

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023

SESSION OF 2023 207TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 16

SENATE

TUESDAY, April 25, 2023

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator Ryan P. Aument) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend JEREMY LEHMAN, of Pond Bank Community Church, Chambersburg, offered the following prayer:

Thank you. It is an honor and a privilege to be asked to lead out in prayer this morning.

Let us pray.

Dear Heavenly Father, I thank You for this day. I thank You for the beauty of Your creation. I thank You for the sunshine. Lord, I thank You for the evidence of You everywhere I look. Lord, we give You the honor and the praise first of all today. Father, I come to You and ask You today that Your favor, Your wisdom, and Your grace would be upon each Senator here, Lord, that they would be able to process and promote bills and laws that would lead to freedom and justice for all. Father, I thank You that Your Word says in Proverbs, that righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Lord, we need Your mercy and strength in these times. We ask for Your power to govern wisely upon this Senate, for the fine State of Pennsylvania, for our future, our hope, and our freedom. We ask that You would give integrity in these days when there are so many challenges. God, I ask that You would always keep it on our minds that we have accountability to You, that we are responsible to You ultimately, and that there will come a day when we have to answer for every act that we accomplished in this world. And, Father, today we declare that Your goodness reigns. We declare that Your plans and purposes will be accomplished on this fine State of Pennsylvania, and that we are and will be the Keystone State in this nation that desperately needs Your help.

Thank You, Father, that the fear of You is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy is understanding. We declare that there is much hope when we fix our eyes firmly on You, the author and perfecter of our faith. We pray all this in the mighty name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair thanks Senior Pastor Lehman, who is the guest today of Senator Mastriano.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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 PUBLIC SCHOOL
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

April 25, 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, Richard Vague, 1807 Delancey Street, Philadelphia 19403, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Public School Employees' Retirement Board, to serve until January 1, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Joseph M. Torsella, Flourtown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

April 25, 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, Bob Mensch, 3494 Finland Road, Pennsburg 18073, Montgomery County, Twenty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Employees' Retirement Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Glenn E. Becker, Exton, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

April 25, 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, Uri Monson, 612 Greystone Road, Wynnewood 19096, Montgomery County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Employees' Retirement Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Mary Soderberg, Camp Hill, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

April 25, 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, Wendell Young IV, 2810 Oak Ridge Circle, Eagleville 19403, Montgomery County, Forty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Employees' Retirement Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice David R. Fillman, Hummelstown, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

April 24, 2023

Senators COSTA, TARTAGLIONE, KEARNEY, HAYWOOD, SANTARSIERO, FONTANA, SCHWANK, KANE, BREWSTER, CAPPELLETTI, DILLON and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SB 11**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in the Secretary of the Commonwealth, further providing for powers and duties of the Secretary of the Commonwealth; in primary and election expenses, further providing for definitions, for organization of political committees, treasurer and assistant treasurer and records of candidate and committees, for registration and for reporting by candidate and political committees and other persons, providing for limitations on certain contributions, further providing for residual funds, for late filing fee and certificate of filing, for contributions or expenditures by national banks, corporations or unincorporated associations, for advertising and for reports by business entities and publication by Secretary of the Commonwealth and providing for independent expenditures and for independent expenditure evaluation; and providing for corporate political accountability.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, April 24, 2023.

Senators BROOKS, STEFANO, DILLON, KANE, MASTRIANO, SANTARSIERO and BAKER presented to the Chair **SB 615**, entitled:

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

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, April 24, 2023.

Senators YAW, STEFANO, PENNYCUICK, BARTOLOTTA, DUSH, J. WARD, MASTRIANO and HUTCHINSON presented to the Chair **SB 617**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 58 (Oil and Gas) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in unconventional gas well fee, further providing for Statewide initiatives.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, April 24, 2023.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

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

SB 165 (Pr. No. 634) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, further providing for prohibited acts and penalties.

SB 361 (Pr. No. 635) (Amended)

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 598 (Pr. No. 636) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in wiretapping and electronic surveillance, further providing for expiration of chapter.

SB 645 (Pr. No. 618)

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, providing for ten-year limitation for acquiring title to vacant land for gardens in cities of the first class.

Senator REGAN, from the Committee on Law and Justice, reported the following bills:

SB 360 (Pr. No. 286)

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 authority to issue liquor licenses to hotels, restaurants and clubs, for sales by liquor licensees and restrictions, for sale of malt or brewed beverages by liquor licensees, for retail dispensers' restrictions on purchases and sales, for unlawful acts relative to malt or brewed beverages and licensees and for premises to be vacated by patrons.

SB 429 (Pr. No. 381)

An Act amending the act of June 28, 1935 (P.L.477, No.193), referred to as the Enforcement Officer Disability Benefits Law, further providing for disability benefits and for definitions.

SB 464 (Pr. No. 449)

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in municipal pensions, providing for pension service credit for prior service with police department.

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

SB 255 (Pr. No. 218)

An Act amending Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in ethics standards and financial disclosure, further providing for statement of financial interests required to be filed.

SB 423 (Pr. No. 410)

An Act amending Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in membership, credited service, classes of service, and eligibility for benefits relating to retirement for State employees and officers, further providing for mandatory and optional membership in the system and participation in the plan; and, in benefits, further providing for termination of annuities.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Yaw and Senator Bartolotta, and legislative leaves for Senator Farry and Senator DiSanto.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request legislative leaves for Senator Cappelletti and Senator Hughes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Yaw and Senator Bartolotta, and legislative leaves for Senator Farry and Senator DiSanto.

Senator Costa requests legislative leaves for Senator Cappelletti and Senator Hughes.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Journal of the Session of February 27, 2023, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of February 27, 2023.

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

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

The yeas and nays were required by Senator 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	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 majority of the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Journal is approved.

**GUESTS OF SENATOR MICHAEL R. REGAN
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Senator Regan.

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, I have the great honor to welcome a very special guest to the Senate today, Mr. William Caparella of Camp Hill, who celebrated his 100th birthday on January 16th of this year. Mr. Caparella served our country with honor and distinction as a Carpenter's Mate Second Class Seabee in the United States Navy during World War II. He served in the Asiatic-Pacific, the Aleutian Islands, and American Theater Campaigns, and most notably, at the Battle of Okinawa in April 1945, the ship that he was on survived a kamikaze attack in the South Pacific. Mr. President, it is important to note that of roughly the 16 million Americans who served in World War II, a precious few are still alive. It is so vital that we celebrate our Greatest Generation and hear their stories in order to carry on their legacy of honor, service, and patriotism.

Following his military service, Mr. Caparella was employed with the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company for 42 years. He also is the proud father of three lovely daughters, who are with us here today: Victoria, his firstborn; Cathy; and Patricia. Also with him today are his granddaughters, Maya and Gemma; his son-in-law, Roger; his caregiver, Shirley Coffey; and friends and neighbors, Shawn and Angela Barrett. I would be remiss, Mr. President, if I did not acknowledge the fact that his daughter, Patricia, and his granddaughters flew in from Colorado specially to see their father and grandfather honored today.

Mr. William Caparella has lived the American dream, and he is very clearly a loved and admired man. I ask my colleagues to extend our own admiration to him for his bravery, his courage under fire, and his part in defending our freedoms and saving the world from the axis of evil. Please join me in also honoring him for his 100th birthday by giving him and his family and friends a warm and grateful Senate welcome.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Regan please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

The Senate will be at ease.

