

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021

SESSION OF 2021 205th OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 24

SENATE

TUESDAY, May 11, 2021

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

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rabbi JEREMY GERBER, of Ohev Shalom, Wallingford, offered the following prayer:

Good afternoon. I want to extend my deep thanks to Senator Tim Kearney for recommending me to offer this invocation, and thanks also to Alison Shank in Senator Bartolotta's office for coordinating these invocations. It is great to be with you all today, even if over Zoom.

Dear friends:

(Translation from Hebrew:)

A greeting of peace to you all.

A prayer for the government has its roots in the words of the prophet Jeremiah, writing to the Jewish exiles in Babylonia: "seek the welfare of the city to which I have exiled you and pray to Adonai your God on its behalf, for in its prosperity, you shall prosper."

(Translation from Hebrew:)

Our God and God of all our ancestors, we do indeed seek and pray for the welfare of our elected leaders and officials who serve You through tending to the needs of all Your creations across this Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Guide them in their work, help them to discern what is right, true, and just, while also compassionate and caring for all our citizens. May these, our leaders, act in accordance with this ancient Rabbinic teaching. The truly strong are those who raise up the fallen and protect the defenseless. The truly honored are those who honor caregivers, educators, and all whose work is essential in our lives. The truly wise listen, examine, and amend; build bridges of understanding; and learn from the wisdom of others.

Surely this Chamber is filled with individuals of varied backgrounds, heritages, religions, and races. Lord, help them to remember always that everyone here is working for the good of Your people and Your planet. Though they may diverge on issues, show them always the humanity in the other. Inspire them to partner and unite regardless of divides or differences. Our world is ailing, O God. Your creatures suffer pandemics, violence, injustice, and pollution. Do these lives matter? Yet we

know there is light ahead and this is the hill we must climb, especially when we partner with one another and with You, Lord.

In Judaism our sacred work is called Tikkun Olam, meaning repair of the world. That is our sacred task. These men and women are committed to that partnership. We thank You for them and for their dedication to compassionate stewardship of our Commonwealth. We turn to our leaders for inspiration and hope, direction and guidance. May they lead us in paths of peace, building communal cohesion through both word and deed and bringing about the blessing of shalom, of peace, for which we pray at the conclusion of every Jewish prayer service. May the one who brings peace on high bring peace to us, peace to our community, peace to all who dwell on Earth, and let us say, Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Rabbi Gerber, who is the guest today of Senator Kearney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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:

May 11, 2021

Senators J. WARD, MENSCH, PITTMAN, MARTIN, BARTOLOTTA, BAKER, STEFANO and BROWNE presented to the Chair **SB 606**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for employees having contact with children and adoptive and foster parents.

Which was committed to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, May 11, 2021.

Senators BROOKS and HUTCHINSON presented to the Chair **SB 610**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in weights and measures, providing for fuel and diesel fuel tax transparency.

Which was committed to the Committee on AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, May 11, 2021.

Senators VOGEL, COSTA, YUDICHAK, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, STEFANO and PITTMAN presented to the Chair **SB 614**, entitled:

An Act providing for enhanced penalties for offenses in active work zones and for duties of law enforcement agencies; establishing the Work Zone Safety Fund; and making an appropriation.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, May 11, 2021.

Senators MASTRIANO, STEFANO, YUDICHAK, PITTMAN and J. WARD presented to the Chair **SB 619**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assessments of persons and property, providing for senior citizens property tax elimination.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, May 11, 2021.

Senators FONTANA, COLLETT and COSTA presented to the Chair **SB 626**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of August 26, 1971 (P.L.351, No.91), known as the State Lottery Law, in State lottery, further providing for disposition of funds.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, May 11, 2021.

Senators FONTANA, COLLETT and COSTA presented to the Chair **SB 627**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 27, 2006 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1), known as the Taxpayer Relief Act, providing for supplemental senior citizen property tax rebate assistance.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, May 11, 2021.

Senators LANGERHOLC, ROBINSON, PITTMAN, MARTIN, BOSCOLA, BROOKS, FONTANA, YUDICHAK, COSTA and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SB 628**, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in cruelty to animals, further providing for police animals; and, in emergency medical services system, providing for injured police animals.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, May 11, 2021.

