

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020

SESSION OF 2020 204TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 16

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, April 29, 2020

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

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

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Hon. MEGAN MARTIN, Secretary of the Senate:

Good morning. Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we come today to bow our heads and open this Session in prayer. We ask that You would bless our time together today. Guide our thoughts and our actions as we work together for the citizens of the Commonwealth. May our hearts always be ready to respond to You and to Your wisdom. We pray these things in Your name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Journal of the Session of March 25, 2020, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of March 25, 2020.

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

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

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

YEA-50

Argall	Dinniman	Leach	Stefano
Arnold	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	

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Journal is approved.

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 64, HB 102, SB 107, SB 276, HB 280 and HB 355 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL AMENDED

HB 360 (Pr. No. 3657) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in marriage license, further providing for restrictions on issuance of license and for oral examination; and, in child protective services, providing for pandemic of 2020.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?
Senator COSTA offered the following amendment No. A5351:

Amend Bill, page 3, line 15, by inserting after "PARENTS)":
or under section 111(c.1) of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949
Amend Bill, page 3, line 20, by inserting after "6344(B)(3)":
or under section 111(c.1) of the Public School Code of 1949

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 368 (Pr. No. 1383) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for notification to department and development of plan of safe care for children under one year of age.

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 pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Northampton, Senator Boscola.

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, the bill has two real objectives. One is to insure the coordination of all reporting of infants born with addiction and withdrawal symptoms to the Department of Health, and second, to have that data updated and accessible to lawmakers and the general public. In 2017, I was watching a news broadcast and I saw a story out of Tennessee, a State much like ours, that has been greatly impacted by the opioid epidemic and has been working on ways to address and combat the problem. What I took away from that story was the need for one of many first steps. We needed to have mandated and coordinated reporting of infants born with symptoms of withdrawal. A bill passed in 2018 contained language that recognized the need to start the mandate of reporting; however, this initiative takes that further and, I believe, bolsters the current law by insuring the coordination of reporting through the Department of Health, and more importantly, tracking that information and breaking it down by county. Prior to 2018, the tracking of this information had been relegated to counties and was loosely compiled and reported by the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council. Additionally, there were some hospitals and practitioners who were wary of reporting due to patient confidentiality and lack of directive in statute. So that change in the law was very important, but the examination of the data and sharing of the information is a crucial step that has to be taken. As lawmakers, as a State, we cannot combat the issue of the opioid epidemic and children literally born into this problem--they were literally born into it, they did not create it themselves--unless we can see where and how communities are being impacted.

So, when Tennessee enacted a similar regulation years ago, they were able to utilize that data to provide more attention, resources, and funding to areas where infants born with addictions were on the rise. As we all know, children are the youngest and most innocent victims of this problem. They are born victims to addiction and without any voice, any say, to their addiction. We do not have enough insight right now to know if infants born with addictions are on the rise, holding steady, or even declining because of the lack of real-time coordinated reporting. So, we are the ones who are responsible stewards to the general public, and in order to fight this problem, we must focus where our resources are going to occur, and we need the data to do that. So that is what this legislation is about, Mr. President. I hope we can keep it moving forward. Thank you.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Argall	Dinniman	Leach	Stefano
Arnold	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	

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 377, HB 422, SB 494, SB 530, SB 532, SB 594, SB 606, SB 679, SB 693, HB 716, SB 763 and SB 798 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL AMENDED

SB 863 (Pr. No. 1224) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 48 (Lodging and Housing) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in hotels, further providing for definitions, for hotelkeepers, for notice to boarders to lock rooms, for lien, warrant, sale and right of redemption, for liability for property loss or damage, for special arrangements for safe deposit of valuables, for duty of guest, for other liability, for exemption from levy or sale, for baggage, for baggage sale requirements, for sale proceeds, providing for abandoned property and further providing for tourist camp heater safety.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator SCAVELLO offered the following amendment No. A5333:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 20, by inserting after "campground":
The term shall not include the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Amend Bill, page 2, line 10, by inserting after "residence":
The term shall not include a recreational vehicle or tent campsite in a State park.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

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

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, what the amendment does is it takes the Department of Conservation and Natural Re-

sources out of the bill because they feel that they have their own security and they do not need this bill. For us, it works because it is the private campgrounds that have the problems. They are the ones who, when they have somebody unruly or creating problems at the campground, they cannot get them to leave. Why? Because they fall under the rental act just like you are renting a home or an apartment. So, what this amendment does is it takes the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources out of the bill. I would appreciate the Members' support.

And the question recurring,
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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 915 and **SB 927** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 934 (Pr. No. 1515) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in departmental powers and duties as to licensing, further providing for right to enter and inspect.

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 pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Erie, Senator Laughlin.

Senator LAUGHLIN. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support Senate Bill No. 934 and Senate Bill No. 935, which we will consider in a few minutes. Many of the bills that are introduced in this Chamber are inspired by real-life events that take place in our districts. Tragically, in the case of these bills, they were inspired by a fire that took place in a daycare facility in Erie, Pennsylvania, that claimed the lives of five young children last August, four of whom were in one family. La'Myhia Jones, 8; Luther Jones, Jr., 6; Ava Jones, 4; Dalvin Pacley, 2; and Jaydan Augustyniak, 9 months, all died as a result of the Sunday morning fire. What made this horrific incident even more tragic was the fact that these young lives may have been saved if the home had merely been properly equipped with smoke detectors. As it turned out, only one smoke detector was found in the home, and it was in the attic. That is simply reprehensible.

Families place a special kind of trust in the caregivers when they leave their children at these facilities, and we must take the necessary steps to uphold that trust, seeing that this type of blatant disregard for safety is never again tolerated. That is why I

introduced these bills. Senate Bill No. 934 requires the Department of Human Services to include the inspection of all smoke detectors in their annual inspection of these childcare facilities. Senate Bill No. 935 amends the State Fire and Panic Act regarding smoke detectors. These measures designate the locations where smoke detectors must be installed in childcare facilities, and they require that the systems be interconnected so that if one is triggered, they all go off. In addition, childcare facilities will be subject to legal penalties in cases where a smoke detector is found to have been tampered with or disabled.

