

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**Legislative Journal**

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020

SESSION OF 2020 204TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 34

**SENATE**

TUESDAY, July 14, 2020

The Senate met at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

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

**PRAYER**

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

Let us pray.

"Teach us, Lord, to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." These are the words of Psalm 90, and I share them with you today. We turn our thoughts to our Heavenly Father today and ask His help to guide us in all that we say and do so that we may gain the gift of wisdom. We ask, O Lord, that You give us patience to keep our peace of mind and strength to face our trials. Help us to be mindful of how we live each day, and to use our time here on Earth wisely and for good. We ask for wisdom to know Your will, the courage to pursue it, and the power to practice it. All this we ask in Your name. Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

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

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

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

**JOURNAL APPROVED**

The PRESIDENT. The Journal of the Session of May 27, 2020, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of May 27, 2020.

Senator GORDNER. 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 GORDNER 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. The Journal is approved.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

The PRESIDENT. Senator Killion has returned, and his legislative leave is cancelled.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

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

**CALENDAR**

**SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

**HB 196 CALLED UP OUT OF ORDER**

**HB 196 (Pr. No. 168)** -- Without objection, the bill was called up out of order, from page 6 of the Second Consideration Calendar, by Senator GORDNER, as a Special Order of Business.

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION  
AND REREFERRED**

**HB 196 (Pr. No. 168)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing integrated amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, organizing the Judiciary into representative districts and further providing for residency requirements.

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.

### RECESS

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for purposes of a meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held here on the Senate floor by ZOOM, followed by a Republican caucus to be held by ZOOM.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, at the conclusion of the meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, Senate Democrats will caucus by ZOOM as well.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held here on the Senate floor by ZOOM, followed by Republican and Democratic caucuses to be held by ZOOM, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

### AFTER RECESS

**The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator Elisabeth J. Baker) in the Chair.**

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

### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Columbia, Senator Gordner.

Senator GORDNER. Madam President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations to be held immediately here on the Senate floor by ZOOM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. For the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations to be held here on the Senate floor via ZOOM, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

### AFTER RECESS

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

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

### LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

### LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

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

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

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

The PRESIDENT. Senator Gordner requests a legislative leave for Senator Langerholc.

Senator Costa requests a legislative leave for Senator Dinniman.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

### CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

#### THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

#### BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 85** and **SB 107** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

#### BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

**HB 355 (Pr. No. 2110)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in preliminary provisions, providing for advertising; and, in charter schools, further providing for definitions, for charter school requirements and for powers of board of trustees and providing for fund balance limits.

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

#### HB 355 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that House Bill No. 355, Printer's No. 2110, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

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

#### BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 530** and **SB 565** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

#### BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

**HB 584 (Pr. No. 591)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fishing licenses, further providing for exemptions from license requirements.

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 606, HB 617, SB 679, HB 716, SB 763, SB 764, SB 869 and SB 932 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 940 (Pr. No. 1766) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 20, 2000 (P.L.724, No.99), known as the Municipal Code and Ordinance Compliance Act, further providing for definitions and for compliance requirement.

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 Dauphin, Senator DiSanto.

Senator DiSANTO. Mr. President, my legislation enables municipalities to issue condemnation orders on properties that are unfit for human habitation and are structurally dangerous to adjacent properties and neighboring residences. A municipality may file a condemnation order against these noncompliant properties with the county recorder of deeds office and demand corrective action. The order is considered a lien on the property and its validity would not be impacted by upset, judiciary, or repository sale of the property. My proposal will also allow for municipalities to recover costs of recording the condemnation order from the tax sale proceeds or from the purchaser. Current law only allows municipalities to file condemnation orders against an owner, not the property. This means that any time a property is sold privately or through a judicial sale or county repository, code officials must repeat their enforcement process. Senate Bill No. 940 saves our local officials considerable time and efforts as they seek to rebuild our communities. 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-49

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

Table with 4 columns of names: Brewster, Brooks, Browne, Collett, Corman, Costa, Hutchinson, Iovino, Kearney, Killion, Langerhole, Laughlin, Sabatina, Santarsiero, Scarnati, Scavello, Schwank, Stefano, Williams, Lindsey, Yaw, Yudichak

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 941, SB 968, SB 969, HB 1050, SB 1118 and HB 1325 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL AMENDED

HB 1459 (Pr. No. 3945) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to emergency management services, further providing for definitions; providing for emergency responder mental wellness and stress management; establishing the Statewide Critical Incident Stress Management Program; providing for duties of the Secretary of Health and the Department of Health; in miscellaneous provisions, further providing for immunity from civil liability; and, in emergency medical services system, further providing for support of emergency medical services.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator IOVINO offered the following amendment No. A6705:

Amend Bill, page 4, line 11, by striking out "protocol." and inserting:

guidelines."