Senator BAKER presented to the Chair **SB 636**, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Department of Corrections and the Governor, to lease to the County of Wayne a portion of the lands of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at the State Correctional Institution - Waymart, situate in the Township of Canaan and Borough of Waymart, County of Wayne.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, May 11, 2021.

Senators COLLETT, KEARNEY, L. WILLIAMS, KANE and COMITTA presented to the Chair **SB 639**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of September 30, 1983 (P.L.160, No.39), known as the Public Official Compensation Law, further providing for members of the General Assembly.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, May 11, 2021.

Senators J. WARD, COLLETT, HUGHES, GORDNER, MENSCH, STEFANO, COSTA, FONTANA, KANE, PITTMAN, YUDICHAK, COMITTA and BAKER presented to the Chair **SB 668**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of August 26, 1971 (P.L.351, No.91), known as the State Lottery Law, in pharmaceutical assistance for the elderly, further providing for the Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly Needs Enhancement Tier, for powers of the department and for coordination of benefits.

Which was committed to the Committee on AGING AND YOUTH, May 11, 2021.

Senators HAYWOOD, A. WILLIAMS, TARTAGLIONE, STREET, COSTA, KEARNEY, SANTARSIERO, COMITTA, HUGHES, COLLETT, KANE, FONTANA and SAVAL presented to the Chair **SB 670**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in public safety, providing for violence intervention and prevention; establishing the Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Grant Program; imposing duties on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency; and making appropriations.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, May 11, 2021.

Senators HUTCHINSON, BROOKS, MARTIN, STEFANO, MENSCH, YUDICHAK, J. WARD, ARGALL, MASTRIANO, AUMENT and PHILLIPS-HILL presented to the Chair **SB 671**, entitled:

An Act providing for retaining health care innovations during the COVID-19 pandemic and imposing duties on the Joint State Government Commission.

Which was committed to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, May 11, 2021.

Senators LAUGHLIN, BROWNE, YUDICHAK and HAYWOOD presented to the Chair **SB 672**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of January 17, 1968 (P.L.11, No.5), known as The Minimum Wage Act of 1968, further providing for definitions and for minimum wages.

Which was committed to the Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, May 11, 2021.

Senators DUSH, HUTCHINSON, J. WARD, SCHWANK and KEARNEY presented to the Chair **SB 673**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, in auditors and accountants, further providing for surcharge by auditors; and, in township manager, further providing for township manager and appointment, removal, powers and duties and compensation and bond.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, May 11, 2021.

Senators KEARNEY, HUTCHINSON, J. WARD, DUSH and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SB 674**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 8 (Boroughs and Incorporated Towns) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers and duties of elected officials, further providing for surcharge by auditors; in powers, duties and rights of appointed officers and employees, further providing for borough manager created by ordinance and election, for powers and duties, for other offices not incompatible and for organization of com-

mission; and, in taxation and finance, further providing for preparation of budget.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, May 11, 2021.

Senators SCHWANK, HUTCHINSON, J. WARD, DUSH and KEARNEY presented to the Chair **SB 675**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 11 (Cities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in city administrator, further providing for appointment of city administrator, for employment agreement, for residency and elective city office and for powers and duties; and, in accounts and finances, further providing for powers and duties of chief fiscal officer.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, May 11, 2021.

Senators PITTMAN, MENSCH, STEFANO and BAKER presented to the Chair **SB 676**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in financial responsibility, further providing for request for lower limits of coverage, for coverages in excess of required amounts, for stacking of uninsured and underinsured benefits and option to waive, for notice of available benefits and limits and for availability of uninsured, underinsured, bodily injury liability and property damage coverages and mandatory deductibles.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, May 11, 2021.

Senators MUTH, KANE, FONTANA, SANTARSIERO, COSTA and COMMITTA presented to the Chair **SB 677**, entitled:

An Act establishing the Veterans' Housing Assistance Program; and making appropriations.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, May 11, 2021.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

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

SB 279 (Pr. No. 735) (Amended)

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.

