SENATE
TUESDAY, June 7, 2022

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

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

PRAYER
The Chaplain, BRUCE HIGGINBOTHAM, Troop Chaplain, Boy Scout Troop 1313, McMurray, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for this day that we have before us. A wonderful day You have given us, and the blessings You have poured upon us already. We come together today to ask Your blessings upon our elected officials and those members of the Boy Scouts of America assembled here today. May we pray that You would always guide our minds and hearts so that we may strive to be good, loving citizens; that we may seek the way of righteousness, justice, and mercy; that we may always be pure in body and mind; that we may always have the courage to lead others to do the right thing; that we all continue to do our duty to our country, knowing that a good nation must be made from good men and women. Watch over those in authority. Grant that they may be enabled by Your grace to lead our Commonwealth with honesty and integrity according to Your will. God, please bless our work here. Continue to be with all of us so that we may do our best today and strive to do better tomorrow. You are refuge and strength. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair thanks Chaplain Higginbotham, who is the guest today of Senator Bartolotta and Senator Robinson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair would like to invite Scout Spencer Nace to lead us in the pledge at this time.
(The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled, led by Boy Scout SPENCER NACE.)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE GOVERNOR
NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following communication in writing from His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, which was read as follows and referred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations:

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

June 7, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Tina Siegel, 266 Heritage Lane, Tionesta 16353, Clarion County, Twenty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Nursing, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Suzanne Hendricks, Quakertown, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BILL INTRODUCED AND REFERRED
The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following Senate Bill numbered, entitled, and referred as follows, which was read by the Clerk:

June 7, 2022

Senators BREWSTER, FONTANA, HUGHES, MENSCH, COSTA and SCHWANK presented to the Chair SB 1268, entitled:
An Act amending Title 5 (Athletics and Sports) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, extensively revising the Uniform Athlete Agents Act; making repeals; and making an editorial change.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, June 7, 2022.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES
Senator YUDICHAK, from the Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development, reported the following bill:

HB 1694 (Pr. No. 2324)
An Act amending the act of February 2, 1966 (1965 P.L.1860, No.586), entitled "An act encouraging landowners to make land and water areas available to the public for recreational purposes by limiting liability in connection therewith, and repealing certain acts," further providing for definitions, for duty to keep premises safe and warning and for assurance of safe premises and duty of care and responsibility and liability.
Senator BROOKS, from the Committee on Health and Human Services, reported the following bills:

SB 571 (Pr. No. 607)

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in fiscal provisions relating to public assistance, providing for distribution of SNAP benefits.

SB 1198 (Pr. No. 1618)

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in departmental powers and duties as to licensing, providing for preclearance waiver of physical site requirements and further providing for regulations and for rules and regulations for personal care home and assisted living residences.

SB 1202 (Pr. No. 1716) (Amended)

An Act providing for access to pasteurized donor human milk, for duties of Department of Health and for pasteurized donor human milk coverage.

HB 2401 (Pr. No. 2969)

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, further providing for licensure.

Senator BAKER, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported the following bills:

SB 691 (Pr. No. 827)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in organization and jurisdiction of courts of common pleas, further providing for courts of common pleas.

SB 1035 (Pr. No. 1358)

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in trusts, further providing for definitions, for trust instrument controls and mandatory rules - UTC 105, for governing law - UTC 107, for situs of trust, for nonjudicial settlement agreements - UTC 111, for charitable purposes; enforcement - UTC 405, for trust for care of animal - UTC 408, for noncharitable trust without ascertainable beneficiary - UTC 409, for reformation to correct mistakes - UTC 415, for modification to achieve settlor's tax objectives - UTC 416, for spendthrift provision - UTC 502, for creditor's claim against settlor - UTC 505(a), for overdue distribution - UTC 506, for revocation or amendment of revocable trust - UTC 600, for trustee's duties and powers of withdrawal - UTC 603, for accepting or declining trusteeship - UTC 701, for trustee's bond - UTC 702, for cotrustees - UTC 703, for vacancy in trusteeship and appointment of successor - UTC 704, for resignation of trustee and filing resignation, for compensation of trustee - UTC 708, for duty to administer trust - UTC 801, for duty of loyalty - UTC 802, for powers to direct - UTC 808, for duty to inform and report, for discriminatory powers and for powers of trustees - UTC 815, providing for directed trusts, further providing for remedies for breach of trust--UTC 1001, providing for nonjudicial account settlement and further providing for reliance on trust instrument - UTC 1006, for exculpation of trustee - UTC 1008, for certification of trust - UTC 1013 and for title of purchaser.

SB 1208 (Pr. No. 1620)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, further providing for payment of court costs, restitution and fines and for collection of court costs, restitution and fines by private collection agency.

SB 1226 (Pr. No. 1639)

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in criminal history record information, further providing for juvenile records; and, in juvenile matters, further providing for powers and duties of probation officers, for informal adjustment, for consent decree, for adjudication, for disposition of delinquent child and for powers and duties.

SB 1228 (Pr. No. 1640)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in juvenile matters, further providing for limitation on and change in place of commitment.

Senator DUSH, from the Committee on Local Government, reported the following bills:

SB 1052 (Pr. No. 1715) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for scope of subchapter, providing for definitions, further providing for establishment and designation, providing for emergency meetings by authorized telecommunications device, repealing provisions relating to exercise of powers and functions, further providing for declaration of policy and for definitions, repealing provisions relating to enabling authority for emergency interim successors for local offices, further providing for emergency interim successors for local offices and for succession period and repealing provisions relating to term and removal of designees.

HB 1213 (Pr. No. 1273)

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to home rule and optional plan government, further providing for definitions, providing for appointment of government study commission in distressed municipality and further providing for first meeting of commission, for function and duty of commission, for hearings and public forums, for report of findings and recommendations, for limitation on enactment of ordinance or filing of petition and for limitation on municipal powers.

HB 1947 (Pr. No. 2223)

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

HB 2116 (Pr. No. 2455)

An Act amending Title 11 (Cities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in mayor, further providing for execution of laws, powers of sheriff conferred and emergency powers.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Westmoreland, Senator Kim Ward.

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Browne and Senator Brooks, and legislative leaves for Senator Gordner and Senator Regan.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Kim Ward requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Browne and Senator
Brooks, and legislative leaves for Senator Gordner and Senator Regan. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**WEEKLY RECESS**

Senator K. WARD offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, June 7, 2022

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, June 13, 2022, 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, June 13, 2022, 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 K. WARD and were as follows, viz:

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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.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA REPORT**

**GUESTS OF SENATOR KRISTIN PHILLIPS-HILL ON BEHALF OF SENATOR JOHN R. GORDNER PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, as a special order of business, and on behalf of the Senator from Columbia, I want to welcome the Boy Scouts, Scout leaders, and their family members in the gallery who have joined us today for Session. Joining us today are more than 100 Boy Scouts from every corner of the Commonwealth, and we are pleased to have them here in the gallery, along with the very bright young men who are seated here on the Senate floor who offered the Senate prayer and Pledge of Allegiance. Offering the Pledge of Allegiance is my constituent, Mr. Spencer Nace from Shrewsbury, York County. The Boy Scouts of America is a Federally chartered organization that was made official when President Woodrow Wilson signed the bill into law over 100 years ago. Please know that there are only a few Federally chartered organizations. Every United States President has met with the Scouts since 1911. As a Federally chartered organization, they are required to present a Report to the Nation to our President and Congress. We know that the Scouts go on to be leaders in some of the most respected and important institutions in our nation, from United States cabinet secretaries to Supreme Court justices; from astronauts to Fortune 500 CEOs; from Pulitzer Prize-winning writers to all-star athletes. We even had a President of the United States who got his start in Scouts in President Gerald Ford. Several years ago, many States started inviting these bright young men to offer their report to their legislatures. Thanks to the good Senator from Columbia for spearheading this initiative here in the Commonwealth; we are grateful to have Scouts here today to present us with their report, and we are pleased to have all of these Scouts here with us. I ask, at this time, that we give a warm Senate welcome to the Scouts in attendance in the gallery.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Gordner and Senator Phillips-Hill, the Boy Scouts who are with us today, please rise so the Senate can give you our usual warm welcome.

(Applause.)

**GUESTS OF SENATOR CAMERA C. BARTOLOTTA PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington, Senator Bartoletta.

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, we have a very special guest joining us from Washington County: Boy Scout Troop Chaplain Bruce Higginbotham, who serves with Troop 1313, based out of St. John XXIII Parish in McMurray, Pennsylvania. Also seated on the floor are Bruce's parents, Ron and Mary Ann; grandmother, Frances Tarquinio; and uncle, Joseph Tarquinio. As many of you know, today is Pennsylvania Boy Scout Day at the Capitol, and I am happy to host Bruce, who has been a Boy Scout since the age of 11. In his 3 years of scouting, he has earned 18 merit badges and has completed over 50 hours of community service. He is currently a Star Scout, but I have no doubt that he will achieve the rank of Eagle Scout in a few years, and I look forward to honoring him at that very prestigious event. Bruce attends Peters Middle School, where he is active in basketball, lacrosse, and fencing. He also plays saxophone in the school band. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering a very warm Senate welcome to Troop Chaplain Bruce Higginbotham.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Bartolotta please rise so the Senate can give you our usual warm welcome.

(Applause.)
BOY SCOUTS REPORT
TO THE COMMONWEALTH
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from York, Senator Phillips-Hill, to introduce the Scouts who will present the Boy Scouts Report to the Commonwealth to the Senate.

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, as a special order of business, it is my honor, on behalf of the Senator from Columbia, to introduce Scout Chaplain Bruce Higginbotham, Scout Spencer Nace, and Scout Jacob Keller, who will present the Boy Scouts Report to the Senate of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Will Scout Chaplain Bruce Higginbotham, Scout Spencer Nace, and Scout Jacob Keller please approach the rostrum to present your report.

(Whereupon, the report was presented to the PRESIDENT pro tempore.)

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair lays before the Senate the following report from the Boy Scouts of America.

(The following Boy Scouts of America Report was made part of the record at the request of the gentlewoman from York, Senator PHILLIPS-HILL, on behalf of the gentleman from Columbia, Senator GORDNER.)

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

June 7, 2022

The Boy Scouts of America program is an ongoing adventure that delivers life-changing experiences, teaches a powerful set of real-life skills, and develops fundamental qualities that help more than 51,492 youth mentored by 23,555 registered adults in Pennsylvania become Pre pared. For Service.

As of December 31, 2021: 51,492 registered youth; 26,298 Cub Scouts; 23,803 Boy Scouts; 3,112 Venturers; and 329 Explorers. The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Prepared. For Service.

Doing service projects together is one way that Scouts of all ages keep their promise to "help other people." Eagle Scout service projects are an opportunity for Scouts to show leadership while helping their community.

Prepared. For Learning.

From diverse subjects ranging from American Business to Woodwork, Scouts in Pennsylvania earned 117,692 Merit Badges.

Prepared. For Adventure.

2,474 local Cub Scout packs, Scouts BSA troops, Venturing crews and Explorer posts, were in operation during 2021.

Prepared. For Leadership.

2,217 Scouts in Pennsylvania earned the Eagle Scout Award during 2021.

49 young women from Pennsylvania were members of the BSA's inaugural female Eagle Scout Class in 2021.

5,431 Pennsylvania Cub Scouts earned the Arrow of Light, Cub Scouting's highest award, in 2021.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
SWEARING-IN OF NEW MEMBER

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I appreciate this Chamber's willingness to have this program here today, and I would respectfully request the Scouts present here today please recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and they will be led by Scout Jacob Keller.

Thank you, Mr. President.

(whereupon, the Boy Scout Oath and Boy Scout Law were recited.)

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair thanks all the Scouts who are with us here today.

(Applause.)

ELECTION RETURNS PRESENTED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.

The ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS. Mr. President, I have the honor to present the Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth, Leigh Chapman.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth, Ms. Chapman.

Acting Secretary CHAPMAN. Mr. President, I have the privilege and honor of presenting the election returns and the certification of campaign expense compliance for the special election held on May 17, 2022, in the 5th Senatorial District.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair thanks Acting Secretary Chapman.

The returns for Senator-elect Dillon will be read by the Clerk. The Clerk read the election returns as follows:

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, GREETINGS:

I have the honor to present the official returns of the Special Election for Senator in the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania held in the Fifth Senatorial District, as the same have been certified to and filed with my office by the Philadelphia County Board of Elections. James Dillon, having received the highest number of votes in the Special Election, and having complied with the provisions of Article XVI
Will the Senator-elect please present himself, with your Bible, Pennsylvania's Constitution. Senator-elect Dillon in accordance with Article VI, Section 3 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity. Congratulations, Senator Dillon. (Applause.)

