

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021

SESSION OF 2021 205th OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 15

SENATE

MONDAY, March 22, 2021

The Senate met at 6 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

St. Francis of Assisi once said, "While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart."

Lord, help us to follow these words of wisdom in all that we say and do. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

GENERAL COMMUNICATION

RECALL OF REGULAR SESSION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following communication, which was read by the Clerk as follows:

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

March 21, 2021

TO: President and All Members of the Senate

FROM: Senator JAKE CORMAN
President Pro Tempore

RE: Recall to Session
Monday, March 22, 2021

Consistent with the recess motion made on March 17, 2021, the Senate is recalled for session tomorrow, Monday, March 22, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of a voting session.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

**RECALL COMMUNICATION
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following communication in writing from His Excellency, the Gov-

ernor of the Commonwealth, which was read as follows and referred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations:

MEMBER OF THE MILK MARKETING BOARD

March 19, 2021

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated December 3, 2020, of Rebecca Dombrowsky, 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Milk Marketing Board, to serve until May 1, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Carol Hardbarger, Newport, resigned.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

TOM WOLF
Governor

NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore 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 MILK MARKETING BOARD

March 19, 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, Kristi Kassimer, 441 Laurel Hill Road, Smock 15480, Fayette County, Thirty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Milk Marketing Board, to serve until May 1, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Carol Hardbarger, Newport, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

March 19, 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 DePietro, 1024 Greenbriar Drive, South Abington Township 18411, Lackawanna County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, 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 Robert Frankil, Colledgeville, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**CORRECTIONS TO NOMINATIONS
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore 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:

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

March 19, 2021

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

Please note that the letter dated March 2, 2021, for the nomination of Colonel Scott Coradi, 1051 Fairchild Street, Building 203, Horsham 19044, Montgomery County, Twelfth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, General of the Line, with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Perez, retired, should be corrected to read:

Colonel Scott Coradi, 1051 Fairchild Street, Building 203, Horsham 19044, Montgomery County, Twelfth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, General of the Line, with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Gregg Perez, retired.

MAJOR GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

March 19, 2021

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

Please note that the letter dated March 2, 2021, for the nomination of Brigadier General Benjamin Cason, 6567 Windmere Road, Harrisburg 17111, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Major General, General of the Line, with assignment as Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Regan, retired, should be corrected to read:

Brigadier General Benjamin Cason, 6567 Windmere Road, Harrisburg 17111, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Major General, General of the Line, with assignment as Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Michael Regan, retired.

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

March 19, 2021

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

Please note that the letter dated March 2, 2021, for the nomination of Colonel Patrick Monahan, 27 Wildernest Drive, Springbrook Township 18444, Lackawanna County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, General of the Line, with assignment as #1 Assistant Division Commander-Maneuver, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Radulski, reassigned, should be corrected to read:

Colonel Patrick Monahan, 27 Wildernest Drive, Springbrook Township 18444, Lackawanna County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, General of the Line, with assignment as #1 Assistant Division Commander-Maneuver, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Stephen Radulski, reassigned.

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

March 19, 2021

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

Please note that the letter dated March 2, 2021, for the nomination of Colonel John Pippy, 7018 Weeping Willow Drive, Moon Township 15108, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, General of the Line, with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Army Staff Element Joint Force Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General McCormack, reassigned, should be corrected to read:

Colonel John Pippy, 7018 Weeping Willow Drive, Moon Township 15108, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, General of the Line, with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Army Staff Element Joint Force Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General James McCormack, reassigned.

HOUSE MESSAGES

**HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS
TO HOUSE BILL**

The Clerk of the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House has concurred in amendments made by the Senate to **HB 11**.

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE BILLS

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 84**, **SB 85** and **SB 86**, with the information the House has passed the same without amendments.

HOUSE BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

The Clerk of the House of Representatives presented to the Senate the following bills for concurrence, which were referred to the committees indicated:

March 18, 2021

HB 26, 56, 57, 124, 125, 140 and 153 -- Committee on Transportation.

HB 103, 146, 156, 163 and 185 -- Committee on Judiciary.

HB 196 -- Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness.

HB 273 -- Committee on Finance.

March 22, 2021

HB 113 -- Committee on Transportation.

HB 230 -- Committee on Finance.

