

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

SESSION OF 2021 205th OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 11

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, February 24, 2021

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

The Book of Proverbs tells us that as iron sharpens iron, so man sharpens his fellow man. In Old Testament days, one iron blade was used to sharpen another so that both tools became more effective. It would be impossible for one tool to become sharper without the other. What a beautiful illustration of the principle that we need each other so that we can be our best.

Today, Lord, we ask that You help us to remember that, despite our differences, we are better when we work together. Bless us so that we come together to be more effective for the people of this great Commonwealth. All this we ask in Your name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

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

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky (Public Member), 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Tina Miller, Pittsburgh, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Libby White, Penn Valley, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Lynell Scaff, Aliquippa, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
COUNCIL ON AGING**

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky, 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Council on Aging, to serve until October 8, 2021, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Samuel Trychin, Erie, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
COUNCIL ON AGING

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Gary Duncan, 117 Barton Street, Dunmore 18512, Lackawanna County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Council on Aging, to serve until October 8, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
COUNCIL ON AGING

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Dennis Flynn, 3126 Butternut Lane, Chester Springs 19425, Chester County, Forty-fourth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Council on Aging, to serve until October 8, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
COUNCIL ON AGING

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mary Margaret Hart, 2703 Valley View Road, Bellefonte 16823, Centre County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Council on Aging, to serve until October 8, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Dene Liott, Pottstown, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
COUNCIL ON AGING

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Betsy Phillips, 3607 North Fourth Street, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Council on Aging, to serve until October 8, 2022, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Daniel Drake, West Chester, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky, 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice C. Alan Walker, Clearfield, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway, 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Michael Wolf, Enola, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Victoria S. Madden, Esquire (Alternate), 1056 Brandt Avenue, Lemoyne 17043, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Martin Raniowski, Mechanicsburg, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Betsy Phillips (Alternate), 3607 North Fourth Street, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Ashok Khare, Warren, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Barry Schoch, Camp Hill, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice E. Christopher Abruzzo, Hershey, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE ARCHITECTS LICENSURE BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Architects Licensure Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice David Majernik, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway, 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, to serve until July 1, 2022, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Laura Ellsworth, Sewickley, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, to serve until July 1, 2022, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Gayle Isa, Philadelphia, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF AUCTIONEER EXAMINERS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky (Public Member), 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Timothy Wiggin, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF AUCTIONEER EXAMINERS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway, 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Matthew Rader, Forty Fort, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF AUCTIONEER EXAMINERS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth

Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Mary Louise Doyle, Chester, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BANKING AND
SECURITIES COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Banking and Securities Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Gerald Pappert, Plymouth Meeting, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF BARBER EXAMINERS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky (Public Member), 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Margaret Moore, Harrisburg, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF BARBER EXAMINERS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Sharon Dell, Martinsburg, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF BARBER EXAMINERS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Betsy Phillips, 3607 North Fourth Street, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice John Christopher, Hummelstown, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF
BARBER EXAMINERS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Mark Robertson, Springfield, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF BARBER EXAMINERS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Donald Yost, Gaines, deceased.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CANCER
CONTROL, PREVENTION AND RESEARCH
ADVISORY BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway, 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Cancer Control, Prevention and Research Advisory Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Joel Noumoff, Wynnewood, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL APPEAL BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Charter School Appeal Board, to serve until June 14, 2022, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jamie Bracey, Philadelphia, resigned.

TOM WOLF Governor

MEMBER OF THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky, 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Harry Hamilton, Wilkes-Barre, resigned.

TOM WOLF Governor

MEMBER OF THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Carole Gravagno, Wayne, resigned.

TOM WOLF Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky, 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Khoury, Bridgeville, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Christopher Decker, Shohola, resigned.

TOM WOLF Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CLARKS SUMMIT STATE HOSPITAL

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway, 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Clarks Summit State Hospital, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice James Corselius, Clarks Summit, resigned.

TOM WOLF Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CLARKS SUMMIT STATE HOSPITAL

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Clarks Summit State Hospital, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jan Mroz, Peckville, resigned.

TOM WOLF Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Ronald Rohall, 154 Bakobils Farm Road, Rector 15677, Westmoreland County, Thirty-ninth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Conservation Com-

mission, to serve until May 30, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Conservation Commission, to serve until May 30, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Ronald Kopp, Middletown, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Heidi Secord, 6332 Cherry Valley Road, Stroudsburg 18360, Monroe County, Fortieth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Conservation Commission, to serve until May 30, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Ross Orner, Rockton, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE CONSTABLES'
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Constables' Education and Training Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Rodney Ruddock, Indiana, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

CORONER, BERKS COUNTY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Coroner, in and for the County of Berks, to serve until the first Monday of January 2022, vice Dennis Hess, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

CORONER, CLARION COUNTY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Coroner, in and for the County of Clarion, to serve until the first Monday of January 2022, vice Randall Stom, deceased.

TOM WOLF
Governor

CORONER, MIFFLIN COUNTY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway, 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Coroner, in and for the County of Mifflin, to serve until the first Monday of January 2022, vice Alan R. Sunderland, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky (Public Member), 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Cosmetology, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Elaine Gowaty, Murrysville, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Cosmetology, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Christopher Metz, Pittsburgh, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Cosmetology, to serve *[data missing]* a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice James Farrell, Erie, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF CRANE OPERATORS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Daniel Mitchell, 463 Lake George Circle, West Chester 19382, Chester County, Nineteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Crane Operators, to serve until December 8, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Michael Becker, Mifflintown, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF CRANE OPERATORS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Crane Operators, to serve until December 8, 2022, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jason Giurintano, Camp Hill, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF CRANE OPERATORS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brian Schmoeyer, 19 Myrtle Road, Honesdale 18431, Wayne County, Twentieth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Board of Crane Operators, to serve until December 8, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rodney R. Akers, Esquire, 4307 Dakota Street, Pittsburgh 15213, Allegheny County, Forty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jeffrey Pincus, Hummelstown, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Anne Gingrich Cornick, Esquire, 2311 Briarcliff Road, Harrisburg 17104, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Pajovich, Royersford, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rebecca Dombrowsky, 669

Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Thomas Weida, Lititz, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brittany Erney-Muniz, Esquire, 701 Sherwood Drive, Carlisle 17013, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Richard Grimaldi, Connellsville, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Moriah Hathaway, 1009 Roman Knoll Court, Harrisburg 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Susan Williams, Clearfield, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Marisa G.Z. Lehr, Esquire, 8 Nicholson Court, Mechanicsburg 17050, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jeffrey Runge, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Victoria S. Madden, Esquire, 1056 Brandt Avenue, Lemoyne 17043, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Janis Creason, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Betsy Phillips, 3607 North Fourth Street, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Pamela Higgins, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice John Keegan, Hazleton, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose

Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve *[data missing]* a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Joan Tarloff, Collegeville, deceased.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF EBENSBURG CENTER

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Gary Wills, 2363 Saint Augustine Road, Dysart 16636, Cambria County, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Ebensburg Center, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF
EDINBORO UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Kathy Pape, 75 Tavern House Hill, Mechanicsburg 17050, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Timothy Wachter, Fairview, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Donald Houser, Jr., 816 Highfield Court, Coraopolis 15108, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Marian Moskowitz, 1890 Rose Cottage Lane, Malvern 19355, Chester County, Nineteenth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Samuel Smith, 826 Ridge Road, Punxsutawney 15767, Jefferson County, Twenty-fifth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Neil Weaver, 1060 Elliott Lane, York 17403, York County, Twenty-eighth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Gary Lenker, 2432 Aspen Way, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, to serve until July 20, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Rasheedah Phillips, 3213 Turner Street, Philadelphia 19121, Philadelphia County, Third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, to serve until July 20, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Maria Coutts, Paupack, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF MASSAGE THERAPY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Dana Douglas, 169 Kuhns Lane, State College 16801, Centre County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Massage Therapy, to serve until October 9, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Camille Baughman, Carlisle, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF MASSAGE THERAPY

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Bryan Strawser, 224 Linden Avenue, Marysville 17053, Perry County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Massage Therapy, to serve until October 9, 2022, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jamie Corey, Lock Haven, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE PLANNING BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Cindy Campbell, 1012 Willow Street, Peckville 18452, Lackawanna County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Planning Board, to serve

for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Roger Krey, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE PLANNING BOARD

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Pasquale Deon, Jr., 1430 Pheasant Run Circle, Yardley 19067, Bucks County, Tenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Planning Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Ronald Bailey, Lancaster, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE REGISTRATION
BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND
SURVEYORS AND GEOLOGISTS

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Martin Helmke, 631 Trinity Drive, West Chester 19382, Chester County, Ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Theodore Tesler, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD (PSERS)

February 24, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Joe Torsella, 602 Creek Lane, Flourtown 19031, Montgomery County, Seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Public School Employees' Retirement Board (PSERS), for *[sic]* *[data missing]* until January 1, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Martin Silverstein, Lower Merion, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

February 24, 2021

Senators MASTRIANO, LANGERHOLC, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SB 272**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fishing licenses, further providing for disabled veterans and former prisoners of war.

Which was committed to the Committee on GAME AND FISHERIES, February 24, 2021.

Senators BAKER, STEFANO, BROOKS, PHILLIPS-HILL, BARTOLOTTA, MARTIN, J. WARD, DiSANTO, SCAVELLO, GORDNER, MENSCH, AUMENT, PITTMAN, MASTRIANO, DUSH and ARGALL presented to the Chair **SB 273**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in particular rights and immunities, providing for COVID-19-related liability.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, February 24, 2021.

Senator FONTANA presented to the Chair **SB 274**, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Governor, to grant and convey, at a price to be determined through a competitive bid process, certain lands, buildings and improvements situate in Coraopolis Borough, Allegheny County.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, February 24, 2021.

Senators YAW, STEFANO, PITTMAN, ARGALL, MENSCH, YUDICHAK, HUTCHINSON, PHILLIPS-HILL, SCHWANK, J. WARD, DiSANTO, BREWSTER and MARTIN presented to the Chair **SB 275**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preemptions, providing for restrictions on utility services prohibited.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, February 24, 2021.

Senators PHILLIPS-HILL, J. WARD, STEFANO, REGAN, AUMENT and DiSANTO presented to the Chair **SB 276**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of August 15, 1961 (P.L.987, No.442), known as the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act, providing for optional application of act.

Which was committed to the Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, February 24, 2021.

Senators PHILLIPS-HILL, J. WARD and PITTMAN presented to the Chair **SB 277**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in natural gas competition, further providing for standards for restructuring of natural gas utility industry, for consumer protections and customer service and for requirements for natural gas suppliers; and, in restructuring of electric utility industry, further providing for standards for restructuring of electric industry, for duties of electric distribution companies and for requirements for electric generation suppliers.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, February 24, 2021.

Senators PHILLIPS-HILL, BROOKS, MARTIN, J. WARD, GORDNER, AUMENT, PITTMAN, BAKER, REGAN, MASTRIANO, STEFANO, DUSH and CAPPELLETTI presented to the Chair **SB 278**, entitled:

An Act providing for limited civil liability for agritourism activity providers, for notice of limited civil liability and for acknowledgment of limited civil liability.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, February 24, 2021.

Senators STEFANO, K. WARD, GORDNER, AUMENT, HUTCHINSON, ARGALL, BROOKS, PHILLIPS-HILL, J. WARD, COSTA, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, BOSCOLA, SANTARSIERO, BARTOLOTTA, MARTIN, MASTRIANO, YUDICHAK, PITTMAN, BAKER, REGAN and YAW presented to the Chair **SB 279**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in sales and use tax, further providing for exclusions from tax.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, February 24, 2021.

Senators BROOKS, STREET, J. WARD, GORDNER, PITTMAN, COSTA, MASTRIANO and KANE presented to the Chair **SB 281**, entitled:

An Act providing for continuing education in Lyme disease and related tick-borne diseases for health care professionals.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, February 24, 2021.

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

February 24, 2021

Senators STREET, FONTANA, BREWSTER, KEARNEY, COSTA, ARGALL, MUTH, HUGHES, BARTOLOTTA, SCAVELLO, COMMITTA, PITTMAN, PHILLIPS-HILL, MENSCH, COLLETT and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SR 31**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the month of February 2021 as "Black History Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, February 24, 2021.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Senator KIM WARD asked and obtained leaves of absence for Senator BAKER and Senator GORDNER, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

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

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Senators A. WILLIAMS, MARTIN, SANTARSIERO, KEARNEY, BARTOLOTTA, BREWSTER, COSTA, COMITTA, HUGHES, BROWNE, FONTANA, KANE and STEFANO, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 32**, entitled:

A RESOLUTION

Honoring the life and career of Richard "Dick" Anthony Allen of Wampum, Lawrence County, offering condolences to his friends and family and recognizing his prominence during 15 Major League Baseball seasons in the 1960s and 1970s, with special recognition of his two stints with the Philadelphia Phillies.

WHEREAS, A Wampum native, Richard "Dick" Anthony Allen was born on March 8, 1942; and

WHEREAS, Making his Major League Baseball debut with the Philadelphia Phillies in 1963, Mr. Allen led the league in 1964 in runs (125), triples (13), extra base hits (80) and total bases (352); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen finished in the top five in batting average (.318), slugging average (.557), hits (201) and doubles (38), leading to his selection as 1964 National League Rookie of the Year; and

WHEREAS, A seven-time All-Star, Mr. Allen also earned status as the 1972 American League Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen's powerful bat awed Phillies fans of all ages as he hit balls out of the park; and

WHEREAS, In 1965, an estimated 529-footer cleared the Coca-Cola sign on the center left outfield roof of Connie Mack Stadium; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen emanated strength and persisted as a power hitter despite racism and abuse from fans, sports media and fellow players on and off the field, as when a teammate intentionally swung a bat at his head during practice, or when obscenities and racial epithets came from the stands; and

WHEREAS, Fans witnessed Mr. Allen's courage as others showered fruit, garbage and even flashlight batteries when he took the field; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen adapted to this growing threat by wearing his batting helmet while playing his position in the field to protect against projectiles; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen pursued a high level of play and exemplified integrity while befriending and mentoring other baseball greats, including Phillies' Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Schmidt described Mr. Allen as having been unfairly treated by the sports media:

Dick was a sensitive Black man who refused to be treated as a second-class citizen.... Imagine what Dick could've accomplished as a player in another era, on another team, left alone to hone his skills, to be confident, to come to the ballpark every day and just play baseball;

and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Phillies, in tribute to Mr. Allen's iconic status, retired his jersey number, No. 15, on September 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen also had a love for singing, including a brief musical career in the Philadelphia-based doo-wop group the Ebonistics; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen died from cancer at his home in Wampum on December 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen is survived by his wife, Willa, and his sons Richard and Eron; and

WHEREAS, The Senate honors Mr. Allen's excellence and the progress he made toward the full inclusion of Black players in Major League Baseball; and

WHEREAS, The Senate honors the life and career of a truly outstanding Pennsylvanian; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the life and achievements of Richard "Dick" Anthony Allen of Wampum, Lawrence County, offer condolences to his friends and family and recognize him for his prominence during 15 Major League Baseball seasons in the 1960s and 1970s, with special recognition of his two stints with the Philadelphia Phillies.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I have the honor today of acknowledging, on behalf of all of us, a legendary figure, Richard Allen. To some of us, Dick Allen. I am sure he has many other nicknames to his family. We are quite appreciative of their attendance today. I see his son, almost a spitting image of him. I see a representative from the Phillies, Rob Holiday, who is also with us, and a few others. I have the honor of being the lead-off, if you will, in this commentary, recognition, or acknowledgment of one of the greatest Americans that I can tell you I got to actually personally meet and watch perform on a large stage in America, the baseball field, which, at that time, was the number one sport in America, and he performed beyond all expectations of any human being.

Today, we have the honor and privilege of having his wife, Willa Allen, with us; his sons, Richard, Jr., and Eron; we also have from the Philadelphia Phillies, the Director of Amateur Scouting Administration and a friend of the Allen family, Rob Holiday, with us on Zoom, and we thank them for being here. For those of you who are not necessarily sports fans, the significance behind Mr. Allen is not simply his baseball accomplishments. While I, as a child, went into an old rickety stadium called Connie Mack and sat in the stands with my father to watch then-called Dick Allen perform, as I went to my seat, my father would explain to me the significance of this man and what he meant to our community, and specifically African Americans across this country. How he had fought in Philadelphia against the battery and the banter and a variety of other comments that I would hear as I was sitting in the stands directed towards him. Understand, I was a child, I did not quite understand the conditions of America or the limitations of America. But, in spite of all that, every time he would hit a home run, everyone would stand and cheer while he would circle the bases, tip his hat, and continue to do his job with dignity and grace, power, and style. I did not understand or comprehend the pressures put upon him as a person to do this in spite of the limitations people tried to put upon him.

I will tell you that, for those of us who acknowledge him as a baseball player, for those of us who acknowledge him just as an extraordinary human being, one who has led this nation to where it is today, much more inclusive, transparent, and consistent with what the forefathers would want. Those who land on these shores are considered equal, opportunities presented to all of us, and what we do with our gifts and our skills is truly up to us. Richard Allen did that in an era where it was not necessarily acknowledged or always accepted, but in spite of that, he did it, and he did it with obviously wonderful numbers, but he did it with a certain level of dignity that we all should aspire to.