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. On behalf of all the Senate, the Chair would like to thank Judge McCaffery for presiding over the ceremony, and congratulations to Senator Dillon. The Senate will be at ease. (The Senate was at ease.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR RYAN P. AUMENT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Aument. Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to introduce my guest for the day, Mr. Joseph Roach, a junior at Manheim Central High School in Lancaster. He is joined by his parents, Jack and Carol, who are seated with him in the gallery. At a very young age, Joe was diagnosed with ADHD and autism; however, he believes in never letting any such label define him. In the seventh grade, Joe was encouraged by his art teachers to pursue the arts, which led him to recognize his natural and abundant talent. Today, Joe continues his passion in his art business and channels his emotions through art, teaching everyone who comes across his work that there is no barrier to success if you truly believe in yourself. Through the success of his business, Joe has been able to give back generously to his community, donating to causes such as Aaron's Acres, a nonprofit dedicated to providing recreational activities to children with disabilities. He inspires children and young adults like himself to pursue their passion, no matter the labels put on them. Some other organizations that Joe has been able to give back to include the Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition, American Heart Association, and The Arc.

Joe is the youngest artist to ever have his work displayed at the East Wing Rotunda of our State Capitol throughout the month of June. He also presented me with a painting of the American flag last month, which is now on display in my office for visitors to see. It is truly an honor to have Mr. Roach as a resident of the 36th Senatorial District. Please join me in welcoming my guest, Joseph Roach, to the Pennsylvania Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guest of Senator Aument, Mr. Roach, please rise so the Senate can give you our usual warm welcome. (Applause.)

GUEST OF SENATOR JUDY WARD PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Blair, Senator Judy Ward. Senator J. WARD. Mr. President, it is my absolute pleasure to welcome my summer intern, Julia Cacciotti, who is a resident of Altoona, Blair County. Julia is a student at the University of Notre Dame, majoring in psychology, with a minor in cybersecurity. She will enter her junior year in August. Julia works for the university's women's basketball team and does volunteer work with...
the Shriners Hospital. She is assisting my district staff with constituent inquiries, working on special projects, and attending events and meetings with me. She has done an amazing job in the short time she has been with us. Please join me in a warm Senate welcome for Julia Cacciotti.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guest of Senator Judy Williams, please rise so the Senate can give you our usual warm welcome.

(Applause.)

**GUESTS OF SENATOR ANTHONY H. WILLIAMS PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, over the last several years, this country has experienced civil disruptions in ways that many of us have never expected or experienced, and, frankly, many of us are not proud of. Caught up in the middle of this are the divisions that many of us see, but, frankly, miss the uniting of all Americans around a particular space. We are proud to have representatives of our law enforcement community, out of my district, here with us today. Make no mistake that, while many of us have taken to the floor to make sure that transparency, fairness, and integrity are part of how we protect all human beings, in whatever aspect we do, and certainly within policing, it should not be taken as a division, or, frankly, an affront to anyone in law enforcement. In fact, the sacrifices that many people in law enforcement provide every single day, none of us could ever imagine. The fact that we may not return to our loved ones simply because we are trying to do our job and protect others; the fact that we may be disrespected during the course of our time and are required to have some level of common civility; and the fact that we simply want to make sure that life is better in all parts of our communities are part of the daily requirements and service of police officers.

Today we are joined by captains and chiefs from a part of my district. They are here on behalf of Representative Regina Young, and I am honored that they are taking the time to come to the Senate floor, on behalf of all of us. I ask them to stand as I announce their names. From the 1st District, Captain Margo Alleyne-Parker; from the 12th District, Captain Joseph Green; from the 17th District, Captain Michael O'Donnell; from Colwyn, Police Chief Ishmial Johnston; and a collection of officers from the 16th District. We want to make sure that you understand that while you do not hear of all of their accolades, service, and heroic deeds, that we in the Senate of Pennsylvania acknowledge that. That we as Pennsylvanians acknowledge that, and we, certainly, as Americans are thankful for the fact that you have not walked away from this service, and we cannot say or pay enough respect to the service you provide us. God bless you, God bless your families, and God bless this country.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Anthony Williams please rise so the Senate can give you our usual warm welcome.

(Applause.)
Shall the bill pass finally?

On the question, and the amendments made thereto having been printed as resolutions, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

The Senate for the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held here on the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. For the purpose of an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

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

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 Rules and Executive Nominations to be held here on the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. For the purpose of an off-the-floor meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

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

Senator KANE. Mr. President, I will try to keep my remarks relatively short today. I have been here for over a year now. So, by now, everybody in here knows that I am a plumber, and I am proud of that. Any time that we are discussing water, I am interested. One of the biggest issues I have dealt with since taking office is the potential sale of a municipal water authority right in my district. With the Chester Water Authority always in the back of my mind, Senate Bill No. 597 stood out to me when it came before the Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. I looked at it, all the groups supporting the bill, and surprise, surprise, it is the big water companies--Aqua and Pennsylvania American Water. That did not sit right with me then, and it does not sit right with me now. I looked at the groups opposing the bill, and it included our constituents and a bunch of local water authorities which have been providing this essential service for generations.

With the passage of the American Rescue Plan and the Federal infrastructure bill, Congress stressed the importance of investing in water infrastructure across the country and right here in Pennsylvania. There are better solutions than turning to private industry seeking to make money. Congress figured out a way to get these funds passed. It is now our responsibility to spend and invest them where they belong. I know I am just a plumber who grew up in Delco, but we can all read our State's Constitution, and it says: "Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come." Access to water is one of the most basic human rights, and I do not think that access should be sold away for profit. Senate Bill No. 597 would make it that much easier for for-profit water companies to take over municipality water authorities against the interest of the ratepayers. We were all sent here to work on behalf of our constituents, not the big water companies. I also think it is important to remind everyone that ratepayers are voters, and I can tell you firsthand that ratepayers really do not like the idea of seeing their water bills go up, and I promise you, they will be going up. I, along with the ratepayers of Pennsylvania, urge a "no" vote.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator MUTH. Mr. President, I rise today in opposition to Senate Bill No. 597. While I appreciate the sentiment of the bill in terms of trying to get all of our water systems across the Commonwealth up to standards so that every Pennsylvanian has clean drinking water, unfortunately, this legislation is absent of any funding for our local municipalities to do this work. Many of them are trying to or are in the process of upgrading their systems. Several of the 44th Senatorial District's water and sewage treatment systems have sold out to two of the monopoly companies here in Pennsylvania. While I would be supportive if those companies were actually going to charge a fair rate, one of my municipalities is paying over 115 percent of their original rate. I have mentioned this to both, saying that there needs to be a scaled fee
so that people do not have to pay so much of their income just to have clean drinking water or to flush the toilet.

In March, a study was published by the Water Journal entitled Water pricing and affordability in the US: Public vs. private ownership. Researchers analyzed rates by the 500 largest community water systems in the United States, collectively serving about 140 million people across 48 States and Washington, D.C. Through their study, the researchers determined private ownership had the largest impact on annual water bills, which averaged over $144 higher in privately owned systems than in public sector systems. People who are on fixed incomes—our seniors, those who are disabled, low-income households—served by private operators, spent 4.4 percent of their income on water service, about 1.5 percentage points more than in communities with public ownership.

The EPA recommends households spend no more than 3 percent of their income on water service, about 1.5 percentage points more than in communities with public ownership. The EPA recommends households spend no more than 3 percent of their income on water service. Every dollar counts for these families, and every dollar counts for families across the Commonwealth who are paying increased rates of inflation as well as the cost of fuel and energy due to the corporate greed of oil and gas companies making record profits never seen before. Mr. President, Senate Bill No. 597 is yet another unfunded mandate and will ultimately force even more of our publicly owned water and wastewater companies into privatization. We have heard from so many stakeholders opposed to this legislation, and the common thread is that this bill will lead to a significant increase in consumer rates and will essentially force those who are in lower income brackets or those on fixed incomes to sell their rights to private industry.

Mr. President, while my colleagues on the other side of the aisle certainly had the right intentions here, it would have been great to have funding attached to this legislation through our giant surplus—of over, what is it? $11 billion, with a “B” now—to upgrade all of the systems in everybody’s district across this Commonwealth. Further, the DEP, an unfunded and unorganized State agency, estimates that this will cost $4 million annually just to staff the two new programs created by Senate Bill No. 597.

Again, I would love for clean water and water quality to be a reality here in Pennsylvania, but in the absence of funding, that cannot happen. Additionally, adding two additional programs and an additional $4 million annual budget requirement will further deteriorate their ability to protect our environment and the public health of Pennsylvanians living in close proximity to industrial waste and energy sites that have already polluted and contaminate our water.

Pennsylvania needs to make a real investment in cleaning up its act when it comes to water. Lead pipes that need replaced are also a problem here in the Commonwealth. We are an old State; it needs upgraded. People are drinking water that is below standards, but selling out to corporations who are going to raise rates on families across our State who cannot afford it is not a solution. If we had a funding mechanism attached with this, it would be a better conversation to participate in, but right now I ask for my colleagues to vote “no” on this legislation until we prioritize funding clean water in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring Shall the bill pass finally?
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 AMENDED

SB 1094 (Pr. No. 1419) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in motor carrier safety, repealing provisions relating to findings and declaration of policy and further providing for definitions and for Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator GEBHARD offered the following amendment No. A4229:

Amend Bill, page 2, line 22, by striking out "trafficways" and inserting: highways
Amend Bill, page 2, line 28, by striking out "30" and inserting: 31
Amend Bill, page 3, line 9, by striking out "Twenty-two" and inserting:
Twenty-three
Amend Bill, page 4, line 22, by striking out "Five" and inserting: Six
Amend Bill, page 4, line 27, by striking out "Marcellus Shale" and inserting:
Natural
Amend Bill, page 3, by inserting between lines 4 and 5:
(f) Construction material transportation.
Amend Bill, page 5, line 5, by inserting a bracket before the comma after "chairperson":
Amend Bill, page 5, line 6, by inserting after "treasurer":
I and secretary
Amend Bill, page 5, line 16, by inserting a bracket before "Any"
Amend Bill, page 5, line 17, by inserting a bracket after "term."
Amend Bill, page 7, line 15, by striking out "trafficways" and inserting:
highways

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

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

Senator GEBHARD. Mr. President, this is an amendment technical in nature. It incorporates technical changes such as changing terms "trafficways," which is a narrow term, to "highways," which is a broader term. It increases the membership from 22 to 23 and also removes the role of treasurer since the organization does not have a budget.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

It was agreed to.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1147 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL AMENDED

SB 1183 (Pr. No. 1686) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in forfeiture of assets, further providing for asset forfeiture; and, in snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles, further providing for operation on streets and highways.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

BROWNE AMENDMENT A4487

Senator BROWNE offered the following amendment No. A4487:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 1, by striking out "Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure)" and inserting:
Titles 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 75 (Vehicles)
Amend Bill, page 2, line 29, by striking out "A" and inserting:
Except as provided under subsection (e), a
Amend Bill, page 3, by inserting between lines 4 and 5:
(e) Applicability.—The provisions of subsection (d) do not apply to a city of the third class or borough that has adopted an ordinance allowing for the operation of an ATV within the city of the third class or borough in accordance with section 7722(a) (relating to designation of snowmobile and ATV roads) or section 7724(b) (relating to operation on private or State property).
Amend Bill, page 3, line 5, by striking out "(e)" and inserting:
(f)

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I am standing in support of the amendment because for those of us who had these challenges in Philadelphia and other parts of Pennsylvania, we are certainly appreciative of that. The challenge that we have is some of the language was adjusted in the amendment, which does now allow city council to have discretion in certain spaces in Philadelphia County. It does not present a problem today, but it could present a problem in the future, i.e., if we decided to do a show that incorporated any of those vehicles participate. So, again, we stand in support of it, but we would desire for the language to be corrected, probably in the House. We do not want to hold it up in the Senate today, but I want to make sure that was part of the record with regard to what we understood.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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 third consideration, as amended?

FLYNN AMENDMENT A4414

Senator FLYNN offered the following amendment No. A4414:

Amend Bill, page 2, line 30, by inserting after "the":
first class, second class, second class A or

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the
gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Flynn.

Senator FLYNN. Mr. President, my amendment No. A4414
adds cities of the first class, second class, and second class A to
Senate Bill No. 1183. Alongside cities of the third class, this will
provide the cities of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Scranton with
the same tools to address dirt bikes and ATVs being illegally op-
erated on public roads. This reckless behavior is often a nuisance
but can also create safety risks for other motorists and pedestri-
ans. I thank the maker of the bill for his openness to expanding
the reach of this bill to other areas, and I appreciate your consid-
eration on this amendment. Thank you.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-1

Saval

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

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

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1191 (Pr. No. 1562) -- The Senate proceeded to consider-
ation of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for sport activities in public institutions of higher
education and public school entities to be expressly designated male, fe-
male or coed; and creating causes of action for harm suffered by design-
ation.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise in support of
Senate Bill No. 1191. This piece of legislation would defend girls
of all ages in their respective sports. We have seen trends across
the country that have the impact to undo everything women have
fought for to establish an equal opportunity to participate in com-
petitive athletics at any age. Title IX was originally created to stop
discrimination and create athletic opportunities for every woman.
Many of the women in this Chamber are the beneficiaries of Title
IX. Many of us know, firsthand, the doors that athletics opens for
young women: earning that roster spot, podium spot, scholarship;
building lifelong friendships; working cohesively as a member of
a team to accomplish a common goal; and opening many doors
to educational and career opportunities. It is clear that being on a
team is so critical to the future success of young girls all across
this Commonwealth.

