

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023

SESSION OF 2023 207TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 43

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, October 4, 2023

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

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Army Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel SCHAUN MYERS, of Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, offered the following prayer:

Good morning.
Let us pray together.

Dear Heavenly Father, on this beautiful fall morning, we thank You for our fair Commonwealth. We are grateful for the blessing of being citizens of Pennsylvania and our great nation. As the Senate has gathered today to make decisions on behalf of their constituents, we are reminded of the great privilege of serving with the trust of the people resting on each person present. We are also aware of the great burden that serving in public office is. My prayer today for our Senators and staff is that You would grant them wisdom as they serve and strength as they carry all the responsibilities that they have. Guard against personal agendas and partisan politics, and may there be a shared sense of selfless service and unity as they work hard for our Commonwealth. Lord, be present in all that transpires this day and continue to bless our great nation and Commonwealth. In Your Name, we pray. Amen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair thanks Chaplain Myers, who is the guest today of Senator Mastriano.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

October 4, 2023

Senators FARRY, ARGALL, LANGERHOLC, BARTOLOTTA, COSTA, VOGEL, DUSH, STEFANO and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SB 946**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 9, 2008 (P.L.1408, No.113), known as the Scrap Material Theft Prevention Act, further providing for penalties.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, October 4, 2023.

Senators PENNYCUICK, PHILLIPS-HILL, BROWN, BOSCOLA, COSTA, HUTCHINSON, ROBINSON and DILLON presented to the Chair **SB 947**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in disabled veterans' real estate tax exemption, further providing for exemption.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, October 4, 2023.

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

October 4, 2023

Senators COLEMAN, ROTHMAN, MASTRIANO and DUSH presented to the Chair **SR 169**, entitled:

A Resolution requesting that the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee conduct a program evaluation to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of workforce development programs administered by various Commonwealth agencies.

Which was committed to the Committee on INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, October 4, 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:

October 4, 2023

HB 250 and **1291** -- Committee on Transportation.
HB 1409 -- Committee on Game and Fisheries.
HB 1507 -- Committee on Education.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair wishes to announce the President pro tempore has made the following appointments:

Senator Elisabeth J. Baker as a member of the State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision and the State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision.

Senator Wayne Langerholc, Jr., as a member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator ROBINSON, from the Committee on Labor and Industry, reported the following bills:

SB 577 (Pr. No. 1156) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of October 13, 2010 (P.L.506, No.72), known as the Construction Workplace Misclassification Act, further providing for definitions, for improper classification of employees and for criminal penalties; providing for private right of action; and further providing for administrative penalties, for retaliation for action prohibited, for availability of information and for funding.

HB 1354 (Pr. No. 1495)

An Act amending the act of October 24, 2012 (P.L.1209, No.151), known as the Child Labor Act, further providing for penalties.

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

SB 867 (Pr. No. 1017)

An Act amending Title 11 (Cities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for city classification; making a repeal; and making editorial changes.

SB 887 (Pr. No. 1053)

An Act amending Title 9 (Burial Grounds) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in regulation of cemetery companies, further providing for initial deposits by newly-organized cemetery companies and for registration and filing affidavit of compliance.

SB 945 (Pr. No. 1111)

An Act amending Title 16 (Counties) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, consolidating the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code; and making repeals.

GUESTS OF SENATOR PATRICK J. STEFANO PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Fayette, Senator Stefano.

Senator STEFANO. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a group of remarkable young women whose exceptional athleticism, sportsmanship, and unwavering determination have bestowed an immense amount of pride upon Everett, a quaint town in Bedford County. On June 15, the Everett Area High School Softball Team captured a State championship title by defeating Bald Eagle Area High School with a score of 12-1 in 6 innings. Throughout the spring, their team motto was "finish strong," and the Lady

