs that promote health, preserve dignity, and support independence. In the last year alone, the department issued more than 32,000 allegations of elder abuse and neglect, and it is believed that the amount of cases is actually much higher, as elder abuse often goes unreported.

Elder abuse comes in many different forms, including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation. Our older Pennsylvanians deserve to spend their golden years with dignity and respect, not worrying about the possibility of someone taking advantage of them. Pennsylvania maintains a statewide elder abuse hotline that can be accessed 24 hours a day. The number is 1-800-490-8505. It is important that we inform the public to recognize the signs of abuse and how to report it so we can protect seniors in need.

Thank you, and I would now like to yield to the Democratic chair, Senator Collett.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Collett.

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, thank you to Chairman DiSanto. I rise today in support of Senator DiSanto's resolution recognizing June 15 as Elder Abuse Awareness Day in the Commonwealth. The World Health Organization defines elder abuse as, "a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person." Elder abuse can include physical abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, willful deprivation, and financial exploitation. Tragically, 1 in 10 Americans aged 60 or older have experienced some form of elder abuse. However, elder abuse is severely underreported. As my colleague stated, one study estimates that only 1 in 14 cases of abuse are reported to authorities. The perpetrators of elder abuse can be male or female and are often a paid careworker, an adult child, or even a spouse. Sadly, in almost 60 percent of elder abuse or neglect incidents, the perpetrator is a family member.

Social isolation and mental impairment such as dementia or Alzheimer's disease can make an older person especially vulnerable to abuse. In fact, recent studies show that nearly half of those with dementia experience abuse or neglect. The signs of elder abuse are varied in their presentation. A victim may exhibit emotional and behavioral signs such as depression, anxiety, or trouble sleeping; physical signs such as bruises, broken bones, or sudden decline in physical health; and even financial, such as unusual changes in money management, odd or sudden changes to wills or other financial documents, or unpaid bills.

To prevent elder abuse, it is important for us to familiarize ourselves with the signs of abuse, educate ourselves and our loved ones on how to combat elder abuse, report suspected cases, and take steps now to insure that as we and our loved ones age, the proper care plans are in place. As legislators, it is important for us to arm our local AAAs with the proper resources and staff to respond to elder abuse in a timely and effective manner. If you suspect that elder abuse is occurring to someone you know, I urge you to call the 24-hour statewide elder abuse hotline. My colleague gave that number, but I am going to repeat it, because it is very important: 1-800-490-8505. Our aging friends, neighbors, and family members deserve to feel safe and protected, and by bringing awareness to the signs and prevalence of elder abuse, we can make a difference in the lives of some of the most vulnerable Pennsylvanians. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator Ryan Aument) in the Chair.

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

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

Senators TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER, IOVINO, FONTANA, MUTH, BLAKE, DINNIMAN, BARTOLOTTA, FARNESE, KEARNEY, COLLETT, SCHWANK, KILLION, COSTA, MENSCH, HUGHES and YUDICHAK, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 163**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of June 10 through 17, 2019, as "Disability Pride Week" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I am a proud Philadelphian, and nothing makes me prouder than to applaud the achievements of the city's people. We have a great opportunity to do that this week, which is "Disability Pride Week" in the city. The celebration will culminate this Friday with the Disability Pride Parade from the National Constitution Center to city hall. Philadelphia is one of just 15 American cities that have hosted disability pride parades since the first such event was held in Boston in 1990 on the heels of the landmark passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The parade's stated mission is: "To change the way people think about and define 'disability.' Break down and end the internalized shame among people with

Disabilities. To promote the belief in society that Disability is a natural and beautiful part of human diversity in which people living with Disabilities can take pride."

While some other cities have been unable to sustain commemorations year after year, Philadelphia's parade and pride week began in 2012 and has endured, thanks to the hard work of the organizers and the enthusiastic participation of the community. According to Pew Research, Philadelphia has the highest disability rate among the nation's top 10 largest cities. Roughly 16 percent of residents, that is 240,000 people, have a physical, emotional, or cognitive disability in 2016. Great progress has been made in bringing the city's public accommodations into ADA compliance, but there is a lot more work to do. A recent article in *Philadelphia Weekly* noted that as recently as 2017, the U.S. Department of Justice entered into agreements with 12 local restaurants to resolve complaints that they were not ADA compliant. Meanwhile, the disability community faces many other challenges, such as access to transportation, long-term housing, education, and personal care.