In fact, statistics show that 96 percent of female CEOs were in
competitive sports at one point in their childhood. We had those
opportunities: a fair fight for a roster spot, a fair shot for a spot on
that podium, a fair shot at scholarships, and we are here today
because we want to preserve that opportunity for the next gener-
ation of female leaders in our Commonwealth. We want young
women to use competitive sports as a launching pad for their fu-
ture success in their careers, families, and communities. This leg-
islation is about providing these girls with that fair shot to stand
at the top of the podium, to celebrate their significant achieve-
ments as a result of their hard work, and to give them the oppor-
tunity to compete at the highest level in a fair and equal environ-
ment. Today we have that opportunity to fight for every young
girl in this Commonwealth by advancing Senate Bill No. 1191.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I request a tempo-
rary Capitol leave for Senator Haywood.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Anthony Williams re-
quests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Haywood. Without
objection, the leave will be granted.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator J. WARD. Mr. President, I rise in support of Senate
Bill No. 1191, the Fairness in Women's Sports Act, along with
Senator Phillips-Hill. This legislation will ensure that all young women in the Commonwealth have a fair chance to compete in the sports that they love. Under this legislation, school athletic teams designated for women may not be open to those of the male sex. The legislation defines sex as the biological distinction between male and female, based on reproductive biology and genetic makeup.

Let me be crystal clear, this has nothing to do with someone’s gender or gender identity, this is about biological sex. Sports have never been separated based on gender identity, rather, they have been separated by biological sex, and this legislation ensures that remains true in the future. There is reason for that separation. Men have distinct and meaningful physical advantages over women that translate to advantages in sports—like increased heart size, lung size, greater bone density, greater biomechanical advantages, and higher testosterone—that are among the many physical advantages that male puberty and development bestows. Because of this, we have separated sports to give women a fair chance to compete. Over the past half century, we have fought to protect athletic opportunities for female students, and now these opportunities are in jeopardy. Athletic competitions give women the opportunity to demonstrate their skill and strength, while also providing opportunities for recognition ranging from accolades to college scholarships. These opportunities can be life changing.

I urge my Senate colleagues to join me, along with Senator Phillips-Hill, in standing up for biological women everywhere, who compete in sports in the pursuit of their dreams.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator Lindsey Williams.

Senator L. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, trans women are women, trans girls are girls. That fundamental belief is the center of my remarks today. When the authors of this bill say that it is about, quote, protecting women, what I and others hear is that they are prioritizing protecting some women over others. That they are protecting women that present themselves to the world in a way that aligns with their preconceived notion of what a woman should be. Because gender is a social construct, and how we view women has changed and will continue to change over time. Proponents of this bill will say that it is not about gender presentation, they claim it is about biology. That is false. There are biological differences between bodies, but whether that biological difference should prevent a person from participating in a particular high school or college sport is not based in science, it is based in fear. I was a three-sport athlete in high school, and I was involved in so many extracurricular activities that my mom had to put a limit on what I could be involved in. Sports were incredibly important to me in high school, and even though, like the majority of our student athletes, I was never going to be pro or be a competitive college athlete, being able to be physically active and participate with my teams was a huge part of my life. Participating in sports gave me the confidence, time management skills, and ability to work collaboratively that led me to being able to run for office. Absolutely nothing about having another student participate on those teams consistent with their gender identity would have taken those things away from me. In fact, having them as teammates and competitors would, most likely, have only enriched that experience for me, and that is what sports are supposed to be. They are supposed to be a welcoming space for all to engage, learn, and grow into responsible, productive adults. This bill takes that lovely space away from a whole group of kids, a group of kids who are already under tremendous pressure because adults have made their existence a political issue. Those adults are using this bill to score political points, and in the process, are actively causing immense harm to our students. It is those students who we are not hearing from in this conversation. That is why I want to end my remarks today by making space to hear from one of the many trans athletes who would be harmed by this bill.

Ethan Garrity is a member of the Philly Roller Derby Juniors’ team, a team that was ranked second in the world, prior to COVID-19. Ethan, also known by the Roller Derby name, I-Roll, shared the following message with me. Senator Williams, living as a transgender teenager in a society that we fill with hatred, bigotry, and intense animosity with queer identities is extremely difficult. I will not lie to you. I have to look over my shoulder in public bathrooms, watch my back at school, and work 10 times as hard to get anything and everything. I have not felt the critically warm embrace of a self-made family until I joined roller derby. I was 7 years old and could barely even roller skate. Now, more than 8 years later, I am the happiest when I am playing roller derby or spending time with my team. Yes, I love the sport, but there is more to it than just blocking, jamming, defense, and offense. When I am with my team, I can be honest with them. My coaches and teammates listen to and see me. We hold each other accountable. Having the structure of practices every week at the same time, makes it so much easier to get through the rough and unforgiving school week, knowing that I have roller derby to look forward to going to. The adrenaline rush and euphoria after scoring 32 points in one, 2-minute period are indescribable.

Even though I do not face the same harsh expectations as transgender women, I can speak to my experience as a transgender boy. I have never felt quote, man enough, in my school, at camps, or in society at large, no matter how hard I tried. The people that surrounded me expected more of me than anyone, like I had to prove myself in some sort of sick admissions process. It is not healthy for anyone to feel that way, but especially not a vulnerable teen. But when I step on the track, my teammates give me high fives, congratulate me when we have a good play, and let me know where I can improve in constructive ways. The love I have for my team is incredibly deep and familiar. I have made friends that will last a lifetime. But the most important part of this for me is that my team is co-ed. Without that factor, we would not have had some of the best players on our team who did not just contribute on the track, but off it too. If my team were not co-ed, I would have had to quit 3 years ago when I came out publicly. Though the number of boys and gender non-conforming people on my team is small, we have a huge impact. Having people with different identities and backgrounds intermingled with each other makes a positive impact on everyone involved. Having a diverse group of people has been proven to make people smarter, more creative, hard-working, and problem solving. Such positive spaces are rarely found. My roller derby team is the most impactful group of people I have ever spent my time with. For me, I like being on a co-ed team, but some trans people want to be on the same gender team of their choosing. The key part of this is, let them choose.
Though I contemplated it strongly, I would not try to finesse my words in a Dickensian fashion, because I want to get my point across clear as day. Let trans kids play in group sports. We are not sexual deviants, we are not dangerous to society, we are children, and depriving us of such care, childhood experiences sets us up for failure and ostracization later in our lives. Leaving us out of such crucial social involvement is why 40 percent--on average between nonbinary, transgender female, and transgender male suicide statistics--of transgender people have attempted suicide at some point in their lives. How can we save our transgender children from such a grizzly fate? The solution to this planned epidemic of teen suicide is luminous in its clarity. Please, I am begging for my sake, and for all of my brethren’s, make the decision that is right. Exclusion of people for an identity they hold never ends in good feelings, and history can attest to it. Earlier in this letter, I referred to how some people fill the world we live in with hatred and bigotry, do not be one of those people. Please fill our beautiful State of Pennsylvania with love, compassion, grace, and humanity. Senator, I want to thank you for taking the time to read this and to listen to my experience. It is more than most people are willing to do.

I hope Ethan's voice gives you the perspective that has been missing.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator Elder A. Vogel, Jr.) in the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Mercer, Senator Brooks.

Senator BROOKS. Mr. President, I rise in support of this legislation and the right of young women to compete on a level playing field in sports. Women have fought for decades to achieve parity with men in their sports programs, funding, facilities, locker rooms, scholarships, media coverage, and so much more. Too often, women's athletics were viewed as an afterthought. With the passage of Title IX, equality and competition among men and women was guaranteed by Federal law. Today, we are witnessing a slow and steady erosion of that progress as biological men seek to compete in women's sports. As a former athlete, I do not take away from the strength and talent of our amazing female athletes when I say that men have certain physical differences from women that give them a competitive advantage. Men have larger hearts; men's lungs are larger than women's lungs; the average man also has denser, stronger bones, tendons, and ligaments than women. These facts are proven and clearly affect athletic performance in significant ways.

I find it unfortunate that certain groups are attempting to twist this discussion into a conversation about something other than fairness in women's sports. Let me be clear, this is not about hate, like some special interest groups want to make it out. They are actually misleading and compete against women. Jenner said it is unfair for transgender women, such as swimmer Lia Thomas at the University of Pennsylvania, to compete in women's sports. "We need to protect women's sports," Jenner said, who won a gold medal and set a record.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Collett.

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, I rise today to express my grave concerns about Senate Bill No. 1191, misleadingly entitled Protecting Women's Sports, and my profound disappointment with the fact that a bill like this one, which does nothing to move the ball forward for women and girls in Pennsylvania, has been brought up for a floor vote while so many pieces of legislation that would help women and families languish away. Yet again, I find myself here begging my colleagues to stop wasting time and taxpayer money, fast-tracking partisan, headline-grabbing bills that you know will be vetoed. We are a diverse Commonwealth, and each of us in this room has sworn to represent the voices of, and make laws to improve the lives of, all Pennsylvanians. I, for one, will not kowtow to hate and fearmongering extremists, who want nothing more than to divide us and are using some of Pennsylvania's most vulnerable citizens, LGBTQ children, as pawns in an ugly political game they did not ask to play. My constituents demand that I be better than that. Pennsylvanians demand that we, as a body, be better than that.

Pennsylvania is at a critical precipice. Women, in particular, do need our help. They need it in the form of affordable healthcare, childcare, paid family leave, a living wage, and student loan relief. They need the people in this room to work together to get people back into the workforce, families back on their feet, and small businesses back up and running. They need us to make sure they have access to affordable healthcare and are able to age with dignity, to make sure their kids are getting a quality education, and to protect the environment and economy we will be leaving to them. Those are the issues I think we should be talking about, but since we are talking about Senate Bill No. 1191, I will simply say that Senate Bill No. 1191 is a radical solution in search of a nonexistent problem. There are many biological, genetic, and other factors that influence an individual's athletic ability, and there is no evidence that trans, intersex, and other children who would be affected by this legislation have competitive advantages.

So, instead of diving down this rabbit hole, let us focus on what we do know. We know transgender youth are 25 percent more likely to be bullied in school, 4 times more likely to suffer from mental health issues, and 22 percent more likely to attempt suicide. There have been a number of bills introduced in both the House and in this Chamber aimed at improving mental health services for students. If we really want to talk about protecting kids, let us pass those.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator Elder A. Vogel, Jr.) in the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Mercer, Senator Brooks.

Senator BROOKS. Mr. President, I rise in support of this legislation and the right of young women to compete on a level playing field in sports. Women have fought for decades to achieve parity with men in their sports programs, funding, facilities, locker rooms, scholarships, media coverage, and so much more. Too often, women's athletics were viewed as an afterthought. With the passage of Title IX, equality and competition among men and women was guaranteed by Federal law. Today, we are witnessing a slow and steady erosion of that progress as biological men seek to compete in women's sports. As a former athlete, I do not take away from the strength and talent of our amazing female athletes when I say that men have certain physical differences from women that give them a competitive advantage. Men have larger hearts; men's lungs are larger than women's lungs; the average man also has denser, stronger bones, tendons, and ligaments than women. These facts are proven and clearly affect athletic performance in significant ways.

I find it unfortunate that certain groups are attempting to twist this discussion into a conversation about something other than fairness in women's sports. Let me be clear, this is not about hate, like some special interest groups want to make it out. They are actually misleading and competing against women. Jenner said it is unfair for transgender women, such as swimmer Lia Thomas at the University of Pennsylvania, to compete in women's sports. "We need to protect women's sports," Jenner said, who won a gold medal and set a world record in the decathlon at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal. In the interview, Jenner said she respects Lia Thomas' decision to transition; however, she emphasized that one year of hormone replacement is just not going to make it when it comes to reducing the competitive advantages male athletes have over females. "When you look at her, when she's standing on the line, she's taller, bigger, she's got a longer reach, she's got bigger hands. She has a tremendous advantage over the women." Jenner said, "I've said from the beginning, I don't think biological men should play in women's sports. It's just not fair."