Amend Bill, page 5, lines 9 through 13, by striking out all of said lines and inserting:

"Post-traumatic stress injury." A post-traumatic stress disorder as defined by the American Psychiatric Association and documented in the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th edition.

Amend Bill, page 10, line 9, by inserting after "chapter":

and shall update the posting annually

Amend Bill, page 11, lines 3 and 4, by striking out "SECTIONS 7704(A) AND 8153(D) OF TITLE 35 ARE" in line 3 and all of line 4 and inserting:

Section 7704(a) of Title 35 is amended and the section is amended by adding subsections to read:

Amend Bill, page 11, line 10, by striking out ", VOLUNTEERS"

Amend Bill, page 11, by inserting between lines 22 and 23:

(a.1) Deployment protections.--A person that or an agent or employee of an employer who is temporarily deployed by the Commonwealth or provides equipment for the purpose of emergency services activities in response to a mutual aid request by the agency shall be granted immunity under subsection (a), except in cases of willful misconduct, gross negligence, recklessness or bad faith, and shall not be liable for the death or injury to persons or for damage to or loss of property as a result of that activity. No immunity, rights or privileges shall be granted to persons under this subsection unless deployed by the Commonwealth in accordance with subsection (a.2).

(a.2) Deployment by the Commonwealth.--The agency shall promulgate, adopt and enforce rules, regulations, standards, directives and orders as may be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions under subsection (a.1).

Amend Bill, page 11, by inserting between lines 23 and 24:  
Section 4. Section 8153(d) of Title 35 is amended to read:  
Amend Bill, page 12, line 12, by striking out "4" and inserting:  
5

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

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

Senator IOVINO. Mr. President, this is an agreed-to amendment which would make technical and nontechnical changes to House Bill No. 1459, legislation which is a positive step in supporting the mental health and wellness of Pennsylvania's first responders. The technical changes include striking the word "volunteer" from the bill to eliminate confusion, replacing the word "protocol" with the word "guideline" in one line missed during amending, and inserting language to provide clarity that individuals deployed by the Commonwealth during a crisis will receive proper civil liability protections on the matter of deploying persons by the Commonwealth. This amendment does not indicate the intent of the General Assembly to set a new precedent that PEMA should mission assign the Pennsylvania Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network, also known as PaWARN. As is current practice, all local and county deployments should be exhausted before PEMA is asked to deploy persons.

Additionally, this amendment includes changing the definition of PTSI, post-traumatic stress illness, to exactly match the definition in House Bill No. 1910 which the Senate passed and the Governor signed into law this morning as Act 59 of 2020. The amendment's new definition of PTSI, compared to the current definition, would better support the goal of the House bill to reduce hurdles for our first responders when they seek treatment for an injury. This definition is supported by the Fraternal Order of Police, Pennsylvania Professional Firefighters Association, and Pittsburgh Firefighters Association. Finally, the amendment promotes transparency in PEMA operations by requiring that up-to-date, relevant information be provided to the public annually via their Website. Taken together, the amendment addresses concerns from stakeholders, including PEMA, to insure that the bill's full benefits are realized.

I ask for the immediate adoption of amendment No. A6705 to House Bill No. 1459.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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 GORDNER.

### LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Mastriano and Senator Yudichak, and a legislative leave for Senator DiSanto.

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

### CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

#### THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

#### BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**HB 1538, HB 1796, HB 2438 and HB 2487** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

#### SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

#### BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 207, SB 258, SB 284, SB 531, SB 809, HB 1032, SB 1034, HB 1061, HB 1069, SB 1089, SB 1158, SB 1186, SB 1187, SB 1204 and SB 1220** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 1235 (Pr. No. 1853)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the concurrence of the Department of Environmental Protection, to lease to L-A Battery, QOZ, LLC land within the bed of the Delaware River within the City of Philadelphia.

