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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019

SESSION OF 2019 203RD OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 51

SENATE

THURSDAY, November 21, 2019

The Senate met at 11 a.m., Eastern Standard Time.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Colonel PETER R. SNIFFIN, Senior Chaplain of the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, what a blessing it is for us to pray here in the statehouse of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the State where our wise Founders placed their signatures and their futures upon the fact that You are our Creator, and that You have endowed us with the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Remind us daily that we do not possess these rights simply because we declare them, but only because You have bestowed them upon us. So in that light, may we be humble and grateful children and citizens, and may You remind us to both cherish and protect the rights that You have endowed us with.

I pray for these dedicated elected servants of the almost 13 million residents of this State of Pennsylvania. This State is huge both in acres and in numbers, and the responsibilities of these select few are equally large and heavy. May Your grace be upon the Members of this Chamber and those who serve alongside them. Focus their hearts and minds on whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, and commendable. If anything is excellent and worthy of praise, may they pursue it for the blessing of this great State, and may they always love their neighbors as they would themselves. Be also with our President, with Governor Wolf, with Lieutenant Governor Fetterman, and with the House. Give them all wisdom and resilience for all their worthy tasks. God bless Pennsylvania, God bless the United States. In Your most holy name, I pray. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Colonel Sniffin, who is the guest today of both Senator Mastriano and Senator Judy Ward.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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:

November 21, 2019

HB 419 and 1220 -- Committee on Health and Human Services.

HB 1061 -- Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

HB 1457 -- Committee on Banking and Insurance.

HB 1665 and 1907 -- Committee on Transportation.

BILL REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SB 773 (Pr. No. 1408) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in licensing of drivers, further providing for ignition interlock limited license; in driving after imbibing alcohol or utilizing drugs, further providing for grading, for penalties, for ignition interlock and for mandatory sentencing; and providing for a study of driving under the influence courts.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Brooks and Senator Stefano, and legislative leaves for Senator Argall, Senator Bartolotta, and Senator Judy Ward.

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

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

The PRESIDENT. Senator Corman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Brooks and Senator Stefano, and legislative leaves for Senator Argall, Senator Bartolotta, and Senator Judy Ward.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Hughes, and legislative leaves for Senator Leach and Senator Schwank.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journal of the Session of October 21, 2019, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of October 21, 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-49

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journal is approved.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

GUESTS OF SENATOR DOUGLAS MASTRIANO AND SENATOR JUDY WARD PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Judy Ward, I recognize and thank our Chaplain this morning, Colonel Pete Sniffin, United States Army. He is a fourth-generation U.S. Army officer, and incidentally, his great-great-grandfather was a Member of the House here in Harrisburg from the Honesdale/Carbondale area, a great legacy there. He is currently the director of ethical development on the faculty of the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Prior to this, he was the commandant of the U.S. Army Chaplain School in South Carolina. From 2011 to 2012, Chaplain Sniffin oversaw religious support for all American personnel in all of Afghanistan, and he is in his 35th year as a member of the United States Army, and his 29th year on active duty. More importantly, he is celebrating his 26th wedding anniversary with his beloved

wife, Rose Marie, who is also here with us. They have two daughters, Olivia, who is in her second year at HACC, and Amelia, who is in her freshman year at Wheaton College. Please join me in welcoming them.

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

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Thank you for your service.

GUEST OF SENATOR SHARIF T. STREET PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce an outstanding young person who has a bright future. She is smart, hardworking, and a self-starter. Driven by intellectual curiosity, for the past several months she has been interning in my office here in the Capitol as part of the Temple Capitol semester program. Taylor Volpe is a graduating political science major at Temple University, which is in my district. Taylor is originally from Dingmans Ferry, northeast Pennsylvania, which is in the district of my colleague, Senator Baker. Prior to the semester, Taylor took part in a study-abroad program in Rome, where she was able to immerse herself in Italian culture and history. When she is not dedicating herself to work, she enjoys reading and cooking. Taylor is graduating next month with a B.A. and looks forward to her future and a bright journey in public service.

Please join me in welcoming a bright young lady with a great future who sought to dedicate some of her time to work with us in the Senate, my intern, Taylor Volpe.

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

(Applause.)

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a Republican caucus to begin 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 in the rear of the Chamber for a caucus as well.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of Republican and Democratic caucuses to be held in their respective caucus rooms, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Stefano, Senator Hughes, and Senator Judy Ward have returned, and their respective leaves are cancelled.

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 94 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 97 (Pr. No. 2890) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in minors, further providing for the offense of sale of tobacco and for the offense of use of tobacco in schools; and, in preemptions relating to municipalities, further providing for tobacco.

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

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

NAY-1

Hughes

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 with amendments in which concurrence of the House is requested.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 174, HB 305, HB 330, HB 355, HB 375, SB 485, SB 491 and SB 492 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 637 (Pr. No. 1392) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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.

