

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**Legislative Journal**

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023

SESSION OF 2023 207TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 30

**SENATE**

THURSDAY, June 22, 2023

The Senate met at 11 a.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

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

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Cantor NEIL M. SCHNITZER, of Congregation Kol Ami, Cherry Hill, New Jersey, offered the following prayer:

To begin, I would like to thank Senator Santarsiero for honoring me with the invitation to open this Session of the Senate with a prayer.

In the Book of Micah, chapter 4, we are told nation shall not take up sword against nation. They shall never again know war, but [chanting]: everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree, and none shall make them afraid. They will be safe in this nation we have made.

The Father of our country, George Washington, alluded to this passage more than 50 times in his writings. He used this both as a reference to his beloved home in Mount Vernon and also as a reference to freedom and liberty for all people. He memorably included one such reference in a letter to the president of the Touro Synagogue in Rhode Island as a verbal guarantee of a safe home for all Americans. He says: "For happily the government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens." Who are we to debate his profound wisdom?

May God see fit to inspire and bless the Members of this body to do the righteous work of all of their constituents, as should all who hold and wield any kind of power, particularly those here who hold elected office, to further the guarantee of freedom for all. May this Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, founded as it was as a refuge for those seeking religious freedom, be a citadel of protection for all its inhabitants. May all the Members of this body go from strength to strength, guided by kindness, mercy, and compassion. [Translated from Hebrew:] So, may it be God's will. And let us say: Amen.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair thanks Cantor Schnitzer, who is the guest today of Senator Santarsiero.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**GENERAL COMMUNICATION**

**REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET  
AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO BIOSOLIDS PERMITS  
JUNE 2023**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
613 North Street, Room 400-A  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

June 21, 2023

To the General Assembly  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: A Study Pursuant to House Resolution 2021-149  
Proposed Revisions to Biosolids Permits (June 2023)

House Resolution 149, Printer Number 2542 (Rigby) directed the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study the costs and methods for permit holders to comply with the proposed revisions to General Permit PAG-07, General Permit PAG-08 and General Permit PAG-09 called for under Pennsylvania's Phase 3 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan and to provide for a moratorium on revisions to General Permit PAG-07, General Permit PAG-08 and General Permit PAG-09 until the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee reports its findings and conclusions to the House of Representatives.

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

**BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES**

Senator GEBHARD, from the Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development, reported the following bills:

**SB 173 (Pr. No. 163)**

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for Safe Exchange Zone Program.

**SB 373 (Pr. No. 316)**

An Act amending the act of August 26, 1971 (P.L.351, No.91), known as the State Lottery Law, in State lottery, further providing for definitions and providing for disclosure of certain prizewinner identities.

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

**SB 815 (Pr. No. 917)**

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 imposition of tax and for taxability of estates, trusts and their beneficiaries.

**SB 838 (Pr. No. 940) (Amended)**

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, further providing for order of probation, for conditions of probation and for modification or revocation of order of probation and providing for probation review conference.

**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 DiSanto and Senator Langerholc, and a legislative leave for Senator Argall.

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

Senator COSTA. Madam President, I request legislative leaves for Senator Cappelletti and Senator Kane.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator DiSanto and Senator Langerholc, and a legislative leave for Senator Argall.

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

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Senator PITTMAN asked and obtained leaves of absence for Senator MASTRIANO and Senator REGAN, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

**CALENDAR**

**SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

**SB 655 CALLED UP OUT OF ORDER**

**SB 655 (Pr. No. 638)** -- Without objection, the bill was called up out of order, from page 4 of the Second Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN, as a Special Order of Business.

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION**

**SB 655 (Pr. No. 638)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on second consideration?

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

YEA-48

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

NAY-0

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

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

**THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

**SB 37 CALLED UP OUT OF ORDER**

**SB 37 (Pr. No. 939)** -- Without objection, the bill was called up out of order, from page 1 of the Third Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN, as a Special Order of Business.

**BILL REREFERRED**

**SB 37 (Pr. No. 939)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in licensing of drivers, further providing for learners' permits and for examination of applicant for driver's license; in rules of the road in general, further providing for prohibiting text-based communications and providing for prohibiting use of interactive mobile device; in miscellaneous provisions relating to serious traffic offenses, further providing for the offense of homicide by vehicle and for the offense of aggravated assault by vehicle; and imposing penalties.

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

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

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Madam President, I rise today to recognize Cantor Neil Schnitzer, who offered today's prayer at

the start of Session. Cantor Schnitzer is a constituent of mine, residing in Newtown Township in the 10th Senatorial District. Cantor Schnitzer has been involved in the Delaware Valley Jewish community for most of his career, serving as a cantor in Philadelphia, Bucks County, and now in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Cantor Schnitzer is joined today on the floor by his wife, Linda Bobrin, who serves as Bucks County's Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans' Court. Together, they have three sons, Alex, David, and Aaron. Madam President, I ask that you and all of our colleagues in the Senate join me in extending our customary warm welcome to Cantor Schnitzer and his wife, Linda Bobrin.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Santarsiero please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

### **GUESTS OF SENATOR RYAN P. AUMENT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, it is my pleasure to introduce my guest for the day, Ms. Anna Abello. Back in March, Anna won the essay contest for my annual Senator for a Day event with an outstanding essay about the importance of teaching our children about cybersecurity because they spend so much time online. Anna is a rising senior at Hempfield High School in Landisville. She is an Advanced Placement and honors student with a 4.0 GPA who is interested in STEM and the humanities. After school, she participates in the Hempfield Dance Theatre. In college, she plans to study mathematics and political science, with the hopes of one day working in national security. She is interested in cybersecurity, especially cryptology. She would like to have a leading role protecting our country, whether that be through intelligence gathering or ensuring our cyberspace is secure. Please join me in welcoming my guest, Anna Abello, to the Pennsylvania Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guest of Senator Aument please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Aument.