Mr. President, these bills will not restore the lives of these tragically lost, nor will they ease the pain those grieving families endured. However, it is government's responsibility to learn from these tragic cases and to act to prevent them from ever occurring again in the future. So, I respectfully ask for an affirmative vote for Senate Bill No. 934 and Senate Bill No. 935.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Argall	Dinniman	Leach	Stefano
Arnold	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	

NAY-0

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

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

SB 935 (Pr. No. 1516) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 27, 1927 (P.L.465, No.299), referred to as the Fire and Panic Act, further providing for standards for Class VI buildings.

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-50

Argall	Dinniman	Leach	Stefano
Arnold	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	

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 952, SB 957, SB 968, SB 969, SB 976, HB 1036, HB 1045 and HB 1050 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
OVER IN ORDER TEMPORARILY

SB 1110 (Pr. No. 1659) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 23, 1956 (1955 P.L.1510, No.500), known as the Disease Prevention and Control Law of 1955, further providing for definitions and for confidentiality of reports and records.

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

KILLION AMENDMENT A5362 OFFERED

Senator KILLION offered the following amendment No. A5362:

- Amend Bill, page 1, line 9, by striking out "and" and inserting: , for reports and
- Amend Bill, page 1, line 15, by striking out "a definition" and inserting:
definitions
- Amend Bill, page 1, by inserting between lines 20 and 21:
(m) Health care facility. As defined in section 103 of the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act.
- Amend Bill, page 1, line 21, by striking out "(m)" and inserting:
(n)
- Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 11 and 12:
(o) Personal care home. As defined under section 1001 of the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code.
- Amend Bill, page 2, line 12, by striking out "Section" where it occurs the second time and inserting:
Sections 4 and
- Amend Bill, page 2, line 12, by striking out "is" and inserting:
are

Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 12 and 13:
Section 4. Reports.--

(a) Every physician who treats or examines any person who is suffering from or who is suspected of having a communicable disease, or any person who is or who is suspected of being a carrier, or any administrator of a health care facility or a personal care home who has knowledge of a patient or resident suffering from a communicable disease, shall make a prompt report of the disease in the manner prescribed by regulation to the local board or department of health which serves the municipality where the disease occurs or where the carrier resides or to the department if so provided by regulation.

(b) The department or local boards or departments of health may require the [heads of hospitals and other] administrators of institutions not listed under subsection (a), the directors of laboratories, school authorities, the proprietors of hotels, roentgenologists, lodging houses, rooming houses or boarding houses, nurses, midwives, householders, and other persons having knowledge or suspicion of any communicable disease, to make a prompt report of the disease in a manner prescribed by regulation to the local board or department of health which serves the municipality where the disease occurs, or to the department if so provided by regulation.

(c) Local boards or departments of health shall make reports of the diseases reported to them to the department at such times and in such manner as shall be provided for by regulation.

(d) Every physician or every [person in charge of any institution for the treatment of diseases] administrator of a health care facility or personal care home shall be authorized, upon request of the secretary, to make reports of such diseases and conditions other than communicable diseases which in the opinion of the Advisory Health Board are needed to enable the secretary to determine and employ the most efficient and practical means to protect and to promote the health of the people by the prevention and control of such diseases and conditions other than communicable diseases. The reports shall be made upon forms prescribed by the secretary and shall be transmitted to the department or to local boards or departments of health as requested by the secretary.

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

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

Senator KILLION. Mr. President, this amendment would permit the Pennsylvania Department of Health to provide communicable disease information from our nursing homes and personal care homes across Pennsylvania to our 911 centers. Nursing homes and personal care homes located in counties throughout my district, Chester and Delaware Counties, as well as all of the surrounding counties in the southeast, are, unfortunately, experiencing continued rising numbers of COVID-19 cases and deaths both with residents and employees. As of today, based on the most recent data reported from the Department of Health, the number of deaths statewide in these facilities is 1,089, and the total number of deaths statewide is 1,716. The deaths in these facilities continue to make up well over half of the deaths in our Commonwealth. With Pennsylvania's 2.2 million citizens aged 65 and older, our State ranks fourth among all States in the percentage of residents aged 65 and older, as well as age 85 and older. We have approximately 700 nursing homes with more than 88,000 beds and more than 1,200 licensed personal care homes serving approximately 46,500 residents.

This amendment would build upon the importance of Senator Kim Ward's bill to better improve transparency and openness and better support our county 911 centers, emergency responders, coroners, and all the men and women who are fighting this virus on the front line while importantly maintaining the confidential-

ity of this information. I ask for an affirmative vote on amendment No. A5362 to Senate Bill No. 1110.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, would the gentleman stand for a brief period of interrogation?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Anthony Williams is requesting the maker of the amendment stand for brief interrogation.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, could we be at ease?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate is at ease.

(The Senate was at ease.)

KILLION AMENDMENT A5362 WITHDRAWN

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

Senator KILLION. Mr. President, at this time, I am going to withdraw amendment No. A5362.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Killion withdraws the amendment.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request that Senate Bill No. 1110 go over in its order temporarily.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the bill will go over in its order temporarily.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1210, HB 1379, HB 1405, HB 1522 and HB 1907 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 207, SB 258, SB 284, HB 342, SB 531 and SB 565 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 632 (Pr. No. 3656) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in miscellaneous provisions, further providing for odometer disclosure requirements.

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 766, SB 784 and SB 809 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 943 (Pr. No. 3655) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for consumer prescription drug pricing disclosure and pharmacy freedom to communicate.

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 954 and SB 1123 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 1128 (Pr. No. 1657) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, providing for declaration of judicial emergencies.

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 1174 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator CORMAN.

RECESS

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I request a brief recess of the Senate for purposes of a series of committee meetings to be held on the Senate floor, beginning with the Committee on Judiciary, followed by the Committee on Finance, followed by the Committee on Appropriations.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. For purposes of a series of meetings to be held on the Senate floor, beginning with the Committee on Judiciary, followed by the Committee on Finance, followed by the Committee on Appropriations, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator BAKER, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported the following bills:

SB 1119 (Pr. No. 1662) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in limitation of time, providing for declaration of judicial emergencies.