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, on behalf of Senator Schwank, I submit the following remarks for the record.

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

(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator COSTA, on behalf of the gentlewoman from Berks, Senator SCHWANK:)

Mr. President, I express my ardent support for Senate Bill No. 637, which I cosponsored with my colleague, Senator DiSanto, and to encourage my colleagues to do the same. I measure the worthiness of any legislation by its potential to enact positive change for my constituents. Senate Bill No. 637 fits that bill. I do not know if there is a population within our Commonwealth who is as determined to make meaningful changes to their lives as the adult defendants, inmates, and returning citizens this legislation will help. So, it is not just positive change happening here--this legislation will truly lift these constituents. It can be the first step in changing their lives for the better.

My district in Berks County is lucky to have an organization called Berks Connections/Pretrial Services. They are a community-based organization to help returning citizens and their families. I spoke to one of their executive directors, who pressed the importance of removing barriers for this population. Finding a job is one of the most important factors in a person's successful re-entry to their community, to their lives, to their families.

A 2016 study by Arizona State University's Center for the Study of Economic Liberty found that States with the highest occupational licensing burdens saw their recidivism rates rise 9 percent over a 3-year period. In contrast, States with minimal licensing saw recidivism rates decline by 2.5 percent. The way our system currently works with automatic disqualifications, the original punishment often carries well beyond the intended sentence. That is not right.

This legislation will help them to make that first big step toward employment, and the rest of their lives. This is why I am voting in favor of Senate Bill No. 637.

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-49

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

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 684, SB 693 and SB 850 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

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.

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

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 917 (Pr. No. 1055) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act repealing the act of May 17, 1929 (P.L.1805, No.598), entitled "An act authorizing municipalities other than townships to acquire by gift, devise, or bequest, lands, chattels, securities and funds for the establishment and maintenance of a hospital; to appoint trustees of such property and funds, subject to the approval of the orphans' court; to operate and maintain such hospital through and by means of such trustees; and to expend municipal funds to aid in the establishment and maintenance of such hospital."

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

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

NAY-1

Muth

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.

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

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 1045 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 1203 (Pr. No. 2937) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in municipal authorities, further providing for money of authority.

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 Westmoreland, Senator Kim Ward.

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I rise to thank Representative Ryan and Senator Martin for their work on this bill. This bill will give boards, at any level, who appoint municipal authority board members some say in what happens. As of right now, you have these boards providing a very, very vital utility and folks have nowhere to go. There is nowhere that the buck actually stops. I think this bill, as worked on together with the House and with the municipal authority organizations, is a good balance, and actually, I do not think we should stop here. I think, moving forward, we should look further at when these boards and authorities are appointed by local governments, then that is it. There is nowhere the buck stops. I think we need to look maybe even further as we go down the road into bringing more accountability back to those who make the appointments.

Thank you very much, and I ask for an affirmative vote.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Blake.

Senator BLAKE. Mr. President, I want to make a very quick comment, and I appreciate the remarks of the previous speaker. Part of the LGUDA pack, the Local Government Unit Debt Act, includes a bill that would require municipal authorities that are established for a particular purpose to guarantee that any moneys that they collect be used for that purpose. That is not currently in State law, so I want to echo the remarks of my friend and colleague, Senator Kim Ward, because we do need to look a little bit closer at the accountability of these municipal authorities.

Thank you very 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-49

Table with 4 columns: Argall, DiSanto, Martin, Street; Aument, Farnese, Mastriano, Tartaglione; Baker, Fontana, Mensch, Tomlinson; Bartolotta, Gordner, Muth, Vogel; Blake, Haywood, Phillips-Hill, Ward, Judy; Boscola, Hughes, Pittman, Ward, Kim; Brewster, Hutchinson, Regan, Williams, Anthony H.

Table with 4 columns: Brooks, Iovino, Sabatina, Williams, Lindsey; Browne, Kearney, Santarsiero, Yaw; Collett, Killion, Scarnati, Yudichak; Corman, Langerholc, Scavello; Costa, Laughlin, Schwank; Dinniman, Leach, Stefano

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 with amendments in which concurrence of the House is requested.

HB 1542 (Pr. No. 2889) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; and, in licenses and regulations relating to liquor, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages, further providing for special occasion permits and for wine and spirits auction permits.

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-49

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

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 with amendments in which concurrence of the House is requested.

HB 1772 (Pr. No. 2821) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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.

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	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Bartolotta	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Blake	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Boscola	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brewster	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Brooks	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Browne	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Collett	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Corman	Langerhole	Scavello	
Costa	Laughlin	Schwank	
Dinniman	Leach	Stefano	

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.

