

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Legislative Journal

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023

SESSION OF 2023 207TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 20

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, May 3, 2023

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Senator Kim L. Ward) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Very Reverend MYKOLA IVANOV, J.C.L., of St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church, Warrington, offered the following prayer:

We pray to You, Lord and God, God of love and wisdom, to grace us with Your mercy, and bless us with Your peace. Guide us in ways of righteousness as we ask for the gift of understanding and serenity of mind. Heavenly Father, You gave us the privilege to live in times when humanity and the civilized world must stand for truth and peace against the tyranny and destruction of the one who divides and destroys. Creator of all, as we complete our elected tasks, we ask for guidance while fulfilling Your heavenly will. Help us in our efforts to protect those who need our protection, support those who need our support, and bring justice to those whose unprovoked aggression works against the freedom of the nations. Almighty God, bless all of the Senators and those who work for the good and prosperity of the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Give them good health and unity of mind, heart, and soul. We pray that their earthly decisions reflect Your glory and lead others towards sharing Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair thanks Pastor Ivanov, who is the guest today of Senator Farry.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

RECALL COMMUNICATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore 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 STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated January 13, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve until February 9, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Philip Reck, York, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Tina Miller, Pittsburgh, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 112 Juniata Hall, Middletown 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Libby White, Penn Valley, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Accountancy, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Michael Rollage, Canonsburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON AGING

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Council on Aging, to serve until October 8, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Samuel Trychin, Erie, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Rodney R. Akers, Esquire (Alternate), 4307 Dakota Street, Pittsburgh 15213, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Martin Raniowski, Mechanicsburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks (Alternate), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-

Level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice David Allard, Elizabethtown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN STATES
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Amanda Warren (Alternate), 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Appalachian States Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Ashok Khare, Warren, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE ARCHITECTS LICENSURE BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg, 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Architects Licensure Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice David Majernik, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Moriah Hathaway, 112 Juniata Hall, Middletown 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, to serve until July 1, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Laura Ellsworth, Sewickley, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, to serve until July 1, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Gayle Isa, Philadelphia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF AUCTIONEER EXAMINERS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Timothy Wiggin, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF AUCTIONEER EXAMINERS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Moriah Hathaway, 112 Juniata Hall, Middletown 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Matthew Rader, Skippack, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF AUCTIONEER EXAMINERS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Mary Louise Doyle, Pottstown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Margaret Moore, Harrisburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 112 Juniata Hall, Middletown 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Sharon Dell, Hummelstown, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice John Christopher, Hummelstown, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve for a term of three years, and until the

successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Donald Yost, Gaines, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CANCER CONTROL,
PREVENTION AND RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Moriah Hathaway, 112 Juniata Hall, Middletown 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Cancer Control, Prevention and Research Advisory Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Joel Noumoff, Wynnwood, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL APPEAL BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Charter School Appeal Board, to serve until June 14, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Mitchell Yanyanin, New Brighton, whose term expired and whose last day was April 23, 2021.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL APPEAL BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Charter School Appeal Board, to serve until June 14, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jonathan Peri, Glen Mills, whose term expired and whose last day was April 23, 2021.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF [sic] CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Harry Hamilton, Wilkes-Barre, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF [sic] CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Carol Gravagno, Wayne, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve until November 16, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Joseph Halloran, Philadelphia, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Chiropractic, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Miriam Woods, Maple Glen, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE CONSTABLES'
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Constables' Education and Training Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Rodney Ruddock, Indiana, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Loughery, Perkasio, whose term expired and whose last day was April 23, 2021.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Cosmetology, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Elaine Gowaty, Murrysville, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of

Cosmetology, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice James Farrell, Erie, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CRANE OPERATORS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, corrected on February 27, 2023, and then corrected again on March 21, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Crane Operators, to serve until December 8, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jason Giurintano, Camp Hill, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE DELAWARE VALLEY
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 15, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Gina Burritt, Havertown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 1, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Dentistry, to serve until June 5, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Alice Hart Hughes, Newtown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Rodney R. Akers, Esquire, 4307 Dakota Street, Pittsburgh 15213, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jeffrey Pincus, Hummelstown, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Anne Gingrich Cornick, Esquire, 2311 Briarcliff Road, Harrisburg 17104, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Pajovich, Royersford, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Thomas Weida, Lititz, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated

February 22, 2023, of Moriah Hathaway, 112 Juniata Hall, Middletown 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Susan Williams, Clearfield, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Victoria S. Madden, Esquire, 1056 Brandt Avenue, Lemoyne 17043, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Janis Creason, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, corrected on February 27, 2023, and then corrected again on March 21, 2023, of Theron Perez, Esquire, 22 Tall Tree Drive, Camp Hill 17011, York County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jeffrey Runge, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice John Keegan, Hazleton, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Mary K. Topper, Esquire, 232 Sylvania Avenue, Glenside 19038, Montgomery County, Fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Richard Grimaldi, Connellsville, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Pamela Higgins, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
DRUG, DEVICE AND COSMETIC BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Drug, Device and Cosmetic Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Joan Tarloff, Collegeville, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2,

Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2028, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Kirk Hallett, Camp Hill, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Moriah Hathaway, 112 Juniata Hall, Middletown 17109, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice James Barker, McKean, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Education, to serve until October 1, 2023, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jamie M. Bracey, Philadelphia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority, to serve until April 8, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Sanders, Philadelphia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated January 13, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Funeral Directors, to serve until June 8, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Thomas Kukuchka, Tunkhannock, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 15, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Funeral Directors, to serve for a term of five years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice William Harris, Johnstown, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HAMBURG CENTER

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Hamburg Center, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Nancy Houser, Bernville, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE HEALTH POLICY BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Health Policy Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice C. Michael Blackwood, Mars, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE HEALTH POLICY BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Health Policy Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Lisa Frank, Pittsburgh, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE HEALTH POLICY BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Health Policy Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Armstrong, Hershey, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE HEALTH POLICY BOARD

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Health Policy Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice John Scullin, Adamsville, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated January 13, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Landscape Architects, to serve for a term of three years, and until the

successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Edward Rak, Glenshaw, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 15, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Psychology, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Donald McAleer, Erie, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

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

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated January 13, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Charles Black, Williamsport, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL
WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 15, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Christian Jordal, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL
WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 15, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Joy Corby, Lititz, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF TORRANCE STATE HOSPITAL

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Torrance State Hospital, to serve until January 21, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Edward Picchiarini, Greensburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF WERNERSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated February 22, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Wernersville State Hospital, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Redith Snoberger, Lebanon, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF WHITE HAVEN CENTER

May 3, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated

February 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of White Haven Center, to serve until January 21, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Tammy Martin, Freeland, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

HOUSE MESSAGE

HOUSE BILL FOR CONCURRENCE

The Clerk of the House of Representatives presented to the Senate the following bill for concurrence, which was referred to the committee indicated:

May 3, 2023

HB 300 -- Committee on State Government.

BILL REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator JUDY WARD, from the Committee on Aging and Youth, reported the following bill:

SB 607 (Pr. No. 657)

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Stefano, Senator Vogel, Senator Brooks, and Senator Mastriano, and legislative leaves for Senator Brown and Senator DiSanto.

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

Senator COSTA. Madam President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Hughes, and legislative leaves for Senator Cappelletti and Senator Anthony Williams.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Stefano, Senator Vogel, Senator Brooks, and Senator Mastriano, and legislative leaves for Senator Brown and Senator DiSanto.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Hughes, and legislative leaves for Senator Cappelletti and Senator Anthony Williams.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Senator PITTMAN asked and obtained a leave of absence for Senator ROTHMAN, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Journal of the Session of March 6, 2023, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of March 6, 2023.

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

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Journal is approved.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

GUESTS OF SENATOR FRANK FARRY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator FARRY. Mr. President, I would like to recognize our guest Chaplain today, Father Ivanov of the St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Warrington. He is joined by his wife, Anna, and their daughter, Christina, who are located in the gallery. His church of St. Anne's has a historic tie to the Bucks County region, Philadelphia, and southeastern PA as a whole. The church was founded by early Ukrainian immigrants who came to Pennsylvania in the late 1800s. Many of these settlers were employed by factories in Philadelphia or served as farmers in Bucks and Montgomery Counties.

Their church originally started out as a renovated farmhouse, but in 1963 it grew enough to warrant the building of a freestanding church. The church was built in 1964 and has continued to grow to meet the needs of a bigger church, which was completed in 1993 with Ukrainian-style architecture. The church currently has 170 families as parishioners and offers religious education programs and this year started to teach Ukrainian adults and children English as a second language.

Mr. President, as we have seen what the Ukrainian country has gone through and the war-torn problems of the Russian aggression there, I think it is also special to note that this church has rallied and tried to help orphaned Ukrainian children. They have actually been over in Poland helping, and they are really trying to make a difference in their founding country. So, Mr. President, I hope you join me in welcoming Father Ivanov and his family here, and I hope his church continues to prosper and they continue all the great work they are doing. So, thank you, sir.

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

The PRESIDENT. Will the Senate please rise and greet the guests of Senator Farry.
[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR FRANK FARRY AND
SENATOR STEVEN J. SANTARSIERO
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bucks, Senator Farry.

Senator FARRY. Mr. President, I am joined by Senator Santarsiero in having the Archbishop Wood Girls' Basketball Team here. They are led by Coach McDonald, and they recently won the State girls' basketball championship over South Fayette. These young ladies have won three straight State championships. The first two titles they won were in the 4A classification, and this season they won the 5A classification. This is a testament to the outstanding culture of hard work and focus of the players and coaches at Archbishop Wood. We all know winning one championship in the Commonwealth is very challenging, but to actually win three in a row is a pretty unique feat.

I hope that the life skills that these young ladies--and good habits--that they have learned in these championship runs and through being scholar athletes will continue in their lives, and I look forward to continuing to follow them. A handful of them are heading off to college. I told the rest of the team I look forward to them being back here next year as four-time champions. So, ladies, thank you. Thank you for being here. Congratulations on your championship and look forward to continued success.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bucks, Senator Santarsiero.

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, I want to echo my colleague Senator Farry's comments and congratulate the Archbishop Wood ladies' team. As a former teacher and as a parent of now three former high school students, I know how many demands you have on your time to excel academically as well as in sports. So, this is really an awesome achievement, and we are very, very proud of you. So, congratulations again, and I echo Senator Farry's comments: for those of you who will be returning next year, we hope to be able to welcome you to the Senate next year as well. Congratulations.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Farry and Senator Santarsiero please rise and be welcomed by the Senate.
[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR SCOTT F. MARTIN
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize student officers representing the Pequea Valley Future Farmers of America program, as well as their advisors, Doug Masser and Jasmine VanSant, for recently being honored with the 2022 Region VI Outstanding Middle/Secondary Agricultural Education Program Award by the National Association of Agricultural Educators. The program was one of only six nationwide to be recognized. Founded several decades ago, the Pequea Valley Agricultural Program offers a variety of agriculture classes ranging from plant, food or animal science, agricultural mechanics, and the opportunity to participate in their FFA. In total, there are 250 students in the Pequea Valley School District's grades 7 through 12 who are taking agricultural classes, which speaks to the strength and importance of Lancaster County agriculture.

