

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Legislative Journal

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

SESSION OF 2021 205TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 45

SENATE

MONDAY, September 27, 2021

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

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

In his first letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul tells us that..."the body is not a single part, but many....God has so constructed the body as to give greater honor to a part that is without it, so that there may be no division in the body, but that--all--the parts may have the same concern for one another. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy." What beautiful and profound words for all of us to reflect upon today. These days, the Senate, as an institution, needs not just our prayers for unity but also our words, deeds, and actions. When we come together as a body, united in purpose, there is something that happens that we cannot do alone. When we come together and work together for the good of the citizens of this great Commonwealth, there is nothing we cannot do. Lord, help us to remember that today and all days. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

RECALL COMMUNICATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

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

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
COUNCIL ON AGING

September 23, 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 May 27, 2021, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Council on Aging, to serve until October 8, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Dennis Flynn, Chester Springs, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

CLERK OF COURTS, WESTMORELAND COUNTY

September 23, 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 May 13, 2021, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Clerk of Courts, in and for the County of Westmoreland, to serve until the first Monday of January 2022, vice Bryan Kline, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MINORITY
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

September 23, 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 May 27, 2021, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 1408 Rose Lane, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Minority Business Development Authority, to serve until June 2, 2022, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jenine Diaz, Harrisburg, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

September 23, 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 May

13, 2021, of Rebecca Dombrowsky, 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Optometry, to serve until February 5, 2022, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Davis Haire, Meshoppen, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
PAROLE BOARD

September 23, 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 May 27, 2021, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Parole Board, to serve until February 5, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Maureen Barden, Philadelphia, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

September 23, 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 May 27, 2021, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Delaware, Magisterial District 32-1-22, to serve until the first Monday of January 2024, vice the Honorable Spencer B. Seaton, Jr., resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

September 23, 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 May 13, 2021, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of York, Magisterial District 19-1-03, to serve until the first Monday of January 2024, vice the Honorable Dwayne A. Dubs, deceased.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**CORRECTIONS TO NOMINATIONS
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

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

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

September 23, 2021

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

Please note that the letter dated September 2, 2021, for the nomination of Barbara Logue, 623 Audubon Avenue, Pittsburgh 15228, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of California University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Sean Logue, Pittsburgh, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Barbara Logue, 633 Audubon Avenue, Pittsburgh 15228, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of California University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Sean Logue, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

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

September 23, 2021

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

Please note that the letter dated September 2, 2021, for the nomination of LeRoy Nunery II, 511 Cresheim Valley Road, Glenside 19038, Montgomery County, Fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Cheyney University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Bogle, Yeadon, resigned, should be corrected to read:

LeRoy Nunery II, 511 Cresheim Valley Road, Wyndmoor 19038, Montgomery County, Fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Cheyney University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Bogle, Yeadon, resigned.

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

September 23, 2021

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

Please note that the letter dated September 1, 2021, for the nomination of Rebecca Dombrowsky, 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure, to serve for a term of three years, and until the suc-

cessor is appointed and qualified, vice William Jones, South Abington Township, resigned, should be corrected to read:

Rebecca Dombrowsky (Public Member), 669 Rockwood Drive, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice William Jones, South Abington Township, resigned.

BILL INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

September 22, 2021

Senators CAPPELLETTI, MUTH, COLLETT, FONTANA, KEARNEY, SCHWANK, SANTARSIERO, COSTA, COMITTA, SAVAL, HAYWOOD and HUGHES presented to the Chair **SB 872**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 27 (Environmental Resources) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for transition to renewable energy; imposing duties on the Department of Environmental Protection and other Commonwealth agencies relating to energy consumption and renewable energy generation; establishing the Renewable Energy Transition Task Force, the Just Transition Community Advisory Committee, the Renewable Energy Center of Excellence, the Council for Renewable Energy Workforce Development and the Renewable Energy Workforce Development Fund; providing for interim limits on energy produced from nonrenewable sources and for wage requirement for energy producing systems.

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

RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

September 22, 2021

Senators DiSANTO, BARTOLOTTA, CAPPELLETTI, COSTA, FONTANA, HUGHES, HUTCHINSON, KANE, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN, SCAVELLO, SCHWANK, STEFANO, J. WARD and MUTH presented to the Chair **SR 177**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of September 2021 as "National Sickle Cell Awareness Month" and proclaiming that "sickle cell disease matters."