Warriors did just that. In the last 18 games of the season, including 6 playoff games, the team consistently scored 9 runs or more each game. The perseverance and teamwork this group of athletes embodies is inspiring, and I have no doubt that more championship titles will come for the school softball program. Their achievement reflects not only their individual talents, but also the skilled guidance of their coaches, Jackie Levy, Rick Reed, Beth Bryant, and Randy Clark, and the unwavering support of their families and the Everett community. It is an honor to have them with us here today. I ask the Senate please join me in congratulating and welcoming the Everett Area High School Softball Team, your 2023 PIAA State Class AA softball champions.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR DOUGLAS V. MASTRIANO PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce our guest Chaplain, Pennsylvania National Guard Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel Schaun Myers. Schaun has been a full-time pastoral minister for 31 years. He is ordained in the Evangelical Free Church of America and has served two churches as the senior pastor. He has been a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard for 20 years, serving as a squadron chaplain for the 2nd of the 104th Cavalry--we know what we say about Cav: "if you ain't Cav, you ain't..." hooah. As a brigade chaplain for the 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team and as a deputy division chaplain and division chaplain for the 28th Infantry Division, he currently serves as a Joint Force Headquarters State chaplain. For the past 15 years, he has been serving on active duty as a brigade support chaplain on deployment to the Middle East, as a chaplain recruiter for the National Guard Bureau, as well as a chaplain for the 166th training regiment at Fort Indiantown Gap to include deployment to Jordan. He has been married for 36 years to his wife, Darlene, has 3 daughters, and lives in Reading. Chaplain Myers gave the prayer this morning for the Operation Enduring Freedom commemoration ceremony that we conducted. I am pleased to introduce him together with his home Senator, Senator Judy Schwank. Please join me in giving the Pennsylvania National Guard Chaplain Lieutenant Colonel Schaun Myers a warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guest of Senator Mastriano please rise and be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

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

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I rise to honor Doug E. Zubeck. Doug officially retired from the General Assembly after a career spanning 37 years of dedicated service. His retirement was effective 13 September of this year. Doug graduated in 1983

from Middletown Area High School, attended Harrisburg Area Community College from 1985 to 1989, and began his career in public service as a messenger with the Republican Caucus for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1986. Doug, that is a long time ago. The following year, he became a Republican Member services clerk for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and he remained in that role until 1996 when he began working in constituent outreach with former Representative Donald Snyder. In 2000, Doug Zubeck began serving in public relations and outreach position for all Members through the House Republican Communications Office, and after 6 years in that position, he transferred to the Senate of Pennsylvania Republican Caucus Policy Development and Research Office. From November 2006 to 2018, he served as constituent outreach coordinator for the former Senator Chuck McIlhinney, and following Senator McIlhinney's retirement, he moved to the office of former Senator Rich Alloway, my predecessor.

In 2019, I was blessed to have Doug start his tenure in my office, and it was a match made in heaven, and I do not mean anything weird by that. Doug provided incredible service to my constituents, outreach to my community and district—just unprecedented, unparalleled I am told. His expertise and dexterity in dealing with those hard cases that I often came across were absolutely magnificent. He helped me immensely as a first-term Senator brought in here with a special election, and the great outreach with our Walk as Free People movement that arose in 2020 would not have been possible without him. Doug was on the front lines as we fought to reopen the State during the COVID-19 shutdown and led the way in bringing personal and direct relief to constituents who needed help in tragic times. Throughout his service, Doug has striven to adhere to the highest standards of service, integrity, and loyalty and has earned my respect, and he is greatly missed. Doug is an incredible father who devotes much of his time to his son and daughter, Sophia, and Doug, Jr. I am sure you have seen the pictures that he regularly posts of his family online on fishing trips and other adventures in the outdoors, and he is a great man. Doug Zubeck has been an institution of this General Assembly for over 37 years with a great, marvelous career serving both the House and Senate. We deeply miss him but wish him all the best in his retirement. Thank you, Doug, for being here today.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR ROSEMARY BROWN PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator BROWN. Mr. President, I would like to welcome a very special guest of mine to the Senate floor, Mr. John Dickson. John is a loving husband, a father, a grandfather, an honorable Marine veteran who dedicates himself every day to supporting our men and women of service. But today, we are also honoring him for his tremendous and heartfelt work as the Monroe County coordinator for the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign in Monroe County, PA, for the past 20 years. Mr. Dickson, who is affectionately referred to in our community as "The Toy Man," works tirelessly throughout the year to make the

Toys for Tots program the very best it can be. Along with his wife, Donna, I have watched them care and work diligently.