As a person with a disability, I assure you that this takes a lot of research, planning, and patience to successfully navigate our surroundings. Yet, despite these challenges, people with disabilities are thriving and setting positive examples every single day. Just this week we saw a Broadway actress, Ali Stroker, win a Tony award for her performance in "Oklahoma" while using her wheelchair. Achievements like Ali's are inspirations to all of us, regardless of our disabilities. They exemplify why thousands of people gather every year in Philadelphia and in cities across the nation for Disability Pride Week. I respectfully ask the Senate to join me in recognizing and honoring this commemoration.

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 PITTMAN and BLAKE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 164**, entitled:

A Resolution honoring the life and achievements of Brian Henry Swatt and expressing condolences on his passing.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana, Senator Pittman.

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, never would I have imagined my first official act as Senator would be to introduce a condolence resolution and make remarks about the passing of an employee. This past Friday, I lost a dear friend, and the people of the 41st Senatorial District and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania lost a young man who dedicated his life to public service. Brian Henry Swatt was only 21 years old when he lost his life in a tragic accident. I met Brian just 10 months ago. He was looking for an internship with Senator White. We had an interview, and it became very clear to me he was not a typical 21-year-old. Brian served as a member of the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. He was

confirmed by this very body to serve in that capacity. I learned he had just voted to increase tuition, making it more expensive for he and his peers to receive an education, an education he was working two jobs to pay for. So I decided to have a little fun in the interview, and before exchanging pleasantries, I peppered him with a question. Brian, why did you vote to raise the tuition at the State system? Unphased, Brian articulated his point of view outlining both sides of the equation and justifying his vote by explaining his decisionmaking process. At that moment, I knew this was not a kid, but a thoughtful and intelligent young man.

Brian began his internship and he grew into the role as each day passed. When we had a staff position become suddenly vacant, Brian stepped in as an intern and essentially filled the void. Then, when Senator White retired, Brian offered his support as I weighed my own future, and together we embarked on a campaign journey that I will always cherish. He was my right arm, my shadow, my confidante, and my friend. Many asked as we were campaigning if he was my son. As time went on, it began to feel as if he was. Mr. President, the victory we celebrated on May 21 was our victory. The oath of office I took on Monday was our oath of office. I regret he is no longer here to be part of the journey we began together.

Mr. President, I am honored to be serving in an institution that I have grown up with, and I have fallen in love with. I have fallen in love with it not because of the ornateness of this Chamber, but because of the people - the men and women who serve here, work for the Senate, in both Harrisburg and the district offices across this State, to provide the citizens of this Commonwealth a public service. They are this institution. Brian Swatt was an important part of this institution, and while he served for only a short time, just 4 days as a member of my staff, this institution has been made better because of him. To his parents, Brian and Christine, his entire family and friends, I express my deepest sympathies. May his soul, and all of the souls of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Blake.

Senator BLAKE. Mr. President, first and foremost, I extend my deepest and most sincere sympathies and condolences to my new friend and colleague in the Senate, Senator Pittman. I thank and commend him for bringing this condolence resolution to the Senate floor. I want to obviously extend, as Senator Pittman did, my deepest sympathies and condolences to his parents, Brian and Christine, and his siblings, Christian and Shaun. The Swatt's homestead is 605 Hill Street in Mayfield, Pennsylvania, Mr. President, about 2 miles from where my wife and I live. Brian was a 2015 graduate of Lakeland High School, and I had the pleasure of writing a letter on his behalf for that appointment to the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, and, Senator Pittman, it does not surprise me that he surprised you.