SB 1120 (Pr. No. 1663) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, further providing for payment of court costs, restitution and fines.

HB 1538 (Pr. No. 3666) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 61 (Prisons and Parole) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, further providing for parole procedure.

MOTION PURSUANT TO SENATE RULE 12

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, as a special order of business, I call up Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 1, House Bill No. 360 and Senate Bill No. 863, and move the Senate proceed to consider House Bill No. 360 and Senate Bill No. 863, 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**

**BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

HB 360 (Pr. No. 3660) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in marriage license, further providing for restrictions on issuance of license and for oral examination; and, in child protective services, providing for pandemic of 2020.

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?

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

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

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Muth.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Corman requests a legislative leave for Senator Brooks.

Senator Costa requests a legislative leave for Senator Muth. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Argall	Dinniman	Leach	Stefano
Arnold	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	

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.

SB 863 (Pr. No. 1660) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 48 (Lodging and Housing) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in hotels, further providing for definitions, for hotelkeepers, for notice to boarders to lock rooms, for lien, warrant, sale and right of redemption, for liability for property loss or damage, for special arrangements for safe deposit of valuables, for duty of guest, for other liability, for exemption from levy or sale, for baggage, for baggage sale requirements, for sale proceeds, providing for abandoned property and further providing for tourist camp heater safety.

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-50

Argall	Dinniman	Leach	Stefano
Arnold	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	

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.

MOTION PURSUANT TO SENATE RULE 12

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gen-
tleman from Centre, Senator Corman.

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, as a special order of busi-
ness, I call up Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 2, Senate Bill
No. 1119 and Senate Bill No. 1120, and move the Senate pro-
ceed to consider Senate Bill No. 1119 and Senate Bill No. 1120,
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. 2**

**BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

SB 1119 (Pr. No. 1662) -- The Senate proceeded to consider-
ation of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in limitation of time, providing for
declaration of judicial emergencies.

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-50

Argall	Dinniman	Leach	Stefano
Arnold	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	

NAY-0

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

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

SB 1120 (Pr. No. 1663) -- The Senate proceeded to consider-
ation of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, further providing for
payment of court costs, restitution and fines.

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-50

Argall	Dinniman	Leach	Stefano
Arnold	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	

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.

CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILL AMENDED

SB 1110 (Pr. No. 1659) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 23, 1956 (1955 P.L.1510, No.500), known as the Disease Prevention and Control Law of 1955, further providing for definitions and for confidentiality of reports and records.

On the question, Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator KILLION offered the following amendment No. A5376:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 9, by striking out "and" and inserting: , for reports and Amend Bill, page 1, line 15, by striking out "a definition" and inserting: definitions Amend Bill, page 1, by inserting between lines 20 and 21: (m) Health care facility. As defined in section 103 of the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act.

Amend Bill, page 1, line 21, by striking out "(m)" and inserting: (n) Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 11 and 12: (o) Personal care home. As defined under section 1001 of the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code. Amend Bill, page 2, line 12, by striking out "Section" where it occurs the second time and inserting: Sections 4 and Amend Bill, page 2, line 12, by striking out "is" and inserting: are Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 12 and 13: Section 4. Reports.--

(a) Every physician who treats or examines any person who is suffering from or who is suspected of having a communicable disease, or any person who is or who is suspected of being a carrier, shall make a prompt report of the disease in the manner prescribed by regulation to the local board or department of health which serves the municipality where the disease occurs or where the carrier resides or to the department if so provided by regulation.

(b) The department or local boards or departments of health may require the heads of hospitals and other institutions, the directors of laboratories, school authorities, the proprietors of hotels, roentgenologists, lodging houses, rooming houses or boarding houses, nurses, midwives, householders, and other persons having knowledge or suspicion of any communicable disease, to make a prompt report of the disease in a manner prescribed by regulation to the local board or department of health which serves the municipality where the disease occurs, or to the department if so provided by regulation.

(c) Local boards or departments of health shall make reports of the diseases reported to them to the department at such times and in such manner as shall be provided for by regulation.

(d) Every physician or every person in charge of any institution for the treatment of diseases shall be authorized, upon request of the secretary, to make reports of such diseases and conditions other than communicable diseases which in the opinion of the Advisory Health Board are needed to enable the secretary to determine and employ the most efficient and practical means to protect and to promote the health of the people by the prevention and control of such diseases and conditions other than communicable diseases. The reports shall be made upon forms prescribed by the secretary and shall be transmitted to the department or to local boards or departments of health as requested by the secretary.

(e) In addition to the the requirements under this section, during a

proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor that is based upon a communicable disease, any administrator of a health care facility or a personal care home who has knowledge that a patient or resident is suffering from a communicable disease related to the disaster emergency shall make a prompt report of the disease in the manner prescribed by regulation to the local board or department of health which serves the municipality where the patient or resident resides or to the department if so provided by regulation.

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

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

YEA-50

Table with 4 columns of names: Argall, Arnold, Aument, Baker, Bartolotta, Blake, Boscola, Brewster, Brooks, Browne, Collett, Corman, Costa, Dinniman, DiSanto, Farnese, Fontana, Gordner, Haywood, Hughes, Hutchinson, Iovino, Kearney, Killion, Langerhole, 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-0

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

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

MOTION PURSUANT TO SENATE RULE 12

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, as a special order of business, I call up Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 3, Senate Bill No. 1110, and move the Senate proceed to consider Senate Bill No. 1110, 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. 3

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1110 (Pr. No. 1661) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 23, 1956 (1955 P.L.1510, No.500), known as the Disease Prevention and Control Law of 1955, further providing for definitions, for reports and for confidentiality of reports and records.

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 pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Westmoreland, Senator Kim Ward.