SB 568 (Pr. No. 736) (Amended)

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 definitions.

Senator ARGALL, from the Committee on State Government, reported the following bills:

SB 519 (Pr. No. 668)

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for election of members and vacancies.

SB 559 (Pr. No. 738) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in access to public records during disaster declaration, further providing for definitions and for public records under Right-to-Know Law.

SB 561 (Pr. No. 593)

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor, to grant and convey certain lands, buildings and improvements situate in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, through a competitive solicitation for proposals process.

HB 854 (Pr. No. 1155)

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, providing for COVID-19 record retention.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request legislative leaves for Senator Aument, Senator Baker, and Senator Bartolotta.

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

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

The PRESIDENT. Senator Kim Ward requests legislative leaves for Senator Aument, Senator Baker, and Senator Bartolotta.

Senator Costa requests a legislative leave for Senator Schwank.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Senator K. WARD asked and obtained a leave of absence for Senator BROOKS, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journal of the Session of January 27, 2021, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of January 27, 2021.

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

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

The yeas and nays were required by Senator K. WARD and were as follows, viz:

YEA-47

Argall	DiSanto	Mastriano	Stefano
Aument	Dush	Mensch	Street
Baker	Fontana	Muth	Tartaglione
Bartolotta	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Tomlinson
Boscola	Haywood	Pittman	Vogel

Brewster	Hughes	Regan	Ward, Judy
Browne	Hutchinson	Robinson	Ward, Kim
Cappelletti	Kane	Sabatina	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Kearney	Santarsiero	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Langerholc	Saval	Yaw
Corman	Laughlin	Scavello	Yudichak
Costa	Martin	Schwank	

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journal is approved.

RECESS

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a Republican caucus to be held in the Majority Caucus Room and via Zoom.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber as well as on Zoom.

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

AFTER RECESS

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Baker and Senator Bartolotta have returned, and their legislative leaves are cancelled.

LEAVE CANCELLED

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

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 78, SB 82, HB 101, SB 113 and SB 115 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator GORDNER.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 137 (Pr. No. 110) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in budget and finance, establishing the Drug Recognition Expert Training Fund.

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

SB 137 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I move that Senate Bill No. 137, Printer's No. 110, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

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

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 156 (Pr. No. 734) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 26, 2001 (P.L.755, No.77), known as the Tobacco Settlement Act, in medical assistance for workers with disabilities, further providing for definitions and for medical assistance benefits for workers with disabilities and workers with medically improved disabilities.

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 Montgomery, Senator Mensch.

Senator MENSCH. Mr. President, very briefly, we have discussed this bill before, but I want to remind my colleagues that in Pennsylvania only 35 percent of people with disabilities work, with only 21 percent of them working full time. Like everyone else, these workers deserve the opportunity to realize their full potential without the fear of losing healthcare benefits. Currently, these services are only available to individuals with disabilities who have an income of less than 250 percent of the poverty level, or roughly \$32,000 annually. This often discourages workers from working more hours or from accepting a raise or promotion. So, Senate Bill No. 156 will allow individuals with disabilities to increase earnings under a new category of medical assistance for workers with disabilities called Workers with Job Success. This will now cover workers from 250 percent of the poverty level up to 600 percent of poverty level, or, roughly, they can now earn \$76,000. So, you understand, Mr. President, we are increasing the earning potential from \$32,000 a year to \$76,000 with no consequence of losing benefits because these people will also pay 100 percent of their own benefits when they realize earnings at \$75,000 a year. This bill passed the Senate last Session, although late, and we are hoping our swift action today will mean a better outcome for this Session. So, Mr. President, I thank you for the opportunity to present the bill and I ask for everyone's concurrence. Thank you.

And the question recurring,

Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

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

NAY-0

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

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

SB 251 (Pr. No. 275) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, repealing provisions relating to fertilizer; providing for fertilizer; in soil and plant amendment, further providing for disposition of funds; in seed, further providing for disposition of funds; establishing the Agronomic Regulatory Account within the General Fund; imposing duties on the Department of Agriculture; and making conforming amendments.