My colleagues on this side of the floor know of a program that I have had for the past 6 or 7 years as a Senator. I do not know that my Republican colleagues know this, but every year all of my public and private schools back home nominate seniors from their schools to become part of my Student Ambassador Program. Usually around 18 to 20 seniors from my high schools, public and private, apply, and I have those students five times in a 4-month period for 5 days. These students get an inside look at

what it is like to be a Senator, they get a pretty heavy civics lesson, they engage in meetings with local elected officials, they get a chance to get into treatment court and see the president judge of Lackawanna County do the work there, and Brian was a member of the 2015 class of student ambassadors. At the end of the Student Ambassador Program, I allow the students to pretend they are a Senator for 10 minutes, and stand before a committee and make a presentation on a public policy issue that they feel strongly about and have researched, and I have qualified objective judges evaluate those presentations, and we pick the top four presenters for scholarship assistance. Brian won second place in that competition. Again, Senator Pittman would not be surprised. I was able to write a check for some scholarship assistance for him to attend the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In 2015, the ambassadors also, as they do each year with me, come here to the Capitol. On the wall of my district office in the city of Scranton is a photograph of me standing right here in the front of the Senate with the 2015 class, and Brian is in that picture.

I cannot imagine the loss that we all feel when a person who is so bright, with so much promise, is taken from us in such a tragic way. So, again, I send my condolences to the family and to his friends, and I want to leave his parents and Senator Pittman with this thought: As long as he sees with your eyes and feels with your heart, he will always be with you.

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 MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, J. WARD, BREWSTER, BAKER, FARNESE, ARGALL, VOGEL, FONTANA, DINNIMAN, KILLION, SCAVELLO, MARTIN, HUTCHINSON, IOVINO, AUMENT, FOLMER, COSTA, SCHWANK, YAW, K. WARD, BROWNE, SABATINA, YUDICHAK and BARTOLOTTA, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 165**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the 244th anniversary of the founding of the United States Army.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Mensch.

Senator MENSCH. Mr. President, in 1775, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress appealed to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia to assume authority of the New England Army, which was comprised of a number of independent revolutionary militia companies. On June 14, 1775, the United States Congress voted to adopt the Boston troops and formed a committee to draft rules and regulations for the government of the Army and appropriated funds in their support. On June 15, 1775, George Washington was appointed by the Congress as the Army Commander-in-Chief. Currently, the Army is made up of more than a million soldiers both active duty, Army Reserve, and National Guard. They live by the seven core Army values, Mr. President, and they include loyalty, duty, respect, selfless sacrifice,

honor, integrity, and personal courage. I am proud to introduce this resolution recognizing all those who have served and recognizing the sacrifices made by the men and women of the United States Army on their 244th anniversary.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

Senator TOMLINSON, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 166**, entitled:

A Resolution designating June 15, 2019, as "LRRP of Company I, (Rangers), 75th Infantry Division Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bucks, Senator Tomlinson.

Senator TOMLINSON. Mr. President, I ask for unanimous support to consider this resolution designating June 15, 2019, as "LRRP of Company I, (Rangers), 75th Infantry Division Day" in Pennsylvania. I am, ironically, following Senator Mensch's resolution to honor the 244th anniversary of the Army. This Ranger unit has operated in service of our country since the American Revolution. Many famous men belonging to Ranger units during the 18th and 19th centuries included the "Swamp Fox" Francis Marion, John Singleton Mosby, and Daniel Boone. In 1941, the United States activated six Ranger units, and they fought throughout the European and Pacific Theaters of war. The United States Army Rangers scaled the 100-foot cliffs of the Pointe du Hoc and seized the German artillery pieces that could have fired on American landing troops at Omaha and Utah Beaches 75 years ago.

During the Vietnam War, General William Westmoreland established that the long-range recon patrol of every combat division be linked in reestablishing Rangers for the United States Army. This unit is considered one of the most decorated and respected Ranger units in Vietnam, one member being awarded the Medal of Honor, and two members having been inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame. This distinguished group of Rangers will be holding their national convention at Parx Casino in Bensalem in Bucks County on June 15, 2019. The host of that is Dave Christian, a field operative who earned the rank of Captain after volunteering for the service and being an Army corpsman. He was raised to the field rank of Captain, received the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, two Air Medals, and seven Purple Hearts. I am going to be proud to be with Mr. Christian on that day and to honor the rest of his fellow group.

