

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019

SESSION OF 2019 203RD OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 47

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, October 30, 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, Reverend ERIKA WESCH, Pastor of Little Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Telford, offered the following prayer:

To begin our prayer this morning, I invite you to join me in taking a deep cleansing breath. Breathe in, and breathe out.

O God, we come to You asking for humble hearts and clear minds as we lead the people You have entrusted to us. Grant our Senators wisdom and a steady resolve to administer justice, especially for the poor, underprivileged, and marginalized. Fill them with hope, compassion, and determination as they represent their constituents and work toward common goals and mutual understanding. As the demands and distractions of life flood their day, help them to breathe deeply and faithfully attend to the duties of their office. With the help of trusted colleagues and wise advisors, inspire and strengthen our Senators as they face the ever-present tasks in these challenging times.

O God, remind us that despite our differences, we are all created in Your image and have been gifted with Your breath of life. Help us to recognize Your creative love in the lives of all people. Heal harmful divisions and bless the work we do together as stewards of the Commonwealth, our nation, and the world. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Pastor Wesch, who is the guest today of Senator Collett.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

BILL INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

October 30, 2019

Senators SCAVELLO, BAKER, BROWNE, BOSCOLA, ARGALL and DINNIMAN presented to the Chair **SB 937**, entitled:

An Act designating the portion of State Route 2012 South beginning at the intersection of South Courtland Street and Day Street and ending at its intersection with Brown Street in East Stroudsburg Borough, Monroe County, as the Samuel Newman Way.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, October 30, 2019.

**APPOINTMENTS BY THE
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair wishes to announce the President pro tempore has made the following appointments:

Mr. Christopher G. Benson as a member of the Fire Safety Advisory Committee.

Mr. Douglas K. Marsico as a member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator KILLION, from the Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development, reported the following bills:

SB 570 (Pr. No. 761)

An Act amending the act of July 10, 1987 (P.L.246, No.47), known as the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act, providing for recovery grants for distressed municipalities.

SB 784 (Pr. No. 1348) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156), known as the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in games of chance, further providing for prize limits, providing for pull-tab deal and further providing for regulations of department; and, in tavern gaming, further providing for definitions, for licenses, for application, for approval, for enforcement and for prohibitions.

HB 1325 (Pr. No. 1973)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in burglary and other criminal intrusion, further providing for the offense of criminal trespass.

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

SB 596 (Pr. No. 1343) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in restructuring of electric utility industry, providing for transportation fueling infrastructure development.

SB 637 (Pr. No. 1344) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in criminal history record information, further providing for use of records by licensing agencies; and making related appeals.

SB 640 (Pr. No. 1345) (Amended)

An Act authorizing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact; and providing for the form of the compact.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

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

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

JOURNALS APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journals of the Sessions of June 26, 2019; June 27, 2019; and June 28, 2019, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the Sessions of June 26, 2019; June 27, 2019; and June 28, 2019.

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

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

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

YEA-48

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journals are approved.

GUESTS OF SENATOR DOUGLAS MASTRIANO PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Mastriano.

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, it is a great pleasure that I welcome two American heroes today in honor of the upcoming 244th birthday of the United States Marine Corps on November 10. It is fitting that we recognize the Marine Corps as the Marine Corps came to life here in Pennsylvania on 10 November 1775. I first introduce Colonel Joseph Allena in the front of the gallery. He is the Marine Corps senior service representative at the U.S. Army War College at the Carlisle Barracks. He has served the United States Marine Corps since 1991, with service around the nation and world in defense of our country. His service includes key assignments in Korea, around the nation as well, two deployments to the contentious Helmand Province of Afghanistan, known as one of the most dangerous places in all the world, and, while there, he led, planned, and conducted operations to support our Afghan partners in beating back the Taliban. His awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, and numerous other awards.

Also joining us today is Colonel G.K. Cunningham, retired from the Marine Corps, and he continues to serve at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, teaching strategy to our next generation of leaders. Dr. Cunningham has served at the United States Army War College since 2001 as a faculty member focusing on employment of joint landpower. His career spans the post-Vietnam War era, the Cold War, and, of course, operations after 9/11. While on active duty, G.K. Cunningham served in Lebanon during that tumultuous period and intervention there, and was there as well when the Marine Corps barracks was attacked. He has a Ph.D. and numerous awards which includes the Defense Superior Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Legion of Merit. G.K. is a personal friend. We taught together at the U.S. Army War College for 5 years on various courses on World War I and strategy in campaign operations to prepare our next generation of leaders for the challenges that lie ahead. Both these gentlemen personify the warrior ethos of the Marine Corps, and please join me in welcoming them today in the Senate.

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

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR ELISABETH J. BAKER PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, I am delighted to introduce some special guests who are in the gallery who are not from the 20th Senatorial District, but hail from the greater Harrisburg area. During my service here at the Capitol in Harrisburg, I have become well acquainted with the staff at the Homewood Suites. I am impressed with their consistent, friendly demeanor and their adherence to high standards of hospitality. So, today a Boss's Day field trip brings them to the Capitol. Joining us are Sara Lambert, the general manager; Alishia Mull, director of sales; Sandy Moeller, housekeeping and maintenance manager; Kathy

Galbraith, sales assistant; and Ray Carpenter, who is the food and beverage supervisor. So, I assured them a reciprocal warm and friendly welcome and that our Chamber would be sparkling as a result of our outstanding crew of workers. They are getting a tour and will be observing Session, and they are thrilled to be able to view our work as we interact during my time here in Harrisburg. They certainly have many questions and have shown great interest. I am delighted to welcome them and pleased to have them here on a Boss's Day tour of the State Capitol. So, will you join me in giving a warm Senate welcome to our visitors, the staff and management of Homewood Suites here in the Harrisburg area.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR MARIA COLLETT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, I rise today to extend thanks to my constituent, Erika Wesch, who serves as the head pastor of Little Zion Lutheran Church in Telford, Pennsylvania, for serving as our guest Chaplain today and offering the opening prayer for Session. A graduate of Gettysburg College, where she studied Spanish and Latin American studies, Pastor Wesch received her Masters of Divinity from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 2008. She served as the associate pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Doylestown before coming to Little Zion. Pastor Wesch is joined today by her mother, Mrs. Doris Strobel.

Earlier this year, I had the pleasure of joining Pastor Wesch and the Little Zion community for their celebration of Fastnacht Day, a rich tradition passed down by the Pennsylvania Dutch in preparation for Lent. From the moment I walked in the door, I was overwhelmed by the warmth of Pastor Wesch and her congregation, not to mention the delicious smell of fastnachts. After a wonderful day of community and kindness, I left Little Zion embraced by their warmth and covered in powdered sugar. Little Zion is also a pillar of its community, participating in many community efforts including annual events like the CROP Hunger Walk, the Souderton Christmas Parade, and Worship in the Park with other local churches. Their dedication to inclusive ministry and a welcoming community is evident in their every interaction. I am incredibly grateful and honored to have her here today.

Please join me in giving Pastor Wesch and her mother a warm Senate welcome.

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

(Applause.)