Mr. President, I want to thank Caitlyn Jenner for her courage in standing up to protect women because some of the very groups that have haled her have actually criticized her for her stance. I want to thank everyone who is standing up for biological female
athletes and preventing discrimination against young girls and women who have worked so hard to perfect their sport. Women should not be sidelined by male competitors in their own sports programs. They should not lose out on scholarships or playing time because a biological man had an unfair edge. Mr. President, genetics is genetics. There are differences between men and women. Regardless of what drugs are taken, genetics makes a difference. This has nothing to do with identification or hate. It is plainly about fairness. Let us stand up for all those girls who just want an even playing field. Do not set them back by voting "no" on this legislation.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Muth.

Senator MUTH. Mr. President, I rise today in opposition to Senate Bill No. 1191. For the sake of time--and I know there are other speakers--I will not repeat what my colleagues have said who have also taken opposition to this bill. I will say that as a former athletic trainer who has worked with male and female sports from grades 9 to the NFL and the NHL women's ice hockey, I have worked with sports that are coed and intramurals, and I have heard a lot of locker room talk, afterschool talk, morning practice talk. I got to know a lot of the athletes who I worked with because you spend a lot of time with them; someone who travels with them, tapes their ankles every day, you hear about their life. Then, when I was an adjunct professor, I had them in the classroom during the day, possibly for morning practice or evening practice, and games on the weekends. Never once, not a single time, did any of the women or girl student athletes ever say that having trans--there was never even a conversation about what is in this legislation, never once.

So, when I think about proposing policy and impact, you think about the number of people that this would apply to, and it is really very few. If someone does not feel that is an appropriate way to participate--again, never once, not even a coach brought this kind of stuff up. So, when we talk about empowering women and girls, I think we really need to reframe how we think about those ideals and the ideas to progress that forward because, again, this is not an issue for the population that this policy would apply to. This is not an issue. You know what is an issue, though? I can say from the women and girl athletes who I have worked with--again, grades 9 to professional athletes--they are worried about finishing school, paying off student loan debt, getting a job that pays them the same as a man, and campus safety. Who do they report a rape to on campus? That I heard a lot about, going back into the classroom with a perpetrator because a university did not have protections. Those are the kinds of things that I heard about practice after practice, season after season. Not once did anything in this legislation ever come up. Not one time.

Senate Bill No. 1191 does nothing to keep girls safe. It does not stop girl student athletes when they are in study hall or in chemistry from being sprayed by bullets from assault weapons. It does not keep those student athletes safe. It does nothing to ensure that they have access to healthcare. There is nothing in there that says, hey, we are going to make sure women have access to healthcare. There is not even anything in there that says women and girl sports are going to have the same resources as a male team. My favorite chuckle is when you travel with women's basketball--which I have at two Division I universities--versus the male teams, and let me tell you the difference, even just the transportation, let alone the hotel room and the meal service: very, very different and underfunded for women. So, if this bill had any kind of merit to its title, which it does not, some of those things I just mentioned would be included. None of them are, not a single one of them.

So, again, I am going to say this is not partisan in the sense that even the governor of Utah, a Republican, vetoed the same style of legislation in the State of Utah and cited fundamental flaws within that legislation. I think one of the most heartbreakings things about it is that, as mentioned, when athletes are on a team, team environments build problem-solving skills; they make you have a better sense of self; they allow you to succeed, set goals, achieve, fail, and try again. All of these things that are skills that you need throughout your life, even well after your athletic career. I think that is the most important note, that this bill would isolate, so cruelly, so few people that even live here in the Commonwealth and participate in sports. So, I guess what I would quote from the governor of Utah, I would quote that his letter says this: (Reading)

Here are the numbers that have most impacted my decision:…
- 75,000 high school kids participating in high school sports in Utah.
- 4 transgender kids playing high school sports in Utah.
- 1 transgender student playing girls sports.
- 86% of trans youth reporting suicidality.
- 56% of trans youth having attempted suicide.

Four kids and only one of them playing girls sports [in Utah].

I am not sure what the data is for this same metric here in Pennsylvania, but it would be really nice to know who this legislation would target because four kids in Utah who are not dominating, winning trophies, or making scholarships; four kids--I am quoting this letter from the governor of Utah who vetoed this bill; four kids who are just trying to find some friends and feel like they are a part of something; four kids trying to get through each day. Rarely has so much fear and anger been directed at so few, and I think, right there, that says it all. This bill is targeting such a small number of individuals in this Commonwealth. It does not empower women in sports. It does no such thing.

So, vote with your conscience, not with what makes the most dollars in a political fundraising email--because that is sometimes the problem here--and realize that whoever is reading about this in our Commonwealth who is a member of the trans community, they get to sit back and think, what did my government do today other than target to try to harm me? That is a heck of a feeling. Ineffective government is one thing; this is next level, and I would hope that everyone considers that, that this does nothing to help women in sports and does nothing to make them safer. So, I urge a "no" vote on this legislation.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Mastriano.

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I stand in strong support of Senate Bill No. 1191. Over the past decades, we have watched women's sports finally arrive at an equal plane of opportunities with male sports. The history is not that long; only 102 years ago, suffrage was achieved, when ladies had the right to vote, only 102 years ago. Then, as far as female sports, we only saw the door open about 50 years ago this month, when Title IX
was passed. This is about fairness. It is about removing male domination of female sports. It is about doing the right thing. It is about following the science. It is about providing an opportunity to biological females. I often refer to John Adams, since I do represent Adams County—which is named after him, our second President—and he said, rightly so, this echoes across the generations to us today that, "Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence."

It was interesting, over the past several years with COVID-19, we were constantly lectured about following the science. Well, let us do just that. We stand on the side of biology here; we stand on the side of facts, genetics, DNA, and nothing can alter the facts, size, and composition of someone's body designed by their DNA. In fact, their DNA, every cell in a person's body, signals and determines whether they are male or female. Facts are stubborn things. It does not matter if it is only one individual that is displaced because of allowing biological males to compete. If you are the one athlete who worked and trained so hard for many, many years, you are displaced, and those opportunities ripped away, that matters. That matters to that person. So, where are the feminists?

I stand on the side of the lady athletes. I stand on the side of science. You know, it was not that long ago that most of these sports were off-limits to females. Thanks to so much work and sacrifice over the years, the fight from females to have the same opportunities, and their self-discipline and training, the doors were busted open with Title IX 50 years ago, which is coming up here next week. We saw with Title IX, of course, college women's athletic participation increase from 15 percent in 1972 to almost 50 percent in 2001. In high school, we saw an increase from just under 300,000 female athletes in 1971 to nearly 3 million in 2003. I mean, this is fantastic. The NCAA sponsors 40 women's championships and 38 male championships. That is fantastic. We finally arrived, only to now slam the door and allow male domination of female sports. This defies reason and logic. It is time to do the right thing. This is not about headlines, it is about standing with the women who trained so hard, sacrificed so much, and find themselves at a grave and significant biological disadvantage.

We saw Thomas. We all kind of cringed when we saw Thomas on the winning platform there, a giant next to the biological females with bigger hands, a bigger heart, stronger muscles; facts are stubborn things. So, indeed, I do say follow the science. Let us do the right thing. Science should apply in every case, not just when it is good, comfortable, or appropriate for some kind of political game. This is not a game for the female athletes out there. You know, the facts are, men produce 570 percent more testosterone than females. Injecting or giving hormones to displace or alter that does not change the composition, size, or strength of their bodies. That is a fact. In fact, that specific fact comes out of the Journal of Medical Ethics; they published a study looking into that. You cannot change the fact that biology remains, the size of someone's body, somebody's skeletal structure. So, it is just a darn shame we find here—we are standing here debating an issue that is just so manifest. We are in the days when good is called evil, and evil is called good. There is nothing right about this here. The facts are that biological females compete in female sports and biological males in male sports. It is just awful to watch the things going on in our State and across the nation, where the clock is being turned back, where once again, male domination is going to rule over female opportunities. I stand against that. I ask for my colleagues to stand with the female athletes and vote affirmatively on this legislation.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Northampton, Senator Boscola.

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, look, I have heard both sides on this issue, and many legislators on both sides of this issue kind of knew exactly how they were going to vote when the bill was introduced. I am not one of them. Sometimes in this Chamber, I wish I was—especially on complicated bills; some people are dug in on both sides when it comes to these issues. I wish I could be one of them. On this issue, Mr. President, I do see both sides. I empathize with the individual in transition, a person who is trying to come to grips with who they are and seeing sports as an opportunity to be included. A decision that cannot be easy, and it must be isolating and very scary. I also feel for the female athlete who trains, competes, and views the field as unfair when faced with competing against a transgender athlete. But here is where I draw the line, and let us make no mistake, the policy in Pennsylvania today is not one of inclusion. Instead, the PIAA places the responsibility on school principals as the ultimate decision makers, with no standards or guidelines. The PIAA just accepts the principals' determination. Now, there are approximately 1,400–plus high schools in Pennsylvania. Essentially, under this current policy, the people who we want to protect here could be having 1,400–some different determinations about participation in sports for trans athletes.

When faced with difficult votes in this Chamber, I do try my best to do the research and learn as much as I can. That is how I learned that the PIAA leaves such decisions up to principals and, personally, I think that is wrong. I also try to talk to people back home because this is a controversial issue, an emotional issue. I try to talk to people outside of this building, outside of this bubble. Whether it is in the grocery store, gym, or out to eat, it is clear when I listen to people that they are struggling to make some sense out of this bill and what to do moving forward with transgender athletes. They do want a policy that is fair, consistent, and compassionate. To be honest, neither of the choices before us right now is appealing and does not meet these standards. What we need is for us to recognize our responsibility as elected leaders in Pennsylvania, to sit in a room and start a dialogue about some sensible policy. The Leaders from the four Caucuses and the Governor need to communicate, and not through soundbites, tweets, or speeches on this floor. We need real dialogue because this issue involves real people on both sides of this issue. It is my hope that we can enter into a dialogue as we proceed forward. We can bring the PIAA, NCAA, and others to discuss commonsense standards and guidelines to ensure that everyone feels that the playing field is level. That competition is fair; we are all for that.

I understand that this bill will be vetoed. However—and I know people say, well, the Governor is going to veto it, that is fine—he can veto it, but the issue will not go away. It is incumbent on us, the leaders of Pennsylvania, to be better, compassionate, and fair. I believe such things are still possible in our strained democracy—at times when extremes from both sides of the aisle will not even talk to each other. In the meantime, I cannot, in good conscience, leave the ultimate decision in the hands of principals. It is not
even fair to them. We need a uniform policy, and principals should not be forced to carry that burden. This bill is going to pass the Senate, it is going to pass the House, and, yes, the Governor is going to veto it. But, as I said, this issue will not go away until the leaders here in Pennsylvania come together, sit down, and negotiate a compromised bill that is fair, consistent, and compassionate.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Cappelletti.

Senator CAPPELLETTI. Mr. President, my colleague across the aisle asked, where are the feminists? We are right here. We are standing in opposition to Senate Bill No. 1191 because trans girls are girls. Trans women are women. Last week I attended a Senate Democratic Policy hearing that was unique in its testifiers and audience. The hearing was entitled, Student Voices in Education. It allowed our students, testifiers, in front of an audience of their peers and ourselves, to talk about issues that are pervasive in their school districts today. It gave us, as lawmakers, the opportunity to engage directly with student leaders to learn about what solutions they need from us. These eight testifiers of diverse backgrounds highlighted challenges of student equity, mental health, and that there is a lack of community in their school districts that leads to further marginalization of vulnerable individuals. They wanted us to see, support, and help make that dynamic change, so that every student feels welcomed, included, and seen in their schools. You know what they did not talk about? Not one of them talked about the need for legislation like Senate Bill No. 1191, because Senate Bill No. 1191 is trying to solve a problem that does not exist. Transgender athletes have been participating in sports for years without malice or unfair advantage. I believe our public schools must allow for equal opportunity in every avenue of education, including school-sponsored team sports activities.

In addition, the U.S. Department of Education has stated that transgender students are protected from discrimination on the basis of their gender identity under Federal Title IX. This bill would also be in direct conflict with NCAA's current policy, which allows transgender women to participate in women's sports after taking cross-gender hormones for 1 year. Should we pass this bill, the NCAA would bar Pennsylvania from hosting NCAA events, resulting in a significant negative fiscal impact on our State. Transgender Pennsylvanians are simply trying to do what I, as a cisgender woman—and all of the Members of this Chamber as cisgender individuals—try to do every day: live as our most authentic and best selves. We should be doing more to encourage Pennsylvanians to be exactly who they are throughout the entirety of their lives, without the fear of being marginalized or othered. The decision to push this legislation forward—while so many other solutions to very real problems that exist sit in committee—demonstrates that we are more concerned with politicizing social issues and bullying transgender kids than solving the issues that our constituents rely on us to tackle every day. I will be voting "no" on Senate Bill No. 1191, as will many other great feminists in this Chamber, and encourage all of my colleagues to do so. Thank you.