I would personally like to recognize both Mr. Masser and Ms. VanSant for their inspired hands-on teaching methods that have continued to pass on the spirit of farming and agricultural science to our young students. Under their stewardship, the program has grown exponentially over the last decade to roughly 75 students who take multiple agricultural courses and who participate with the school's monthly FFA meetings. These students and their advisers are a tremendous example of the mission of Pennsylvania FFA. It is their future leadership that will continue to innovate our agricultural practices, feed our families, and conserve our resources. I ask that my colleagues join me in welcoming the student officers of the Pequea Valley Future Farmers of America and their advisors.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR CAROLYN T. COMITTA
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator COMITTA. Mr. President, I rise today with my friend and colleague Senator Kane to recognize the Bayard Rustin High School Girls' Indoor Track and Field Team from our districts. The West Chester Rustin Girls' Track Team is being honored upon winning first place in the girls' team rankings during the 2023 Pennsylvania Track and Field Coaches Association Indoor State Championships. Under the expert guidance of coaches Shaz Brown, Jim Collins, and Rohan Grant, the Golden Knights captured the golden medal with a score of 37 points. This was an especially rewarding first place after they placed second last year, and it was truly a team effort. Sixteen athletes participated in 10 different events, with 10 of them earning individual State medals. The team members are to be commended for their continuing commitment to excellence, and they have brought great credit to themselves, their school, their communities, and this Commonwealth. Congratulations to the Bayard Rustin High School Girls' Golden Knights on earning these victories. Please

join me in giving them a warm welcome to the Pennsylvania Senate.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR ELISABETH J. BAKER PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Luzerne, Senator Baker.

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, May is National Treatment Court Month, highlighting the role that problem solving and drug treatment courts play in helping individuals and families overcome the effects of substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders. Clients who complete these programs successfully reach graduation at a time when their charges are dismissed. So, we are delighted to have in the gallery today a group working to address these difficult issues within our criminal court system. They provide encouragement and support to those working to maintain their recovery, while also working to reduce crime and affect positive change in people's lives.

So, I ask the Senate to offer a warm welcome to Chester County Judge Ann Marie Wheatcraft; Lancaster County Assistant District Attorney Stefanie Smith; Luzerne County Assistant District Attorney Jim McMonagle; Delaware County Assistant Public Defender Ken Collins; Damian Wachter, director of legislative affairs for the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts; and Abbey Geffken, who is the executive director of the Pennsylvania Association of Treatment Court Professionals. These courts help save lives, and they help save money for our Commonwealth, and we are delighted to have the professionals here with us during National Treatment Court Month. Please offer a warm Senate welcome.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR DAVID G. ARGALL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, with me in the gallery today is William Alex Kurtek, currently a senior at Minersville High School with a real fascination in learning more about government. He is also, in addition to job shadowing me, he recently spent some time with the officials in Minersville Borough doing something similar just a few weeks ago. Also joining William in the gallery is Dinna Pich, who is a youth service manager for the Goodwill Keystone Area. Mr. President, please join me in welcoming these two individuals to the Pennsylvania State Senate today.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR JUDY SCHWANK PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Berks, Senator Schwank.

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, I am delighted today to welcome students from Jewish day schools throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who are here today to help celebrate Jewish Day Schools Week in the Commonwealth. Jewish day schools promote connections in communities across the globe. Through outreach to the worldwide Jewish community, bilingual education, foreign exchange opportunities, students make connections with Jewish congregations all over the world. Jewish day schools, along with places of worship and other institutions, provide a unique opportunity for nearly the half a million people of Jewish faith to attain an education which encompasses Jewish culture, religion, language, and community. Again, Mr. President, I am so honored to have these students visiting us here today in the Capitol and would ask that my colleagues join me in offering a warm welcome to these young people. Thank you.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Mr. President, I would like to offer a sincere and heartfelt congratulations to the State champion Penn-Trafford High School Warriors Rifle Team. This was not only Penn-Trafford's first place win in the prone team event during the 2022-23 PIAA rifle championship, it was also the Warriors' first State title in the history of the rifle program with a total of 1,023.3 points, and that is not all. To further distinguish themselves during the season, they also placed second in the WPIAL (PIAA District VII) championships. The Warriors had 5 shooters in the top 16, including the number 1 shooter, junior Ivy Thomas. Thomas shot a 206.6; teammate Carlee Valenta was 4th with a 205.2; and Seth Bauchman was 5th with a 204.7. Teammates Emily Valenta shot 204.1, 12th; and Zachary Burns was 16th with 202.7. Other team members for Penn-Trafford were Nessa Wright, 197.7; Michael Koreen, 197.3; Brian Broadwater, 196.5; Dominic Nicotero, 195.4; and Mallory McRae with 194; all under the expert guidance of head coach Diana Cholock, and assistant coach Dale Emerick. Congratulations, we are so proud of your accomplishments and wish you much success in the future. Let us give this Penn-Trafford State championship team a very warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Kim Ward 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 the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Rules

and Executive Nominations to be held in the Rules room immediately.

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

AFTER RECESS

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Vogel has returned, and his 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 rise today on the Senate floor to welcome some wonderful guests from all across Pennsylvania, and more specifically, our most famous AKA person that we know, our chairperson of the Pennsylvania [Public] Utility Commission, Ms. Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, who is here with us as well. Mr. President, we are here today, as I mentioned, with ladies from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority who are here today to find out what it is that we do here in Harrisburg, and it is part of their annual visit to Harrisburg. This is an international service organization founded at Howard University in 1908, and it is the oldest Greek-lettered organization established by African American college-educated women. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is comprised of more than 335,000 initiated members in graduate and undergraduate chapters all across the globe. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is founded on the mission of five basic tenets that have remained unchanged, unchanged since the sorority's inception. These missions are as follows: to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards; to promote unity and friendship among college women; to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature; to maintain a progressive interest in college life; and finally, to be of "Service to all Mankind."

Now, Mr. President, we are very lucky and blessed today to have with us in the Senate Chamber members from the following chapters of AKA: Alpha Alpha Omega, Epsilon Sigma Omega, Iota Tau Omega, Mu Nu Omega, Alpha Mu Omega, Omega Omega, Omega Zeta Omega, Phi Beta Omega, Rho Theta Omega, and Tau Delta Omega. The members of the AKA are here at the Capitol to advocate on issues dealing with education funding, Black maternal health, mental health, education protection, election protection, and gun control measures. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming chairwoman Gladys Dutrieuille here along with the ladies from AKA who are spending time here today and give them a warm Senate welcome.

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

[Applause.]

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 153 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Comitta. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS OVER IN ORDER TEMPORARILY

SB 243, SB 244 and SB 245 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order temporarily at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

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

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 598 (Pr. No. 636) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

Considered the third time and agreed to,

And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,

Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, for many years now, the authority for wiretapping has been a crucial piece in our efforts to combat criminal activity. With new forms of crime emerging with advances in communications technology available to those

seeking to exploit it for wrongful activities, we may need to adapt the law, but we certainly do not want to dispense with the law. An effective and constitutional wiretapping law is a balance, a balance in which the expectation of privacy for our citizens is not intruded upon without overriding public purpose. To ensure this, the writers of our wiretap law provided that it would sunset periodically, requiring an affirmative action by State legislators to reauthorize it. We are here at this juncture in 2023. Approval indicates confidence that the courts have been duly rigorous in their oversight responsibility. Our action today will extend Pennsylvania's wiretap law for 6 years, but it does not forestall potential change. Anytime there is consensus on the need for an update or correction, we can act to change the underlying law and procedure. This is a major piece, a major piece in our efforts to fight crime and ensure public safety. So, our action to extend wiretapping authority is a clear and definitive step to support our law enforcement agencies and personnel. So, today, I urge an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 598 and ask for consideration by my colleagues.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Mastriano and Senator Stefano have returned, and their temporary Capitol leaves are cancelled.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

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

SB 671 (Pr. No. 671) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 31, 1965 (P.L.1257, No.511), known as The Local Tax Enabling Act, further providing for title of act; providing for local taxes in cities of the first class, for prohibition of tax on certain individuals and for reimbursement of taxes; and making repeals.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

BOSCOLA AMENDMENT A0467 OFFERED

Senator BOSCOLA offered the following amendment No. A0467:

Amend Bill, page 8, by inserting between lines 13 and 14:

(e) Use of funds.--Reimbursements received by a school district under subsection (c) or municipality under subsection (d) shall be used by the municipality or school district to reduce municipal property taxes or school district property taxes through:

- (1) a homestead or farmstead exclusion; or
- (2) a reduction in millage rate.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

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

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, this amendment will ensure that money that school districts receive today from the Sterling Act for property tax relief will be continued to be used for that purpose, should this law go into effect. A provision in the Taxpayer Relief Act provides a credit from the Property Tax Relief Fund to school districts for residents that pay the city wage tax but reside outside, which must be used for property tax relief. This amendment will ensure that the dollars generated under this bill will be used for property tax relief as intended, both in the school district and in the municipality where the employee lives.

BOSCOLA AMENDMENT A0467 TABLED

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request the amendment be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman moves that the amendment be laid upon the table. That motion is not debatable.

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-27

Argall	Culver	Laughlin	Robinson
Aument	DiSanto	Martin	Stefano
Baker	Dush	Mastriano	Vogel
Bartolotta	Farry	Pennycuik	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Kim
Brown	Hutchinson	Pittman	Yaw
Coleman	Langerholc	Regan	

NAY-22

Boscola	Dillon	Kearney	Schwank
Brewster	Flynn	Miller	Street
Cappelletti	Fontana	Muth	Tartaglione
Collett	Haywood	Santarsiero	Williams, Anthony H.

Comitta
CostaHughes
Kane

Saval

Williams, Lindsey

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Amendment A0467 will be laid upon the table.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?
It was agreed to.

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator FARRY. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to speak on this very important piece of legislation today. The Sterling Act was originally enacted in 1932, over 90 years ago, and a lot has changed in those 90 years. Our communities have changed. The community I represent was primarily farmland then, now it is mostly developed. The needs of our local governments have changed, and they have changed significantly. So, as this bill has been talked about over the previous few days in committee and in the Committee on Appropriations, the timeliness of this bill has been questioned. And, ladies and gentlemen, issues in reforming the Sterling Act are nothing new. It has had bipartisan support over the years. As a former House Member, we had support of many of our colleagues on the Democrat side of the aisle and the Republican side of the aisle in reforming this Act. Both Chambers have had bills introduced to reform this Act over the last many years. There has been strong support from PSATS and the Borough's Association. As a matter of fact, the referendum that was passed by the Borough's Association was passed in 2016 asking for these reforms. These reforms are sorely needed. What is the underlying issue? The underlying issue is equality and tax fairness, tax fairness and equality for both individual taxpayers and our municipalities and school districts. One government, one local government in Pennsylvania is treated differently than 2,500 other local governments, and all we are simply asking is for everybody to be treated the same. We are not trying to take away Philadelphia's broad taxing authority. We are just trying to correct one inequity that exists within that taxing authority.