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I rise to ask for my colleagues' support for Senate Bill No. 1110. The genesis of the bill started just about a week after this pandemic and the state of emergency was called. Bud Mertz, who is the 911 director in Westmoreland County, contacted me to say there are some cases in the county, but we cannot get the Department of Health to tell us where those cases are. We do not have all the PPE that we need, in a perfect world everyone has what they need, but we do not have that, and we cannot get information. He was really upset because the first responders, first ones on the scene, they are out to protect us, and we should do what we can to protect them.

So, that started the bill, and it kind of started a ball rolling to find an issue that we do not know because we have not had a pandemic state of emergency, at least in our lifetimes. These first responders, we are asking them to go out, go answer these calls, and use universal precautions. They cannot. We do not have the equipment. We do not have that perfect world. They deserve to know this information, and none of this, nothing in the bill, violates HIPAA, which we all know is the gold standard for patient privacy. It is vital that we get this done, get it done quickly, and we include future pandemics, because we do not need to have to go through this every single time there is a state of emergency called.

We had talked a while about limiting it to COVID-19, but what about COVID-20 or COVID-21? What about the next ones? These first responders need to know, in the future, that every time, we have done and we will continue to do what we can to give them the protection they need so that they can take care of all of us. So our emergency responders deserve this. We thank them for their service, we thank them for putting themselves out there to protect us, and I hope that my colleagues will join me in doing the right thing and passing this bill so that we can protect them. Thank you.

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

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, I fully concur with Senator Kim Ward and all the Senators in the Chamber and pretty much every citizen in Pennsylvania that we must do all we can do to support the frontline workers so that when they go to a residence, an apartment, or any location where someone may have COVID-19, or as Senator Kim Ward said, any future communicable disease, that those individuals are aware of the address, the location, where this person who may have COVID-19 is, in this case. So I am in full support, I have always been in full support, of making sure our first responders have the address so that, in advance, they can have the PPE so they can protect themselves.

Some of you may or may not know, I was a township commissioner prior to joining the State Senate, and in that position, I had close relationships with the volunteer fire departments and EMS units, as well as law enforcement, so I am well aware of the

challenges of responding to crises, obviously not at this scale because this is new. At the same time, I do support the proposal by the Department of Health, which would limit the information to addresses. I have not yet heard the clear reasons why the name of the person, in addition to the address, would be needed since the address would allow for the allocation of the scarce PPE. In addition, I am concerned that this may have a chilling effect on those individuals who are afraid for their personal identification, that is their name, to somehow get on a longstanding record that will be available, hopefully in a secure database, but also possibly a hackable database.

I know that the county association has sent a letter in support, and I fully appreciate it. I did notice, in the county association letter, that they are interested in aggregate information. I did not see anything in that letter that indicated they wanted the personal identification, that is more than the address of the individual. As I said yesterday on the floor, I think it is critical, even in these times of crisis, that we try to maintain the balance between our freedoms and government intrusion, and I do believe that this is a point of tension in this legislation, as it will be in others. But, we can protect the privacy of individuals, not put them in a position where they may be afraid to release information that would be needed to deal with this pandemic, or a future one. I believe we can manage that tension and come to an agreement by releasing only the addresses.

Lastly, I am concerned that this legislation would override the counties that currently have health departments. Several counties, not many, but some do have health departments. Each of these health departments may have different rules as to whether they would release an address or whether they would release the identification. Passing this legislation would then put counties, like Philadelphia County, in a position where they will be required to release the names. That is currently not the policy, as I understand it, of that county. So, it seems to me, at a minimum, we should have a carve-out, recognizing the importance of local autonomy, a local authority carve-out for those counties that already have a health department so they can determine whether they want to release the names or just the addresses.

Thank you, Mr. President, for allowing me to share these concerns.

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise in support of my friend and colleague from Westmoreland County's legislation, Senate Bill No. 1110. The Governor has made it a point to say that the State's reopening plan is based on data-driven decisions. Yet, up until recently, we could only see COVID-19 case counts by county. I know that there are a lot of us here in this room who are grateful that the Department of Health now has a Web site that shows the total number of coronavirus cases sorted by ZIP Code. While many in the public are grateful for the improved posting of information, our first responders are still in the dark. The calls that keep coming into the police departments, the fire stations, and the emergency medical service agencies, one of my local regional police departments provided me with a list of calls that their department received this month, April 2020, compared to April 2019. Aggravated assaults are up 400 percent, terroristic threats are up 200 percent, PFA violations are up 200 percent, overdoses are up 275 percent, Naloxone calls are up 300 percent, burglaries are up 100 percent. The list goes on and on.

But that call that comes into the station comes with a few things: the address, the situation, and possibly any individuals who are involved. The department can quickly pull records to know who they are dealing with and make data-driven decisions as to how they best can handle that specific situation.

Unfortunately, as we know, our first responders cannot socially distance themselves for many of the crimes that I mentioned above, and when they arrive at a scene, maintaining 6 feet, it is awfully difficult when you are breaking up a fight or rescuing someone who has overdosed. These brave men and women run into harm's way with each and every call. The last thing we should do is withhold information that could not only jeopardize the health of our first responders, but the health of their loved ones at home who hope and pray that they make it through the day, as well as other police officers, firefighters, and EMTs at the station, department, or agency. Our first responders, who no one in this Chamber would argue are non-life sustaining, should absolutely know if anyone at the scene they are responding to has tested positive for COVID-19. We would not withhold this information from a doctor in an ICU waiting to treat a patient who is suffering from COVID-19, and we should not withhold this information from the person who is responding to a situation in our communities.

Data-driven decisions should not be exclusive to the Governor. Men and women, some of them volunteers, should have access to the information to make the best decision when responding to that call. Remember, police officers, firefighters, and EMTs are already bound to medical information confidentiality under HIPAA. We trust these brave men and women with our lives. We should trust them with this much-needed information to keep them safe and protected as they serve our communities, keeping all of our people safe and protected. Mr. President, I urge a "yes" vote on Senate Bill No. 1110.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise to support this legislation. I recognize that many of the critiques and the analysis of what we are weighing here that my colleague, Senator Haywood, laid out are accurate. It is, in fact, true that we have to balance the release of information against the public good done by law enforcement having this information. However, I thank the maker of the bill, because the original bill, while well-intended, would have distributed broad swaths of information about communicable diseases well beyond the intent, but this bill has been refined and improved to a point where we are now only releasing information related to a communicable disease that is so severe that it has triggered a disaster declaration by the Governor and the duration of time for which we will release that information is limited to the period of time during which such a declaration is in place.