So today is a day where we stop, slow down, and remember that the difference is what binds us in America. It makes us truly human people. It makes us reflect as a nation and enjoy each other's company. Dick Allen made that experience much more welcoming and wonderful to be a part of. I can only thank his family who are here with us today for allowing him to do what he did with us, sharing it in spite of the fact that he had to probably go home and let all of his family members know what he had

to go through to get to the point of where he was that particular day. To the Members of this Senate Chamber, I always refer to us as a club, regardless of our differences, these moments make us much more closer, hopefully, as Pennsylvanians, as Americans, and as human beings. With that, I will certainly turn it over to any other Member who wants to make a few comments on behalf of this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator KEARNEY. Mr. President, if you ever had the chance to see Dick Allen play in person, you could not take your eyes off of him. He was an immense talent, one of the best, most exciting baseball players of all time. Rookie of the Year, seven-time All-Star MVP. No one will ever forget, you know, using that 42-ounce bat to hit the ball over the roof of Connie Mack Stadium. He was always himself and his own man and let his talent on the field speak for itself. I am honored to be part of this tribute today. While we are saddened by his passing, we are heartened that the world is finally catching up with him.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, I rise as a fan of the New York Mets to echo the previous comments of my colleagues about Dick Allen. First, let us be clear, baseball is the greatest game ever invented. It is a game that, in many ways, has reflected the history of the United States. A game that was initially segregated and then, famously with Jackie Robinson in 1947, integrated, but not without incident, as we have heard today with the reading of the resolution in honor of Dick Allen, in his own time, playing in the Major Leagues in the 1960s and 1970s to have endured what he endured. Nonetheless, to have been such a great player and to have amassed the statistics that he did, and baseball is like so many of the rest of the sports, a statistics-driven sport. Dick Allen's lifetime accomplishments will live on long past the time that we are all here to acknowledge them.

But I want to say a word, too, about his contribution as an African American in the game. You know, nearly 60 years after he broke in, and now 74 years after Jackie Robinson did in 1947, you think about the experiences they both had. Jackie, of course, most famously because he was the first, being at Ebbets Field when actually, ironically, the Phillies were in town. Ben Chapman, who, at the time, was the manager of the Phillies and someone who had quite a reputation for making racist comments, during the first game taunted Jackie Robinson with the words, "go back to the cotton fields." It was only the next day, when Eddie Stanky, who was an infielder for the Dodgers, and a Philadelphia native, I might add, stood up for Jackie Robinson that a lot of the white fans started to see exactly what was going on and it opened a lot of eyes. That, indeed, helped open the doors for other African American players like Dick Allen just about 15 years later. But I note all of that because, ironically, despite the contributions of men like Dick Allen, in Major League Baseball today there are fewer and fewer African American players. I hope that Major League Baseball does something about that, because accessing the game of baseball is not easy, and it can be an expensive proposition for a lot of kids. I applaud, among others, Dom Smith of the Mets, who has very eloquently spoken out about racism in America today. He is also very involved in

bringing baseball to the inner city and other places, where he is trying to encourage young African American boys to get involved in the sport. I hope that is a legacy when they do, that they will look back on trailblazers like Dick Allen, and I am sure they will, and that, too, will be part of his legacy and something his family, I am sure, will be very proud of in the years to come.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, I heard the comments of the prior Senator. I, as well, am speaking as a New York Mets fan who can remember Richie Allen just beating us up. He had 33 home runs against the New York Mets in his history with the Phillies. I will never forget some of the games that we thought we won until Richie Allen came up in the later part of the game and, sure enough, there it goes. I would have gladly taken Richie Allen on the New York Mets back in 1963. We would have won the World Series a hell of a lot sooner than 1969. But I just wanted to say to the family and all, this is one person who really enjoyed watching him play, and I was not aware that wearing a helmet at third base was for the reasons stated earlier, so that really makes him more of someone to recognize for what he had gone through. Condolences to the family.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, just very briefly, this condolence resolution brought back some really nice memories from my childhood. Where I grew up, the houses in the neighborhood surrounded a, it was not an official baseball field, but we used it as a baseball field, and when the Phillies brought on, we called him Richie Allen, Dick Allen back in the early 1970s, we were so excited because we knew he was a big hitter, big-time player, and he quickly became one of the favorites of me and my group of 10 or so friends. I remember it was scandalous when, I was pointing out to Senator Corman a minute ago, there was a picture in *Sports Illustrated* of Richie Allen juggling baseballs with a cigarette hanging out of his mouth, in uniform. That would probably never happen today, but we thought it was so cool when we were kids that that picture existed. But the memories of watching him play and the memories of his effort are very fond memories of me and my friends, and I just want to say to his memory and to his family, thank you for those wonderful memories.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator HUGHES. Mr. President, if I could just take a moment to recognize this moment and thank my colleague, Senator Anthony Williams, for taking the leadership in pulling this together. It is good to see members of the Allen family, good to see Rob Holiday. Rob, I have not seen you in a while, good to see you, young man. So many memories about Dick Allen. If I could just provide Members, and for the record, some context for this moment. If you were black in Philadelphia, and young at that time when Dick Allen came along, a lot of times the rooting before Dick Allen arrived, the rooting when Major League Baseball came, other teams came to Philadelphia, was for the other team, quite frankly. Senator Anthony Williams knows exactly what I am speaking of. If the San Francisco Giants showed up, you rooted for Willie Mays. You did not root for the Phillies. If

the Dodgers showed up, you rooted for Maury Wills. If the Cardinals showed up, you rooted for Bob Gibson, and so many others. When Dick Allen showed up, you started rooting for the Phillies, because that was Dick Allen. I think one of his nicknames was Crash Allen, if I remember correctly. Rob, get me right on my history there.

So many memories come back for this moment. One very personal, I remember, I forget the year, I remember spending the weekend with my cousin in Mount Airy and we were probably about 10 or 12 years old and we snuck out of the house one Saturday night, I guess it was, and wound up doing absolutely nothing, all right, but we snuck out of the house. Absolutely nothing, on Germantown Avenue, went to the store, the name of the store at that time was the Tally-Ho, Germantown and Sedgwick, if I remember correctly, in that area and, you know, what did we do? Nothing. We went in and bought some Tastykakes, right, but we came out, it was like 10 o'clock at night and we were walking down Germantown Avenue, and there was Dick Allen. We scrambled for paper and pencil and we got his autograph. Just the two of us and Dick Allen on Germantown Avenue, got his autograph, paper and pencil, and then, next thing you know, a torrential rain occurred. The rain just flooded everything, and by the time we got back to the house and I looked at my little piece of paper, that autograph had disappeared because of the rain. Gone. Being the hoarder that I am, I probably still have that little piece of paper somewhere in the basement, and I can probably say to lots of folks that there once was the autograph of Dick Allen.

But such a great memory, such a great hero, and he should be in the Hall of Fame. Let me just say, for the record, he should be in Major League Baseball's Hall of Fame right now for so many reasons in addition to his incredible play on the field. He stood for so much, he represented so many, and he made sure he kept his dignity throughout the entire process and he stood strong. Thank you, Senator Anthony Williams, for this recognition. Thank you to the Allen family, thanks Rob, thank you to everybody for this important moment, and I am glad that it is going down in the annals of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Thank you very much.

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, thank you all for your comments. To the Allen family, to the organization for participating, I have one anecdote, I think, before I leave. Actually two. So, I feel really bad for every Mets fan who actually had the nerve to stand up on the Senate floor and say you are a Mets fan, okay? I just cannot even believe you actually said that, but I am not going to say anything about that; I do not care if you are a Democrat or a Republican - boo.

I will say this also, anecdotally, to the Allen family and to Rob. So, of all the great things that Dick Allen did, you know, all the things I have been commenting on - his dignity as a human being, his power hitting, his amazing things - he also is responsible for making sure I never became a serious drinker in America. I was 5 years old when my father took me to a baseball game, and every baseball game was accompanied by a soft pretzel and a beer. When you are little, it is a soft pretzel and a soda. But my father wanted to introduce me to worldly things early on, despite--my mom was not around, so he wanted to make sure he did it--so he said, do you want to have a drink of this foamy thing that looked really cool to drink? It was a beer, right? Have

a sip of it. So I had a sip of it and I immediately spit it out, it was the worst thing I had ever consumed in my life. I will confess to you now, I enjoy a beer much differently, but Ballantine beer was the worst creation in human existence, and they sold it at Phillies games exclusively. So I want to thank, in addition to all the extraordinary things I can say about Richard Allen, that era with the Phillies--Rob, look at me as I am trying to tell you that you are to blame solely for the fact that you scarred me from that experience of drinking Ballantine beer and watching Richard Allen at the same time.

God bless you to his memory, his soul, his family, to all of you who have acknowledged his greatness as a person, a baseball player, et cetera. I can only identify with my friend Vincent Hughes' comment because I did not lose the autograph because of the rain, I lost it because I was a kid, I lost the autograph, the same thing as well, but this was a wonderful moment for me. Hopefully, it was a wonderful moment for all of us and the family in particular. God bless you.

The PRESIDENT. Before we take the roll-call vote on this condolence resolution, will the Members please rise for a moment of silence.

(Whereupon, the Senate en bloc stood in a moment of silence in solemn respect to the memory of RICHARD "DICK" ALLEN.)

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Browne.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Kim Ward requests a legislative leave for Senator Browne. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

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

The yeas and nays were required by Senator A.H. WILLIAMS and were as follows, viz:

YEA-46

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Argall | DiSanto | Mensch | Stefano |
| Aument | Dush | Muth | Street |
| Bartolotta | Fontana | Phillips-Hill | Tartaglione |
| Blake | Haywood | Pittman | Tomlinson |
| Boscola | Hughes | Regan | Vogel |
| Brooks | Hutchinson | Robinson | Ward, Judy |
| Browne | Kane | Sabatina | Ward, Kim |
| Cappelletti | Kearney | Santarsiero | Williams, Anthony H. |
| Collett | Langerhole | Saval | Williams, Lindsey |
| Comitta | Laughlin | Scavello | Yaw |
| Corman | Martin | Schwank | Yudichak |
| Costa | Mastriano | | |

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The resolution was adopted.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

Senators CORMAN, K. WARD, COLLETT, ARGALL, AUMENT, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER, BROOKS, BROWNE, COSTA, FONTANA, HUGHES, KEARNEY, LANGERHOLC, MARTIN, MASTRIANO, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN, REGAN, ROBINSON, SABATINA, SANTARSIERO, SCAVELLO, STEFANO, STREET, TOMLINSON, VOGEL, J. WARD, YAW, YUDICHAK, HUTCHINSON and KANE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 33**, entitled:

A RESOLUTION

Honoring the life and achievements of former State Senator Stewart J. Greenleaf, Sr.

WHEREAS, Senator Stewart J. Greenleaf, Sr., passed away the evening of February 9, 2021, at 81 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenleaf was born in Upper Moreland Township, Montgomery County, on October 4, 1939, the son of the late Stewart W. and Belford Greenleaf; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenleaf was a 1961 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, where he played college basketball and earned a juris doctorate degree in 1966 from the University of Toledo College of Law; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenleaf served as an assistant district attorney in Montgomery County from 1970 to 1977 and as an assistant public defender in Bucks County; and

WHEREAS, In 1971, Mr. Greenleaf was elected Commissioner for his hometown, Upper Moreland Township; and

WHEREAS, After one term, in 1976, he was elected to the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenleaf served one term as a member of the House of Representatives before being elected to the Pennsylvania State Senate in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenleaf served as State Senator from 1979 to 2018, representing the 12th Senatorial District, which includes parts of Montgomery County and Bucks County, for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenleaf proudly served as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, During Senator Greenleaf's tenure, he passed more legislation than any other member of the Pennsylvania's General Assembly, sponsoring 151 bills that were signed into law; and

WHEREAS, Upon retirement from the Senate, Mr. Greenleaf remained as partner in his law firm, Elliott Greenleaf; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenleaf is survived by his wife Cecilia "Kelly" Greenleaf, his four children, John "Billy" W. Greenleaf, Stewart J. Greenleaf, Jr., Christopher E. Greenleaf and Ryan M. Greenleaf, and his six grandchildren; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the life and achievements of former State Senator Stewart J. Greenleaf, Sr.

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, the times we are living in, it seems like our Session so far this year has been dominated by condolence resolutions. Obviously, since the last time we have been together we learned of the passing of our former colleague, for most of us who serve here today, Senator Stewart Greenleaf, Sr. The normal tradition, and one that we hoped to have been able to accomplish, would be to invite the family here, and former colleagues who served with the Senator, to have a little service on the floor. I think the last time we did something of that nature was Senator Lamb, who passed away a few years back, and certainly, I extend the invitation to the Greenleaf family,

once we can return to some normalcy, to have them here on the floor so we can greet them in a way we would like to and remember our former colleague.

Senator Greenleaf, as mentioned, I will not go through his whole career, but I had the opportunity to serve with him for many years. He was the dean of the Senate for many years, as he came in here in the 1970s, and we were not particularly close in the beginning of my career. We were from different generations. Senator Greenleaf was a very independent sort of individual. I came sort of from the party structure, I was maybe a little more partisan and he was more of an independent individual. He was a very hard worker, as was mentioned, and a man of very deep faith, often holding prayer services, But Senator Greenleaf taught me two extremely important lessons which I would like to share today. The first one was back in the early 2000s, I believe, I was still in my first term. I was involved in a piece of legislation that was very important to me, and it was one of those legislations that got statewide recognition and a lot was going on with it. We passed it out of the Senate, the House passed a different version, it came back to the Senate, went to his committee, and he disagreed with the bill and so he did what most chairmen do: he killed it. I was as angry as I could be. I was young, new, and very angry and I could not believe he did it. So, I went storming back to my office, as hotheads do and I did, and said, we are going to amend every bill he has to kill that bill to get back. All right? Now, as you just heard, he was a very prolific legislator, so that is a lot of work to amend every Senator Greenleaf bill. So, I was all fired up. I was ready to take out my revenge. It was not but a couple weeks later, when we were in caucus on another piece of legislation I had spent a lot of time working on, and he was the first to stand up and say, we have to back Jake Corman on his issue, we have to back him, this is an important issue for him and his district and we have to stand up for him and get this done. I sat there with my jaw on the ground feeling about this big thinking, wait, this is the guy I was going to extract revenge on, right? I was so mad, and here he is standing up for me 2 weeks later.

What I learned from that important lesson, fortunately I learned it early in my career, is, we all represent our districts and sometimes we agree and sometimes we disagree. It is not personal, it is just what we believe in. That is who we represent and that is their philosophy, and, no matter what, there is always going to be another issue. So I learned from Senator Greenleaf that just because we disagree once, our opponent today will be our partner tomorrow if you do not make it personal. I learned that day, do not make things personal, learn to agree to disagree, and move on to the next piece of legislation.

The second lesson I learned, which I believe will be his legacy here in the Senate, is Senator Greenleaf, as was mentioned, was the chair of the Committee on Judiciary for many years. When Tom Ridge became Governor in 1995, he came in on a wave of a campaign promise to be tough on crime. As the chair of the Committee on Judiciary, Senator Greenleaf ran all of the bills out of his committee, most of them that he was the sponsor of, that did a lot of minimums, a lot of tough-on-crime legislation. That was what the times were in the mid-1990s and that was the response this General Assembly had at the time. As years went on and years progressed, we got to around late 2010, in that area, Senator Greenleaf realized that the legislation they passed back in those days did not have the impact he had hoped for. We were increasing our prison population by about 1,500

new prisoners a year, which is essentially building a new prison every year, so not only the human cost but the cost to the taxpayers. We had a terrible recidivism rate. Most of the people who were incarcerated were coming back to jail, so we were not rehabilitating anybody.

So, he looked at all his work and said to himself and to the public, I was wrong. The intentions that I had on this policy did not have the results I was looking for, and he began the process to undo his own legislation, his own statutes, that he got put into place. Really, I do not think there is any question about this, he became the father of criminal justice reform. Long before it became a national issue, long before it became a cause celebre in a lot of areas, and rightfully so, Senator Greenleaf was the one who started it. He educated our Caucus on it. Most of us were tough on crime, for Republicans, and that was sort of our issue, and he educated us on how that policy did not work and that we needed to change it. It started here in this Chamber, which I am very proud of. It is a tremendous legacy to his career, one that will last long past any of us being here, and, hopefully, will continue as we try to deal with these very important issues.

So, Mr. President, I just want to extend my condolences to his wife, Kelly; his children, Billy, Stewart, Jr., Chris, and Ryan. You had a tremendous father who was a man of tremendous character who really conducted himself in a way that many of us should all aspire to do.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TOMLINSON. Mr. President, it is indeed an honor to stand up and say some nice things about a great friend of mine, Senator Stewart Greenleaf. Being from southeast Pennsylvania, sometimes it would get a little uncomfortable in our Republican caucuses. So, that drove Stewart and I a little closer together. We would walk on the floor together and both had to duck our heads to get through that door. Stewart, being the tall basketball player that he was, he had to duck a little bit further than I would; that little humble duck that we had to take coming through that doorway into the Senate. But Stewart was a humble man, he was a quiet man, a very thoughtful man, a very dedicated public servant, and an excellent legislator.

I probably passed more of his bills out of my Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure than any other Senator; in fact, all Senators combined. We moved Senator Greenleaf's bills out every meeting we had. He had more bills in my committee than everybody combined. Of course, he passed over 160-some laws--legislation signed into laws--166.

He was very prolific, caring, and exacting. I am really going to miss this man. I missed him when he retired. He was truly someone who I could walk onto the floor, walk over, talk about a piece of legislation, talk about the pros and cons, about whether it was good for our district or not good for our district, and how we were going to vote on this. He was really a good confidant and someone you could run an idea by. We are going to miss him. We obviously are missing him because he retired, but I am going to miss not only just a good State Senator, a good public servant, but I am going to miss a good friend. I want to add my condolences to this resolution and honor a very good friend of mine.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise, also, to extend our condolences to the Greenleaf family. Kelly Greenleaf, who, over the years, I had the opportunity to get to know when Senator Greenleaf would visit us in Pittsburgh on many occasions for many purposes.

