

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023

SESSION OF 2023 207TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 13

SENATE

TUESDAY, March 7, 2023

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

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Austin A. Davis) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend BEN CARTHEW, of Flood City Church, Johnstown, offered the following prayer:

Good morning.

If you would bow your head in prayer with me.

Lord, I want to say thank You for every man and woman in this building for the sacrifices and dedication they have given to the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I just pray a blessing over their bodies and minds as they would go into these Sessions today, that they make the best decisions for our State and our community. And, Lord, I want to lift up the families and loved ones of our Senators and Congressmen, because we know that these jobs could put them in the media and the eyes of the public. We just pray for protection and peace over the families and loved ones of our Senators. Lord, I just pray as we go into these Sessions today, that You are present in these meetings, that Your guidance is heard and followed by these amazing people in this building. I pray for unity in these decisions that will be made today and in this week, and for a renewed unity in the State and nation. I pray Your voice is heard and Your heart is seen as these things are voted on and put into action in this room. Thank You for Your everlasting love, guidance, and direction. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Pastor Carthew, who is the guest today of Senator Langerholc.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE GOVERNOR

**CORRECTION TO NOMINATION
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

The PRESIDENT 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 VEHICLE
MANUFACTURERS, DEALERS AND SALESPERSONS

March 7, 2023

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

Please note that the letter dated February 28, 2023, for the nomination of Addie Abelson, Esquire (Public Member), 2111 Brandywine Street, Philadelphia 19130, Philadelphia County, Third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Vehicle Manufacturers, Dealers and Salespersons, 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 James Minor, Greensboro, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Addie Abelson, Esquire (Public Member), 158 Erford Road, Apartment 404, Camp Hill 17011, Cumberland County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Vehicle Manufacturers, Dealers and Salespersons, 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 James Minor, Greensboro, whose term expired.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

March 6, 2023

Senators BROOKS, LAUGHLIN, ROTHMAN, PHILLIPS-HILL, HUTCHINSON, COSTA, ARGALL, PENNYCUICK and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SB 504**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 40 (Insurance) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in regulation of insurers and related persons generally, providing for association health plans.

Which was committed to the Committee on BANKING AND INSURANCE, March 6, 2023.

Senators MASTRIANO and COSTA presented to the Chair **SB 508**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Train Derailment Emergency Grant Program and the Train Derailment Emergency Grant Fund.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, March 6, 2023.

RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

March 6, 2023

Senators MASTRIANO, MARTIN, LANGERHOLC, LAUGHLIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, BARTOLOTTA, DILLON, SCHWANK, DUSH, COSTA and AUMENT presented to the Chair **SR 57**, entitled:

A Resolution designating March 13, 2023, as "K9 Veterans and Services Day" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 6, 2023.

Senators MASTRIANO, AUMENT, COSTA, DILLON, DUSH, HUTCHINSON, LAUGHLIN, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SR 58**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing March 30, 2023, as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 6, 2023.

Senator CULVER presented to the Chair **SR 60**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of February 20 through February 26, 2023, as "Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant Week" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 6, 2023.

Senators BROWN, KEARNEY, BROOKS, CAPPELLETTI, SCHWANK, HAYWOOD, HUGHES, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, HUTCHINSON, COMITTA, KANE, TARTAGLIONE, DUSH, STREET, BREWSTER, COSTA, VOGEL, CULVER and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SR 61**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of April 9 through 15, 2023, as "Local Government Week" and April 12, 2023, as "Local Government Day" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, March 6, 2023.

GENERAL COMMUNICATION**FY 2022 QUARTERLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT
FOR PROCUREMENT DEPUTATE**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Department of General Services
5th Floor, North Office Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

March 6, 2023

To the General Assembly
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: DGS Procurement Deputate Quarterly Legislative Report - FY22
2nd Quarter

The attached Procurement Deputate Quarterly Legislative Report for Q2 FY2022 has been approved for distribution to the members of the General Assembly through the Bureau of Publications.

We appreciate your attention to this report and please let us know if you or the members of the General Assembly have any questions.

Thank you,

Eryn Spangler
Legislative Director

The PRESIDENT. This report will be filed in the Library.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana, Senator PITTMAN.

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, no leaves.