GUEST OF SENATOR CAMERA BARTOLOTTA PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, I have a special guest joining us today from the 46th Senatorial District, Ray Yeager, who is president and CEO of DMI Companies, Ductmate Indus-

tries. He traveled to Harrisburg to participate in a panel this morning as part of a meeting of the House and Senate joint manufacturing caucus. DMI Companies is a leading manufacturer of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, HVAC, components for the commercial building market. Founded in 1978, the organization has continued to develop and patent HVAC solutions with improved system efficiency and indoor air quality. Additionally, the company is committed to sustainable and energy-saving operations nationwide. The company's local plant sits in Forward Township, Allegheny County, directly across from Monongahela, my hometown. Its corporate headquarters are in Charleroi, and its approximately 250 employees hail mainly from Washington, Fayette, and Westmoreland Counties.

During his tenure, Ray has led DMI in its development of innovative products, services, and instilled commitment to a sustainable future. He is dedicated to fueling DMI's growth and profitability within a commercial construction market which has lagged the overall economic recovery. DMI was named Manufacturer of the Year in Pittsburgh in 2008 and 2009, received a Product Innovation Grant by the Green Building Alliance in 2009, was awarded two Advanced Energy Project Awards by the United States Department of Energy, and won the Green Workplace Challenge in 2014. Please join me in giving Mr. Ray Yeager a very warm Senate welcome.

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

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR SHARIF T. STREET, SENATOR ANDREW E. DINNIMAN, AND SENATOR ARTHUR L. HAYWOOD PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise to welcome a number of guests, but I do it alongside two of my colleagues, Senator Dinniman and Senator Haywood. Today, we welcome guests who are here for Muslim Capitol Day. We welcome members of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, eMgage, and its young people from Senator Haywood's district from Masjidullah. I particularly recognize Mr. Jacob Bender, the executive director of CAIR; Sister Nafeesa, who brought the Masjidullah Youth; Sister Ayesha Noor, who is an activist here with us; and Mr. Abdul Chaudhri, who is the chairman of eMgage. We thank them for being here.

They will be out visiting folks and educating members about the impact, both culturally and economically, that Muslims have on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as educating people about issues related to immigration and non-discrimination of all groups and all colors of people. The three of us decided to do this today in part because we all have constituents who are Muslim but also because Senator Dinniman is Jewish, Senator Haywood is Christian, and I, of course, am Muslim, so we wanted to do this in a very interfaith way.

So I turn it over to my colleague and friend, Senator Dinniman.

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, always remember that Pennsylvania was the first place in the world where religious liberty was declared. It is incumbent on all of us, Jewish, Christian, Muslim, in the three faiths we represent, we are all sons of Abraham, we are all one family and we have to say to this Commonwealth, we are a family, we will not tolerate discrimination or hatred or violence against any member of this family. Our family is even larger than that, Mr. President, it includes the Hindu community, the Bahá'ís, and people of every faith tradition. What we have to realize, as a body, is that the demographics of this Commonwealth have changed. We should welcome those new demographics, and we should welcome all groups who come here. In my own county, Chester County, we not only see a significant growth in the Islamic community, but also in the Indo-Pak community, which is both Hindu and Islamic. There are, if I draw a 25-mile circle around Exton, which is the center of my district, there are 36,000 people now of Indian descent and Pakistani descent in my district and in the adjoining districts. Also, we now have three mosques within my district and within the county.

So, Mr. President, we stand here as Jewish, as Christian, as Muslim Senators, we stand here as black and white, to make sure that we welcome our guests. We say to all of the Senate, listen, be educated, because we are one family, those of us who are sons of Abraham and those who are not the sons of Abraham, are Indian or Bahá'í, are Hindu or Buddhist. We need to reaffirm, as we did with the money we put in to protect, in a bipartisan way, our citizens against violence, the \$5 million that we put in the other day, we need to declare, holding hands together, we are brothers, we are sisters, and we are not going to tolerate anything happening to any person of any faith tradition. I join my Muslim brother and my Christian brother in welcoming the Muslim community and telling you that we welcome you, we are glad you are here, and we are going to work with you to educate people about all religious faith traditions so we can work together to reaffirm the essential principles of this nation and this Commonwealth, religious freedom, religious liberty for all.

(Applause.)

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

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, my special thanks to the young people who were in my office earlier today, who shared their questions, shared their concerns, and also shared some of the mistreatment that they received as a result of their faith. I want to let these young people know that Muslim Capitol Day is a very important day for them and for the Commonwealth. It provides an opportunity for their voices to be heard so that we can listen to them in the decisions that we make, and also so that they can learn how to be advocates for themselves to make the government work for them. So I am glad, I cannot be more proud of those young people who were in my office today showing the leadership, the courage, and I thank all of the adults who brought them here, and we look forward to seeing you, not just in the Capitol, but in each of our district offices so that you can have your voices heard. Thank you so much. Good to see you.

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

(Applause.)

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I want to also acknowledge the Pittsburgh Islamic Center has joined us as well. Thank you.

PERMISSION TO ADDRESS

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, sometimes we get in the routine of being in this Chamber, and yesterday, two of our Members from Franklin County and Allegheny County were acknowledging the significance of this nation, and they were acknowledging the veterans who were part of us. I will tell you that I happened to be here, because I was left at the rostrum, but unfortunately, we had about three Members left on the floor. The conversations that we are having today with regard to we as a nation, how we recognize our religious freedoms and our expressions, how we can debate our different perspectives, regardless of whether we are Democrat, Republican, or our ideology. Whether we are acknowledging the fact that we disagree openly through protest or through the vote. The fact is, this nation would not be this nation if people had not gone to war and fought for freedom.

While, on many occasions, I have acknowledged that I openly have protested what I felt to be unfair in this country and continue to do such, the privilege of doing that is borne out of the people whom we acknowledge, our veterans. But I will tell you what concerns me more and more each day is that this country does not necessarily always remember its history. It does not necessarily remember the sacrifices of people like my grandfather, my father, and people in my generation.

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, the gentleman has a special order of business here, and a special recognition of men and women who have served our nation, and I ask all of the Members to take their seats or please leave the floor so he can have the respect that this very special resolution has.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair concurs.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, thank you. I appreciate that acknowledgment because what we sometimes do is get caught up in the routine of our daily activity. We do not recognize how significant it is to be an American, and I frequently use 9/11 as an example. September 11 had friends of mine in that building who were Muslims, I had Jewish friends in that building, I had Irish friends in that building, I had Italian friends in that building, and African American friends, and what we all had to acknowledge on that day is they really could not give two hoots about what we were. What they were was attacking American values and spirit, and sometimes I think we get caught up in what a true patriot looks like and we forget the fact that patriots come in all shapes and forms. Our fathers, uncles, sisters, brothers who participate in the Brownies or Little League, a generation who went to war, a father who is a single father taking care of his child. Those of us who religiously participate in this country in the grandest experiment that any human being has ever seen, sometimes we sort of forget, and, yesterday, when I saw my two friends who are a Democrat and a Republican, a man and

a woman from different parts of Pennsylvania standing on the floor acknowledging a resolution and only, frankly, a paltry number of us were doing that, I was embarrassed, I was hurt, but most importantly, I was moved. I recognize that all of us, sincerely, fiercely, feel the passion of what it is to be an American.