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

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I am frustrated with the politics of today. Gender: be very clear, if you look up gender, gender is a social construct, not a natural construct. It was born, frankly, out of the desire to put certain people in certain roles. The reason why I know it so clearly is because at one point in time, my great-great-grandfather was two-thirds of a human being. That also was a social construct, which has evolved over time. And people generally believed that if you were of African descent and were in this country, you were not a full human being. In fact, we actually had to have a war over this, in this country, where we had to define what people like me were to this country. We even had to fight about whether we were allowed to fight for this country. It frustrates me, that as proud as I am to be a Member of this Senate—and I have Republican and Democratic friends—that we would bring this to the floor truly without understanding the science behind gender identity or sex.

It was referred to gender in the context of a celebrity. It is kind of ironic that that celebrity chose to talk about this particular athlete, who is a swimmer, define that swimmer as not a female but a male, when he literally was on television for 2 years in his evolutionary process of becoming a woman, of which he said he became a woman. He said it was more than a wig, makeup, and high heels; it was that he truly felt that he was a woman and wanted to make sure he represented himself as such. For those who want to depend upon science, be very clear, the science tells you that those who go through this process of change have to take certain hormonal doses and a variety of other procedures to achieve the balance in their body that would reflect them as a male or female. Those who choose to become female, in fact, lose testosterone, body mass, and all the advantages of quote, unquote, being a male, when they become the female. That is not a matter of political opinion; that is not a matter of debate; that is a matter of fact.

As recorded by, as my friend said, science. In fact, this particular individual, who apparently has inspired this legislation, has gone through all those tests, and the results have overwhelmingly proven that she has no advantage over her competitors because of her previous status or circumstance.

I do not believe that those who rise in support of the legislation are doing so in malice. I am not going to suggest that they are mean people, but I am going to say that they are not informed people. The science does not support their argument that they are doing something to protect the fairness of other females who are in that same space. The truth is that the history that I spoke about is one of record that, thankfully, this country finally figured out that those of us born human will evolve not only genetically, DNA, but in our thought processes and our approach to each other. That is simply the space that we occupy today. I would have appreciated, and I do not think it will be persuasive, that we would have given more consideration to the individuals who are affected by this conversation. Because every time that my history is brought up, and someone says a particular word or something I consider to be insulting that they do not quite understand, I have to take the time to either refrain myself or explain to them why it is insulting. I usually am talking to someone who, frankly, is not that well informed; that is where they come from; that is their background; that is the way they thought about things. So I can understand the challenges in the space that we occupy today. I truly note that there are people on this floor who do not even know the fact that there are some people born without glands that
do not allow them to be either gender. That means they cannot produce in that space. Because all we want to talk about in this space is what our gut tells us, what our emotions are reacting to, what even, in fact, our constituents may think, even though they are not well informed.

The comments today are not so much about persuading but for the record. I guarantee you in about 20 years, those who are taking a pretty hardened position about who those folks in the transgender community are will be shocked that there is a generation of elected officials, who are men and women, who are transgender, and do not occupy time thinking about what their sexual orientation is. But they enter these floors by doing the will of the people and trying to do right by them. By the way, their colleagues will accept them, and they will be in the Republican party and the Democratic party. We will not spend 2 seconds thinking about their sexual orientation, we will think about the positions they take on tax policy, public education, and guns because, trust me, in 20 years we will still be arguing the same old nonsense. But I do hope that this is one less argument that we will have about a population of people that, frankly, we are probably hurting tremendously emotionally today as we actually have to talk about this in this manner.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Mensch.

Senator MENSCH. Mr. President, sitting here listening to the debate--originally, I was not going to talk, but I have an article here from The Economist magazine, March 19, 2022. If you know anything about The Economist magazine, it is anything but a conservative publication, but I want to read, in part, an article on page 23 of that issue, and it is titled "Women's Sport: Swimming in controversy." I will not read the whole thing; I want to pick parts. "Ms. Thomas [we are talking about the transgender swimmer from the University of Pennsylvania] has already broken records in previous competitions. In December she won a 1,650-yard freestyle race by 38 seconds [38 seconds]. On that kind of form, in Atlanta, Ms. Thomas was expected to win comfortably." If you know anything about the swimming sport, Mr. President, you know that almost no one in the same category wins by 38 seconds. She did not win without controversy. (Reading:)

For although Ms. Thomas identifies herself as a woman, biologically she is a male. [This is the article speaking.] Her dominant performances have thrust her into the center of the debate around whether transgender women--males who, like Ms. Thomas, identify as women--should be allowed to compete in women's sport…Ms. Thomas is breaking no rules. For many years, the NCAA's policy was that trans-women athletes could compete so long as they took medication designed to suppress their testosterone levels. Testosterone is the main male sex hormone and a potent anabolic steroid. Levels surge during puberty, which is the main reason why adult males outperform females in almost every sport. In swimming the women's world record for the 400-meter freestyle, for instance, stands at three minutes and 56 seconds. This record is 3.40. [Again, pointing out the substantial difference between the male physiology and the female.] In some sports the gap is much larger. The American men's combined powerlifting record is 1,296kg. The women's record is 793kg. The hope was that suppressing testosterone levels would reduce those advantages, letting female athletes compete with trans women on a reasonably level playing field. The science suggests that the compromise does not work. A pair of review studies, published in 2020 and 2021, concluded that testosterone suppression does not go far in removing the advantage bestowed by male puberty.

Mr. President, we often talk in this Chamber about a lot of emotional issues, and very often it is absent any data. I think there is some substantial data that was just offered there in a brief article that, in fact, someone who was born with male chromosomes, regardless of what they try to do to their body later in life through surgery or hormone injections, still remains a male. Scientifically, always a male. The same is true of a female. Mr. President, I am not trying to suggest that transgender people do not have a chance to participate in sports, but so long as they are biologically identifiable through chromosomes, something that you cannot defeat, then that individual needs to compete in their own sexual classification.

Mr. President, I stand in strong support of Senate Bill No. 1191. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bucks, Senator Santarsiero.

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, I rise in unequivocal opposition to Senate Bill No. 1191. Mr. President, I could spend a great deal of time this afternoon refuting the alleged claims of science that have been made by those who support this bill. I could also spend a considerable amount of time refuting, or at least exposing the holes in the logic of many of the arguments that have been made, but I am not going to do that. I am not going to do that because to do that, frankly, would be to grant those arguments more validity and credit than they deserve. It has never been easy to be a young person in this country or any other. If anyone in this room thinks it is easy for a young person who realizes that they are gay, lesbian, or trans to come to terms with that, in a world that is often unaccepting and inhospitable, they are sincerely mistaken. If anyone thinks that a young person wakes up one day and decides that they are trans and thinks, well, this might be a great way to have an advantage in sports, they are being absurd. These children, because that is what they are, face discrimination; bullying; and a lack of acceptance in their schools, communities, and sadly, in many cases, in their own homes. The vast majority of them are not athletes, and we are wasting time today having a debate over this bill that masquerades as somehow creating equality in women's sports in this State. Meanwhile, all we are really doing is further hurting vulnerable young people. Vulnerable kids, the vast majority of whom do not play sports, and for those who do, did not ask for a bunch of grown men and women to take aim at them and allege that they are somehow seeking an unfair advantage. These kids deserve our support, and they deserve for us to be good role models for their peers and the other people in their community, so that they can hold their heads high for being who they are; so that they can walk down the hall of a high school or the street in their town without fear of anyone attacking, belittling, bullying, or even saying a single word to belittle them.

How have we come to this place where we have allowed the seeking of some kind of political advantage, getting to a point of hurting already vulnerable kids? This bill would do nothing but further marginalize young people who are already some of the most vulnerable people in our society. Nothing could be further than the charge that we have as elected representatives of the people of this State than to undertake such a measure. Shame on anyone who believes that that is the right thing to do. These are real-life issues for these kids, and these kids are flesh and blood human beings. They deserve better than some circus here in the
State legislature. I have been disappointed many times in my career here in Harrisburg, but should this bill pass this Chamber today, I think my disappointment will reach a new low. I ask, on behalf of these kids and their families, that we do the right thing; that we stand up and recognize that it is not for us to marginalize them further, but rather to show them that this State is one where everyone is accepted, and we can afford to lose no one.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Monroe, Senator Scavello.

Senator SCAVELLO. Mr. President, first I want you to know that I had two daughters who played three sports, and I would be very concerned if someone came over from the boys' side and wanted to play in the sports that they were playing. Now, I have gotten numerous phone calls from constituents who have daughters and are concerned about that as well. Regardless of how we say this, they are much stronger when they come in, and I can say you can take the pills that are going to reduce your--you know, all that information there--but I am going to tell you something, they are still at a huge advantage. The last thing you would want to do is have someone hurt out there in a sport. Just imagine--I heard earlier--LeBron James deciding to have the operation and play in the women's basketball league. Would that be okay? Is it possible. I throw that out there; what kind of an advantage would he have in the women's basketball league? That can happen, and that is what we are talking about here. I know it is funny--you are smiling over there--but think about that as a possibility. Look, I understand the issue, but how about the young ladies who have worked many years to get better, and now, all of a sudden, we have someone coming over, just like the swimmer, and just knocking them out. It is not fair. Come up with another solution. It is not fair. I support the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Kearney.

Senator KEARNEY. Mr. President, I try not to speak too often here, but this is actually the third time I am going to rise in opposition to Senate Bill No. 1191 and its companion, House Bill No. 972. I am beginning to wonder when will these baseless and unnecessary attacks on our youth end? At a time of crisis for all of our youth, these bills seek to kick down, even further, a segment of our youth who are already struggling even worse than their peers. At a hearing we held last week, my colleagues and I heard directly from high school students from eight different school districts about the top issues affecting student-belonging and school climate. There were many things discussed. Gender discrimination was probably the top concern for every single high school represented. Unfair competition from transgender youth athletes was never mentioned.

In the most recent survey of LGBTQ youth by the Trevor Project, more than half--let me say it again--more than half of all transgender and non-binary youth reported seriously contemplating suicide. That is not a coincidence. It is a result of public stigmatization and alienation of trans and other LGBTQ youth. Simply unacceptable. What efforts is this legislature taking to address the mental health of these individuals? More than just nothing, we are actually voting today on a bill that would only further increase the feelings of these individuals as outcasts rather than accepted members of the community, and for what reason? None that I can really see. A made-up non-issue about the threat that these individuals pose to athletic competition. We protect no one with this legislation. This legislation will cause harm to hundreds, perhaps thousands of Pennsylvania minors and their families. I actually feel ashamed, and so should my colleagues, that this is the legislation we are choosing to promote. But I will ask more of my colleagues. Let us vote "no" on this piece of legislation. Let us get back to work on the actual solutions to the ongoing mental crisis that is affecting our youth.

Thank you, Mr. President.
adult who is trying to get scholarship money to go to college or
get on the podium, most of them may not ever experience that.
But I know for those who do have a chance to get on a podium,
regardless of what their sport is, it absolutely increases their op-
portunity to be recruited and scouted and open up doors that may
pay for their college education and help them to raise up--in terms
of their economic opportunities.

But I want to remind everyone here that the issue of safety is
not just constrained to here. I heard someone mention earlier the
issue about disabled athletes, but in order to accommodate those
disabled athletes, there were concerted efforts to create the Para-
lympics and other competing events. Now I bring this up often,
that the concern for safety is even within male sports, and I will
give you two great examples. In my wrestling career they decided
to actually have weight classes, same thing with boxing and oth-
ers, and do we want to know why weight classes were created?
They were created so the big guys are not crushing the little guys.
It was based on safety. When I am coaching youth football, every
single one of those pee wee’s has to come and step on a scale, de-
pending on what their level is, to see what their weight is, boy or
girl. They cannot be over a certain weight, and why is that? Be-
cause depending on their age, their size varies, and they do not
want people to get hurt. It is something that is not new. If this bill
said transgender athletes cannot compete, I do not think it would
have the support that it has. But this bill has been crafted and de-
signed for two specific purposes, to protect opportunities for
every athlete and to protect the safety of athletes.