Mr. President, there are many considerations, and a wise man once said, we cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good, and, certainly, I voted for the bill that would have restricted this to addresses. However, as has been stated by colleagues, the law enforcement are limited to Federal and State rules regarding privacy, including HIPAA, and there are penalties in place were people to violate and erroneously release this information. We all understand that data security is always an issue; however, that is

an issue that we encounter each and every time we conduct any transaction over telecommunications.

So, with that being said, while I recognize that there are challenges with and concerns around people's individual information being released, I remind folks that COVID-19 only lasts for a period of weeks and then the disease will have run its course and, hopefully, a person will have recovered. That being said, the need of first responders to have this information, in my humble opinion, overrides other concerns. The limitations that we have adopted through subsequent amendments to this bill have improved it to the point where, I think on balance, our Members should vote in the affirmative. Therefore, I thank the maker of the bill, I thank all who worked on it, and I urge an affirmative vote on this bill.

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

NAY-3

Farnese	Haywood	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 present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES**

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

SB 331 (Pr. No. 1264) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in terms and courses of study, further providing for firefighter and emergency service training and establishing the Fire Training Fund.

SB 959 (Pr. No. 1650) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, further providing for medical assistance payments for institutional care.

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

HB 1076 (Pr. No. 3594)

An Act amending the act of June 27, 2006 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873 No.1), known as the Taxpayer Relief Act, in senior citizens property tax and rent rebate assistance, further providing for filing of claim; and authorizing public school districts to implement a senior tax reduction incentive volunteer exchange program.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator STEFANO. 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:

HB 1076 and HB 1538.

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2020

10:00 A.M.	STATE GOVERNMENT (public hearing on Primary Election issues related to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
1:00 P.M.	VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (to consider a motion to authorize the issuance of subpoenas)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020

10:00 A.M.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES and LOCAL GOVERNMENT (joint public hearing on Process to Reopen Pennsylvania)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
------------	---	--------------------------------

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2020

1:00 P.M.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY and LABOR AND INDUSTRY (joint public hearing to discuss unemployment compensation issues)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
-----------	---	--------------------------------

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2020

10:00 A.M.	LAW AND JUSTICE (public hearing on PLCB response to COVID-19)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
------------	---	--------------------------------

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2020

10:30 A.M.	AGING AND YOUTH and HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (joint public hearing on nursing homes and the challenges during COVID-19)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
------------	--	--------------------------------

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Tartaglione has submitted remarks for the record. 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 gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator TARTAGLIONE:)

Mr. President, today marks 5,043 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last raised the minimum wage. That is more than 13 1/2 years, and it is far too long.

Mr. President, it is often said that people reveal their true colors in times of crises. Without question, Pennsylvania and the United States are in a time of crisis. In this moment, it is understandable that issues beyond minimum wage have been brought to the forefront. We, rightly, must prioritize immediate needs like containing the spread of COVID-19, treating the sick, feeding the hungry, providing resources to people who have lost their jobs, and protecting essential workers who remain on the job.

Yesterday, the Federal government ordered U.S. meat processing and packaging plants to stay open amid the pandemic. In addition, plants that have closed will be forced to reopen under the new executive order. More than 20 U.S. plants, including at least 4 in Pennsylvania, have been closed due to the virus. I believe this edict demonstrates the true priorities of those who have issued it, as well as the priorities of the corporate leaders who support the new policy. This order places the interests of large corporations over the well-being of the workers who serve on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. It prioritizes profits over people.

I am very sensitive to the concept that certain essential businesses are critical to the sustainability of our State and our nation. They are also critical to the long-term prosperity of our workforce. I recognize that the closure of meat processing and packaging plants threatens this segment of our food supply chain. Yet, across the nation, at least 6,500 meat processing and packaging employees have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been forced into quarantine after being exposed to it. About 20 plant workers have died due to the virus. It has been well documented that working conditions in these plants make it very difficult, if not impossible, to practice the safety protocols that are necessary in a COVID-19 environment, such as social distancing. As a result, dozens of meat processing and packaging plants have become hot spots for the virus.

I have read that the executive order may provide additional protective gear and guidance for employees. This begs the question, why have these workers not been getting enough protective gear and guidance all along? Forcing meat processing plants to stay open during a pandemic, including those where outbreaks have occurred, without appropriate PPE is not a solution. The best way, the fastest way, and, honestly, the only way to solve this problem is by stopping the spread of the virus, not by giving it more places to grow. Instead of rushing to reopen COVID-19 hot spots, the administration should use its executive powers to accelerate the production of personal protective equipment and get it into the hands of all essential workers and everyone else. We must put people first, not corporate profits.

In the same vein, we also must recognize the unheralded individuals who provide us with essential goods and services, even during times of great personal risk. We should reward the key roles that all workers play in our economy and our communities all the time by raising the minimum wage to a living wage.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, this afternoon I rise to let all of our Members know about a plan that our Senate Democratic Caucus put forward earlier today called PA CARES, or Pennsylvania CARES. Mr. President, as we all well know, as was stated previously in the conversation we had on the last several bills, the situation we find ourselves in with respect to this national pandemic and this declaration of the emergency here in Pennsylvania associated with the COVID-19 situation, Senate Democrats put forth a plan that draws upon the resources that have been made available by Congress. As my colleagues know, there have been four iterations of support that have come from the Federal government that totals about \$5 billion. Of that, Mr. President, about \$4 billion, a little shy of \$4 billion, are resources that the Commonwealth will have input in terms of how they are distributed.