So I thought it was most important before we got out of here and went our separate ways and came back in the middle of November, before we got to Veterans Day and did not have the ability to recognize their service--and they do not know that I am doing this, they did not ask me to do this. To my knowledge, and I may have missed someone, there are four who have served in the military who are amongst us today. I am acknowledging them as our special guests. Senator Iovino, Senator Mensch, Senator Aument, and Senator Mastriano. I hope I did not butcher your last name too much. I would like them to stand. And Senator Yaw as well. I would ask them to stand, and I ask us to stand in acknowledgment of what we know to be the greatest sacrifice and the greatest service and the greatest statement about what this country is, our veterans, in a way that we all should respectfully acknowledge.

Thank you very much. I appreciate you, we appreciate you. So, if we could, Mr. President, acknowledge them with a round of applause.

(Applause.)

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for purposes of a series of off-the-floor committee meetings to be held in the Rules room in the rear of the Chamber starting with the Committee on Transportation, followed by the Committee on Finance, and followed by the Committee on Labor and Industry.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of off-the-floor meetings of the Committee on Transportation, the Committee on Finance, and the Committee on Labor and Industry to be held in the Rules room, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Brooks has returned, and her temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 67, SB 94, SB 174, HB 227, HB 233, HB 305, SB 327, HB 330, HB 375, SB 485, SB 491, SB 492, HB 684, SB 688, SB 689 and SB 693 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

HB 716 (Pr. No. 2007) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties of the Department of Labor and Industry, its departmental administrative and advisory boards and departmental administrative officers, providing for joint task force on misclassification of employees.

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 754 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 836 (Pr. No. 1265) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 30, 2012 (P.L.574, No.59), known as the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act, further providing for sudden cardiac arrest.

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 York, Senator Regan.

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, I rise to speak on Senate Bill No. 836, fondly referred to as Peyton's Law. This bill has been a top priority for me because it honors a young woman who was taken from us 6 years ago this Saturday at the young age of 19. Her name is Peyton Walker, and she died from sudden cardiac arrest. Peyton was a graduate of Trinity High School in Camp Hill, and she was a sophomore at Kings College in Wilkes-Barre when she died. Unfortunately, Peyton's family is not alone in losing a loved one to sudden cardiac arrest, also known as SCA. SCA is a leading killer of student athletes in the United States and the leading cause of death on school campuses. Recognizing these staggering statistics, I introduced Senate Bill No. 836 as an effort to educate every student athlete and their parents about EKG testing to detect underlying heart conditions that can lead to sudden cardiac arrest.

Senate Bill No. 836 calls for the inclusion of information on a warning sign sheet that parents will receive regarding EKG testing as it relates to SCA and notification to parents that they have the option to request an EKG in addition to the standard pre-participation physical. Mr. President, this is a commonsense piece of legislation aimed at educating and empowering our stu-

dent athletes and their families at a time when every hour of every day we lose a child to SCA. Let me repeat that, Mr. President, every hour of every day we lose a child to SCA.

I thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who have joined me as cosponsors and supporters of this important bill, and I am especially grateful that we are voting on it as Peyton's family prepares to mark the anniversary of her passing this Saturday. Joining us today in the gallery is Peyton's mom, Julie Walker, who is the founder and executive director of The Peyton Walker Foundation, and together with her team, has been leading the charge to raise awareness of SCA, conduct EKG testing on thousands of student athletes, and donate AEDs to schools and sports teams in our area. Julie was also instrumental in bringing Scott and Melody Stephens from Texas to our press conference last week. The Stephens lost their son, Cody, to SCA, which led them to advocate for Cody's Law, the inspiration for Peyton's Law, which Governor Greg Abbott signed into law in June.

Mr. President, as the father of four, Peyton's and Cody's stories, as well as many others, have hit close to home. Knowing a simple test could save my children from becoming victims of SCA, motivated me to have my own boys screened by The Peyton Walker Foundation, and my legislation provides lifesaving information to all parents and empowers them to take the simple steps that I did.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise to support my good friend and colleague from York County's Senate Bill No. 836, also known as Peyton's Law. When I served in the House of Representatives in 2017, I was so incredibly grateful and honored to be able to work with The Peyton Walker Foundation, Julie Walker, WellSpan Health, and Hershey Pediatric Cardiology to bring a student heart screening event to York County. When the Walker family lost Peyton, they turned their anguish and sorrow into action and they said they never, ever wanted another family to feel their pain. At that screening event in York County, we were able to screen over 200 students, and from that screening we identified 12 students who had their results flagged, and 5 who had potentially life-threatening conditions. This bill is a great step to insure that we provide students and their parents with the knowledge that they need to save their lives.

The Peyton Walker Foundation and Julie Walker, God bless them, they realized that as hard as they were working to screen students all throughout central Pennsylvania, that they were not going to be able to touch every life that they needed to touch. Just think about what they did in York County. Five young men and women who may or may not be here today because of a simple screening event for a little more than 200 students. This legislation providing further guidance will give parents and students the tools and the knowledge that they need to screen student athletes and save lives. Most importantly, it is going to help identify students who may unknowingly have cardiac issues and improve the quality of their lives. Five students out of 200. We need to help those students and those parents out there who simply do not know about possible heart conditions, and Peyton's Law will help the beat go on by saving lives from the number one killer of student athletes in the United States. Knowledge is power when it comes to student health.

Thank you, again, to my dear friend and colleague from York County for spearheading this effort, and I respectfully ask for an affirmative vote from my colleagues today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator DINNIMAN. Mr. President, I also urge support of this, and what we have done here in a very positive way, think of the three pieces of legislation we have gotten through, to help students in general and student athletes in particular. We now have a way to do the appropriate testing, but we also, if you remember several years ago passed Aidan's Law, which required all schools have AED machines not only in the school but on the athletic fields as well. So if someone has sudden cardiac arrest, we are able to assist them in those golden minutes to save their lives. We also passed a bill that educates all of our students so that they know CPR, so that if someone has a heart attack, we can respond. So I urge us to pass this because this is part of a stool, a three-legged stool, upon which with CPR knowledge, with AEDs, and now with the testing of heart waves, EKG, we will save lives, and there is no question about it.

I thank Senator Regan, I thank Senator Killion for the CPR bill. I had been involved with Aidan's Law. We now are on our way to protecting lives of so many students in this Commonwealth, which is great. Nothing is more valuable than saving a life, my friends. Thank you.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

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

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. Would the guests of Senator Regan please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

SB 841 (Pr. No. 1338) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the Health Care Cost Containment

Council, for its powers and duties, for health care cost containment through the collection and dissemination of data, for public accountability of health care costs and for health care for the indigent.