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

Senators BROWNE, HUGHES, MARTIN, BOSCOLA, KANE, SCAVELLO, FONTANA, STREET, PHILLIPS-HILL, J. WARD, MUTH, COSTA, SANTARSIERO, SCHWANK, BARTOLOTTA, BREWSTER and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SR 178**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of September 20 through 24, 2021, as "Safe2Say Something Week" in Pennsylvania.

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

Senators COMITTA, KANE, FONTANA, SANTARSIERO, MENSCH, HUGHES, SCHWANK, STEFANO, COSTA, BREWSTER, J. WARD, MUTH, BOSCOLA and STREET presented to the Chair **SR 179**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of September 2021 as "Mushroom Month" in Pennsylvania.

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

Senators TARTAGLIONE, BARTOLOTTA, KANE, BOSCOLA, HUGHES, YUDICHAK, BREWSTER, COMITTA, MENSCH, COSTA, MUTH, FONTANA, STREET, STEFANO, CAPPELLETTI and PITTMAN presented to the Chair **SR 180**, entitled:

A Resolution honoring the life and career of Richard Trumka.

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

Senators CAPPELLETTI, KANE, BROWNE, BROOKS, FONTANA, KEARNEY, SANTARSIERO, HUGHES, COMITTA, BARTOLOTTA, MUTH, COSTA, STEFANO, PITTMAN, HUTCHINSON, SCHWANK, COLLETT, L. WILLIAMS and STREET presented to the Chair **SR 181**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing September 13, 2021, as "Celiac Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

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

Senators YAW, BROWNE, HUGHES, FONTANA, J. WARD, BREWSTER, BARTOLOTTA, SCAVELLO, PITTMAN and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SR 182**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of September 20 through 24, 2021, as "SepticSmart Week" in Pennsylvania to increase awareness of the importance of proper maintenance and service of on-lot septic systems.

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

Senators HAYWOOD, HUGHES, KEARNEY, KANE, BARTOLOTTA, FONTANA, SCAVELLO, PITTMAN, HUTCHINSON, COSTA, BREWSTER, J. WARD and MUTH presented to the Chair **SR 183**, entitled:

A Resolution honoring Fannie Lou Hamer on her 104th birthday in recognition of her vast and valiant efforts to ensure the civil rights of minorities, women and low-income families.

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

HOUSE MESSAGES

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:

September 22, 2021

HB 1660 -- Committee on Education.

HB 1774 -- Committee on Health and Human Services.

HB 1849 -- Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

September 23, 2021

HB 1861 -- Committee on Health and Human Services.

APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

Mr. David Trimpey as a member of the Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory Council.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Brooks, and legislative leaves for Senator Aument, Senator Mensch, and Senator Yaw.

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

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

The PRESIDENT. Senator Gordner requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Brooks, and legislative leaves for Senator Aument, Senator Mensch, and Senator Yaw.

Senator Costa requests a legislative leave for Senator Flynn.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Senator GORDNER asked and obtained a leave of absence for Senator BROWNE, 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, September 27, 2021

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the Senate recesses this week, it reconvene the week of Monday, October 18, 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 Senate recesses the week of October 18, 2021, it reconvene the week of Monday, October 25, 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, October 4, 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 October 4, 2021, it reconvene the week of Monday, October 25, 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-49

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

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.

GUEST OF SENATOR CHRISTOPHER M. GEBHARD PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lebanon, Senator Gebhard.