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

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

The PRESIDENT. Senator Costa requests a legislative leave for Senator Cappelletti. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**WEEKLY RECESS**

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

In the Senate, March 7, 2023

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, April 24, 2023, unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore; and be it further

RESOLVED, Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the House of Representatives recesses this week, it reconvene the week of Monday, April 24, 2023, 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 PITTMAN and were as follows, viz:

YEA-50

Argall	Culver	Langerholc	Santarsiero
Aument	Dillon	Laughlin	Saval
Baker	DiSanto	Martin	Schwank
Bartolotta	Dush	Mastriano	Stefano
Boscola	Farry	Miller	Street
Brewster	Flynn	Muth	Tartaglione
Brooks	Fontana	Pennycuick	Vogel
Brown	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Cappelletti	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kane	Rothman	Yaw
Costa	Kearney		

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.

JOINT SESSION

Senator PITTMAN, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution, which was read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

In the Senate, March 7, 2023

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Senate and House of Representatives meet in a Joint Session today, March 7, 2023, at 11:30 AM, in the Hall of the House of Representatives for the purpose of hearing an address by His Excellency, Governor Josh Shapiro; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a committee of three, on the part of the Senate, be appointed to act with a similar committee on the part of the House of Representatives, to escort His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Hall of the House of Representatives.

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

PERMISSION TO ADDRESS

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise to announce that as of Monday, March 6, at 4:53 p.m., our Senate family is officially a little bit bigger. It is my pleasure to tell you that Senator Cappelletti delivered a beautiful baby girl. Her name is Taglia May McQuiston. Senator Cappelletti, the baby, and her husband, Greg, are all doing well and enjoying their family of three. I know that you will all join me in sending a good round of applause to Senator Cappelletti.

[Applause.]

Senator TARTAGLIONE. She is the first woman ever to deliver a baby in this Chamber.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana, Senator Pittman.

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I would simply like to echo the congratulations on behalf of the Senate Republican Caucus to the gentlewoman from Montgomery County. Certainly, wish her

and her entire family the very best and are very happy to see that the Senate family continues to grow.

Thank you, Mr. President.

GUESTS OF SENATOR WAYNE LANGERHOLC PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cambria, Senator Langerholc.

Senator LANGERHOLC. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce and thank our guest Chaplain, Pastor Ben Carthew, from Flood City Church in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Pastor Carthew and his wife, Taylor, serve as Family Ministry Leaders at Flood City Church, where they joined the staff in 2020. Pastor Carthew regularly meets with Flood City students on Sunday nights to worship and discuss current challenges facing students today. Your holy service to the Lord touches hearts and inspires many, and we are blessed by the work that you do and the difference that you make. The early Sunday mornings; the middle-of-the-night calls; the wise counsel and sage advice; patience and sacrifice, for that, we say thank you. Pastor Carthew is joined here today by Pastor Johnny Bayush, who is no stranger to this Chamber. You may remember him as our guest Chaplain from May of last year. And again, Mr. President, I wish to introduce our guest Chaplain, Pastor Ben Carthew, thank him for being here today, and ask for our warm customary Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Langerholc please rise and be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR CAROLYN T. COMITTA PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator COMITTA. Mr. President, it is my delight and honor to welcome and introduce my sister, Melissa Sinclair Turner, and her partner, Jim Mulford, who are sitting in the gallery with us right now. They just had a tour of this beautiful Capitol. They are going to watch the Governor's Budget Address from my office. We are going to have a tour of the Lieutenant Governor's Office, and it makes me very, very happy to welcome my sister and her partner to the Senate today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Comitta please rise and be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ESCORT THE GOVERNOR TO THE HALL OF THE HOUSE

The PRESIDENT. The time has come in our order of business to assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives for a Joint Session.

The President pro tempore has appointed the following Senators to act as a committee on the part of the Senate to escort the Governor to the Joint Session: the gentlewoman from Montgomery County, Senator Pennycuick, Chair; the gentlewoman from Northumberland County, Senator Culver; and the gentleman from Montgomery County, Senator Haywood. The committee will leave immediately to discharge its duties.