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, it is now my pleasure to introduce additional guests, the members of the Manheim Township High School Unified Track and Field Team, who won first place in the unified team rankings during the 2023 PIAA Track and Field Championships held at Shippensburg University. This accomplishment is especially impressive because the team just completed their very first season. Unified sports allow students with intellectual disabilities and their regular education partners to compete alongside one another. Funding is provided by the Special Olympics. Under the expert guidance of head coach Shannon Sloss and assistant coach Shawna Givens, the team was comprised of 28 exceptional athletes, many of whom are gathered here with us today. Congratulations to the players and coaches on this incredible victory. You are to be commended for your achievement and the honor that you have brought to Manheim Township High School. The school, students, coaches, and teachers have done so much to make Lancaster County proud. Please join me in welcoming the Manheim Township High School Unified Track and Field Team to the Pennsylvania Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Aument please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

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

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

Senator COMITTA. Madam President, I rise today to recognize student journalists from Conestoga High School in my Senate district who are visiting Harrisburg today to advocate for a free student press. Joining them are nearly a dozen student journalists from around the Commonwealth, including Freedom Area High School in Beaver County. They are here as part of the Student Press Law Center's New Voices program. Earlier today, they joined Representative Melissa Shusterman and me at a press conference calling for the passage of Senate Bill No. 622, legislation that allows school districts to put administrative review of student publications and communications in the hands of student editors. The bottom line is that a free press is fundamental to democracy. That is why it is so important that we empower and inspire the next generation of journalists to use their voices with accountability, integrity, and freedom.

In addition, nationwide, we have lost more than one-fourth of our local newspapers. They were a vital source of information in communities across Pennsylvania and the U.S., and with their decline, student journalists may be the sole source of news for some communities. So, that is all the more reason why this legislation is important. I also want to thank the faculty advisors who support student journalism across the Commonwealth, as well as the Pennsylvania School Press Association, the Journalism Education Association, and the Student Press Law Center for their support for our students. As a former public school teacher, I am proud to introduce this legislation, and I am very proud of the vital role of local journalism and a free press in our schools and communities. Thank you, student journalists, and welcome to the Pennsylvania Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guests of Senator Comitta please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentlewoman from Chester, Senator Comitta.

Senator COMITTA. Madam President, I rise today to welcome Colin DeCurtis and George Zhang, who are serving as summer interns in my West Chester district office. Colin is a student at Great Valley High School, where he is president of the chess club, treasurer of the math club, and a member of the ping pong and French clubs. In March, Colin founded The Malvern Community, a volunteer organization dedicated to providing community services such as clothing and food drives, supporting environmental projects, and assisting local businesses.

George is a student at Conestoga High School in Berwyn, where he is vice president of the National Honor Society, reporter/editor of the student newspaper, and a member of student government. Last, George co-founded the Future Business Leaders of America--the FBLA--chapter at his high school, of which he currently serves as president. FBLA inspires and prepares students to become community-minded business leaders. My staff and I are excited to have Colin and George join our team this

summer, and we look forward to working with them, hearing their perspectives, and harnessing their unique skills and experience they each bring to this job. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Colin DeCurtis and George Zhang. Welcome to the Pennsylvania Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Will the guests of Senator Comitta please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

### **GUEST OF SENATOR SCOTT E. HUTCHINSON PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator HUTCHINSON. Madam President, today I am pleased to introduce Garrett Weber from Dillsburg, York County, who is serving as an intern in my Harrisburg office this summer. This fall, Garrett is entering his sophomore year at Penn State, where he is pursuing a degree in finance. Garrett is an active and involved Penn State student, where he is a member of the club rowing team, a Young Life leader, and a statistics teaching assistant. As an aside, I wish he were around when I was in college to tutor me when I took statistics. More recently, Garrett joined the Nittany Lion Consulting Group and became treasurer of Penn State's chapter of Net Impact. Outside of his academic studies and extracurricular activities, Garrett enjoys spending time outdoors--hunting, fly fishing, backpacking, and hiking. In my office, Garrett has already proven to be an eager learner and a quick study. He has been joining me at meetings, assisting constituents, and getting to know other public officials and staff. Over this summer, Garrett is looking forward to gaining a greater understanding of how our system works and exploring a future career in public service. I am so pleased to have this bright, energetic young man as part of our team during this summer. So, please join me in welcoming Garrett Weber to the Pennsylvania State Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guest of Senator Hutchinson please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

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

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

Senator ROBINSON. Madam President, I have two very special guests with me here today. One is David Thornburgh, son of former Pennsylvania Governor and U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh. Mr. Thornburgh has been an influential member of the Pennsylvania citizenry for quite some time. He served as executive director of the University of Pennsylvania's Fels Institute of Government. He has been awarded numerous awards, including an Eisenhower Fellowship in 2000. He and his wife, Rebecca, and their two daughters, Blair and Alice, live in Germantown, Pennsylvania, and are lifelong musicians in an alt-country band called the Reckless Amateurs.