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-47

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

NAY-1

Hutchinson

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

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

SB 323 (Pr. No. 301) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of August 26, 1971 (P.L.351, No.91), known as the State Lottery Law, in pharmaceutical assistance for the elderly, further providing for determination of eligibility.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Blair, Senator Judy Ward.

Senator J. WARD. Mr. President, I rise to ask my colleagues to vote in support of Senate Bill No. 323. As you know, Pennsylvania offers seniors a top-notch prescription drug assistance program through PACE and PACENET, which provides life-sustaining medications to approximately 257,000 older Pennsylvanians. Unfortunately, while many individuals readily welcome Social Security cost of living adjustments, such COLA increases typically result in some individuals facing ineligibility due to the increase in income. The Social Security COLA for 2021 is estimated to result in almost 5,100 PACE and PACENET cardholders exceeding eligibility limits and thereby losing their benefits. Senate Bill No. 323 would extend the current Social Security COLA moratorium until December 31, 2023. By extending the moratorium, it will benefit nearly 17,800 seniors. We need to ensure that our most vulnerable population maintains access to affordable prescription drugs through PACE and PACENET, and this measure will do just that. I would point out that this measure is a legislative priority for the Department of Aging. I would appreciate a positive vote for Senate Bill No. 323.

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-48

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

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 341, SB 403, SB 426, SB 432, SB 442, SB 445, SB 457 and **SB 521** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 73, HB 104, HB 108, SB 119 and **SB 168** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

HB 186 (Pr. No. 154) -- 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 permit for movement during course of manufacture; and, in powers of department and local authorities, further providing for power of Governor during emergency.

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 230, SB 236, SB 237, SB 241 and **SB 283** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

HB 284 (Pr. No. 282) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 37 (Historical and Museums) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in powers and duties of Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, further providing for specific powers and duties, for personal property and for documents and providing for Commonwealth archival records, for local government archival records and for access to older public records; and, in historic properties, further providing for title to historic property and for powers over certain historic property.

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 286, SB 312 and **SB 351** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

HB 365 (Pr. No. 337) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, making editorial changes.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

HB 412 (Pr. No. 845) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in professional employees, providing for day-to-day substitutes; and, in certification of teachers, further providing for substitute teaching permit for prospective teachers and for program of continuing professional education.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 416 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION,
AMENDED AND REREFERRED

HB 425 (Pr. No. 1371) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, in licenses and regulations and liquor, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages, further providing for sales by liquor licenses and restrictions and for prepared beverages and mixed drinks for off-premises consumption during disaster emergency and providing for safekeeping during 2020 disaster emergency.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on second consideration?

Senator REGAN offered the following amendment No. A0963:

Amend Bill, page 3, lines 22 through 27, by striking out "EXCEPT FOR ANY" in line 22 and all of lines 23 through 27 and inserting:

(5) Each requirement under this act applicable to a catered function that is not specifically waived under this subsection shall apply.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

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

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, I do not need to make any comments; it is a technical amendment.

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

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

It was agreed to.

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

Upon motion of Senator K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill, as amended, was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 435, SB 439, SB 441, SB 455, SB 461 and SB 463 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 479 (Pr. No. 504) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 10, 1987 (P.L.246, No.47), known as the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act, in municipal financial distress, further providing for designation and for performance of coordinator; and, in receivership in municipalities, further providing for receiver.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 480 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 552 (Pr. No. 579) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law, in agency response, providing for vexatious requester.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

SB 554 (Pr. No. 581) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in open meetings, further providing for public notice and providing for notification of agency business required and exceptions.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 562 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, AMENDED AND REREFERRED

SB 664 (Pr. No. 728) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in pupils and attendance, providing for extended special education enrollment due to COVID-19; and, in terms and courses of study, providing for optional year of education due to COVID-19.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on second consideration?

Senator CORMAN offered the following amendment No. A0983:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 17, by inserting after "age":
during the 2020-2021 school year or between the end of the 2020-2021 school year and the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year

Amend Bill, page 2, line 4, by inserting after "student's":

most recent

Amend Bill, page 2, line 9, by striking out "current" and inserting:

most recent

Amend Bill, page 2, line 18, by striking out the period after "school" and inserting:

, including an approved private school or chartered school for the education of the deaf and blind for any student enrolled under the provisions of section 1376 or 1376.1 respectively.