Mr. Dickson has been awarded the Region 1 Coordinator of the Year twice, in 2008 and in 2013. But in 2022, in competition with 695 other local community organization campaigns throughout the country, John was selected and recognized as the National Coordinator of the Year, making him, in my eyes, the "National Toy Man." In 2022, John's Monroe County Toys for Tots campaign distributed 6,738 toys to more than 1,600 children in need in Monroe County. Mr. Dickson worked with many local businesses within Monroe County to increase fundraising for the campaigns. He encourages establishments to provide their patients the ability to support Toys for Tots while raising awareness about the local program. Through these efforts, Mr. Dickson has significantly increased the fundraising, doubling donated funds in 2021 and 2022. In addition to serving the need for children at Christmastime, Monroe County Toys for Tots also works to make an impact year-round, from helping a family after a house fire, to visiting a child in the hospital, to their foster care program, and also their literacy program. While Mr. Dickson would humbly attribute the success of the Monroe County Toys for Tots program to the generosity of our community, the program has gone above and beyond success with his strong commitment, his tireless efforts, and his dedication. Please join me in honoring and congratulating my guest Mr. John Dickson; his wife, Donna Dickson; their son, Johnny; along with Marine Staff Sergeant Watkis and Alba from the Toys for Tots foundation on his national award and offering them a warm Senate welcome.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR TRACY PENNYCUICK PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator PENNYCUICK. Mr. President, it is my great pleasure this morning to introduce Dr. Brienne Berry, an assistant professor of environmental studies at Ursinus College in Collegeville. Trained as an economic environmental anthropologist, she studies issues of consumption and waste. Dr. Berry holds a Ph.D. in anthropology and environmental policy from the University of Maine. With Dr. Berry today are 17 members of her environmental policy class, who will spend the semester exploring the complexities and tradeoffs associated with environmental policy in the United States. I ask that we extend our traditional warm welcome to these special guests in the gallery today. Thank you.

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

[Applause.]

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Baker, Senator Farry, Senator Gebhard, Senator Kim Ward, Senator Yaw, and Senator Martin.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Cappelletti, Senator Street, and Senator Anthony Williams, and legislative leaves for Senator Saval and Senator Schwank.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Baker, Senator Farry, Senator Gebhard, Senator Kim Ward, Senator Yaw, and Senator Martin.

Senator Costa requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Cappelletti, Senator Street, and Senator Anthony Williams, and legislative leaves for Senator Saval and Senator Schwank.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journal of the Session of June 26, 2023, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of June 26, 2023.

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

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

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

YEA-50

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journal is approved.

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 Senate Republican caucus that will be held in the Rules room. I expect this to be a very brief caucus.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber for a brief caucus as well.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of a Republican caucus to be held in the Rules room, and a Democratic caucus to be held in the

rear of the Chamber, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Martin, Senator Baker, Senator Farry, Senator Gebhard, Senator Cappelletti, Senator Kim Ward, Senator Street, and Senator Anthony Williams have returned, and their temporary Capitol leaves are cancelled.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

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

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Pittman requests a legislative leave for Senator DiSanto.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Brewster.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

CALENDAR

BILL ON CONCURRENCE IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS AS AMENDED

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS AS AMENDED

SB 621 (Pr. No. 1149) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating the portion of Pennsylvania Route 41 (Gap Newport Pike) from the intersection with Bernard Avenue to the intersection with Highland Road in West Fallowfield Township, Chester County, as the Corporal Brandon Hardy Memorial Highway; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 13775, carrying Pennsylvania Route 641 over Big Spring Creek on the border of Newville Borough and West Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County, as the SFC Randall Shughart Memorial Bridge; designating a portion of Johnson Mill Road (State Route 1001) from the bridge over Buffalo Creek (Bridge Key 33467) to the intersection of Colonel John Kelly Road (State Route 1002) in Buffalo Township, Union County, as the Sgt. Edward L. Shannon Memorial Highway; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 13617, carrying Pennsylvania Route 34, over Mountain Creek in Mount Holly Springs Borough, Cumberland County, as the Firefighter Jerome Guise Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8553, carrying State Route 1006 on Syberton Road over Clearfield Creek in Gallitzin Township, Cambria County, as the Private Martin J. Hanlon Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 36247, carrying Pennsylvania Route 711 over Loyalhanna Creek in Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, as the Sergeant Alvin P. Carey and Private John C. Ewing Medal of Honor Memorial Bridge; designating the bridge,