The other guest is a good friend of mine, Madam President, Rocky Bleier, who I am honored to welcome to the Senate floor today. It is well-known he is an accomplished football player starting at the University of Notre Dame, when in 1966 the Fighting Irish won the national championship. Later in 1968, the

NFL draft found him to be drafted on the Steelers. Mr. Bleier holds the only honor of being the only player to be drafted twice that year, he was also drafted in the U.S. Army for a tour in Vietnam, where he volunteered for duty in South Vietnam in 1969 assigned to Company C, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, 196th [Light] Infantry Brigade and assigned as a squad grenadier operating a 40mm M79 grenade launcher. On August 20, while on patrol in Hiep Duc, Bleier was wounded in the left thigh by an enemy rifle bullet when his platoon was ambushed in a rice paddy. While he was down, an enemy grenade landed nearby after bouncing off a fellow soldier. After trying to leap over it, it exploded, sending shrapnel into his lower right leg, damaging his right foot in the blast as well. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Despite these injuries, Rocky Bleier was able to make a full recovery and played in the first four Steeler Super Bowl victories. Rocky retired in 1980 with 3,865 rushing yards, 136 receptions, and 1,294 yards with 25 touchdowns. At the time of his retirement, he was the Steelers' fourth all-time leading rusher.

Thank you, Madam President, and I offer a warm welcome to these guests.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Costa, for further comments on Rocky Bleier.

Senator COSTA. Madam President, I thank my colleagues for indulging me. I certainly want to welcome both guests. David Thornburgh, who I have had the privilege of working with others on the redistricting conversation that we had, redistricting task force, and certainly know his commitment to the good government things along those lines and thank him for that work. With regard to Rocky Bleier, I just want to take a moment to talk, not necessarily about his football career, but the person who he is in Pittsburgh and how well respected he is. Many folks in this room do not really know the magnitude of what Rocky Bleier gives back to the community, and does it unselfishly, and always takes time to particularly meet with veterans. And what I would like to do is just share one story, one experience, that I had with Mr. Bleier about 4 or 5 years or so ago.

Each year I hold a veterans' luncheon where we invite about 150 veterans to a luncheon in my district and sometimes invite speakers. I found myself at the Duquesne University veterans' breakfast one morning, along with Mr. Bleier, and indicated that I do this lunch, and it would be wonderful if you could come out and speak with some of our veterans, 150 veterans and their families. Mr. Bleier took out his phone, looked at his calendar, and said to me: I have a 1 o'clock meeting, but I will move that meeting, and I will come and speak to your folks. And I did not know whether or not it was going to happen. Mr. Bleier shows up at our veterans' luncheon, proceeded to speak with the veterans and their families--well over an hour--sharing stories with these veterans in terms of their service, primarily in Vietnam, and some other places. And I can tell you that he ended up spending nearly 3 hours--3 hours speaking with veterans in my community. And I cannot tell you how much I appreciate that. And that is just a small part and small thing that this gentleman does in our community as it relates to veterans. So, it really speaks to the character of the person who we are recognizing and speaking with here today. So, I just felt compelled to share that with all of you to let you know the type of person who we have. The other good thing

about this visit today is now [Senator] Jimmy Dillon is the second most popular and famous Notre Dame alumni. That being said, thank you, Madam President, I appreciate it, and I thank my Members for allowing me to participate today.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Will the guests of Senator Robinson please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

### RECESS

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

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

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

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

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

### AFTER RECESS

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

### REQUEST FOR RECESS

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations, which will be held immediately in the Rules room.

### LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator DiSanto and Senator Langerholc have returned, and their temporary Capitol leaves are cancelled.

### RECESS

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

### AFTER RECESS

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

### 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 Laughlin and Senator Stefano, and a legislative leave for Senator Robinson.

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 Flynn.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Laughlin and Senator Stefano, and a legislative leave for Senator Robinson.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Flynn.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

### CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

#### THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

#### BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 246** and **SB 346** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

#### BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

**SB 414 (Pr. No. 361)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for access to treatment for sexual assault survivors and for duties of the Department of Health.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Beaver, Senator Vogel.