Considered the third time and agreed to,
And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

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

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 AMENDED

SB 857 (Pr. No. 1326) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act relating to telemedicine; authorizing the regulation of telemedicine by professional licensing boards; and providing for insurance coverage of telemedicine.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?
Senator VOGEL offered the following amendment No. A3619:

Amend Bill, page 8, line 1, by striking out "that" and inserting:
who

Amend Bill, page 8, lines 14 through 17, by striking out "THE REGULATIONS SHALL NOT" in line 14, all of lines 15 and 16 and "APPLY TO A TELEMEDICINE ENCOUNTER." in line 17

Amend Bill, page 11, lines 17 through 21, by striking out all of said lines

Amend Bill, page 12, lines 14 through 20, by striking out "A SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (1), a health insurer shall" in line 14, all of lines 15 through 19 and "shall apply to a telemedicine encounter." in line 20 and inserting:

Subject to paragraph (1), a health insurer shall reimburse a health care provider that is a participating network provider for both in-person and telemedicine services in accordance with the terms and conditions of the network participation agreement as negotiated between the insurer and the participating provider, the form of which shall be filed with and subject to review by the Department of Health. The

network participation agreement may not prohibit reimbursement solely because a health care service is provided by telemedicine.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the amendment?
It was agreed to.

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

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 905 (Pr. No. 1336) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the capital budget for fiscal year 2019-2020; itemizing public improvement projects, furniture and equipment projects, transportation assistance, redevelopment assistance projects, flood control projects, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission projects and Manufacturing Fund projects leased or assisted by the Department of General Services and other State agencies, together with their estimated financial costs; authorizing the incurring of debt without the approval of the electors for the purpose of financing the projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of General Services and other State agencies; authorizing the use of current revenue for the purpose of financing the projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of General Services and other State agencies stating the estimated useful life of the projects; restricting use of funds on certain projects; and making appropriations.

Considered the third time and agreed to,
And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

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

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 906 and **HB 947** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 1016 (Pr. No. 1166) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, in fraternal benefit societies, providing for solvency and further providing for benefit contract and for injunction, liquidation and receivership of domestic society.

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-48

Table with 4 columns of names: Argall, Aument, Baker, Bartolotta, Blake, Boscola, Brewster, Brooks, Browne, Collett, Corman, Costa, Dinniman, DiSanto, Farnese, Fontana, Gordner, Haywood, Hughes, Hutchinson, Iovino, Kearney, Killion, Langerholc, Laughlin, Leach, Martin, Mastriano, Mensch, Muth, Phillips-Hill, Pittman, Regan, Sabatina, Santarsiero, Scarnati, Scavello, Stefano, Street, Tartaglione, Tomlinson, Vogel, Ward, Judy, Ward, Kim, Williams, Anthony H., Williams, Lindsey, Yaw, Yudichak

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.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 1410 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 22, HB 57, SB 60, HB 68, SB 132, SB 258, HB 280, SB 284 and SB 329 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 489 (Pr. No. 1332) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fees, further providing for exemption of persons, entities and vehicles from fees.

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 was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

SB 530 (Pr. No. 1331) -- 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 pupils and attendance, providing for students convicted or adjudicated delinquent of sexual assault; and, in safe schools, further providing for safe schools advocate in school districts of the first class.

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 was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 531, SB 647, SB 726, SB 727 and SB 798 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 850 (Pr. No. 1163) -- 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 community engaged schools.

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 was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

SB 858 (Pr. No. 1161) -- 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 general budget implementation, further providing for Motor License Fund.

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 was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 891 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 895 (Pr. No. 1251) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor, to grant and convey to Centre County Industrial Development Corporation, certain lands situate in Benner Township, Centre County.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 902, HB 917 and SB 924 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 927 (Pr. No. 1320) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for issuance and content of driver's license.

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 was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

HB 956 (Pr. No. 2191) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of August 26, 1971 (P.L.351, No.91), known as the State Lottery Law, in State lottery, further providing for powers and duties of secretary.

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 was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

HB 1034 (Pr. No. 2746) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in consolidated county assessment, further providing for definitions, for changes in assessed valuation and for abstracts of building and demolition permits to be forwarded to the county assessment office.

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 was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1035, HB 1036, HB 1174, HB 1180, HB 1203, HB 1379, HB 1402, HB 1405, HB 1522, HB 1537 and HB 1578 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 170, AMENDED AND ADOPTED

Senator CORMAN, without objection, called up from page 11 of the Calendar, **Senate Resolution No. 170**, entitled:

A Resolution establishing a task force on services for veterans, including the coordination of services in this Commonwealth among Federal, State, local and nonprofit programs aimed at serving veterans, and directing the Joint State Government Commission to establish an advisory committee to the task force and conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of services for veterans.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

Senator REGAN offered the following amendment No. A2665:

Amend Resolution, page 3, by inserting between lines 26 and 27:
(18) An individual who represents a countywide veterans' assistance network.

Amend Resolution, page 3, line 27, by striking out "(18)" and inserting:

(19)

Amend Resolution, page 3, line 30, by striking out "(19)" and inserting:

(20)

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

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

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, this amendment simply adds an additional advisory committee member to the task force on veterans' services representing a county-wide veterans assistance network. I believe the addition of this person will be of assistance to the overall work of the task force, and I look forward to the amendment's adoption.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate agree to the amendment?
It was agreed to.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution, as amended?

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

Senator IOVINO. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of Senate Resolution No. 170, as amended, which the Senate will soon vote on. Sponsored by Senator Regan and myself, this resolution responds to the challenges presented navigating the vast and complex number of organizations that serve veterans in Pennsylvania. The Commonwealth is home to the fourth-largest

veteran population in the United States, yet Federal dollars expended per Pennsylvania veteran ranks 54th in the country. It is this disparity in expenditures that has led to the creation of, literally, thousands of entities to serve veterans. The sheer number of veterans-serving organizations across the Commonwealth, currently approaching 6,000 in number, has made coordination, cooperation, and navigation difficult. I often hear from veterans that navigating the large array of services can be overwhelming, especially for veterans who struggle with service-related disabilities or limited access to technology.

In 2014, a needs assessment from the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs found that, and I quote, "challenges in meeting veterans' needs lay not with what is available, but how it is available. The flow of information to veterans about services, benefits, and programs is overwhelming in both volume and presentation." To address this problem, Senate Resolution No. 170 directs the Joint State Government Commission to establish a task force to study the coordination of veterans' services in the Commonwealth among Federal, State, local, non-profit, and private programs. The task force would conduct a comprehensive review of analysis of laws, regulations, policies, and procedures of the Commonwealth and other States regarding the coordination of veterans' services and issue a report with findings and recommendations to the Senate within 12 months. This report will help us address the navigation and coordination issues that currently exist, resulting in improved access for our veterans to programs that provide for their specific needs, such as housing, training, employment, or social support.

As we approach Veterans Day on November 11, let us send a message to Pennsylvania's more than 840,000 veterans that they are a priority to us and that we want to take every possible step to help them access the services that they have earned. I ask my colleagues that you please join me, and 47 cosponsors, in helping our Commonwealth's veterans by supporting this important resolution. Thank you.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution, as amended?

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

SENATE AT EASE

The PRESIDENT. The Senate will be at ease.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, while we are at ease, if Members of the Senate Democratic Caucus could join me around the podium for a brief conversation, I would appreciate it. Thank you.

(The Senate was at ease.)

MOTION PURSUANT TO SENATE RULE 12

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, as a special order of business, I call up Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 1, Senate Bill No. 857, and move the Senate proceed to consider Senate Bill No. 857, notwithstanding the provisions of Senate Rule 12(m)(2).

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 1

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 857 (Pr. No. 1347) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act relating to telemedicine; authorizing the regulation of telemedicine by professional licensing boards; and providing for insurance coverage of telemedicine.