Senator GEBHARD. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce an extraordinary young man who I am very honored to have visit the Senate. Joshua Aguirre of Lebanon County is the nine-year-old son of Jorge and Milena Aguirre. He is currently a fourth grader at the PA Leadership Charter School. Joshua recently competed in the AAU Junior Olympic Games in Houston, Texas, and brought home six gold medals, including the title of Grandmaster champion. He also won the Korea Seoul Cup Children's Taekwondo Championship and was a gold medalist in the Nepal Open International 2021 competition. He is the youngest person to earn a second degree black belt in Taekwondo in the world. This is not the only reason why Joshua is so remarkable. Recently, he has created a charitable foundation to help young athletes and students pay the cost associated with travel and schooling. Our community is very proud of this young champion on and off the mat. Mr. President, colleagues, please join me in giving a warm Senate welcome to Junior Olympic champion Joshua Aguirre.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guest of Senator Gebhard please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Mr. President, it is a little bittersweet moment here for me today as I introduce people from my district. The good news part of it is, they are great State champions, which is always exciting to introduce State champions from your district. The bitter part of it, for me, is I am a former Little League coach. Although I was able to coach a team to a league championship and coach an All-Star team to a district championship, I was never able to coach a team to a State championship. So, I am a little jealous, a little envious here today; but no, in all seriousness, it is so exciting. State College Little League team, 11-year-old All-Stars, captured the State title this year on July 30 with a 5-1 victory over Eastside Little League from West Chester, Pennsylvania. This is the first State title in State College Little League's district in 20 years, so it is very exciting and a history-making event for these young players and coaches. Maybe the best thing for our community was--after COVID-19, and after the pandemic, people were finally getting out again--it drew big crowds out to the games to see this exciting team play and big parade when they came home as everyone came out of their homes to see this. It was really a community unifying event for the State College area. So, it is so exciting for me, and so proud to represent this area and this Little League team. A special group of kids who won the 2021, 11-year-old State title here in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President, and I would ask to give them our usual warm welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Corman please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR MARIA COLLETT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome a group of advocates, who are joining us in the gallery, being led by one of my constituents, Millie Seliga, who is the Bucks County chair of It Could Happen to You, otherwise known as ITCHY, a criminal justice reform group focused on expungement and compensation for the exonerated. Millie is joined today by Bill Bastuk, national chair of ITCHY; Jeffrey Deskovic, an exoneree turned lawyer and president of the Deskovic Foundation for Justice; ITCHY members Victoria Blanco and Maryann Lubas; Nan Feyler of the Pennsylvania Innocence Project; Bill Ayers of Pennsylvania Bikers for Justice; and four Pennsylvania exonerees including Drew Whitley, Daniel Carnevale, Jim Fogle, and Larry Trent Roberts who, between them, have served 80 years for crimes they did not commit. As they make their way to meetings across the Capitol advocating for reform, please join me in giving them a warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Collett please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

RECESS

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

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a Republican caucus to be held in the Majority Caucus Room.

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 for a caucus as well.

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

AFTER RECESS

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

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

LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Brooks has returned, and her temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 meeting of the Committee on Appropriations.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. For the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations to be held here on the Senate floor, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

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

LEAVE CANCELLED

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

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 1 and SB 113 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

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 K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill was laid on the table.

SB 137 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator K. WARD. 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.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 153 (Pr. No. 127) -- 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 maximum gross weight of vehicles.

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-48

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

NAY-1

Hutchinson

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.

BILL AMENDED AND REREFERRED

SB 236 (Pr. No. 205) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 4, 1996 (P.L.911, No.147), known as the Telemarketer Registration Act, further providing for defi-

nitions, for unlawful acts and penalties and for unwanted telephone solicitation calls prohibited.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator BROOKS offered the following amendment No. A1952:

Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 14 and 15:
"Legal holiday." As defined in 5 U.S.C. § 6103(a) (relating to holidays) on the effective date of this definition.
 * * *

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

It was agreed to.

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

SB 457 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 523 (Pr. No. 1822) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1836 (P.L.551, No.169), referred to as the General Road Law, further providing for repair of private roads and providing for definitions.

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

On the question,

Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate return said bill to the House of Representatives with information that the Senate has passed the same with amendments in which concurrence of the House is requested.

SB 636 (Pr. No. 755) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, 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.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

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

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 673 (Pr. No. 742) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, 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.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

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

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 696, SB 703 and SB 704 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 795 (Pr. No. 950) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Pennsylvania State Police and the Governor, to grant and convey to Robert Swingle, certain lands and improvements situate in the Township of Richmond, Tioga County.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator DUSH. Mr. President, thank you for allowing me to speak on Senate Bill No. 795. This bill authorizes the Department of General Services to convey approximately 4.1 acres of land in Richmond Township, Tioga County. Again, thank you for allowing me to speak on this important piece of legislation. I would appreciate an affirmative vote.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

Argall	Dush	Martin	Schwank
Aument	Flynn	Mastriano	Stefano
Baker	Fontana	Mensch	Street
Bartolotta	Gebhard	Muth	Tartaglione
Boscola	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Tomlinson

Brewster	Haywood	Pittman	Vogel
Brooks	Hughes	Regan	Ward, Judy
Cappelletti	Hutchinson	Robinson	Ward, Kim
Collett	Kane	Sabatina	Williams, Anthony H.
Comitta	Kearney	Santarsiero	Williams, Lindsey
Corman	Langerholc	Saval	Yaw
Costa	Laughlin	Scavello	Yudichak
DiSanto			

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.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 1013 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 25 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 56 (Pr. No. 33) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in party organization, further providing for who shall be declared elected members of national or State committee and party offices; and, in returns of primaries and elections, further providing for manner of computing irregular ballots.