It was mentioned that the Senator served for 30 years or so as the chairman of the Committee on Judiciary, and I had the privilege of serving during 8 of those years as Minority chair of the Committee on Judiciary. As was mentioned, there was a considerable amount of legislation that made its way through that committee over those years, and it continued beyond the time I served on the Committee on Appropriations, and now in the Leader position. I know that many of you remember Greg Warner, and Ron Jumper from my staff, who worked in those years, and I know the work they put into drafting legislation--and Senator Greenleaf had them working quite a bit--and it produced a lot of very positive things during the 8 years, as I mentioned, that I served in that capacity. I think that it is important for us to look back on some of those things.

Senator Corman mentioned the work with the mandatory minimums. It was during that beginning period of time where Senator Greenleaf not only educated his Caucus, but educated a lot of folks about the issues centered around requiring mandatory minimums. In fact, he would not even run legislation that included mandatory minimum provisions; and if, in fact, something came over from the House, it was our responsibility, he said, to remove it. We did do that because we felt that it was the right thing to do, and that is important.

He was also a man who was very persistent. Many people may not remember this, but, I think, it took us three times before he was successful in getting the constitutional amendment passed that provided for the opportunity of child victims and child witnesses to be able to testify in court via video, which was a significant step in the direction, but it was his persistence along those lines. We do not hear much about it right now, but probably one of the most significant things that came out of that committee was his work related to tort reform. Act 13 came out during that period of time, and Senator Greenleaf was instrumental in helping that take place. We do not hear too much anymore about the fact that we were facing a shortage of doctors across Pennsylvania, or insurance companies did not want to insure those physicians, and high-risk physicians, in particular, with respect to having the ability to have malpractice insurance because of the Mcare work that was done along those lines. These are all the products of the work that Senator Greenleaf had done.

With respect to sentencing reforms, they began in this committee and to this day continue to be part of who we are in terms of our sentencing measures, but more importantly, led to the JRI1 and JRI2 provisions that are part of our law today which allow us to be able to use resources to reinvest back in the community. Beyond that, personally, I had the chance to work with him on a couple of areas that were important to our criminal justice system, our civil justice system, and quite frankly, to our process.

Jury poll reform, allowing and opening up the opportunity for juries to reflect and look like the community they represent and where people live. That was a significant step forward and required us to work with major agencies in Pennsylvania. At the

time, the Department of Welfare, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Health, and others to be able to construct a jury pool that was reflective, as I said, of the people who were before them testifying or who were facing these juries. The other area that we worked on that was really important to this court was providing for standards for court-appointed interpreters. We had learned during that period of time that folks from across the country were learning that individuals were being disproportionately impacted, I would say, or discriminated against, because the manner and way in which folks were interpreting things, whether it be a deposition or whether it be in the courtroom, and we took steps to be able to do that. Those are just some of the things that he did.

But what I remember most about Senator Greenleaf was his willingness to go and work in the community. Although he introduced and passed legislation, he would take steps to insure that it was effective and was doing what needed to be done. I can think of many occasions where he came out to Pittsburgh, and a couple of times we met with all of our judges from Allegheny County, and he talked about some of the things that needed to be done, and he asked them what needed to be done in the court system. But one that stood out in particular was the intermediate punishment program. When he learned that the legislation he had passed and worked on really was not being implemented by judges across Pennsylvania--along with Mark Burkfer, from the Commission on Sentencing, where we had the chance to serve together there, as well--he went across Pennsylvania and met with judges to talk about what needed to be done and explained to them why it was beneficial for them to be able to implement this program and utilize it in the way that it was intended. Those are just some of the things that I can think of, in my work with Senator Greenleaf, that he was able to do and the impact he has had on this Commonwealth and our criminal and civil justice systems as we move forward. Those things are still in place today as we speak.

So, I am honored to be able to say I was able to work with him in that fashion, and I think our colleagues and our Commonwealth are in a better place today from what we learned from him and some of the things that he did for us as a State Senator here in Pennsylvania. So, I join my colleagues and offer our condolences to the family.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my predecessor in the 12th Senatorial District, a man who nobly served the people of Bucks and Montgomery Counties for 40 years and who I know many in this Chamber spent considerable time working with, Senator Stewart Greenleaf. Since my time on the campaign trail, and to this day, constituents from all walks of life have shared with me their fond memories of Senator Greenleaf, his dedication to our community, and their appreciation for how helpful he and his team were over the years.

As the chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary for 30 years, Senator Greenleaf fought tirelessly for justice. The evolution of his approach to criminal justice reform in later years, in particular, earned him a large following among civil rights and reform activists from around the country and are illustrative of how his faith and integrity informed his decisionmaking through-

out his career. He was bold enough to admit his previously held beliefs had not served our communities as once hoped.

In 2018, Senator Greenleaf announced that he was retiring from office, but that did not mean that he was retiring from public service. He still kept advocating on behalf of his community and on behalf of the issues he held most dear, like criminal justice reform. I know I am not alone in receiving an email from him after the November 2020 election expressing his concerns about the divisiveness in our country and calling on all of us, as servants of the people of Pennsylvania, to look to the values of our Founding Father, William Penn - religious liberty and tolerance, self-government, freedom of the press, free elections, free and fair trial by jury - as we move forward to heal our State. That is who he was, a man who saw himself as a servant of the people and a servant of God. A man who fought for freedom, fairness, and unity in pursuit of a more perfect democracy. By setting such an example, his legacy and impact on the people of Pennsylvania will live on forever.

I ask my colleagues to join me in keeping Senator Greenleaf's wife, Kelly, their sons, grandchildren, and family, as well as his staff, in our thoughts as we honor his life of service in our Commonwealth, to this Senate body, and to the people of the 12th Senatorial District.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Jefferson, Senator Dush.

Senator DUSH. Mr. President, I have one item about Senator Greenleaf I would like to share that has not been shared yet. My first year and through my years in the East Wing of the Capitol, Senator Greenleaf had been arranging for, basically, many Christian concerts. The praise and worship that was going on in there--and his office was at the end of the fountains, so he got to enjoy that as well--but, I will tell you, it just lifted the spirits of everybody in the East Wing. To Ruth, who worked for him and helped coordinate all that, and the rest of his staff, his team; to his wife, Kelly; and to his family, I know his faith was a huge part of his life and I wanted you to know that he brought a lot of joy here in the Capitol. Thank you.

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I certainly want to convey my condolences to his wife, Kelly, and to his family. You know, the phrase "they do not make them like that anymore" is most apt for this gentleman. I can clearly remember the phrase "the first of" is usually refrained or given to people such as Bella Abzug or Jackie Robinson. You do not often get that kind of commentary for a politician. But this man, literally, is the reason that we have a bipartisan approach to judicial reform today.

The foundation, as appropriately acknowledged by my friend and colleague, Senator Corman, is something that required the Senator to have reflection upon, then have the courage to act upon, and then the ability to move others in the same direction. Senator Greenleaf was an extraordinary human being for a lot of areas, but my comments are specific to a population of people who have been overlooked or historically were overlooked for a variety of reasons or stereotypes. He looked well beyond that and began to move in a direction that drove Pennsylvania to where we are today.

He truly is the architect of judicial reform in Pennsylvania as we know it. I can remember quite clearly when he decided to go on a road trip with, I believe, Senator Street. A road trip into sections of Pennsylvania where people were not registered as Republicans, they did not necessarily look like him, and they certainly were not as tall as he was. But there was nobody in those rooms that the Senator could not connect with.

This moment is not simply about one of our colleagues, but someone we should acknowledge to be someone we would hope to be: the person who looks towards humanity as the thread that holds us all together, and he did that. Not just in words, not just in politics, but in actual life and in deed. He more than moved the needle. He adjusted it towards the balance of fairness. We have a lot more work to do, but we give great thanks to the work, the effort, and the life of our colleague, Senator Greenleaf.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I just want to offer my sincere condolences to Senator Greenleaf's family and share some of my thoughts.

As Senator Anthony Williams mentioned, shortly after I got to the Senate, during a hearing about prison closure, we were talking about the ways we could reform the system. I was feverishly trying to be recognized to talk, as most new Senators do, and Senator Greenleaf recognized me out of, really, out of order because he wanted to hear what I had to say. Then, afterwards, he told me he thought it was important that my thoughts around criminal justice reform got expressed. He offered to work with me on a broad agenda of reforming the criminal justice system. I thanked him and I began to tell him how honored I was and pleased that he was doing this, and he was a good man. He said something that was interesting. He said, I do not think I am a good man, but I am a believing man, and I want to repent for the mistakes that I have made in life. He said, I have never maliciously moved forward legislation, but I think that I have made errors. He acknowledged his errors, that I was not even aware of, and then he said he wanted to make some corrections.

So, I had the privilege of traveling across Pennsylvania with him talking about criminal justice reform. We were in—he wanted to start in my district in north Philadelphia. We were at 22nd and Lehigh at Deliverance Church, and he began to talk about his views about criminal justice reform. He talked as a man of faith. He took questions from constituents—some angry, some happy that we were there. He heard about people's frustrations. He sat in that church listening to people, mostly African American, almost all low income, for about 5 hours, listening to people's concerns. Then we traveled to places, rural and urban, in the central part of the State and the west, talking about criminal justice reform and some of the issues that were there.

He then proceeded to draft many pieces of legislation and began to reform the system in a way that only a Majority chairman would have the power to do. But in a way that brought together this body in a bipartisan way that rarely happens in such a historic and systemic way.

So, I thank him for the work that he has done and I thank his family for sharing it. But I also want to say that, as others have mentioned, his ability to look past party, race, and geography, whether urban or rural, and to look to the humanity of the situation and to do what he thought was right was a lesson that I will

carry with me throughout my career. I just want to say, he will definitely be missed, and we thank him for the work that he did. Thank you.

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

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, I wanted to be able to express my condolences to Senator Greenleaf's family.

I kind of wish I had more time to have worked with Senator Greenleaf. I came in, I believe, towards the end of his last term. But what I always found was how personable he was—as a new person sitting in the lunchroom—openly talking about his prior basketball feats and what that was like, and how that shaped him. What I always found amazing about Senator Greenleaf was the fact that you could bring up a bill with him that you may have had in his committee, and even as a new person, he knew exactly what that bill was, and he was going to tell you exactly why he was not going to run it or what was needed to improve it. I always found his honesty not only refreshing, but also really based on conviction.

When I also think about what kind of person he was, I think a lot of us, when we talk about criminal justice reform, that even down the stretch towards the end of his final term, to see the amount of time that he put into changing the dynamic in Pennsylvania through things like the Safe Harbor law and how we look at folks who were involved in trafficking, it was something that was, in my mind, unbelievable. He really changed that dynamic and got a lot of folks to look at these child victims, and other folks who were involved in human trafficking.

The other thing, even until the end as the Session was winding down, was to be able to see Stewart Greenleaf still putting in bills on topics that mattered to him. Putting out cosponsorship memos to really keep the spirit of that issue alive that, hopefully, someone would continue to carry that torch, is something that I will always remember about him.

On a lighter side note, to close out, it was interesting to hear Senator Tomlinson bring up about ducking through the doors, because Senator Greenleaf was the first person—when I first got here and I was walking into the Chamber for one of the first times—who reminded me and said, you need to duck through this door. It is a lesson that I wish I would have listened to more closely in the very beginning, having taken a couple shots.

He will be greatly missed. My condolences to his family. He absolutely made a tremendous difference not only in his home community, but throughout the State for generations to come.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator MENSCH. Mr. President, I think back to when I first met Stewart Greenleaf. I was a committee person from Montgomery County, one of 600. We would go to conventions and there was this legislator, or Senator, who stood out from the rest of the crowd. Not just because he was tall and played center for the University of Pennsylvania basketball team, but he was tall because people respected him, he was a man of value. He was a family man and a great father. He and Kelly, you would see them together at all the events. They were the perfect couple.

When you talked to others in the room about Stewart Greenleaf, the commentary always was, he was a man of value, a man of ethics, and a man of God. But the conversation always came around again to the fact that he was a very dedicated legislator.

He cared very much about his constituency, constituent service, and the law.

I remember one situation, probably 10 years ago in our caucus, we were having a discussion about tort, and Stewart was leading a discussion. He was essentially teaching us about tort and tort reform. I remember Senator Yaw at the time saying it was the greatest dissertation he had heard on tort since law school. It is just an example of the kind of commitment, the kind of passion that Stewart Greenleaf brought to his job.

When we look back over the years of his service, we see an incredible resume of successful legislation. There has been a lot of commentary about it already, but he was a prolific legislator. Again, along the line of his dedication to believing that, as a Pennsylvania Senator, he was legislating for the betterment of the entire State. He did not draw arbitrary or political boundaries. He was not an ideologue. He was truly a man who, I think, believed very strongly in the future of the State of Pennsylvania. For someone who was a committeeman and later as someone who had the honor of serving with him, he was an inspiration. He will be remembered.

In closing, let me say, I did meet with his family at his service the other Saturday morning. His entire family stands very tall physically as well as intellectually. I had a great conversation with each of them, and our respect and our prayers go with them, and especially to Kelly.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, I just wanted to say a few words about Senator Stewart Greenleaf.

What a remarkable man, and I wish I had spent more time in his presence. But there are a few coincidences along the way that are meaningful to me. Several years ago, with Senator Haywood, we started the first-ever criminal justice reform caucus in the Senate. We have been working very tirelessly looking to the examples that Senator Greenleaf set for us when it comes to limiting or abolishing mandatory minimums and treating those who are incarcerated with more respect, kindness, and humanity.

It is coincidental that, after his retirement, I chose to relocate to his office. So, I sit in the same space that he was in. Recently, now I sit in his seat in caucus. It reminds me, too, that when he was still there in that seat--I sat very close to him--and Stewart was not only tall standing up, he was tall sitting down. So, he had a challenge, every now and again he would forget to lift his microphone up and it was very hard for anyone to hear. So many times I was close enough to reach over, sneak and lift up the microphone so his wise words could be heard throughout the caucus room.

He was a stellar individual, a remarkable public servant, and I have no doubt that he has left an incredible impression on his entire community. His family--my heart goes out to his wife, his children, his grandchildren, and everyone who was touched by his great presence.

Thank you, Mr. President.

(Whereupon, the Senate en bloc stood in a moment of silence in solemn respect to the memory of Senator STEWART GREENLEAF.)

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

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

The PRESIDENT. The resolution is adopted.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS FAREWELL TO MEMBER

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

Senator BLAKE. Mr. President, I would appreciate the opportunity and ask your consideration as I extend some thanks and some remarks, as this will be my last day in regular Session.

The first people I need to thank for the honor and privilege to serve in the State Senate are the people of the 22nd Senatorial District, the people who trusted my judgment and allowed me to serve them and to represent them in the Senate for more than a decade. All the friends and supporters along the way who made it possible for me to live the dream of being a State Senator. I want to tell the Members, if I can--and we know there are about 30 Members of the State Senate who were on the floor when I got sworn-in in January of 2011 who are not here now, for one reason or another--I just want to say to all of the past and current Members how much admiration and respect I have for all of you.

The Senate has been around as a deliberative voting body for 230 years, since 1791. There are comparatively few people among our citizens who can claim the title of Pennsylvania State Senator. It is a deep honor. I want to thank the Senate Democratic Leader, Senator Costa; I want to thank the Senate Minority chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, Senator Hughes, in particular, for coaching me; and to the Senate back in 2011 for always being there for me when I was trying to find resources for my district, to serve the people of Pennsylvania and the people of the 22nd Senatorial District, and to get meaningful legislation across the desk. Thank you very much.

I want to thank all the past and current Governors with whom I have had the pleasure to work. I want to thank my Pennsylvania House colleagues, the northeast delegation, who shared a constituency with me in the 22nd Senatorial District: Mike Carroll, Marty Flynn, Kyle Mullins, Bridget Kosierowski; and before them Ed Staback, the late Sid Michaels Kavulich, Maureen Madden in Monroe County; and in the House Republican Caucus, Rosemary Brown and Karen Boback. Again, a common constituency with me.

I also want to acknowledge the Members who have been with me the whole time, the folks who were here when I got sworn-in in 2011 and are still here now: Senator Argall, Senator Baker, Senator Boscola, Senator Brewster, Senator Browne, Senator Corman, Senator Costa, Senator Fontana, Senator Gordner, Senator Hughes, Senator Mensch, Senator Schwank, Senator Tartaglione, Senator Vogel, Senator Kim Ward, Senator Anthony Hardy Williams, Senator Yudichak, and, of course, Senator Scarnati, who I supported as our President pro tempore across five legislative Sessions.

It is fitting that we honor Senator Greenleaf as we have today. I have one more tidbit I would like to share with you about Senator Greenleaf that has not been mentioned. He once pulled me aside in my first couple of years in the Senate and reminded me of what things were like when he got there in 1978. We all appreciate, with awe, the beautiful Capitol we work in. It is the most beautiful Capitol in the United States of America. I have

never walked into the Senate Chamber without being struck with awe by the architecture and the majesty of Violet Oakley's art. I would want you to remember that Stewart Greenleaf once tapped me on the shoulder when I got appointed to the Capitol Preservation Committee and said, when I got here, this place was falling down. But part of his legacy was the establishment of the Capitol Preservation Committee and the reinvestment in protecting that asset. That is just another accomplishment of his that may not be widely known.

I want to thank Senator Hutchinson, with whom I have served as Minority chairman of the Committee on Finance for the past several legislative Sessions. Scott has always been completely transparent, always communicating with me in a very civil and open way, and I always appreciated the way we managed our business in that committee. So, I want to thank him, because we were very deliberative and very patient when the measures came before us in the Committee on Finance. I want to thank my staff. I cannot thank them enough: Luc Miron, Cathy Updegraff, and Jared Vento in Harrisburg; Larry West, Jeff Cavanaugh, Mary Lawlor, Kelsey Widdick, Jen Fitzpatrick, and Sharon Motsay in Scranton. I also want to thank Kyle Mullins, who served as my legislative director for my first 8 years in the Senate and then went on to earn 2 years in the Pennsylvania State House. I want to thank them for making me an effective lawmaker and for being responsive to the needs of the people I represented in the 22nd Senatorial District. I believe they are the best staff in the world and in Harrisburg.