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 Beaver, Senator Vogel.

Senator VOGEL. Mr. President, first, I thank some of the people instrumental in the creation and passage of this legislation. I start with my former chief of staff, Cheryl Schriener, and Diane Acri, who have been working on this legislation for 3 years. I also thank Chairman Scavello and Chairman Street, Senator Corman and Senator Scarnati, along with their staff, for their input and leadership on this bill. I thank all of the stakeholders who saw the importance of this bill and worked tirelessly to get it here today for final passage.

Pennsylvania is one of a handful of States without a statutory definition for telemedicine. Telemedicine can vastly improve the availability of healthcare options for people who live in rural and/or urban areas, lower the cost of healthcare, and strengthen the bond between patients and their doctors. Telemedicine is especially vital for patients who suffer from chronic illnesses, seniors who are homebound, and families who live in rural areas and have to travel a far distance to receive medical care. We need to make this option available for all Pennsylvanians. Healthcare practitioners in my district and across the State are tasked with the increased pressure to expand access to care, while improving efficiency in the face of limited resources. I believe telemedicine can help bridge this gap and meet the demands. Studies show that telemedicine saves time, money, and lives. It is the ability to treat patients from their homes, giving valuable medical support and information, and providing service in areas lacking the ability to deliver quality healthcare. The thought of having access to a medical professional whenever and wherever you are is no small feat, and that point is the essence of this legislative initiative. With more visits being conducted through the use of technology, it will decrease unnecessary emergency room visits, improve limited physician resources, decrease hospital readmissions, while creating countless savings on the cost of healthcare.

We have worked through the policy points of this legislation, and the reality is that the sooner this is implemented, the sooner we can enhance the health and well-being of every citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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-47

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

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.

HOUSE MESSAGE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RETURNED WITH AMENDMENT

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate, Senate Concurrent Resolution entitled **Weekly Recess**, with the information that the House has adopted the same with amendment, in which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The resolution, as amended, was read by the Clerk as follows:

In the House, October 30, 2019

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the Senate recesses this week, it reconvene on Monday, November 18, 2019, unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore; and be it further

RESOLVED, Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the House of Representatives recesses this week, it reconvene on Monday, November 18, 2019, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENT TO SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in the amendment made by the House to the Senate Weekly Recess resolution.

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

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

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate inform the House of Representatives accordingly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator HUTCHINSON, from the Committee on Finance, reported the following bill:

SB 931 (Pr. No. 1334)

An Act amending Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in membership, credited service, classes of service, and eligibility for benefits, further providing for credited State service; in contributions, further providing for shared-risk member contributions and shared-gain adjustments to regular member contributions, for contributions to the system by the Commonwealth and other employers and for actuarial cost method and providing for advance payment of accrued liability contributions; in administration, funds, accounts and general provisions, further providing for administrative duties of the board, for duties of heads of departments and for State accumulation account; and providing for obligations of the board, for exercise of legislative power and for liability.

Senator BARTOLOTTA, from the Committee on Labor and Industry, reported the following bill:

SB 922 (Pr. No. 1309)

An Act amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, in liability and compensation, further providing for compensable injuries, subrogation and proration.

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

HB 1547 (Pr. No. 2819) (Amended)

An Act designating the highway interchange of U.S. Route 422 with Pennsylvania Route 66, Manor Township, Armstrong County, as the Senator Donald C. White Interchange; designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 144 beginning at the intersection of Pennsylvania Route 26 in Pleasant Gap and ending at the intersection of Pennsylvania Route 45 in Centre Hall, Centre County, as the Duster-Quad 50-Searchlight Highway; designating a bridge, identified by Bridge Key 31377, on that portion of State Route 2047 over the Flaugherty Creek, Meyersdale Borough, Somerset County, as the Harry Beal Bridge; designating a bridge on that portion of U.S. Route 219 over Buffalo Creek in Brothersvalley Township, Somerset County, as the John Vatauvuk Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge carrying State Route 4009 in York County over the Conewago Creek as the Staff Sergeant Gary Crone Memorial Bridge; designating the bridge located at 39°57'48.9"N 79°02'40.7"W (U.S. Route 219 over Walters Mill Road), as the Mark J. Baserman Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 35729, on that portion of State Route 3041 in Texas Township, Wayne County, as the PFC Raymond P. Schwesinger Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified by Bridge Key 8671, on that portion of Washington Street over the Conemaugh River in Johnstown City, Cambria County, as the SFC Raymond R. Buchan Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 27659, on that portion of State Route 2034, also known as Edge Hill Road, over Pennsylvania Route 611, also known as Old York Road, in Abington Township, Montgomery County, as the Captain Samuel Schultz Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 1002, also known as Friend Lea Road, over U.S. Route 219 in Cambria Township,

Cambria County, as the PFC Cyril T. Yeckley Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on that portion of Pennsylvania Route 56 over the Conemaugh River, Indiana County, as the Spc. Beverly S. Clark Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on that portion of Pennsylvania Route 553, bridge ID 32055302000620, over Dutch Run in Pine Township, Indiana County, as the Private Chancy Franklin Davis Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on that portion of Pennsylvania Route 403 over Dixon Run, Clymer Borough, Indiana County, as the PFC Martin J. Popson Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on that portion of U.S. Route 422 over Yellow Creek, Cherryhill Township, Indiana County, as the PFC Ralph E. Dias Memorial Bridge; designating the bridge, identified as Bridge Key 19010, on that portion of United States Route 119 over the Yellow Creek in Center Township, Indiana County, as the Dr. Patricia Hilliard-Robertson Memorial Bridge; designating the bridge located on Pennsylvania Route 897 (Main Street) over Little Cocalico Creek in West Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, as the Sheriff Terry A. Bergman Memorial Bridge; designating the portion of State Route 3059 near its intersection with Little Creek Road to the area immediately before State Route 3059 intersects with Officer David D. Tome Memorial Circle located on State Route 116 at Hanover Road and Roth's Church Road in Spring Grove, York County, as Corporal Earl H. Markle Memorial Road; designating the portion of State Route 2012 South beginning at the intersection of South Courtland Street and Day Street and ending at its intersection with Brown Street in East Stroudsburg Borough, Monroe County, as the Samuel Newman Way; and making a related repeal.

SENATE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Senators J. WARD, MENSCH, MARTIN, FONTANA, DINNIMAN, HUGHES, LEACH, TARTAGLIONE, BLAKE, BROWNE, YUDICHAK, PITTMAN, AUMENT, SCHWANK and BAKER, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 268**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of November 2019 as "Slinky Toy Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Blair, Senator J. Ward.