[The Senate was at ease.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR GREG ROTHMAN
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cumberland, Senator Rothman.

Senator ROTHMAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce two residents from my district who reside in East Pennsboro and visited with you earlier today. Andrea Jackson and her son, Jerney Jackson, moved to East Pennsboro from California in 2019. Andrea is the director of the Keystone Early Learning Center in downtown Harrisburg, where she was instrumental in keeping the center open during COVID-19 so that State employees could return to work, including many of the employees of the Senate who

send their children there. She manages this very busy center full of State employees' family members all while pursuing her bachelor's degree in early childhood education. In Andrea's free time, she enjoys learning new recipes to share, listening to music and concerts, and of course, championing her son Jerney's growth in high school activities. Jerney Jackson attends East Pennsboro High School as a 10th grader. He loves sports and playing video games. He is known for joke telling and making others laugh. Jerney also plays soccer and is on the track team as a proud Panther. He is exploring the field of aviation and attends monthly meetings with Pilots With a Purpose in hopes of earning a scholarship. Please welcome my guests to the Senate today, Mr. President, Andrea and Jerney Jackson.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Rothman please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR
DOUGLAS V. MASTRIANO
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, it is my honor to introduce today's guest Chaplain from my own district and my own pastor, Pastor Jeremy Lehman of Pond Bank Community Church, and he is joined by his lovely wife, Sabrina, as well. In the gallery, his parents, Eldon and Flo Lehman, are with us, as well as their five children, Isaiah, Nathan, Callie, Zachary, and Simeon. And it is an honor and pleasure to have you here, and Pastor Lehman wants me to pass on that it is a great humility and honor that he is here with us today.

Thank you, pastor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Mastriano please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Mr. President, today I have the distinct pleasure of welcoming Project 18 from Hempfield High School to the Pennsylvania Senate. Project 18 is a hands-on comprehensive program focused on teaching young adults about the ins and outs of government and community service. It requires each student to complete 10 hours of community service and/or 10 hours of service related to a political event or candidate of choice. It was originally a pilot initiative statewide when the 26th Amendment lowered the voting age from 21 to 18 in 1971. I wandered into Project 18 in the 1990s myself, and it is such a wonderful class that teaches young people about government and what it is like to be involved in politics and in the community. And I still, to this day, do not want to go in there because they ask too many hard questions. They are really, really, very well schooled on the issues. I am proud to say that this Project 18 is thriving in the district in Hempfield.

The success of this program in Westmoreland County says something about the people of our community and their

commitment to engaging in public service. In fact, many officials in Westmoreland County can thank Project 18 for giving them their start in public service and elected office. To name a few, Westmoreland County Register of Wills, Sherry Magretti Hamilton; Westmoreland County Recorder of Deeds, Frank Sheifer; and State Representative Eric Nelson. But most importantly, the chief of staff in my office for nearly 15 years, Rob Ritson, is also a Project 18 and Hempfield High School alum who did serve on the board of supervisors in Hempfield Township. I would like to thank Ken Stough, who leads the program at the high school. He has done a fantastic job at educating our community through experience. I know many, many of these young folks are going to be leaders in the coming years. They are going to run for office, and some may be even standing right here on this floor at some time in the future. This coming fall will mark the 50th anniversary of Project 18, and I really hope there will be 50 more. So, join me in giving the students of Project 18 a warm welcome to the Pennsylvania State Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Kim Ward please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR DEVLIN ROBINSON
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator ROBINSON. Mr. President, I am pleased to welcome to the Senate today students and staff from the Steel Center for Career and Technical Education, who are seated in the gallery. Steel Center is a public school that provides technical training to high school students from 11 school districts of the Mon Valley and South Hills areas of my district in Allegheny County. Since 1964, the school has served as an important bridge between public education and the workforce. After almost 60 years, Steel Center can now boast a wide range of career training options, including 18 approved programs of study for 871 students, and they maintain approximately 240 business, community, and educational partnerships. They are proud to have a culturally and economically diverse student body and staff, and 35 percent of their students are in a special education program, who are being well trained and prepared with viable career pathways.

We are so glad to have Steel Center here visiting the Capitol today to celebrate the value that career and technical education provides for their students and the excellent training they receive to energize the workforce across the Commonwealth. Please join me in welcoming Kevin Rice, the executive director; Shannon Hinkle, the school counselor; Stacey Caudill, work-based learning coordinator; and students Emma Ciaramella, collision repair and refinishing, South Park School District; Jayden Colorado, a carpentry student; Sajan Dangal, culinary arts; Ke'Vionna Jones, culinary arts; Jaida Walker, health assistance; and Mikey Poindexter, who is also in health assistance. Welcome, Steel Center.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Robinson please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

For additional guests, the Chair recognizes, the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Robinson.

Senator ROBINSON. Mr. President, I am so proud today to introduce the 2022 PIAA girls' soccer State Class AAA champions from my district, the Moon Area High School Tigers. The Tigers, seated in the gallery today, captured their second consecutive State title by defeating Upper Perkiomen High School 2-1, and they further distinguished themselves by winning the WPIAL (PIAA District VII) championship and amassing an undefeated season record of 24 wins. This is an incredible accomplishment, and we are so proud of their dedication, their talent, and their gift. In addition to being exceptional athletes, the team has an average GPA of 3.94, with 32 players on the honor roll and 24 players on the high honor roll.

The Tigers are expertly guided by the National Federation of State High School Associations' Coach of the Year, Bill Pfeiffer. He has led his teams in the most wins in Pennsylvania State high school girls' soccer history; he, along with the assistant coaches, Erin Hogan, Arne Thomas, and Nicole Falcione. The team was comprised of Serayah Leech, Ainslie Romasco, Hailey Longwell, Kendall Dydek, Marina Mollica, Lauren Muhanna, Sydney Felton, Kayla Leseck, Gabrielle Larson, Adeline Jacoby, Melina Killmeyer, Quinn Arnold, Julianna Lantzy, Ayva Wiech, Skylar Leseck, Elizabeth Gallup, Madaleine McMahon, Hailey Ferencuha, Lillian Snyder, Tessa Romah, Giada Faulk, Anna Palm, Alexandra D'Alesio, Olivia Shaver, Eva Molnar, Isabella Taylor, Alexis Kelley, Grace Brawley, Nevaeh Barrett, Daysie Steinmetz, Hailey Baer, Ava Estright, Norah McSwigan, Hayden Shulin, and Sabrina Incorvati. Congratulations to the 2022 PIAA girls' soccer State Class AAA champs, the Moon Area High School Tigers. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Robinson please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

For the purpose of introducing additional guests, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Robinson.