identified as Bridge Keys 34474 and 34477, carrying Interstate 70 over Pennsylvania Route 18, on the border of Washington City and Canton Township, Washington County, as the Corporal Frank J. Sworden Memorial Bridge; designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 310 between Knox Dale Road, also known as State Route 2023, and Ash Street in McCalmont Township, Jefferson County, as the Lance Cpl. Bernard Himes Memorial Highway; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 33758, carrying Pennsylvania Route 427 over Sugar Creek in Sugar Creek Borough, Venango County, as the Staff Sergeant Richard James Mulholland Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8537, carrying Pennsylvania Route 869 over a tributary of the Little Conemaugh River in Jackson Township, Cambria County, as the Sergeant Vance Stephan Keslar Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8392, carrying Pennsylvania Route 53 over Bruebaker Run in Dean Township, Cambria County, as the U.S. Army Technical Sergeant Joseph F. Johnston Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 43267, on that portion of State Route 3041, also known as Dishong Mountain Road, over U.S. Route 22 in Jackson Township, Cambria County, as the Technical Sergeant Mike Cappelli Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 45701, carrying Pennsylvania Route 403 over the Conemaugh River between Johnstown City and West Taylor Township, Cambria County, as the Captain Raymond W. Callahan, Jr., Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8569, carrying State Route 1021 over Glendale Lake in White Township, Cambria County, as the CPL Reid Rex Ross 3 BT 26 Marine Reg. Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 56008, carrying Pennsylvania Route 403 over Stonycreek River in Johnstown City, Cambria County, as the Sgt. John C. Alaimo Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8444, carrying US Route 219 over Pennsylvania Route 56, also known as Scalp Avenue, in Richland Township, Cambria County, as the PFC Stanley Albert Stys Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8547, located on State Route 1002, also known as Friend Lea Road, over U.S. Route 219 in Cambria Township, Cambria County, as the PFC Cyril T. Yeckley Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8654, carrying State Route 3035 over the Little Conemaugh River in East Taylor Township, Cambria County, as the East Taylor Township Veterans Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 43558, carrying U.S. Route 22 over a tributary of Hinckston Run in Jackson Township, Cambria County, as the Officer Matthew Krupa Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 55994, carrying State Route 4002 over California Run in Cambria Township, Cambria County, as the Senior Chief Stanley "Stush" Kubat, Jr., Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 46706, carrying State Route 4001, also known as Iverson Road, over Stevens Run in Blacklick Township, Cambria County, as the PVT Donald D. Marsh Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 19716, carrying State Route 2019 over Mahoning Creek in Bell Township, Jefferson County, as the SP4 Michael Raymond Ishman Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 5550, carrying Woodbury Pike (Pennsylvania Route 36) over Halter Creek, spanning Blair and Freedom Townships, Blair County, as the Pvt. William E. Green Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 41606, carrying State Route 3011, also known as Branch Road, over Spring Creek in College Township, Centre County, as the Petty Officer John W. Coble Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 46159, carrying Pennsylvania Route 36 on Charger Highway, Blair Township, Blair County, as the Marine Lance Corporal Ralph Hammel Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 52767, carrying West High Street (State Route 4031), crossing the Ghost Town Trail, located in Ebensburg Borough, Cambria County, as the Corpsman Charles Doerr, United States Navy, Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 11781, on that portion of State Route 3004 over the West Branch Susquehanna River, Burnside Township, Clearfield County, as the United States Army Sergeant Harold Koller Memorial Bridge; 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; designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 143 in Lynn Township, Lehigh County, from the intersection of Pennsylvania Route 309 to the border of Berks County, as Heroes Highway, in honor of fallen firefighter Marvin Gruber and Assistant Fire Chief Zachary Paris; designating a bridge, identified