I ask for your support in recognizing and honoring all members of this Company, Company I, Rangers, 75th Infantry, who have honorably served and protected the freedom of this country.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

Senator MASTRIANO, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 167**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing June 14, 2019, as "National Flag Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I rise today to offer this resolution designating June 14, 2019, as "National Flag Day" in Pennsylvania. Flag Day has a special meaning to me as a soldier, as it coincides with the birthday of the United States Army. A few facts on 14 June. It was the date, of course, of the Second Continental Congress that established our Army and appointed George Washington as its first Commander. Two years later, the Stars and Stripes, on that exact same day, was adopted as the official flag of the United States of America. Nowhere is Flag Day more fitting to be honored than our own State, Pennsylvania. It is where our flag originated in Philadelphia in 1775, symbolizing the birthplace of freedom. It was where, after great sacrifice, it flew above the bloody, stained-filled fields of Gettysburg to give a new birth of freedom to set all men free.

Yet, history and experience tells us that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance. When the forces of darkness threatened to swallow up Europe during World War I, our flag was carried across the battlefields of Soissons, Belleau Wood, Saint-Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, and numerous other places that beat back militarism. When a new face of evil swept across Europe and Asia during World War II, Old Glory went forth once again in the hands of brave American men and women to liberate entire continents. Our flag defended freedom in Korea, the jungles of Vietnam, and numerous other places around the world near and far, fighting the good fight for freedom.

In my own 30 years on active duty, I was honored to begin my service on the Iron Curtain in West Germany with thousands of other men and women from across the State, nation, and world. Our nation's dedication to the cause of peace there, as represented by our flag during the Cold War, prevented a third world war, and brought unparalleled peace to Europe, which it enjoys to this very day. As the Cold War ended, many of us were ordered to the Middle East to liberate Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm. I was struck by the Kuwaitis, who greeted us with tears of joy upon seeing our flag and being liberated from an oppressive tyrant.

From Valley Forge to Gettysburg, to Iraq and Afghanistan, our flag stands to this day as a light to the nations and the world. In honor of all those who served, I propose this resolution designating June 14, 2019, as National Flag Day in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President, and may every day be Flag Day.

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

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

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

SB 325, SB 607, SB 661, SB 742, SB 743, SB 744, SB 745, SB 746, SB 748, HB 64, HB 65, HB 751 and HB 1065.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019

Off the Floor	APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 166, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 634 and 661; and House Bill No. 1166)	Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.
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TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2019

10:00 A.M.	BANKING AND INSURANCE (to consider House Bills No. 858 and 1016)	Room 461 Main Capitol
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10:00 A.M.	LAW AND JUSTICE (public hearing to consider the nomination of Mary Isenhour to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board; to consider Senate Bill No. 61; and House Bills No. 131, 423, 947 and 1524)	Senate Maj. Caucus Room
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10:00 A.M.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bills No. 493, 494, 495, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691 and 692)	Room 8E-A East Wing
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11:00 A.M.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (to consider Senate Bill No. 277; and House Bill No. 786)	Room 461 Main Capitol
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11:30 A.M.	VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (to consider Senate Bills No. 92 and 447; and House Bill No. 1324)	Room 8E-A East Wing
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12:00 P.M.	STATE GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bills No. 300, 411, 414, 418, 421, 422 and 693; and House Bills No. 448 and 1461)	Room 8E-B East Wing
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12:30 P.M.	FINANCE (to consider House Bills No. 262, 1232 and 1549)	Room 461 Main Capitol
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2019

9:30 A.M.	URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (to consider Senate Bills No. 31, 352 and 438; and House Bill No. 407)	Room 461 Main Capitol
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PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mercer, Senator Brooks.

Senator BROOKS. Mr. President, on behalf of the residents of the 50th Senatorial District, I wish the West Middlesex Big Reds Boys' Baseball Team the best of luck in their State playoff game tomorrow and congratulate them on this wonderful journey.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator FONTANA. Mr. President, I stand today to speak briefly on the issue of voter access and participation in the Commonwealth. More specifically, on the issue of early voting. Mr. President, I will be blunt. If people do not vote, our democracy does not work. If people cannot vote, then we are shortchanging our democracy. During the most recent primary election last month, many counties across the State were lucky to have even a 20-percent voter turnout. Clearly, something is wrong, and it is obvious we need to find ways to improve voter access and participation. To me, Mr. President, the task is simple: we need to find ways to make voting easier and more accommodating. One way to do that, in my opinion, and it would have a major effect, is through early voting.