HB 1896 (Pr. No. 2883) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor, to release a use restriction and reversionary interest affecting certain real property situate in the Township of East Vincent, Chester County, to facilitate the grant and conveyance of the real property from the Owen J. Roberts School District to Pennsylvania American Water Company; 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; and authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of West Chester University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education and the Governor, to grant and convey to Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., or its assigns, an existing water tower and permanent utility easement from lands of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at West Chester University of Pennsylvania situate in the Borough of West Chester, County of Chester, for the purpose of public water distribution.

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-49

Argall	DiSanto	Martin	Street
Aument	Farnese	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Baker	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson

Bartolotta	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Blake	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Boscola	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brewster	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Brooks	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Browne	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Collett	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Corman	Langerhole	Scavello	
Costa	Laughlin	Schwank	
Dinniman	Leach	Stefano	

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 with amendments in which concurrence of the House is requested.

HB 1982 (Pr. No. 2895) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; 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; providing for obligations of the board, for exercise of legislative power and for liability.

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	Fontana	Mensch	Tomlinson
Bartolotta	Gordner	Muth	Vogel
Blake	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Boscola	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Brewster	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Brooks	Iovino	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Browne	Kearney	Santarsiero	Yaw
Collett	Killion	Scarnati	Yudichak
Corman	Langerhole	Scavello	
Costa	Laughlin	Schwank	
Dinniman	Leach	Stefano	

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.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 102, SB 132, SB 258, SB 276, SB 284, SB 329, SB 368 and SB 377 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 417 (Pr. No. 436) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in party organization, further providing for who shall be declared elected members of national or State committee and party offices; and, in returns of primaries and elections, further providing for manner of computing irregular ballots.

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.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 422 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 427 (Pr. No. 2901) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for health insurance coverage requirements for stage four, advanced metastatic cancer.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 476 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

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 CORMAN, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill was laid on the table.

SB 531 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator CORMAN. 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.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 584 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 594 (Pr. No. 1390) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, in health and safety, further providing for certification of safety committee.

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.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 595 (Pr. No. 1396) -- 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 casualty insurance, further providing for coverage for mammographic examinations.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 606, HB 617, HB 630, SB 647, SB 726, SB 727, SB 766 and SB 784 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION,
AMENDED AND REREFERRED

SB 798 (Pr. No. 1290) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 7, 1982 (P.L.784, No.225), known as the Dog Law, in short title and definitions, further providing for definitions; and, in dangerous dogs, further providing for court proceedings, certificate of registration and disposition and for requirements.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on second consideration?
Senator KILLION offered the following amendment No. A3715:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 15, by striking out "and,"
Amend Bill, page 1, line 17, by inserting after "requirements":
; and making an editorial change
Amend Bill, page 5, line 1, by striking out "Section 503-A" and inserting:

Sections
Amend Bill, page 5, line 1, by inserting after "503-A(B)":
and 507-A(f)(1)
Amend Bill, page 5, line 1, by striking out "is" and inserting:
are
Amend Bill, page 5, by inserting between lines 13 and 14:
Section 507-A. Construction of article.

(f) Procedure in certain cities.--In cities of the first class, second class and second class A, the following procedure shall apply:

(1) A person who has been attacked by a dog, or anyone on behalf of such person, or a person whose domestic animal, dog or cat has been killed or injured without provocation while the attacking dog was off the owner's property or a police officer or an animal control officer employed by or under contract with the city may make a complaint before a magisterial district judge, charging the owner or keeper of such a dog with harboring a dangerous dog. The magisterial district judge shall make a report of the determination under section [502-A(a)] 502-A(a.2) to the police or an animal control officer employed by or under contract with the city and to the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement. The Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement shall give notice of this determination to the respective city treasurer.

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

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on second consideration, as amended?

It was 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, as amended, was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 809 and **SB 810** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 922 (Pr. No. 1309) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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.

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 924, SB 952, SB 954, SB 957, HB 1035, HB 1036, HB 1050 and **HB 1058** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 1100 (Pr. No. 1593) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, 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 energy and fertilizer manufacturing tax credit.

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1174, HB 1180, HB 1325, HB 1379, HB 1405, HB 1522 and **HB 1662** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Killion, and a legislative leave for Senator Scarnati.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Corman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Killion, and a legislative leave for Senator Scarnati. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

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 an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held in the Rules room immediately in the rear of the Chamber.

The PRESIDENT. For the purpose of an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held in the Rules room in the rear of the Chamber, 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 Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Haywood, and a legislative leave for Senator Farnese.

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

HOUSE MESSAGE

SENATE BILL RETURNED WITH AMENDMENTS

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 473**, with the information the House has passed the same with amendments in which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

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

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY

The SECRETARY. Permission has been granted for the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to meet today off the floor to consider Senate Bill No. 473 in the Rules room.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SB 572 (Pr. No. 1400) (Rereported) (*Concurrence*)

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in public safety, providing for opioid treatment agreements.