as Bridge Key 47515, carrying Pennsylvania Route 286 over Blacklegs Creek in Conemaugh Township, Indiana County, as the Captain Robert M. Young Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8574, carrying State Route 1021 over Clearfield Creek in White Township, Cambria County, as the Charles Owen Jenkins, Jr., Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 45509, carrying U.S. Route 40 over Pennsylvania Route 43 in Redstone Township, Fayette County, as the PFC John Balog Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 47947, carrying State Route 1054 over Indian Creek in Saltlick Township, Fayette County, as the Sgt. Earl D. Barkley Memorial Bridge; designating the section of State Route 403, also known as Cramer Pike, from the intersection with State Route 3041 in West Taylor Township, Cambria County, to the intersection with State Route 8010, Segment 250 (Ramp E) in East Wheatfield Township, Indiana County, as the Captain Harry G. Cramer Memorial Highway; designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 173 between the southern border of Slippery Rock Township to the southern border of Slippery Rock Borough in Slippery Rock Township, Butler County, as the 173rd Airborne Brigade Highway; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 53848, carrying Pennsylvania Route 36 over Canoe Creek in Bell Township, Jefferson County, as the PFC Larry E. Frantz Memorial Bridge; designating the interchange of U.S. Route 22/322 with Arch Rock Road in Fermanagh Township, Juniata County, as the Trooper Jacques F. Rougeau, Jr., Memorial Interchange; designating the bridge, identified as Bridge Key 47695, carrying U.S. Route 202 over Almshouse Road in Doylestown Township, Bucks County, as the CPT Connor J. Bednarzyk, USA Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 12099, carrying Pennsylvania Route 120, also known as Renovo Road, over Young Women's Creek in Chapman Township, Clinton County, as the Staff Sergeant John F. Curcio Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 44399, located on that portion of State Route 4049 over Interstate 70 in South Strabane Township, Washington County, as the Louis E. Waller Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 9570, on that portion of State Route 3049 over the Moshannon Creek in Rush Township, Centre County, as the Lance Corporal Michael P. Segich Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 5759, located on that portion of State Route 3002 over South Poplar Run in Greenfield Township, Blair County, as the Corporal Clyde E. Walter, Jr., Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 7178, carrying State Route 2018 over I-295 in Middletown Township, Bucks County, as the Staff Sgt. Jae S. Moon Memorial Bridge; designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 445 from the intersection with Pennsylvania Route 45 to the intersection with Pennsylvania Route 192 in Millheim Borough and Penn Township, Centre County, as the Lieutenant General Robert D. Springer Memorial Highway; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 55815, carrying State Route 1005 over Crooked Creek in Rayne Township, Indiana County, as the Sergeant Charles R. Learn Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Pennsylvania Route 443 bridge, over the Little Schuylkill River, located in Walker Township, Schuylkill County, as the William Hoffman Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Park Road Bridge, located in Wyomissing, Berks County, as the Joseph Walker Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on U.S. Route 209 over Middle Creek, located in Polk Township, Monroe County, as the Charles Gardner Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, also known as the Bridge Street Bridge, located in Weissport Borough, Carbon County, as the Ralph Strubinger Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as U.S. Route 422 Bridge, over the Little Cacoosing Creek, located in Lower Heidelberg Township, Berks County, and South Heidelberg Township, Berks County, as the Wilbur Bohn Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, on Little Mountain Road over the Little Catawissa Creek, located in Union Township, Schuylkill County, as the Joseph Zienkiewicz Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, on Pennsylvania Route 191 over Brodhead Creek, located in Stroud Township, Monroe County, as the Gordon Brink Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, on Pennsylvania Route 924 over the railroad, located in Gilberton Borough, Monroe County, as the Walter Skubel Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, on Pennsylvania Route 512 over the Monocacy Creek, located in Bethlehem City, Northampton County, as the Raphael Rivera Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on Pennsylvania Route 443 over the Schuylkill River, located in Schuylkill Haven Borough, Schuylkill County, as the Caitlin McGarry Memorial Bridge; designating the portion of State Route 1013 (Academy Road) from the intersection with

Cromwell Road to the intersection with Comly Road in Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, as the U.S. Army Ranger SPC Devin J. Kuhn Memorial Highway; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8660, carrying State Route 3039 over the Conemaugh River in the City of Johnstown, Cambria County, as the Corporal Robert J. Rusnak Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 11476, on State Route 322, also known as Nichols Street over the West Branch of the Susquehanna River in the Borough of Clearfield, Clearfield County, as the Walter Lane Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 5221, carrying U.S. Route 422 Business, also known as Penn Street, over the Schuylkill River in the City of Reading, Berks County, as the Police Officer Scott A. Wertz Memorial Bridge; designating a portion of State Route 2005, known as Lehigh Street, in Allentown, Lehigh County, from Segment 0060/Offset 1800 to the intersection with Vultee Street, as the Chief Christopher Kiskeravage Memorial Highway; and making repeals.