I heard a lot of talk about science, and there has been plenty of
testimonial that has occurred with doctors who came in for hear-
ings, young athletes who are experiencing this in Pennsylvania
and from all over the country. You do not have to look far to say
this is not an issue. The high-profile issue was obviously the Uni-
versity of Pennsylvania swimmer, 6 feet 2, had not had transition
surgery, still with all the male anatomy, swimming in a female
sport. Went from ranked 400-some in his races as a male in his 3
years competing for the University of Pennsylvania, the next year
is competing as a female and is breaking records. The woman that
he defeated, who finished second, was actually one of our team
USA Olympic qualifiers. What do their opportunities mean? If
anyone had a chance to see the picture of that medal stand and
saw the pain or have heard the stories from those young ladies
about what the result of their hard work is. It is okay to say that
we need to consider the fact that we have a person who claims to
be a female swimmer, still has all their male anatomy, was com-
peting in the male division, is now all of a sudden competing in
the female space--and is in the female locker room and athletes
complained about it. It is okay for us to have that discussion and
talk about, how is this impacting the girls? It is not just the Un-
iversity of Pennsylvania. There are stories in Texas, with wrestlers
about to win their third straight State Wrestling championships;
the stories in Connecticut, with track and field titles that girls are
not getting, or opportunities, that boys are winning in the girls'
division, and it does matter. I talked about this in the Committee
on Education hearing. The fastest woman ever to walk the face of
the Earth, Flo-Jo, Florence Griffith Joyner, 1988, I believe she set
the record for 100 meters. Do you know how many thousands of
high school boys beat her time on an annual basis? It absolutely
matters.

If we look at this from the standpoint of what is best for the
health, safety, and opportunities for our female athletes while still
protecting the right of transgender individuals to compete in
sports, then it is a win for everyone. You know, it is no secret to
this Chamber--we have done, I think just a couple of weeks ago-
-how hard we are fighting to create opportunities for girls in the
sport of wrestling, to make the PIAA sanction women's wrestling,
to create more opportunities for them. But there is a process to
that. We have had to work through that process in order to create
opportunities for them. We had to hit certain benchmarks. It is
okay to care about the safety and opportunity of our girls as well.
So with that, Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to please sup-
port Senate Bill No. 1191. Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Haywood has returned,
and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request legislative leaves
for Senator Corman and Senator Regan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the
gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Kim Ward requests legis-
lative leaves for Senator Corman and Senator Regan.

Senator Costa requests a legislative leave for Senator
Brewster.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

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:

YEAS-30

Aument  DiSanto  Mastriano  Stefano
Baker    Gebhard  Mensch  Tomlinson
Bartolotta  Gordiner  Phillips-Hill  Vogel
Boscola  Hutchinson  Regan  Ward, Judy
Brooks  Langerholc  Robinson  Ward, Kim
Brownie  Laughlin  Scavello  Yudichak
Comman  Martin

NAYS-20

Brewster  Dillon  Kane  Schwank
Cappelletti  Dush  Kearney  Street
Collett  Fontana  Muth  Tartaglione
Comitta  Haywood  Santarsiero  Williams, Anthony H.
Costa  Hughes  Saval  Williams, Lindsey

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 1196** and **SB 1197** -- 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 1212 (Pr. No. 1675)** -- 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 renewal of licenses and temporary provisions for licensees in armed service and for rights of municipalities preserved.

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:

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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 1235** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**SB 1236 (Pr. No. 1678)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for extensive amendments to the very small meat processor Federal inspection reimbursement grant program.

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:

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</table>

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.

**SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

**BILL OVER IN ORDER**

**HB 1614**, **HB 1660** and **HB 1849** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REFERRED**

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 321 (Pr. No. 1679) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in entertainment production tax credit, further providing for limitations.

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 333, SB 527 and SB 718 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 721 (Pr. No. 1713) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:


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 749, SB 750, HB 773, SB 892, SB 895, SB 965, SB 1018 and HB 1041 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 1093 (Pr. No. 1685) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:


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 1103, SB 1122 and SB 1127 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1141 (Pr. No. 1486) -- 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 General Services and its departmental administrative and advisory boards and commissions, further providing for transfer authority over Lieutenant Governor's Mansion.

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 1171 (Pr. No. 1535) -- 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.

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 1175, SB 1180, SB 1182 and SB 1188 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 1199 (Pr. No. 1606) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 14, 1992 (P.L.818, No.133), known as the Port of Pittsburgh Commission Act, further providing for commission and governing body.
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 1209 and SB 1265** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

**BILL LAID ON THE TABLE**

**HB 1500 (Pr. No. 1563)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in abortion, further providing for definitions, for medical consultation and judgment and for reporting.

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

**HB 1500 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE**

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I move that House Bill No. 1500, Printer's No. 1563, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be placed on the Calendar.

**BILLS OVER IN ORDER**

**HB 1594, HB 2044, HB 2097 and HB 2419** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION**

**HB 2496 (Pr. No. 2992)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Department of Agriculture and the Governor; to grant and convey to Wyoming County, certain lands and improvements situate in the Township of Tunkhannock, Wyoming County; and authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Department of Corrections and the Governor, to grant and convey to John Bradley Wimer, certain lands, buildings and improvements situate in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS**

Senator AUMENT, from the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, reported the following nominations made by His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, which were read by the Clerk as follows:

**CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

March 29, 2022

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

In conformity with law, and specifically my duties pursuant to Section 201(b) of the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Patrick Cicero, 108 Stoner Drive, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Consumer Advocate, to serve through my tenure as Attorney General at my discretion, or until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Irwin A. Popowsky, Philadelphia, retired.

All the best,

JOSH SHAPRIO
Attorney General

**MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CRANE OPERATORS**

February 22, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Steven Kuncelman, 122 Clair Kuncelman Lane, Ebensburg 15931, Cambria County, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Crane Operators, to serve until December 8, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Daniel Haulman, Lebanon, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

March 11, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Nicole Carnicella, 758 Nilson Road, Bellefonte 16823, Centre County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

March 11, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Pedro Rivera, 1321 Quarry Lane, Lancaster 17603, Lancaster County, Thirteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until
October 1, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jay Badams, Erie, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MAJOR GENERAL,
Pennsylvania Air National Guard

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brigadier General Terrence L. Koudelka, Jr., 619 South Market Street, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Michael Regan, retired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
Pennsylvania Air National Guard

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Colonel Raymond Hyland, Jr., 700 Williamsburg Court, Cranberry Township 16066, Butler County, Twenty-first Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Mark Goodwill, retired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
Pennsylvania Air National Guard

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Colonel Richard F. McMullen, 195 McMullen Lane, Colver 15927, Cambria County, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as NGAP Assistant, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Benjamin Cason, retired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
Pennsylvania Air National Guard

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Colonel Leland D. Blanchard, 4776 Glass Mountain Way, Haymarket, Virginia, 20169, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as ARNG Special Assistant, Joint Force Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice vacant position.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MAJOR GENERAL,
Pennsylvania Army National Guard

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brigadier General Carl T. Reese, 1061 Mount Alem Drive, Hummelstown 17036, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Major General, LINE, with assignment as ARNG Special Assistant, Joint Force Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice vacant position.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MAJOR GENERAL,
Pennsylvania Army National Guard

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brigadier General Michael E. Wegscheider, 38 Mountain Mary Road, Boyertown 19512, Berks County, Twenty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as Commander, 0028 AR HQ CO STB DIV, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Major General Mark McCormack, retired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

April 27, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Joseph Zawisza, 650 Lake Front Drive, Orwigsburg 17961, Schuylkill County, Twenty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice new position created by Act 78 of 2021.

TOM WOLF
Governor

To the Honorable, the Senate
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:
SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE

December 9, 2021

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, NazAarah Sabree, 5953 Upland Way, Philadelphia 19131, Philadelphia County, Seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as Small Business Advocate, to serve until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice John Evans, Hummelstown, whose term expired and whose last day was April 23, 2021.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

March 21, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Karen Michael, 863 Rock Run Road, Rockton 15856, Clearfield County, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Transportation Commission, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Khoury, Lemont, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

NOMINATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I request that the nominations just read by the Clerk be laid on the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The nominations will be laid on the table.

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Senator AUMENT, That the Senate do now resolve itself into Executive Session for the purpose of considering nominations made by the Governor.

Which was agreed to by voice vote.

NOMINATIONS TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I call from the table certain nominations and ask for their consideration.

The Clerk read the nominations as follows:

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CRANE OPERATORS

February 22, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Steven Kuncelman, 122 Clair Kuncelman Lane, Ebensburg 15931, Cambria County, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Crane Operators, to serve until December 8, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Daniel Haulman, Lebanon, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 11, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Nicole Carnicella, 758 Nilson Road, Bellefonte 16823, Centre County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 11, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Pedro Rivera, 1321 Quarry Lane, Lancaster 17603, Lancaster County, Thirteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jay Badams, Erie, resigned.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MAJOR GENERAL,
Pennsylvania Air National Guard

March 1, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brigadier General Terrence L. Koudelka, Jr., 619 South Market Street, Elizabethtown 17022, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Major General, LINE, with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until term terminated, vice Brigadier General Michael Regan, retired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
Pennsylvania Air National Guard

March 1, 2022

To the Honorable, the Senate
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:
In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Colonel Raymond Hyland, Jr., 700 Williamsburg Court, Cranberry Township 16066, Butler County, Twenty-first Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Mark Goodwill, retired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

March 1, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Colonel Richard F. McMullen, 195 McMullen Lane, Colver 15927, Cambria County, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as NGAP Assistant, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Benjamin Cason, retired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

March 1, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Colonel Leland D. Blanchard, 4776 Glass Mountain Way, Haymarket, Virginia, 20169, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as ARNG Special Assistant, Joint Force Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice vacant position.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MAJOR GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

March 1, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brigadier General Carl T. Reese, 1061 Mount Alem Drive, Hummelstown 17036, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Major General, LINE, with assignment as ARNG Special Assistant, Joint Force Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice vacant position.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MAJOR GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

March 1, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Brigadier General Michael E. Wegscheider, 38 Mountain Mary Road, Boyertown 19512, Berks County, Twenty-fourth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Major General, LINE, with assignment as Commander, 0028 AR HQ CO STB DIV, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Major General Mark McCormack, retired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

April 27, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Joseph Zawisza, 650 Lake Front Drive, Orwigsburg 17961, Schuylkill County, Twenty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice new position created by Act 78 of 2021.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

March 21, 2022

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Karen Michael, 863 Rock Run Road, Rockton 15856, Clearfield County, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Transportation Commission, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Khoury, Lemont, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

On the question,
Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations?

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

YEA-50

Argall  Dillon  Laughlin  Schwank
Aument  DiSanto  Martin  Stefano
Baker  Dush  Mastriano  Street
Bartolotta  Flynn  Mensch  Tartaglione
Boscola  Fontana  Muth  Tomlinson
Brewster  Gebhard  Phillips-Hill  Vogel
A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted “aye,” the question was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

**NOMINATION TAKEN FROM THE TABLE**

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I call from the table a certain nomination and ask for its consideration.

The Clerk read the nomination as follows:

**CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

March 29, 2022

To the Honorable, the Senate

of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

In conformity with law, and specifically my duties pursuant to Section 201(b) of the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Patrick Cicero, 108 Stoner Drive, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Consumer Advocate, to serve through my tenure as Attorney General at my discretion, or until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Irwin A. Popowsky, Philadelphia, retired.

All the best,

JOSH SHAPRIO
Attorney General

On the question,

Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination?

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

**YEAS-39**

- Argall
- Aument
- Baker
- Bartolotta
- Boscola
- Brewster
- Brooks
- Cappelletti
- Collett
- Comitta
- Corman
- Costa
- DiSanto
- Gebhard

- Kearney
- Langerholc
- Laughlin
- Martin
- Mensch
- Mastriano
- Muth
- Phillips-Hill
- Regan
- Santarsiero
- Saval
- Schwank
- Pittman

- Stefano
- Street
- Tartaglione
- Tomlinson
- Vogel
- Ward, Judy
- Ward, Kim
- Williams, Anthony H.
- Williams, Lindsey
- Williams, Anthony H.
- Williams, Lindsey
- Wobble

**NAY-11**

- Brooks
- Browne
- Cappelletti
- Collett
- Comitta
- Corman
- Dush
- Gebhard
- Hutchinson
- Mastriano
- Pittman

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

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RISES**

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I move that the Executive Session do now rise.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.
SB 1106 (Pr. No. 1720) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act making appropriations from the Professional Licensure Augmentation Account and from restricted revenue accounts within the General Fund to the Department of Labor and Industry and the Department of Community and Economic Development to provide for the expenses of administering the Workers’ Compensation Act, The Pennsylvania Occupational Disease Act and the Office of Small Business Advocate for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

SB 1107 (Pr. No. 1721) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act making appropriations from the Workmen’s Compensation Administration Fund to the Department of Labor and Industry and the Department of Community and Economic Development to provide for the expenses of administering the Workers’ Compensation Act, The Pennsylvania Occupational Disease Act and the Office of Small Business Advocate for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

SB 1108 (Pr. No. 1722) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act making an appropriation from a restricted revenue account within the General Fund to the Office of Small Business Advocate in the Department of Community and Economic Development.

SB 1109 (Pr. No. 1445) (Rereported)

An Act making an appropriation from a restricted revenue account within the General Fund to the Office of Consumer Advocate in the Office of Attorney General.