I want to thank the Senate Democratic senior staff: C.J. Hafner, Ron Jumper, Stephen Bruder, Michael Deery, Mark Mekilo, Lisa Fleming, Toni Marchowsky, Colleen DeFrank, April Coble Weidner—I just know I am missing some and I am sorry for that. But I think we all know as Senators that what really makes the Senate work are the tireless hours that senior staff put in to getting the words on the page for us to vote, to deal with the negotiations during tough budget cycles. I want to express my thanks to the senior staff of the Democratic Caucus for making me a better Senator.

I have two quotes that were coming around in my head over the past couple of weeks, and they are both from Senator Corman. He will appreciate this. One of them was when he would get to the Majority Leader's podium and preface his remarks by saying, I am not burdened by a law degree, before he went into a legal explanation—probably informed by his Chief Counsel. I want you to know, Jake, I use that all the time when I am surrounded by lawyers and try to explain myself, but I credit you with the line. But that is not the best quote that I want to bring from Senator Corman. The best quote I want to bring to the Members today is, when we were in pitched debate, when the tensions were highest in the Chamber, as he said, it is nothing personal. But he would come to the podium and he would remind us, all of us, that we were sent here to get things done. We were sent here to get things done for our children; for our schools; for our cities, counties, boroughs, and townships; our heroes in law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, healthcare workers, and non-profit providers, who serve persons who are vulnerable, persons with disabilities; ultimately, to advance the public good and make sure Pennsylvania retains economic vitality and economic competitiveness in the 21st century economy. We were sent here to get things done.

It is appropriate that Megan's prayer today talked about "we" and not "I." It is appropriate that we honor Dick Allen for the example he gave us. But I want everyone to know that we need to be welcoming, tolerant, civil, diverse, and respectful, and that example has to show itself on the floor of the Senate and in every community in Pennsylvania if we are going to have the best Pennsylvania that we want.

Any legislative achievement I have had—and I have had several of which I am very proud, but I will not get into them here—anything that I accomplished as a lawmaker was because of some accommodation, some cooperation, some partnership with someone in the Majority. It is just that simple. I would not have gotten things done for my people, I would not have been able to achieve my legislative legacy without that kind of partnership which I had to navigate as a Minority lawmaker for over a decade. We need to get things done and we need to work together for the people of Pennsylvania. That is my message as I leave you.

I want you to know that it has been an unbelievable honor and privilege for me to serve in the Senate, and I have deep and abiding respect for anyone who has the courage to step into this arena and dedicate themselves to public service. I want you to know that I will cherish my time with all of you. I will never forget the camaraderie and the collegiality of the work in our Chamber, and I will hold it in my heart for the rest of my life. So thank you, and God bless you.

Thank you, Mr. President.

(Applause.)

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, Senator Blake, thank you for your comments, and I know that a number of us will be providing comments as well. They were moving and thoughtful, and I thank you.

Mr. President, I rise today to lend my voice to the chorus of acclamation for our friend and colleague, Senator Blake of Lackawanna County, who will be leaving us and the seat in the 22nd Senatorial District in Pennsylvania. This is a sad and difficult day for many of us and the Members of our body who have been very fortunate to actually work with Senator Blake for a number of years and to serve with such a person of profound dignity, unmatched intellect, tremendous integrity, and indisputable honesty. It is sad for us here, but for the people of northeast Pennsylvania, I think they are relieved to learn that Senator Blake will be bringing his 30-plus years of exceptional public service in a variety of capacities and staying in the northeastern part of Pennsylvania. He has had a lifelong commitment, which will be an ongoing commitment to the people of that community, and I think they are blessed to be able to have someone to represent them of his character and integrity in his new position working with Congressman Cartwright.

Senator Blake arrived in this Chamber a decade ago. It was very clear that he was, what many people would call, a very serious legislator, a serious person. Sort of the real deal, so to speak. Since his time here, he has been a public servant who has demonstrated that service with all the care and candor of a clinician—someone who has meticulously diagnosed a problem and collectively set out to fix that problem. He came here to apply his lifelong experiences, his education, to carefully research and

develop well-crafted solutions to very difficult problems we faced here in Pennsylvania.

Those early years, Mr. President, that John was here were marked by the struggle with the aftermath of the Great Recession and the lingering economic impact associated with that. But it was Senator Blake's extensive knowledge in many areas, particularly as it relates to our Pennsylvania economy and his role at DCED and job creation successes and failures over the years, that he served in various capacities. That experience and knowledge was invaluable to our Caucus and this General Assembly during that struggle in those difficult years that followed. Mr. President, they were the early days of my service here as the Democratic Leader of our Caucus, and I will always be grateful to Senator Blake for his steady hand and extensive knowledge, as well as his easygoing, unpretentious way of handling many public policy challenges.

There is no doubt that he was a master of the process of gathering data, data which would then be examined in great detail in producing a holistic solution to the problem that we faced. John did not want to mention some of the legislative accomplishments, but he was the architect of Act 30 of 2018, which made Pennsylvania the 34th State to enact Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy, or CPACE, as it is known, a financing tool for local governments to help facilitate energy efficiency and clean energy loans. He helped create the Innovate in PA legislation, which mobilized more than \$85 million in early-stage investment capital for high-potential small businesses. As it was mentioned, I relied in our Caucus, and this Chamber relied, upon John's knowledge and experience in the realm of pensions, whether it be the State pension work that was done, I think, in 2015, but also the municipal pension conversation that took place and has continued to take place here. The Act 47 reforms that were put into place, when John worked on these measures they were always in a very bipartisan and thoughtful way. He was our lead person as it related to the Right-to-Know reforms. When local governments were gambling on stocks and on the backs of future generations, it was Senator Blake who stepped in, in a bipartisan way, wrote the reforms--the Local Government Unit Debt Act--that protected our citizens from the unwise borrowing that was taking place. In the northeast part of Pennsylvania, John has been an instrumental member of the BRAC Commission, insuring and making certain that the value, and everyone understood the role these military facilities played in our communities and how important they were to those communities.

Mr. President, in short, our friend, John Blake, has been what every citizen says they want in a public servant. As I mentioned, serious, studious, committed, and, most importantly, honest. His work on many of these complex and difficult issues has really not made him an Internet sensation, but has made him a force in this General Assembly. He has made a difference in the lives of the people he represents in his home community, up in the northeast part of Pennsylvania, which he will continue to be able to do. But, more importantly, the manner in which we conduct our business in this General Assembly and the way we work with our local governments, pensions, and things of that nature, John Blake was the person who led our Caucus in many of those discussions. His friendship, knowledge, character, and integrity will be missed by all of us here in this Chamber and, most importantly, by me and Members of our Senate Democratic Caucus.

Thank you, Senator Blake, for your service to us, and thank you for your service to your community. There is no doubt you will continue to be an instrumental part in northeast Pennsylvania. Thank you for your service.

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

Senator CORMAN. Mr. President, when I learned of John's pending retirement and I got a chance to watch his press conference, and I do not want to quote him, but I think what he said initially was when he learned from Congressman Cartwright that he could go home every night, he was sold on taking the new position. That all his life in public service and the travel he had gone through over the years, he was prepared and ready to be home every night. Those of you who know Senator Blake know that is right in line with his character and his values, and certainly was not a surprise when I heard those comments. Now, I will warn you, my friend, you know, when I was engaged to my wife back in 2000, we were having a dinner with then-Attorney General Mike Fisher and his wife, Carol, and my wife was lamenting that she was excited about getting married, but she was a little concerned that I was going to be away a couple days a week in Session. Carol Fisher responded, oh, dear, there are going to be days when you are going to cherish those days he is away. So your wife, Louise, may not be prepared to have you underfoot every day, so I just give you a little warning there that you might want to make sure you are not a nuisance.

But, unfortunately, we went through some condolence resolutions, and when people retire it is always sad to see them move on, but this is a celebration. I have yet to run into a former legislator who retired on their own terms who does not have a huge smile on their face. I saw our former President pro tempore, Joe Scarnati, the other day and that smile was ear to ear. He could not get rid of it. There is life after Harrisburg, and I am sure you are going to enjoy it tremendously. I appreciate your comments.

I think back to when we did public pension reform with our chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, the gentleman from Lehigh County, and yourself, sort of leading the voice in the Democratic Caucus. Back to your comments about getting things done. You and I, we all probably had different ideas on what that bill should look like, but we knew it needed to get done. It was not the way I would have written it, the final bill, and it probably was not the way you would have written the final bill, but it was one that we could get passed, get done, and move the Commonwealth further ahead. So that is a great tribute to you and always the style that you worked here in Harrisburg. When I use the phrase, "my brain is not burdened with a law degree," as most things in my life, I stole that from my father, but I appreciate you bringing that up here today.

So, as I said, this is a celebration, an honor well deserved. I am sure you are going to continue your public service in the northeast for many years. I will always remember, my friend, that my first vote for President pro tempore, you and the gentlewoman from the Lehigh Valley made it bipartisan, and I know that was not easy. It took courage, so I will always remember and thank you for that. Thank you for your friendship. There never was a day when I walked by you that you did not have a smile on your face and a pleasant hello. A pleasant how are you doing? That just speaks to the gentleman that you are, and, again, as I said earlier about Senator Greenleaf, maybe all of us, including

myself, should look to aspire to. Good luck. Best wishes to you and your family.

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

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, today is a sad day for me professionally, but also personally. John Blake is my friend, and I am going to miss him. We have a lot in common. We both are Villanova alumni, so we bleed Wildcat and have enjoyed recent games and championships that Villanova gave us. John, I know you watched that game last night, was that not really great? They looked exceptional.

Anyway, we also have something in common about representing mid-sized cities. He is Scranton, I am Bethlehem and Easton. These cities were once the backbone of Pennsylvania's proud, renowned industrial and manufacturing heritage, and these cities continue to battle to remake and reshape themselves in our new economy, and you have contributed to that in Scranton so much. So you do get things done, John. That is what I am going to miss about you.

I also believe it is a sad day for this Chamber because John Blake's voice in this Chamber is going to be missed. It is one of reason and common sense. He understands the awesome responsibility that comes with serving in this Chamber. John's life is, and will continue to be, one of public service. You only need to look at his biography to appreciate the depth of John's commitment to local and State government. Whether it is county government or State government, very few in this Chamber, very few, can match the broad experiences John Blake brought to bear on the important issues we make here on this floor. A very steady hand. He is one who does not self-promote or speech-make very often. He always brought a thoughtful approach to the crucial role we play as Members of this governing body. He understood, and he still does, that all good legislation is a product of give and take, negotiating on both sides of the aisle. He recognized that the role of legislating is not easy. We all know that. To make progress, you often have to make difficult choices, and John never shied away from those choices. Those decisions might have been tough, but he made them, and he made them proud with a head held high and a smile on his face--that Irish smile I am going to miss.

He was a voice of reason with the experience to back it up. That is what is going to be missed. As a man who represents Scranton, the Irish capital of Pennsylvania, and with St. Paddy's Day around the corner, I close, kind of, with this simple Irish blessing, John. May your pockets be heavy and heart be light. May good luck pursue you, morning and night. I have your CD, your guitar-playing CD, in my car which I play routinely, so I will constantly be reminded of our friendship. But I will miss you here, and I know we are going to continue to be friends because you are working with a Representative who I think is an exceptional lawmaker, and we will work together on some stuff in the future. So I look forward to that, but I will miss seeing you here on this Senate floor and working with you to get things done, like you have. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Berks, Senator Schwank.

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, John, I could not let you go without saying a few words myself.

First, a confession, quite honestly. I was so glad your name, your last name, started with a B, so I could watch how you voted

and think, okay, this is what Blake is doing. Where is the perspective that I am going to take from that decision? So I am going to miss you, most certainly for that, for sure, but for a lot of other reasons as well, John. As my colleagues and Senator Corman have mentioned, you brought qualities to this Chamber that will truly be missed. I always appreciated how thoughtful you were, whether we were in Leadership committee, or any committees that we served on, like the Local Government Commission, in the Committee on Appropriations, wherever I was able to interact with you, I listened. I was not the only one who often listened to your very thoughtful, measured, and logical response. The reason you came from that perspective is because you had so many years of experience. I do remember your days in DCED, the work that you had done was literally known statewide, all of the efforts that you made to help promote the economy and well-being of this Commonwealth. So you brought this lifetime of knowledge to the Senate. You were a team player. You were always willing to work with others and try to get something accomplished. Your mantra of "we have got to get something done" came through in everything that you really did here in the Senate. I also always appreciated your dogged defense of your community. One of my staff members always talks about the fact that there is Harrisburg world and then there is your district world, and what really matters is what you do in your district, in many cases, and how you serve the people who you were elected to represent. You never seem to forget that at all, and I appreciated that perspective about you.

I will finish with a quote as well, John. I am an admirer of Peggy Noonan, I like to watch her on the Sunday news shows. She has that same kind of perspective that you come from, that measured, let us see all sides of an issue, and her quote is this: "Sincerity and competence is a strong combination. In politics, it is everything." I think that defines you, Senator Blake, and I am so glad I had the opportunity to work with you, with that sincerity, and the confidence that you brought to this position. I wish you the best of luck in your new position, and I know you will continue to do good work. Thank you so much.

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, I want to add to the comments of my colleagues in recognizing Senator Blake's service here in the State Senate.

I first met John a number of years back when we were both serving on the Local Government Commission. I was in the House and he was the Senate Democratic representative. I remember being impressed then, not only about his command of the issues but his steady hand, his always going right to the issue at hand in a reasoned way that, frankly, brought everyone together, even in those few instances where we really did have some disagreement at the commission, because usually the commission runs pretty smoothly, but I remarked on that at the time. I was anxious when I was fortunate enough to be elected to the State Senate to work with John when I got here 2 years ago. What I found, immediately, was exactly what I observed earlier, which was that John was always a voice of reason, a thoughtful voice--to echo Senator Schwank's comments just now--many times, particularly whether there was an issue where I may not have been as well-versed in the subject matter and was wondering which way I was coming out on it, I listened to Senator Blake's thoughts, as expressed sometimes on the floor, but more

often than not when we were having discussions in caucus, and that had an impact and a real influence on ultimately where I came out.

It is going to be a loss for us in the Democratic Caucus, but also for this Chamber. I know this is a good opportunity for him, and I wish him the best working with the Congressman, but you will be missed here. I say that despite the fact that you are a Yankees fan—I know we are talking a little about baseball today—and I still have bad memories of 2000. Maybe one day there will be a rematch. But I do wish you Godspeed and all the best moving forward, John. Do not be a stranger. Thank you.

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

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, John, I just wanted to personally congratulate you. I worked with you on the Senate Committee on Local Government. I always found your thoughtfulness and caring of what was going on locally with your municipalities or counties, whether it was bills that you might be working on or bills that I may have had with tax collectors, if you remember. I always appreciated your candor, how you carried yourself, and, quite frankly, my friend, it is no surprise that you are going to continue to serve in your community. So I wish you Godspeed, and hopefully our paths will cross again soon.

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, John, there is a lot I could say regarding your professional acumen, distinction, career, but mine are reserved for more personal comments.

You know, it is not often that you can walk on and enter your place of employment, wherever it is in life, and find a friend, and one that mirrors their commitment to honesty, transparency, truth, and integrity and what we do professionally. Who you are on the floor of the Senate of Pennsylvania is who you are in life, and I found that to be true on so many occasions. I have to interrupt, is anybody a Pennsylvania Phillies fan? I mean, does anybody like a Pennsylvania team in this damn Chamber? I mean, like, seriously? Anyway, so back to more appropriate comments. And I did not know you were a Yankees fan, otherwise we probably would not have been as friendly as we are. But that is neither here nor there.

I have marveled at your perspective certainly about giving interesting details on items such as pension reform that many of us in our caucus, 20 minutes into the conversation, fall back into some kind of doze, but you effectively protected us from our levels of ignorance. But you have done that in life. I heard references to Scranton, an Irishman, et cetera. I am a guy from an urban community, and you are a guy from a more rural distance community. You are a guy from Irish descent and I am a guy from African American descent. Both of us are extremely passionate and desirous of doing good for our communities and our families. Both of us love our wives and our children. Both of us come from communities that raised us. And we found common ground early in our relationship. John, I will not look at this day as a day of sadness, because I am going to hate when you call me on the phone and say, what are you doing? I am going to say, I am sitting here in the middle of a 3-hour caucus discussing our navel and whether it was important to rename a bridge, and you will be saying, well, I am giving out \$70 billion, let us compare. I will love that. I truly will love that. I will love that you are in delight. I will love the fact that you can do it from the comfort of

your home. I am excited for your future prosperity. I will come to Scranton and visit you, and hopefully I can get you down to Philadelphia for a meal or two again. But I will tell you, this moment for me is about our friendship. Certainly, borne out of understanding each other in the realms of our public and political lives, but I have a friend, and I will carry you in my heart for the rest of my entire life for just that. So, while I agree with everything everyone has said with regard to your career, I double down on the fact that you are just a wonderful man. God bless you, my friend.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Senator Jacob D. Corman III) in the Chair.

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

Senator HUGHES. Mr. President, first of all, John Blake, you have every opportunity to rescind that letter that you submitted about your last day. We are not too far down the path. You know that is still a possibility, you understand that, my friend. So we would encourage that.

Most of this is personal and so most of this will, probably, be more appropriately left to personal conversations. John Blake is probably the best representative of the term "citizen Senator" than anyone with whom I have had the opportunity to know and to work. His focus, determination, commitment, and willingness to go into deep detail to clearly understand the issue and be willing to share his efforts not just with our Caucus, but especially with myself and our Leader, Senator Costa, about what he is trying to get done. He set an example. John is a teacher. He teaches all kinds of things, but he has an opportunity, or should seize the opportunity if it is afforded to him, to teach what it is like to be a public servant, because he represents that in such a great and distinguished fashion. Like Senator Schwank, I am so glad that B precedes H on the Senate roll call, because I could always look to John Blake for his vote and get a sense of the substance of the issue. When John Blake spoke in caucus, on the floor, or in committee meetings, his comments were always thoughtful. I think I can speak for all of my colleagues, we knew where he was coming from because it was rooted in the substance of the issue and not necessarily in the political whims of the moment.