Something that came to light during COVID-19 is that individuals are being taxed while not even working in the city of Philadelphia. If your employer is in Philadelphia and you could work in Philadelphia, you have to pay the tax, and then you have to go through the process of trying to have that tax rebated to you, and that process is quite onerous. Now, it was said in the Committee on Finance that the city of Philadelphia has worked to make that process easier. Well, I will tell you, last night I was contacted by a representative of a business that let me know that the city of Philadelphia is no longer allowing businesses to make a mass submission for their employees to have their commuter tax refunded to them. So, think about that. The employer used to be able to submit to the city of Philadelphia, all of their employees, and those that warrant having their commuter tax refunded to them. The city of Philadelphia no longer allows that to be the case, again creating an onerous process where now each

individual employee has to file for that rebate. Is that fair? Is that equitable? I think not. You know, people are watching. That business reached out to me last night because they are watching what we are doing here today in the Senate. They are watching for these reforms. Our local government officials on both sides of the aisle at home are watching what we are doing in this Chamber today, and certainly, the taxpayers are watching.

Our local property taxpayers have to make up these revenue shortfalls. For example: Bensalem Township, if the city of Philadelphia had to remit the commuter tax back to the over 5,000 residents of Bensalem that work in Philadelphia, if they had to remit just that 1 percent that Bensalem charges its residents, it would be \$2.5 million. So, what happens with that \$2.5 million right now? The business owners and the residents of Bensalem are making that up through paying higher property taxes. They have to pay higher property taxes to fund that municipality's budget because Philadelphia is treated differently than every other of these 2,500 municipalities. So, all we are asking for is fairness. We are not asking for the city to not have its soda tax or its additional tax on cigarettes or even the remaining balance of the commuter tax, which is 3.44 percent. Think about that. For the privilege of working in the city of Philadelphia, you actually pay a higher tax than this Commonwealth charges you on your personal income taxes. Think about that. We are just asking for 1 percent of that or whatever each local government has enacted--a half of a percent--just to be remitted back to those home municipalities. The burden currently is on our tax-paying individuals, and the burden is also on our local governments, and quite frankly, that disparity has gone on long enough.

So, as we talk about the timeliness of the bill, a lot has changed in the last 90 years, but I have watched colleague after colleague try to reform this, and the time is now to reform it. The time is now to fix that inequity, to address tax fairness, and just ensure that our residents that work in the city of Philadelphia--or more importantly, those that do not work in the city of Philadelphia but are still being charged that tax--our municipalities, and local governments are being treated fairly. Mr. President, I ask for an affirmative vote.

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

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Street.

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I wanted to say, I understand some of the frustrations and challenges of the maker of the bill. However, we have moved this bill too quickly, and there are a number of challenges and problems with this legislation, and I am going to try and quickly enumerate them. First, while it has been asserted in the Committee on Appropriations and other settings that this bill merely moves revenue around the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from one municipality to the other, in fact, this bill would result in residents in Delaware and New Jersey having to pay less in wage taxes to the city of Philadelphia. And so, it would actually cause revenue from Pennsylvania taxpayers to be burden-shifted, Pennsylvania taxpayers to endure revenues that are shifted to our neighboring States. Additionally, there will be a tremendous loss of revenue to the city of Philadelphia. And the reason for the nonresident wage taxes are

nonresidents who are working, living, and moving around the city of Philadelphia do cause the city to have to incur expenses.

The city of Philadelphia is a city of 1.6 million people, which is the core of a metropolitan area of 5 million people. There are literally millions of people in the city of Philadelphia each day, many of them working, who do not live in the city of Philadelphia. Those people are driving on roads that have to be repaired. They are requiring ambulatory services, law enforcement services, and a number of other services, and those expenses should not be borne solely by the city of Philadelphia. Were the city of Philadelphia to receive a huge loss of revenue and there was a reduction in services, that would likely cause Pennsylvania businesses to potentially leave downtown Philadelphia, possibly for south Jersey or Delaware, which would result in significant revenue losses to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as Philadelphia businesses pay a huge share of tax revenue in State taxes to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Revenues which are disproportionately distributed around the State.

Additionally, we are talking about property tax reduction. The city of Philadelphia, a portion of its local share revenues--revenues that come from gaming revenues in the city of Philadelphia--are used to reduce the nonresident wage taxes. Though, if we are going to say that nonresident wage taxes need to be remitted back to the surrounding counties, then the city of Philadelphia should be allowed--as is every other county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania--to keep its local share of gaming revenue, which is currently used to reduce the nonresident wage tax precisely because of the arguments made by the maker.

Moreover, this bill potentially starves away resources that are used to keep the economic engine of the entire southeastern and part of the Commonwealth driving, which is Center City Philadelphia. Center City Philadelphia has to support millions of people who come in on a daily basis in a way that is substantially different than any other place in the Commonwealth, save maybe Pittsburgh in the west. Many of those folks who come in on a daily basis come in from out of State. At a minimum, we should wait and move this legislation after we have had a chance to make sure that the provisions of this legislation do not have the unintended consequences of benefiting our neighboring States in shifting revenue away from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. For those reasons and more, there is no reason to rush this legislation. This legislation potentially has massive detrimental effects on the city of Philadelphia, which could ultimately have a severe negative impact on the fiscal position of the Commonwealth. I urge a "no" vote on this bill.

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

Senator LAUGHLIN. Mr. President, I rise today in support of this bill. As most of you in the room at least know, we held a Majority Policy hearing on the Sterling Act. And quite frankly, you know, coming from the far end of the State, I did not know about the Sterling Act prior to holding the hearing and doing the research on this. It really comes down to fairness and, you know, I applaud Senator Farry for bringing this to my attention, because as we legislate across this State, you know, I like to point out to people from time to time that we are State Senators, we are not regional Senators, we are not township supervisors. The things that we do in this Chamber affect everybody across the State. And I would think that most people who live in Pennsylvania would

want us to do it in a fair, even-handed way, where we all pay the same tax rate across the State. And quite frankly, for the city of Philadelphia to impose a personal income tax rate that is actually higher than the State income tax rate, I found rather egregious. You know, I am willing to work with anyone in this building to try and find a fair way out of this. I know the city of Philadelphia has come to rely on these funds since the tax has been in place for, I believe, about 90 years now. But I can tell you that when you have a wage tax for working in the city and times change and people no longer work in the city, the Tax Code needs to change with it. So, I applaud Senator Farry for bringing this to light. I know that it will probably be--I would say--it will probably be amended in the House if it makes it to the Governor's desk, but I appreciate the efforts that we are making today for fairness. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Hughes.

Senator HUGHES. Mr. President, I rise in opposition. I also rise to provide certain points. The gentleman, the prime sponsor of the bill, stated that he had a big concern about reducing property tax in his local communities. If he was sincere about that concern, he would have made sure that Senator Boscola's amendment was passed and not put on the table, because her amendment specifically dealt with the issue of driving these dollars for local property tax reduction. But the prime sponsor made the conscious decision to just pass on that. So, the question is: is this really about reducing local property tax, or is this about something else? The gentleman who just spoke indicated a Majority Policy Committee hearing--meeting--which I believe is dated February 28, 2023 [sic]. And we pulled the testimony from that hearing, and the mayor of Bensalem, the Honorable Joseph DiGirolamo, who many of us served with his brother, Eugene DiGirolamo, as a Member of the House of Representatives. I think, Mr. President, you might have served with Gene DiGirolamo when you were a legislator. But in his testimony, and I quote, "That estimate represents almost \$2.4 million of earned income tax revenue that should, today,--and I underline--be used to pay for Bensalem's police and fire protection services, that should, today, be used to pave Bensalem roads, and that should, today, be used to fund Bensalem infrastructure projects and resident programs." No mention of reducing local property tax.

So, again, if the concern is to manage or keep control or reducing local property taxes, we had an opportunity to address that with Senator Boscola's amendment. The Majority chose to pass on that. It is clear from the testimony provided at the Majority Policy Committee meeting on February 28, 2023 [sic], from the mayor of Bensalem, the Honorable Joseph DiGirolamo--a Republican, I just might add for the record--said that he would not use the money for local property tax reduction, he would use the money to pave the roads, to provide financial services for police and fire protection services, infrastructure projects, and resident programs in Bensalem. So, you know, there is mixed messaging at best with respect to what would be utilized for local communities, this money coming out of the city of Philadelphia.

Now, for the record, let us also be clear, and the gentleman just spoke, the Sterling Act has been in place for 91 years, 91 years, and now everybody is concerned about quote, unquote, fairness. But let us talk about how this legislation, this fast track that this legislation has been on without any significant thoughtful

analysis, not just one party's hearing--policy hearing--but thoughtful conversation, thoughtful dialogue, getting input from everyone to consider this. This matter was introduced Friday, April 28; Friday, April 28. Now, life for most of us, days feel like weeks, months, and years. But let us be clear, Friday, April 28 was--[counting gesture] the 28th, 29th, 30th, the 1st, the 2nd, and the 3rd--6 days ago. Two of those days happened to be the weekend, Saturday and Sunday. Now, I know we all work on the weekends, okay? But a matter that is going to have a \$200 million--potential \$200 million--hit on the city of the first class, the largest economic driver in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the city of Philadelphia, a matter that is going to have a \$200 million hit to the city of the first class--Philadelphia--is being considered in 6 days. No joint public conversation, no joint hearings, no opportunity to hear from tax experts and budget experts and things of that nature. No thoughtful input into the matter--28th, 29th, 30th, 1st, 2nd, 3rd--6 days.

Now, a lot has happened in those 6 days, all right? Some things that we can be proud about, all right? Howie Roseman and the Eagles crushed it on draft day, all right--crushed it--okay? James Harden came back, did his thing with the Sixers, okay--dropped 45--all right? It was magnificent, in 6 days, all right? You know, a lot of things happened in those 6 days. The Boston Bruins--the best hockey team around--they took a hit, they went out having been up 3-1, and they went down in 6 days, okay? Phillies, in 6 days, they took 2 out of 3 against the Houston Astros--their nemesis from the World Series--in a 6-day period. If we want to get spiritual about it, there is a book that talks about how things were done in 6 days. On the 7th day, folks rested, okay? But on April 28, the bill was introduced--Friday, last Friday. On May 1--the Monday after the weekend--on May 1, the bill moved out of the Committee on Finance. At 1:21 p.m. on May 2, Tuesday--yesterday, 1:21 in the afternoon--the bill was sent to the Committee on Appropriations. I happen to know a little bit about the Committee on Appropriations. Out of the kindness of my colleagues, they voted for me to be the Democratic chair of the Committee on Appropriations--1:21 p.m., 35 minutes later, the bill was voted out of the Committee on Appropriations, okay?