SB 1110 (Pr. No. 1723) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act making appropriations from the Public School Employees’ Retirement Fund and from the PSERS Defined Contribution Fund to provide for expenses of the Public School Employees’ Retirement Board for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

SB 1111 (Pr. No. 1724) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act making appropriations from the State Employees’ Retirement Fund and from the SERS Defined Contribution Fund to provide for expenses of the State Employees’ Retirement Board for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

SB 1112 (Pr. No. 1725) (Amended) (Rereported)


SB 1113 (Pr. No. 1726) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act making appropriations from a restricted revenue account within the General Fund and from Federal augmentation funds to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.

SB 1114 (Pr. No. 1727) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act making appropriations from the restricted revenue accounts within the State Gaming Fund and from the restricted revenue accounts within the Fantasy Contest Fund and Video Gaming Fund to the Attorney General, the Department of Revenue, the Pennsylvania State Police and the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

SB 1222 (Pr. No. 1646) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, in insurance holding companies, further providing for definitions, for acquisition of control of or merger or consolidation with domestic insurer and for registration of insurers, providing for group capital calculation exemptions, further providing for standards and management of an insurer within an insurance holding company system, for group-wide supervision for international insurance groups and for confidential treatment and providing for compliance with group capital calculation and liquidity stress test requirements.
PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Mastroiani.

Senator MASTRIONI. Mr. President, I rise today to offer a resolution designating June 14 as National Flag Day in Pennsylvania. Flag Day is an important day to our country, as well as for any soldier, as it coincides with the birthday of the United States Army going back to June 14, 1775. Here are another few facts I would like to highlight about 14 June. It was the date the 2nd Continental Congress established our Army and appointed General George Washington as its commander, and all that happened right here in our State, down in Philadelphia. The original first 10 companies that encompassed the United States Army—then called the Continental Army—including riflemen from our own Pennsylvania, as well as Maryland and Virginia.

Two years later, on June 14, 1777, the Stars and Stripes was adopted as the official flag of the United States of America. Nowhere in our country is Flag Day more fitting to be honored, in my view, than in Pennsylvania, where our flag originated in Philadelphia in 1775; the birthplace of freedom, in 1776. Where, after great sacrifice, it flew above the cold huts at Valley Forge and the bloodstained fields of Gettysburg. All to give a new birth of freedom to set all men free. Yet, history and experience tells us that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance. When the forces of darkness threatened to swallow Europe during the First World War, our flag was carried across the battlefields of places in France, Belgium, Italy, and elsewhere, such as Soissons, Belleau Wood, Saint-Mihiel, and the Meuse-Argonne to beat back militarism.

Then, when a new face of evil swept across Europe and Asia during the Second World War, Old Glory went forth again in the hands of brave American men and women to liberate entire continents, keeping no lands for ourselves, except for those to bury our dead. Our flag went forth to defend freedom in Korea, the jungles of Vietnam, and numerous other places around the world, near and far. Many of us served during the Cold War in West Germany, during which our flag held the line against severe communism, extreme socialism, and a strong, powerful State. Men and women from across the State, nation, and world heard the call to defend freedom. Our nation’s dedication to the cause of peace, as represented by our flag during the Cold War, prevented a third world war and brought historic peace to Europe.

As the Cold War ended, many of us were ordered to the Middle East to liberate Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm, where Kuwaitis were moved to tears at seeing our flag and being freed from an oppressive tyrant in Baghdad. From Valley Forge to Gettysburg, Iraq, and Afghanistan, our flag stands as a light to the nations and as a sentinel of freedom to our land. In honor of those who served, I propose this resolution designating June 14 as National Flag Day in Pennsylvania be approved.

Thank you, Mr. President, and may every day be Flag Day. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Cappelletti.

Senator CAPPELLETTI. Mr. President, I rise today in horror, despair, utter disbelief, and anger that this Chamber, like so many others across the country, fails the people who we represent. Every day we fail to act on gun violence, we are failures at our jobs. We are failures as representatives of the people. The people who we represent are begging and pleading for action on gun violence, and that is falling on deaf ears; ears that belong to the leaders of this Chamber. As the party that controls the Calendar, voting schedule, and narrative around the Second Amendment, that failure rests squarely with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, first and foremost. Our schools, places of worship, medical centers, supermarkets, and public centers are under attack every day, and in response, our leaders ask insulting questions like, did that location have too many doors? I am done listening to politicians try to make excuses for gun violence rather than face the actual problem.

In 1988, Congress passed legislation ordering the government to ban the sale of lawn darts, a game that is blamed for the deaths of three children and injuries to thousands of others. But now in 2022, when we have guns taking the lives of thousands of children and are the leading cause of death among children and teens, all levels of government are failing to take any action. The reason we have yet to pass any of the proven solutions that will limit gun violence in our communities is that political and legislative leaders across this nation and in this Commonwealth cannot even acknowledge what the problem is. It is guns. That is the singular common thread through all of this, guns. Our lax gun laws make it too easy for people who should not have guns to access them. Guns that are being used every day across this country to commit shootings. Americans have a unique ability to access weapons that are meant for nothing but pure carnage, mass destruction, and killing. Yet, this is not how our military approaches guns. They supervise and train young members of the military how to properly use, store, and react to them. They understand the carnage that they create and are considered to be an extension of themselves when they are using them. They do not allow everyone to carry a weapon at all times, so why should we leave it up to anyone in Pennsylvania to walk into a store and walk out with a gun, not having had a universal background check? There was no waiting period and no requirement to report if that gun goes missing. As many of you know, my husband is a veteran of the Navy, and in his experience, not everyone on the nuclear aircraft carrier—which is essentially a small city, that he was stationed on—had a firearm. That made him and his colleagues feel safer. Now, he is leading a civilian life in a modern-day war zone because of the American failure to act on gun violence.

In 2018, there were more than 393 million civilian-owned firearms in the United States, or enough for every man, woman, and child to have one and still have 67 million guns left over. That was 2018, 4 years ago. That statistic has only increased over the last 4 years. It is time to face the problem and pass real, meaningful policy change that will strengthen gun safety across this Commonwealth, because this is a statewide problem, and we can save lives with statewide policy and help prevent the trauma that many face from the impact of gun violence in their communities.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington, Senator Bartolotta.

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, crime and violence can harm any community and individual regardless of age, origin,
race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or economic status. Sadly, most crime survivors do not receive the help that they need. Only 80 percent of all victims receive direct assistance from a victim service agency. This drops to 4 percent when the crime is unreported, which is the case for more than half of all violent crimes. According to the Alliance for Safety and Justice, while nearly 8 out of 10 survivors say their life had been affected by crime, fewer than 1 in 3 receive the kind of help that they would need to recover from the crime, such as financial support, medical or mental health treatment, or civil legal assistance. More than half of victims never even report the crime to law enforcement, a critical part of whether the survivor can access aid. The voices and experiences of survivors are too often ignored, leading to poor policy and justice decisions that fail to meet the needs of survivors or stop the cycle of crime.

Each year, hundreds of crime survivors across the country gather to heal together, share their stories, and advocate for change. This annual recognition is hosted by Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice. Through their experience, crime survivors are uniquely qualified to provide essential input and influence in discussions of public safety and criminal justice policy. Pennsylvania must address the immediate safety concerns facing families and invest in a long-term, comprehensive plan to address the root causes of violence. Providing for the needs of victims is an essential part of the criminal justice system. That is why I have sponsored legislation, Senate Bill No. 708, to aid in that process. All too often crime victims and survivors are forced to figure out how to advocate for themselves. It is crucial that we provide them the tools to navigate the system. We must also support trauma recovery centers, which play a critical role and resource for survivors impacted by crime. Crime survivors understand existing gaps to recovery and how to bridge them, and they want a system of justice and safety that prioritizes prevention, rehabilitation, and trauma recovery. I stand here today on June 7, which is Survivors Speak Pennsylvania day, in support of all crime victims. Together we need to invest in programs that provide help to these survivors, victims, and their families, to effectively deal with the inherent trauma and residual effects of any violence. As efforts to reform the criminal justice system grow nationwide, it has never been more important to explore approaches to safety and justice that reach all victims and meet the safety needs of communities most harmed and least helped.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Chester, Senator Comitta.

Senator COMITTA. Mr. President, I rise today to strongly urge my colleagues to support reproductive rights and reproductive healthcare in Pennsylvania. Across the nation and right here in the Commonwealth, we are facing a concerted and well-organized campaign to roll back access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion. We see it at the Federal level with efforts to overturn Roe v. Wade, which has been the law of the land for half a century. We see it in more than two dozen States that are moving to severely restrict or prevent women from making choices about their own bodies, health, and futures. Senate Bill No. 956, which is expected to come before this Chamber this week, is the latest iteration of that effort in Pennsylvania, and it is part of the same strategy to strip away fundamental rights and reproductive healthcare here in Pennsylvania.

Yes, healthcare; abortion is healthcare. Some of the very same procedures outlawed through abortion bans are not exclusively used for elective abortions. They include safe procedures for those who suffer miscarriages, safe treatment of those who experience ectopic pregnancies, safe and legal fertility treatment, safe and accessible postpartum and birthing care, and safe and effective methods of contraception. On the heels of this pandemic, should we really be limiting access to healthcare? I certainly do not think so. While our right to make choices about our own bodies is under threat—and, incidentally, there is no mention of women’s health or safety in the bill—access to safe reproductive healthcare, including abortion, benefits all Pennsylvanians and families. We know that there was already a socioeconomic gap in access to reproductive healthcare and abortion. Studies show that women who have access to reproductive healthcare and abortion have greater opportunity to pursue higher education, attain financial security, set more ambitious career goals, and raise families under better conditions.

Mr. President, if we continue to allow and accept businesses and employers to pay poverty-level wages, we are indeed sentencing the lowest earners among us to a life of poverty. While there is darkness and sadness in the nearly 16-year inaction in this Commonwealth, there is also light and hope. Hope that we can and will finally begin to lift all Pennsylvanians, and when we do the lifting, Mr. President, we must do it from the bottom. Lift from the bottom. Lift up the lowest-wage earners to bring them out of poverty and into a world where they do not have to work too 40-hour-a-week minimum wage jobs just to make ends meet. I do not want to have to wait for the Federal government to do the lifting, Mr. President; we can do it right now here in Pennsylvania. We have the resources, Mr. President, and we have the ability. Mr. President. Now all we need to do is find it in our hearts, in this Chamber, to do the right thing and finally pass the minimum wage increase so that our neighbors and fellow Pennsylvanians are not sentenced to a life of poverty. Right now Senate Bill No. 12, which I introduced in partnership with all of my Democratic colleagues, will finally put Pennsylvania on a path to $15 an hour. So, let us bring it out of committee and bring it to the floor for a vote. It can pass; it must pass for all Pennsylvanians.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator Tartaglione.

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise today because it marks 5,812 days since our Commonwealth's legislature last changed, such as putting America on a path to $15 an hour. As a supporter of the Poor People's Campaign recently said, "The minimum wage is sentencing us to poverty," and it is true.

Mr. President, if we continue to allow and accept businesses and employers to pay poverty-level wages, we are indeed sentencing the lowest earners among us to a life of poverty. While there is darkness and sadness in the nearly 16-year inaction in this Commonwealth, there is also light and hope. Hope that we can and will finally begin to lift all Pennsylvanians, and when we do the lifting, Mr. President, we must do it from the bottom. Lift from the bottom. Lift up the lowest-wage earners to bring them out of poverty and into a world where they do not have to work too 40-hour-a-week minimum wage jobs just to make ends meet. I do not want to have to wait for the Federal government to do the lifting, Mr. President; we can do it right now here in Pennsylvania. We have the resources, Mr. President, and we have the ability. Mr. President. Now all we need to do is find it in our hearts, in this Chamber, to do the right thing and finally pass the minimum wage increase so that our neighbors and fellow Pennsylvanians are not sentenced to a life of poverty. Right now Senate Bill No. 12, which I introduced in partnership with all of my Democratic colleagues, will finally put Pennsylvania on a path to $15 an hour. So, let us bring it out of committee and bring it to the floor for a vote. It can pass; it must pass for all Pennsylvanians.

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Finally, our constituents do not want us doing this anyway. As of April 2022, more than 8 out of 10 registered Pennsylvania voters think abortion should be legal either in all circumstances or under certain circumstances. Recent polling shows that 75 percent of Americans believe that decisions about abortion should be left to a woman and her doctor, not to lawmakers. The bottom line is, there are plenty of actions this Chamber can and should take up, restricting access to reproductive healthcare and abortion is not one of them. We should not be encroaching into decisions between women and their doctors. We should not be trying to impose our beliefs or our faiths on others. We should not be trying to roll our laws back 50 years. It is wrong. It is hurtful. Let us be on the right side of reproductive justice, public opinion, and history. Instead of restricting healthcare for women, let us work together to expand access, as we are doing with Opt in PA. We need more healthcare, not less. We need more access and coverage options, not less. I ask for a "no" vote on Senate Bill No. 956 when it comes before this Chamber. Thank you.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa.