REQUEST FOR RECESS

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

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, for the information of the Members, Senate Republicans will caucus at approximately 2 p.m., following the Joint Session. We plan to return to the floor immediately following caucus.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, Senate Democrats will caucus at 1:30 p.m. and then be prepared to come to the floor at that point in time after the Republican caucus; roughly 3 o'clock or so.

**SENATE PROCEEDS TO HOUSE
TO HEAR GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE**

The PRESIDENT. The Members of the Senate will please form a line in the center aisle immediately behind the Sergeant-at-Arms in order that we may proceed to the Joint Session.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair now declares a recess of the Senate.

AFTER RECESS

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

RECESS

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

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Aging and Youth immediately in the Rules room.

The PRESIDENT. For the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Aging and Youth to be held off the floor in the Rules room immediately, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill) in the Chair.

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana, Senator Pittman.

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Gebhard and Senator Laughlin, and a legislative leave for Senator Brooks.

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

Senator COSTA. Madam President, we have no further leaves.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Gebhard and Senator Laughlin, and a legislative leave for Senator Brooks. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

CALENDAR**THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR****BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

SB 144 (Pr. No. 390) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth services, providing for fire-fighting foam management.

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

Senator COLLETT. Madam President, I rise today to offer comments on Senate Bill No. 144. As many of you know, the 12th Senatorial District is home to several former and active military bases that use large quantities of firefighting foams containing dangerous polyfluoroalkyl substances, PFAS, in regular training exercises for decades. These chemicals contaminated the groundwater, wells, and drinking water of hundreds of thousands of past and current residents of my district, as well as that of the hard-working, patriotic military and civilian employees who worked on these bases. We know that long-term exposure to such chemicals has been shown to cause various negative health effects, including infertility, high cholesterol, and certain types of cancers. Of course, military bases are not the only places where these firefighting foams are used. These foams have been and continue to be used for training purposes at airports and fire training facilities, as well as active fire sites across the Commonwealth and beyond. By restricting and regulating the use of these firefighting foams in testing and training going forward and requiring warning labels on firefighting PPE, Senate Bill No. 144 will keep some amount of these dangerous chemicals from further contaminating our Commonwealth and offer some degree of comfort, protection, and transparency to our first responders and citizens.

Unfortunately, Senate Bill No. 144 does not limit these chemicals in other circumstances, and in fact, continues to allow PFAS-containing foams to be used in training if the training facility has implemented quote, unquote, appropriate containment, treatment, and disposal measures to prevent their uncontrolled release into the environment, something left undefined at a moment when clarity is needed most. I know from our experience in the 12th Senatorial District that those effective measures may not yet exist, though I am hopeful we can provide further clarity for the public prior to getting this to the Governor. And while I applaud Senate Bill No. 144 for attempting to limit, to some modest degree, our future exposure to PFAS chemicals and urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on it for that reason, I want to be clear that this bill does not address the more pressing problems faced by Pennsylvanians whose communities have already been contaminated; how to remove these chemicals from our environment,

especially our drinking water; how to prevent and treat health conditions caused by exposure; and how to make sure the polluters foot the bills.

While I am encouraged that Pennsylvania has finally set enforceable maximum contaminant levels for two of the most dangerous of these chemicals--PFOA and PFOS--and the Federal government is in the process of doing so, these plainly hazardous chemicals are still not classified as such under Pennsylvania's Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act. This oversight has already prevented my constituents from getting their day in court against the polluters who have impacted their health and their communities. After visiting Beaver County last week and listening to the heart-wrenching stories of Pennsylvanians impacted by last month's train derailment in East Palestine, I do not want to see them or anyone else suffer the same fate. It is imperative that we act now to classify PFAS chemicals used in firefighting foams as hazardous substances under HSCA, so that Pennsylvanians can hold polluters accountable in court. That is why I am reintroducing my bill from last Session, the Pennsylvania PFAS classification and cleanup, and urge you to sign on and bring it up for a vote so that suffering communities finally have the tools they need to seek relief.

Thank you, Madam President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana, Senator Pittman.