My legislation, Senate Bill No. 294, would provide greater convenience by enabling voters to cast their ballots days, or up to 2 weeks, before scheduled election days. Early voting would help people who work several jobs, travel, or are uncertain about making it to the polls on election day. Early voting would help the elderly, who many times depend on someone else for a ride, or families where both parents work all day and have their children's activities to navigate through that evening. Early voting would help college students who may not be home on election day and want to participate, or someone who experiences an unforeseen illness for themselves or a loved one. This plan caters to the voters rather than making voters cater to one specific date within 13 specific hours. Mr. President, 32 other States already offer successful early voting programs. I do not see a reason why Pennsylvania should delay it any longer.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, this is a very empowering time to be a working woman in America, because we are finally starting to break down the obstacles and barriers that have unjustifiably burdened us for generations. Across the U.S., and here in Pennsylvania, we are organizing and taking stands against the so-called glass ceiling and other forms of gender discrimination. We have made tremendous gains. I am very proud that here in the Senate our delegation of women has grown to 13 Members, and that more women are pursuing and obtaining elected offices around the country.

Women still have a long way to go to achieve full equality in the workplace. The gender pay gap is a glaring example of persistent inequity. Progress on gender pay equality has ground to a halt in recent years. By no coincidence, so has our progress on minimum wage. Today marks 4,721 days since the Pennsylvania legislature has last raised the State's minimum wage. That is

almost 13 years. It is far too long. Raising the minimum wage now and charting a course for fund raises would help all workers achieve pay equality. First and foremost, minimum wage is a worker's issue, but it is a woman's issue, too. At last count, Pennsylvania's working women make just 79 cents for every dollar that a man makes for doing the same work. The Commonwealth ranks 29th among U.S. States in this category. In the course of a lifetime, that rate amounts to \$700,000 less in earnings for women with a high school diploma, and \$1.2 million less for women with a college degree.

My legislation, Senate Bill No. 12, would help eliminate that gap. It would boost the wages of 2 million Pennsylvanians, or 34 percent of the residents' workforce, by raising the minimum wage to \$12 this year and \$15 by 2025. Among those workers, 61 percent are women. It would eliminate a sub-minimum wage for tip workers, such as those in the food service industry who make as little as \$2.83 an hour under current law. Women account for more than three-fourths of those workers, yet they make 15 percent less than tip men do. That is a difference of about \$1.51 per hour. Considering these facts, it should be no surprise that one in every five women tip earners live in poverty. Enacting Senate Bill No. 12 this year would raise the bar for all Pennsylvania's low-wage workers. Women constitute a disproportionate majority of that group. My legislation would establish the Commonwealth as a national leader on the critical economic issue, and it would grant millions of Pennsylvanians the financial independence that they have worked so hard and long to earn.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise for a few moments to talk about legislation that we have been working on here in the Senate and my colleagues in the House, in particular, Representative Frankel, as well as here in the Senate, my colleagues Senator Schwank and Senator Dinniman. Mr. President, it relates to the whole notion of hate crimes and the hate that has been espoused throughout our Commonwealth and across our country. As we know, there have been a number of incidents across the country and throughout the world that I just need to remind folks of, because it is important how we move forward in terms of legislation. Certainly, most significant in my community and my hometown of Pittsburgh, the Tree of Life murders, where 11 individuals who were worshipping were murdered, and the mosque in New Zealand where 49 individuals were murdered. Again, in a synagogue in San Diego after that where one was killed. The Charleston, South Carolina, church where nine parishioners were murdered and more recently, churches in Louisiana that were beset with fires. These are just examples of some of the hate crimes that are taking place in this country and across the world. We here in Pennsylvania, quite frankly, in my view, have an obligation to discuss some of the things to prevent it from happening and to try to get a better understanding about how we can learn more about these groups and what steps we can take along those lines to eradicate it.