HB 49 (Pr. No. 2893) (Rereported) (*Concurrence*)

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in school security, further providing for definitions, for school police officers, for training, for powers and duties, for school resource officers and for school security guards; in high schools, further providing for courses of study; in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, further providing for Public Higher Education Funding Commission; and, in fostering independence through education, further providing for fostering independence waiver program.

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 Browne.

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

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 1

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 49 (Pr. No. 2893) -- 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 school security, further providing for definitions, for school police officers, for training, for powers and duties, for school resource officers and for school security guards; in high schools, further providing for courses of study; in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, further providing for Public Higher Education Funding Commission; and, in fostering independence through education, further providing for fostering independence waiver program.

On the question,

Will the Senate concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate amendments to House Bill No. 49?

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate amendments to House Bill No. 49.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, very briefly, I intend to support House Bill No. 49. As many of our colleagues on this side of the aisle in the past have been in opposition to this particular bill, and similarly when we raised concerns about previous versions of addressing school police officers in our school districts, this legislation does a couple of things that I think are very important. To Members who recognize, and I am sure they do, but to reiterate, first and foremost, it restores arrest powers to school police officers, something that we have learned through the process of learning what we did months ago needed to be changed, it needed to be fixed, and this legislation serves as that. It also requires that any new school security officer who is hired must go through the NASRO training, which is important to a number of our Members along those lines, as opposed to being hired and then possibly getting the training over a course of time. Those individuals who were hired previously, who are currently working, would have a limited period of time to be able to go and get that training, and that is really important.

Ideally, we would have liked to have seen more firearms training with respect to the school security officers. We know that the current training that is there pales in comparison to what is done with regard to individuals who go through Act 120, the Municipal Police Officer Education Training Act, training. We believe the amount of firearms and weapons training in their curriculum is an appropriate amount that should have been applied to these individuals, particularly since they will be carrying weapons.

That being said, Mr. President, we did try to offer amendments on this floor and were not successful. It does not mean we will not continue to try to address this issue as we go forward with regard to security and the concerns that we have about weapons in our school districts and in our classroom buildings. So for those reasons, the positive nature of this measure, the two I have mentioned, and the third one certainly dealing with the financial literacy part, providing one credit to financial literacy as part of the curriculum as well, I think is something very important for us to be able to do so. For those three reasons I am going to support it, but we are going to continue to advocate for more training for our school officers and our security officers who are in our classrooms and our buildings.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

YEA-35

Argall	Costa	Martin	Schwank
Aument	Dinniman	Mastriano	Stefano
Baker	DiSanto	Mensch	Tomlinson
Bartolotta	Fontana	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Boscola	Gordner	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Brewster	Hutchinson	Regan	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Killion	Sabatina	Yaw
Browne	Langerholc	Scarnati	Yudichak
Corman	Laughlin	Scavello	

NAY-14

Blake	Hughes	Muth	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Iovino	Santarsiero	Williams, Lindsey
Farnese	Kearney	Street	
Haywood	Leach	Tartaglione	

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

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

BILL ON CONCURRENCE IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 572 (Pr. No. 1400) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in public safety, providing for opioid treatment agreements.

On the question,
Will the Senate concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 572?

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 572.

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-28

Argall	DiSanto	Mastriano	Stefano
Aument	Gordner	Mensch	Tomlinson
Baker	Hutchinson	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Bartolotta	Killion	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Langerholc	Regan	Ward, Kim
Browne	Laughlin	Scarnati	Yaw
Corman	Martin	Scavello	Yudichak

NAY-21

Blake	Farnese	Leach	Tartaglione
Boscola	Fontana	Muth	Williams, Anthony H.
Brewster	Haywood	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Collett	Hughes	Santarsiero	
Costa	Iovino	Schwank	
Dinniman	Kearney	Street	

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

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Yudichak.

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

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a brief recess of the Senate for the purpose of an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held in the Rules room in the rear of the Chamber.

The PRESIDENT. For the purpose of an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations 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.

BILL REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SB 473 (Pr. No. 1407) (Rereported) (Concurrence)

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in minors, further providing for the offense of sale of tobacco and for the offense of use of tobacco in schools; and, in preemptions relating to municipalities, further providing for tobacco.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 2**

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 473 (Pr. No. 1407) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in minors, further providing for the offense of sale of tobacco and for the offense of use of tobacco in schools; and, in preemptions relating to municipalities, further providing for tobacco.

On the question,
Will the Senate concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 473?

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 473.

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

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I ask for brief interrogation of the maker of the bill. Thank you.

The question I have is those of us in Philadelphia County are concerned about provisions in the bill that may preempt our ability to draft legislation dealing with vaping. Currently, as we speak, many of us in this country are concerned about the context in which this is occurring, unregulated, and the rights of others. There are those at city council in Philadelphia who want to pass legislation that would affect that. Their concern has been expressed to Members of the General Assembly, specifically from Philadelphia County, that this may preclude their ability to do that. So my question simply is for the record, would this bill preclude their ability to do that?