Amend Bill, page 2, line 24, by inserting after "elect":

no later than July 15, 2021,

Amend Bill, page 2, line 29, by inserting after "elect":

no later than July 15, 2021,

Amend Bill, page 3, line 8, by inserting after "guardian":

or a child at or over the age of consent

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

It was agreed to.

On the question,

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

It was agreed to.

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

Upon motion of Senator K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill, as amended, was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 951 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Schwank has returned, and her legislative leave is cancelled.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 96, ADOPTED

Senator K. WARD, without objection, called up from page 9 of the Calendar, Senate Resolution No. 96, entitled:

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a performance audit on the provision of 911 communications service under 35 Pa.C.S. Ch. 53.

On the question, Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROPERTY REQUEST No. 1 of 2021, RESOLUTION A, ADOPTED

Senator K. WARD, without objection, called up from page 9 of the Calendar, State System of Higher Education Property Request No. 1 of 2021, Resolution A, entitled:

Resolved, That State System of Higher Education Property Request No. 1 of 2021, transmitted by the State System of Higher Education under the Public School Code of 1949 to the General Assembly under date of April 16, 2021, and introduced April 19, 2021, which is incorporated herein by reference, be approved.

On the question, Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I move that the Senate adopt State System of Higher Education Property Request No. 1 of 2021, Resolution A.

On the question, Will the Senate agree to the motion to adopt State System of Higher Education Property Request No. 1 of 2021, Resolution A?

The yeas and nays were required by Senator K. WARD and were as follows, viz:

YEA-48

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

NAY-0

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative. The PRESIDENT. The resolution is adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now proceed to consideration of all bills reported from committees for the first time at today's Session.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote. The bills were as follows:

SB 279, SB 519, SB 559, SB 561, SB 568 and HB 854.

And said bills having been considered for the first time, Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for second consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021

Table of committee meetings: 9:00 A.M. AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS and ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (joint public hearing to discuss Senate Bill No. 284 (Yaw) - bonding of solar and wind installations) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED); 9:00 A.M. TRANSPORTATION (public hearing on PennDOT's Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study) Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off.; Off the Floor APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bill No. 664) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED); Off the Floor RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider certain Executive Nominations) Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED).

THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021

Table of committee meetings: 9:30 A.M. VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (S) and Room 515 Irvis Off.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (H)
(joint public hearing on Pennsylvania's
veterans home care and COVID-19
mitigation protocols)

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lycoming, Senator Yaw.

Senator YAW. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to speak on Senate Resolution No. 108 that would recognize the important relationship between Taiwan and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. For more than 60 years, Taiwan has worked to establish itself as a strong and successful model of democracy and remains a bright beacon of democracy in Asia and across the world. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania established a trade and investment office in Taiwan in 2005 and, since that time, we have exported hundreds of millions of dollars worth of local products that include chemicals, electronics, and machinery, making them one of the largest foreign markets for our State. Not only is Taiwan one of the Commonwealth's largest export markets in Asia, but the State is also home to many Taiwanese companies that create thousands of jobs here in Pennsylvania. The Commonwealth has maintained a friendly sister State relationship with Taiwan for many years, and that relationship is clearly getting stronger.

Mr. President, this resolution is a way for the State Senate to officially recognize our important economic and trade partnership with Taiwan and the potential for many more investment opportunities between our two governments. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this critical relationship between Taiwan and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, I rise today to offer remarks in support of Senate Resolution No. 112, Senate Resolution No. 110, and Senator Resolution No. 111, which declare May 6 through 12 as Nurses Week in Pennsylvania, May 12 as School Nurse Day, and May 9 through 15 as Skilled Nursing Care Week in Pennsylvania, respectively. As the two nurses currently serving in the Senate, Senator Judy Ward and I are proud to stand in support of the more than 200,000 nurses across the Commonwealth who have always given so much to serve the health and safety of their patients, even before a global pandemic tested their resolve and the strength of our healthcare system. I am thankful for Senator Judy Ward's partnership and collaboration on these resolutions.