And now, today, fast track, the bill is poised for a vote--it is not even noon today--on a matter that is going to have an impact of about \$200 million on the city Philadelphia. There is controversy, whether it is for property tax reduction, local property tax reduction for surrounding counties, the surrounding community, mayor of Bensalem, Republican mayor of Bensalem, DiGirolamo said, no, he is not thinking about property tax reduction; he wants to build the roads in Bensalem, provide services for the folks in Bensalem, not thinking about property tax reduction, all right? In 6 days, 6 days, two of which are the weekend--\$200 million hit to the city of Philadelphia. I mean, you know, on a measure that has been in existence for 91 years. This bill has moved so fast. It is almost like Bryce Harper coming out of Tommy John surgery, right? Right? I mean, you know, you provide these contexts that have some sense of humor to it, but it goes to the laughable quickness that we are moving a measure that has been around for 91 years, that has a \$200 million hit to the budget of the city of Philadelphia, that local communities are not sure whether it is for property tax reduction or whether it is for providing services.

So, Mr. President, I have been in this building for a while. What I have come to learn is that taxing and tax relief for local communities is a very measured balancing act. Numerous factors are taken into account when we talk about how we utilize taxpayer dollars and what streams they come from to deal with the issues either in a taxing environment or a tax relief, a tax reduction environment. You factor in numerous things to make sure that all minds are heard, all thoughts are considered, and the balance sheets reflect an affirmative situation for everyone involved. That is not what has happened here in the consideration of Senate Bill No. 671. This 6-day rush, this 6-day rush does not consider nor take into conversation everything that needs to be taken into consideration with respect to changing a 91-year-old Act and how it hurts or helps local communities. Too rushed, too fast, too quick, no analysis. How do we deal with, if this is a \$200 million hit, how do we deal with that? How do we deal with this? Far too many times the city of Philadelphia has been left up to its own devices to finance responsibilities that the State should be handling. The most evident one is the funding of public education left up to our own devices. But all of that needs to be taken into consideration, not a 6-day rush on a matter that has been around for 91 years that has had no bipartisan public conversation to address the issues and the impact and what the usage of funds would be for or what the impact would be on not only the city of Philadelphia but on local communities here and far.

So, Mr. President, this rush of 6 days, this ambiguousness of what the money would be utilized for deserves a "no" vote. Let us take our time. Let us think through this, not have a situation where a measure introduced on Friday and 6 days later, it is up for final passage with so many outstanding issues that are available. This is not a naming of a road, naming of a bridge. This is not a matter that is simple in nature. This is a potential \$200 million hit to the economic driver of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the city of Philadelphia. I ask for a "no" vote, Mr. President, I ask for a "no" vote.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lehigh, Senator Coleman.

Senator COLEMAN. Mr. President, I think tonight, I just want to start by going back to my favorite part of the year here in Pennsylvania. I want to go back to, for me, this is summer evenings in my neighborhood, you know, the type of summer evenings where I will be on a walk with my wife and kids around the block where maybe the sunset is just enough that I am not sweating on my forehead but has not gone so far to yet obscure a beautiful cotton candy sky. And as I am walking around my neighborhood, I am meeting other families in the neighborhood, ones that I know and ones that others, I am only sure they have lived there because their trash is out every Wednesday night, but finally, I get to meet them and learn about what is important to them. And it is on these walks around my neighborhood where I have this feeling of "love thy neighbor" and caring about my neighbor, and for one instance, these summer evenings, we all come together, and we all feel united, and I think this is where it is interesting. I start talking to some of my neighbors, and I think it is important for--Pennsylvanians are smart, and I think they pick up on this quickly with this idea of our neighbors. I think it is really interesting--you start talking to neighbors and neighbors right now are concerned with lots of things regarding taxes--but as you talk to more neighbors you find out there are a few of them as far up as Upper Bucks

County or in Lehigh County who are paying a tax to the city of Philadelphia. And at a time where school districts have crazy budgets and out-of-control spending where they are going to be raising budget to the Act 1 indexes, they are also being taxed unfairly by the city of Philadelphia. Taxed higher than me. For that, I just cannot stand for that. And I think it is important that we stick to the facts. I think as we have this discussion it is important to stick to the facts.

The purpose of Senate Bill No. 671 is simple. It adds cities of the first class to the Local Tax Enabling Act. It is not singling anyone out for special treatment or penalty. To illustrate what I mean, here is the beginning of the legislation: [Reading]

Empowering cities of the first class--**but there is more**--second class, cities of the second class A, cities of the third class, boroughs, towns, townships of the first class, townships of the second class, school districts of the second class, school districts of the third class and school districts of the fourth class.

Now that sounds like an inclusive policy to me. And now I would like to thank Senator Hughes for bringing up just how long this bill has been around. The special taxing authority granted the cities of the first class by the Sterling Act was a result of the Great Depression. Most people will agree that the Great Depression ended quite some time ago. And yet, the Sterling Act persists. Over the course of the 90 years that have elapsed, there have been drastic changes in transportation and communication. Working from home has become commonplace, but cities of the first class are still operating as if it did not, while keeping a wage tax paid by people who have never set foot in the city. According to the website for the city of Philadelphia, a nonresident who works from home for the sake of convenience is not exempt from the wage tax even with his or her employer's authorization. To clarify: if Sam works as a cyber security analyst for a Philadelphia firm, and during the summer the firm allows Sam to work from her home in Conshohocken, Sam is not exempt from the wage tax for her time spent working from home. So, Sam does not go to the office or maybe goes to the office once or twice per week over the course of the year, but because her employer is based in Philadelphia, Conshohocken, Doylestown, Quakertown, and Allentown may lose revenue to the city for services that Sam is not going to use. One of the principles of good and responsible government is that people pay for the services that they are using. The Sterling Act prevents that from happening. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of Senate Bill No. 671 and to put an end to a Depression-era tax regime that has outlived its purpose. Thank you.

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

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

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, I am really attracted by any framework that starts with "love thy neighbor," and I am a Christian, and I attempt to follow love your neighbor. However, as Senator Hughes indicated, there are some consequences of this legislation that I think are more consistent with "rob your neighbor." In the Committee on Finance, we shared a brief discussion about the impact of the hold harmless provision for public

education. That is a provision that is costing a heavily underfunded Philadelphia school system up to \$104 million. Now, the Philadelphia school system is not essentially financed by property tax, but instead wage taxes and, potentially, this tax resource that has been identified today, Mr. President. And, so, depriving up to \$200 million in this revenue source can have the further impact of decreasing funding available for a severely underfunded Philadelphia School District. And, so, on one hand--on the fairness side--we hear eliminate the Sterling Act. On the other hand--on the fairness side--we are not hearing end hold harmless so that the severely underfunded Philadelphia School District can be fully funded. Mr. President, for these reasons, love your neighbor should be applied through all our policies, not only this one.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Hughes.

Senator HUGHES. Mr. President, I want to be clear. There is nothing in Senate Bill No. 671 that says that these dollars would go to local property tax reduction. There is absolutely nothing in Senate Bill No. 671 that says that these dollars would go to local property tax reduction. I am going to say it a third time, so it sinks into everybody on this floor and who may be listening. There is nothing in Senate Bill No. 671 that says that these dollars should go to local property tax reduction. In fact, in the testimony on February 23, on February 23, the mayor of Bensalem, the Honorable Joseph DiGirolamo, said that his testimony--he said it, I am not making it up, it is right here, he said it: "That estimate represents almost \$2.4 million of earned income tax revenue that should, today--**this is what he said it should be used for**--[be used] to pay for Bensalem's police and fire protection services, that should, today, be used to pave Bensalem's roads, and that should, today, be used to fund Bensalem's infrastructure projects and resident programs." Nothing for local property tax reduction. That is four times. So, hopefully that sinks in. Now, hopefully that sinks in.

Now, we had an opportunity to get it addressed for local property tax reduction. The gentlewoman Senator Lisa Boscola had an amendment, offered it up for local property tax reduction. Money should go for local property tax reduction. The Majority, including the maker of the bill, the prime sponsor of the bill, said no, we are going to put it on the table, not even going to consider it. So, you had the chance to make it for local property tax reduction, but you did not. We need to be real clear about that, real clear. Crystal clear, crystal clear.

The Sterling Act has been around for 91 years. The reasons why it has been around for 91 years is because previous Senators, previous legislators, previous governors, have seen that there needs to be a balance in how we deal with local communities with respect to their tax relief or how they tax. It is a delicate balance. In the spirit of Senator Haywood's comments about "loving thy neighbor," it is a delicate balance. There are a number of items that the city of Philadelphia does not have available to it with respect to how it can tax itself or those who live, work, and involved in the city of Philadelphia--a number of items in the Tax Code; that is not available to the city of Philadelphia. So, this issue of fairness is escaping the matter at hand right now. It is not in front of us. Fair is not--the idea of treating one another--are we our brother or our sister's keeper? The idea of treating one another fairly is not here in this. This is a \$200 million snatch from the

city of Philadelphia to do anything, not local property tax reduction. Who knows what these dollars would go to?

And once again, Mr. President, that goes to the issue of how fast this matter is being addressed. Friday, 6 days ago, it is introduced. Monday, May 1, right out of the Committee on Finance. Tuesday, at 1:21 p.m. it was sent to the Committee on Appropriations, from the floor of the Senate to the Committee on Appropriations. We take 5 or 10 minutes to get over to the Committee on Appropriations meeting to have our meeting. Now it is 1:31 p.m. By 1:45 p.m. it is voted out of the Committee on Appropriations. No real conversation, and now today, it is up for a vote. It is barely 12:05 p.m. right now. This is a huge issue. And, Mr. President, you know that when we deal with matters that either are tax increases or tax reductions, changes in the Tax Code, what is the money going to be used for, how do we minimize the burden on local community to address something somewhere else in the spirit of our brother or our sister's keeper, in the spirit of brotherhood, we take our time, we think through these things, we try to bring all of these things together to make sure that we do no harm. That we do no harm. That is not what is happening here. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday--6 days. I wish we could move legislation around assault weapon bans as quickly. I wish we could move legislation around the bill that just came out of the House of Representatives protecting LGBTQIA rights and give them their fair protection. I wish we could move that legislation in 6 days. I wish we could move appropriate and adequate funding for public education that was ruled unconstitutional here in Pennsylvania that the Majority has decided not to challenge that decision, which means they concur with it. I wish we could move that as quickly as we are moving this--6 days, 6 days.