Senator ROBINSON. Mr. President, I am proud today to introduce the 2023 Pennsylvania Cup Class AA ice hockey champions from my district, the South Fayette High School Boys' Ice Hockey Team. The exceptional team, seated in the gallery today, captured their first State title in program history by defeating Pennsbury High School with a score of 7-4. They also achieved athletic greatness this season by winning the Penguins Cup PIHL Class AA title. Under the expert guidance of head coach, Matt Schwartz; and assistant coaches, Christian Hanson and Brandon Timmins; and the team manager, Alyssa D'Alessandro; and president, Frank Zamiska, the team was comprised of Allen Schraeder, Andrew Carson, Bennett Malky, Brady Fleck, Brayden Imler, Braydon Reighard, Brody Pfeil, Caden Johnston, Connor Cirra, Connor Solomon, Dylan Timmins, Dylan Walsh, Eli Petter, Jackson Brandebura, Logan Robitaille, Noah Bennett, Noah Nagle, Nolan Murphy, Parker Zamiska, Randal Fisher, Robert Chiappetta, Ryan Cirra, Santino Vezio, Trevor D'Alessandro, Tyler Brandebura, Tyson Tagmyer, Wesley Schwarzmiller, and Zachary Bender. Please join me in congratulating the South Fayette High School Boys' Ice Hockey Team, our 2023 Pennsylvania Cup Class AA champs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Robinson please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Bartolotta has returned, and her temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

GUESTS OF SENATOR JAY COSTA PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I am pleased and honored this afternoon to rise and welcome the students and administrators from the Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing who are here today spending some time here with a number of colleagues here on the Senate floor, and we had the opportunity to meet with the students, and also they had a chance to meet with some of their Senators today.

Mr. President, the Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, which operates under the offices of the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf in conjunction with them, which is located in my district in Allegheny County, opened its doors in Scranton in 2009 of September with 81 students. It is located on the beautiful 100-acre campus outside of Scranton in South Abington Township and serves deaf and hard-of-hearing students from communities throughout Northeast Pennsylvania. The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing reaches throughout the larger north-eastern Pennsylvania region, serving families for deaf and hard-of-hearing children from several counties and communities, as I mentioned, throughout NEPA, which they call home. The mission of the school is to prepare students for all aspects of life through high-quality academic program along with a variety of engaging academic, athletic, and extracurricular activities and opportunities. The Scranton School adheres to an all-inclusive communication environment that meets the needs of each student. American Sign Language, science support English, and spoken English are all incorporated to promote academic, social, emotional, and physical development. It is a school uniquely designed to serve deaf and hard-of-hearing students because it is a school that understands what they need to be able to succeed in the classroom and in life. These students live in different parts of the Senate districts, as I mentioned, but are all enrolled in the Scranton School for Deaf and the Scranton school for inclusion.

Today, we have here with us the sixth and eighth grade class along with teachers and staff from the school as well, as I mentioned, visiting the Pennsylvania Capitol to discover more about what it is that we do here and learn more about their State government and, as I mentioned, to meet with their Representatives from the House, and also Members of the Senate; but also to enjoy the beautiful sights of our Capitol building. They hope to gain a better understanding of the operations of the State government and meet their Representatives and Senators, as I mentioned, and have a fun time here today and spending time with them here on the Senate floor. I ask my colleagues to join me in giving a warm welcome to the following students as well as the administrators: David, Payton, Ryan, David, Lilly, Kristiania, and Carlisle are all here today to join us along with WPSD president, Dr. Steven Farmer; Matt Campion, who served with us here in the Senate as a staffer for a number of years, been great to work with him in western Pennsylvania; as well as Josh and Sarah, who are here from the Pittsburgh area. I ask my colleagues to join me in giving

a warm welcome to the students, and as you recall, by doing so by doing the jazz hands for our students.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Costa please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

["Jazz hands" sign language for applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR CAROLYN T. COMITTA PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator COMITTA. Mr. President, it is an honor for me to rise today to welcome two very special constituents from my district. Josh and Zach Stehle, who are joining us today with their mother, Cheryl, are two brothers who are raising awareness and acceptance of autism through social media and a new book. When Josh, a student at West Chester University, discovered that Zach had an uncanny ability to retain and recite facts about superheroes, he launched a TikTok channel that went viral. In it, viewers and participants attempt to stump Zach with various questions about comic book characters and superhero trivia. Their videos have reached thousands, helping raise awareness of the unique skills and contributions that people with autism offer.

From there, Josh wrote his first book titled *I am a Superhero Expert: Growing up with my Autistic Brother*, a touching and heartfelt story about their relationship. It is an important read to help others understand autism and the gifts and talents that people with autism and special needs bring to our community and our world. Josh and Zach are joining us today to mark Autism Acceptance Month, and I could not think of a better way to advocate for autism acceptance and remind us that every person has something very special to offer. And every person deserves to be accepted, valued, included, and treated with dignity and respect. Please join me in giving a warm Senate welcome to Josh and Zach Stehle. And if you want the opportunity to try to stump Zach on superhero trivia, he will be here with us today, and you can also find him on TikTok. Josh and Zach, happy Autism Acceptance Month, thank you for your work, and welcome to the Pennsylvania Senate.

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

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

[Applause.]

GUEST OF SENATOR MARIA COLLETT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, as we near the end of Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month, I am honored to recognize and welcome to the Senate my guest for the day, Mr. Ben Hartranft, who hails from Montgomery Township in the 12th Senatorial District. At 2 years old, Ben was diagnosed with autism, and his family began a journey in the ID/A community they did not anticipate. Through speech therapy, community support, and their deep faith, Ben and his family pushed beyond

all expectations. Today, Ben is an outspoken advocate for autism awareness, committed to the principle that one kind person can change the world. Combining his love for the Philadelphia Eagles and his passion to elevate understanding about life with autism, Ben began raising money for the Eagles Autism Challenge, where he worked to turn awareness into action. His passion led to appearances on *The Ellen Show* and *The Price Is Right*, and the development of his company, Benergy1 Presentations, where Ben offers engaging public speaking programs to schools, businesses, and organizations on what it means to live with autism, how autistic individuals can thrive in their communities and in our economy, and how we can all work together to build an inclusive environment. Benergy is the perfect name for Ben's business because energy is exactly what Ben brings to this cause. And thank goodness the ID/A community has Ben and other advocates like him out there, because there is so much at stake for which they, and we as their allies, are still fighting for.

Mr. President, I am so proud to have Ben joining us in the Capitol today, participating in events, meeting with legislators and their staff and other passionate autism advocates as we celebrate Autism Awareness Month this April in the Commonwealth. Please join me in offering our usual warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guest of Senator Collett please rise and be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR RYAN P. AUMENT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I am honored to introduce my guests today, the family of the late Judge Shawn Long. With us in the gallery today is Judge Long's wife, Jess; daughter, Grace; son, Kelly Gerst; and parents, Michael and Diana. It is with sadness but gratitude that I rise to honor the life and legacy of the Honorable Shawn Long, who served as a judge of the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas, Second Judicial District. He passed away unexpectedly in January at 55 years of age. Judge Long served our country with honor and distinction as a member of the United States Marine Corps from 1985 to 1991. Following his military service, he earned a bachelor's degree from York College of Pennsylvania and a juris doctorate degree from Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law. For many years, Judge Long worked as an attorney at the law firm of Barley Snyder, and he was named partner of that firm in 2007. Just this past July, he was appointed as a judge of the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas following a unanimous vote of this Chamber. To his great credit, he was named the 2021 Lawyer of the Year for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law by Best Lawyers in America. Judge Long was also active in his community and served as a board chair of the United Disabilities Services Foundation, board secretary of the Lititz Regional Community Development Corporation, auditor of Elizabeth Township, and a member of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce Advocacy Committee. Please join me in recognizing the family and recognizing the life of this good, decent, and honorable man, Judge

Shawn Long, and may we express our gratitude to his family for the impact that he had on so many.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR TIMOTHY P. KEARNEY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator KEARNEY. Mr. President, let me be the first to wish you a happy National Sikh Day. I rise today to recognize the members of the Sikh community who have joined me today in Harrisburg. This group includes many from across the State, including those from the Gurdwara's in my district in Upper Darby in Millbourne. But also, we have Sikhs from Blue Mountain, Easton, Harrisburg, Reading, Monroeville, Bethlehem, and Nazareth. They join me here in recognition of April 14 and the celebration of Viasakhi. Viasakhi is an important time of celebration not only for the Punjab region generally, but specifically for the Sikh community. The occasion marks the moment that the Guru Gobind Singh chose to establish Khalsa. Mr. President, I am proud to have a large community of Sikhs in my district. In fact, I have two Sikh societies: Upper Darby is the home to the Guru Nanak Society and Millbourne is home to the Philadelphia Sikh Society.