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

#### BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**HB 1780, HB 1855 and HB 1880** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**HB 2463 (Pr. No. 3713)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, providing for access to public records during disaster declaration.

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

### LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

**BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

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

**SB 14 (Pr. No. 1834)** (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, further providing for conditions of probation and for modification or revocation of order of probation.

**SB 881 (Pr. No. 1238)** (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of June 30, 1981 (P.L.128, No.43), known as the Agricultural Area Security Law, further providing for purchase of agricultural conservation easements, for Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Fund and for Land Trust Reimbursement Program.

**SB 1039 (Pr. No. 1755)** (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 16 (Counties) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, consolidating the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code; and making a related repeal.

**SB 1216 (Pr. No. 1784)** (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, providing for special provisions applicable to 2020-2021 school year.

**HB 196 (Pr. No. 168)** (Rereported)

A Joint Resolution proposing integrated amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, organizing the Judiciary into representative districts and further providing for residency requirements.

**HB 672 (Pr. No. 2004)** (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of February 13, 1970 (P.L.19, No.10), entitled "An act enabling certain minors to consent to medical, dental and health services, declaring consent unnecessary under certain circumstances," further providing for mental health treatment and for release of medical records.

**HB 942 (Pr. No. 2088)** (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 pharmaceutical and therapeutics committee.

**HB 1437 (Pr. No. 4124)** (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in city revitalization and improvement zones, further providing for reports and for restrictions; and, in rural jobs and investment tax credit, further providing for definitions, for rural growth funds, for tax credit certificates, for claiming the tax credit and for revocation of tax credit certificates.

**HB 2484 (Pr. No. 4008)** (Rereported)

An Act amending Titles 15 (Corporations and Unincorporated Associations) and 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing financial restrictions related

to the COVID-19 emergency; in financial matters of domestic nonprofit corporations, further providing for investment of trust funds and providing for nonjudicial settlement agreement; and, in principal and income, further providing for charitable trusts.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 1**

**BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION  
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**HB 672 (Pr. No. 2004)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of February 13, 1970 (P.L.19, No.10), entitled "An act enabling certain minors to consent to medical, dental and health services, declaring consent unnecessary under certain circumstances," further providing for mental health treatment and for release of medical records.

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	Dinniman	Martin	Street
Arnold	DiSanto	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Aument	Farnese	Mensch	Tomlinson
Baker	Fontana	Muth	Vogel
Bartolotta	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Blake	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Boscola	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Brewster	Hutchinson	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Brooks	Iovino	Santarsiero	Yaw
Browne	Kearney	Scarnati	Yudichak
Collett	Killion	Scavello	
Corman	Langerhole	Schwank	
Costa	Laughlin	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 1437 (Pr. No. 4124)** -- 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, in city revitalization and improvement zones, further providing for reports and for restrictions; and, in rural jobs and investment tax credit, further providing for definitions, for rural growth funds, for tax credit certificates, for claiming the tax credit and for revocation of tax credit certificates.

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	Dinniman	Martin	Street
Arnold	DiSanto	Mastriano	Tartaglione
Aument	Farnese	Mensch	Tomlinson
Baker	Fontana	Muth	Vogel
Bartolotta	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Blake	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Boscola	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Brewster	Hutchinson	Sabatina	Williams, Lindsey
Brooks	Iovino	Santarsiero	Yaw
Browne	Kearney	Scarnati	Yudichak
Collett	Killion	Scavello	
Corman	Langerholc	Schwank	
Costa	Laughlin	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 2484 (Pr. No. 4008)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 15 (Corporations and Unincorporated Associations) and 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing financial restrictions related to the COVID-19 emergency; in financial matters of domestic nonprofit corporations, further providing for investment of trust funds and providing for nonjudicial settlement agreement; and, in principal and income, further providing for charitable trusts.

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

**MOTION PURSUANT TO SENATE RULE 12**

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, as a special order of business, I call up Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 2, House Bill No. 1459, and move the Senate proceed to consider House Bill No. 1459, 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**

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION  
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**HB 1459 (Pr. No. 4149)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to emergency management services, further providing for definitions; providing for emergency responder mental wellness and stress management; establishing the Statewide Critical Incident Stress Management Program; providing for duties of the Secretary of Health and the Department of Health; in miscellaneous provisions, further providing for immunity from civil liability; and, in emergency medical services system, further providing for support of emergency medical services.