Mr. President, we are open to conversation about tax policy changes, especially given the significant budget surplus that exists in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that gives us the wiggle room, the wiggle room to do things to accommodate all kinds of individuals. We are open for that conversation. But to move a matter of this nature in 6 days that has a \$200 million hit on the city of Philadelphia with no understanding of what those dollars will be utilized as they go to other communities is not worthy, is not worthy of the body of work that this Senate has the responsibility to conduct. I ask for a "no" vote, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentleman from Bucks, Senator Farry.

Senator FARRY. Mr. President, the previous speaker and I may agree on a few things, we may disagree on a few things. I appreciate the sports analogies because I completely agree with you, the Eagles knocked it out of the park with that draft and that trade for D'Andre Swift, bringing back a southeastern guy to the team. I appreciate James Harden's efforts with the Sixers--fantastic. But there are going to be a few things we do disagree on, and I may be new to this Chamber, but I am not new to the building, and I think it is important that we clarify the accuracy of some of the statements. My good friend Mayor DiGirolamo, who I have known since I have been about 3 years old, I think the context of his testimony is important. I think what Mayor DiGirolamo was trying to say is that Bensalem Township has to make up that \$2.5 million by taxing their residents. As a matter of fact, in his testimony, he states: "The inherent unfairness of this arrangement is exacerbated by the fact of this lost/unrealized revenue that

ultimately has to be made up either by Bensalem wage earners who do not work in Philadelphia or by residential property owners, regardless of their employment and retirement status."

I think the good mayor was talking about the services Bensalem has to provide because their budget is what their budget is. But on the revenue side of it, it is \$2.5 million short because of those 5,200 Bensalem residents who work in the city of Philadelphia. If those 5,200 residents were working in Bucks County or Montgomery County or Chester County or even Dauphin County, that \$2.5 million would be in Bensalem's treasury, and I think that is something that is pretty important. All of our municipalities provide services to the community, and to tax people who are not in the city of Philadelphia, to actually tax them--who are not availing themselves to that police protection or the need for EMS or driving on the municipal roads--to tax them for those services when they are not utilizing the services, further highlights the lack of tax fairness of the Sterling Act.

Now, in terms of the timeliness of this, I understand; I understand the 6 days. But this is not a 6-day issue, this is a 91-year issue. This is an issue that has existed for 91 years. It has changed over that time. My community--primarily staffed by volunteer firefighters--we are moving more and more closer to career firefighters. That costs the taxpayers money. That is a municipal responsibility. Things are a lot different today. But what I will tell you is, I think there are a few other facts. Former Governor Thornburgh, his tax commission in 1981 highlighted some of the changes that needed to be made to the Sterling Act, including crediting municipalities--1981, not 6 days ago, 1981. I have a letter before me that was signed by both Republicans and Democrats in the House of Representatives that was sent to the city of Philadelphia on April 13, 2021--2 years ago--talking about the inequalities of our residents who were not working in Philadelphia being charged those wage taxes--not 6 days ago, 2 years ago. The issue has been vetted through House hearings, through the introduction of legislation, through a Senate policy hearing. The issue has been discussed for many, many years, and the time has come to finally resolve that issue. The \$190 million number that the city of Philadelphia provided in their letter for that policy hearing was a speculative number. Now, it is being cited as \$200 million today, but that \$190 million was factoring if every municipality and every school district had a 1 percent earned income tax. That is just simply not true. We have asked Philadelphia for more clear numbers. They have the numbers. They can tell us the exact impact this would be, but they have not disclosed those numbers to us. We have tried to talk to the city of Philadelphia. They do not want to talk about this. They do not want to work with us to address this issue. And as a matter of fact, as I mentioned earlier, we just learned last night that the city of Philadelphia, again, changed their tax policy to make it more difficult for individual taxpayers to have their money rebated to them, which by the way, speaking of rebates, Mayor DiGirolamo has issued a property tax rebate to his residents for many years.

So, let us talk about the property tax relief component of it. Now, we are not talking about the higher property taxes that the residents I represent and many in this Chamber represent have to pay. They have to pay higher taxes. Why do they have to pay those higher property taxes for those municipal services? Because Philadelphia is treated differently than the other 2,500-plus local governments in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Now, what are these municipalities going to do with this money when it is remitted back? Some may provide property tax relief; some may rebate that money; some may improve services; some may stave off a future property tax increase, but we are in a Commonwealth. We are in a local government where it is vastly important that the best decisions can be made at the local level, and we are going to let those municipalities make that decision.

Now, we heard harm being mentioned. Well, you know what? The people I represent, whether it is a single mother who is paying rent and incorporated within that rent is the property taxes that that property owner of her apartment building pays, or our fixed-income seniors who are struggling, or our working families who are struggling with all this inflation, they are not second-class citizens. The money being infused back into their local municipality is going to make a difference in their lives. I was sent here to make their lives better. And, Mr. President, in closing, I have to say, it is very clear there is inequity. Nobody is debating that there is not an inequity. And I have to say, we have talked about the 6 days, but I do not think this inequity should exist for one more day. It has been exacerbated over the last 91 years. We are trying to solve that inequity. We are trying to have tax fairness be the solution here so our municipal governments are all treated the same, as the Senator from Lehigh Valley cited earlier. And, Mr. President, I think it is time that we end this inequitable treatment and we vote in favor of Senate Bill No. 671. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes, for the second time, the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Street.

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to speak for a second time. Look, I want to say, I agree with the maker that we should look at equity, and the city of Philadelphia is treated differently, but not always better. It is true, there are a number of ways in which Philadelphia is treated differently that are implicated here. Philadelphia's share of the local share casino revenue, as has been mentioned, currently a portion of that goes to reducing the nonresident wage tax. Throughout the rest of the State, casino revenue is used by municipalities as they see fit. This results in the current Sterling Act's tax credit; that has happened since the tax is done; it has not remained the same over the last 91 years.

Philadelphia is the only county that pays for its courts, the First Judicial District, a responsibility that should be borne by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. That is another way in which Philadelphia is treated differently in an adverse way. This tax would result not just in shifting tax burdens amongst Pennsylvanians but, as has been noted, would likely result in significant tax savings to residents of New Jersey and Delaware that we would, therefore, be requiring PA residents in Philadelphia to pay more in taxes in order to benefit residents out of State. The hold harmless provisions for school districts that we have implemented as we move forward with the way we fund education disproportionately hurt Philadelphia. Philadelphia pays for its schools in a significant way by using rate wage tax revenues. And if we are going to shift tax burdens, when we implemented the new funding formula for education, the first thing we did was hold harmless a bunch of school districts across the State. It is impossible to segregate the finances of the Philadelphia School District from the city of Philadelphia because the School District of Philadelphia lacks taxing authority. Those taxes and revenues for the school district must be levied by the city, and so, this is a

direct attack on that. So maybe, perhaps, we should reexamine the hold harmless provisions in the way we fund education.

Second to last, this could result in higher taxes, because if we take out, potentially, \$200 million of revenue from the city of Philadelphia by shifting these revenues to the counties, it is quite possible that the residents in Bensalem and other places, they will not experience any tax reduction because the city of Philadelphia may be forced--city council--to raise both nonresident and resident wage taxes, and all that will happen is there will be more money spent in the suburban areas. However, the people of those areas may also end up paying more taxes because this does not prevent raises in the wage tax. Finally, Philadelphia still will not be able to levy all of the taxes that were authorized under Act 511, taxes which every other municipality and every other school district can benefit from. The city of Philadelphia still will not be that. So, yes, Philadelphia is treated differently. And, in closing, I want to note that it has not been noted here that for over two decades the city of Philadelphia has worked to reduce both the resident and nonresident wage taxes. This is of particular significance to me because that began in a partnership that my father--then-council president John Street, who later went on to be mayor--and then-Mayor Ed Rendell--who later went on to be Governor--started in reducing both resident and nonresident wage taxes, which began the renaissance in Philadelphia. A renaissance which resulted in thousands of new jobs, 20,000 new jobs in the Comcast Center alone, which resulted in millions of additional dollars to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as those businesses in Philadelphia still pay all the corporate franchise taxes, income taxes, sales taxes, real estate transfer taxes, and all the other taxes that go to the Commonwealth. This could have the effect of costing the Commonwealth significant revenue if the city of Philadelphia is forced to raise wage taxes, which could drive businesses out of the city and ultimately hurt not only the city's tax base, but the tax base of the Commonwealth.

There are better ways to do this, none of us have suggested that there should not be some additional provisions to help residents of Bensalem and our suburban areas. But if we are going to do it, first, we should make sure that it actually goes to tax reductions; and secondly, we should do this in a way that does not benefit out-of-State residents; and finally, we should take some thoughtfulness and care to do this in a bipartisan way, and unfortunately, that is going to take more than 6 days. I urge a "no" 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 Martin, and 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 Fontana, and a legislative leave for Senator Brewster.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Culver, Senator Martin, and Senator Regan.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Fontana, and a legislative leave for Senator Brewster.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-28

Argall	Culver	Laughlin	Robinson
Aument	DiSanto	Martin	Santarsiero
Baker	Dush	Mastriano	Stefano
Bartolotta	Farry	Pennycuik	Vogel
Brooks	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Brown	Hutchinson	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Langerholc	Regan	Yaw

NAY-21

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 97, SB 100, SB 146 and SB 205 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 248 (Pr. No. 212) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 64 (Public Authorities and Quasi-Public Corporations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth Financing Authority, establishing the Veteran-owned Business Loan Guarantee Program.

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

SB 262 (Pr. No. 225) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 9, 2018 (P.L.118, No.24), known as the Maternal Mortality Review Act, further providing for maternal mortality review committee, for purpose and duties of committee and for confidentiality and protection of collected data, proceedings and activities.

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

SB 290 (Pr. No. 264) -- 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 terms and courses of study, providing for moment of silence on September 11 anniversary.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 344, SB 353, SB 360 and SB 361 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 411 (Pr. No. 360) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fishing licenses, further providing for disabled veterans and former prisoners of war and for deployed Pennsylvania National Guard members and repealing provisions relating to reserve component of armed forces members.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 414, SB 446 and SB 456 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 460 (Pr. No. 513) -- 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 preliminary provisions, establishing the Child Reunification Program in the Department of Education.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 497 and SB 500 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL REREFERRED

SB 508 (Pr. No. 392) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

Upon motion of Senator PITTMAN, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill was rereferred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 549 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 555 (Pr. No. 552) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, in 2022-2023 budget implementation, further providing for Department of Human Services.

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

BILL REREFERRED

SB 645 (Pr. No. 686) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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.

Upon motion of Senator PITTMAN, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 647 (Pr. No. 690) -- 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 terms and courses of study, further providing for Economic Education and Personal Financial Literacy Programs; in credit card marketing, further providing for regulation of on-campus credit card marketing; and abrogating regulations.