Mr. President, to that end, the Senate Democratic Caucus wanted to make certain that we put before, not only our colleagues, but the General Assembly Members and the administration and the public, how we best believe those resources could be spent. We have broken them down into a variety of different categories, and there is much more detail that is associated with it than what I am going to talk about here today, but the bottom line is that it is about \$4 billion, which provides assistance to a lot of working folks. For example, assistance for our working folks who are working at the front line, the frontline workers, our healthcare professionals and individuals, nurses and doctors and the like, and other places, home care folks, assistance to support the programs that are important to them as we go forward. Certainly, as we learned in the last measure, the emergency responders across this Commonwealth and the work that they are doing and how important it is that we find support along those lines. But we are also looking for support in providing assistance for working individuals, men and women who are at the forefront who will be going back to work and those who have been working through this process, an opportunity to provide appropriate things along those lines. Housing and utility assistance, for example. Nutritional assistance, debt relief, making certain that folks have the appropriate level of PPE, and other things that are important to the men and women who are working and who, very soon, in some instances in this Commonwealth, and we will know more Friday with respect to what parts of Pennsylvania, if any, will be opening up, but those men and women need to know that the State government is going to work with the Federal resources to support the effort that they need to be able to go back to work in a safe manner.

We are also going to make investments and recommend investments in the area of education. Mr. President, I mean in education from our toddlers through pre-K, to K through 12, and to higher education, and our technical schools as well. I believe that those are important dollars that we need to help shore up the education of our folks, particularly in the space along the lines of early learning as importantly as I mentioned. We are also looking at distance learning issues and trying to close the gap so our students have the ability, all across Pennsylvania, to have access to broadband to allow them to do distance learning when it is appropriate.

We want to make investments in childcare, which we certainly believe is always important, but at this particular time

frame, it is something that is necessary for us to be able to advance, and also looking at making investments in business and agriculture across this Commonwealth. Certainly, we know the plight of small businesses that tried to share in some of the CARES money that were not able to do so - the small businesses and the Main Streets of all of our little communities, our local boroughs and townships and other municipalities, our third class cities. A lot of those folks were not able to access the funds and a lot of our neighborhood businesses, working in conjunction to build upon what is being done at the Federal level to provide additional assistance to insure that those types of things are in the mix as well, and our agricultural community that has been suffering so greatly, particularly in the dairy industry, making sure that we are able to find ways to support what needs to be done to allow those businesses to thrive.

Mr. President, last, but not least, looking at some of our historically disadvantaged communities, those are communities that have not had the benefit of resources across this Commonwealth for many decades, but are the ones that are disproportionately feeling the impact of the COVID-19 virus. Those are communities that we want to make certain that we are working with in a variety of different ways, helping those disadvantaged businesses with grant programs and loan programs to assist them to be able to pull themselves up from their bootstraps and be able to move forward.

We are also looking at testing in that space as well because we have learned there are serious concerns about the disproportionate impact that COVID-19 has had on individuals and in our minority community. So making certain that we are looking and understanding what is being done, certainly not just with this pandemic, but also beyond that and the information that we do not have enough of with respect to the impact some of these conditions have on individuals.

Mr. President, that is a summary of some of the things that we will be talking about, and you can find more information at www.pasenate.com that lays out more details along those lines. I also thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, because earlier today in a conversation that we had on one bill, one amendment that was offered in the Committee on Appropriations began to address some of the things we are talking about, specifically the nursing home work that needs to be done and how important it is right now for us to be able to be in that space, and certainly the expanded relief for our EMS, our emergency responders, our police, fire, and EMT folks. I appreciate the opportunity to advance that. I hope as we go forward that this is the beginning of a conversation that we will continue to have with all three caucuses, as well as the administration, about how these very critically important dollars will be driven out to Commonwealth residents, programs, and entities.

Mr. President, I look forward to working with our colleagues on both sides of the aisle, both Chambers, and the administration, to be able to meet those needs.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, I thank the gentleman, again, for his cooperation today in the Committee on Appropriations. Clearly, it is very important the money that was allocated to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for COVID-19 response and how we drive out those dollars, and we look forward to a

conversation not only with our colleagues here on the Senate floor, but also in the House and the Governor, and I would like to see us have something out of the Chamber for the Governor to sign before Memorial Day, because this is an area where I think it is important that we get some of these dollars to particularly the providers, who are struggling at this point in time, the hospitals, the nursing homes.

We look forward, as was mentioned by the previous speaker, we did start today by amendment in the Committee on Appropriations to send a signal to the folks in the nursing home industry that this is very important to us as well. We hear their cry. I know they had an advocacy day on Monday. We hear their cries, and they obviously are taking care of a very vulnerable population, and we need to respond. So we look forward to working over the next couple of weeks and, hopefully, again, have something put together so that we can start driving this money out of State government and into the hands of the people who need it for a variety of issues, but, obviously, our number one issue is healthcare at this point, but there are others, as the previous speaker mentioned. We have been in Session the last few weeks trying to work on quick COVID-19 responses, and we have gotten a lot of these bills done and, hopefully, we have got ourselves in a position that people can deal with this crisis, and if more legislation is needed, then clearly, we will be here to do that.

However, another big part of what we do in the Senate is oversight. Oversight is an extremely important part of our job, and we are going through an unprecedented time of executive power. This is unprecedented in this type of emergency for this length of time for the entire Commonwealth. Starting next week, we are going to begin a series of hearings to review and to look at how the administration is using this unprecedented power and what problems they are facing and what we can do to be of assistance, and why are they facing these problems? Problems such as the unemployment compensation response. They have clearly received record numbers, I think we are up to 1.6 million claims, but clearly there are issues there and we think it is important to review the process, as we did a lot of work on unemployment compensation over the last decade trying to assist that part of State government, and we think it is important that we review some of their troubles and what we can do. What we can do to help the Secretary of Health help our nursing homes. Over half of the deaths in Pennsylvania can be attributed to nursing homes. The Department of Health has direct oversight of regulations and safety procedures in our nursing homes. What are we doing wrong? What can we do better? What can they do better to make sure that our most vulnerable population is being taken care of? It is, obviously, very disappointing to see those types of numbers.