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I think it is no surprise to our colleagues that it is abundantly clear that we have a violence epidemic in our Commonwealth and in our country. Everyone sees it, we certainly feel it, and we can see the reality of it every night on TV news. Mr. President, I think we also recognize that there is not just one solution. This is a multifaceted problem that requires a wide range of policy and appropriation options, so we must work together and lead in this Chamber in a bipartisan fashion to address many of them. As we have unfortunately seen over the past months, there are many drivers, factors, and causes of this violence, and in each case they are different. In Buffalo, the driving force was racism and hate. In Uvalde, I think it is safe to say that the shooter was experiencing a mental health crisis. In Philadelphia, this past weekend, with the shootings that occurred there, it is clear to me that it was a case of community violence that has become all too common in our cities and in our neighborhoods.

Mr. President, we also see it frequently with respect to the number of suicides that we are seeing in this Commonwealth and in this country, particularly in our young adults and veterans who we lose each day. Mr. President, the common element in all of this is firearms. Many of these tragic events that have occurred would not be possible if access to guns—assault weapons in particular—were not so easily and readily available to folks.

So, throughout the remainder of this month, the month of June, over the course of this week and the next 3 weeks, Senate Democrats will be rising and taking time to talk about the complicated nature of the violence that is taking place in our country and in our communities and discussing many of the areas and avenues that we have available to us to address those; to bring as best we can and play our part—stand up and have the courage to play our part—in eradicating this violence. Some of the things that we believe we need to do at this moment in time, in this legislature, in this Senate, is to make it harder to get access to weapons. We do that by implementing a reasonable and responsible universal background check system. We also can do that by improving and making longer our waiting periods. We can also look to do the red flag legislation, which provides a backstop when a person who has a weapon is having a mental health crisis or is a risk to themselves or to others as well. We can also look to the lost and stolen legislation that we have talked about. These are just some of the things that Senate Democrats believe can be done now. To that end, later today I will be introducing discharge petitions on many of these issues to force a conversation, force a dialogue in the Committee on Judiciary and on this floor so that we have the opportunity to vote on these measures.

Mr. President, we know that these reasonable and responsible gun reform measures are not the only thing that needs to be done. Certainly, in the mental health space, the red flag laws are going to be important, but we also know that we need to provide better access and care at the community level with respect to mental health and behavioral health programs that are available, but also in our schools as well. I think there is a consensus in this Chamber, based upon what I have read from many Members in this Chamber, of what we need to do, and we agree. We need to make these investments, and what is important to recognize is that we have the resources now, today, tomorrow, next week, and the following week to make these investments. There are a number of things that we can do by investing in these programs. These are the programs that already exist in our General Fund Budget. These are the programs that are essential to us to make certain that we bring more people into this profession, for example, and to make sure, most importantly, that we have equitable access to these programs, so everyone in this Commonwealth who needs the help is able to get the help and the resources they need along those lines. I cannot stress enough how important it is that we do not reinvent the wheel, and what we are proposing is not reinventing the wheel. We have the programs in place that have served many Commonwealth residents, and we need to continue to expand upon them. But I would be remiss if I did not bring it up, again, that we have the resources—we have to have the will to act. It is one thing to say that we think we need to address mental health and behavioral health issues, but it is a second thing to be able to stand up and say we need to do it and we are going to put our money where our mouth is. We have the opportunity to do that. As it relates to investments in our schools, we put together a tremendous school safety program that allows for our—this Caucus led the effort to ensure that we have behavioral specialists, school psychiatrists, counselors, social workers, and, as I mentioned, behavioral health support. We are eligible for those grants through the School Safety and Security Committee. Mr. President, it is my understanding that a large number of those school districts now are accessing those dollars for that particular purpose, but there is much more we can do. We have to utilize that particular program and add more resources to that program, specifically targeted for that particular purpose through that program. That is something we can and should do. Again, we have the resources to be able to do it. Beyond that, as it relates to community mental health programs, our counties, in particular, and local governments have these programs in place at various levels, and we have to ensure that we take the time to make those investments there as well. That would be the second prong. The community and school district help as it relates to behavioral health services that are essential to put into place.

The third element that we think is essential in this 4-week effort relates to our community violence programs. Again, we have taken steps over the course of the past couple of years to put resources into the community to allow access to resources in the
community level--the very street district level--to be able to have folks work along those lines. Again, there is more work that needs to be done in that space, and we need to provide more resources. The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency has put together the opportunity to be able to drive those resources out. It is imperative that we continue to provide these resources along those lines.

The fourth pillar, Mr. President, relates to hate crimes. As I mentioned to you, the Buffalo incident was driven by hate. The incident in my community in Squirrel Hill, Tree of Life synagogue, was clearly hate. There is no question, as you look around the country, that some of the shootings that we see, and are going to hear about the next several days, will all be related to hate crimes. We have to take steps to address that. We have advanced a number of proposals that have sat in committee and have not been addressed for a couple of years now. It is disappointing that we cannot get our colleagues to be able to move or advance any of these measures when we see very clearly what motivates some of these things. There is no question that some of the hate that is related to this is speech that is clearly through our internet and social media. We do not have an opportunity, to the degree we should, to be able to understand where these groups are at, who they are talking to, and how they are communicating. I read an article this morning, I know it is a couple of years old, but it indicated that the city of Pittsburgh, a wonderful city, is a place where some of the largest growth of this type of hate speech and hate speech groups are assembling. That is frightening to me, and it should be frightening to all of us. As we go forward, we have to take steps to address that.

When you look at the statistics, the rise in hate crimes across this country, in 2020 was the highest year ever. While we have not seen all 2021 statistics, we know that 2021, based upon the preliminary numbers, is greater than 2020, and I stand here today and tell you that there is no doubt that 2022 is going to be even greater than that. That demonstrates that we have an issue that we need to address. We have a series of bills that we have introduced that I believe will address some of that. Giving the Attorney General the ability to gather information about these hate groups; give the Attorney General concurrent jurisdiction to some of these matters to be able to make those investigations, share that information with local governments, as well as punishing those men and women who commit these hate crimes. I am not talking about the ones that are the more serious ones, like the one we experienced in Pittsburgh or like Buffalo experienced recently, rather those incidents that happen every day in our communities where hate is the reason why someone is attacked or discriminated against. We have to stop that as well, punish that, and get folks to understand the nature of the culture of the person who is being attacked, have the offender be able to understand some of that, and put punishments in place that addresses that. Those are the types of things that we need to do. They are reasonable, they are not invading on anyone's rights. Any of the things we are talking about are not invading anyone's rights. That is what we need to try to address. But the important message for us today is that we in this Chamber have the opportunity, means, and resources to act, and act now. The failure to do anything over the course of the next several weeks, in my view, would be a dereliction of our duties as Members. To me, to think that we can have a serious conversation about gun reform measures that are reasonable and responsible as one pillar; then also looking at behavioral health, community health, and mental health programs in our schools; and looking at hate crimes and community violence. These are four areas that we can talk about and be able to advance legislation. We know the public wants us to talk about it. Anywhere you read, any number, any study, anybody you talk to, any focus group, they are concerned about each of these four things. We should have an obligation to be able to do something. And the fact of the matter is, Members from this side of the aisle can stand up and talk about it all we want, but if we do not get all of you to participate, if we cannot get all of you on the other side of the aisle to act, then what are we doing here? To continuously turn our heads to what is taking place in Pennsylvania, the community violence in Center City Philadelphia and Pittsburgh--we are seeing it as well in so many other parts of this Commonwealth.

When we look at the horrific events that took place in Squirrel Hill at the Tree of Life, the automatic weapons and hate speech along those lines, we have not done anything at all about any of these things. We all stand up, feel sorry for everybody, say prayers, and we do moments of silence, but we do not do anything. Let us be clear, it is shameful that we are not able to move things forward. That ability to move these measures forward only rests with one group of folks: you all. Republicans have the opportunity to advance these measures. We call upon you, we plead with you, and we beg you to look to these four areas to work with us on over the course of the next couple of weeks. There is no excuse about why we cannot do a significant amount of resources into school and community violence; there is no reason why we cannot address hate crimes; there is no reason why we cannot talk about the gun reform measures that the public supports. We are not going to eradicate all the violence. We recognize that. But we can do our part in honoring our oath to the people who we serve here by making sure that we address these matters. Let me be clear, we cannot do it alone. We need your help, support, willingness, courage, and will to be able to address these issues, but without that, these things do not get done. When we leave here at the end of this month and some of these things do not get done--if all these things do not get done--trust me, folks will know who is responsible for not addressing these very reasonable and responsible measures that are before us today, that can be done.

I ask my colleagues to join me in what we are trying to do. Support our discharge resolutions when they come to the floor tomorrow and be able to vote them, maybe, on Monday. Support the measures as it relates to--tomorrow we can do, or next week we can drive out--we have run legislation through here in 6 days or 5 days or whatever the case may be. We should do that with the funding for mental health across this Commonwealth and with community violence. Those are two appropriation matters that there is no question we can get done because we have the resources. We can do two things: we can make a special designation with the ARP money until December 2024, and we can also increase our budget line items to be able to achieve that because we have the resources in both places. Resources are not an excuse; they should not be an excuse. We need to move forward. I am asking my colleagues to join us along those lines.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.
DISCHARGE RESOLUTIONS

Senator COSTA, on behalf of Senator HUGHES, offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, June 7, 2022

A RESOLUTION

Discharging Committee on Judiciary from further consideration of Senate Bill No. 88, Printer's No. 62.

RESOLVED, That Senate Bill No. 88, Printers No. 62, having been referred to the Committee on Judiciary on January 22, 2021, and the committee not having reported the same to the Senate for a period of more than 10 legislative days, the committee be discharged from further consideration thereof.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will appear on the calendar.

Senator COSTA, on behalf of Senator FONTANA, offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, June 7, 2022

A RESOLUTION

Discharging Committee on Judiciary from further consideration of Senate Bill No. 134, Printer's No. 107.

RESOLVED, That Senate Bill No. 134, Printers No. 107, having been referred to the Committee on Judiciary on January 27, 2021, and the committee not having reported the same to the Senate for a period of more than 10 legislative days, the committee be discharged from further consideration thereof.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will appear on the calendar.

Senator COSTA, on behalf of Senator TARTAGLIONE, offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, June 7, 2022

A RESOLUTION

Discharging Committee on Judiciary from further consideration of Senate Bill No. 217, Printer's No. 188.

RESOLVED, That Senate Bill No. 217, Printers No. 188, having been referred to the Committee on Judiciary on February 11, 2021, and the committee not having reported the same to the Senate for a period of more than 10 legislative days, the committee be discharged from further consideration thereof.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will appear on the calendar.

Senator COSTA, on behalf of Senator SANTARSIERO, offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, June 7, 2022

A RESOLUTION

Discharging Committee on Judiciary from further consideration of Senate Bill No. 581, Printer's No. 626.

RESOLVED, That Senate Bill No. 581, Printers No. 626, having been referred to the Committee on Judiciary on April 20, 2021, and the committee not having reported the same to the Senate for a period of more than 10 legislative days, the committee be discharged from further consideration thereof.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will appear on the calendar.

Senator COSTA, on behalf of Senator SANTARSIERO, offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, June 7, 2022

A RESOLUTION

Discharging Committee on Judiciary from further consideration of Senate Bill No. 582, Printer's No. 627.

RESOLVED, That Senate Bill No. 582, Printers No. 627, having been referred to the Committee on Judiciary on April 20, 2021, and the committee not having reported the same to the Senate for a period of more than 10 legislative days, the committee be discharged from further consideration thereof.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will appear on the calendar.

Senator COSTA, on behalf of Senator CAPPELLETTI, offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, June 7, 2022

A RESOLUTION

Discharging Committee on Judiciary from further consideration of Senate Bill No. 761, Printer's No. 957.

RESOLVED, That Senate Bill No. 761, Printers No. 957, having been referred to the Committee on Judiciary on June 24, 2021, and the committee not having reported the same to the Senate for a period of more than 10 legislative days, the committee be discharged from further consideration thereof.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will appear on the Calendar.

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

June 7, 2022

Senators MARTIN, YAW, BROWNE, MENSCH, COSTA, COMITTA, FONTANA, BARTOLOTTA and PITTMAN presented to the Chair SR 307, entitled:
A Resolution designating the week of June 5 through 11, 2022, as "Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, June 7, 2022.

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:

June 7, 2022

HB 1155 -- Committee on Aging and Youth.
HB 1958 -- Committee on Transportation.
HB 2485 -- Committee on State Government.
HB 2585 -- Committee on Banking and Insurance.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Venango, Senator Hutchinson.

Senator HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 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 6:05 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.