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Farry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Farry. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

SB 243 CALLED UP

SB 243 (Pr. No. 208) -- Without objection, the bill, which previously went over in its order temporarily, was called up, from page 1 of the Third Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 243 (Pr. No. 208) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, further providing for uniformity in administration of assistance and regulations as to assistance.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, I rise to share my opposition to Senate Bill No. 243 as legislation that is entirely redundant because the Department of Human Services already has procedures to check death certificates from the Department of Health vital statistics against Medicaid assistance and SNAP benefits. I want to be clear that I do not think anyone in this Chamber

supports any kind of fraud or abuse in any government programs that we may have, whether they be public assistance, whether they be tax benefits, whether it be wage theft. Senator Hutchinson and I, last Session, led legislation for anti-fraud provisions with respect to tax credits. At the same time, this bill really just shows inefficiency and waste here in the legislative process. As I have said, DHS already acts, gets, and follows up on the death records of the Department of Health and its managed care plans and Social Security.

I would like to share some of the efforts of the Department of Human Services in their strategic program that is clearly focused on reducing fraud and waste in these public programs. Here are the pronounced goals of the program integrity standards of DHS. They include identifying, monitoring, and eliminating waste and misuse of taxpayer dollars to protect the availability of services delivered for truly needy and eligible recipients. Second, to administer services that are both cost-effective and of the highest quality by properly funding, evaluating, and managing them with careful regard to best value and verify need. Third, to increase consistency in collecting, sharing, and analyzing useful information across multiple programs to proactively minimize the potential for waste, fraud, and abuse and support effective decision-making. Fourth, their program goals include holding providers, recipients, retailers, and employees accountable for understanding and complying with stated program requirements. The department has adopted a number of procedures that matched their data with external data sources in order to verify eligibility.

With respect to this legislation, Senate Bill No. 243, related to death benefits, I would like to highlight what the department has adopted as a match of outside data with their data in order to verify eligibility. Currently, the department matches with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. It currently matches with Pennsylvania managed care organizations, Social Security Administration's Death Master File for deceased person's information. It is intended to provide the county assistance office staff with the information needed to avoid authorizing any individual who has been reported to another source as deceased and to remove deceased individuals from active cases. These matching services also serve the purpose of providing the Office of Medical Assistance with the capability to recoup funds paid for those recipients whose nursing home benefits and other services continue after the date of death. These matches occur weekly with the medical managed care organizations and monthly with the Department of Health.

Unfortunately, this legislation is duplicative of current efforts, as I have just described, and it takes our legislature on a path of spending time on what has already been done as opposed to focusing on effective provisions to reduce fraud and abuse, which my colleague Senator Lindsey Williams has been considering for some time. Now, while the Shapiro Administration has taken a neutral position on this legislation, it remains important to highlight that this is still an inefficient use of our time because these provisions are already in operation, and in fact, there are more effective efforts that the department is taking even beyond the matching of the records described in this legislation. For these reasons, Mr. President, I request a "no" vote, and I thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator Lindsey Williams.

Senator L. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I rise today on Senate Bill No. 243 and the importance of accountability when it comes to taxpayer dollars. I want to first thank the gentleman from Luzerne [sic] County for recognizing that we need to put stronger protections in place to help identify when taxpayer dollars are not being spent as intended. Ensuring transparency and accountability of taxpayer dollars has been a top priority of mine since day one. As many of you know, I previously worked for the National Whistleblower Center, where I helped strengthen Federal policy, protecting employees who come forward to report government waste, fraud, and abuse. When I took office, I wanted to bring those same Federal protections and the ability to recover lost taxpayer money to Pennsylvania. This resulted in the creation of a State version of the Federal False Claims Act, the Commonwealth Fraud Prevention Act, which my colleague Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill and I are reintroducing this Session. Our addition to the Human Services Code would give whistleblowers the protection and incentives that they need to come forward and report waste, fraud, and abuse of taxpayer dollars. Whistleblowers are key to identifying these kinds of losses and they always have been. We know from study after study that most fraud is identified by tip. We know that Pennsylvania is literally leaving millions of dollars per year of fraud recovery on the table because we do not have a State false claims act. The absolute best way that we can protect taxpayer dollars is to pass the Commonwealth Fraud Prevention Act, a truly powerful tool for government accountability and transparency that Pennsylvania needs now before we pass yet another budget without it. Let us make sure that if taxpayer dollars are not being spent as intended, we can discover it, we can recover those funds, and we can ensure it does not happen again. Unfortunately, as my colleague Senator Haywood has so eloquently stated, this bill and the next two bills on today's Calendar do not take the steps we need to identify fraud and recover taxpayer dollars. They are merely duplicating fraud prevention measures we already have in place. So, I echo his call for a "no" vote and encourage this Chamber to pass a bill that will recover millions, millions of dollars for Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Schuylkill, Senator Argall.

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, "When a person receiving benefits dies, the benefits should stop. Period." I did not say that; Auditor General Eugene DePasquale--not a Republican, for the record--he said that during a press conference following an audit of EBT cards that found that 2,324 cardholders' accounts received benefits, almost \$700,000 after death. Think about that. Despite all of the efforts that we have heard about of our vast State bureaucracy, 2,324 people received benefits after they died. That is when I moved to introduce this legislation. And I understand that perhaps there are some regulations that are forcing some of these things to happen today, but think about tomorrow. The Governor, for some reason, the Secretary of Health and Human Services could just say, well, we are not going to do that anymore. There is no law that requires them to do the right thing. That is the reason for this legislation. It would require the Department of Human Services, on a monthly basis, to check death certificates at the Bureau of Vital Statistics so that we no longer will have fraud in this system in the future. Our goal is very simple: to reduce the fraud so that in the future we can afford to give those people who

desperately need assistance the assistance that they should receive, not people who have already passed on.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Laughlin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests a legislative leave for Senator Laughlin. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-28

Argall	Coleman	Langerholc	Regan
Aument	Culver	Laughlin	Robinson
Baker	DiSanto	Martin	Stefano
Bartolotta	Dush	Mastriano	Vogel
Boscola	Farry	Pennycuik	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Kim
Brown	Hutchinson	Pittman	Yaw

NAY-21

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

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

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

SB 244 CALLED UP

SB 244 (Pr. No. 685) -- Without objection, the bill, which previously went over in its order temporarily, was called up, from page 1 of the Third Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 244 (Pr. No. 685) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, further providing for uniformity in administration of assistance and regulations as to assistance.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, I rise again to share my opposition to another piece of similar legislation, Senate Bill No. 244. This legislation does require what the Department of Human Services is already doing. That is checking wage records held by the Department of Labor & Industry against recipients of medical assistance and SNAP benefits. This legislation, like the previous, is an extremely inefficient use of the time of the General Assembly, and initially the Governor, should he sign it, because of the redundancy, as I have stated, is legislation that only codifies current action. DHS currently uses the quarterly match hits from the Department of Labor & Industry to determine income eligibility for medical assistance and SNAP benefit programs. This legislation does nothing, does not establish additional or duplicate requirements, but only repeats what is currently in process.

Mr. President, I would like to share some actions that the Department of Human Services is currently taking in order to prevent fraud and abuse. Of course, we all are against that and want to see taxpayer dollars used appropriately, and especially for these programs, be applied to those who are truly needed. Now, in addition to the matching of Department of Labor & Industry information, the department has a second match, and this is a match with L&I's Office of Employment Security and Unemployment Compensation file data. All active unemployment compensation claims and unemployment benefit payments information for the six quarters preceding the exchange date is provided to L&I. That information is obtained by all Pennsylvania claims and out-of-State claims filed in Pennsylvania. This includes extended unemployment compensation benefits as authorized by the Federal government. The match does not provide information on trade reduction benefits or disaster relief; however, all active recipients, all active recipients are matched on a monthly basis, and daily requests for information can be entered by county assistance office staff on an as-needed basis to verify income. There is a second match. This is the match at the Social Security Administration's master benefit record. The information consists of Social Security Title II benefit information. Other information that is matched includes supplemental security benefits, Medicare Part A and B information, railroad retirement board benefits. These are all matches that the DHS does to verify wage. In addition, the Social Security Administration has an earnings reference file. The Social Security Administration obtains this information from the Internal Revenue Service records. This is another match that is done by DHS to confirm income. Annual wages from self-employment, out-of-State employment, private pensions, are reported on W-2 and W-2P tax forms. Those are provided to DHS as part of their match to verify eligibility.

Another matched source is the IRS earned income file. This is another data match to verify income and program eligibility. This information includes interest income, dividends, and other unearned income as reported to the IRS by the sources of unearned income during the preceding calendar year. These sources include

stockbrokers, large corporations, banks, and other financial institutions. An additional source to verify income includes the Social Security Supplemental Security Record, also called the SSR file. Now, the Social Security Administration sends this file data to the Department of Human Services several times a week, Mr. President, several times a week, and this information includes pending SSI applications, rejections, as well as newly authorized SSI benefits for recipients residing in Pennsylvania.

In addition, Mr. President, the Department of Human Services has an additional match to verify eligibility for programs. This is from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid buy-in program. The buy-in program was created to help low-income Medicare beneficiaries pay their share of Medicare premiums and in some instances, deductibles and co-payments. Medicare beneficiaries are eligible for different buy-in programs. DMS administers these programs and provides eligibility updates to DHS. Some transactions from this program are sent to the department daily, Mr. President, daily. In addition, Mr. President, there is the public assistance agencies; it is called the State PAAS. They have entered into an agreement with the AFC for another public assistance program. This is operated primarily by the Federal government. And on a quarterly basis, Mr. President, the participants in this statewide exchange provide this information to DHS for the purposes, Mr. President, of matching wages to make sure that only those who are eligible are receiving these important benefits.

Last on this list, but not ultimately last, there is a Commonwealth judicial inquiry system. This is another data exchange. This one provides criminal history information from the following sources: the Administrative Offices of Pennsylvania Courts, the Department of Corrections, the Pennsylvania Parole Board, and the prisoner verification system. Information from these systems is provided to DHS, and their updates are made in the systems. This information is provided on a quarterly basis to also match income sources to properly verify that individuals who are receiving benefits are eligible. Mr. President, I have reviewed what I consider a relatively long list of efforts by the Department of Human Services to do what we in the General Assembly, all of our neighbors, and constituents want to see done. That only those who are eligible receive these benefits. Now, I do want to share that some of these individuals who are, unfortunately, involved in some fraudulent activity, because there is some fraudulent activity--we must acknowledge that there is some fraudulent activity despite the best efforts--are in an environment where there is desperation. There is desperation, Mr. President, among many people who have low pay.