The Sikh community, originally from the Punjab in South Asia, have been immigrating to the United States for more than 100 years and play an important role in developing this country and the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth is enriched by the diversity of its residents who have cultivated a climate of social tolerance and intellectual pluralism. Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, who lived from 1469 until 1539, was a great religious innovator, who preached to his followers to meditate and remember God, earn their living by honest means, and share with the less fortunate. He denounced the caste system and taught that everyone is equal, regardless of caste, creed, or gender, and recognized the entire human race as one. Guru Nanak's teachings are ideals that we can all adhere to and learn from. The Sikh communities are part of a rich history of religious tolerance, freedom, and our tradition of welcoming new neighbors from around the globe with brotherly love that are the foundations of our Commonwealth. With that, I again wish you a happy National Sikh Day, and I ask that the Senate please give my guests their usual warm Senate welcome.

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

[Applause.]

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 three very impressive individuals currently serving in my district. Rosalie Danchanko is the executive director at the Highlands Health Clinic in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, which provides free medical care to those in need within the community.

She is joined today by two of her interns who hail from Germany. Daniel Schumcher and Lukas Tepper are both taking their gap year in Johnstown. Following the gap year, Daniel will return to Germany to study sport management and communications, and Lukas will also return to Germany to attend law school--noble profession--and practice in the health management field. I would like to thank Rosalie, Daniel, and Lukas for traveling here to Harrisburg today, as well as to thank them for their tireless work. They are truly doing the Lord's work and are a tremendous asset to so many in need in the greater Johnstown area. Mr. President, I would ask for our traditional warm Senate welcome for Rosalie, Daniel, and Lukas.

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

[Applause.]

RECESS

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for purposes of a meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held immediately in the Rules room, followed by a Republican caucus in the Majority Caucus Room.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, at the conclusion of the meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber for a caucus as well.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of a meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to be held off the floor in the Rules room immediately, followed by Republican and Democratic caucuses to be held in their respective caucus rooms, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Senator Greg Rothman) in the Chair.

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Dush, and a legislative leave for Senator Regan.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Saval.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Dush, and a legislative leave for Senator Regan.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Saval.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 137 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 226 (Pr. No. 195) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 27, 1927 (P.L.465, No.299), referred to as the Fire and Panic Act, further providing for standards for Class VI buildings.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question, Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

Table with 4 columns of names: Argall, Aument, Baker, Bartolotta, Boscola, Brewster, Brooks, Brown, Cappelletti, Coleman, Collett, Comitta, Costa, Culver, Dillon, DiSanto, Dush, Farry, Flynn, Fontana, Gebhard, Haywood, Hughes, Hutchinson, Kane, Kearney, Langerhole, Laughlin, Martin, Mastriano, Miller, Muth, Pennycuick, Phillips-Hill, Pittman, Regan, Robinson, Rothman, Santarsiero, Saval, Schwank, Stefano, Street, Tartaglione, Vogel, Ward, Judy, Ward, Kim, Williams, Anthony H., Williams, Lindsey, Yaw.

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 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.

On the question, Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

BROOKS AMENDMENT A0326 ADOPTED

Senator PITTMAN, on behalf of Senator BROOKS, offered the following amendment No. A0326:

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 9 through 11, by striking out all of said lines and inserting:

Section 1. Section 1402(g) of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a definition and the section is amended by adding subsections to read:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 14, by inserting after "or":

designated

Amend Bill, page 1, line 15, by striking out "district" and inserting: entity

Amend Bill, page 1, line 19, by striking out "district" and inserting: entity

Amend Bill, page 2, line 3, by striking out "district" and inserting: entity

Amend Bill, page 2, line 5, by striking out "district" and inserting: entity

Amend Bill, page 2, line 6, by striking out "inform the child's parent or guardian of the results," and inserting:

provide the original results to the child's parent or guardian. The school entity:

(A) Shall not make a copy of the results or include any information regarding the results in the child's school medical record.

(B) May notate the diseases present in the tick, with no identifying or personal information of the child, for the purposes of compiling data as to what diseases are present in the ticks on and around the school entity's property.

Amend Bill, page 2, line 8, by striking out "district" and inserting: entity

Amend Bill, page 3, line 1, by striking out "districts" and inserting: entities

Amend Bill, page 3, by inserting between lines 2 and 3:

(g) As used in this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"School entity" means a school district, intermediate unit, charter school, cyber charter school, regional charter school or area career and technical school.

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

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Brooks, I submit the following remarks for the record.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentleman from Indiana, Senator PITTMAN, on behalf of the gentlewoman from Mercer, Senator BROOKS:)

Mr. President, this amendment addresses some concerns individuals brought to my attention, and I believe these changes make the legislation much more clear, and I thank those who reached out to me to make this the best bill possible. First, it clarifies who can remove a tick from a student during school. Second, it makes the legislation applicable to all "school entities" not just school districts. And third, it clarifies that if the school sends the tick removed from a student to the Tick Research Lab of Pennsylvania for testing, the school district will provide the results to

the child's parent or guardian and cannot make a copy of the results nor include any information regarding the results in the child's school medical records. This addresses any confidentiality and privacy concerns.

The school may notate the diseases present in the tick from the test results, with no identifying information of the child, for the purposes of compiling data as to what diseases are present in the ticks on and around school property.

Thank you, Mr. President. I request an affirmative vote on this amendment.

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

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-1

Brown

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.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 239 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 433 (Pr. No. 374) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Luzerne, Senator Baker.

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, the depth, and breadth, and scope for the position of the PEMA director is more significant than ever before. Natural or weather-related disasters; an out-

break of a disease; or a public safety incident, such as the train derailments we have seen across the country, are examples of what the person in this position may face. The scope of responsibilities is enormous: preparedness, response, recovery, mitigation. PEMA is the lead emergency coordination agency in the Commonwealth tasked with ensuring the safety of 13 million residents. The agency plans, organizes, equips, trains, exercises, and sustains our capabilities. This includes oversight of our 911 centers and the emergency alert system. The Bureau of Internal Operations staffs the Commonwealth's watch and warning center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, taking information from all 67 counties, which includes hazardous material spills or leak reports and notification of incidents involving our five nuclear power plants. PEMA also has the responsibility for coordination and direction of Commonwealth resources in response to emergencies or disasters and coordinates and manages numerous Federal Disaster Assistance Programs. In the current fiscal year, more than \$1.4 billion flowed through this agency; more than \$1.4 billion. It is clear a more thorough review of the pertinent experience and capabilities of the individual selected to hold this crucial position is warranted.