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 140, SB 222, SB 225 and SB 284 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 396 (Pr. No. 384) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating the bridge, identified as Bridge Key 35000, on that portion of State Route 2040 in Bentleyville Borough, Washington County, as the Mrs. Madeline Finney Memorial Bridge.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 428, SB 435, SB 519, SB 551, SB 562, SB 565, SB 597, SB 607, SB 617, SB 667, SB 689, SB 705, SB 706, SB 717, SB 718, SB 737, SB 780, SB 827 and SB 847 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 859 (Pr. No. 1052) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in rules of the road in general, further providing for enforcement of failure to stop for school bus with flashing red lights.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 867 (Pr. No. 1067) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating the portion of Pennsylvania Route 309 from the intersection with Pennsylvania Route 29 in Monroe Township, Wyoming County, to the intersection with State Route 1026 in Dallas Township, Luzerne County, as the Kunkle Firefighter Edward L. Nulton, Sr., Memorial Highway.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 871 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 880 (Pr. No. 1091) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating the portion of State Route 2014/Washington Street beginning at the intersection of South Courtland Street and Day Street at segment 0011 offset 1858 and ending at the intersection of

Brown Street at segment 0011 offset 0000 in East Stroudsburg Borough, Monroe County, as the Samuel Newman Way; and making a repeal.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 941, HB 951, HB 1082, HB 1500 and HB 1598 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SB 224 (Pr. No. 194) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, repealing certificates issued by other states and providing for out-of-state applicants for certifications.

SB 725 (Pr. No. 824) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for classes of licenses; and in commercial drivers, further providing for requirement for commercial driver's license.

SB 729 (Pr. No. 831) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of June 9, 1997 (P.L.169, No.14), known as the Nurse Aide Resident Abuse Prevention Training Act, further providing for implementation.

SB 736 (Pr. No. 840) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for use of farm vehicle plates.

SB 738 (Pr. No. 867) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in the Secretary of the Commonwealth, further providing for explanation of ballot question.

SB 764 (Pr. No. 889) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties of the Department of State and its departmental administrative board, providing for legislative process training; and imposing duties on the Legislative Reference Bureau.

HB 1591 (Pr. No. 2139) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code, in names and corporate powers, classification of counties, further providing for ascertainment, certification and effect of change of class; and making related repeals.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 1

BILL AMENDED

SB 725 (Pr. No. 824) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for classes of licenses; and in commercial drivers, further providing for requirement for commercial driver's license.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator BARTOLOTTA offered the following amendment No. A2337:

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 7 through 9, by striking out all of said lines and inserting:

Section 1. Section 1504(f) introductory paragraph of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 12 through 19; page 2, lines 1 through 12; by striking out all of said lines on said pages and inserting:

(d.1) Operation of covered farm vehicle.--Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (d) relating to class of license required, any driver who is the holder of a class A, B or C license under this section shall be authorized to operate a covered farm vehicle.

* * *

(f) Penalty.--[A] Except as provided under subsection (d.1), a person who violates subsection (a) commits a summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of up to \$200, except that, if the person charged furnishes satisfactory proof of having held the proper class of license valid on the last day of the preceding driver's license period and no more than six months have elapsed from the last date for renewal, the fine shall be \$25. No person charged with violating subsection (a) shall be convicted if the person produces at the office of the issuing authority within 15 days of the violation:

* * *

Amend Bill, page 2, line 21, by striking out the bracket before "licensed"

Amend Bill, page 2, line 21, by striking out the bracket after "licensed"

Amend Bill, page 2, line 21, by striking out "with a Class C license" and inserting:

under section 1504(d.1)

Amend Bill, page 2, line 24, by striking out the bracket before "licensed"

Amend Bill, page 2, line 24, by striking out the bracket after "licensed"

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

Class A, Class B or

Amend Bill, page 2, line 29, by striking out "in 60 days" and inserting: immediately

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

It was agreed to.