You may recall that several years ago I went around the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and did a poverty report. Went to many of the districts of my colleagues and heard from people who were trying to lift themselves out of poverty. Unfortunately, we heard of many stories of desperation which do not really excuse any kind of a criminal misconduct, but we have created an environment, Mr. President, I believe, which makes this desperation a more fertile ground for unfortunate character lapses and mistakes. We currently punish those who are low income with the highest effective tax rate for those who are making under \$15,000 as reported by the IFO--not my source, as reported by the IFO. We already know we have the lowest minimum wage rate in the State for those who are trying to get ahead. And, if you make \$7.25 an hour, Mr. President, you work 40 hours, you are still

going to be below the poverty line because that is only \$15,000 a year. The poverty line is above that for a family of two or a family of three. Unfortunately, that desperation is also caused by our very low TANF amount for families--that is the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families--that is only \$403 a month for a family of three. Obviously, that can lead to desperation. Unfortunately, the national government has declared the end of the public health emergency, and so, we have received estimates of thousands of individuals who are going to lose SNAP benefits, they are going to lose Medicaid, and that obviously is going to increase the level of desperation. When the General Assembly ended the General Assistance program, which means a number of individuals not going to have any money, obviously, that is another source of potential desperation.

Having said all of this, Mr. President, I would like to conclude with, A: we are fully committed, and the department--through all the matching programs to make sure that individuals have verified eligibility sources--are committed to eliminating fraud and abuse, as am I. This legislation, however, Mr. President, does nothing to address the core needs of addressing the desperation or adding programs that my colleague Senator Lindsey Williams has already identified, could help us to reduce fraud. For these reasons, Mr. President, I encourage a "no" vote on the legislation. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Schuylkill, Senator Argall.

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, I agree with much of what the previous speaker had to say. Our goal here is not all that different. If we can squeeze the waste, the fraud, the abuse out of the current system, then we can afford to help those who genuinely need it a bit more. I understand that there are regulations in the bureaucracy, and there is an extensive list of what the bureaucracy is already doing. But I would suggest to you that it is time to put that into law, so that no future bureaucrat, no future governor could stop the existing efforts, and the existing efforts are not enough. We need to have the bureaucracy do a better job.

Just a few years ago, the Inspector General filed welfare fraud charges against 44 individuals. They owed \$140,000. And remember, those are just the people who got caught. The year before, the same office found another 170 people. And this is not just a Philadelphia thing, it is in rural counties as well. These cases can be found in almost every county in Pennsylvania. Just in the first 2 months of this year, 85 people were charged by the Inspector General with another half a million dollars of fraud. And I know in a budget with billions and billions and billions of dollars, maybe a half million does not sound like a lot of money to you, but I can assure you that in Pottsville, in Jim Thorpe, and Hazleton, and Tamaqua, it sounds like a lot of money to us. That is the reason for this piece of legislation.

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-28

Argall
Aument

Coleman
Culver

Langerholf
Laughlin

Regan
Robinson

Baker	DiSanto	Martin	Stefano
Bartolotta	Dush	Mastriano	Vogel
Boscola	Farry	Pennycuik	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Kim
Brown	Hutchinson	Pittman	Yaw

NAY-21

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

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

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

SB 245 CALLED UP

SB 245 (Pr. No. 210) -- Without objection, the bill, which previously went over in its order temporarily, was called up, from page 1 of the Third Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN.

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

SB 245 (Pr. No. 210) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, further providing for reports to General Assembly.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, I rise to share my opposition to Senate Bill No. 245. This legislation, distinct from the last two, is opposed by the Shapiro Administration and the Department of Human Services. The Department of Human Services has stated they are not able to request lottery winnings from the Department of Revenue for an applicant in the month, in the month of application since the Department of Revenue uses once-a-month data exchanges to review existing recipients. So, once-a-month exchanges do not allow intervening 30-day kind of sharing of information. The department states there is no real-time data exchange that provides daily updated information. As a result, the legislation could result in some burdensome delays to individuals who are waiting for assistance decisions.

DHS states that they would only be able to report applicants deemed ineligible due to lottery winnings when the applicant provides information on the lottery winnings and the lottery winnings of the applications only source in between the month. When an individual who has lottery winnings applies for assistance, the winnings are already spent--we are talking about low-income

individuals--or typically, the department states, the winnings do not adversely impact eligibility since lottery winnings are permitted to be prorated over 12 months. Let me repeat, lottery winnings are permitted to be prorated over 12 months. The department also states that there is a low number of recipients who have received significant lottery winnings, and the cost savings that could be achieved will far--the cost of trying to recover these saving will exceed the cost of trying to implement this program.

I do want to share, Mr. President, that DHS has two data exchanges in order to verify the individuals who are only eligible to receive assistance connected with the lottery. One of the data exchanges is, as I have stated, from the Department of Revenue, but that is a monthly data exchange that allows for matching of monthly winnings, not in between the month. The department also has an asset verification system. This is provided from information from LexisNexis on resources owned by individuals, including bank accounts, real property, investments, and recreational vehicles such as boats, ATVs, and airplanes--not like we would have an airplane in the mix. Nevertheless, this information is matched automatically at application and renewal for public assistance benefits.

Mr. President, given the low number of individuals who are receiving significant winnings, given that the cost of trying to achieve what the legislation intends is likely to far exceed the cost of recovery funds, what we should do, as I have said previously, is focus our efforts on trying to end the desperation that can put people in a position where they are involved in fraudulent transactions. We cannot take lightly the risk of fraud. I think in all of our government programs, I do not know that we can get it down to zero or spend the resources that can get all of the tax credit programs, grant programs, assistance programs--of which we have so many--down to zero. But these actions taken by the department are significant. What has been requested here has been opposed by the administration for the reasons I have already stated, and therefore, Mr. President, I encourage a "no" vote. Thank you.

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

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

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, in the academic literature on public policy--the literature that I have been using and teaching classes for more than 3 decades--it talks about the fact that legislators are really good at passing bills, turning them into law. We are doing a good bit of that this week. We are not so good at looking back 5 years, 10 years, and saying: how did that bill that we passed work out? Was it implemented the way that we had hoped? That is really the intent of this legislation. In 2018, we passed bipartisan legislation sponsored by Senator Regan, signed by Governor Wolf. The Public Assistance Integrity Act provided for some new rules to determine eligibility for cash assistance, again, trying to eradicate waste, fraud, and abuse in our welfare systems.

This bill is pretty simple. All it would do is require an annual report to both chairs of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, both chairs of the House Committee on Human Services, to review the effectiveness of the Act and--perhaps this

is the most important part--to suggest areas where we can improve the Act. Certainly, in this building as well as in Washington in decades gone by, we have seen Republicans and Democrats work together on some pretty important welfare legislation to really reform the systems, as I talked about earlier, so that we can help those who desperately need it a little bit more. I do not think our goal is all that different today, and I would ask for a positive vote.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-28

Argall	Coleman	Langerholc	Regan
Aument	Culver	Laughlin	Robinson
Baker	DiSanto	Martin	Stefano
Bartolotta	Dush	Mastriano	Vogel
Boscola	Farry	Pennycuik	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Kim
Brown	Hutchinson	Pittman	Yaw

NAY-21

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

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.

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

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

SECRETARY OF AGING

January 17, 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, Jason Kavulich, 1134 Saint Ann's Street, Scranton 18504, Lackawanna County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as Secretary of Aging, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Torres, Middletown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

SECRETARY OF COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

January 17, 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, Frederick Siger, 6206 Sellers Street, Pittsburgh 15206, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as Secretary of Community and Economic Development, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Dennis Davin, Pittsburgh, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Paul Datte (Congressional District 9), 1650 Howard Avenue, Pottsville 17901, Schuylkill County, Twenty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice James Smith, Blandon, serves at the pleasure.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Amie Downs (Congressional District 17), 1442 Edgehill Avenue, Pittsburgh 15216, Allegheny County, Forty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Andrew Szefti, Pittsburgh, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Chet Harhut (Congressional District 12), 1715 Jane Street, Pittsburgh 15203, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania

Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Joseph Kantz, Selinsgrove, serves at the pleasure.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Joseph Kantz (Congressional District 15), 800 Inch Hill Road, Selinsgrove 17870, Snyder County, Twenty-seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Jesse Daniel, Indiana, serves at the pleasure.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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 Santee (Congressional District 7), 2110 Worthington Avenue, Bethlehem 18017, Northampton County, Eighteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Amy Cozze, Nazareth, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Allen Toadvine (Congressional District 1), 1602 Carlene Court, Langhorne 19047, Bucks County, Sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Gene DiGirolamo, Bensalem, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

January 17, 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, Michael Carroll, 1220 William Street, Avoca 18641, Luzerne County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for

appointment as Secretary of Transportation, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Yassmin Gramian, Downingtown, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF WERNERSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

March 7, 2023

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jonathan D. Encarnacion, 3A Tanglewood Drive, Reading 19607, Berks County, Eleventh Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Wernersville State Hospital, to serve until January 16, 2029, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

NOMINATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

The PRESIDENT. The nominations will be laid on the table.

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Senator BARTOLOTTA,

That the Senate do now resolve itself into Executive Session for the purpose of considering nominations made by the Governor.

Which was agreed to by voice vote.

NOMINATIONS TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

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

The Clerk read the nominations as follows:

SECRETARY OF AGING

January 17, 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, Jason Kavulich, 1134 Saint Ann's Street, Scranton 18504, Lackawanna County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as Secretary of Aging, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Torres, Middletown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

SECRETARY OF COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

January 17, 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, Frederick Siger, 6206 Sellers Street, Pittsburgh 15206, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as Secretary of Community and Economic Development, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Dennis Davin, Pittsburgh, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Paul Datte (Congressional District 9), 1650 Howard Avenue, Pottsville 17901, Schuylkill County, Twenty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice James Smith, Blandon, serves at the pleasure.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Amie Downs (Congressional District 17), 1442 Edgehill Avenue, Pittsburgh 15216, Allegheny County, Forty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Andrew Szeft, Pittsburgh, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Chet Harhut (Congressional District 12), 1715 Jane Street, Pittsburgh 15203, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania

Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Joseph Kantz, Selinsgrove, serves at the pleasure.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Joseph Kantz (Congressional District 15), 800 Inch Hill Road, Selinsgrove 17870, Snyder County, Twenty-seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Jesse Daniel, Indiana, serves at the pleasure.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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 Santee (Congressional District 7), 2110 Worthington Avenue, Bethlehem 18017, Northampton County, Eighteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Amy Cozze, Nazareth, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

March 27, 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, Allen Toadvine (Congressional District 1), 1602 Carlene Court, Langhorne 19047, Bucks County, Sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Gene DiGirolamo, Bensalem, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

January 17, 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, Michael Carroll, 1220 William Street, Avoca 18641, Luzerne County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for

appointment as Secretary of Transportation, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Yassmin Gramian, Downingtown, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF WERNERSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL

March 7, 2023

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Jonathan D. Encarnacion, 3A Tanglewood Drive, Reading 19607, Berks County, Eleventh Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Wernersville State Hospital, to serve until January 16, 2029, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

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

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RISES

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
BILL ON FIRST CONSIDERATION**

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bill was as follows:

SB 607.