Senator VOGEL. Madam President, I rise today to ask for your support of Senate Bill No. 414, which would expand access to sexual assault nurse examiners, also known as SANEs, across the State and ensure quality care for victims of sexual assault. Pennsylvania is experiencing an extreme shortage of SANEs, and with these shortages comes a greater chance of sexual assault victims either being turned away to another hospital or being at risk of receiving inappropriate or substandard care which could result in forensic evidence being of poor quality or lost altogether. Senate Bill No. 414 would help reduce some of these inequities by expanding existing Penn State University SAFE-T program, allowing hospitals to establish individual SANE programs at their facility, and requiring the Department of Health to publish on its website a comprehensive list of each hospital providing SANE care. Research is showing that trauma-informed person-centered care delivered by SANEs results in improved psychological well-being of sexual assault survivors, increased quality of medical care, and positive impacts on prosecutorial outcomes pertaining to sexual assault survivors. I ask my colleagues for an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 414.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator SCHWANK. Madam President, I rise in support of this legislation--in strong support of this legislation. Sexual assault is deeply traumatic, and it can have--and usually does have--long-lasting, if not lifelong, impacts on victims. It also carries a lot of stigma, which leaves many victims afraid to come forward. In fact, it is one of the most under-reported crimes in the United States. Compassionate patient-centered care is critical for sexual assault victims to begin the healing process and understand what options they have, not only for treatment, but also for reporting their assault.

I actually saw in action what can happen as a result of passing this legislation. Less than a year ago, St. Joseph Medical Center in Reading partnered with SAFE-T System, a group within Penn State's College of Nursing. The training involved a trauma-informed approach to conduct forensic exams and provide emotional support and expert legal testimony, all within a culturally and developmentally appropriate framework specific to each patient, and it also can be done via telehealth. So, even if you are in the most remote area and you do not have specific or direct access to these nurses and these experts, they will literally guide--through telehealth--the actual nurses or other examiners in the emergency room to assist those patients and give them the proper care.

I was able to attend a launch of this event and actually saw it in action. At every step of the process, nurses work with individuals who have experienced sexual assault to explain exactly what they are doing in terms of the medical examination, documentation of injuries, collection of evidence, infection prevention or treatment, and referrals to community resources and follow-up care for a holistic approach. This is a major step forward in terms of treatment for sexual assault victims, and I commend my colleague Senator Vogel for bringing this forward. I know that he actually had learned about that as well, and that is where his interests had come from. So, I again, I urge the support of all of our colleagues here for legislation that will truly have a positive impact on so many people in the Commonwealth. Thank you.

And the question recurring,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

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

NAY-0

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

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

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

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

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

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

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

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

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pittman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Martin.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Haywood.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

**CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED**

**THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED**

**BILLS OVER IN ORDER**

**SB 630, SB 640 and SB 688** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**SB 694 (Pr. No. 722)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fireworks, further providing for definitions and for sales locations.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

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

Collett	Hughes	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Hutchinson	Rothman	Yaw

NAY-0

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

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

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

The PRESIDENT. Senator Stefano has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

**CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED**

**THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED**

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**SB 753 (Pr. No. 800)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 8 (Boroughs and Incorporated Towns) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in associations and organizations, further providing for associations and organizations for mayors; in elections of officers, further providing for eligibility, for officers elected and for decrease in number of members of council; in powers, duties and rights of appointed officers and employees, further providing for appointments and incompatible offices and for police serving under cooperative agreement or contract; in corporate powers, further providing for specific powers; in taxation and finance, further providing for investment of funds; providing for solid waste collection and disposition; in ordinances, further providing for ordinances and resolutions and for publication; and making an editorial change.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator KEARNEY. Mr. President, Senate Bill No. 753 is a Local Government Commission bill making a number of technical amendments to the Borough Code and modernizing provisions on garbage collection and disposal into a new chapter. Last year, this bill passed out of the Senate unanimously, and I ask for an affirmative 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-48

Argall	Costa	Kane	Santarsiero
Aument	Culver	Kearney	Saval
Baker	Dillon	Langerholc	Schwank
Bartolotta	DiSanto	Laughlin	Stefano

Boscola	Dush	Martin	Street
Brewster	Farry	Miller	Tartaglione
Brooks	Flynn	Muth	Vogel
Brown	Fontana	Pennycuick	Ward, Judy
Cappelletti	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Haywood	Pittman	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Hughes	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Hutchinson	Rothman	Yaw

NAY-0

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

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

**BILL OVER IN ORDER**

**HB 1031** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

**SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED**

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED**

**SB 69 (Pr. No. 858)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act establishing Recovery-to-work as a pilot program within the Department of Labor and Industry; and providing for local recovery-to-work pilot programs, for incentives to encourage business participation and for powers and duties of the Department of Labor and Industry.

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 LAID ON THE TABLE**

**SB 159 (Pr. No. 842)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, providing for the offense of unauthorized use of an electronic tracking device; and providing for penalties.

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

**BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED**

**SB 225 (Pr. No. 938)** -- 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 general budget implementation, further providing for Federal and Commonwealth use of forest land.

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 260 (Pr. No. 935)** -- 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 definitions.

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 286, SB 355, SB 375, SB 514, SB 517 and SB 531** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 538 (Pr. No. 936)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 17, 2016 (P.L.84, No.16), known as the Medical Marijuana Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; and, in program, further providing for lawful use of medical marijuana and for unlawful use of medical marijuana.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 692** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 730 (Pr. No. 815)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the Jayanna Powell Hit-and-Run Direct Notification System and for definitions; requiring registration of motor vehicle repair facilities; and imposing penalties.

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 740 (Pr. No. 856)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, in auditors and accountants, further providing for auditor's compensation.