HB 365, 412 and 416 -- Committee on Education.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

March 18, 2021

Senators PHILLIPS-HILL, MARTIN, J. WARD, MENSCH, COLLETT, MUTH, KANE, STEFANO, AUMENT, CAPPELLETTI, BAKER, BROOKS, BOSCOLA, HUTCHINSON, SABATINA, TOMLINSON, LAUGHLIN, MASTRIANO and SANTARSIERO presented to the Chair **SB 225**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, in quality healthcare accountability and protection, further providing for definitions, for responsibilities of managed care plans, providing for preauthorization standards and for preauthorization costs, further providing for continuity of care, providing for step therapy protocols, further providing for required disclosure, for operational standards and providing for preauthorization and adverse determinations, for appeals, for access requirements in service areas, for uniform preauthorization form, for preauthorization exemptions and for data collection and reporting; and making an editorial change.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, March 18, 2021.

Senators LAUGHLIN, MARTIN, REGAN and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SB 431**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in hunting and furtaking licenses, further providing for authorized license-issuing agents.

Which was committed to the Committee on GAME AND FISHERIES, March 18, 2021.

Senators LAUGHLIN, STEFANO, J. WARD, BAKER and MENSCH presented to the Chair **SB 432**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 15, 1933 (P.L.565, No.111), known as the Department of Banking and Securities Code, in banking and securities, further providing for fund.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, March 18, 2021.

Senators MENSCH, BOSCOLA, ARGALL, BROWNE, BARTOLOTTA, LANGERHOLC, LAUGHLIN, PITTMAN, YUDICHAK, BREWSTER, COLLETT, COMMITTA, FONTANA, KANE, KEARNEY, SANTARSIERO, STREET and TARTAGLIONE presented to the Chair **SB 435**, entitled:

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

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, March 18, 2021.

Senators MUTH, KANE, STREET, FONTANA, BREWSTER, COSTA, YUDICHAK, SANTARSIERO, COMMITTA and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SB 438**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in riot, disorderly conduct and related offenses, providing for concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, March 18, 2021.

Senators ARGALL, J. WARD, STEFANO, PITTMAN, SCHWANK, YUDICHAK and BARTOLOTTA presented to the Chair **SB 439**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 8, 1982 (P.L.310, No.87), referred to as the Recorder of Deeds Fee Law, further providing for county demolition funds.

Which was committed to the Committee on URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, March 18, 2021.

Senators PHILLIPS-HILL, ARGALL, J. WARD, MARTIN, STEFANO, GORDNER, MASTRIANO, PITTMAN, HUTCHINSON, AUMENT and BROWNE presented to the Chair **SB 443**, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in legislation, further providing for appropriation bills.

Which was committed to the Committee on APPROPRIATIONS, March 18, 2021.

Senators BOSCOLA, COSTA, FONTANA, GORDNER, KANE, BROOKS, LANGERHOLC, STEFANO and J. WARD presented to the Chair **SB 444**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 26, 2016 (P.L.891, No.112), known as the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Act, providing for criminal background checks for expedited licensure applicants.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, March 18, 2021.

Senators BROOKS, STEFANO, J. WARD, TARTAGLIONE, AUMENT and COSTA presented to the Chair **SB 446**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in exclusions from tax, providing for a tax exclusion for emergency preparedness items.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, March 18, 2021.

Senators BROOKS, LANGERHOLC, MARTIN, BARTOLOTTA, J. WARD, HUTCHINSON, STEFANO, PHILLIPS-HILL, DiSANTO, K. WARD, PITTMAN, AUMENT, BOSCOLA and MASTRIANO presented to the Chair **SB 447**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in corporate net income tax, further providing for imposition of tax.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, March 18, 2021.

Senators LANGERHOLC, BARTOLOTTA, MARTIN, DiSANTO, PITTMAN, K. WARD, J. WARD, PHILLIPS-HILL, MENSCH, YAW, SCAVELLO, GORDNER, HUTCHINSON, ARGALL, STEFANO, MASTRIANO, ROBINSON, REGAN, BREWSTER and AUMENT presented to the Chair **SB 448**, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous articles, further providing for limitation on the regulation of firearms and ammunition; and, in preemptions, providing for regulation of firearms and ammunition.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, March 18, 2021.