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, after reviewing the bill and reviewing House Bill No. 97, which we voted on earlier and has already been concurred by the House, this bill does not change anything. It is the same that was in House Bill No. 97.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Thank you, Mr. President. That ends my period of interrogation. If appropriate, I would like to make some comments.

The PRESIDENT. Proceed.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I appreciate the gentleman's research and candor. For those of us who voted earlier on House Bill No. 97, I think there was a full understanding of the consequence of that. I am sure most of us in this Chamber probably are being illuminated for the first time with regard to this issue of vaping and what we are doing. I frankly think it is going to be a growing issue, as it is across the nation, and Pennsylvania will not be removed from that. I would imagine if we are not allowing our municipalities to regulate this in a much more formal, comprehensive way, specifically to those who are

of a minor generation, specifically to those who are being affected by flavors and menthols, if not now, we will have to address this. So I ask the gentleman for his assistance going forward so we can correct this. I am certainly not going to try to upend the process, because I think we are trying to do something that is good and to narrow the band of people who would be involved in tobacco, but clearly vaping is presenting us with a challenge that we did not expect. So those Members who want to be consistent, I encourage them to be consistent with their prior votes. For those who want to be inconsistent, like me, I am probably going to be inconsistent and vote "no," but I look forward to us working in a bipartisan way to deal with this issue of vaping as we go forward.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, I will be a glad to work with the gentleman. Thank you.

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise to applaud the sentiment of the maker of the bill for wanting to take on the challenge of vaping. We understand that youth vaping is a problem in all parts of the Commonwealth, the city of Philadelphia alike, but not just in the city. Children, whether they be in the Poconos, Pittsburgh, Erie, any of our communities, rural or urban, do not need to be engaging in this practice. So to the extent that today we have acted to reduce and restrict the opportunities for young people to vape, I think we have done the right thing. To the extent that there may be other provisions we need to do, I welcome and thank the gentleman's spirit in moving forward to address those issues as they arise.

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

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

YEA-44

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

NAY-5

DiSanto	Leach	Mastriano	Pittman
Hughes			

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

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

BILL ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bill was as follows:

SB 773.

And said bill 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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019

10:00 A.M.	INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS (public hearing on regulatory reform, red tape reduction and transparency)	1000 Potato Roll Lane Chambersburg
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019

11:00 A.M.	JUDICIARY (public hearing to consider the following judicial nominees: Bruce R. Beemer, Esq., - Court of Common Pleas, Allegheny County; Cateria McCabe, Esq., - Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia County; John R. Padova, Jr., Esq., - Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia County; Daniel Sulman, Esq., - Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia County; and J. Andrew Crompton, Esq., - Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.
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PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise today to echo the comments that we have heard from my friend and colleague from Monroe County. I applaud the Senator for his commitment to address the critical issue of school property taxes. When he showed us the newspaper pages of sheriff's sales going on in just his district, it really puts the problem into perspective. These are not pages of paper, these are not addresses of properties, no, these are livelihoods ripped away due to the blatant unfairness of the current school property tax system. We do not know the circumstances of each home being taken by the government, whether it is a foreclosure or a default on a mortgage, but it is troubling when a home is completely paid off but can still be confiscated because that family could no longer afford their school property tax bill.

While I was not here in the Senate 4 years ago, I know a little bit about this issue's history over here. This Saturday, the 23rd of November, will mark the fourth anniversary that this Chamber last voted on a plan to eliminate school property taxes. Four years is a long time. Far too long for the homeowners who were

thrown out on the street with no votes in the Senate. We took key votes on a lot of issues this past week and did a lot of good for the people of Pennsylvania, but no matter what this Chamber does, the number one issue in many of our districts is school property tax elimination. Whether it is by phone, email meeting, comment on Facebook or Instagram, or just dropping in for a meeting in our local offices, the people who I am honored to represent want to see this issue addressed by the General Assembly. I also commend my colleagues who have offered a variety of proposals to address this issue both in the House and the Senate. The issues are laid out. We have plans ranging from completely eliminating school property taxes for every property owner, to eliminating school property taxes for homesteads and farmsteads, to only eliminating them for senior citizens. Over these next few months, I encourage my colleagues to please conduct surveys and ask where their constituents are on this key issue. Maybe it is not a big deal in your district. Maybe it is. But see where they stand on the variety of plans that are out there.

I recently conducted a survey which asked community residents in the 28th Senatorial District which option, if any, they prefer to address property taxes. I included several bills that have been introduced in the Senate, including Senate Bill No. 76, Senate Bill No. 805, Senate Bill No. 821, Senate Bill No. 923, and House Bill No. 13. Time and time again, the people say they do not want to reduce or freeze property taxes. They want to see across-the-board elimination of school property taxes. Seventy-six percent of the responses favored the complete elimination of school property tax in some form or fashion. In my district, the results are clear: school property taxes have to go.