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Kim Ward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Kim Ward. Without objection, the leave 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:

YEA-36

Argall	Collett	Haywood	Pittman
Aument	Culver	Hutchinson	Regan
Baker	Dillon	Langerholc	Robinson
Bartolotta	DiSanto	Laughlin	Rothman
Boscola	Dush	Martin	Stefano
Brewster	Farry	Mastriano	Vogel
Brooks	Flynn	Miller	Ward, Judy
Brown	Fontana	Pennycuick	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Yaw

NAY-14

Cappelletti	Kane	Saval	Tartaglione
Comitta	Kearney	Schwank	Williams, Anthony H.
Costa	Muth	Street	Williams, Lindsey
Hughes	Santarsiero		

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

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

SB 154 (Pr. No. 126) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8654, carrying State Route 3035 over the Little Conemaugh River in East Taylor Township, Cambria County, as the East Taylor Township Veterans Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 43558, carrying U.S. Route 22 over a tributary of Hinckston Run in Jackson Township, Cambria County, as the Officer Matthew Krupa Memorial Bridge; and designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 55994, carrying State Route 4002 over California Run in Cambria Township, Cambria County, as the Senior Chief Stanley "Stush" Kubat, Jr., Memorial Bridge.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cambria, Senator Langerholc.

Senator LANGERHOLC. Madam President, I rise to ask for support for Senate Bill No. 154. Senate Bill No. 154 dedicates three bridges across Cambria County. The first bridge is in honor of all of the veterans of East Taylor Township for their bravery, heroism, and sacrifice in protecting freedom and liberty, both at home and abroad. The second bridge is in honor of Nanty Glo native, Officer Matthew Krupa. Officer Krupa was born in July of 1993, graduated from Central Cambria High School, and sought out to live his dream of becoming a K-9 officer. He graduated from the police academy and served as a police officer for Portage Borough, Ferndale Borough, Saint Francis University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and Conemaugh hospital. He then moved to San Antonio, Texas, where he was employed with the Gonzales County Sheriff's Office and with the San Antonio Independent School District Police Department. Tragically, on February 4, 2021, Officer Krupa was killed in the line of duty. The third bridge honors Senior Chief Stanley Kubat, Jr. Senior Chief Kubat was born in June 1973 in Johnstown, served our country honorably for 23 years in the United States Navy, and was awarded a Bronze Star for his service.

Thank you, Madam President. I would ask for support of Senate Bill No. 154.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Argall	Culver	Langerholc	Santarsiero
Aument	Dillon	Laughlin	Saval
Baker	DiSanto	Martin	Schwank
Bartolotta	Dush	Mastriano	Stefano
Boscola	Farry	Miller	Street
Brewster	Flynn	Muth	Tartaglione
Brooks	Fontana	Pennycuick	Vogel
Brown	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Cappelletti	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kane	Rothman	Yaw
Costa	Kearney		

NAY-0

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

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

SB 298 (Pr. No. 382) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in equipment standards, further providing for unlawful activities; in other required equipment, further providing for restraint systems; and abrogating regulations.

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

Senator ROBINSON. Madam President, I rise today, thrilled to encourage the support of my colleagues for Senate Bill No. 298, which allows doorless driving for vehicles like Jeeps and Broncos in Pennsylvania. Currently, it is illegal to drive on Pennsylvania roadways without doors, the very State that invented the Jeep. In fact, Pennsylvania is the only State in the United States where this is still prohibited. This was brought to my attention by some of my constituents who are part of the Jeep--and now Bronco--communities. They wondered if I and our Pennsylvania Legislature could do something so that they and others here in Pennsylvania can enjoy the same freedoms that every other State provides. This is how government is supposed to work, Madam President: constituents bringing good ideas to us here in Harrisburg. And I am grateful to have these fruitful dialogues with the folks back in Allegheny County that will benefit the entire Commonwealth. I worked closely with stakeholders on crafting this to adhere to the logistical and safety standards important to our residents and law enforcement, and I thank everyone who provided their input to make this bill possible. Please join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation to bring more independence and enjoyment to so many who drive on Pennsylvania roadways.