So on and on through State government in different areas, it is important for us, as a legislative body, to provide that oversight, particularly in these unprecedented times. We look forward to the information that we plan on gathering. We started last week with a hearing dealing with the process of waivers. We have asked for more information from the administration. Hopefully, that will be forthcoming so we can better understand why some individuals were allowed to stay open and work and some individuals were not. So we look forward to that part of our process as well here in the State government in a bipartisan fashion. Let us find out information, learn from information, so, hope-

fully, we can improve the reaction of State government. So over the next week or so, we will be working on that as well, and, again, if more legislation is needed to respond to help during this crisis, we stand ready to do that as well. I look forward to working in a fashion with our colleagues in the House and the Governor to start driving some of these dollars to the people of Pennsylvania and providing the oversight that is so necessary during these unprecedented times.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Hughes.

Senator HUGHES. Mr. President, for my colleagues and for all those paying attention, I want to make sure that we take a minute and really think through, and process, and thank these incredible frontline workers, first responders, who are truly heroes from all across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As we are instructed to shelter in place, if you will, to stay home, to wear masks, to not go outside, to not engage with friends and family and just the general public, these individuals are given the exact opposite: responsibility. They are charged to go into the proverbial corona fire, COVID fire, and engage in heroic ways to deal with the lives and save lives, in fact, of countless thousands, if not millions, of people in this Commonwealth and, the truth of the matter is, across the nation. Recognizing their heroic stature, I think, really drove, in many respects, the policies and the spending plan that we laid out today in our Pennsylvania CARES program. The Pennsylvania CARES program prioritizes frontline workers, first responders, families, individuals, seniors, small businesses, black and brown communities who have been left out and extremely impacted in a very negative way by the coronavirus.

What I sense is, from the actions taken today in a bipartisan fashion, working with our Senate Republican colleagues where we took on the issue of trying to get more resources into historically under-resourced nursing homes and older adult facilities, my sense is that we see this as it truly is, one Pennsylvania, where all of us work together to try to deal with the very difficult issues around a virus that will not be leaving our community anytime soon. It will not be disappearing off into thin air. It will not be resolved in any fashion. There is no pending vaccine that is going to materialize in this State, or in this nation, or in the world, anytime soon. What I saw today with the work on nursing homes, yesterday and today, is a recognition by all parties that we see this as one Pennsylvania and that we are able to put aside partisan conversations to see this as one Pennsylvania and to respond collectively. What we have done in our PA CARES program is, as I have said before, as Senator Costa said, we have prioritized those individuals who are stepping into the breach, to prioritize our seniors, who are defenseless, in many respects, because of their circumstances and their situation. We prioritize small businesses, we prioritize black and brown communities, we prioritize our children by creating funding that allows them to recover and aggressively drives dollars to their situation to allow them to recover from the academic deficit that they are in right now.

We are going to continue to advance this, Mr. President, we are going to continue to push this. Our intent is to work in a bipartisan fashion, in a bicameral fashion, with the administration to move the agenda, to get something done. We cannot escape the fact, Mr. President, that in an 8-week period, 43,000 people

have become infected in Pennsylvania. Mr. President, we cannot escape the fact that over 1,700 deaths have occurred largely in an 8-week period. That is almost 200 people a week who are making a transition in Pennsylvania. That is not a good thing. Spending documents talk about dollars and cents. The spending documents also talk about priorities; therefore, in many respects, Mr. President, they are moral documents as well. They speak to the heart and mind of where we think things are important, where we should prioritize our spending, where we should embrace our brothers and sisters here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and look to their situation and reality and respond to it. The Federal government has provided us this money. It provides some pathway, some guideposts, of how it should be spent, but it is up to us to reveal our best of one another. Our best of ourselves as policymakers, as budgeteers. It is up to us to make sure that we utilize our best values and get them behind this spending and drive it to these individuals who are so severely impacted and who thrust themselves, as heroes, into the fire to deal with the needs of the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

It was a good announcement, it was a good step in terms of the nursing home situation that we attempted to address in a bipartisan fashion. I hope we can keep this up, but know that we will not stop fighting for these heroes, these ordinary heroes who are doing extraordinary work in a very, very difficult time where the future is not known.

So we thank you, Mr. President, for this opportunity to speak. We thank you for this opportunity to serve, we thank you for this opportunity to move forward, aggressively, a spending program that, as I said, reveals the best of us in a very difficult time.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator FARNESE. Mr. President, I will be brief. I was not going to make remarks, but I do want to, again, commend our Leadership team - Senator Costa, Senator Hughes, Senator Anthony Williams - for rolling out our package today, and I think that what we are beginning to see is Senate Democrats rolling out their package today with the backdrop of what we are discussing. For as much as we are trying to work together, I believe we are coming to a point where we are beginning to, sort of, deviate in terms of what we believe is best for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We talk about giving our first responders, giving those folks everything we can. The speakers today talked about doing everything we possibly can to protect these folks, to give them every bit of information, yet we still do not have masks, we still do not have enough PPE to protect people who are out there every day. We come into this Chamber and we talk about doing everything we possibly can, yet we ignore the fact that we still do not have a handle on testing, and it is this Caucus, the Senate Democrats, who are continually beating the drum on testing, but that is not part of what we are talking about.

We are ready to, quote, open this State up on May 8 to begin to allow people to have back their normal lives, yet we still have people who are walking around with trash bags on, as we heard yesterday, frontline workers, everyday workers, out there each and every day, folks who could not stay home. I say this today because it underscores the divide that, I believe, exists right now between Senate Democrats and, I believe, our colleagues on the other side of the aisle who come into this Chamber and talk about all these essential and necessary fixes we need to do to

share information, yet we still will not do anything to provide folks with just the basic equipment they need to do their jobs within the backdrop of opening this State up and allowing people to come back. I think it really underscores where we are right now in terms of the two Caucuses.