Mr. President, we have heard the debates, we have seen the reports from the Independent Fiscal Office. No issue has been more thoroughly vetted in the General Assembly than school property taxes. I stand with my colleague from Monroe County and encourage that this Chamber stand up and take action on the legislation. Let us come back next year and address this issue, because the consequences of further delay will be catastrophic for all of the individuals and families who face the prospect of seeing their own address listed among the sheriff's sales in the newspaper.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, it is an honor to remember the 30th anniversary of the end of the Cold War, as personified by the fall of the Iron Curtain in November 1989. The Cold War began out of the ashes of the Second World War and quickly escalated into a bipolar, global struggle between the freedom-loving nations of the west, led by the United States of America, against those bound by an oppressive socialistic system bent on crushing freedom, led by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Moscow. Sir Winston Churchill's speech in 1946 captured the essence of this emerging global struggle, saying: *(Reading)*

From Stettin to Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of central and eastern Europe. Warsaw, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Belgrade, Bucharest, and Sofia, all these famous cities and the populations around them lie in what I must call the Soviet sphere, and all are subject, not only to Soviet influence, but very high control from Moscow.

A Cold War indeed swept across the European continent and much of the world. It was an all-stakes struggle with the threat of nuclear annihilation threatening the world. The struggle expanded into confrontations and proxy wars in nearly every continent on the face of the Earth.

The first clash between the East and West was the Soviet-ordered Berlin blockade of West Berlin. This was an attempt by Moscow to test the resolve of the West to see if the United States, France, and Great Britain, who were responsible for the security of West Berlin, would stand by their ally. Thankfully, we did, and West Berlin was saved with a massive airlift in 1948. The increasing hostility demonstrated by Moscow with its massive Red Army poised as a threat along the Iron Curtain and the borders of West Germany and eastern Europe triggered the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, where 12 nations, led by the United States, codified their commitment to each other in European security. The confrontation between the East and the West and these divergent political systems resulted in war in Korea, Southeast Asia, and across Latin America and Africa.

Meanwhile, life in the East under the soviet socialists was oppressive, dark, and literally like living in a black and white photograph. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics controlled everything, especially the economy. Because of this, commodities and food were rare, people would have to wait in long breadlines, and even the basic essentials of life were lacking. This deprivation was compounded by a system of government that denied its citizens all freedoms. Churches were razed to the ground or turned into storage buildings, while believers were arrested and sent to labor camps. Freedom of thought, expression, and press were all suppressed, only ideas and views perpetuated by the political ruling class were tolerated. Life behind the Iron Curtain under the soviet socialists was horrible. I bore out my own experiences there in East Berlin, having been detained by the Volkspolizei for taking a picture in Friedrichstrasse as a teenager while serving as an exchange student.

What Ronald Reagan rightly called the evil empire began to collapse from the inside, with a growing underground church movement and a rising opposition within the nations controlled by Moscow seeking independence and the freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of the press. Although the fall of the Berlin Wall on 9 November 1989 does not necessarily mark the end of the Cold War, it certainly was one of the pivotal moments symbolizing the collapse of the corrupt soviet system. The commitment, sacrifice, and service of our Armed Forces during the entire Cold War period gave western Europe the longest period of peace in 1,500 years. Countless millions of Europeans were spared certain death in Europe and generations did not know the suffering of their forefathers thanks to the commitment, dedication, and duty of the United States Armed Forces. The vigilance and sacrifice of our Cold War warriors served as a beacon of light to those freedom-loving nations and gave hope to those languishing in the East.

I had the honor of leading my own platoon on missions along West Germany's Cold War borders of Czechoslovakia and East Germany with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment. My men knew that we were literally serving along the freedom frontier, keeping their families and nations safe from an oppressive and intolerant political system bent on imposing its will on everyone under its control. Brutal in its approach, unmerciful to any per-

ceived as a threat, the suffering of these people was unimaginable. The opening of the Iron Curtain in November 1989 was a turbulent time in the history of the world, and especially Europe. The outcome was uncertain. My regiment was on standby watching to see how the East German and Czechoslovakian governments would respond to the collapse of their system. By God's blessing, the soviet socialists collapsed under the weight of their own corrupt ideas and countless millions were set free from the edicts of tyrants.

In the end, the Cold War ended, and I was honored to be among the first Americans to welcome the easterners to the West and freedom in one of the most memorable events of my life. The sacrifice and commitment of America's Armed Forces deterred soviet socialists' aggression, prevented a third world war, and delivered countless millions from the ravages of an oppressive political ideology. Former Prime Minister of Britain, Margaret Thatcher, said in August 1990, "today we are coming to realize that an epoch in history is over. For more than 40 years that Iron Curtain remained in place. Few of us expected to see it lifted in our lifetime. Yet, with great suddenness, the impossible has happened. The Cold War is over." The enticements of overregulation and government control in people's lives is insidious and only results in failed political systems, as seen in the ash heap of history, where the decayed ruins of nations and empires rests as a testimony to us.