Mr. President, there were 2,599 instances in 2017, according to a group who investigates incidences in the media, who talked about these type of local events. According to the statistics from the United States Department of Justice in 2017, 8,437 hate crimes were reported across the nation. There recently was a study conducted by California State University at San

Bernardino that found hate crimes reported to police in America's 10 largest cities, 4 of those cities saw consecutive increases each year, and in that report Philadelphia ranked, at the time, in the top 10. They, too, saw significant increases in the number of hate crimes between 2010 and 2017.

To address this issue of hate crimes, my colleagues, as I mentioned earlier, have come together and worked with a number of organizations, and particularly in the faith-based community, to try to create a program called Tolerance, Respect and Understanding. That program would work with those entities to be able to apply resources to allow them to take steps to protect those individuals who are worshipping in many of these facilities. Similar to what we did, Mr. President, last year when we put together a school safety program which looked to allow the school districts to determine for themselves what were the best ways for them to protect students in those schools. Everything from school hardening in the form of new windows, doors, and the like, and metal detectors, everything from counseling for students, which is something I pushed for and was able to get into legislation, allowing school districts to use State resources to apply them to school counselors, school psychiatrists and psychologists to identify some of the issues that were taking place and how some of this hate was being developed and what steps folks might be resorting to, to go forward. That is legislation, we think, that should be part of this budget as we go forward. I am looking for an allocation along those lines of \$10 million to be able to add to that program to insure that these faith-based places and nonprofits have the opportunity to be able to protect those individuals who are there looking to worship or provide a service.

Beyond that, these resources would also be used for developing a way in which we could work to craft understanding, tolerance, and respect for one another in creating community-based programs that allow us to be able to do that. That way, Mr. President, not only would we be looking to harden providing programs, but we would begin to change the culture of folks in terms of understanding and the best way to understand one another and how we could coexist as individuals and as human beings in our society without exhibiting and having these feelings of hatred towards one another. Hopefully, that would, again, work to be able to break down some of this hatred.

Beyond that, we also have a package of bills that we have put together as part of a hate crime package that we think is important to Pennsylvania to be considered here in the General Assembly. One of those deals with providing the Attorney General with concurrent jurisdiction in crimes involving ethnic intimidation. The second one would require hate crime offenders at any level, not necessarily the mass murderers, the folks who inflict very serious injury, but individuals who are doing other things that could be deemed as an act of hate toward one individual, whether it be faith-based, or whatever reason, that they have to complete a diversity class and allowing community impact statements to be part of that conversation, allowing them and requiring them to undergo this type of training to be able to, again, get folks to understand the cultures of so many other folks in our society.

I also look to the Municipal Police Officers' Education Training Act to create a training program that talks about how to investigate, how to identify, and how to report crimes of ethnic intimidation as it relates to understanding what exactly constitutes these types of offenses. Oftentimes, individuals may not necessarily deem something to be of ethnic intimidation and it

may not be reported that way. We need to do a better job, I believe, to identify that and report it. It would also create a private right of action for civil rights violations, allowing individuals to be able to do that. It would also create a reporting system in post-secondary institutions. We are learning more and more that some of this type of ethnic intimidation and hate crimes are being conducted against individuals in our colleges and universities across Pennsylvania. We need to take more steps to be able to require them to be able to do a better job of reporting those type of incidents so we can have a full and better understanding about the nature of hate crimes and the level of hate crimes that are taking place in our Commonwealth.

Then also having a hate crime database reporting system, working with the Attorney General to allow the Attorney General to collect this information and be able to understand what needs to be done, understand the nuances of these organizations, and be able to figure out how it is that we can work to eradicate them. These are measures that I think are important in this conversation as we go through the final weeks of our budget process, particularly the one with respect to the tolerance, respect, and understanding program that we are putting together. At some point, I ask that this Chamber would lend their support to these measures. It would be very helpful as we go through this process.

Mr. President, I thank you for the chance to provide these remarks.

BILL SIGNED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair wishes to announce the following bill was signed by the President (Lieutenant Governor John K. Fetterman) in the presence of the Senate:

HB 800.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Mensch.

Senator MENSCH. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, June 17, 2019, at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 3:17 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.