We worked on a number of items together. John, I am happy to say that maybe your greatest accomplishment is the small business grant program that we did, I guess, about 9 months ago, which is now being replicated across the country. We anticipate that it will be in President Biden's arsenal of economic revitalization and community investment programs that he will be spinning out over the course of this year, and might possibly be revealed in the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan, which we anticipate will be voted on very soon. I cannot tell you of the great work that was done in that space. You know how I loved working with you on that. But to understand that we broke ground in that space, and that is the kind of legacy you deserve to have because of who you are, how you carry yourself, and your commitment. John, you should also know that you will now have more friends than the 255,000 people currently in your senatorial district. Given your new responsibility with the Congressman, and the fact that you will be a senior staff member for an Appropriations subcommittee Majority chairman, Louise may think she

is getting her husband back around, but I have a feeling that may not quite be the case, given the fact that you are a senior staffer for a Majority chairman of an Appropriations subcommittee. That is no small tool, but I can tell you that I can say to Congressman Cartwright and to the world, he could not have made a finer choice. He could not have made a better choice. He could not have made a better decision.

He will have responsibilities that will have him engage with every one of his Congressional Members, Democratic and Republican. He will be dealing with the administration, and this is an activist administration with President Biden and Vice President Harris. He will be fully engaged with all of the Cabinet Secretaries. He will be pushing envelopes with respect to getting significant policies done because, as the President says, we must build back better to come out of this pandemic. Therefore, he is going to need someone whom he can trust back home to take care of the responsibilities and make sure that this transformational opportunity winds up turning into being transformational for the people in his congressional district, and he could not have picked a better person full of skill, talent, integrity, and great expertise.

In some ways it is our loss, but I know how to find you, young man. Okay? I know how to find you. You tell Louise, I will be back up sometime soon to have some more breakfast with the two of you. Love you, John. I appreciate you so much. The working relationship that we have developed was rooted in trying to get things done, but also rooted in a great friendship that I intend to never lose just because you may be leaving this body. Thank you, John; great man, thank you very much.

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

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, John, thank you. I first saw John on a visit to Harrisburg before I was elected, and he was on a panel sharing his guidance and insights on the retirement crisis here in Pennsylvania. After he spoke, and on my way home, I said to myself, that is the kind of State Senator I want to be. After joining the Chamber, I learned that day that it is a good idea to have a mentor, someone to look up to, someone to follow. He was one of my mentors.

I remember advancing some conversations about having private retirement IRAs and looked at legislation with, at that time, Senator John Eichelberger. John said, you are going to need more than legislation, you are going to need a strategy to get it done. I remember going up to his office in Scranton and he laid out the intricacies. If we take path A, what might be the result? If we go with path B, what might be the result? That is all sharing what it means to govern, being in a Chamber where we are actually governing.

In addition to the guidance on the strategies for the legislation, I was also taken aback by the number of papers and books on his desk, and it was nothing like my desk, which was mostly clear. John, I do not know how you managed all that paper, but obviously you did an effective job with it. It did cause me though to question whether I should have more papers on my desk. Then, in the Committee on Finance, time after time, John had tremendous advice on supporting or not supporting legislation, what to consider, but also what to reconsider. So valuable. Most recently, when I did the poverty tour across a number of cities, John agreed to have a poverty tour in his city. We visited several

places. It looked like John knew everybody on every block, or they knew him. We were able to hear from individuals about their struggles to get out of poverty. John had the tremendous insight not just on finance, pensions, and retirement, but on the day-to-day challenges of making it in his town. So I just want to say thank you, John, for all that you have given me as an individual, obviously all you have given the Commonwealth, and in your community. Good luck.

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

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, Senator Blake, I know today is supposed to be a celebration, but it is extremely sad to me. You have been such a good friend over these last 10 years. John, you came to the Chamber with such a strong moral compass, you served with class and distinction. You attacked every problem with everybody giving their input, and what comes out is a good piece of legislation. John, I promise I am going to continue to fight and pass that Delaware loophole. We have been trying for the last 10 years. The day we do it, I am going to get you on the phone and I am going to say, we did it. Because, John, we would have never gotten this far without you.

I am going to miss you, my friend. I really am. But your constituents will still have you up in the northeast. So, John, I love you from the bottom of my heart, and I wish you all the success in the world.

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise to thank my colleague, Senator John Blake, for his service. I found him to be one of the most thoughtful legislators about a range of topics. One of the most astute when it came to fiscal matters, and his political judgment, or gut, as some would say, was outstanding. But what most impressed me about Senator Blake is when I arrived at the Senate full of energy and ideas, he was willing to talk with me, like so many, and help guide me through understanding this legislative process. I know that while he is retiring from his service with us, he is going to continue his community service to people in other ways, and I know he is going to continue to have an outstanding impact. So we thank him for all the service he has done in this Chamber, and, Senator Blake, I know that you are going to continue to make your mark on society. Thank you for what you have done, good luck, and well wishes in the future. We are always here for you. God bless.

The PRESIDENT. Would the Members please join me in rising and giving Senator Blake a round of applause for his career in public service.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. We wish you nothing but the best in your next career.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Stefano and Senator Kim Ward, and legisla-

tive leaves for Senator Browne, Senator Bartolotta, Senator DiSanto, and Senator Aument.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Argall requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Stefano and Senator Kim Ward, and legislative leaves for Senator Browne, Senator Bartolotta, Senator DiSanto, and Senator Aument. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

PERMISSION TO ADDRESS

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise today to provide remarks on the passing of an instrumental labor leader in the city of Pittsburgh and City of Pittsburgh Firefighters, Joe King. I was deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Joe about 2 weeks ago. For those of you who did not know Joey King--many had the opportunity to work with him here on many municipal pension issues--Joe was a legend throughout the Pittsburgh area, certainly in his community, and the labor community in particular, but also here in Harrisburg, and especially in the neighborhoods of the North Side community, particularly the Brighton Heights neighborhood. Whether it was cleaning sidewalks after a snowstorm or negotiating for his fellow union members as the president of the Pittsburgh Firefighters Local No. 1 for many years, or serving our country as a Marine in Vietnam, Joey King was a fighter.

As a fierce defender of labor rights, Joe's work often brought him here to Harrisburg. He also used his years of knowledge and expertise when he served on a statewide fire advisory board with then-Governor Bob Casey. It was always Joe's first priority to make sure that the guys in the firehouse, and the firehouses all across Pennsylvania, had the equipment and the resources they needed to save lives and protect themselves in emergency situations. His fellow firefighters described him as a legend in their department as a firefighter and also for their local union. I know that to be true from my experience with him over the course of many years I served here in Harrisburg, and he had been an advocate on pension reform and municipal reform during that time. But Joe always fought to preserve the jobs of his firefighters and union members all across Pennsylvania. He knew that preserving those jobs was not only good for their communities, but also insured our safety during emergencies and disasters.

There were certain tragedies that Joe, unfortunately, had to face as president of the Pittsburgh Firefighters. Probably the most significant and horrific was the St. Valentine's Day fire of 1995, and then also the Ebenezer Baptist Church fire in 2004, when tragedy struck our city and took the lives of fierce and dedicated firefighters. Joe persevered through all of that. He showed strength to the brave men and women who fought those fires, and he offered comfort and solace to the families who lost their loved ones on those very dark days. Those of you who knew Joe as we did, Joe led with his heart, and his true passion was always to help people in the best way that he possibly could. After his retirement, he devoted his time and talents to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, continuing to brighten the lives of those around him and use his strength and his passion to benefit others.

I offer my deepest condolences to Joe's wife, his family, the firefighters of Pittsburgh who have lost one of their great leaders,

and all those whose lives Joe touched in some way. Joe's family will remain in my prayers and those of my family, and so many others from Pittsburgh, our Commonwealth, and the firefighter sector, who will miss him greatly.

Thank you, Mr. President. I respectfully ask for a moment of silence for Joe King. Thank you.

(Whereupon, the Senate en bloc stood in a moment of silence in solemn respect to the memory of JOE KING.)

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 8 and HB 11 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator ARGALL.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 12 (Pr. No. 8) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 46475, carrying State Route 1021 over the Susquehanna River in Wyoming Borough, Luzerne County, as the George J. Dennis, Jr., Memorial Bridge.

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-46

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Argall | DiSanto | Mensch | Stefano |
| Aument | Dush | Muth | Street |
| Bartolotta | Fontana | Phillips-Hill | Tartaglione |
| Blake | Haywood | Pittman | Tomlinson |
| Boscola | Hughes | Regan | Vogel |
| Brooks | Hutchinson | Robinson | Ward, Judy |
| Browne | Kane | Sabatina | Ward, Kim |
| Cappelletti | Kearney | Santarsiero | Williams, Anthony H. |
| Collett | Langerholc | Saval | Williams, Lindsey |
| Comitta | Laughlin | Scavello | Yaw |
| Corman | Martin | Schwank | Yudichak |
| Costa | Mastriano | | |

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 16 (Pr. No. 10) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 40269, on that portion of US 219 Southbound over State Route 2047, Summit Township, Somerset County, as the SP4 Michael William Twigg Memorial Bridge.

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-46

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Argall | DiSanto | Mensch | Stefano |
| Aument | Dush | Muth | Street |
| Bartolotta | Fontana | Phillips-Hill | Tartaglione |
| Blake | Haywood | Pittman | Tomlinson |
| Boscola | Hughes | Regan | Vogel |
| Brooks | Hutchinson | Robinson | Ward, Judy |
| Browne | Kane | Sabatina | Ward, Kim |
| Cappelletti | Kearney | Santarsiero | Williams, Anthony H. |
| Collett | Langerholc | Saval | Williams, Lindsey |
| Comitta | Laughlin | Scavello | Yaw |
| Corman | Martin | Schwank | Yudichak |
| Costa | Mastriano | | |

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate return said bill to the House of Representatives with information that the Senate has passed the same without amendments.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 78 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator ARGALL.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 96 (Pr. No. 229) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for contributions to Veterans' Trust Fund.

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

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator MUTH. Mr. President, I will be brief. I just wanted to take a moment to commend the original prime sponsor of this bill, Representative O'Mara, who introduced this legislation last Session as House Bill No. 1609, as well as again this Session as House Bill No. 551. Her legislation had strong bipartisan support, with House Bill No. 1609 passing the House unanimously last Session, and I am hopeful this legislation makes it to the Governor's desk this Session.

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-46

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Argall | DiSanto | Mensch | Stefano |
| Aument | Dush | Muth | Street |
| Bartolotta | Fontana | Phillips-Hill | Tartaglione |
| Blake | Haywood | Pittman | Tomlinson |
| Boscola | Hughes | Regan | Vogel |
| Brooks | Hutchinson | Robinson | Ward, Judy |
| Browne | Kane | Sabatina | Ward, Kim |
| Cappelletti | Kearney | Santarsiero | Williams, Anthony H. |
| Collett | Langerholc | Saval | Williams, Lindsey |
| Comitta | Laughlin | Scavello | Yaw |
| Corman | Martin | Schwank | Yudichak |
| Costa | Mastriano | | |

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 106, SB 113 and SB 116 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator ARGALL.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 155 (Pr. No. 227) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 12 (Commerce and Trade) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Pennsylvania Military Community Enhancement Commission, further providing for establishment and membership.

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 Franklin, Senator Mastriano.

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Senate Bill No. 155. Mr. President, this is a commonsense, bipartisan piece of legislation that benefits both our State and our nation. This legislation was introduced in very close partnership with the gentleman from Lackawanna County, Senator Blake. I thank Senator Blake for his assistance, expertise, leadership, and professionalism in this excellent piece of legislation.

Simply put, the legislation addresses terms of the Pennsylvania Military Community Enhancement Commission. The com-

mission was established in 2014 and is tasked with advocating for our State's 13 major military installations. Both Senator Blake and myself serve as members of this board. Overall, there are 17 members, including the Lieutenant Governor, as well as commissioners appointed by the Governor. Currently, terms are for a 2-year period. It is our belief that extending it to a 3-year period will help with the expertise and competency of this commission.

This commission is important as it advocates for our 13 major military installations, many of which are gems within the nation. In one case, the Letterkenny Army Depot has done a lot for our nation throughout the years since the Second World War, but especially in the aftermath of 2001. When the insurgency broke out in Iraq in 2003, we found ourselves generally unprepared for that as far as when the insurgents started using improvised explosive devices. Contracts went out to up-armor vehicles, and things were not going so well. The turning point was in 2004 when a young soldier confronted our then-Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld asking the Secretary of Defense why our soldiers were still driving around in soft-skinned vehicles. So the request went out, and Letterkenny Army Depot did God's work in protecting our men and women rapidly and exceeding all expectations, saving the lives of many of my soldiers. We are thankful for each and every life they saved, the thousands, no doubt, that otherwise would have been lost because of the lack of preparedness.

So myself and Senator Blake believe that this change will bring more stability, continuity, and expertise and improve the ability of our people on this commission to advocate for these important installations that are scattered across our great Commonwealth. This change, of course, requires legislative approval, and that is why we are here today.

Thank you, Mr. President. I respectfully request an affirmative vote.

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-46

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Argall | DiSanto | Mensch | Stefano |
| Aument | Dush | Muth | Street |
| Bartolotta | Fontana | Phillips-Hill | Tartaglione |
| Blake | Haywood | Pittman | Tomlinson |
| Boscola | Hughes | Regan | Vogel |
| Brooks | Hutchinson | Robinson | Ward, Judy |
| Browne | Kane | Sabatina | Ward, Kim |
| Cappelletti | Kearney | Santarsiero | Williams, Anthony H. |
| Collett | Langerholc | Saval | Williams, Lindsey |
| Comitta | Laughlin | Scavello | Yaw |
| Corman | Martin | Schwank | Yudichak |
| Costa | Mastriano | | |

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.

HB 326 (Pr. No. 388) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in the Governor as Commander-in-Chief, further providing for active duty for emergency.

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-46

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Argall | DiSanto | Mensch | Stefano |
| Aument | Dush | Muth | Street |
| Bartolotta | Fontana | Phillips-Hill | Tartaglione |
| Blake | Haywood | Pittman | Tomlinson |
| Boscola | Hughes | Regan | Vogel |
| Brooks | Hutchinson | Robinson | Ward, Judy |
| Browne | Kane | Sabatina | Ward, Kim |
| Cappelletti | Kearney | Santarsiero | Williams, Anthony H. |
| Collett | Langerholc | Saval | Williams, Lindsey |
| Comitta | Laughlin | Scavello | Yaw |
| Corman | Martin | Schwank | Yudichak |
| Costa | Mastriano | | |

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate return said bill to the House of Representatives with information that the Senate has passed the same without amendments.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 69 (Pr. No. 52) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act establishing Recovery-to-work as a pilot program within the Department of Labor and Industry; and providing for local recovery-to-work pilot programs, for incentives to encourage business participation and for powers and duties of the Department of Labor and Industry.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 70 (Pr. No. 228) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8556, carrying SR 1008 (Eckenrode Mill Road) over Chest Creek, located in East Carroll Township, Cambria County, as the Kenneth John Ivory Memorial Bridge.

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

SB 120 (Pr. No. 91) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in size, weight and load, further providing for conditions of permits and security for damages.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 147, HB 157, SB 168 and SB 191 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator ARGALL.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY**

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2021

10:00 A.M. EDUCATION and HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (joint public hearing on education during the COVID-19 pandemic) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021

10:00 A.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Independent Fiscal Office) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

2:00 P.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Revenue/Lottery) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021

10:00 A.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Conservation & Natural Resources) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

2:00 P.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Transportation) **C A N C E L L E D** Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

10:00 A.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Human Services) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

10:00 A.M. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (informational meeting on the deployment and utilization of carbon dioxide management technologies) (LIVE STREAMED)

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021

10:00 A.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Environmental Protection) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

1:30 P.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of State) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021

10:00 A.M. SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ELECTION INTEGRITY AND REFORM (public hearing on a review of best practices of election integrity and security from other States) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

Off the Floor JUDICIARY (to consider Senate Bills No. 137 and 411; and House Bill No. 14) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021

10:30 A.M. GAME AND FISHERIES (to consider Senate Bills No. 241 and 403) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

11:00 A.M. AGING AND YOUTH (public hearing regarding the programs and services offered by the Department of Aging) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

12:00 P.M. COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (to consider Senate Bill No. 154) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021

10:00 A.M. STATE GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bill No. 274; and House Bill No. 284) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

10:30 A.M. TRANSPORTATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 89, 114, 282, 382 and 410; and House Bill No. 186) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021

10:00 A.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Education) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

3:00 P.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021

10:00 A.M. APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Corrections and the Board of Probation & Parole) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 2:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Community & Economic Development) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| <u>TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021</u> | | |
| 10:00 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - State-Related Universities) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Military & Veterans Affairs) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Pennsylvania Treasury Department) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| <u>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021</u> | | |
| 10:00 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| 1:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Office of Attorney General) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| 3:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Office of Auditor General) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| <u>THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021</u> | | |
| 10:00 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Labor & Industry) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| 2:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Agriculture) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| <u>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021</u> | | |
| 10:00 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Transportation) | Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. |
| <u>THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021</u> | | |
| 10:00 A.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Department of Health) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |
| 2:00 P.M. | APPROPRIATIONS (budget hearing - Budget Secretary/Governor's Executive Office & Department of General Services) | Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED) |

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, this is a significant week in many regards. Of course, for our brothers and sisters of

the Jewish tradition, tomorrow begins Purim, a day of fasting to commemorate Esther's brave heroic deed for her people dating back to 472 B.C. In commemoration of that, children often wear costumes to dress up as key characters from the Purim story of Esther, give gifts of money for the poor, and send gifts of two different types of foods to friends. It ends, of course, the day after with a festive meal consisting of meat and wine, and that begins, of course, this Friday. The story of Esther brings hope to not only the Jewish people, but all the people of the world in how one person can make a difference. In 478 B.C., Esther, of course, was married to the king of the Persian Medes Empire. A few years later, she was made aware by her cousin, Mordecai, of a plot to eliminate her people. In their correspondence back and forth, Esther received the following message from her cousin, Mordecai--she is now queen, of course. (*Reading:*)

"Don't think that just because you live in the king's house [you're the one Jew who] will get out of this alive. If you persist in staying silent at [a time like this], help and deliverance will arrive for the Jews from someplace else; but you and your family will be wiped out. Who knows? Maybe you were made queen for such a time as this." Esther sent back her answer to Mordecai--*saying--*: "Go and [get] all the Jews living in Susa together. Fast for me. Don't eat or drink for three days, either day or night. I and my maids will fast with you. If you will do this, I'll go to the king, even though it's forbidden. If I die, I die."