The peaceful end of the Cold War was only due to the commitment, sacrifice, and vigilance of the United States and the men and women from across this State and nation who served on freedom's frontier in the far-flung corners of the Earth, especially in Europe. American men and women serving with our NATO allies stood in the gap against an evil empire, and, at great sacrifice, averted a third war for such a time as this. As the apostle Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 4:7, our service men and women can likewise say of their faithfulness, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." May we never forget the sacrifice and the price of freedom, and indeed, the price of freedom is eternal vigilance.

Please join me in remembering and honoring our Cold War veterans in this glorious month, 30 years at the end of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Thank you.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, today marks 4,883 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last raised the minimum wage. That is more than 13 years, and it is far too long, but there is some good news for Pennsylvania's low-wage workers today. Legislation is now before the House that would raise the floor by more than 30 percent over the next 3 years. The reasons to support Senate Bill No. 79 are many. First, Pennsylvanians want a higher minimum wage. In March, a Franklin & Marshall poll found that 7 in 10 Pennsylvanians favor the idea of a \$12 minimum wage. More recently, another poll by State Innovation Exchange produced similar results. Senate Bill No. 79 would not put Pennsylvania's minimum wage on the path to \$12, but the legislation is an important step in the right direction.

Another reason to support Senate Bill No. 79 is that minimum wage is a statewide issue. Workers in every corner of every county in Pennsylvania stand to benefit. In fact, the folks who would benefit most work in many of the most rural regions of the Commonwealth, such as our northern tier counties, our laurel

highland counties, and our anthracite region counties. Many small business owners are understandably cautious about raising the minimum wage, but Senate Bill No. 79 could benefit them, too. Workers are also consumers. When they make more money, they will spend more money at the local businesses they patronize. With each ensuing year, a growing number of States are raising their minimum wages. A higher minimum wage has been successful elsewhere, and it can succeed in Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, I urge our colleagues in the House to support Senate Bill No. 79 and to deliver the bill to the Governor for his signature.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise today to provide some comments about the work that we have done this week. Some folks may say that it was a productive week for us here in the Senate. While we did address a number of major issues, major pieces of legislation that have eluded us for a number of years, I see missed opportunities. While I am certainly proud of the work that my colleague, who we just heard from, Senator Tartaglione, the advocacy that she provided on the issue of minimum wage that she just spoke about, her work along those lines has been relentless and something we know she has done for a number of years.

On the issue of dealing with the statute of limitations changes that have been made and discussed here during the course of this week, I also want to recognize the work of my colleagues, Senator Kearney, Senator Muth, and Senator Farnese, for their efforts and the passion that they demonstrated on this Senate floor and the commitment they made to making things right and better for those victims of sexual abuse. Mr. President, as I mentioned, while Senator Tartaglione just spoke moments ago on this issue for working people, and her voice has been very strong, and while she recognized that we may be going to \$9.50, that is not a done deal yet; the House has not indicated its willingness to accept those changes to the minimum wage law. We hope that they do, but we will not know that for several weeks.

We missed the mark, Mr. President. We could have done more and gone further. What has taken place with this particular piece of legislation, we cannot lose sight of. That is, 385,000 Pennsylvanians earning between \$7.25 and \$9.50 an hour will be getting a raise over the course of the next 24 months. Sixty-one percent of those individuals are women, 27 percent are people of color, 89 percent are adults, 37 percent are over the age of 40, 24 percent are parents, and 55 percent work full time. So, certainly a modest raise over the course of the next 2 years is something that would be helpful, but, Mr. President, we are not done. We will continue to fight to do more. We pledge to continue to fight until the minimum wage in Pennsylvania is at least \$12, working its way to \$15. We pledge to continue to fight so the minimum wage in Pennsylvania has a built-in cost of living adjustment so it keeps pace with the expenses that families are left to deal with in this Commonwealth. We pledge to continue to fight until local municipal communities have the ability to adjust the minimum wage to fit the needs of their local communities and the individuals who work and live there. We pledge to continue to fight until we have one fair wage where we have eliminated the tipped minimum wage. We will continue to fight until we have strengthened penalties for employers who violate minimum wage laws, and

work to address employer misclassification and wage theft. Those are promises to the people of Pennsylvania that we will continue to discuss as we go forward, and when we return here in the next legislative Sessions.