That is why I have introduced Senate Bill No. 433. This is the same broad accountability that applies to cabinet and cabinet-level positions and a host of independent agencies. PEMA has a staff complement of 324 employees, far greater than the Departments of Aging, Banking, Drug and Alcohol, Insurance, as well as the position of State Fire Commissioner. All of these agencies require Senate confirmation for their cabinet officials. Public safety and emergency planning impact every county and community across the State. In many cases, all levels of government must, must coordinate incident response with PEMA leading the effort. In the case of public safety concerns, PEMA becomes the public source of information, directing the response and recovery for individuals and rebuilding of businesses and communities. So, I believe the head of PEMA should be filled through a checks and balance approach provided by the nomination and confirmation process rather than simply through executive approval alone. This bill is a solid step towards a more responsive and accountable State government leadership. And while the immediate past governor vetoed this legislation last Session, there is hope that the new administration will place a better understanding on the importance of a thorough review of a candidate seeking to fill this vital position, followed by our Senate confirmation vote. I would like to thank the chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness for advancing the bill from committee, and I urge an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 433. It is an important step forward, and it is not indicative of any question about the individual serving in the position currently. It is about giving us the ability to check and balance who it is.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise and ask my colleagues to join me in a negative vote on Senate Bill No. 433. I think many of the folks in this room now--it has been a longstanding practice that the governors of this Commonwealth have the opportunity to put into place individuals in really unique positions in terms of their administrations that have very unique criteria that is

necessary for them to be able to react and respond properly. I disagree, personally, that I think that we should be going through the nomination confirmation process. As the gentlewoman mentioned earlier, this measure came through the Senate and the House previously, and Governor Wolf then vetoed it. My understanding is that it is likely to suffer the same fate as we go forward along those lines.

The reason that I believe we should not be going through this process as was described by the gentlewoman in terms of the unique nature of this position and the fact that it needs to be a position that requires responsiveness, quick responsiveness, being able to be nimble to address things that take place throughout this Commonwealth and a variety of different places, regardless of the size of the agency as it compares to other agencies and State government. Their role is unique, and it is very specific, and it is response to emergency situations that we do not have time to be able to worry about making that individual who could be nominated have to go through the confirmation process.

Mr. President, we are now almost through 4 months of service here in this new administration. I do not believe--we get to maybe only do two confirmations in this process, and some may not get done until after the primary and maybe into June or July. That is too long of a period of time to be able to have somebody have to wait to be able to have full authority to be able to act in their role as the PEMA director going forward in Pennsylvania. These emergencies are too important, this position is too important, and it should not be subject to what will be a political confirmation process. Whether we like to say it or not, it ends up being something along those lines. This person needs to be free from having their hands tied with respect to what is taking place here in the Senate Chamber in order to receive their confirmation vote. They need to act accordingly, responsibly, and in the best interest of the Pennsylvania residents across this Commonwealth. So, I ask for a negative vote.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Culver, Senator Brooks, and Senator Pennycuik.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Culver, Senator Brooks, and Senator Pennycuik. 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:

YEA-31

Argall	Culver	Martin	Rothman
Aument	DiSanto	Mastriano	Stefano
Baker	Dush	Muth	Vogel
Bartolotta	Farry	Pennycuik	Ward, Judy
Boscola	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Kim

Brooks	Hutchinson	Pittman	Williams, Lindsey
Brown	Langerholc	Regan	Yaw
Coleman	Laughlin	Robinson	

NAY-19

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

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 447 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 466 (Pr. No. 384) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 19, 1995 (P.L.33, No.3), known as the Economic Development Agency, Fiduciary and Lender Environmental Liability Protection Act, further providing for definitions.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Monroe, Senator Brown.

Senator BROWN. Mr. President, land banks are governmental entities that acquire vacant, abandoned, and foreclosed properties to support the redevelopment of property for the benefit of a local community. It is not uncommon for land banks to take properties into their inventory that are subject to environmental liability enforcement. And to incentivize the funding of environmental testing and remediation of brownfield sites, current statute exempts certain entities from environmental liability, but it does not exempt land banks. Senate Bill No. 466 would grant the same protections to land banks that are presently given to redevelopment authorities when they are dealing with brownfields. This would relieve land banks of this burden and allow them to operate more efficiently in the fight against blight. Specifically, it adds land banks to the definition of economic development agency.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 295 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 402 (Pr. No. 346) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the annual designation and holiday observance of the fifteenth day of the Hindu lunisolar month of Kartik as "Diwali Day" in this Commonwealth.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 446 and SB 508 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

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

SB 165, SB 255, SB 360, SB 361, SB 423, SB 429, SB 464, SB 598 and SB 645.

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, APRIL 26, 2023

- 9:00 A.M. GAME AND FISHERIES (public hearing on PA Game Commission and PA Fish and Boat Commission annual reports) Hearing Room 1 North Office (LIVE STREAMED)
- 9:30 A.M. VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (to consider Senate Bills No. 81 and 189; Senate Resolution No. 82; and confirmation hearing for Major General Mark Schindler, nominated to serve as the Adjutant General, PA Department of Military and Veterans Affairs) Room 8E-B East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)

- 10:00 A.M. TRANSPORTATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 140, 153, 362, 561 and 562) Room 461 Main Capitol

- Off the Floor HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (to consider Senate Bills No. 243, 244 and 245) Rules Committee Conference Room

- Off the Floor RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider certain Executive Nominations) Rules Committee Conference Room

MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023

- 10:00 A.M. CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (public hearing on the reauthorization of Chapter 14) Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)

- 10:00 A.M. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (informational meeting regarding follow up briefing on Grid Reliability) Room 8E-B East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023

- 12:00 P.M. EDUCATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 97, 290, 353, 456, 460 and 647) Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the approximately 20 schools which came to visit the Capitol earlier today for Technical School Education Day. Students came from all over Pennsylvania to showcase their incredible talents, and I was especially glad to see students from the 13th Senatorial District here representing Lancaster County Career and Technology Center and the east and west campuses of the Berks Career and Technology Center. I strongly believe that career and technology education is an essential aspect to preparing our youth for the future. We have made great strides on steering our children towards pathways to family-sustaining jobs and worked to remove the stigma attached to vocational training. To continue this

progress, I am pursuing legislation to ensure more students file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, to better understand their higher education funding options, which include dollars towards community colleges; business, trade, or technical schools; hospital schools of nursing; and more.

We are living in an era of rapid technological advancements, and it is imperative for us to prepare the future workforce today. There needs to be a cohesive partnership between our business and education community to be responsive to workforce needs. Career and technology education programs provide students with access to cutting-edge technology, allowing them to learn the latest skills and techniques in their chosen field so they can succeed in the 21st century. It offers students a unique combination of theoretical knowledge and practical skills that can be applied in a real-world setting. By providing students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed, we are investing in the future of our communities, our country, and our world. These students and schools are worth the investment, and I look forward to the General Assembly's continued support of technical education in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise today because it marks 6,134 days since our Commonwealth's legislature last passed an increase in our minimum wage. But, Mr. President, our heartbreaking inaction, thankfully, has not been matched by some employers. While some employers are still paying Pennsylvanians the minimum wage, others are taking it upon themselves to ensure their employees are paid a livable wage. Employers like Raising Cane's, who just a few days ago announced the starting wage at any of their locations across the nation will be \$19.10 and that they plan to invest more than [\$]9 million into their workforce. Their COO, AJ Kumaran, succinctly explained why they are moving to raise pay well above the minimum wage, saying: once you take care of your people, the business will pay for itself. And I could not agree more, Mr. President. We need to take care of our Commonwealth's workers, the people who drive the economy. Too often, when I am out in my district, I speak with constituents who are desperate for a break, parents who need to work two or three jobs just to put a roof over their heads and food on their table, parents who are forced to choose between paying rent and getting prescriptions filled. That is why the Senate needs to act, so that we can put Pennsylvanians on a path to \$15 an hour. Ensuring our lowest earners are able to earn a living wage has been a priority of mine since I entered the legislature, and I am optimistic the time is near that we finally act to pass a meaningful minimum wage legislation, including tying future minimum wage increases to the CPI and inflation so that we never have to fight this fight again.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise to ask my colleagues to support Senate Resolution No. 66, which designates April as Alcohol Awareness Month in Pennsylvania. I introduced this legislation together with Senator Kane to emphasize a continued importance of alcohol-related education and to make Pennsylvanians aware that there is support out there for