Thank you, Madam President, and I encourage an affirmative vote.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Argall	Culver	Langerholc	Santarsiero
Aument	Dillon	Laughlin	Saval
Baker	DiSanto	Martin	Schwank
Bartolotta	Dush	Mastriano	Stefano
Boscola	Farry	Miller	Street
Brewster	Flynn	Muth	Tartaglione

Brooks	Fontana	Pennycuik	Vogel
Brown	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Cappelletti	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kane	Rothman	Yaw
Costa	Kearney		

NAY-0

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

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

SB 443 (Pr. No. 377) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 46706, carrying State Route 4001, also known as Iverson Road, over Stevens Run in Blacklick Township, Cambria County, as the PVT Donald D. Marsh Memorial Bridge.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cambria, Senator Langerholc.

Senator LANGERHOLC. Madam President, I rise to ask for support for Senate Bill No. 443. Senate Bill No. 443 dedicates a bridge in Blacklick Township, Cambria County, as the Private Donald D. Marsh Memorial Bridge. Private Marsh was born on April 5, 1924, and attended Blacklick Township High School. On November 8, 1943, Private Marsh joined the United States Army. Tragically, on October 31, 1944, Private Marsh was killed in action during conflict with Axis forces in France. He was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously for his service to our nation. Madam President, I would ask for an affirmative vote. Thank you.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Argall	Culver	Langerholc	Santarsiero
Aument	Dillon	Laughlin	Saval
Baker	DiSanto	Martin	Schwank
Bartolotta	Dush	Mastriano	Stefano
Boscola	Farry	Miller	Street
Brewster	Flynn	Muth	Tartaglione
Brooks	Fontana	Pennycuik	Vogel
Brown	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Cappelletti	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kane	Rothman	Yaw
Costa	Kearney		

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.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 143 (Pr. No. 388) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 169 and **SB 170** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 232 (Pr. No. 146) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in school health services, further providing for health services.

Considered the second time and agreed to,
Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for third consideration.
Upon motion of Senator PITTMAN, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 267 and **SB 297** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 371 (Pr. No. 314) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 22, 1978 (P.L.1166, No.274), referred to as the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Law, providing for Indigent Defense Advisory Committee; and establishing the Indigent Defense Grant Program.

Considered the second time and agreed to,
Ordered, To be printed on the Calendar for third consideration.
Upon motion of Senator PITTMAN, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 379 (Pr. No. 272) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the prohibition of unauthorized applications.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 446, SB 453 and **SB 459** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator J. WARD, from the Committee on Aging and Youth, reported the following bills:

SB 137 (Pr. No. 397) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of December 4, 1996 (P.L.911, No.147), known as the Telemarketer Registration Act, further providing for unwanted telephone solicitation calls prohibited.

SB 167 (Pr. No. 157)

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in children and youth, providing for purpose.

SB 168 (Pr. No. 158)

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in children and youth, further providing for payments to counties for services to children and for review of county submissions.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

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

SB 137, SB 167 and **SB 168**.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

9:00 A.M.	VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (public hearing on the Train Derailment on the Ohio/Pennsylvania border; to consider Senate Bills No. 433 and 508; Senate Resolution No. 59; and motion(s) for the issuance of subpoena(s) for documentation in relation to the Train Derailment on the Ohio/Pennsylvania border)	Hearing Room 1 North Office (LIVE STREAMED)
9:30 A.M.	URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (to consider Senate Bills No. 149, 202, 295 and 466; and Senate Resolution No. 45)	Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
10:00 A.M.	INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 188 and 190)	Room 461 Main Capitol
10:00 A.M.	LABOR AND INDUSTRY (to consider Senate Bills No. 226, 239 and 359)	Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 126, 162 and 211)	Rules Committee Conference Room
Off the Floor	RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider certain Executive Nominations)	Rules Committee Conference Room

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

1:00 P.M.	TRANSPORTATION (public hearing to collect testimony on "Charging Electric Vehicles")	Univ. of Pitt. Alumni Hall Room 121 4227 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh
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MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023

1:00 P.M.	COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY (public hearing on cyber security for cloud-based government applications)	Room 8E-B East Wing
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