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 OVER IN ORDER

**SB 750** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 765 (Pr. No. 863)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 8 (Boroughs and Incorporated Towns) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers and duties of elected officials, further providing for surcharge by auditors; in powers, duties and rights of appointed officers and employees, further providing for borough manager created by ordinance and election, for powers and duties, for other offices not incompatible and for organization of commission; and, in taxation and finance, further providing for preparation of budget.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 773 (Pr. No. 860)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 17, 2016 (P.L.84, No.16), known as the Medical Marijuana Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; and, in medical marijuana organizations, further providing for limitations on permits and providing for additional dispensary permits authorized, for application and issuance of additional dispensary permits and for limitations on other additional permits or licenses.

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

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 774 (Pr. No. 873)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 11 (Cities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in city administrator, further providing for appointment of city administrator, for employment agreement, for residency and elective city office and for powers and duties; and, in accounts and finances, further providing for powers and duties of chief fiscal officer.

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 775 (Pr. No. 874)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

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

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

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 802, SB 817 and SB 831** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 835 (Pr. No. 924)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 17, 2016 (P.L.84, No.16), known as the Medical Marijuana Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in program, further providing for program established, for confidentiality and public disclosure, for lawful use of medical marijuana and for unlawful use of medical marijuana; in practitioners, further providing for practitioner registration, for practitioner restrictions, for issuance of certification and for duration; in patients, further providing for identification cards, for verification and for contents of identification card; in medical marijuana organizations, further providing for granting of permit, for relocation and for limitations on permits; in medical marijuana controls, further providing for electronic tracking, for grower/processors, for storage and transportation, for laboratory and for prices and providing for recalls; in dispensaries, further providing for dispensing to patients and caregivers and for facility requirements; in tax on medical marijuana, further providing for Medical Marijuana Program Fund; in Medical Marijuana Advisory Board, further providing for advisory board; in research program, further providing for

establishment of medical marijuana research program, for medical marijuana research program administration and for approval; in academic clinical research centers and clinical registrants, further providing for legislative findings and declaration of policy, for definitions and for clinical registrants and providing for termination of contract; and, in miscellaneous provisions, further providing for applicability.

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

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 836 (Pr. No. 925)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in employees, further providing for definitions and for powers and duties of commission.

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.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION No. 46, ADOPTED

Senator PITTMAN, without objection, called up from page 7 of the Calendar, **Senate Resolution No. 46**, entitled:

A Resolution directing the Joint State Government Commission to establish the Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care.

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

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator MUTH. Mr. President, I rise in support of Senate Resolution No. 46, which would establish a Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care to study the healthcare and mental healthcare needs of the tens of thousands of women veterans here in our Commonwealth. Our women veterans sacrifice so much in service to our country, and their experiences in the military are far more unique, sometimes, than that of their male counterparts. So, their needs obviously have different requirements. We need to ensure that all women veterans have the appropriate, high-quality care and support here in our Commonwealth for all of their health needs.

Mr. President, about 18 months ago, Senator Stefano and I--when he was the chair with me for the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness--we convened a women's roundtable discussion at Fort Indiantown Gap to hear from women veterans about their experiences, their needs, what we could improve on, and how to better support this population of veterans. It was an amazing discussion where even some of our elected officials and government officials--who are women veterans--participated, sharing their insights and stories and hearing about the challenges they faced while on active duty and also

transitioning into the civilian life. The task force created by Senate Resolution No. 46 will provide such important information on health issues facing women veterans and how our legislature can best support their needs.

Senate Resolution No. 46 also makes specific mention of the challenges of women veterans that they face after being a victim of military sexual trauma. I just want to say thank you to Senator Pennycuick for making sure that that was included in this resolution, as it has been an important issue for many women veterans and many advocates, and I cannot say thank you enough. And over the past few Sessions, Senator Lindsey Williams and I have been working to raise awareness on military sexual trauma and the epidemic in our military which impacts all genders of the military serving our country. This Session, we were grateful that Senator Pennycuick had joined us as a co-prime to show that issues like MST and causes that support our veterans, and especially women veterans, are bipartisan, and they are important. Again, I want to commend Senator Pennycuick for her work on this resolution, and I look forward to seeing the outcome of this study and how we can work together to present these solutions for our women veterans in our Commonwealth. I am proud to support this resolution, and I encourage a "yes" vote on Senate Resolution No. 46.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Northampton, Senator Boscola.

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, the resolution before us today is extremely important for women veterans across this Commonwealth. I have taken up this issue in previous Sessions and have had this legislation move from committee, but it never received a floor vote. So, today is the day it is getting a floor vote, and I am so proud of that. Women veterans across this country are demanding expanded access to specific healthcare needs. Many of these services are not available to female veterans, who make up approximately 10 percent of the overall veteran population. In Pennsylvania, there are approximately 63,000 women veterans, and we need to improve healthcare for them to focus on PTSD, depression, OB/GYN care, and childcare. This task force will report to the legislature and the Governor recommendations on how we can improve the healthcare of female veterans across this Commonwealth. These brave women served our country, and now it is up to us to ensure that we serve them in the best possible way we can as they convert to civilian life. Lastly, I would like to thank fellow sponsors Senator Pennycuick and Senator Farry for bringing this issue back to light, and hopefully, we will improve the lives of women veterans across this Commonwealth.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator PENNYCUICK. Mr. President, the goal of Senate Resolution No. 46 is very simple. It is to ensure that all veterans have access to healthcare that they deserve, they have earned, and they were promised. Unfortunately, for many female veterans in this great Commonwealth, that is not the case. I have heard from many women on how their option and ability to access care has been nearly impossible. Unfortunately, their stories are all too familiar, as I have had similar experiences as I navigate the VA system and finding healthcare options very limited. The unique needs of female veterans can often be overlooked, as our veteran

healthcare system is designed to care for primarily and historically the male population. Yet, I am proud to say that women continue to grow in percentages in our nation's Armed Forces.