Pennsylvanians struggling with alcohol. Mr. President, as you likely know, I am 20 years into recovery from an alcohol addiction myself, and I know how hard it is to break free of addiction. However, I also know with the proper support, recovery is possible and that life after addiction is full of opportunity. While most of adults who consume alcohol in the United States do so moderately without complications, alcohol-related problems are still among the most significant public health issues facing our country. One hundred and forty thousand Americans die from alcohol-related causes annually. That is the fourth-leading preventable cause of death in the nation. In addition, adolescents drinking is a serious public health problem in our country, as it is estimated that 414,000 Americans below the age of 18 struggle with alcohol use disorder. As we recognize April as Alcohol Awareness Month, I also want to remind everyone that help is out there. If you are struggling with addiction either to alcohol or any substance, you or a loved one can call 1-800-662-HELP. The PA Get Help Now hotline is a free, confidential hotline that is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and staffed with trained professionals who are there to help start the recovery journey.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator KANE. Mr. President, I rise to speak on an issue that is close to my heart and one that I have had to overcome in my personal life. I join my friend and colleague Senator Tartaglione to recognize April as Alcohol Awareness Month. Senate Resolution No. 66 is part of a national effort to increase public awareness and understanding of alcohol-related issues, reduce stigma, and encourage local communities to focus on prevention and treatment of alcohol use disorder, AUD. Alcoholism is a disease that affects millions of people worldwide. It is a leading cause of preventable death and its impact on individuals, families, and communities cannot be overstated. Despite this, many people who struggle with alcoholism do not receive the help they need due to stigma and a lack of understanding. I have seen firsthand the devastating effect of alcoholism; as a young man, it took hold of my personal life and sent me into a spiral I was not sure I would recover from. As a union leader, I saw it rip families apart and even end lives. I know how difficult it can be to confront this disease and seek help, but I also know that recovery is possible. By designating April 2023 as Alcohol Awareness Month in Pennsylvania, we can assure that folks who are just like me, who struggle with alcoholism, know that they are not alone and that help is available. I am a proud co-sponsor of this resolution. I know that we can make a positive impact on the lives of those affected by alcoholism and work towards a healthier, safer, and more informed Pennsylvania. On a final note, a message to those who may be listening, who might need some help, I know you may feel as though your life may feel unmanageable, but I want to assure you one thing, there is no better time to seek help than now. If I can ever be of any assistance, please reach out to my office for help. I personally would be proud to get you the help you may need.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Fayette, Senator Stefano.

Senator STEFANO. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the 80th anniversary of the National Federation of Independent Business. For eight decades this organization has been an unwavering voice for small businesses around the country and here in Pennsylvania. Having been a small business owner myself, I believe small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and the NFIB has been a steadfast advocate for these dedicated people by giving them a louder voice. However, small businesses often face an uphill battle despite creating jobs, providing essential services and goods, and driving economic growth. They face countless challenges ranging from complex regulations, bureaucratic red tape, to changing consumer preferences. That is where NFIB has established its reputation. The NFIB has tirelessly been a leading voice to help promote policies beneficial to small business growth and development. Through its advocacy efforts, the NFIB has been a champion of free market principles and has ensured that the voices of small business owners are heard in the halls of government. This organization has been an unwavering defender of the American dream, allowing entrepreneurs to start and grow their businesses and achieve financial independence and success. Pennsylvania, as we know it, would not have been the same if it were not for NFIB. I am grateful for this opportunity to recognize their 80 years of diligent, hard work.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes, for the second time, the gentleman from Fayette, Senator Stefano.

Senator STEFANO. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize April as the Month of the Young Child in Pennsylvania. This month is about celebrating the importance of early childhood education and the incredible potential that lies within every young child. During this month, we acknowledge the wonderful spirit and energy of children. We recognize their curiosity and creativity. We also acknowledge the critical role that parents, caregivers, and educators play in supporting the growth and development of children. We know that the first few years of a child's life are crucial for their cognitive, emotional, and social development. It is during this time that children learn the foundational skills that they need to succeed. We also know that early childhood education is an investment in our future. Investing in high-quality early childhood education saves taxpayer dollars and makes working families more economically sound. As we celebrate the Month of the Young Child, let us recommit ourselves to supporting young children and honor the parents, caregivers, and educators who work tirelessly to support their growth and development.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I have two remarks to be introduced on the record. The first one is for my colleague Senator Saval [Dillon], and it relates to Fair Housing Month here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and I ask it to be introduced for the record.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator COSTA, on behalf of the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator DILLON:)

Mr. President, today, I rise in support of Senate Resolution No. 105, which recognizes April 2023 as Fair Housing Month in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. More than five decades ago, our nation took a critical step towards ensuring that every American, regardless of race, creed, or color, had access to fair housing. The Fair Housing Act was a testament to our values, our belief in justice and equality. But let me be clear, the work is not yet done.

In Pennsylvania, there are still individuals who face discrimination when seeking a place to call home based on their gender, marital status, and sexual orientation. This is unacceptable, and it must end. Every citizen of our great Commonwealth has the right to live without fear of discrimination. It is our shared duty to ensure that every person has equitable access to all the opportunities that our communities provide. I am personally committed to that goal. Senator Cappelletti and I are introducing legislation that will limit the rent increases by large corporate landlords to ensure that tenants, especially seniors and parents with young children, are not clobbered by massive rent increases during times of financial uncertainty. I am also proposing a property tax circuit breaker for Pennsylvania, which would provide a State tax credit to homeowners who pay over a certain percentage of their income in property taxes. By providing targeted relief through a circuit breaker program, we can make the tax system fairer and help more people buy and maintain homes.

These are policies that we should strongly consider as we continue to look for ways to make housing more affordable and accessible to every citizen across Pennsylvania. We must continue to fight for the rights of every Pennsylvanian to live in a home that is safe, affordable, and free from prejudice. Together we can and must ensure that the promise of fair housing is upheld in every corner of our Commonwealth. Thank you.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I have another set of remarks for my colleague Senator Cappelletti, also relating to National Fair Housing Month, and ask that they be spread across the record as well.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator COSTA, on behalf of the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator CAPPELLETTI:)

Mr. President, this year marks the 55th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act in Congress. To recognize this anniversary, I have introduced Senate Resolution No. 105 with Senator Dillon and Senator Saval to acknowledge April as National Fair Housing Month. When Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, it was passed as a follow-up to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Commonly referred to as the Fair Housing Act, Titles VIII through IX address the prohibition of discrimination in the buying, renting, selling, and financing of a home based on color, race, and even gender. While the main goal of the Fair Housing Act has been to prohibit discrimination in securing housing, it also aimed to build prosperous communities and promote affordable housing--something we as legislators fail to uphold every day. In recent years, the ability to access and maintain housing has become a significant struggle for many in our communities. Varying factors--such as the rise of inflation, environmental disasters, or the rise in rent--have made securing housing more inaccessible over the years.