And said bill 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

MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023

12:30 P.M. INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS (to Room 8E-A
consider Senate Bills No. 350 and 633) East Wing
(LIVE
STREAMED)

Off the Floor APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bills Rules Committee
No. 188, 190, 248, 411, 460 and 647) Conference Room

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023

10:00 A.M. URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (to Room 8E-A
consider Senate Bills No. 149, 202 and 517) East Wing
(LIVE
STREAMED)

10:30 A.M. FINANCE (to consider Senate Bills No. 24, Room 8E-B
345, 346 and 629) East Wing
(LIVE
STREAMED)

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Berks, Senator Schwank.

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, I recently introduced Senate Resolution No. 106 along with my colleagues Senator Cappelletti and Senator Santarsiero to recognize Jewish Day Schools Week in the Commonwealth. Jewish day schools provide a unique opportunity for the nearly half a million people of Jewish faith to attain an education which encompasses Jewish culture, religion, language, and community. These schools promote connections and communities around the globe. Through outreach to the worldwide Jewish community, bilingual education, foreign exchange opportunities, students make connections with Jewish congregations abroad. Jewish day schools, along with places of worship and other institutions, have been the target of increasing attacks and threats of violence. In the wake of ongoing anti-Semitism, these schools offer a safe and supportive environment for Jewish children to be nurtured and grow proud of their heritage. Today we welcomed students from Jewish day schools throughout the Commonwealth, Mr. President, here on the floor, and I was proud to introduce them, and again, to help celebrate Jewish Day Schools Week, which by the way, occurs during Jewish Heritage Month. And, Mr. President, I would like to add that today, on the desk of all of my colleagues here in the Senate and also in the House, there was a card and a blue ribbon. And the blue ribbon, we ask that our Members wear these blue ribbons on behalf of the newly formed Jewish legislative caucus, which I serve as a co-chair along with State Representative Dan

Frankel. And the reason for wearing these blue ribbons is in solidarity for the individuals who had suffered, who were killed during an act of terrorism in Pittsburgh. This is the week of the trial of that horrific event, and we wanted to encourage our fellow Pennsylvania General Assembly Members to wear this blue ribbon to show solidarity with the families and survivors during the trial, and to indicate our commitment to stand up, to stand up against hate and violence. Thank you for allowing me to present that today, Mr. President.

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

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, I rise today to offer remarks in support of Senate Resolution No. 109, which recognizes the first week in May as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week. Tardive Dyskinesia, or TD, is associated with taking certain kinds of important medications such as antipsychotics that help control dopamine, a chemical in the brain. These antipsychotics are prescribed to treat conditions like depression, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia. Through a better understanding of TD and its treatments, we can all move together towards destigmatized and compassionate care for our loved ones, friends, and neighbors experiencing mental illness. Research done by the Citizens Commission on Human Rights shows that more than 12 million Americans take antipsychotics and that more than 600,000 of those patients may have TD. However, it is estimated that upwards of 50 percent of TD cases in the US are underdiagnosed. The condition is often misunderstood due to a lack of public awareness, and symptoms can be mistaken for other conditions such as Parkinson's disease or tic disorders. TD may continue indefinitely even after stopping or changing medication. However, the earlier it is diagnosed, the better the chances the treatment will be effective. TD is often seen through involuntary movements in the lips, jaw, tongue, and eyes, though it can also affect other parts of the body, including the upper body, arms, hands, legs, and feet. Movements may appear to be rapid and jerky or slow and writhing in a repetitive continuous or even random pattern. The uncontrollable movements of TD may be disruptive to people's lives both because of the symptoms themselves and due to the social and emotional impact of living with the disorder. It is important for patients and their friends and family alike to be educated on the symptoms of TD and how they can be treated and managed. Recent pharmaceutical breakthroughs are capable of supporting individuals with TD so that their underlying condition requiring the antipsychotic can still be treated.

Now more than ever, people living with TD can feel the hope and confidence of treatment. I am proud to stand before you, Mr. President, and my colleagues, to speak on these issues and offer my support to our constituents in the Commonwealth that experience TD. TD Awareness Week aims to educate the public about this condition and promote assistance for those who may be affected. By increasing education, awareness, and recognition of TD, we can give those who may be suffering the knowledge necessary to start a conversation with their doctor and work toward diagnosis and treatment. I hope that we will take the time to learn about TD and have conversations with our own families and loved ones who may be silently tackling these challenges.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise because today marks 6,162 days since our Commonwealth's legislature last passed an increase in our minimum wage, \$7.25 an hour, Mr. President. We as a Commonwealth and legislature have apparently accepted the fact that it is okay for our lowest earners to work for \$7.25 an hour, but I refuse to accept this forced reality. I want to help level the playing field for workers across Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, economic inequality grows along racial and gender lines across the Commonwealth, especially in Philadelphia. According to a study by the Economy League of Greater Philadelphia, Latino and Black stakeholders in Philadelphia earned approximately half of what White households earn on average. In 2021, the average annual household income was just over \$74,000 for White families. In the same year, Mr. President, Latino and Black households earned approximately \$39,000 per year. That means a household with two adults working full-time, each worker is earning just over minimum wage. Think about that, two full-time workers in Philadelphia and anywhere else in the Commonwealth are earning well under \$40,000 a year. But we can address these disparities, Mr. President.

Soon, I will be reintroducing Senate Bill No. 12, which will raise our Commonwealth's minimum wage to \$15 an hour. This would almost immediately help close the gap between our systemically underfunded and undersupported communities that desperately need help. With a \$15 minimum wage, Mr. President, two full-time workers would earn over \$60,000 a year. That means we could help direct millions of dollars of economic power directly to the people who need it most, and we could help close the economic disparities that permeate our society in the process. Senate Bill No. 12 will be introduced soon, and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will come together in a bipartisan show of support to help lift up our Commonwealth's lowest earners and help close the economic gaps that affect too many Pennsylvanians.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, just very briefly, a couple comments I would like to make with respect to legislation that has made its way over from the House of Representatives here over into the Senate. The two measures I want to speak briefly about relate to what are issues, I think, are important to the people of this Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. One, specifically, to the workers of this Commonwealth: public-sector workers, those individuals who work in the public sector for whether it be municipality, the Commonwealth, or a county government, or whatever the case might be, or entities receiving public resources. Those individuals today are not covered by OSHA protections. What this legislation does is says that in Pennsylvania, we recognize that public-sector employees deserve to be treated the same way as our private-sector employees with respect to the workforce, the work that is being done, and where they work at, and the situations they find themselves in with respect to workplace safety. That is why this legislation is here now. It is something we think is very important to the people, as I mentioned, the workers of Pennsylvania, public-sector employees, and my hope is that this measure, along with the measure dealing with employee

misclassification that also came over from the House just recently this week are two measures that I hope we are able to move forward through this process. Employee misclassification is a way in which certain employers have been able to manipulate the laws and regulations in Pennsylvania to the detriment of the workers in Pennsylvania who deserve to be able to receive the wages that they are entitled to.

So, to that end, my hope is that my colleagues join me and our Caucus in advocating that we advance both of these measures as soon as possible. Our schedule provides that we will be here next week for 3 legislative days. We clearly have the opportunity to work this thing through the committee process and get it to the floor, similar to what we did with respect to Senate Bill No. 671. Six days, we were able to get that thing through here. We have the opportunity to do the same thing here. We can have it done by next Wednesday. That being said, we will not be back until early June given our schedule, and I think it is imperative that we do, as soon as we can, put these two measures in place onto the Governor's desk, where we know he will sign them. So, I am asking my colleagues to join our Caucus in trying to make certain that we advance these two measures.

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:

May 3, 2023

Senators PENNYCUICK, GEBHARD, BARTOLOTTA, DUSH and J. WARD presented to the Chair **SB 380**, entitled:

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

Which was committed to the Committee on URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, May 3, 2023.

Senators DUSH, BROOKS, CULVER, LAUGHLIN, YAW and BREWSTER presented to the Chair **SB 525**, entitled:

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

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, May 3, 2023.

Senators MASTRIANO, STEFANO and BAKER presented to the Chair **SB 657**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in requirements and prohibitions, providing for Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association; in access, further providing for open-records officer, for appeals officer, for regulations and policies, for requests and for retention of records; in procedure, further providing for requests, for written requests, for electronic access, for creation of record, for production of certain records and for exceptions for public records; in agency response, further providing for general rule and for extension of time; in appeal of agency determination, further providing for filing of appeal and for appeals officers; in judicial review,

further providing for civil penalty and for Office of Open Records; and, in miscellaneous provisions, further providing for relation to other laws.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, May 3, 2023.

Senators AUMENT, ROTHMAN and CULVER presented to the Chair **SB 659**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in personal income tax, further providing for definitions, providing for elective tax imposed at pass-through entity level and further providing for taxability of partners and for income of a Pennsylvania S corporation.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, May 3, 2023.

Senators AUMENT, PENNYCUICK, VOGEL, MILLER, SCHWANK, BOSCOLA, ARGALL, HUTCHINSON and CULVER presented to the Chair **SB 660**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in personal income tax, further providing for income taxes imposed by other states.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, May 3, 2023.

Senators BROOKS, STEFANO, DUSH and BREWSTER presented to the Chair **SB 661**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in educational tax credits, further providing for limitations.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, May 3, 2023.

Senators J. WARD, BARTOLOTTA, PHILLIPS-HILL, DUSH, BROOKS, DiSANTO, STEFANO, ROTHMAN, AUMENT, GEBHARD, ARGALL, HUTCHINSON and PENNYCUICK presented to the Chair **SB 662**, entitled:

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

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, May 3, 2023.

Senators J. WARD, PHILLIPS-HILL, SCHWANK, DUSH and BAKER presented to the Chair **SB 665**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for examination of applicant for driver's license; and, in motorcycles, further providing for motorcycle safety education program.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, May 3, 2023.

Senators BROOKS, MASTRIANO, HUTCHINSON, DUSH, STEFANO and BARTOLOTTA presented to the Chair **SB 675**, entitled:

An Act providing for a report by the Department of State on complaints relating to elections.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, May 3, 2023.

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

May 3, 2023

Senators COLEMAN and DUSH presented to the Chair **SR 110**, entitled:

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a performance audit of the Neighborhood Improvement Zone and Allentown Neighborhood Improvement Zone Development Authority programs administered by the Department of Revenue.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, May 3, 2023.

HOUSE MESSAGES

HOUSE BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

The Clerk of the House of Representatives presented to the Senate the following bills for concurrence, which were referred to the committees indicated:

May 3, 2023

HB 148 and **301** -- Committee on Education.

HB 507 -- Committee on Health and Human Services.

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 Monday, May 8, 2023, at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 1:25 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.