Currently, there are 18.5 million women across the country who can proudly call themselves veterans, and here in Pennsylvania, we have over 70,000 female veterans. Through passage of this resolution and the establishment of the Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care, we can take a giant leap forward in closing our current gaps in care, access, and coverage. This task force, comprised of subject matter experts with relevant specialties, will study the unique healthcare issues and barriers facing women veterans and make actionable recommendations to the General Assembly. I greatly appreciate the Senate's consideration of Senate Resolution No. 46, and I want to thank Senator Farry and Senator Boscola for their work on this issue well before now. They have been working on this for years, and they should be commended for their diligence in bringing this issue forward. I hope that we can build a better healthcare system in Pennsylvania that meets the needs of every veteran. I hope that this will include future veterans. My three daughters serve currently in the United States Army, and I do not want to see them having the barriers to care that I and so many others have faced.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

YEA-48

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The resolution is adopted.

**BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

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

**SB 37 (Pr. No. 939) (Rereported)**

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in licensing of drivers, further providing for learners' permits and for examination of applicant for driver's license; in rules of the road in general, further providing for prohibiting text-based communications and providing for prohibiting use of interactive mobile device; in miscellaneous provisions relating to serious traffic offenses, further providing for the

offense of homicide by vehicle and for the offense of aggravated assault by vehicle; and imposing penalties.

**SB 81 (Pr. No. 652) (Rereported)**

An Act amending the act of September 27, 1961 (P.L.1700, No.699), known as the Pharmacy Act, further providing for definitions and for unlawful acts.

**SB 149 (Pr. No. 734) (Rereported)**

An Act amending the act of July 7, 1947 (P.L.1368, No.542), known as the Real Estate Tax Sale Law, further providing for the title of the act; and, in sale of property, providing for county demolition and rehabilitation fund.

**SB 344 (Pr. No. 688) (Rereported)**

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in hunting and furtaking licenses, further providing for resident license and fee exemptions.

**SB 490 (Pr. No. 607)**

An Act to provide appropriations from the General Fund for the expenses of certain agencies of the Executive Department for the fiscal year July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

**SB 506 (Pr. No. 843) (Rereported)**

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in incapacitated persons, further providing for petition and hearing and independent evaluation, for determination of incapacity and appointment of guardian and for review hearing.

**HB 611 (Pr. No. 1695) (Amended)**

An Act to provide appropriations from the General Fund for the expenses of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Departments of the Commonwealth, the public debt and the public schools for the fiscal year July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023; to provide appropriations from special funds and accounts to the Executive and Judicial Departments for the fiscal year July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, and for the payment of bills remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023; to provide for the appropriation of Federal funds to the Executive and Judicial Departments for the fiscal year July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, and for the payment of bills remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023; and to provide for the additional appropriation of Federal and State funds to the Executive and Legislative Departments for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, and for the payment of bills incurred and remaining unpaid at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 1**

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION  
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**SB 37 (Pr. No. 939) --** The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in licensing of drivers, further providing for learners' permits and for

examination of applicant for driver's license; in rules of the road in general, further providing for prohibiting text-based communications and providing for prohibiting use of interactive mobile device; in miscellaneous provisions relating to serious traffic offenses, further providing for the offense of homicide by vehicle and for the offense of aggravated assault by vehicle; and imposing penalties.

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 PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Monroe, Senator Brown.

Senator BROWN. Mr. President, Senate Bill No. 37 is a well-override legislative initiative that strives to build driver accountability and change driver behavior when it comes to utilizing a handheld cell phone or wireless device while operating a motor vehicle, all to create a safer environment on our Pennsylvania roadways. There is no doubt we have a problem on our roadways in Pennsylvania, and the question is, what are we going to do to try to help? The PA Department of Transportation, this past April during Distracted Driver [Driving] Awareness Month, put out a press release stating that distracted driving and head-on crashes reached a 10-year high in 2023. The AAA Traffic Safety Culture Index found that most drivers, almost 88 percent, believe that distracted driving has outpaced all other traffic-related issues as a growing safety concern, and virtually all drivers, almost 97 percent, view texting or emailing while driving as a serious threat. Distracted driving was responsible for an estimated 8 percent of fatal crashes, 14 percent of injury crashes, and 13 percent of all police-reported motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2020. That is according to the National Highway Transportation [Traffic] Safety Association [Administration], and we must remember that these are only the ones that are reported.