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

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 738 (Pr. No. 867) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in the Secretary of the Commonwealth, further providing for explanation of ballot question.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise in support of Senate Bill No. 738, legislation that we, unfortunately, need here in Pennsylvania. House Bill No. 963, which was a proposed constitutional amendment, would have created a 2-year window for victims of childhood sexual abuse to file litigation against their abusers. The General Assembly passed the bill last Session, setting up for what should have been a second Session on the issue in order to get a constitutional amendment proposal to the voters for their input. Unfortunately, the Department of State and the Governor's Office admitted they failed to properly advertise this constitutional amendment. We have seen the fallout of this grossly negligent error, which led to the resignation of the former Secretary of State. More importantly, it restarted the process of a constitutional amendment that many victims across the State are counting on. As I said, this bill should not be necessary; but, as it was detailed in a 68-page report by the Inspector General, it clearly is. The Inspector General pointed out major internal flaws for the Department of State to carry out its constitutional and legal duty. When I met with the Acting Secretary of State to ask what reforms have been made since this complete failure by the administration, she said that they have new paperwork and processes in place. I am sorry, but what we need is transparency, and that is exactly what this bill will do for every constitutional amendment proposal moving forward. The bill is simple. It would require the Department of State to create a publicly accessible website to track every step of our constitutional amendment process, including a copy of the notice and constitutionally required deadline, a listing of every newspaper in which the constitutional amendment notice was published, and the date of said publication, as well as the earliest possible Election Day it may be considered by the Pennsylvania voters. We can track anything from online purchases of clothing to food orders that we place online; for something as consequential as a constitutional amendment, this bill will ensure this administration, or any future administration, will not fail victims or any other Pennsylvanian with a vested interest in a proposed constitutional amendment.

Internal changes are good, until they are not. Human error led to this failure, and every Pennsylvanian should hold this Department of State accountable moving forward through this transparent process. Under this bill, they will have that opportunity. Mr. President, I respectfully urge an affirmative vote for Senate Bill No. 738.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I intend to support the measure offered by the gentlewoman, Senate Bill No. 738. In my view, I think it is no different than any piece of legislation that, through the legislative process, we maintain a record of where things are at, whether it is in committee or the votes that are taking place, etc. So, I do agree that it is in the public's best interest to know where things are at. That being said, Mr. President, I think it is important to recognize that while the administration made a mistake, I think they have been very clear about the sincerity in which they have expressed their disappointment that things occurred the way they did and really have worked to recognize that they made a mistake and made an error. I give them credit for being willing to move forward and try to address some of the things that are taking place, along those lines, to avoid these types of things from happening in the future. But at the end of the day, I think this is a good piece of information that is disclosure but also provides accountability to the public as we go forward. I do recognize that, you know, we are still going to talk about this issue, I imagine, for a number of years, unfortunately. But at the end of the day, the administration has come forward and taken steps to rectify the problem that occurred when it did, and we need to all move forward in that regard.

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-43

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

NAY-6

Haywood	Kearney	Saval	Tartaglione
Kane	Santarsiero		

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 764 (Pr. No. 889) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties of the Department of State and its departmental administrative board, providing for legislative process training; and imposing duties on the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, as indicated by the Minority Leader and the Senator from York, this is a second bill dealing with the terrible mistakes committed by the Department of State. This legislation would require formal training for staff members of the Department of State on their legislative responsibilities. The Inspector General's report, earlier this year, on the botched mishandling of the proposed constitutional amendment, under former Secretary of State Kathy Boockvar, has shown that, quite simply, some of the staff of the Department of State lack the formal training needed to properly handle their responsibilities with legislation. This proposal is based on recommendations from the Inspector General's report. It, very simply, would require formal training on the legislative process for all staff members in the Department of State who are involved in legislation. Quite honestly, it should not be necessary, but we have learned it is now necessary. This kind of training should prevent another complete fiasco, such as what we have all witnessed earlier this year, regarding the constitutional amendment that the department failed to properly execute. This bill passed the Committee on State Government and the Committee on Appropriations with bipartisan support. I ask for your support today.

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, may I ask the gentleman for a brief period of interrogation?

The PRESIDENT. The Senator has indicated he will. Please proceed.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, does the gentlemen know if the training that is being proposed would affect what happened to cause the reported fiasco?

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, it is based precisely on the report of the Inspector General regarding that fiasco.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, thank you. Again, I am certainly not opposed to training, and I am familiar with the report; but, as I interpreted it, it did not necessarily direct anyone to the specifics as it related to that particular failure. So, I am asking if you are familiar with a set of facts that I am not familiar with, that would shed light on this specific request in terms of training?