We cannot fully dismantle the hurdles that Pennsylvanians face every day, but we can pass comprehensive policy solutions that will ease the burden. Governor Shapiro has already proposed raising the minimum wage and raising the eligible income bracket for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. Additionally, implementing an equitable tax bracket

and rent stabilization—which I have introduced with Senator Dillon—can drastically improve the lives of working-class Pennsylvanians.

It is our job to continue building upon the foundation of the Fair Housing Act. We have the power to ensure housing for all and combat housing insecurity in our communities. Please join myself, Senator Dillon, and Senator Saval in recognizing April as National Fair Housing Month. It is time we made housing more affordable and accessible for all Pennsylvanians.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise to talk about a plan that Senate Democrats have put forth as it relates to initiatives and issues that are very important to our Democratic colleagues here in Pennsylvania and asking that our colleagues work alongside the Senate Democrats who support many of these measures. We have broken them down, Mr. President, into a variety of different pillars that I would like to talk about a little bit today and looking forward to further conversation and dialogue with our colleagues not only on the other side of the aisle, but also our Republican colleagues in the House as well, and certainly, the Governor's office as well, and of course, you, Mr. President. The areas that we feel are important for every Pennsylvanian is the slogan that we are moving forward because we are advancing measures that impact the quality of life for every Pennsylvanian, and they come in categories which, I think, are very important to what we have learned over the course of the past several months and years, particularly as it related to the work that we have done.

They fall into the category for good jobs for every Pennsylvanian. Making certain that we have a livable wage, making certain that we work towards a minimum wage, things along those lines, and also working to ensure that everybody gets paid a fair rate along those lines and there is no disparity between men and women and the like. We are also looking to continue to make those investments in education, an excellent education for every Pennsylvanian is our slogan, which is what we are going to talk about as we go forward. We know we have done great things over the course of the past couple of years here, particularly with Governor Wolf providing those resources and replacing those funds we lost back in 2011 over the course of his tenure, and we made great strides last year and this Governor has proposed a very strong start towards trying to address that as well. We are pleased and very appreciative of Governor Shapiro's proposed budget in the space of education, not only in the basic ed side of it, which includes significant increases, but also in the higher ed field, as well as special education and other things along those lines. Those are where we want to make certain we continue down that path to be able to do that.

Clean water, clean air, clean energy for every Pennsylvanian is another thing that we are going to be focusing on. Certainly, the conversation of RGGI will continue, but making investments in DEP to ensure that we are advancing the permitting process, that we are advancing testing and things of that nature are all going to be part of that as well. Similarly, as it relates to quality, affordable healthcare for every Pennsylvanian is something that is going to continue to be important to us as we talk about many of the things that are taking place here in Pennsylvania, particularly given our region of the Commonwealth in western Pennsylvania, the role that the delivery of healthcare provides not only in Pittsburgh and Allegheny, but in many places across the Commonwealth, including the city of Philadelphia as well. That is an

important part of who we are and what we want to be able to be. But we want to make certain that we protect access to reproductive rights, that we provide universal healthcare as best we can for everyone, making certain that we have adequate staffing taking place in the facilities across Pennsylvania, not only in our hospitals, but our other healthcare facilities and our nursing folks as well. And that we have an opportunity to be able to find a way which we can recruit personnel to work in this healthcare delivery field, specifically nursing. The Governor has put out an outstanding proposal that will provide for a tax credit program for those individuals who want to enter the healthcare field as a nurse or a nurse practitioner or whatever the case might be, along with the police officers and also our teachers; areas that we need considerable number of individuals to come work in that space. A \$2,500 tax credit, we believe, is something imperative to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be able to bring those folks, recruit them, and retain them here in Pennsylvania. So, when we educate them, they come here, they stay here, and they are working here, and they are part of our community.

Certainly, we have to make certain that we have safe communities. Safe communities are an important part of how we make sure that our people who live here are protected. And we have an obligation along those lines to ensure that that is the case. Talking about issues that are very important to the people we represent. Gun reform measures are going to be a big part of that, making sure that we have a sufficient number of community intervention-type programs in our community, whether it be through PCCD, Mr. President, that you had or other agencies that provide the resources to make sure that we have adequate resources not only for our law enforcement community, but our community leaders have the resources to be able to be a part of the community to try to do what they can to limit the number of incidents that are taking place across our Commonwealth, in our neighborhoods, in our community. We need to engage folks along those lines. That is how we are going to be successful in beating back some of this activity that is taking place in our Commonwealth. Housing is also a big part of that. We have got to make certain that we continue to walk down the path where we are making certain that we have affordable, and accessible, and adequate housing for individuals across Pennsylvania to ensure that they have a good, safe place to live. Not only is it important to have a place to live, but it is important that that place that folks are living, they are able to afford it, but more importantly, it is a safe community for them to live in which ties exactly into our safe communities concept for every Pennsylvanian.

And certainly, we are also going to continue to work to protect democracy. Protecting democracy is an important part of what we have to do here in Pennsylvania to ensure that we do not do anything that encumbers or disenfranchises our voters across this Commonwealth. We know steps have taken place over the course of the past couple years to try to limit access to the ballot box, limit access to individuals voting. But we believe that it is imperative that we take steps to be able to protect that democracy and to ensure that as we go forward, every vote is counted, every person feels comfortable in this Commonwealth knowing that the integrity of our electoral process is maintained, and that when we have free and fair elections through this process, as we have had, continue across Pennsylvania.

So, these are the priorities for our Senate Democrats. We look forward to working with all of our colleagues here in the Senate Chamber, but also across the building as well, to be able to enact many of these reforms. We know that through this process, through the budgetary process, many believe that resources are plentiful--to some degree they are--but we have to be thoughtful and strategic as we go forward, implementing a budget that we have to have here in Pennsylvania. And our goal was to be able to incorporate these measures from each of these pillars, and the specific measures from each one of these pillars, into what we do through the policy process as it relates to our budget process to ensure that we are addressing the needs of the people of Pennsylvania. That is what these ideas are designed to do through this process. And we ask that our colleagues join us and looking forward to doing the work that we need to do for every Pennsylvanian. So, thank you, Mr. President, for the opportunity to explain to my colleagues what it is that Senate Democrats will be advancing going forward. Thank you, sir.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator MASTRIANO.

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I rise in support of Senate Resolution No. 91, which designates April 5 as Gold Star Spouses Day in Pennsylvania. Formed in 1928, the Gold Star Mothers' name came from the custom of families of service members hanging a service flag in the window of their homes. The service flag had a star for each family member in the Armed Forces. A blue star represented living service members and, of course, a gold star, those who lost their lives defending this country. Gold Star Mothers have seen the highest of highs watching their sons and daughters enlist in the Armed Forces, and conversely, the lowest of lows learning of the passing of their dear loved one. Today, Gold Star Mothers support and comfort each other remembering each other's children, raising funds, and caring for veterans and partners with Wreaths Across America every December; it is a beautiful thing to watch. But what makes Gold Star Mothers most remarkable is their resilience. They have not given up on others who share their circumstances, nor have they given up on their country. To our Gold Star Mothers, thank you for your sacrifice. A sacrifice that so few understand or comprehend. You know, it says in the Gospel of John: greater love has no man than this, but to lay down his life for a friend. And these excellent people have laid down their lives for a nation. So, we thank you for your sacrifice, Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Fathers, and all those who lost a loved one in defense of the country.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentleman from Franklin, Senator MASTRIANO.