What a great story of courage, heroism, and hope. As we know the facts of Purim, it commemorates the story of Queen Esther in Persia and is recounted in the Book of Esther. The observance of Purim goes back 2,500 years. An amazing ancient celebration. As we know, Esther was an orphan raised by her relative, Mordecai, in a foreign land. Around 478 B.C. she married King Xerxes, also known as Achashverosh, King of Persia, and was made queen. The king's advisor, Haman, planned to exterminate the Jews within the Persian Empire in 472 B.C., and that is when the plot was uncovered. With great heroism, Esther went before the king, which was illegal without being summoned, and the king extended mercy to her and, of course, she expressed the threat to her people and they were saved. So, today, in celebration of Purim, of course tomorrow will be a fast for the Jewish people. The word "Purim" means "lots," and the lot was actually cast by Haman for the day in which he was going to launch his massacre, but thanks to Queen Esther and her great heroism, that never happened. May we follow the excellent example of Queen Esther with such courage and resolve.

As I reflect now on the importance of this week, every time I look forward toward the front of the gallery here in the Chamber, I see these heroic paintings of those who have gone before us. We see, of course, George Washington marching off to defend Philadelphia on his way to Brandy Station, the battle that would be lost, but he persevered. Then, of course, we see the 1787 depiction, once again in Philadelphia, of the Constitutional Convention with George Washington presiding and giving hope to a nation. But, of course, a more perfect Union was not there yet and we had to go through a terrible time in the 1860s. Then we look at Abraham Lincoln, and the picture foretells of the sadness of the moment but also the hope, him giving a speech he thought would not be remembered through the generations. But during his speech, Abraham Lincoln did reflect back to 1776, saying "Four score and seven years ago." The Union persevered together and we have this great nation.

We often take for granted, of course, General Meade. He was leading the Army. He took command of the Army of the Potomac only 3 days before the cataclysmic struggle at Gettysburg. It was not a foregone conclusion that the Yankee Federal forces were going to win. In fact, it seemed like General Lee, the commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, had the Midas touch. Within a year of taking over that Army, he had driven the Federal Army away from Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, back to Washington, D.C., winning almost every battle since. This seemed to be the knockout blow that was going to be delivered, with the European nations of France, Great Britain, and Spain poised to enter the war on the side of the Confederacy. Seeing the calamitous potential outcome in March of 1863, just a few months before the Battle of Gettysburg, the Senate of the United States asked our President Abraham Lincoln to issue a proclamation for prayer and fasting. Interestingly enough, not much different than what Esther was calling for, in some ways. So the proclamation for prayer and fasting for our nation was issued in April 1863, and that prayer was answered, of course, with the outcome of the Battle of Gettysburg where, at great sacrifice and cost, the Federal forces held the line.

Incidentally, on this very day in 1914, an old Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain passed away. He commanded the 20th Maine, of course, in 1863 at the base of Little Round Top. His story is worth recounting not because he is a Maine man, but because his legacy, history, and memory are forever tied to Pennsylvania, and I would count him as an adopted son of this Commonwealth for his sacrifice, heroism, courage, and character. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, for almost all of his life, struggled with a stuttering problem--back when they called it stammering. He prayed and prayed for deliverance from this impediment, but no hope would come. He was mocked, ridiculed, and bullied for not being able to string sentences together, but in college the answer to his prayer came. He began to sing out any words or letters that he had trouble pronouncing, and the irony is that his greatest weakness became his greatest strength. He went on to become one of the greatest speech givers, orators, in American history. The irony is not lost as General Meade was promoted to command the Army of the Potomac just a week before the Battle of Gettysburg. Just a few days before the Battle of Gettysburg, of course, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain becomes, himself, the commander of the 20th Maine.

Immediately, he had to deal with 120 mutineers from the sister regiment, the 2nd Maine, who had mutinied. They wanted to go home, and their cause was interesting and perhaps just, but this soldier, Colonel Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, new to command, only in the Army for a year, confronting veterans with twice the amount of his military experience, had to use what was once his greatest weakness to convince them to stay and fight for freedom, for this nation, equality, and justice. Using his words, all 120 men from the 2nd Maine believed that they could continue service, and every one of them took up arms to help Colonel Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain and, in the end, our nation, to defend the Battle of Little Round Top. Together, all 386 men held the line there, and Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain would often remember and discuss his time at the base of Little Round Top and he would ask us not to forget the sacrifice of all those who gave the last full measure of devotion, as Abraham Lincoln would have it.

Also on this day in 1991, over 600,000 American men and women were in the desert in Saudi Arabia, or at sea or in the air, beginning the ground assault to liberate Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces. So this day I rise to recognize February in commemorating the 30th anniversary of the first Gulf War, known as Operation Desert Storm. It is important that we remember the service and sacrifice of our citizens, especially as Pennsylvania has the second-highest loss of life in that war. I can think of no better day to commemorate this--not to celebrate, but to commemorate--as the ground war began 30 years ago this very day. The air campaign, of course, began on January 16--a thousand-hour air campaign, a hundred-hour ground campaign. The context of Operation Desert Storm is linked, of course, to the Cold War. The United States, ever since coming out of Vietnam in 1975, of course, lived under the shadow that we had forgotten about, of doubt whether America could ever again fight in a large-campaign operation or war because of what happened in Vietnam.

There was a great transformation during the 1980s of our Armed Forces. Professionalism came in, facing an emboldened strength and enlarged Soviet army in Europe and around the world, bipolar world, and many of the veterans of Operation Desert Storm, in fact, came out of Germany, where I myself served as well. Our forces were deployed around the world to blunt Soviet aggression, and it really was a time of freedom on one side and government oppression on the other side. At the time, in the late 1980s, there were over a quarter million soldiers in Germany supported by a strong U.S. Air Force presence but still facing an overwhelmingly massive Soviet Red Army. It really was a two-world situation, a bipolar world - government control versus freedom.

But without warning, late in 1989 and into the early 1990s, the Cold War ended, and those of us who served on the East German/Czechoslovakian borders were so thankful that the war ended without a major war having to take place and welcoming, for the first time to freedom, Eastern Europeans to the type of government system and freedoms that we take for granted was just unforgettable. Welcoming these East Germans to the West during the end of one of my missions with my platoon near the tri-border area of Czechoslovakia and East Germany, a group of East Germans came across and I went over to speak with them in German, and they clung on to every word that I was saying, and it was for the first time in my life I saw that spark of freedom and joy in Eastern Europeans' eyes. The freedom spread across the world to central Asia, Central Europe, and Eastern Europe, and we were speaking about joy, peace, and safety. Then-President Bush was talking about a new world order. Articles were published about the end of history, et cetera.

Around this time, the Soviets were launching their last Warsaw Pact exercise. I happened to be with an element of the British up north near Helmstadt watching that last exercise, and on a small TV on August 2, 1990, we saw images of Iraqi T-72 tanks driving through Kuwait City. Many of us thought that was a far and distant place and would never affect us in Germany. But quickly, American forces, just within days, were deployed out of Fort Bragg and elsewhere - Air Force elements, Marines, Navy soldiers, 82nd Airborne, 24th Infantry Division, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. The buildup grew from a defensive force to an offense force. We were hearing of the atrocities and the hostages, many Americans taken by Saddam's forces and

being used as political tools and pawns. One of my friends in Kuwait, his name was Abu Salem, and Abu Ahmet, risked their lives trying to smuggle Americans out of then-occupied Kuwait into Saudi Arabia, and a massive Iraqi army deployed to Kuwait and dug in. Saddam claimed he would never give up Kuwait, and that positioned him to have control of over one-third of the world's crude oil, which gave him incredible economic power.

We had a lot to be concerned about in this war, if it came to it, with the Iraqi army. It was not a forgone conclusion that they could be easily defeated. The Iraqi army had come out of 8 years of war against Iran, where they were very proficient in modern warfare, as we had witnessed in the last year and a half of the war against Iran, and they relied heavily upon the use of chemical weapons. They were no pushover force as one of the largest armies in the world, elements of which had modern equipment.

In November 1990, Secretary of Defense Cheney was on TV announcing further deployments of American troops. Over 100,000 of us out of Germany, in fact. My own higher headquarters ordered 10,000 body bags in anticipation of high casualties. It was an incredible time, and that did our morale no good hearing about that. As the troop buildup increased and expanded through the end of 1990 and into early 1991, negotiations continued via the Soviets to try to come to some sort of peaceful negotiation on Kuwait having its freedom restored. When that failed, the air campaign began in January 1991 as about 700,000 of our men and women and about a quarter million Allied and coalition forces deployed to the region to free Kuwait.

While this was going on, and there were great concerns about heavy American losses should war break out, something strange happened in our nation in 1990 and 1991. Yellow ribbons started going up on trees and poles around the country to remember our troops. A spontaneous prayer movement, of course, sparked across the country with signs, logos, and banners saying pray for our troops. I know my specific unit had 24 churches praying exactly for us, and we were going to lead the main attack, of course, on this day in 1991. The first portion of the deployment, of course, was called Operation Desert Shield, that was the defensive phase. The offensive phase for the liberation of Kuwait began on January 16, 1991, and is known as Operation Desert Storm. The air campaign began on January 16 with ferocity to both whittle down the lethality of the Iraqi forces in the Kuwaiti Theater of Operations and also to strike deep against Saddam Hussein's national communication assets. It was a brilliant air campaign which struck deep into Iraq and cut off communication with Saddam Hussein in many regards. Officially, the ground war began on this day. However, the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, we were ordered into Iraq the day before to lead the main attack against Saddam's elite guard corps.

At around 1300, 1 p.m., on February 23, rockets were fired from our multiple-launch rocket systems, F-16s came and knocked out forward Iraqi positions, and we bounded forward into southern Iraq and began cutting passageways through the border berms of Saudi Arabia and Iraq. One of the biggest things that we were concerned about, of course, during this ground campaign, and it is important to remember that we fully expected Saddam Hussein's forces to dump chemical weapons on us, we had received information that Iraq's division commanders were given the authority by Saddam Hussein to use chemical weapons if we invaded Iraq proper. The biggest thing working for Saddam's advantage with the use of chemical weapons, of

course, was not just that they had used it for many years against the Iranian Armed Forces, and not just because they had been trained well by the Soviets who also relied upon that sort of warfare, but the wind blows from Iraq into Saudi Arabia, which means any use of it would blow in the right direction on our troops.

But as the first rockets from our unit went in and our air strikes went in in front of us, something strange happened. As the first tank from our regiment entered Iraq at 1330, 1:30 in the afternoon, on February 23, I noticed something amazing and strange occurring. Thousands of little dust devils appeared around me and the wind shifted from blowing from Iraq into Saudi Arabia, favoring the use of chemical weapons, to the opposite of blowing from Saudi Arabia into Iraq, thereby taking away any advantage or ability for Saddam Hussein to use chemical weapons against the Americans and coalition forces entering Iraq. It was quite a thing, and we attribute that to everyone's prayers. It was an incredible thing to watch.

So on this day in 1991, we were bounding forward, all the coalition forces, whether 18th Airborne Corps; 7th Corps, my own corps; or the 1st or 2nd Marine Divisions; the Syrians; the Egyptians; the Pan-Arabic Brigade; and many other forces, and the further we advanced, of course, the stiffer Iraqi resistance became, especially in southeastern Iraq, where Saddam's best forces were arrayed. The big engagement and this massive tank battle occurred, of course, on February 26 and is known as the Battle of 73 Easting. The simple line on the map being in this featureless flat desert. The 2nd Cavalry Regiment, of course, led the assault with my own squadron, the 4th Squad of the 2nd ACR, engaging elite elements of the Iraqi Tawakalna Mechanized Division, and they were also supported by the Iraqi 17th, 52nd, and 12th Armored Divisions. Literally hundreds of tanks were arrayed in front of us, waiting for this massive ground battle. As the tank battle was about to commence, another strange thing happened: a sand and rain storm appeared out of nowhere and sat on top of the battlefield, blinding the enemy. It was called a shamal. Because of this, the 2nd Cavalry Regiment and those incredible soldiers serving in all the frontline units were able to continue the attack, even being outnumbered 5 to 1, breaking the back of Saddam's best forces.

Within just 100 hours of the ground campaign, Kuwait was liberated and the war came to an abrupt end at 8 o'clock in the morning on February 28. Incidentally, that is the same exact time that the wind went back to its normal direction. A nation was liberated, lives were saved, the atrocities committed against the beautiful Kuwaiti people were put to an end, and it was perhaps the single most important point of unification since Vietnam for the American people. But the cost to liberate Kuwait was high for our State. Pennsylvania sent thousands of its sons and daughters to serve in Operation Desert Storm and suffered the second-highest loss of life totally, and the single loss of life in any 1 day. The tragic loss of life sadly came when an Iraqi SCUD missile exploded in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, killing 13 of our heroes and wounding 43 others, all from the Greensburg-based 14th Quartermaster Detachment. Many others were lost in that terrible attack.

The fallen in this attack on February 26, and it is for them that I rise to honor the loss of these incredible beautiful people, most of them in the prime of their life, included: Spc. Steven Atherton, 26 years old, from Nurmine; Spc. John A Boliver, Jr., 27 years

old, from Monogahela; Sgt. Joseph P. Bongiorno III, 20 years old, from Hickory; Sgt. John T. Boxler, age 44, Johnstown; Spc. Beverly S. Clark, 23 years old, from Armagh; Sgt. Allen B. Craver, 32, Penns Hills; Spc. Frank S. Keough, 22 years old, from North Huntingdon; Spc. Anthony E. Madison, 27 years old, from Monessen; Spc. Christine L. Mayes, age 22, Rochester Mills; Spc. Steven J. Siko, age 24, Latrobe; Spc. Thomas G. Stone, 20 years old, Falconer; Sgt. Frank J. Walls, 20 years old, from Hawthorne; and Spc. Richard V. Wolverton, 22, Latrobe.

The other heroes who lost their lives from Pennsylvania during Operation Desert Storm include: Army Maj. Mark A. Connelly, 34 years old, from Lancaster, he died on the last day of the war; Marine Lance Cpl. James Eric Waldron, 25 years old, from Jeannette; Army Spc. Duane Hollen, 24, from Bellwood, and all these were killed in action.

The other incredible Pennsylvanians who died during this deployment from noncombat-related causes should be remembered as well: Navy Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Daniel Lupatsky, 22 years old, from Centralia; Navy Boiler Tech Firemans Apprentice Daniel Clayton McKinsey, 21 years old, from Hanover; Army 1st Lt. Jeffrey J. Bosnyk, 25 years old, from Tamaqua; Lance Cpl. Edward M. Codispodo, 25 years old, from Philadelphia; PFC William Jeffrey Speicher, 21, Camp Hill; Navy Seaman Monray C. Carrington, 22 years old, from North Braddock; Army Maj. John Howard Gillespie, 34, Philadelphia; Marine Staff Sgt. Thomas J. Moran, 29, Cornwell Heights; Air Force Capt. Fredrick A. Reid, 33, right here in Harrisburg; Lt. Col. Craig Michael Wallington, 49 years old, from Gibsonia; Army Spc. William Carl Brace, 24 years old, from Bath; Marine Cpl. Michael Dennis Cooke, 22, Montgomery; and Sgt. 1st Class Donald Thomas Murphy, 34, from Munhall. All those left behind a mom, dad, brother, sister, spouse.

A poem published by Robert Laurence Binyon in 1914 in the first tragic months of the First World War really captures the essence of this loss. He said: *(Reading)*

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

May we never forget those who served during Operation Desert Storm, and especially let us remember those from Pennsylvania who, as Abraham Lincoln put it, gave the last full measure of devotion in the cause of freedom.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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 5,345 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last raised the minimum wage. That is more than 14 years, and it is far too long.

Mr. President, although we in the General Assembly have been unable or unwilling to deliver a pay raise to Pennsylvania's minimum-wage workers in more than 14 years, we have seen much progress on the issue in that time. Our understanding of the issue and its effects has been greatly enhanced by a wealth of new and often groundbreaking

research demonstrating why raising the minimum wage responsibly benefits workers and employers while stimulating our economy.

Rather than mere speculation, we now have real case studies to chart. We can look at what has happened in the 29 States that have raised their minimum wage since 2014, including 18 States where the rate is indexed to inflation and increases every year. We can see that raising the minimum wage has improved the lives of low-wage workers and lifted many out of poverty, without causing widespread job losses. In fact, less than one year ago, just before the pandemic, the nation's unemployment rate was at a historic low, even after the many minimum wage increases around the nation. The growing interest in the minimum wage buoys my own efforts to deliver true minimum wage reform for hardworking Pennsylvanians and to bring the Commonwealth up to speed with the rest of the nation, especially all six of our immediate neighbors who have all raised their minimum wage in recent years.