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

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS  
RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

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

**SR 347 (Pr. No. 1854)**

A Resolution extending the temporary emergency Rules of the Senate.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY**

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2020

10:30 A.M.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (to consider Senate Bill No. 1189)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (to consider House Bill No. 2293)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider Senate Bill No. 1166; and certain Executive Nominations)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

**PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES**

The PRESIDENT. 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 5,119 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last raised the minimum wage. That is more than 14 years, and it is far too long.

Mr. President, I read a very interesting news item recently that did not necessarily generate the public attention that it, perhaps, deserved. It was about a study conducted by Harvard University researchers into

the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on consumer spending, employment, and the economy. Numerous news organizations such as *CNN*, *Bloomberg*, *NPR*, and even the *New York Post* reported on the study.

The researchers found that the wealthiest 25 percent of the nation's households accounted for 2/3 of the nation's decline in credit card spending from January 1 through the end of May. In itself, that fact may not come as much of a surprise. After all, conventional wisdom tells us that the folks with the most money would have the most money to spend under normal circumstances, and when spending declines overall, it makes sense that it would happen proportionally to the distribution of wealth. Yet, that did not happen in the real world. On the contrary, the same Harvard researchers also found that the poorest 25 percent of the nation's households showed no real change in spending patterns over the same period. Their spending did not decline significantly.

On the surface, this information appears to belie the prevailing belief that the pandemic has hurt poorer communities worse than wealthier areas. But it does not. In fact, when combined with additional detailed findings of the researchers, it reinforces the notion that poorer folks have been disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus. To quote directly from the research paper: "We find that COVID-19 induced high-income households to self-isolate and sharply reduce spending in sectors that require physical interaction. This spending shock in turn led to losses in business revenue and layoffs of low-income workers at firms that cater to high-income consumers...."

There are several key points to emphasize here. First, according to the researchers, the data show that the health threat posed by COVID-19 has been the primary cause of reduced consumer spending, not government restrictions on economic activity. After all, in areas where folks are more likely to be able to work from home and where they are more likely to have greater economic security, credit card spending has declined sharply. This is indicative of more self-isolating. Wealthier families are making that choice to protect their health because they can make that choice. On the other hand, among poorer families who are less likely to be able to work from home, less likely to be in a financial position to self-isolate, and more likely to be living paycheck to paycheck, credit card spending has hardly declined at all, even with the higher unemployment rate among this group.

In other words, these folks have been under great financial pressure to seek income outside the home, even at the risk of their own health. Even in times of great economic peril, they are buying things on credit at basically the same level as they were doing in more prosperous times. For them, dealing with the pandemic is not about making certain personal choices. It is about mere survival. This is where raising the minimum wage would be a key factor in the well-being of these families and of the broader consumer-based economy.

By raising the minimum wage to a living wage, as my Senate Bill No. 12 would do, we would position lower-income families to be better prepared financially to withstand economic crises like COVID-19, rather than accumulating massive amounts of credit card debt merely to keep a roof over their head and food on the table. Maybe so many workers would not be forced to risk their own health and the health of their loved ones. They, too, could self-isolate and help to prevent the spread of illness in our communities. That would be helpful to all of us.

As the researchers stated in their conclusion: "Because the root cause of the **economic** shock appears to be self-isolation driven by health concerns, there is limited capacity to restore economic activity without addressing the virus itself." I urge my colleagues in the General Assembly to consider the role of wealth and income disparities in the proliferation and persistence of pandemics, like COVID-19, and I urge my colleagues to help reduce these disparities by adopting Senate Bill No. 12.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**HOUSE MESSAGES**

**SENATE BILL RETURNED WITH AMENDMENTS**

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 1166**, 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 BILLS**

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 1125** and **SB 1188**, with the information the House has passed the same without amendments.

#### **APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

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

Mr. William C. Brock as a member of the Pennsylvania Malt and Brewed Beverages Industry Promotion Board.

#### **BILLS SIGNED**

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

**SB 1125** and **SB 1188**.

#### **RECESS**

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, July 15, 2020, at 11 a.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 4:35 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.