Senator J. WARD. Mr. President, I offer this resolution designating the month of November 2019 as "Slinky Toy Month" in Pennsylvania. I selected the month of November because the Slinky toy was first demonstrated in November 1945 at Gimbel's Department Store in Philadelphia. The Slinky, which is made in my senatorial district, was introduced at the American Toy Fair in 1946. Betty, the owner and president of James Industries, relocated the company to Hollidaysburg, Blair County, during the 1960s, where the Slinky has been manufactured ever since. Betty commissioned the development of a memorable and catchy jingle for the toy, which made it a national sensation. "It's Slinky" aired on TV in 1962. I am certain there are some Members who remember that jingle. The Slinky was featured on the United States postage stamp in 1999, used in movies, and is the subject of numerous reports and the national press countless times. In 2000, the Slinky was inducted into the National Toy Hall of Fame. In 2018, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission approved the development of a State historical marker to be placed in Clifton Heights in Delaware County, where early production of the Slinky occurred after the factory moved from Germantown. The Slinky is an icon of American creativity and of Pennsylvania manufacturing. Therefore, I ask Members to support adoption of this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

Senators MASTRIANO, ARGALL, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, BROOKS, BROWNE, COSTA, DINNIMAN, IOVINO, KILLION, LANGERHOLC, MARTIN, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN, REGAN, SCAVELLO, SCHWANK, STREET, TARTAGLIONE, J. WARD, YUDICHAK and SABATINA, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 269**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing November 10, 2019, as "Marine Corps Day" in Pennsylvania in honor of the United States Marine Corps' 244th anniversary of its founding.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Mastriano.

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I rise today to offer this resolution to commemorate the 244th birthday of the United States Marine Corps. Not only is Pennsylvania where the spark of liberty brought light to a dark world in 1776, and where a new birth of freedom was secured at great cost in 1863, but it is also where the United States Marine Corps was founded. The Continental Congress on November 10, 1775, passed a resolution for Captain Samuel Nicholas to recruit two battalions of Marines. He began that very day to recruit Marines at Tun Tavern in Philadelphia. Since then, millions of men and women have proudly worn the title of Marine serving the nation and fighting the nation's wars around the world.

As General Lejeune, the 13th commandant of the Marine Corps, wrote in 1921, and I quote, (*reading*):

From the Battle of Trenton to the Argonne, Marines have won foremost honors in war, and in the long eras of tranquility at home, generation after generation of Marines have grown gray in war in both hemispheres and in every corner of the seven seas that our country and its citizens might enjoy peace and security.

Indeed, the Marine Corps has served our nation with distinction and honor. They were there during the American Revolution leading the first amphibious assault against the British garrison in the Bahamas, and, together with the Continental Army, beating back the British at Trenton and Princeton. The Marines restored the nation's honor against the North African Barbary pirates at the beginning of the 19th century and continued to serve with distinction across the generations that followed. It was in 1918, however, during the dark days of the First World War, where the ideals of the Marine Corps took root. For instance, as the French withdrew during the Battle of Belleau Wood, the Marines were told to fall back with them. With legendary Marine bravado, Captain Lloyd Williams said, and I quote, "Retreat? Hell, we just got here." With that, Captain Williams led his men forward, the Marines blunted the German attack, and gave his own life in that vicious battle. It was here, too, that the Marines were given the title of Teufel Hunden (Devil Dogs) by their German adversaries.

Across the decades, Marines have stood and fought to preserve our freedoms, including in the Pacific islands of World War II, the Frozen Chosen of Korea, the jungles of Vietnam, and now in the global war against terror. They have fought with distinction and honor, living up to their motto "Semper Fidelis," "Always Faithful." Semper Fi.

I have several great Marines in my life. I earlier introduced to the Senate Colonel G.K. Cunningham and Colonel Joe Allena, who are in the gallery today. There is also my brother, Wayne, who defended the American Embassy in El Salvador from communist insurgents in 1981, facing almost daily attacks from them. Also my brother, Robert, who helped drive back Saddam Hussein's army from Kuwait in 1991 during Operation Desert Storm. And, finally, Corporal Robert Boardman, or Bob to his friends, a legendary Marine who fought in the Pacific in World War II. He served in three campaigns, received two Purple Hearts and a Silver Star for heroism. For me, he was a dear personal friend and hero. Bob personified the fighting spirit of the Marines. He lived by Psalm 37, verse 3, saying, "Trust in the Lord and do good." This belief would be put to the test for Bob during the Battle of Okinawa, when his tank was destroyed by enemy fire and burst into flames near Kunishi Ridge. As he struggled to pull another Marine to safety, a Japanese sniper opened fire shooting Bob in the neck, shattering his larynx and forever hampering his ability to speak. After much therapy and treatment, Bob regained some ability to speak in a whisper, which he jokingly referred to as Japanese laryngitis, earning him the nickname "the whispering Marine." Instead of living in bitterness against his foe, he returned to Okinawa after the war and lived there for 30 years loving and administering to those who were once his mortal enemies. Thinking of so many Marines and other servicemen, Bob wrote, (*reading*):

The endless stream of veterans and their spouses taking the journey of no return from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam is turning into a steady gentle stream. This fact should not bring alarm, but rather a heart of preparation and thanksgiving for a generation that, under the hand of God, helped bring world peace, stability, and overthrow of absolute evil."

Bob added, "I personally want to leave a lasting legacy to the next generation, and pray that God may see fit to fulfill this desire in my unworthy life." Indeed, Bob left a legacy for us to contemplate and emulate. He and so many other great Marines who earned the title, Marines, stood in the gap and fought the good fight for freedom when the very existence of the nation was in the balance. May we never forget the dedication and determination of the Marines who served as a vanguard of freedom during times of war and, in particular, those who gave the last full measure of devotion to give us the peace and prosperity that we enjoy today. Indeed, of the Marine Corps, we can say that there is no greater friend or worse enemy.

Please join me in this resolution to commemorate the birth of the United States Marine Corps right here in the great State of Pennsylvania. Semper Fi.

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

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

Senators BARTOLOTTA, BOSCOLA, LANGERHOLC, J. WARD, BAKER, FONTANA, DINNIMAN, STREET, FARNESE, MASTRIANO, COLLETT, BROWNE, MENSCH, TARTAGLIONE, YAW, KILLION, SCHWANK, YUDICHAK, COSTA, BLAKE and SABATINA, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 270**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of November 10 through 16, 2019, as "Nurse Practitioner Week" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, nurse practitioners serve as trusted frontline providers of healthcare for patients of all ages and walks of life in our Commonwealth. There are approximately 13,700 nurse practitioners or advanced practice registered nurses, APRNs, who are currently practicing in Pennsylvania and providing primary, acute, and specialty care. Patients have demonstrated great trust in the high-quality care nurse practitioners provide, resulting in more than 1 billion patient visits annually to nurse practitioners across this country. Better utilization of nurse practitioners through modernized State laws and improved policies creates better health through a more accessible, efficient, and cost effective and higher quality healthcare system. That is why I stand here today to recognize the week of November 10 through 16, 2019, as "Nurse Practitioner Week" in Pennsylvania, to increase public awareness of the important role that nurse practitioners play in providing vital healthcare services. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution and acknowledge the service of Pennsylvania's thousands of nurse practitioners.

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 IOVINO, MENSCH, FARNESE, BROOKS, PHILLIPS-HILL, FONTANA, BARTOLOTTA, DiSANTO, BROWNE, J. WARD, DINNIMAN, K. WARD, SANTARSIERO, COSTA, BLAKE, BREWSTER, YUDICHAK, REGAN, MASTRIANO, SABATINA and TARTAGLIONE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 271**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of November 2019 as "Military Family Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator IOVINO. Mr. President, the military tradition in our Commonwealth is longstanding and continues strong to this day. Currently, Pennsylvania has over 32,700 active duty or guard or

reserve service members serving in our nation's Armed Forces. That number serving translates into hundreds of thousands of family members supporting our troops. Over 32,000 of them are children in Pennsylvania that have at least one parent serving in either the National Guard, Reserve, or an active duty branch of the military. Pennsylvanians understand the importance of service, and while the service and sacrifice of those who put on the uniform is easily seen by those in the civilian world, the crucial role that service members' families play is less visible.