Just yesterday, I read about new research on a rarely discussed facet of the minimum wage issue and how it would benefit retirees. Social Security Works, an advocacy group for expanding Social Security, determined that raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour could increase the retirement benefits for a full-time minimum-wage worker by about \$5,000 a year. According to *CNBC*, researchers figured that someone who worked their entire career at \$7.25 an hour and who reached full retirement age in 2021 would collect monthly Social Security checks of about \$980. Yet, if they had earned \$15 an hour throughout their career, they would be able to collect about \$1,400 a month. Over the course of 12 months, the difference adds up to about \$5,000 in benefits. In reporting their findings, the authors noted that one in six workers now earning \$7.25 an hour are over age 55. I will be the first to concede that it is not often you see someone who works full time at minimum wage consistently for their whole life. Yet, the use of a perhaps over-simplified hypothetical example does not detract from the message, which is that workers who earn more money today, due to a higher minimum wage, also stand to improve their retirement income.

Mr. President, I raise this point because, all too often, the mere mention of raising the minimum wage prompts knee-jerk criticisms. Minimum wage advocates are often deemed short-sighted, as if we fail to consider the bigger picture and the potential for negative long-term impacts on businesses and the workers they employ. Thankfully, our body of knowledge about minimum wage is constantly growing and we can use it to make informed decisions about how we in the General Assembly may best serve the needs of Pennsylvania's workers.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, I rise as a father and a former teacher to recognize February 15, which, of course, now has passed, as "Love is Love Day" in Pennsylvania, pursuant to a resolution that I offered last year and I am offering again this year. Regrettably, last year it was not brought to the floor because there was an objection to it. I do not know that it will be brought to the floor this year. But, nonetheless, I stand because I think it is important to stand on behalf of our LGBTQ youth across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Adolescence is a difficult time in anyone's life. There are few of us I think who would choose, if we were given the choice, to go back to those years. But it is even harder for LGBTQ youth. It is harder because acceptance can often be a difficult thing - challenges that they face among their peers at school; regrettably, sometimes among their teachers; and, even more sadly, at times among their parents and siblings at home. It can be difficult to navigate, all the while feeling this inner need to be who they are. In some places, that is easier than others. Make no mistake, our LGBTQ youth live throughout the Commonwealth - in the most sparsely populated rural parts of the State, in our suburban towns and centers, and in our cities. In some places, it is easier to be "out" than in others. Struggles that they endure, even in those places where the community is more accepting, can be significant.

That is why it was so important a year ago, right before--about a month before, actually--the onset of the pandemic, that the Rainbow Room in Doylestown, an organization that was begun over 20 years ago with the help of Planned Parenthood to be a safe and accepting place for LGBTQ youth and which has since then thrived with generations of kids coming and hanging out with each other and having great programming, put together the first queer prom. The Michener Museum in Doylestown was kind enough to open its doors and host that prom. I was there that night with my former colleague in the State House, Representative Wendy Ullman; our Bucks County Commissioner, Bob Harvie; the president of Yardley Borough Council, David Bria; and over 100 kids, including our youngest son, Johnny. We were all there to experience one of the nights of their lives, a night where they could hang out with their friends, be together, and feel like they belonged. Now, this year, of course, they were not able to have a prom because of the pandemic. In fact, that prom was one of the last large gatherings that we had in our area before mid-March, when everything got locked down. But we can hope that a year from now things will be back to some level of normalcy and they will be able to do it again. In the meantime, it is important for us, as adults, as leaders in our communities, as leaders in the State, to acknowledge the struggles that these kids face. To let them know that they are not alone, that we care for them, and we love them for who they are. Who they are is something beautiful and wonderful, and we embrace them.

Now, it is bad enough that our Commonwealth has yet to right the injustice of not extending civil rights protections to all the members of the LGBTQ community, and I thank my colleague, Senator Nikil Saval of Philadelphia, for joining me in reintroducing the legislation that former Senator Farnese had introduced in past Sessions to amend our Human Relations Act here in Pennsylvania to extend those civil rights protections to members of the LGBTQ community. Because I tell you, it is not okay that our brothers and sisters in that community can be discriminated against without any legal recourse. It is not okay that my son can be discriminated against in this Commonwealth. That is bad enough, but it is inexcusable that we, as a Chamber, cannot bring up a simple resolution acknowledging the difficulties that these kids face and extending to them hope and solidarity. But that, unfortunately, is where we are. Things will change. The day is coming when things will change. I firmly believe that. I would not be here and I would not have stood for election in 2018 if I did not believe that. But, in the meantime, it is incumbent upon all of us to stand up for the right thing, to stand up for these kids and everyone in our society who faces marginalization, discrimination, intolerance, and, indeed, in some cases, violence and a threat to life and liberty. It is important that we stand up for the right thing.

So, Mr. President, I again want to thank you last year for donating the rainbow flag that flew over your balcony here in the State Capitol. I was proud last summer when our county commissioners flew it over the administration building in Doylestown. It was presented to those kids at that prom back in February of last year, and they were grateful; grateful for the acknowledgment and for the knowledge that there were at least some of us who were willing to stand up for them as human beings and as cherished members of our greater family here in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Jefferson, Senator Dush.

Senator DUSH. Mr. President, yesterday I was describing the out-of-bounds actions of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and the Secretary of State. A few years back, I actually had impeachment resolutions against four of those Justices relative to actions that they used, again, to write law, and it is amazing that they actually quoted from a very well-documented and well-sourced book called *Commentaries On The Constitution Of Pennsylvania*, by Thomas Raeburn White. I will submit some of the copies for the record from which I am going to quote so that the whole text, unlike what the Supreme Court did taking things out of context, my whole text will be available for review.

You know, when they ruled the maps were unconstitutional, they had the right to do that. Actually, that one congressional district that was at the center of the whole thing was an abomination, and I described it as such back then. Then what they did was write legislation, something that the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have never given them the authority to do. I want to bring it back to the people, because quite honestly, the very beginning of Mr. White's book, again, a book that is quite often quoted by the Supreme Court, Chapter 1, Section 1, "Construction of the Constitution. Definition--Whatever may be the definition of 'constitution' in its broad sense, in America it is understood to mean a written instrument, enacted by the people acting directly in their sovereign capacity." Sovereign capacity. The sovereigns write the rules. On the next page in Section 2, Relative Powers of Federal and State Governments. (*Reading:*)

It is important at the very outset of a discussion of the constitution of a state that consideration be given to the relative powers possessed by the state and national governments. When the declaration of independence severed the bonds which joined the American colonies to the government of Great Britain, the sovereignty, formerly exercised by the king and parliament, descended upon the American people.

The right to self-governance has been something, since our very founding, that has been the sovereign rights of the people. As I will discuss later in this, and it will become obvious, the people delegate the authority to write pieces of legislation under the Constitution to the legislature and the legislature alone. That power is not given to the judicial nor the executive branch. Just like when the Supreme Court Justices decided to write a new piece of legislation in crafting a map for congressional districting, hiring a professor from the State of California to write it and then declaring that it was law, that was outside the bounds of the Constitution. It was outside the bounds the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have given them. The fact that the Secretary of State acted as if it did have the force of law, it was also an unconstitutional act, because the people have never given the executive branch the ability or the authority to declare that something that was unconstitutional should be followed.

It was commented by the gentleman from Bucks County, it was interesting he quoted Alexander Hamilton, but Alexander Hamilton was commenting on the Constitution of the United States. The powers delegated under Article I, Section 1, to the government of the United States, again, declares that the legislature shall write the laws, but their powers are enumerated. Except for the exclusions in the Pennsylvania Constitution under the Bill of Rights and other sections, no such limitation is placed on the legislative authority to write law. (*Reading:*)

As the ordinary governmental functions could not be exercised by the people acting directly, it became necessary for them to establish governments to which they should delegate certain of their powers. Such governments were speedily created in their various states by means of written constitutions, enacted by the people through conventions or otherwise.

The Interpreters of the Constitution, on Page 3, Section 3: "The constitution of a state, being the expressed will of the sovereign people,--**again, the sovereign people**--is superior to all other laws or commands,--**and commands is something, and I will go on**--whether they issue from the legislative, executive or judicial departments of the government." The laws are written by the legislature, and then the commands which follow from the law are those which are given by the executive and judicial, usually, mostly the executive. The judicial department is supposed to rule on whether something is constitutional in situations like this. They are not given, again, the authority to write law, to go beyond what the law actually states. (*Reading:*)

The power of a court to declare an act of Legislature void, if in their opinion it is contrary to the constitution, is peculiar to the American system of jurisprudence. In other countries it has always been deemed the exclusive function of the Legislature to decide whether the written law is conformable to the constitution.

That does not happen here in the United States. That interpretation is given, and rightly so, to the judiciary to determine whether a law is unconstitutional or not, whether it violates the Constitution. When it does violate the Constitution, it is the duty of the court to strike the law, not to write new law, not to create its own remedy. In fact, the Supreme Court has, in the past, spoken very sharply of that. "It is clear that laws cannot be declared void by the courts because contrary to natural justice...." Let me go back here for just a moment, I want to get the Justice of whom I am quoting, this is Justice Chase in *Calder v. Bull* in 1798. (*Reading:*)

It is clear that laws cannot be declared void by the courts because contrary to natural justice or to the spirit of our institutions--**and he is talking about our institutions as the institution of the court**--for in such case the decision would be merely a review of the judgment of the Legislature, which presumably is quite capable as the judiciary of determining whether a law is unjust. Such a question would be a political, not a judicial, one, and the remedy would lie with the people and not with the courts. Numerous cases in Pennsylvania have determined the law to be in accordance with these principles. In *Com. v. McCloskey*, 2 Rawle, 369 (1830), Mr. Justice Rogers said: "If the Legislature should pass a law in plain, unequivocal and explicit terms, within the general scope of their constitutional power, I know of no authority in this government to pronounce such an act void merely because, in the opinion of the judicial tribunals, it was contrary to the principles of natural justice, for this would be vesting in the court a latitudinarian authority which might be abused, and would necessarily lead to collision between the legislative and judicial departments,--**such as we are seeing today**--dangerous to the well-being of society, or at least not in harmony with the structure of our ideas of natural government." In *Sharpless v. Mayor*, 21 Pa. 147 (1853), Mr. Chief Justice Black discussed the question very fully. He referred to the limitations laid upon the Legislature by federal and state constitutions, and continued: "But beyond this there lies a vast field of power, granted to the Legislature by the general words of the constitution, and not reserved, prohibited, or given away to others. Of this field the General Assembly is entitled to the full and uncontrolled possession. Their use of it can be limited only by their own discretion. The reservation of some powers does not imply a restriction on the exercise of others which are not reserved. On the contrary, it is a universal rule of construction,--**constitutional construction, I will add**--founded in the clearest reason, that general words in any instru-

ment or statute are strengthened by exceptions and weakened by enumeration. To me it is as plain that the General Assembly may exercise all powers which are properly legislative, and which are not taken away by our own or by the federal constitution, as it is that the people have all rights which are expressly reserved.

"We are urged, however, to go further than this, and to hold that a law, though not prohibited, is void if it violates the spirit of our institutions, or impairs any of those rights which it is object of a free government to protect, and to declare it unconstitutional if it be wrong and unjust. But we cannot do this. It would be assuming a right to change the constitution, to supply what we might conceive to be its defects, to fill up every *casus omissus*, and to interpolate into it whatever in our opinion--**the court's opinion, I will clarify**--ought to have been put there by its framers.--**I will reread that.**--It would be assuming a right to change the constitution, to supply what we might conceive to be its defects, to fill up every *casus omissus*, and to interpolate into it whatever in our opinion ought to have been put there by its framers."

Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. President, this book is replete with further examples of the fact that the legislature, and the legislature alone, has the authority to write law. It is also replete, as are countless judicial decisions by the people, especially those closest to the founding, as the judicial process actually put together and confirmed what our Constitutions were meant to be. It is very plain that the judiciary never had the authority to write law. The executive has no authority to add to the law. They did not have the authority to take the plain language that ballot harvesting was illegal and allow it. They had no authority to do that, and yet they gave the directive to allow it. That Secretary of State made a huge mistake in certifying the maps and the electoral processes back when the judges wrote the new congressional maps. She did it again when she did the order allowing the ballot harvesting. She did it yet again when she certified the election, the national results of the election, and even the statewide. It took a fourth time acting outside of the bounds of the Constitution for us to finally get rid of her when she failed to do her constitutional duty and publish a notification of that bill. Four times. Are we going to give the Supreme Court four times to act outside the bounds? They do not have the authority to write law. They did not have the authority to create their own remedy by adding to the law and adding to the days for which ballots could be received.

I liken it to my football field analogies and stuff are similar, it is just like them adding another 3 yards in order to make sure, if they are the referees on the football field, adding another 3 yards when it is first and goal from the 10 with just seconds on the clock. This is exactly what they did. I will make it fourth and goal. Ladies and gentlemen, they are the referees. They are not the owners. They are not the sovereigns. They do not get to write law. As long as I am in this body, just like I was over on the other side when the Chief Justice made the public statement that I was attacking the independence of the judiciary, my response was simple: he is making a political statement. He is not defending based on the Constitution and the law. None of them did. There was no lawful or constitutional response out of the Supreme Court to the challenges. I just wish we had done our jobs in the first place.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I am reminded of the Presidential debate with President Ronald Reagan when he made the famous line "there you go again." That is exactly what we have

taking place here again today by the previous speaker from Jefferson County. There we go again, attacking our Pennsylvania Supreme Court for the legitimate work that was done by that court in interpreting both our Constitution and our laws. Particularly as it relates to the conversation of yesterday when we talked about the 3-day extension, let us just take a look at that one first. As I mentioned yesterday, that was a matter that was before the court, a couple of cases percolated up to the court, and the court was faced with a question as to whether or not the election law would be violated and voters would be disenfranchised if, in fact, their votes were not permitted to be counted because of a delay by the United States Postal Service as one of the issues. More importantly, they were constrained by the request that was made by the parties that brought the suit to the State Supreme Court. It was not as if the Supreme Court *sua sponte*, or whatever the word is, decided this is what we are going to do. The court had to make a choice. Do we believe that voters would be disenfranchised under our election law if, in fact, they are not given the opportunity to have their votes counted? The Supreme Court ruled in the way that they did, which was later, as we know, upheld on reconsideration. We know later that the State Supreme Court failed to bring the matter to the U.S Supreme Court to be considered. That being said, Mr. President, the bottom line is the Supreme Court acted properly, interpreted the law, interpreted our Constitution.

But let us talk about the beginning part of the previous speaker's conversation about congressional maps and, again, the allegation that the Supreme Court did something they did not have the authority to do. Let us all be very clear. Let us go back to the time when that legislation was enacted. When every single Democrat in our Chamber at that time voted against those maps, found them to be inappropriate, gerrymandered, unconstitutional districts. We voted accordingly, and that case ultimately went to the Supreme Court years later. And, by the way, everyone on the other side of the aisle, including the previous speaker's side of the aisle, voted to support those maps. In fact, they wrote those maps because they came up from Washington, D.C., as we know, they were provided to their Majority Leader, who passed them without much conversation, thrust them onto the Governor's desk, and the Governor signed them. That is what happened, we know that. They were red maps purposely put into place for that purpose. Years later, again, when asked to interpret the U.S. Constitution, our State Supreme Court said, you know what? These maps are unconstitutional, they are gerrymandered. For precisely the reason the gentleman said, that some of their districts looked like Goofy kicking Donald Duck, for example. That was the maps they passed, gave to the Supreme Court to look at. Now, the Supreme Court did not say we are going to put our own maps in place, did they? What they said was, General Assembly, of which the previous speaker was a part, continues to be a part during in his tenure in the House and his tenure here in the Senate, the Supreme Court said: legislature, go draft new lines. We are going to give you an opportunity to draw new lines and get them on the Governor's desk to be considered. What happened? Nothing. Nothing happened. They refused to address the issue with respect to the lines that needed to be drawn in that particular case. So now the Supreme Court is faced with a decision: Do we do nothing at all and not have congressional districts? Delay elections for who knows how long until the Major-

ity parties in the Senate and the House want to act, when they deem it appropriate to act on congressional lines? That is what happened.

So let us talk about the facts as they really happened and let us stop attacking the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for the work they do. By the way, when you do not like the outcome of their cases, what do you do? You draft impeachment resolutions and articles of impeachment to get rid of them because you do not like what they did. Let us go back and talk about the times that we dealt with the election law in this Chamber, in this building, that have been stricken by our courts. Voter ID--when Mitt Romney was going to win Pennsylvania, the Speaker at that time said, because we were going to fix the fraud and alleged abuse and allegations of fraud that took place, which never happened. That legislation was stricken because it was unconstitutional. In 2011, this Caucus took that case to the Supreme Court, again, me as the person who served on that Legislative Reapportionment Commission voted against every single map that was put forth by Republicans because they were gerrymandered, unconstitutional lines. You know what? We went to court with some of the other folks and, collectively, we were successful in striking, for the first time ever, the reapportionment maps were stricken. But, again, it was the Republican Majority that did that. They overstepped their bounds. They went far beyond where they should have been able to go with regard to passing legislation that disenfranchised voters and constituted gerrymandering, as the courts have said. A Republican Supreme Court struck those lines, not a Democratic Supreme Court.