Mr. President, another issue that we have addressed this week, a series of issues along those lines, the recommendations from the grand jury report. As those measures move forward with the support of nearly everyone in this Chamber, it is important to recognize that we, again, missed opportunities to be able to help the people of Pennsylvania, the victims of Pennsylvania, in an immediate nature. We were able to make progress on eliminating the statute of limitations for child sexual abuse. We clarified penalties for not reporting child abuse, and we also addressed and banned nondisclosure agreements, but, as I mentioned, we could have gone further. Mr. President, we had the opportunity, at least three times, to provide for a statutory 2-year window, and we failed to be able to provide that. Instead, we ended up doing a constitutional amendment that, at best, is going to provide little hope to folks; at worst, may be justice denied for a significant number of years.

Mr. President, it is important to recognize that the constitutional amendment process is not one that is easy. It is one that takes several Sessions, as folks know, and many times on issues that have bipartisan support to address, oftentimes do not get to the finish line. I can easily point to the issue with respect to redistricting in this Commonwealth, which we have been trying for decades to address to create a fair and independent commission. We have passed in Chambers constitutional amendments that never made their way to the second leg, and never made their way to the voters. We have instances where we are still waiting to have a second leg of legislation to be done to be able to provide the second part of constitutional amendments. More specifically, when we addressed the issue of property tax reform a number of years ago, we have not yet completed that process. There are a number of others as it relates to what people believe us wanting to do, what the public wants us to do. Shrinking the size of the legislature has passed on a couple of occasions here but has never made its way to the final leg and onto the voters to address.

So, the suggestion that the constitutional amendment process is the best way to get to that end is something that I do not believe is appropriate. When you look at even some of the other constitutional amendments that did make their way to the ballot, in some instances, it was 10 years with the videotaping of witnesses that Senator Greenleaf and others worked on. I remember working on it when I was on the Committee on Judiciary. Those are examples of the lengthy process that justice could be denied to individuals. Our belief, as our Members demonstrated by voting unanimously to support the 2-year statutory window to allow claims to move forward, we believe is the best course of action. We recognize that other folks on the other side of the aisle believe that there may be constitutional questions that would arise from that, but at the end of the day, what we would have put into place was legislation that would allow victims the opportunity to be able to immediately face their accuser and do what needs to be done along those lines. Instead, we are proceeding down a path that allows questions as to whether or not we will ultimately be in a position to be able to do that, and even if we do it, the length of time--we are talking about multiple years before that comes to closure. My colleague, Senator Haywood, provided the

best opportunity. He indicated we should proceed down both paths. Let us do a legislative statute, but let us also look to do a constitutional amendment.

When we come back here in January 2021, we are likely to have the composition of this General Assembly to be quite different. As we know, every time we come back, there are 35 or 40 new Members between both buildings and both sides of the aisle. We simply do not know what the composition of the new Members will feel with respect to moving forward on a constitutional amendment, as evidenced by the fact that there are a number that we have not completed. So, I believe in many instances we missed opportunities to be able to address something that I think is inappropriate, but it is also when we come back to have these conversations. There are more issues that we need to talk about which we think are going to be important. Issues including substance abuse and how we continue to deal along those lines. Dealing with the issue of gun reform legislation that needs to be brought to this floor and needs to be brought to this General Assembly for conclusion. Looking at nondiscrimination and environmental protections, all of those are major issues that we have failed to act on in this part of the Session, but we need to make certain that we begin to talk about them as we go forward.

So, going forward, Mr. President, I tried to lay out to my colleagues here what our vision is for what we want to be able to do moving forward and how I believe, personally, that we missed opportunities. We did move forward but we missed opportunities, and there are other opportunities that we need to grab and continue to discuss as we go forward. I appreciate the work that all of my colleagues have done, particularly our staff folks who have worked very hard to move these measures as they did but, at the end of the day, we have more work to do. We are ready, willing, and able to continue that work.

Thank you, Mr. President.

HOUSE MESSAGES

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE BILLS

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 314** and **SB 317**, with the information the House has passed the same without amendments.

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL

The Clerk of the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House has concurred in amendments made by the Senate to House amendments to **SB 733**.

SENATE BILL RETURNED WITH AMENDMENTS

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 857**, with the information the House has passed the same with amendments in which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

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

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILLS

The Clerk of the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House has concurred in amendments made by the Senate to **HB 17**, **HB 97**, **HB 227**, **HB 962**, **HB 1171**, **HB 1203**, **HB 1402**, **HB 1547** and **HB 1896**.

BILLS SIGNED

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

SB 314, **SB 317**, **SB 473**, **SB 572**, **SB 733**, **HB 17**, **HB 49**, **HB 97**, **HB 227**, **HB 321**, **HB 917**, **HB 956**, **HB 962**, **HB 963**, **HB 1051**, **HB 1171**, **HB 1203**, **HB 1402**, **HB 1547**, **HB 1772**, **HB 1896** and **HB 1982**.

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess to the call of the President pro tempore.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the Senate is in recess until the call of the President pro tempore.

AFTER RECESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Senator Joseph B. Scarnati III) in the Chair.

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

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at 1:04 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 10:59 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.