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, the report indicated that many employees noted when they were interviewed that they did not understand the difference between a bill, a resolution, and a joint resolution. According to their report, employees became nervous with handling legislation, and some even felt physically ill, which I find rather odd for people whose responsibilities include dealing with legislation. We have noticed that this had never happened before, under previous administrations, Republican and Democratic. So, yes, Senator, we believe that this is implementing the recommendations of the Inspector General.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator KEARNEY. Mr. President, I rise today in opposition to Senate Bill No. 764. I know that everyone in this body was horrified when we heard of the failures of the Department of State to publish the amendment for the 2-year window for childhood victims of sexual assault. But this administration has already had the resignations of the previous Secretary, as well as other key staff from the Department of State. In addition, there was an Inspector General's investigation that highlighted steps that the Department of State has taken to never allow this to happen again. However, the Senate today seeks to wag its finger at the Department of State through Senate Bill No. 764. This is not justice. This is a distraction from the real issue at hand: The 2-year window itself.

The real failure for these victims is the continued inaction of this body. For months now, we have had House Bill No. 951 on the Calendar. This bill would allow for a 2-year window immediately for these victims. We do not need to wait another 2 years through a constitutional amendment process for these victims to get their justice. We have seen other States take this action; there is no reason to wait. If the Majority Leader considers the bill today, we could pass House Bill No. 951 and have it to the Governor before the end of the week. Instead, we have failed these victims, and we continue to fail these victims. I cannot stand by and allow this body to ignore the real issue by continuing to pass blame instead of taking it for themselves. We should be ashamed. For this reason, Mr. President, I will vote "no" on Senate Bill No. 764 and hope that other Members will join me in voting "no" and asking that this body consider House Bill No. 951.

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-36

Argall	Dush	Mensch	Street
Aument	Flynn	Muth	Tomlinson
Baker	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Bartolotta	Gordner	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Boscola	Hutchinson	Regan	Ward, Kim
Brooks	Langerholc	Robinson	Williams, Anthony H.
Cappelletti	Laughlin	Santarsiero	Williams, Lindsey
Corman	Martin	Scavello	Yaw
DiSanto	Mastriano	Stefano	Yudichak

NAY-13

Brewster	Fontana	Kane	Saval
Collett	Haywood	Kearney	Schwank
Comitta	Hughes	Sabatina	Tartaglione
Costa			

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator BROOKS, from the Committee on Health and Human Services, reported the following bills:

SB 782 (Pr. No. 1101) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing for compensable services and items; and abrogating a related regulation.

SB 815 (Pr. No. 1016)

An Act amending the act of March 20, 2002 (P.L.154, No.13), known as the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, in medical professional liability, providing for informed consent in pelvic, rectal and prostate examinations.

SB 818 (Pr. No. 1004)

An Act amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act, in licensing of health care facilities, providing for ambulatory surgical facility permitted surgical procedures.

HB 1774 (Pr. No. 2149)

An Act amending the act of October 27, 2014 (P.L.2911, No.191), known as the Achieving Better Care by Monitoring All Prescriptions Program (ABC-MAP) Act, further providing for access to prescription information and for expiration; and making an editorial change.

HB 1861 (Pr. No. 2107)

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in temporary regulatory flexibility authority, further providing for definitions and for temporary regulatory flexibility authority.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

SB 782, SB 815, SB 818, HB 1774 and HB 1861.

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

10:00 A.M. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND Hrg. Rm. 1
ENERGY (to consider Senate Bills No. North Off.

525, 806 and 832; and an informational (LIVE
briefing on PJM's MOPR proposal and STREAMED)
maintaining competitive and reliable
energy markets)

10:00 A.M. LABOR AND INDUSTRY (to consider Room 461
Senate Bills No. 320, 634 and 775; and Main Capitol
House Bill No. 723)

10:30 A.M. EDUCATION (to consider Senate Bills Room 8E-A
No. 603, 786 and 846) East Wing
(LIVE
STREAMED)

12:00 P.M. STATE GOVERNMENT (to consider Room 8E-A
Senate Bills No. 507, 573, 640, 745 and East Wing
862; Senate Resolutions No. 67 and 152; (LIVE
and House Bill No. 1452) STREAMED)

Off the Floor APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Senate
Bill No. 859; and House Bill No. 1774) Chamber
(LIVE
STREAMED)

Off the Floor HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (to Rules Cmte.
consider House Bill No. 1861) Conf. Rm.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

9:00 A.M. LAW AND JUSTICE (S) and LIQUOR Room 140
CONTROL (H) (joint public hearing on Main Capitol
PA Liquor Control Board supply chain
disruption)

9:30 A.M. COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND Room 8E-B
RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (to East Wing
consider Senate Bills No. 635 and 830) (LIVE
STREAMED)

10:00 A.M. COMMUNICATIONS AND Room 8E-B
TECHNOLOGY (public hearing on East Wing
consolidation of State agency IT services (LIVE
and systems) STREAMED)