Behind every soldier, sailor, airman, Marine, Coast Guardsman, active or reserve, are loved ones - spouses, children, parents, siblings. These family members bear burdens that make it possible for our military's men and women to serve, such as raising children as a single parent during a spouse's deployment, regularly packing up the house and relocating to sometimes remote places, spouses putting their career on hold while assuming the full-time job of keeping a family strong, children readjusting to new schools and new environments during their formative years, parents filled with both pride and anxiety for the safety of their adult child serving. These are just some of the sacrifices that our military families routinely make, and they do so because, of course, they love their family member in the military, but they also do it because they understand how important that service is to their loved one's sense of duty and they recognize how critical their support is to our country as a whole. The military family member, which may be the toughest job in our Armed Forces, is the one who has left some of the strongest impressions on me during my 23 years in the Navy.

As the first Gulf War ramped up and I oversaw the mobilization and deployment of troops under my command at the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center, I saw firsthand the impact that military life can have on family members. I saw them grapple with tough questions, and then I saw them put their fears aside to focus on maintaining the home and supporting their loved ones with steadfast commitment. Those days inspire me to this day still, and that is why it is more than fitting that this November we extend our heartfelt gratitude to military families for the support they provide to our service members and, ultimately, to our country, and that we acknowledge November as "Military Family Month" in Pennsylvania. Thank you.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator L. WILLIAMS. 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 570, SB 596, SB 637, SB 640, SB 784, SB 922, SB 931, HB 1325 and HB 1547.

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, NOVEMBER 18, 2019

- 10:00 A.M. STATE GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bills No. 417 and 779; Senate Resolutions No. 179 and 272; House Bill No. 1896; and confirmation hearing to consider the nomination of Kathy Boockvar as the Secretary of the Commonwealth) Room 8E-A East Wing
- 11:00 A.M. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (to consider Senate Bill No. 606; and House Bills No. 321, 1001, 1058 and 1662) Room 461 Main Capitol
- 12:30 P.M. AGING AND YOUTH (to consider Senate Bill No. 368; and House Bill No. 1051) Room 8E-B East Wing
- Off the Floor APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 74, 596, 842 and 850; and House Bills No. 17, 956 and 1203) Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.
- Off the Floor JUDICIARY (to consider Senate Bill No. 809; and House Bills No. 97, 962, 963 and 1171) Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.
- Off the Floor LAW AND JUSTICE (to consider House Bill No. 1542) Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.
- Off the Floor RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 146, 147 and 456; and certain Executive Nominations) Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.
- Off the Floor LABOR AND INDUSTRY (to consider Senate Bills No. 79 and 594; House Bill No. 422; and Department of Labor and Industry Regulation #12-106 (IRRC No. 3202)) Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2019

- 9:30 A.M. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (to consider Senate Bills No. 679 and 766; and House Bill No. 476) Room 461 Main Capitol
- 10:00 A.M. BANKING AND INSURANCE (to consider Senate Bill No. 595; and House Bill No. 427) Room 461 Main Capitol
- 10:00 A.M. JUDICIARY (public hearing to consider the reappointment of John P. Williams as a member of the Board of Pardons) Room 8E-B East Wing
- 11:30 A.M. VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (to consider Senate Bills No. 276, 952 and 957; and House Bills No. 630 and 1050) Room 8E-A East Wing
- 12:45 P.M. COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY (to consider Senate Bill No. 810) Rules Cmte. Conf. Rm.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2019

- 9:00 A.M. URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (public hearing on Senate Bill No. 802, data collection on common interest ownership communities) Room 8E-B East Wing

9:30 A.M.	GAME AND FISHERIES (to consider House Bills No. 102, 584 and 617)	Room 461 Main Capitol
9:30 A.M.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES and TRANSPORTATION (joint informational meeting on Medical Assistance Transportation Program)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.
<u>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019</u>		
10:00 A.M.	INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS (public hearing on regulatory reform, red tape reduction and transparency)	1000 Potato Roll Lane Chambersburg

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, today I rise to speak on an issue that is of critical importance to the constituents of my communities in Monroe and Northampton Counties and across our Commonwealth, the issue of school property tax reform. For years, there has been much discussion in this legislative body about how to reform the burdensome and outdated school property tax. All too often, this issue gets buried in discussions about a host of high-profile topics including pension reform, charter schools, fair education funding, and others. And these issues are certainly all worthy of discussion and much-needed action. However, these issues are often used as an excuse to ignore the very real, very pressing, and, in some cases, very deadly issues of school property tax reform.

You may wonder why I have used the term "deadly." Well, in my district, we have the highest school property tax burden of any region of the State. We have seniors who are pinching what pennies they have and choosing between whether to buy their food and medication or whether to pay their school taxes. We have widows who, after the death of their spouse, their social security income was cut dramatically. Now they are trying to live on \$1,200 per month and cannot make ends meet. Their home is paid off, but they have 300 percent, 400 percent, and even 500 percent increases in taxes. One woman who no longer could afford her school taxes told me, I am guilty of living too long. She retired with her husband in 1984, debt free, her school taxes were less than \$500, and her taxes were approaching \$5,000. Another resident told me how he came to his neighbor's rescue. His elderly neighbor could no longer afford the school property tax, and he was in jeopardy of losing his home. He shut himself in the garage with his car running in order to take his own life. The gentleman I spoke with said that he found the man and was able to pull him out of the garage before a tragic incident occurred. This is how deadly the continued inaction of school property tax reform has become to our senior population. Another incident happened in Monroe County not too long ago where a man was facing a tax sale of his long-time family home. He barricaded himself in his home and had a standoff with police before committing suicide in his house.

These scenarios are truly heartbreaking. Every day I receive calls at my office asking when the legislature is going to act on school property tax reform. Since the early 2000s, this body has been talking about school property tax reform in the form of Senate Bill No. 76 and House Bill No. 76, known as the property tax independence act. I have been, and continue to be, a cospon-

sor of this bill. For 15 years, I have authored and cosponsored numerous bills to provide relief for our property owners around the State, to no avail. While my district has the fastest-growing region in the State, we did not receive fair funding in line with the population growth we experienced. That lack of funding has caused long-lasting and far-reaching consequences for our communities, but other communities across the State are also feeling the pain. I am calling on my colleagues in the Senate and in the House today to do something. Just talking about it is no longer an option. We know the possibilities and it is time to act to provide relief where it is needed most.