Senators LANGERHOLC, BARTOLOTTA, J. WARD, STEFANO, K. WARD, YAW and MENSCH presented to the Chair **SB 449**, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 35 (Health and Safety), 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 61 (Prisons and Parole) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Nonnarcotic Medication Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program; in organization and jurisdiction of courts of common pleas, providing for court assessments for substance use disorder treatment; in other criminal provisions, further providing for supervisory relationship to offenders; and, in Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, further providing for supervisory relationship to offenders.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, March 18, 2021.

March 19, 2021

Senators BARTOLOTTA, A. WILLIAMS, KEARNEY, FONTANA, STREET, TARTAGLIONE, COLLETT, MENSCH, PITTMAN, STEFANO, CAPPELETTI, KANE, BOSCOLA and HAYWOOD presented to the Chair **SB 5**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in judicial boards and commissions, providing for adoption of guidelines for administrative probation violations; and, in sentencing, further providing for sentencing generally, for order of probation, for modification or revocation of order of probation and for court-imposed sanctions for violating probation and providing for resentencing of certain offenders incarcerated due to revocation of probation.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, March 19, 2021.

Senators HUGHES, MUTH, L. WILLIAMS, KEARNEY, KANE, SANTARSIERO, TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER and COMMITTA presented to the Chair **SB 400**, entitled:

An Act providing for student loan debt data collection and report, for procedures for student loans, for disclosure of higher education costs, for a student loan ombudsman, for higher education assistance by employers, for duties of the Department of Education, Department of Banking and Securities and Department of Revenue; establishing the Student Loan Refinancing Program; authorizing the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency to issue bonds to fund the Student Loan Refinancing Program; establishing the Student Loan Refinancing Fund; providing for student loan debt tax credit, for application for tax credit, for taxpayer eligibility, for carryover and carryback, for outreach and marketing, for guidelines, for employer incentive for higher education assistance tax credit, for application for tax credits and for carryover, carryback and assignment of tax credits; and imposing penalties.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, March 19, 2021.

Senators PHILLIPS-HILL, STEFANO, MARTIN, YAW, BROOKS, GORDNER, SCHWANK, HUTCHINSON, PITTMAN, MASTRIANO, AUMENT and BAKER presented to the Chair **SB 442**, entitled:

An Act providing for an inventory of State-owned assets for the development of fixed broadband services in unserved areas, establishing the Broadband Services Restricted Account and providing for underserved areas of this Commonwealth.

Which was committed to the Committee on COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY, March 19, 2021.

Senators BROOKS, STEFANO, J. WARD, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN, MASTRIANO and DUSH presented to the Chair **SB 453**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 10, 1999 (P.L.491, No.45), known as the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for application.

Which was committed to the Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, March 19, 2021.

Senators BROOKS, LANGERHOLC, SANTARSIERO, STREET, MARTIN, SCAVELLO, BARTOLOTTA, ARGALL, STEFANO, AUMENT, J. WARD, PHILLIPS-HILL, MASTRIANO, TARTAGLIONE, SCHWANK, PITTMAN, COSTA, K. WARD, DUSH and KANE presented to the Chair **SB 454**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, providing for volunteer firefighter tax credit.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, March 19, 2021.

Senators BARTOLOTTA, J. WARD, STREET, LANGERHOLC, COLLETT, GORDNER, PHILLIPS-HILL, SCAVELLO, YAW, REGAN, SCHWANK, MASTRIANO, ROBINSON and MUTH presented to the Chair **SB 455**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in veteran-owned small businesses, providing for miscellaneous provisions; imposing a penalty; and making an editorial change.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, March 19, 2021.

Senators BAKER, YAW, MARTIN, GORDNER, VOGEL, MASTRIANO, PITTMAN, YUDICHAK, AUMENT and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SB 457**, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing integrated amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for qualifications of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General and for disqualification for offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, March 19, 2021.

Senators HUGHES, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, KEARNEY, KANE, SCHWANK and COSTA presented to the Chair **SB 458**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 14, 1961 (P.L.637, No.329), known as the Wage Payment and Collection Law, further providing for notification; providing for duty of employer; and imposing criminal and civil penalties.

Which was committed to the Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, March 19, 2021.

Senators HUGHES, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, KEARNEY, KANE, SCHWANK and COSTA presented to the Chair **SB 459**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 62 (Procurement) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in source selection and contract formation, further providing for debarment or suspension.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, March 19, 2021.