10:30 A.M. CONSUMER PROTECTION AND Room 461
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (to Main Capitol
consider House Bill No. 1849)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021

1:00 P.M. JUDICIARY and STATE GOVERNMENT Hrg. Rm. 1
(joint public hearing on the Department of North Off.
State's failure to advertise a constitutional (LIVE
amendment giving child sexual abuse STREAMED)
victims a two-year window to file claims)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021

11:00 A.M. STATE GOVERNMENT (public hearing Hrg. Rm. 1
to receive comments from the North Off.
Pennsylvania Department of State on (LIVE
Senate Bill No. 878 and legislation to STREAMED)
implement recommendations of the
Special Committee on Election Integrity &
Reform)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021

1:00 P.M. VETERANS AFFAIRS AND Connellsville
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (public Twp. Vol. F.D.
hearing to consider Senate Bill No. 698, 905 Fireman's
Countywide Public Safety Authorities) Lane
Connellsville

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Chester, Senator Comitta.

Senator COMMITTA. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague, Senator Kane, in support of Senate Resolution No. 179, recognizing September as Mushroom Month in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania--and, specifically, southeastern Pennsylvania and Chester County--is a national and world leader in the production of fresh mushrooms. From 2019 to 2020, Pennsylvania sold more than 1/2 billion pounds of fresh mushrooms, about two thirds of the total amount sold in the nation worth \$548 million. The majority of those mushrooms were grown in the southeast, especially in Kennett Square and the surrounding area. Mushroom farming is hard work. It has been passed down through generations in southeastern Pennsylvania. Many of the Commonwealth's nearly 70 mushroom farms remain family owned and operated. While the pandemic has taken a toll on all sectors of business and agriculture, mushroom farmers continue to press on and embrace innovation and collaboration in their craft. It is important that we continue to support and recognize mushroom farming in Pennsylvania as part of our agricultural heritage and a major contributor to our economy. Now, it is my pleasure to welcome my friend, Senator Kane, to say a few words.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chester, Senator Kane.

Senator KANE. Mr. President, I rise today to echo my colleague's comments on Senate Resolution No. 179, designating September as Mushroom Month here in Pennsylvania. A rich culture of mushroom production provides more than a tasty topping for a pizza or a base for a soup. The mushroom industry is critical to our economy and to creating jobs in Pennsylvania. In southeastern Pennsylvania, our 68 mushroom farms employ almost 10,000 people. All of those farms are family owned and operated, and nearly all are multi-generational. But the farmers themselves are not where the jobs end. Mushrooms are grown in sterile conditions with farmers completely controlling water, air flow, and temperature. That means plumbing jobs, electric jobs, HVAC jobs, family-sustaining jobs to help our families produce mushrooms. All together, our mushroom farmers add almost \$3 billion to Pennsylvania's economy. So next time you sit down to a portobello burger, mushroom risotto, or a stuffed mushroom, think about the family farmers, union builders, and generations of Pennsylvanians who went into making the mushroom industry such an important part of the mushroom capital of the world, Kennett Square, which, Mr. President, I represent. I would also like to recommend that there are so many other jobs out there in the Commonwealth. I hope you will join us in supporting this important resolution. Thank you.

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

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication that our doctors of chiropractic practice every day in Pennsylvania. There are over 100 million people in this country who suffer with chronic pain. An estimated 80 percent of all Americans will experience some sort of back pain during their lifetime. Unfortunately, many people have abused opioids to treat their pain. From 1999 to 2019, almost half a million Americans died from overdoses related to prescription opioids. In 2019, 49,860 people died from opioid overdoses in

the United States, which accounted for 70.6 percent of all drug overdoses in that sad year. Our chiropractors are educated and trained to effectively address pain without the need for surgery or the use of opioids. The World Health Organization has published recommendations to manage lower back pain using chiropractic techniques, again, without the need of opioids, spinal injections, or surgery. Mr. President, it is for this reason that I have introduced a resolution to declare September as Drug-Free Pain Management Awareness Month in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, I rise today to join Senator Tartaglione to honor the life and career of one of the great labor leaders of our time, Richard Trumka, who passed on August 5. A native of my district, Richard Trumka was born in Nemacolin, Greene County, in 1949. Like so many of my district residents, he was the son of a coal miner, and he worked as a coal miner. He went on to graduate from Penn State in 1971 and Villanova Law School in 1974. Not only was Richard Trumka a proud Nittany Lion, but he was also a lion for the working man and woman. No matter what political party, if you were on the side of the worker, Richard Trumka was on your side. He was certainly one of the most prominent individuals from the Keystone State during the last quarter of the 20th century and the first quarter of the 21st.