1:30 P.M.	EDUCATION (public hearing on K-12 school budgeting and fund balances)	Hearing Room 1 North Office
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PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator COMITTA. Madam President, I rise today to speak on my resolution designating the month of March 2023 as Music in Our Schools Month, Theater in Our Schools Month, Dance in Our Schools Month, and Youth Art Month in Pennsylvania. All month, the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association is welcoming school choirs and musical ensembles from across the Commonwealth to perform in Harrisburg as part of the celebration. But I also want to highlight the importance of theater, dance, and art education. Access to these programs is a vital part of the educational experience for students across Pennsylvania. They offer a healthy outlet for young people to express themselves, to interpret the world around them, and to relate to one another, and they positively impact student success and academic achievement. Studies show that students who took 4 years of art classes

in high school scored an average of 92 points higher on their SATs than their peers. Students with high levels of arts involvement are less likely to drop out of school. Engagement in the arts in education has a positive impact on student discipline, test scores, and raises compassion and empathy for others. Lastly, we are learning more and more about the transformative physical and mental health benefits of art in our lives. Neuroaesthetics is an innovative, new area of neuroscience that studies how our brains contemplate, interpret, respond, and perceive art, music, dance, and more. It has the potential to tell us much more about the importance of creative pursuits and creative expression when it comes to brain health and function. The bottom line is music, theater, dance, and art are much more than just hobbies. They have real benefits to our physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being. And that is all the more reason why we must continue to support and promote these programs in our schools. Thank you, and I hope that you will join me in support of Senate Resolution No. 38, designating March as Art, Music, Theater, and Dance in Our Schools Month. Thank you.

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Madam President, I rise today to speak about Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Day [sic], which is designated for March 29. On January 23, 1972 [1973], President Nixon spoke to the nation saying: "today we [we today] have concluded an agreement to end the war and bring peace with honor in Vietnam and in Southeast Asia." Peace with honor. That sort of honor was not felt by our veterans who came home to an ungrateful nation, who were mistreated and abused and called names and felt unappreciated. And even to this day when Vietnam veterans are thanked for their service, many of them break down in tears. It is a deep wound as they reflect upon their friends who they left behind. Vietnam was a conflict without a clean resolution, unlike the First and Second World Wars. For the men and women who served there, this was a hard thing, and for their families. Fifteen years of American involvement in Southeast Asia, in a way, marked the end of idealism and innocence of our nation. This was not a conventional war in any sense. Americans were strangers in a strange land where it was difficult to tell friend from foe. All it took was one mistake or one moment of carelessness, and the consequences could be fatal. More than 304,000 American service members were wounded in Vietnam, and of the 58,193 service members who gave the last full measure of devotion, 3,144 were Pennsylvanians: one of the highest in the nation. Of course, what made it worse for the veterans beyond the scars of war was the way that the conflict ended. Those of us alive back in 1975 remember the images of Saigon and the American embassy, of thousands of Vietnamese allies trying to escape, the boat people; America-made helicopters flown by South Vietnamese crashing on the decks of our aircraft carriers; the desperation, the hopelessness. Many of the veterans wondered if it was worth it, not unlike what we experienced with Afghanistan not that long ago. But that said, March 29 is a historic day. It marks the very date that the last of our U.S. troops departed Vietnam. While statues, parades, and honors were bestowed upon our veterans in the First and Second World Wars, this was not the case for our veterans who served in the jungles of Southeast Asia. They came home to a divided nation and received little gratitude, and in some cases, outright animosity as a reward for their sacrifice and

service. Therefore, it is appropriate that the Senate of Pennsylvania pay tribute to these unsung heroes of the Vietnam War, designating March 29 as Welcome Home Veterans Day for Vietnam [sic] in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Madam President, K9 Veterans Day is designated for March 13. I rise today in support of Senate Resolution No. 57, which recognizes March 13 as K9 Veterans and Services Day in Pennsylvania. It is often said that a dog is man's best friend. If that is the case, then I subscribe to you that a K-9 is not just a friend, but a partner, protector, and sometimes, a hero. On March 13, 1942, during the Second World War, the United States Army started training dogs for its K-9 Corps program. Dogs for Defense was founded to train dogs to be sentries for supply depots, and even along the front lines. Ever since, thousands of dogs and their handlers, trainers, and other helpers have served in the military and law enforcement in various capacities with honor, dignity, and valor to protect life, liberty, and property.