Senators HUGHES, STREET, KEARNEY, TARTAGLIONE, KANE, COSTA, SAVAL and HAYWOOD presented to the Chair **SB 460**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 7 (Banks and Banking) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for community reinvestment, for community reinvestment by banks and for community reinvestment by nonbank entities.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, March 19, 2021.

Senators BAKER, PHILLIPS-HILL, ARGALL, LANGERHOLC, BROOKS, J. WARD, MARTIN, REGAN, YAW, YUDICHAK, PITTMAN and AUMENT presented to the Chair **SB 461**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, further providing for organization.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, March 19, 2021.

Senators BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, MENSCH, MARTIN, PITTMAN and GORDNER presented to the Chair **SB 462**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1919 (P.L.366, No.179), entitled "An act reorganizing the Department of State Police; creating therein a Bureau of Fire Protection; providing for a State Police Force, and defining the powers and duties of the same, including the enforcement of laws relating to game, fish, forestry, and water supply, and certain other laws, and including the collection of information useful for the detection of crime, and the apprehension of criminals; providing for the equipment, maintenance, and transportation of such police; providing for barracks and substations therefor; and prescribing penalties," further providing for the Commissioner of Pennsylvania State Police.

Which was committed to the Committee on LAW AND JUSTICE, March 19, 2021.

Senators HUTCHINSON, BROOKS, ARGALL, STEFANO, BARTOLOTTA, J. WARD, GORDNER, MENSCH, BOSCOLA, DiSANTO, PHILLIPS-HILL, REGAN, AUMENT, COMITTA, KANE and YUDICHAK presented to the Chair **SB 463**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in computer data center equipment incentive program, further providing for definitions and for review of application, providing for applicability and for sales and use tax exemption program; imposing duties on the Department of Revenue; and making editorial changes.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, March 19, 2021.

March 22, 2021

Senators BOSCOLA, J. WARD, COSTA, FONTANA, GORDNER, BARTOLOTTA, SCAVELLO, MARTIN, KEARNEY, TARTAGLIONE, BAKER and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SB 115**, entitled:

An Act making the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania a party to the Nurse Licensure Compact; and providing for the form of the compact.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, March 22, 2021.

Senators STREET, KANE, SAVAL, SANTARSIERO, KEARNEY, BREWSTER, COLLETT, COMITTA, SCHWANK and COSTA presented to the Chair **SB 437**, entitled:

An Act establishing the LGBTQ Senior Community Grant Program; conferring powers and imposing duties on the Department of Aging; and making an appropriation.

Which was committed to the Committee on AGING AND YOUTH, March 22, 2021.

Senators YAW, ARGALL, J. WARD, MARTIN, STEFANO, AUMENT, SCHWANK, COMITTA, STREET and BARTOLOTTA presented to the Chair **SB 465**, entitled:

An Act providing for the Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program and imposing powers and duties on the State Conservation Commission.

Which was committed to the Committee on AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, March 22, 2021.

Senators BROOKS, LANGERHOLC, STEFANO, J. WARD, DiSANTO, MENSCH, HUTCHINSON and PITTMAN presented to the Chair **SB 469**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 26, 1978 (P.L.1375, No.325), known as the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act, further providing for definitions and for scope of act.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, March 22, 2021.

RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

March 18, 2021

Senators TOMLINSON and MUTH presented to the Chair **SR 49**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of March 2021 as "National Athletic Training Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 18, 2021.

March 19, 2021

Senators HUGHES, FONTANA, KEARNEY, SCHWANK, COMITTA and HAYWOOD presented to the Chair **SR 52**, entitled:

A Resolution establishing a task force on law enforcement policies and procedures used in response to large-scale demonstrations, protests and other acts of civil disobedience.

Which was committed to the Committee on LAW AND JUSTICE, March 19, 2021.

Senators BAKER, ARGALL, J. WARD, MENSCH, MARTIN, YAW, YUDICHAK, PITTMAN, MASTRIANO, STEFANO, SCHWANK and AUMENT presented to the Chair **SR 53**, entitled:

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study and issue a report, by 12 months from the date of the adoption of this resolution, on the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's highway maintenance funding.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, March 19, 2021.

March 22, 2021

Senators MUTH, L. WILLIAMS, CAPPELLETTI, SAVAL, KANE, KEARNEY, COSTA and STREET presented to the Chair **SR 48**, entitled:

A Resolution urging Congress to enact broad, comprehensive student loan debt forgiveness.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, March 22, 2021.