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I rise in support of Senate Resolution No. 92, which designates 19 [27] April as JROTC Day in Pennsylvania. The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, JROTC, was established through the passage of the National Defense Act in 1916 as the United States was on a cusp of entering the first World War. Its mission was to motivate young people to be better citizens, and for over 100 years, it has been doing just that. In 1964, Congress expanded the program to all military services and changed from active duty to shared support from the services and schools. As congressionally mandated, each military service must have a JROTC program to instill in students in the

United States secondary-educational institutions the values of citizenship, service to the nation, personal responsibility, and sense of accomplishment. Currently in our country, there are approximately 314,000 JROTC cadets with 26 JROTC programs in Pennsylvania high schools alone--some of those who are in my own district, I am proud to say. It continues to be one of the most successful and significantly impactful youth-oriented programs in our country. Comparing attendance rates, graduation rates, discipline dropout rates, and GPA with a general student population, they tend to excel. JROTC is funded through the military, but recruiting is not the purpose. Helping high school students to be the best they can be--the best person, athlete, scholar, and leader--that is the goal. So today, I am proud to honor the JROTC program here in our Commonwealth with this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the Chair recognizes, for the third time, the gentleman from Franklin, Senator MASTRIANO.

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleagues Senator Robinson and Senator Rothman, both Marines, in support of Senate Resolution No. 90, which designates April as the Month of the Military Child and April 15 as Purple Up! for Military Kids Day. There are more than 32,000 children in this Commonwealth with a parent currently serving in the National Guard, Reserves, or active duty. Eighty percent of children and military families are in kindergarten through grade 12 and attend public schools. These students face unique challenges during their parents' military enlistment, including being uprooted from their communities and from their schools in the middle of the year. My own son lived with us overseas--I think around 10 years--and we had 12 moves. There is a lot of sacrifice for young people, so we do appreciate the sacrifice of the children of military members. Last year I was proud to support the passage of Act 69, which provides for purple star designations to schools that go above and beyond in their support for our military children; a very special role to play indeed. Today, with this resolution, we recognize the sacrifices that these children and their families make for our country. Purple, symbolizing all branches of the military, is worn as a tribute to our brave men and women who are serving in our nation. Along with a number of my colleagues, I was honored to serve our country, and I could not be more thankful for the sacrifices of all of our families, and serving this country, often overlooked and forgotten. As such, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing April as the Month of the Military Child.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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:

April 25, 2023

Senators PENNYCUICK, LANGERHOLC, DUSH, STEFANO, ARGALL, HAYWOOD and KANE presented to the Chair **SB 614**, entitled:

An Act prohibiting the preparation, manufacture, sale or distribution of unsafe kratom products and the sale or distribution of kratom products

to individuals younger than 21 years of age; providing for duties of Department of Health; and imposing penalties.

Which was committed to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, April 25, 2023.

Senators KANE, CAPPELLETTI, KEARNEY, HAYWOOD, COMITTA, COLLETT, HUGHES, COSTA, SAVAL, TARTAGLIONE, MUTH and STREET presented to the Chair **SB 619**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744, No.222), known as the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, further providing for unlawful discriminatory practices.

Which was committed to the Committee on URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, April 25, 2023.

Senators BROOKS, SCHWANK, BREWSTER, STEFANO, DILLON, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA and ROBINSON presented to the Chair **SB 620**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in sales and use tax, further providing for exclusions from tax.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, April 25, 2023.

Senators COMITTA, KANE, BREWSTER, SANTARSIERO, FONTANA, BARTOLOTTA, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, HUTCHINSON, STEFANO, ROBINSON and STREET presented to the Chair **SB 621**, entitled:

An Act designating the portion of Pennsylvania Route 41 (Gap Newport Pike) from the intersection with Bernard Avenue in Cochranville, West Fallowfield Township, Chester County, to the intersection with Highland Road in Cochranville, West Fallowfield Township, Chester County, as the Corporal Brandon Hardy Memorial Highway.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, April 25, 2023.

Senators COMITTA, FONTANA, COSTA, SCHWANK, DILLON, BREWSTER and CAPPELLETTI presented to the Chair **SB 622**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for Pennsylvania student journalism protection; and abrogating regulations.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, April 25, 2023.

Senator LANGERHOLC presented to the Chair **SB 655**, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8555, carrying State Route 1007 over Chest Creek on the border of Allegheny Township and East Carroll Township, Cambria County, as the Sergeant Regis H. Driskel Memorial Bridge.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, April 25, 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:

April 25, 2023

Senators BARTOLOTTA, MARTIN, REGAN, BROWN, BOSCOLA, PHILLIPS-HILL, KANE, COSTA, BREWSTER, ARGALL, COMITTA, MILLER, HUTCHINSON, CULVER, J. WARD and DUSH presented to the Chair **SR 99**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of May 2023 as "Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, April 25, 2023.

Senators BARTOLOTTA, SCHWANK, SANTARSIERO, HUGHES, COLLETT, MARTIN, BOSCOLA, PHILLIPS-HILL, BROWN, COMITTA, MILLER, BREWSTER, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI, DUSH, CULVER, KANE and J. WARD presented to the Chair **SR 100**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of May 2023 as "Maternal Mental Health Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, April 25, 2023.

Senators TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, CAPPELLETTI, FONTANA, HAYWOOD, BROOKS, ARGALL, BOSCOLA, SAVAL, COMITTA, MARTIN, BREWSTER, DUSH, SANTARSIERO, SCHWANK, COSTA, CULVER, BROWN, MASTRIANO and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SR 101**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of May 2023 as "Older Americans Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, April 25, 2023.

Senators TARTAGLIONE, KEARNEY, HUGHES, CAPPELLETTI, COMITTA, KANE, FONTANA, MILLER, DILLON, CULVER, HAYWOOD, COSTA, BREWSTER, SCHWANK and DUSH presented to the Chair **SR 102**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of May 2023 as "Trauma Awareness Month" and May 25, 2023, as "Trauma Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, April 25, 2023.

Senators TARTAGLIONE, CAPPELLETTI, KEARNEY, SCHWANK, STREET, PHILLIPS-HILL, HUGHES, FONTANA, SANTARSIERO, MILLER, HAYWOOD, BOSCOLA, COMITTA, ARGALL, BREWSTER, COSTA, KANE and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SR 103**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of May 2023 as "Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, April 25, 2023.

Senator HUGHES presented to the Chair **SR 104**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of April 2023 as "Jazz Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania and recognizing Miles Davis for his contributions to the world of jazz.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, April 25, 2023.

Senators CAPPELLETTI, SAVAL, DILLON, HUGHES, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, KANE, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, SANTARSIERO, COMITTA, FARRY, COSTA, BREWSTER and STREET presented to the Chair **SR 105**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of April 2023 as "National Fair Housing Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, April 25, 2023.

RECESS

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

Senator HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 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 4:09 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.