Over the years, the Military Police and Rescue have developed a variety of training methods for K-9 units. Their training is tailored to meet the demands of the job, and each animal and handler carries out his or her duties to the fullest. Mr. Joseph J. White, a retired military-working dog handler, initiated the effort to establish K9 Veterans Day on March 13 each year to recognize the important services provided by dogs and their trainers, handlers, and other helpers in the military, law enforcement, and otherwise to save and protect human life. Today, I am proud to pay tribute to K-9s and their handlers.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Madam President, I rise because today marks 6,085 days since this legislature last passed an increase in our minimum wage. Sixteen and a half years ago, as you know, Madam President, Senate Bill No. 1090 was signed into law by Governor Rendell at the Sharon Baptist Church in Philadelphia. The bill, which I was proud to author and get across the finish line, raised Pennsylvania's minimum wage from \$5.15 an hour to \$7.15 an hour. Now, nearly a decade and a half later, the only increase to that wage our Commonwealth's lowest earners have seen was in 2009, when the Federal minimum wage was raised to \$7.25 an hour. It is unconscionable to continue to fail to address one of the most dire problems facing our Commonwealth, Madam President.

We cannot keep pushing off addressing the systemic system of poverty-level wages our lowest earners make. That is why I was so heartened to hear the Governor call for an increase in our minimum wage today in the House Chamber. He sees what we all see: a starvation wage, which is unacceptable and needs to be addressed immediately. Madam President, the only difference between the Governor and the Majority party is that the Governor has a plan to fix it; a plan to lift our lowest earners out of the cycle of poverty we, as a legislative body, have continued to allow; a plan to put Pennsylvania on a path to \$15 an hour; a plan to put money into the pockets of those who need it most; a plan which will shortly be reintroduced into this body to address the

continued failure of action. I hope my colleagues will agree that we must act, and we must act now.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator ROBINSON. Madam President, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Battle of An Nasiriyah, the first battle of the Iraq War, a battle in which I was honored to have served. On March 23, 2003, over 5,000 U.S. Marines led the charge for the first large-scale battle in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The U.S. 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade, named Task Force Tarawa, defeated Ba'athist forces after 9 bloody days.

Six days before the Marines stormed into Nasiriyah, President George W. Bush had issued an ultimatum, giving Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his two sons 48 hours to vacate Iraq. The Marines were staged in Kuwait anticipating President Bush's order to commence Operation Iraqi Freedom. With little to no sleep, the Marines moved quickly towards their objective on orders to secure and protect the bridges surrounding the city. When reports came in that the Army's 507th Maintenance Battalion [Company] had been ambushed, the Marines of Task Force Tarawa dispatched to rescue them. Those Marines secured the first bridge, the Euphrates bridge, and executed their orders through the course of action. The Marines pushed forward, intending to take the northern bridge, but were met with thick mud and high-water levels in the overflowed city's sewer, entrapping the vehicles. The Marines adjusted course and moved through Ambush Alley, enduring heavy fire from both sides, before reaching the Saddam Canal bridge. The Marines of Task Force Tarawa took heavy casualties while taking and holding both bridges and successfully repelling enemy attacks throughout the week and opening a route for Regimental Combat Team 1 to push through the city that would eventually lead to Baghdad, ending the battle on April 2, 2003, by defeating the Ba'athist forces and rescuing Army POW Jessica Lynch, the first successful rescue since World War II.

This was the first battle for many of my fellow Marines, including myself, but we were focused on the task at hand and did what we were trained to do. As we honor the 20th anniversary of this important battle in Operation Iraqi Freedom, it is imperative for us to remember the brave souls of this battle and to keep their history alive. We must also especially remember those 18 Marines: 11 soldiers who lost their lives, the 6 who were captured, and the hundreds more who were wounded.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair thanks the gentleman for his remarks, and more importantly, for his distinguished service to our nation in the United States Marine Corps.

[Applause.]

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

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

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

March 7, 2023

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Donald K. Anderson (District 4), 202 Overlook Road, Meyersdale 15552, Somerset County, Thirty-second Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, 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.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF WERNERSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

March 7, 2023

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, Jonathan D. Encarnacion, 3A Tanglewood Drive, Reading 19607, Berks County, Eleventh Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Wernersville State Hospital, to serve until January 16, 2029, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

RECESS

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

Senator HUTCHINSON. Madam President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 11 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 4:16 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.