Senate Bill No. 37 is reasonable, it is responsible, and it is enforceable, and it is what we can do now to deal with the distraction caused by cell phone use. The cell phone has now become the most common distraction that is addictive, it is repetitive, and it will hold the attention of a driver for an extended period of time, increasing the risk of a crash. As a reminder, with Senate Bill No. 37, drivers can utilize their cell phone; however, they must do so by Bluetooth or speaker technology and ensure the phone is not in their hands or supported by any part of their body. It also offers a 12-month warning period for drivers so they can become familiar with the law, and there is education for novice drivers as well. This is a real-world issue, it is daily, it is extremely concerning, and I hope that I will get an affirmative vote from the Members of the Senate for Senate Bill No. 37, sending a clear message that we need drivers to put their phone down while they are driving.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Dauphin, Senator DiSanto.

Senator DiSANTO. Mr. President, I rise today to oppose Senate Bill No. 37. Nobody supports distracted driving, but this issue goes beyond mobile devices targeted in this bill. Will another bill advance making a primary offense of drinking coffee, eating messy fast food, holding pets, applying makeup, using CB radios, or even reading from non-mobile sources? Pennsylvania has had

a ban on texting while driving as a primary offense since 2012. And yet here we are with the State poised to criminalize even holding or supporting a phone. This legislation provides another opportunity for harassment by self-righteous drivers themselves distracted in their search for violations and for police issuing revenue-generating citations without making our families or roads any safer. Paradoxically, another set of Pennsylvania citizens driving newer cars with larger touchscreens--that have the ability to become even more distracted by offered features while being able to text and call hands-free--will not be in violation of the law but, in fact, could be way more distracted trying to ensure their speech recognition-generated texts are accurate. I also believe historically disadvantaged communities in dense urban areas will be inadvertently targeted by this legislation. We should not continue to erode civil liberties under the guise of safety. There will always be bad actors and irresponsible drivers regardless of the laws we pass. But we must not use every tragic situation to justify new statutes, penalties, and expansion of governmental power. In this case, especially, we already have a law that prohibits the conduct in question. And there are many other sources of potential distracted driving not even being addressed. As we so often argue in other legislative context, let us try enforcing the laws we have before making new ones. I would urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the proposed bill. Thank you.

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, I applaud the gentlewoman from Monroe County for working on this legislation. This issue of distracted driving is one that has been in front of our General Assembly now for well over a decade. The last time that we passed any significant legislation on this issue was over a decade ago. And I believe, in general terms, this legislation is an important step forward. As I stated in the Committee on Appropriations earlier, however, I am concerned about an amendment that took a provision out of the bill as it was originally written, and when that amendment was passed in the Committee on Transportation, and that amendment took out a, I believe, a very important reporting requirement that was in the bill. And I understand the reason is because of an issue with the compilation of data, but I would say that it would be better to have that reporting requirement put back in the bill, if not a more robust reporting requirement, and to collect the data and then worry about the compilation issue later. Not to say that the compilation issue is not significant, but the earlier collection of the data as part of the bill would be an important policy goal, I believe, for this General Assembly. So, I am going to vote in favor of the bill today to move it forward, but I urge our colleagues in the House, when they consider this bill, to amend it, to put that reporting requirement back in, and as I said, perhaps even expand the reporting requirement from what it originally was in the original text of the bill.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, while I do commend the intent of the maker of the bill, we certainly do not want distracted driving, the first rule is to do no harm. Adding provisions that will allow stops without allowing the collection of data is problematic. We are all aware that there have been problems with people being

stopped because of racial profiling. This is not a new topic to the Commonwealth, and it is not limited to the Commonwealth. The legislative Black Caucus has consistently urged that there be reporting requirements as were once in this bill. The unfortunate removal of those requirements makes this bill not something I can support. I also, should it get out of this Chamber, would hope that the House would amend it, but believe today it is important for us to vote "no." We should not advance this legislation without those reporting requirements. We cannot know what we do not measure, and it has once been said, if it is meaningful, you will measure it. Stopping racial profiling is important. We must measure whether there is desperate enforcement of these provisions and, yes, others. We should not have removed the provisions requiring reporting. And unfortunately, because of the removal of those provisions, I must join my colleagues in the legislative Black Caucus by urging a "no" vote on this bill.

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

Senator LANGERHOLC. Mr. President, I rise to ask for support for Senate Bill No. 37 and stand in support of my colleague who introduced the legislation. It is no secret that this has been the product of tremendous work on her part over many years to get to this point. And while these efforts started possibly in another Chamber and have found their way here, it bears mention the tremendous work that has been done and what this bill will ultimately serve, should it be enacted. And no bill that we pass out of this Chamber is perfect, and it always amazes me when we put legislation forward and how quick the naysayers are to rise to pick apart each little detail or to say: well, we should do this, or we should do that. You can always find a reason not to do something, but I think it bears mention that the intent of this bill is to save lives and so, in its current form, it may not be perfect, and that will go through the process as it goes over to the House. The point is, we are one State surrounded by States that have similar legislation to this, and if this bill can save one life, I doubt anyone in this Chamber would oppose its merit. I would ask for an affirmative vote.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I intend to support the measure, but I do take offense to the characterization of the comments that were made by Members on this side of the aisle about the collection of data and how important it is to say that it is nitpicking, I find that offensive. The Members of this side of the Caucus raised a very serious concern in the Committee on Appropriations and it was an excellent articulation along those lines, but they continue to express their frustration about language not being included that addresses that issue. So, to that end, I ask my colleagues to disregard the comments about the nitpicking nature and recognize the comments that they made and the concerns they raised as very serious and appropriate concerns about this legislation.