Nurses Week, culminating on Florence Nightingale's birthday on May 12, is meant to serve as a time when we can all recognize the significant contributions nurses have had on our communities, now and throughout history. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it all the more clear how deeply important nurses are to the healthcare profession and community health, and these professionals deserve our respect and gratitude for all they have done during this trying time.

School Nurse Day celebrates the crucial work of school nurses across the Commonwealth who work to keep students and staff healthy and safe. With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, school nurses have found themselves on the frontline, responsible for keeping their students, teachers, and fellow staff safe

while upholding CDC and State guidelines surrounding the pandemic.

Finally, Skilled Nursing Care Week celebrates the staff at skilled nursing care facilities where at-risk populations who reside in long-term care facilities are cared for by these dedicated healthcare professionals. This year, the theme of Skilled Nursing Care Week is "Together Through the Seasons," which acknowledges the heightened stress and responsibility felt by those at skilled nursing care facilities during this pandemic and the resilience of nursing staff who have worked to care for the most vulnerable through unprecedented times.

As nurses, Senator Judy Ward and I know exactly how vital each and every nurse is to the care of a patient. Regardless of the setting, nurses come into work to fight off disease, heal injuries, and, most importantly, ensure that everyone in their care is safe, happy, and healthy. We are proud to take this moment of reflection to celebrate the contributions of nurses across our great Commonwealth for all they have done to get our communities to the point we are today, on a viable path to recovery and rejuvenation following 14 months of COVID-19. I hope that we will all take this time to thank a nurse in our lives for the important role that they play in keeping Pennsylvanians healthy, whether that be in our communities, at a school, a hospital, a skilled nursing care facility, or any other setting.

Thank you, Mr. President.

(Applause.)

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

Senator ROBINSON. Mr. President, we have heard the message loud and clear: 2 weeks to flatten the curve. That 2 weeks to flatten the curve turned into 6 weeks, which turned into 20 weeks, then 40 weeks, then 52 weeks, and now 60 weeks. Now, my heart breaks for the Pennsylvania residents we have lost. While we mourn their passing and pray for their grieving families, we also lament the loss of our freedoms and way of life. In the year that has been 2 weeks to flatten the curve, we have seen schools close, restaurants shut down only to reopen with limited capacity, bars forbidden to serve customers without food after 11 p.m., while gyms were shut down and mom and pop retail stores were shuttered. Many of our neighbors lost their jobs and livelihoods. We have experienced economic devastation. We did our jobs; we stayed home. Hospitals did not become overwhelmed, and Governor Wolf's emergency declaration orders march on, 60 weeks and counting. Every time the General Assembly tried to have a seat at the table and be part of the conversation, Governor Wolf got out his veto pen.

That is the reason two constitutional amendments appearing on the May 18 ballot are so important. One limits an emergency declaration to 21 days unless the General Assembly approves a longer duration. The other clarifies that the governor will not be able to unilaterally veto legislative action that ends the declaration as Governor Wolf has done. Under current law, a governor's emergency declaration can last up to 90 days and be renewed by the governor indefinitely. For 60 weeks, Governor Wolf has used his blanket authority to change and suspend State law, prevent shuttered businesses from reopening with safety measures in place, and spend State and Federal taxpayer dollars with no oversight or input from the citizens or the representatives in the legislature. Nothing in these amendments prevents State government from being able to respond to the dangers facing the Common-

wealth as some would like you to believe. Rather, the amendments simply prevent one person from unilaterally throwing tens of thousands of citizens out of work, barring children from school, and spending millions of taxpayer dollars. Under the changes proposed in the ballot questions, the General Assembly may determine the manner in which emergencies are managed, but the administration's departments would be responsible to carry them out. The executive branch would be involved in the entire process, but now it would have to answer to the people's representatives as our founding fathers intended.