So let us talk about what has been done here over the course of years. Then, finally, we should talk about the Supreme Court that did what needed to be done as it related to the congressional lines because we failed to act. We asked multiple times on this floor, in letters, and other conversations with the Majority party, let us sit down and draw maps, and we were left with silence. Nobody in this Chamber, and nobody in the Chamber across the hall, wanted to work on the maps that were put forth in that conversation. There was a neglect of the Majority party in this building to implement the maps as the Supreme Court told us we should do. The Supreme Court said, listen, ladies and gentlemen of the General Assembly, fix the maps. What you gave us was unconstitutional. Go redraw the lines. What did they do? The Republican Party in this Chamber, and the Chamber across the hall, thumbed their noses at the Governor and the Supreme Court and said, you know what? We are not going to do it. We challenge you, Supreme Court, to fix the lines. And that is exactly what they did. They drew reasonable, responsible lines that resulted in what equates to the population of this Commonwealth with respect to registration. We have lines that are nine to nine, nine Democrats and nine Republicans. It looks pretty fair to me, from where I sit, in that regard. Contrast that with the lines that created 13 Republican seats and 5 Democratic seats that was passed out of this body that the Supreme Court said was unconstitutional.

So let us be clear about what happened here, and let us stop attacking our Supreme Court and undermining the work they do here. The work that they do is thoughtful, and they do a good job of interpreting the law. But let us analyze the questions that are before them as they make those decisions, because those decisions are critical. You have to look at the choices that we put in

front of them to be able to understand exactly what they did. They did not create out of thin air and say we are going to extend these 3 days. These are citizens of Pennsylvania who brought those cases to the Supreme Court and said, we are going to be disenfranchised. We need to have a remedy, and here is the remedy we are requesting that you provide us under the Constitution and under the Election Law. That is what they put into place.

Similarly, with respect to the congressional lines, they told us, draw the lines, Senate and House, and get it to the Governor's desk. They thumbed their noses at the Governor and the State Supreme Court and did nothing. That is how we ended up where we ended up.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I am not quite sure where to go. I will open with a reflection from my faith. Matthew 6:1 and 6:5. "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven." "And when you pray you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others." If this is taken as a direct commentary, it is intended to be such. I take great exception that we go from Purim to the defense of this country.

POINT OF ORDER

Senator DUSH. Point of order.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. As I listened to those comments, I was simply trying to figure out how they were connected. I guess--

Senator DUSH. Mr. President, he is making an attack on me directly.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. --the theme would be the perspective of survival.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Anthony Williams, do you yield to the point of order request?

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Certainly.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Jefferson, Senator Dush.

Senator DUSH. Mr. President, the speaker has directly stated that this was a direct assault on this Member, and, as such, violates the Rules of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT. I would urge both Members, on both sides of this, that this debate is going to continue on, and maybe not necessarily anything is going to be settled, but I want to urge the highest level of decorum, at this point, with the understanding that we are not going to agree, but we need to be agreeable, and this is a place where we need to get along.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I thank you for those comments, but the point of order would not have been sustained because those comments were not directed at that gentleman. So with all due respect, I am sorry, to whom the gentlemen may have thought the comments were directed towards, they were not directed towards him.

The PRESIDENT. With all due respect, Senator, I did not even hear the comment from either you or Senator Dush, so I am not even sure, because of the acoustics. But the point is that we

are locked in an argument back and forth, and I just want everyone to understand that people need to say what they want to say and we move on.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I understand that. To the extent that this is a debate, I will do my best to represent our institution, the Senate, in the highest regard. It does sustain the ability to contrast comments which were made. That is what Petitions and Remonstrances are for, and that is what I plan to do.

Again, returning to my comments. As I was scratching my head to figure out the connection between Purim and the defense of the country, I can only acknowledge that, for most of us who are here, it is about the liberty which has been sustained. For those who fought and desired protection under the law, be they Jews or African Americans who came as slaves, we looked at the standard of this country, based on the Constitution, that we all would be recognized as equals. As such, while it is not a perfect Union, it is certainly a place that provides an opportunity for human hope, for a desire that we would respect one another, even with our differences, and fundamentally under that, we would defend this country, literally, with our lives. I found myself truly trying to contain myself when two groups were acknowledging those comments as it referred to Jews, who literally were attempted to be exterminated from the Earth, as well as African Americans the same through slavery, both finding sanction in this country, both finding challenges within this country, but both believing that this is the greatest place in the world to reside, and, as such, have fought on many battlefields to protect this country.

Be it at the beginning of this nation, during the Civil War, or, certainly, during the course of events in foreign wars--in fact, African Americans had to fight their way for the ability to fight for this nation--all of us have desired, whether they be Jewish, Irish, Polish, Latino, Asian, African American, women, or a person of a different sexual orientation, to defend this country for what we believe it stands for: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all. I can only imagine, for those who would choose to read off the names of fallen people or fallen heroes, as they were described, how those fallen heroes would have felt seeing the U.S. Capitol under attack from those who call themselves patriots; insurrectionists, like those insurgents who were described in the Gulf War. How they would feel their rights have been honored. How they believe in liberty from their perspective. Do they think we are uplifting, to the highest word and honor, the manner in which this country was founded?

I can only read one name. How about this one - Brian Sicknick, the Capitol Police officer who went to work during that fateful day, believing he is doing what is of the highest order, protecting the Capitol of the United States. Defending those registered Republicans, Democrats, and Independents who were resolving how to wrestle with the challenging issues in this country; how to find some level of compromise, because that is what we do as Americans. We do not all agree, but we find some compromise. September 11, when the towers were destroyed in New York City, there were Jews and Muslims in the same buildings, all Americans, and all of us decided that we wanted to go to war to defend the honor of this country and what it stood for. There was nothing honorable about attacking the Capitol, and there is nothing appropriate about talking about a religious period of time with the back topic of defending the country if you do not speak

out against insurrectionists, if you do not speak out about those who attack the principles and pillars of this country, if you do not speak out affirmatively that you believe what occurred on that day was wrong. You do not get the privilege of using this podium, or this platform, to speak in hypocritical, inconsistent terms. You do not get the privilege of speaking once and feeling like you can express and censor others. You do not get that right here.

You have a responsibility to protect the Constitution of this country and this State. As such, that means you set an example. That example is opposite and inconsistent with what we have seen happen in Washington, D.C. So, to the extent that one may be connected with that, it is their responsibility not to reflect upon fallen heroes in this country, not to call upon those folks who defended this country during the Gulf War, not to reflect upon moments of heroism from their perspective, but be honest and transparent about actions which were inconsistent with the privilege of sitting on this Senate floor.

To my other colleagues with whom I have agreed or disagreed, this is not personal. This is a responsibility and a privilege. But, most importantly, I take it seriously and sincerely and distinguish myself, as I have, in that reflection from the Bible of those who do not.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, throughout history, at least the history of humanity in which we have had vibrant, functioning democracies, the attacks on democracies have frequently started with an attack on an independent judiciary. What I find disturbing about much of the debate today—but not just here, debate across the country—that has been presented, it frequently takes the form of an attack on the independent judiciary. It has gone so far in this Capitol as to manifest itself as a proposed amendment to the State Constitution that would result in gerrymandering our judicial elections in an attempt to control who gets on the court, both the intermediate appellate courts and our State Supreme Court.

It cannot be, in a functioning democracy, that no result is acceptable unless one party or the other wins. Because the very inherent nature of democracy and free and fair elections is that sometimes one side wins and sometimes another side wins, and, indeed, throughout the history of our country since the Constitution was adopted, both at the Federal level and at the State level, we have seen that back and forth among the parties. Sometimes it is a Democratic year, sometimes it is a Republican year. But if we are at a point where one party, now the Republican Party, will not accept any outcome of an election unless they win, well, then we have indeed given up on the concept of democracy. Because, after all, in a democracy, the people rule. The people decide. The people in Pennsylvania have decided who is on the State Supreme Court. In fact, they have decided that across the Commonwealth in at-large elections in which every person in Pennsylvania has had a right to vote. In those elections, in which I have not heard one person on the other side of the aisle contest or claim that there was somehow fraud and they were illegitimate elections, the people of Pennsylvania have chosen the current members on the State Supreme Court.

Now come the politicians who are unhappy. Unhappy at losing a Presidential election and unhappy at losing congressional

elections because an incredibly gerrymandered map was thrown out by this Supreme Court; something that should have happened, by the way, back when it was first adopted in 2011. I was in the State House when it was adopted, and I voted against that map, as did many of my colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle, because it was obviously gerrymandered when written. Yet, it stood as the congressional map of Pennsylvania all the way until 2018. As the gentleman from Allegheny County noted just a short while ago, after the State Supreme Court gave this legislature a chance to redraw that map, and this legislature failed to do so, it took the task upon itself, and it produced a map that is, indeed, fair. No better proof of that can be the fact that we have a congressional delegation now that is evenly divided, whereas before, in a State where there are more Democrats than Republicans, we had a congressional map that was 13 to 5, Republican to Democrat. Yet, we are led to believe that somehow this State Supreme Court is usurping its authority and is not responsible to the people of Pennsylvania.

Somehow we have come to this place where, despite the fact that we have three co-equal branches of government, we are being led to believe that one of those, the State General Assembly, presumably because it is controlled by Republican Majorities, is superior to the others. That argument gets made over and over again. Now, I understand politics. I understand that in politics people make a lot of arguments to further their position. But what is truly pernicious about this line of argument, and what was truly pernicious about the attempts in the days after the November 2020 election to undermine that result, is that these arguments, over time, have the ability to delegitimize the courts. They have the risk of undermining one of the three co-equal branches of government, and a very important one, because the courts, ultimately, are the arbiter, under the doctrine of judicial review, of what is constitutional under our State Constitution and what is not. They are, at the end of the day, for that reason, very often the protector of the rights of the people, when sometimes the branches that are much more susceptible to the year-in, year-out political pressures of our system are unable to do so.

So, Mr. President, I rise to defend our judiciary, because I will not abide these continual attacks on the integrity of our courts and on the integrity of the men and women who serve on our State Supreme Court, in particular. They have served with distinction and honor. I may not have agreed with every ruling they have made over the course of the many years, but I can acknowledge that no less so than the Members of this General Assembly, they are public servants. While I am at it, I am going to mention one other public servant, because she also was a target of an attack just a little while ago, and that is the former Secretary of State, Kathy Boockvar. There was an unnecessary and gratuitous comment made about the fact that she resigned. Let me just say, briefly, on that point, she would not have had to resign and that would not have been an issue if the Majority in this Chamber and across the building in the House had acknowledged what everyone else knew to be true, and is no less true today, which is we could pass, this very day, a bill that would afford the victims of child sex abuse the ability to sue and have that 2-year look-back without the need to amend the Constitution of Pennsylvania. Period. But let me say about Secretary Boockvar, because it is a measure of her integrity, that when that mistake was uncovered, she followed the old maxim of Harry Truman that the buck stopped with her and she offered her resignation.

But the pertinent point about Secretary Boockvar's service is not that. It is what she did in the last year to stand up for the rule of law and to make sure that every vote was counted in Pennsylvania. I have heard this term now twice, this "ballot harvesting." I am sure this is some focus group-approved term that is supposed to conjure up all kinds of backroom irregularities. But what was the Secretary guilty of, and what was the Supreme Court guilty of with respect to this past election? Making sure that every Pennsylvanian who cast a ballot, and was legally entitled to do so, that their votes were counted. Oh, such a scandal. To think of the audacity of the former Secretary of State, and the audacity of the State Supreme Court, to stand up and insure that every vote was counted, that no Pennsylvanian who had the right to vote and cast a ballot was going to be disenfranchised. That is what they are guilty of. For that, we are hearing they have somehow transgressed the actual law for our constitutional system. The irony is just beyond my ability to understand. It is just amazing to me that, essentially, a case is being made against standing up for and protecting democracy based on an argument that somehow the people and the institutions that did that were undermining democracy. It is bizarre.

But I am not, for one, going to allow these arguments to be made on the floor of this State Senate without a response. Because, as I said several times before since the November election, truth matters. The only way we fail as a State and as a country, and the only way democracy falls by the wayside, is if we allow the lie to take hold and to continue to be propagated. I, for one, will not stand by silently while that happens.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentleman from Jefferson, Senator Dush.

Senator DUSH. Mr. President, I am quite happy to stand in response to the last two speakers, because neither one of them so far has answered my question, which is where in the Constitution is the authority for the executive or the judicial branches to write law? Where is the authority? The gentleman from Bucks County said that the law is the law. Well, the Constitution is the Constitution. The law is the law, and the law is written by the legislative branch, not the executive and not the judicial. All this talk about democracy, democracy, democracy. We are in a republic. That is what the Constitution says. The historian Max Farrand collected a huge volume of the writings of the Founders during the constitutional framing, and the word "democracy," if you do a word search through that thing, every single time it is being used it is either being used in derision or to the effect of trying to limit it. As Ben Franklin said when he left that Constitutional Convention and was asked, Mr. Franklin, what have you given us? "A republic, if you can keep it." It is also what is guaranteed to each of the States in the U.S. Constitution.

As I said, well, I want to address one thing from the Minority Leader. He stated that nothing happened with the redrawing of those maps. That is bull. I can tell you right now, I was a part of it over in the House. I was up there on the fifth floor in the map room and I was participating in trying to draw those maps. The Supreme Court, when they made their ruling, and, again, both gentlemen commented that we on this side of the aisle are upset about those maps being ruled unconstitutional. I have news for you, it was not the reason we were upset. That map was an abomination, just as I have spoken previously and I have spoken since the very beginning, it was an abomination. But the Su-

preme Court set up a deadline that was far less than what is constitutionally prescribed in the Constitution of the Commonwealth, and they did so in order to facilitate the ability to take on the role of the legislature. That is the only interpretation I could get. Because, quite honestly, we were up there in the map room, we were making the effort to try and do those maps and get started at it, but in 2 weeks you are not going to pull all that information together and you are not going to get those maps drawn.

An attack on the independent judiciary. That comment was made yet again. It is a same comment that was made by the Chief Justice in trying to defend him. That is not a constitutional or legal reply to what actually occurred. The overstepping of the bounds and the writing of law by both the executive and judicial, they do not have the authority. Neither of the previous two speakers, none of the Justices, have ever shown the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania where they derive the authority to do that. The only place they can get that derivation of duty is from the people, through the Constitution, and, yet, they failed to do it. They failed to provide any information that showed they had the authority to do that. Because the people in this Commonwealth, since 1791, have never given them the authority.

The Secretary of State, when she eliminated the need, or the court, for verification of the signatures, I will be back here on the floor when we are next in and I will be addressing that from previous court rulings. I will use the Supreme Court's own words against it, because those necessary steps that are put in place to insure that it is lawful people who are, in fact, voting have been ruled constitutional over and over again. The Supreme Court has shown a willingness, and so has the executive branch, to take away the power from the legislature, and I will read, again, on page 9 under the Construction of the Constitution from the *Commentaries (Reading:)*

...But to take away the power from the Legislature because they may abuse it, and give to the judges the right of controlling it, would not be advancing a single step, since the judges can be imagined to be as corrupt and as wicked as legislators. It has been said of the ablest judge that ever sat on this bench, and one whose purity of character was as perfect as any who has ever lived or ever will live, that his opinions on such subjects are not to be relied on. If this be so, then transferring the seat of authority from the Legislature to the courts would be putting our interests in the hands of a set of very fallible men, instead of the respectable body which now holds it. What is worse still, the judges are almost entirely irresponsible, and heretofore they have been altogether so, while the members of the Legislature, who would do the imaginary things referred to, "would be scourged into retirement by their indignant masters."

This is the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania making this statement decades ago.

Ladies and gentlemen, there is no form of government that is pure. We live in a fallen world. But the people of this Commonwealth have set the boundaries for all three branches and have never given to the judicial, have never given to the executive, the authority to write law. They cannot add to the law. The Supreme Court has the ability under the Constitution to strike a law, and they need to do so under the rules of the courts and the Constitution. They have the responsibility such as with that gerrymandered district. Do not put false intentions on me or anybody on this side of the aisle about how we felt about that gerrymandered district. That thing was an abomination and should have been stricken, and it was rightly stricken, but what the court had no

authority to do was set up its own imaginary time limit to write a piece of legislation, because there is no way on God's Earth that we could have had that map done in that timeframe, and then take on itself the ability to send out to California and get some university professor to write the new maps. They might be decent maps, but they are not lawful. They are not constitutional. That is the issue.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I want to respond to the comments.

The PRESIDENT. Where is this going?

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, we have a right to respond to the comments that were made by the previous speaker, particularly as it relates to the length of time that was given to the Republican Majority Party to facilitate the drawing of maps. It was not 6 days or 2 weeks, it was, in fact, 3 weeks, and this body and this Chamber, on a number of occasions, has enacted measures more complicated and more sophisticated than the maps that were drawn to be able to accomplish that task. They simply refused to do it.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, just very briefly, I would like to respond to the gentleman's question that he posed to this side of the body, asking the question, where does the authority arise from for the Supreme Court to take the steps that they have taken over the course of years? It starts in the first course year of law school, *Marbury v. Madison*, where Chief Justice Marshall essentially said it is the judiciary's responsibility to mitigate disputes and the like between the legislative and executive branch, to serve as a check and balance on the activities of those branches, and that is precisely what our Supreme Court has done over the course of many years when they have ruled on various cases over the time. Again, that is the answer to the question that was posed to us. But, more importantly, to go back to the question about drawing the lines, the congressional lines, there are steps and rules that the Supreme Court took. Let us be clear, regardless of what that gentleman's position was at the time when he served as a Member of the House, the bottom line was it was a constructed map from Washington, D.C., that came up here, it was thrust through this Chamber, through the other side, on Governor Corbett's desk, signed by Governor Corbett, and just about every single Republican supported it and every Democrat on our side of the aisle voted against it because it was gerrymandered, unconstitutional, and that was borne out.

At the end of the day, the court said to us, you have 3 weeks to draw a map, go and do it. That is your responsibility. That is your obligation under the law, and you failed to do it, General Assembly. That is why we had to step in to provide the appropriate check and balance for the people of this Commonwealth that they were required to do.

Thank you, Mr. President.

BILLS SIGNED

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

HB 12, HB 16 and HB 326.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Jefferson, Senator Dush.

Senator DUSH. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, March 15, 2021, at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 3:11 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.