Senators YAW, VOGEL, KEARNEY, BROWNE, FONTANA, ARGALL, J. WARD, BROOKS, BARTOLOTTA, HUGHES, PHILLIPS-HILL, YUDICHAK, COSTA, MARTIN, PITTMAN, SCHWANK, STEFANO, HUTCHINSON, GORDNER, COMITTA and DUSH presented to the Chair **SR 50**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of April 18 through 24, 2021, as "Conservation District Week" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 22, 2021.

Senators MARTIN, BARTOLOTTA, TOMLINSON, CORMAN, BROWNE, MENSCH, SCAVELLO, J. WARD, YUDICHAK, STEFANO, LANGERHOLC, COSTA, HUGHES, STREET and FONTANA presented to the Chair **SR 51**, entitled:

A Resolution honoring the life and career of Marty Schottenheimer and offering condolences to his family and friends.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 22, 2021.

Senators BROOKS, FONTANA, HUGHES, SCAVELLO, BROWNE, MARTIN, KANE, J. WARD, PHILLIPS-HILL, COSTA, HUTCHINSON, PITTMAN, MENSCH, BREWSTER, YUDICHAK, VOGEL, STEFANO, MASTRIANO and COMITTA presented to the Chair **SR 55**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the Blue Lights Campaign and its efforts to raise awareness of colorectal cancer in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 22, 2021.

Senators BROOKS, STREET, LANGERHOLC, HUGHES, SANTARSIERO, BARTOLOTTA, SCAVELLO, BROWNE, MARTIN, KANE, J. WARD, PHILLIPS-HILL, COSTA, HUTCHINSON, COMITTA, PITTMAN, MENSCH, BREWSTER, YUDICHAK, VOGEL, STEFANO and MASTRIANO presented to the Chair **SR 56**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of March 2021 as "National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 22, 2021.

GENERAL COMMUNICATION

DESIGNATION TO STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following communication, which was read by the Clerk as follows:

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

March 22, 2021

TO: The Honorable Megan Martin

FROM: Senator JAKE CORMAN
President Pro Tempore

SUBJECT: Standing Committee Change

Pursuant to Rule XIV of the Rules of the Senate, and in consultation with the Minority Leader, I hereby remove Senator Comitta from the Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Senator Jacob D. Corman III) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bills:

SB 84, SB 85, SB 86 and HB 11.

PERMISSION TO ADDRESS

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, on behalf of our Caucus, and I am sure the full Senate, we just want to send well wishes out to our colleague, Senator Mike Regan. He was in an accident over the weekend. He had surgery today. We understand that the surgery went well, but we know that the days, weeks, and maybe months ahead will be challenging for him. Mike is the same age as I am, 59. We consider ourselves to be pretty healthy 59-year-olds, and we know that Mike is a pretty stubborn guy, so as long as he is a good patient, we know that he will mentally be able to take on the rehabilitation that he will need to do over the coming weeks and months. But we just wanted to make sure that we, as a Senate, whenever something happens to one of us as colleagues, that they are in our thoughts.

So, Mike, on behalf of all of your Senate colleagues and your Senate staff and friends, we are sending well wishes to you and hope to see you soon.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Laughlin, and legislative leaves for Senator DiSanto, Senator Tomlinson, and Senator Kim Ward.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Gordner requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Laughlin, and legislative leaves for Senator DiSanto, Senator Tomlinson, and Senator Kim Ward. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WEEKLY RECESS

Senator GORDNER offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, March 22, 2021

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the Senate recess this week, it reconvene the week of Monday, April 19, 2021, unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore; and be it further

RESOLVED, Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the House of Representatives recesses this week, it reconvene the week of Monday, April 5, 2021, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the House of Representatives recesses the week of April 5, 2021, it reconvene the week of Monday, April 19, 2021, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

YEA-47

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

NAY-0

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

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

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL REREFERRED

SB 8 (Pr. No. 22) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for courts to be open and suits against the Commonwealth.

Upon motion of Senator GORDNER, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill was rereferred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 78, SB 106, SB 113, SB 137 and SB 191 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 14 (Pr. No. 936) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing an emergency amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for courts to be open and suits against the Commonwealth.