These amendments have not been taken lightly. Public health and safety are critically important. The legislation was debated, amended, and passed in two consecutive Sessions in the General Assembly. A "yes" vote on these measures means you favor protecting the education of our children, supporting small businesses in our local communities, and prohibiting discrimination. Saying yes on these amendments also means protecting the lives and livelihoods of people in your community, supporting local and county control in the fight against COVID-19, and restoring a critical legislative check and balance on executive powers. Perhaps the New York Senate Majority Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins, a Democrat, said it best in a *New York Times* article: "I think everyone understands where we were back in March and where we are now....We certainly see the need for a quick response but also want to move--**forward**--toward a system of increased oversight and review. The public deserves to have checks and balances." I voted "yes" to give my neighbors a voice. Now it is the voters' turn to use their voices. Voters will consider the true intent of these amendments and join me in voting "yes."

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 5,421 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last raised the minimum wage. That is almost 15 years, and it is far too long.

Mr. President, yesterday I heard a remarkable radio news report on the topic of employee compensation that gave me pause. The announcer stated that UBS Group--the Swiss investment bank--is offering bonuses of \$40,000 to its analysts upon their promotion to junior associate. The bonuses amount to about 30 percent of their annual base salary. Other firms like Credit Suisse and Wells Fargo pay about \$20,000, but the purpose of the payments is the same. The banks want to motivate their highly sought and valued young executives to stay on board, rather than jumping ship for a competitor who offers better pay and benefits, shorter hours, and less grueling workloads. It seems that employee retention has become a very big concern in the financial services industry since someone at Goldman Sachs leaked an internal survey in which about a dozen first-year analysts complained of 100-hour work weeks and stressful conditions.

This news broadcast resonated with me on multiple levels. It demonstrated that dissatisfaction with one's working conditions is universal, yet it is very much relative. A young bank executive with a six-figure salary has the same right and propensity to speak out against an abusive work environment as a low-wage grocery store cashier does. Yet, the responses disgruntled workers receive can be--and often are--very different, even for those low-wage earners who, at the height of the pandemic, were exalted as "essential frontline workers." Juxtapose the news radio report I mentioned against the currently prevalent mainstream

media narrative on the so-called labor shortage. I am referring to the idea that businesses, often smaller ones in the hospitality and service sectors, are having a terrible time recruiting new low-wage employees and many of the more cynical operators keep pointing to expanded pandemic unemployment benefits as the root of their troubles.

One bar and grill owner from the New Jersey Shore--who seeks more than 40 seasonal workers to complement his 15-member year-round staff--told nj.com, "The solution is to stop giving people money. If they keep giving these extra benefits, there is no reason for people to get out and work....We are going to have to be forced to pay people who are not worth what they should be getting." Other employers echo these dismissive generalizations, regardless of the reality that people who collect unemployment have earned those benefits through their prior work histories, and that traditional unemployment benefits are capped at about \$580 a week in New Jersey, as they are in Pennsylvania, which amounts to a paltry \$30,000 a year for a full-time worker. The false narrative also fails to account for the fact that folks collecting unemployment can work part-time, to a certain point, without sacrificing a single dollar of benefits, while increasing their total income above the benefits cap, and it fails to reconcile that a claimant need only collect as little as \$1 dollar in benefits in any given week to be eligible for the additional \$300 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation--a program that is scheduled to expire on Labor Day. In other words, workers can maximize their earnings by returning to the workforce on a part-time basis, a scenario that would seem very favorable for small business owners who are rebuilding after lengthy slow-downs.

Mr. President, temporary expanded unemployment benefits are not causing a labor shortage, and low-wage workers are not to blame for the many help wanted signs popping up on both sides of the Delaware River. On the contrary, much like young investment bankers, low-wage workers now have more and often better options as the nation reemerges from its economic dormancy of the last 14 months. The nj.com article noted that gig economy opportunities like GrubHub, DoorDash, and even Uber and Lyft have expanded during the pandemic and they have a greater impact on the low-income labor pool than the unemployment system. Meanwhile, large companies like Amazon are also growing rapidly and they are offering higher wages--\$15 an hour minimum in some cases--along with coveted benefits like health insurance, family leave, and job security. A snack food manufacturer in central New Jersey summed up the sentiment for nj.com when he stated: "Do you think an employee would want to work at \$10 or \$11 an hour in a COVID environment when they have no job security, no benefits? People are realizing their worth is a lot more."