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-37

Argall	Costa	Kane	Santarsiero
Aument	Culver	Kearney	Schwank
Baker	Dillon	Langerholc	Stefano
Bartolotta	Dush	Laughlin	Tartaglione
Boscola	Farry	Martin	Vogel
Brewster	Flynn	Miller	Ward, Judy
Brown	Fontana	Pennycuick	Ward, Kim
Cappelletti	Gebhard	Pittman	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Yaw
Comitta			

NAY-11

Brooks	Haywood	Phillips-Hill	Street
Coleman	Hughes	Rothman	Williams, Lindsey
DiSanto	Muth	Saval	

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

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

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

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

SECRETARY OF CORRECTIONS

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, Laurel Harry, 1920 Technology Parkway, Mechanicsburg 17050, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Secretary of Corrections, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice John Wetzel, Mechanicsburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

**NOMINATION LAID ON THE TABLE**

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

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

**EXECUTIVE NOMINATION**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Which was agreed to by voice vote.

**NOMINATION TAKEN FROM THE TABLE**

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

The Clerk read the nomination as follows:

SECRETARY OF CORRECTIONS

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, Laurel Harry, 1920 Technology Parkway, Mechanicsburg 17050, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Secretary of Corrections, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice John Wetzel, Mechanicsburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

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

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

YEA-48

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

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 BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION**

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

**SB 173, SB 373, SB 490, SB 815, SB 838 and HB 611.**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY**

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023

10:00 A.M.	STATE GOVERNMENT (to consider the nomination of Acting Secretary Al Schmidt; and Senate Bills No. 125, 282 and 829)	Room 8E-B East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
10:30 A.M.	LABOR AND INDUSTRY (to consider the nominations of Wadud Ahmad to the Unemployment Compensation Board of Review; Maura Mundy to the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board; and Gina Cerilli Thrasher to the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board)	Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
11:00 A.M.	EDUCATION (public hearing to consider the nomination of Dr. Khalid Mumin as Secretary of Education)	Hearing Room 1 North Office (LIVE STREAMED)
12:00 P.M.	ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (to consider Senate Bill No. 832; Senate Resolution No. 116; and the nomination of Acting Secretary Richard Negrin to the Department of Environmental Protection)	Room 8E-B East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
12:30 P.M.	VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (to consider Senate Resolution No. 136; House Bill No. 804; and the nomination of Acting State Fire Commissioner Thomas Cook)	Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
Off the Floor	APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 209, 260, 500, 756 and 836)	Rules Committee Conference Room
Off the Floor	RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 146 and 460; and certain Executive Nominations)	Rules Committee Conference Room

**PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES**

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise because today marks 6,192 days since our Commonwealth's legislature last passed an increase in Pennsylvania's minimum wage. We are failing our constituents by allowing more days to go by without any change--plain and simple. Mr. President, it is no secret that every State that neighbors Pennsylvania has a higher minimum wage than us. Pennsylvania is seeing, and will continue to see, a migration of workers out of our Commonwealth and to our neighboring States if they do not act soon. We are falling behind our Commonwealth's workers. Instead of being a leader for workers' rights across this nation, our Commonwealth has decided it is okay for

our citizens to live paycheck to paycheck and struggle to make ends meet. But that is not okay with me, Mr. President.

Just this year, 27 States have increased their minimum wage. It is far past time, Mr. President, that we break the cycle of inaction and become a leader, not only in our region, but in the entire nation. The eyes are on us now. Will we stand up for people of the Commonwealth and pass Senate Bill No. 12, or we will stand by and continue to fall behind? Let us bring Senate Bill No. 12 out of committee and to the floor for a vote. Let us help those who are most economically vulnerable in our State. Let us become the State that workers will cross the State border for, instead of leaving for greener pastures. Let us ensure our workers earn a livable wage.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR**

**NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

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

**MEMBER OF THE ARCHITECTS LICENSURE BOARD**

June 22, 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, Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth 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 Darryl Hamm, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY**

June 22, 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, 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 Massage Therapy, 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 Ellyn Jo Waller, Ardmore, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE REGISTRATION BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS AND GEOLOGISTS

June 22, 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, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Francis Stanton, Richboro, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

June 22, 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, 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 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 Vito Don Giovanni, Indiana, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF TORRANCE STATE HOSPITAL

June 22, 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, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, 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 16, 2029, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Susan Bortz, Derry, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF TORRANCE STATE HOSPITAL

June 22, 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, 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 Torrance

State Hospital, to serve until January 21, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Wayne McGrew, Derry, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF TORRANCE STATE HOSPITAL

June 22, 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, 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 Torrance State Hospital, to serve until January 16, 2029, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Thomas Kissell, Greensburg, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

June 22, 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, 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 Veterinary Medicine, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Andrew Nebzydoski, Honesdale, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

RECESS

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, June 26, 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 2:38 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.