Today, my priority remains with our seniors and those on fixed incomes living in our Commonwealth. If we cannot muster the votes for a comprehensive elimination package and the 15-year school property tax reform stalemate continues, then we must do something to help our seniors. Seniors have paid their fair share for decades, who have not had children in school for years and have struggled to make ends meet in the wake of the death of their spouse. I have run the numbers. One-half percent increase in State sales tax would wipe out school property taxes for a majority of our seniors within the Commonwealth. You know the nice thing about the sales tax increase? Over 30 percent is paid by visitors to our Commonwealth. A small sales tax increase is a fairer, simpler, and more affordable solution than our current situation where our seniors are shackled in their homes as they watch their retirement savings disappear with the ever-increasing school property taxes.

While full elimination of school property taxes remains a goal, we cannot allow inaction on reform to continue to prevent us from taking care of our seniors. Because when a senior leaves a house, do you know what happens? They are often replaced by a family with children, and this result is an increased cost to our school districts, which ultimately falls on the taxpayers. I can point out areas within my district where many seniors used to reside, but only have chosen to move on rather than to reach the fate of losing their homes due to their high school property taxes.

Mr. President, today I call on my colleagues to join me in pushing this issue forward to develop real action. After two decades of conversations and studies and commissions and working groups, it is time to see real action.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, today marks 4,861 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last raised the minimum wage. That is more than 13 years, and it is far too long. Recently, I addressed the legislative body in broad terms regarding the minimum wage question that Pennsylvania now faces. I have stated that 29 U.S. States, and many cities, have raised their minimum wage above \$7.25 an hour. As a result, almost 90 percent of the nation's minimum wage workers earn more than the Federal minimum wage. I have said that national employment data shows little or no ill effects from widespread minimum wage increases. In fact, the job market is stronger now than it has been since the 1960s.

I would like to take a closer look at a specific example. In New York State, the minimum wage was \$7.25 an hour as recently as 2014, but it has increased 6 years in a row, and now sits at \$11.10 in most parts of the State. It will rise for the seventh consecutive year in December, and again in 2020. Eventually,

the rate will be \$15, in accordance with State law. In New York City, the minimum wage is already \$15 for most employers, while small employers will soon be required to pay that rate. Yet, even with these consistent minimum wage increases, the job market in New York State continues to outperform our own job market. In January 2014, when the first minimum wage increase took effect in New York, the unemployment rate was 6.8 percent. Now, after six minimum wage increases, unemployment has plummeted to 3.9 percent. In New York City, unemployment has been cut almost in half, from 8.0 percent to 4.1 percent. Meanwhile in Pennsylvania, unemployment has declined from 6.3 percent to 4.0 percent, but even the welcome improvement pales in comparison to what is happening in New York State.

Sadly, although these hard numbers are readily available to anyone willing to look at them, ardent minimum wage detractors continue to push the unfounded anecdotal and clinically speculative narrative that measured minimum wage increases kill jobs and hurt people that they are designed to help. Even today, the Internet is teeming with articles specifically about how the minimum wage is hurting New York City's vibrant restaurant industry. In reality, the industry has grown faster than it has in other major cities with higher sales, higher employment, and higher wages. This is not to say that the same thing will happen in Pennsylvania should we raise the minimum wage for the first time in 13 years. However, with the benefit of examples like New York, surely we can adopt a sensible plan to raise our minimum wage and provide millions of Pennsylvanians with the financial independence they have worked so long and so hard to earn.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, earlier today myself and about 10 of my Senate Democratic colleagues joined with about 25 House Democratic colleagues to announce the introduction of a series of measures which we think are extremely important. Mr. President, these are a series of hate crime bills that address some of the most important issues we have in Pennsylvania. In the Senate here, we now have before us Senate Bill No. 943 through and including Senate Bill No. 947. These are a series of bills that work to insure that we have an opportunity to combat some of the hate speech and hate crimes that are taking place against individuals, and against individuals who are trying to worship and the like. Mr. President, we know that we cannot legislate the removal of hate from someone's heart. We cannot look and peer in and do things along those lines. It does not mean we cannot try to address the issue that these type of individuals exist and what work we can do.

Last Sunday evening, I spent the evening as part of the vigil for the victims of last year's horrific attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Squirrel Hill. The theme of the vigil was "Remember. Repair. Together." Mr. President, certainly over the past year, as folks continue to mourn, we certainly remember the wonderful individuals who were taken from us on that horrific day. We have an obligation to remember them in other ways. One of the ways is to help us work together to be able to repair and rebuild the relationships we have with our communities, and, particularly, our faith-based communities, as it relates to whether or not they feel safe in their endeavors to worship peacefully. That is why we introduce this legislation, to be able to do it together, to work together to fashion legislation, along with our

colleagues on both sides of the aisle, to help us address this. That attack, and other hate crimes that take place around this Commonwealth, have shown us that there are many gaps in our laws, gaps that we must address. We can do better. This is important legislation, as I mentioned. I am very proud to stand with my good friends and my colleagues, both of whom I lived and grew up with in the Squirrel Hill section of the city of Pittsburgh, Representative Frankel, as well as Representative Gainey, who were part of today's program, and Senator Farnese, who introduced a series of measures along those lines.

Working together, Representative Frankel and I have introduced legislation, as I have mentioned the bill numbers here in the Senate, and I am hopeful that when we come back we will have the opportunity to address some of those measures. Some of the things that this legislation would do is provide our Attorney General with concurrent jurisdiction in crimes involving ethnic intimidation. It would require that hate crime offenders, individuals who commit any level of a hate crime, complete diversity classes, but also allowing for community impact statements along those lines. It would mandate that MPOETC, the Municipal Police Officer Education and Training Commission, adopt their training to provide for additional training in the area of investigating, identifying, and reporting crimes of ethnic intimidation. The legislation would also create a private cause of action for civil rights violations along those lines. It would institute a reporting system for post-secondary institutions. Knowing the very diverse community we have in our university and college setting in the city of Pittsburgh, for example, we know that there are instances of hate-type crimes that are occurring there, that sometimes, in most cases, are not reported. This would require that they be reported to the Attorney General for data collection as well, and also addressing them.

Finally, it provides for a mechanism to begin to understand and look and learn about those hate groups that are available that are there in our Commonwealth, and collecting data along those lines to be shared, not only with the Attorney General's Office, but with local police agencies to better understand what is taking place along those lines in our communities. Mr. President, these laws will better allow us to know what is taking place, what groups are doing, and how we can better combat them along those lines. There are a series of bills that were introduced here in the Senate, but also introduced in the House as well. As I mentioned, it was joined by close to 40 of our legislative colleagues from across the Commonwealth.

Mr. President, it is time we begin to take action on things that are necessary to be able to do. I would be remiss, however, if I did not reiterate the fact that we did work together in this Chamber, specifically in this Chamber, in working with our colleagues on the other side of the building, to provide resources, \$5 million, to allow the security measures that we talked about here last week and in the House this week. Those were important measures to provide comfort and security to men and women and individuals who want to worship in a variety of ways, whether it be in a particular place of worship or engagement in the community where they are working in these bias-motivated organizations where hate crimes occur to allow them to access resources. It was a very important day, and I appreciate the support of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle along those lines.

So, Mr. President, we have more work to do, however, to, again, remember, repair and doing it together. I ask my col-

leagues to join me in supporting these measures as we move forward in the coming weeks.

Thank you, Mr. President.

BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor John K. Fetterman) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bills:

HB 374 and **HB 407**.

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, November 18, 2019, at 1 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 1:22 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.