While he spent his labor career in Washington D.C., I know he never forgot his southwestern Pennsylvania roots. He was a tireless advocate for workers and left an indelible mark on the national labor movement. He was a hard-charging, larger-than-life man of action. His enthusiasm for the causes of the labor movement were unlimited. He was a giant on the American stage and from coal miners, steelworkers, schoolteachers, and nurses, Rich was utterly selfless. I extend my deepest condolences to the Trumka family, to his friends, and to the countless working men and women whose lives he improved. Please join me in honoring Richard Trumka.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Senate Resolution No. 180, which honors the life and career of Richard Trumka, who was president of the AFL-CIO for 12 years until his passing on August 5, 2021, at the age of 72. I would like to thank Senator Bartolotta for cosponsoring this resolution with me, as our cooperation on this resolution sends a strong message of support to our friends in organized labor. A native of Nemacolin, Pennsylvania, in Greene County, Trumka worked as a coal miner before graduating from Penn State in 1971 and Villanova Law School in 1974. He was elected president of the United Mine Workers of America at age 33, making him the youngest president ever of that union. As president, he led one of the most successful strikes in American history against the Pittston Coal Company in Pittston, Pennsylvania.

In 2009, Richard Trumka was elected president of the AFL-CIO, the largest federation of unions in the United States, which is made up of more than 12 million active and retired members. As president, he fought for all workers, union and nonunion, in a variety of ways, including by pushing to raise the minimum wage. Mr. Trumka realized, and I am quoting him directly, "the erosion of the minimum wage has lowered pay and working

standards for all of us." Mr. Trumka influenced economic policy across many industries and sectors. He championed workers' rights and workplace safety, and he worked with leaders of both political parties to include strong labor protections in the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement in 2019. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to support this resolution honoring the life and career of Richard Trumka.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, today marks 5,559 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last raised the minimum wage. That is more than 15 years, and it is far too long.

Mr. President, I would also like to point out that with each passing day, Pennsylvania falls further and further behind our neighbors, and most of the country, with regard to ensuring that our lowest paid workers receive fair, competitive compensation for their labor. As we debate and quarrel over the minimum wage, the subject of our dispute becomes less and less relevant on a statewide and national scale. I say this because more and more companies are raising their minimum pay rate well beyond \$12 an hour or \$15 an hour. Cities and States are surpassing those minimums, too, because they recognize the reality of today's world: That \$7.25 an hour, \$10 an hour, or even \$12 an hour is not enough to live on.

Just last week, one of the largest employers in San Antonio, Texas, a city deep in the heart of one of the nation's most conservative States, announced it will increase the minimum wage for its employees to \$20 an hour. That move will directly impact nearly 400 workers, mostly customer service representatives, at Security Service Federal Credit Union. The credit union's CEO told the local news media, and I am quoting, "This move is about people, and how we enable our best and brightest talent to be successful at work and in life." Halfway across the country, in Seattle, a chain of drive-in food restaurants announced that they will bump up their starting wages to \$19 an hour this week. New employees will quickly move up to \$20 an hour once they pass their first skills test, which usually comes after about 12 weeks of employment. Down in another deep red State, Florida, the statewide minimum wage will reach double digits for the first time later this week. Mr. President, you may recall that voters overwhelmingly voted in favor of a \$15 minimum wage last November.

Mr. President, these notable wage increases, and many others that are occurring around the country, are not happening by accident or because of some abstract economic concept. The raises are happening because working people have fought long and hard for them and because many business owners, even in conservative places, are starting to recognize the tremendous economic and moral benefits of paying fair wages. Regrettably, as tremendous progress happens elsewhere, here in Pennsylvania we are stagnating and regressing. One of my greatest fears is that by the time Pennsylvania finally establishes \$15 an hour as our standard, our cost of living will already be far beyond that level.

Mr. President, the minimum wage issue is as much about time as it is about money, and now is the time to raise the minimum wage to a fair, family-sustaining wage. I urge my Senate colleagues and the entire General Assembly to adopt my minimum wage legislation, Senate Bill No. 12, without delay.

Thank you, Mr. President.

HOUSE MESSAGES

SENATE BILLS RETURNED WITH AMENDMENTS

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 397** and **SB 398**, with the information the House has passed the same with amendments in which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The PRESIDENT. Pursuant to Senate Rule 13(c)(2)(i), the bills will be referred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Venango, Senator Hutchinson.

Senator HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 3:33 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.