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

Upon motion of Senator GORDNER, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 89, SB 114, SB 168, HB 186, SB 241, SB 274, SB 282, HB 284, SB 382, SB 403 and SB 410 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

9:15 A.M.	AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS (to consider Senate Bills No. 251 and 434; and House Bills No. 101 and 110)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
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10:00 A.M.	SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ELECTION INTEGRITY AND REFORM (public hearing on state and local insight on the administration of elections in Pennsylvania)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. (LIVE STREAMED)
11:00 A.M.	EDUCATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 83, 224, 247 and 381)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
11:30 A.M.	STATE GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bills No. 423 and 441; and Senate Resolution No. 36)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
12:00 P.M.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (to consider Senate Bills No. 108, 156 and 317; and House Bill No. 203)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
12:30 P.M.	JUDICIARY (to consider Senate Bills No. 420 and 457)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	AGING AND YOUTH (to consider Senate Bills No. 190 and 323)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bill No. 411; and House Bill No. 14)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (to consider Senate Bills No. 82, 115, 236 and 435)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider Senate Bill No. 8; House Bill No. 14; and certain Executive Nominations)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (to consider Senate Bills No. 248, 433 and 455)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
<u>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021</u>		
9:00 A.M.	FINANCE (to consider Senate Bills No. 74, 286, 325 and 343; and House Bill No. 230)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)
10:30 A.M.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (to consider Senate Bills No. 108, 156 and 317; and House Bill No. 203)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.
C A N C E L L E D		

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Tartaglione has submitted remarks for the record. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator TARTAGLIONE:)

Mr. President, today marks 5,371 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last raised the minimum wage. That is more than 14 years, and it is far too long.

Mr. President, one of our core responsibilities as Members of the Senate is to understand the needs and wants of our constituents, the people who have chosen us to represent them in Harrisburg. The same holds true for all elected officials throughout the country.

For that purpose, it is very helpful and necessary that we monitor and learn from public opinion polls. Today, I would like to share some of the findings of a recent survey of American adults commissioned by Amazon and conducted by Ipsos, one of the world's largest analytics companies. The March 16 survey report confirmed much of what we already know about Americans' opinions on the nation's long-stagnant minimum wage and it showed that Americans' support for raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour is likely stronger than ever.

Before I detail several of the key conclusions, I must first acknowledge that Amazon is very much partisan on the issue of minimum wage and has raised the wage floor for its own employees to \$15 an hour. Yet, the company has been criticized for negatively impacting median wages in the warehouse and logistics industry in areas where it has established distribution centers. That said, the results of the Amazon-Ipsos survey appear consistent with other similar research on the same topic in recent years. When asked what the current Federal minimum wage is, 8 in 10 participants were unable to give an accurate answer. But once informed of the current rate, \$7.25 an hour, 8 in 10 said they think it is too low.

Among those who said they have an opinion on the future of the minimum wage, two in three said they support raising it to \$15 an hour, and even among those who oppose \$15 an hour, more than half said they support raising it to a lesser amount. Support spans all adult age groups. About 7 in 10 millennials and Gen-Z'ers support \$15 an hour, while about 6 in 10 Baby Boomers and Gen-X'ers support it. Fifteen dollars an hour also has 92 percent support among Democrats, and 64 percent among Independents. Even one in four Republicans support \$15. Among Republicans who do not support \$15 an hour, about 6 in 10 think the minimum wage should be raised above \$7.25. Support for \$15 an hour is strong across all income groups, too. Eighty-two percent of people living in households with less than \$35,000 annual earnings support the \$15 rate, as do those living in households with between \$35,000 and \$99,000 in earnings. More than three in four people in households with more than \$99,000 annual income also support a \$15 minimum wage.

Mr. President, the same Amazon-Ipsos report provides additional compelling information about the people who now make \$15 or less, and what it is like for them to live in such tenuous financial circumstances. The report considers the potential economic impacts of raising the minimum wage and the prevailing attitudes among American adults toward the idea of a \$15 minimum wage.

We in the Senate now have the opportunity to consider our own proposal for raising the minimum wage to \$12 this year and to \$15 by 2027, as I have proposed in Senate Bill No. 12--legislation that is supported by Governor Tom Wolf and is mirrored in pending House legislation. I encourage my colleagues to review the Amazon-Ipsos survey report and to weigh its conclusions very seriously as we strive to serve the needs of Pennsylvania voters.

Thank you, Mr. President.

RECESS

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Tuesday, March 23, 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 6:28 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.