Mr. President, those of us who have long advocated for raising the minimum wage have long known that employers and many of the elected officials in the Pennsylvania Capitol undervalue the Commonwealth's low-wage earners. This discrepancy between perception and reality was never more conspicuous than it has been during the COVID-19 pandemic. My legislation, Senate Bill No. 12, would be a significant step forward for our recognition, as a Commonwealth, of the true value of our lowest-paid workers. We owe it to them to insure that they receive fair compensation. I urge my colleagues to advance Senate Bill No. 12.

Thank you, Mr. President.

GUEST OF SENATOR TIMOTHY P. KEARNEY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator KEARNEY. Mr. President, I rise to welcome and thank yet another guest Chaplain today, Rabbi Jeremy Gerber. Rabbi Gerber is another outstanding community member of both my district and Senator Kane's. Growing up in Stockholm, Sweden, before moving to the United States for college, Rabbi Gerber studied at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City and earned a bachelor's degree in Talmud and Rabbinics and a master's degree in Jewish education. In 2009, Rebecca and Jeremy arrived in Ohev Shalom in Wallingford where he continues to serve, only now with his children, Caroline and Max, as

well. Rabbi Gerber is also a founding member of the Fellowship of Urban and Suburban Engagement, or FUSE, an organization that works to deepen the relationship and trust of communities across racial, ethnic, religious, and geographic lines. A goal that we should all strive for in this Senate.

So please join me in welcoming Rabbi Gerber.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES (Continued)

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Erie, Senator Laughlin.

Senator LAUGHLIN. Mr. President, up until last year, our State government operated under the guidelines set by the Constitution that established three separate, co-equal branches of government--the executive, legislative, and judicial--in a checks and balance system. But that all changed in March of 2020 with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's disaster declaration. The COVID-19 pandemic created challenges that clearly required the cooperation of all branches of our government, yet the disaster declaration gave the administration nearly absolute power to take any action that they deemed necessary over this past year. This has continued, regardless of the opinion of lawmakers or the public. As a result, an extraordinary number of employers have faced shutdowns and restrictions that go far beyond the recommendations of national health experts, and displaced workers were thrust into an unemployment system that could not handle the new volume of claims. Additionally, the initial rollout of the vaccine was botched, the needs of long-term care residents have been routinely ignored, and our schools have been closed for far too long.

As a response, we approved legislation in two Sessions that placed proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania Constitution on next week's primary ballot. These amendments will restore our government to the system envisioned by our founding fathers when they drafted the State Constitution. These ballot questions strengthen our system of checks and balances and specifically address the way that State government responds to emergencies in order to avoid the negative consequences that we have seen over the last 14 months. Ballot questions give the voters the final say on whether any governor, not just the current one, will be permitted to unilaterally keep an emergency declaration in place for an indefinite period of time. The intent of these amendments is not to further divide our State government.

So, despite the comments made on the floor yesterday about these amendments, collaboration is not a bad word. Cooperation must be the goal of all elected officials. Partisan bickering benefits no one, especially during a crisis. The people's elected representatives must be part of that process, and these ballot questions will require the governor to work collaboratively with lawmakers--as intended under the Constitution--to avoid the kind of negative consequences that we have seen during the COVID-19 pandemic. These constitutional amendments do not prevent the governor and State agencies from responding to any emergency. Any governor could declare a state of emergency to respond in the days following any sort of catastrophe. However, the amendments ensure that these powers would not be open-ended. There is nothing nefarious here, these amendments are not about partisanship, and they are focused entirely on en-

suring that Pennsylvania avoids the negative consequences of one person making all the decisions during an emergency. They would apply to any governor in the future, no matter what political party.

So, "yes" votes on these amendments will result in a more collaborative approach to protect the lives and livelihoods and prevent our great Commonwealth from ever having to again endure the same kind of mismanagement and consequences that resulted from unilateral rulemaking during a pandemic. "No" votes would retain the current system under which one person holds unrestricted power over the entire State. That is the choice that is in the hands of the people of Pennsylvania on May 18. Thank you.

RECESS

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 11 a.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 3:51 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.