You know, the idea of opening the State is certainly important, and everybody, I think, has that intention, but, Mr. President, I am sorry, we are not ready to do that. We are not ready when we still do not have an understanding of what the testing and what the data showed us back in early March, in mid-March. People talked about that Governor Wolf is not the only one who owns data-driven solutions. Well, he is doing his best, and so is Secretary Levine, and they are telling us that we need to proceed with caution, we need to proceed with science, and it seems sometimes that when we come into this Chamber we get so caught up with doing, quote, what the right thing is for folks, that we forget that we are not all ready. That workers who have been out there each and every day from day one of this pandemic are still underserved. I think it is just plainly wrong for us to talk about opening up, we talked about golf courses, and to talk about everything else, when we all know the truth here is that we do not have the necessary equipment to give our men and women who have been working from day one on the front lines to continue to keep them safe, let alone infuse within everyday life hundreds, thousands, tens of thousands of people to a system that is simply not ready.

I applaud, again, the Leadership team of the Senate Democrats - Senator Hughes, Senator Anthony Williams, Senator Costa - in articulating and getting out in front of this and being the first voice, our Caucus, in continually beating the drum on testing. That we have been, from day one, our Members have been talking about testing and underscoring how important it is and it should be part and parcel of a program that talks about opening Pennsylvania, and I do not think that is part of that, we are not having it. As we said yesterday, let us get some of the men and women on the front lines and get them in some of these meetings and let them really talk about what they are experiencing out there, because maybe us coming in here every day and being their voice does not seem like the message is hitting home.

So as we move forward, Mr. President, over the next several weeks and we begin to look forward to what Pennsylvania can be in terms of to reopen, I think we need to continually and consistently heed the words of Secretary Levine, science-driven data, and to insure that what we are doing is in the best interest of those out there in Pennsylvania and within the Commonwealth. So, thank you, Mr. President, for allowing me to have some remarks here to close. I appreciate it.

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, briefly--I am not sure how brief, hopefully brief. This is, again, as I said earlier, unprecedented times and we are working together the best we can as a Commonwealth to serve the people of Pennsylvania. One of the difficult parts of this process has been how the Commonwealth has been affected differently, where particularly in the southeast, where the previous gentleman is from, this is a rampant disease that has flown through our southeastern communities, northeastern communities significantly, and so the response needs to be appropriate for that. As you move west across the Commonwealth, you have a different look of how this disease has im-

pacted those communities. It is not—I guess, maybe by definition, rural Pennsylvania is a little more socially distanced just by nature, and so, therefore, it has not had anywhere near the same impact moving westward. So as we went through this process, we as the Senate Republicans who were opposed at the time passed two pieces of significant legislation to begin how we move forward.

As I said earlier, I believe we are up to 1.6 million claimants of unemployment, 1.6 million. You know, poverty, as everyone in this Chamber knows, has a dramatic effect on people's health as well, and only so long can the Federal government keep spinning that wheel and printing money and sending it back out to keep us afloat. At some point, we are going to have to go back to work. So our first bill, which the Governor vetoed, was to allow us to adopt CDC standards, whatever businesses they thought were essential should be open, and whatever were not would stay closed, and the Governor vetoed that. I believe the Secretary of Health called it reckless and irresponsible, and then they moved forward with their own plan, which is essentially the same. They opened up construction starting the first of May. They opened up as much, or close to as much, of businesses that Senate Bill No. 613 would have opened, but they are moving forward. So, I applaud them for moving forward in a way that they feel is responsible, although I do not think it differs much from the proposal that we put forth.

Our second proposal, which was an amendment offered by our President pro tempore, was to allow the counties to decide when was the appropriate time to come out. That they would know best who could adhere to CDC standards, who could adhere to the Department of Health standards, and do curbside pickup, whatever it might be. The Governor, although it is somewhat confusing, is beginning that process as well. Now he is going to decide. He is not going to let the locals decide which counties, but he is going to decide on a county-by-county basis who can now move forward and who cannot, and that is fine. It is the spirit of what we wanted. We would have rather had the locals make the decision, but again, he is now going to recognize that the Commonwealth is being impacted in different ways. So we applaud that, and hopefully we will learn more as the weeks go on and some people will be able to get back to work, which is important to support their families, to support their communities.

Again, those areas which have been very hard hit by this virus will probably have to wait longer, and that is frustrating, but it is understandable because of the spread of the virus that can happen there. So I think we have acted appropriately through this process. We have done as much as we can to help remote voting for different types of—not only voting for different types of government, but for diagnosis of medical, for doing business and online car sales, whether it be online notaries, and so we are working in a proper fashion to continue the spirit of what is being asked of us, social distancing and so forth, but at the same time recognizing that what happens in Centre County is not necessarily the same as what is happening in Philadelphia. We should take different approaches to each because it has a significant difference, and clearly what the gentleman is talking about, what is going on with some of the workers who he is talking about, is understandable and there should be an appropriate reaction to that. Those workers should get the PPEs that they need and other stuff so that they can have their proper response. But areas of the State

where they are not having an impact should be allowed to, slowly and appropriately, go back and do their lives again and start working on this economy.

This is going to be the slowest quarter of our economy in our nation's history. Our nation's history, think about that, and it is a self-induced slowdown. We can sit here and argue all day, but these are the facts. Whether it was a responsible way to go forward, we did it and we are all living through it, but at some point if we are going to have a nation or we are going to have an economy, we need to begin to move forward. I think the Governor and his ideas that he has put forward that we are going to watch and understand picks up the spirit of what we passed here in the Senate in the last couple of weeks. It is not exact, but it is close. We look forward to that and, hopefully, to the whole Commonwealth, as soon as possible, being open for business so that people can support their families again, people can support their communities again, and people can support those who are less fortunate who need community support that wealth creates through business. That is what we want to get back to as soon as possible. I think the Governor's plan, again, adopts a spirit of what we tried to pass, and hopefully, as time goes on the entire Commonwealth will be back, because we have difficult days ahead of us, budget-wise and others. We will talk about the Federal money, but when we talk about the State budget, there is going to be a big hole, and depending on what the Federal government does, how we fill that hole will be very difficult for all of us, and that hole is going to remain until we get this engine moving again, and that has been our goal, to do it in an appropriate fashion.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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 to the call of the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate stands in recess to the call of the President pro tempore.

AFTER RECESS

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 Fayette, Senator Stefano.

Senator STEFANO. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, May 6, 2020, at 12:33 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

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