On the question,
Will the Senate concur in the amendments made by the House, as further amended by the Senate, to Senate Bill No. 621?

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in the amendments made by the House, as further amended by the Senate, to Senate Bill No. 621.

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

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

YEA-50

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

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate inform the House of Representatives accordingly.

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 22, SB 125, SB 282, SB 346, SB 371 and SB 423 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 473 (Pr. No. 1152) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 74 (Transportation) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in turnpike, providing for State intercept for unpaid tolls.

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 Northampton, Senator Boscola.

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, I rise to ask my colleagues to vote in favor of Senate Bill No. 473. My bill aims to address the pressing issue of unpaid tolls on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. In the commission's 2023 report, they indicated uncollected tolls have amassed to \$171 million between June 2022 and May 2023. This is up an additional \$15 million from the previous year. All the while, law-abiding Pennsylvanians have consistently paid their fair share. Yet, repeated toll offenders are escaping accountability. Without more effective measures, we risk the erosion of the entire system as more seek to evade payment. My bill amends Title 74, providing the [Pennsylvania] Turnpike Commission and the Department of Revenue an additional tool. It is an additional tool to intercept certain State lottery winnings and State income tax refunds for the collection of outstanding tolls owed to the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission. By supporting Senate Bill No. 473, we empower the commission to recover funds from these scofflaws who believe they are entitled to a free ride on our turnpike. I would like to thank the Senate Committee on Transportation chairs, Senator Langerholc and Senator Flynn, for their support of this bill out of committee and for those who worked with my staff to adopt the agreed-to amendment yesterday, which improved the Department of Revenue's ability to implement and administer this legislation. I ask each of you, all of you, to stand with me and vote "yes" on this bill.

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-50

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

Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kane	Rothman	Yaw
Costa	Kearney		

NAY-0

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

HB 623 (Pr. No. 1132) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the capital budget for fiscal year 2023-2024.

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

Pursuant to Senate Rule 9, the bill was laid on the table.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 799 (Pr. No. 1150) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in supplemental funding for municipal highway maintenance, further providing for supplemental funding for municipal highway maintenance; and, in taxes for highway maintenance and construction, further providing for imposition of tax.

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 Cumberland, Senator Rothman.

Senator ROTHMAN. Mr. President, Senate Bill No. 799 allows counties to take money that was allocated to them under Act 44 and Act 89 to repair their bridges and maintain their bridges--the bridges that are the responsibility of the county--and allow them to take those resources and pass this onto bridges to repair bridges maintained and owned by the municipalities. A core function of government is infrastructure, and this bill will go a long way in helping to secure our bridges and roads within our counties. I urge a "yes" 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-50

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

NAY-0

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

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

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 Baker.

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

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 804 (Pr. No. 1305) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 15, 1982 (P.L.1266, No.287), entitled "An act conferring limited residency status on military personnel, their dependents and civilian personnel assigned to an active duty station in Pennsylvania," further providing for residency of students.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

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

Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kane	Rothman	Yaw
Costa	Kearney		

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate return said bill to the House of Representatives with information that the Senate has passed the same without amendments.

SB 824 (Pr. No. 1151) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 22, 2005 (P.L.474, No.94), known as the Breach of Personal Information Notification Act, further providing for definitions, for notification of the breach of the security of the system and for notification of consumer reporting agencies; and providing for credit reporting and monitoring.

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 Philadelphia, Senator Dillon.

Senator DILLON. Mr. President, I rise today to support Senate Bill No. 824. This legislation is the result of a bipartisan effort to create better circumstances for individuals who have had their personal information compromised. The number of data breaches that occur annually continues to rise, and with that, the cost associated with compromised data is continuing to increase as well. Data security is more crucial now than ever before. I am sure most of us in this room have had personal information compromised. Not only will this legislation require notification to the Attorney General but will also ensure notification is given to the victims of data breached. Individuals need to be made aware of what information has been stolen and how they can attempt and take steps to monitor personal finances through credit monitoring services, as well as credit reports. Too often our constituents are left without answers and confused that their data was compromised. This legislation will ensure individuals have the tools available to keep their personal wealth and identity safe. I also want to take this opportunity to thank Senator Pennycuick for her collaboration and leadership on this issue. This is a good bill. You have done an excellent job managing stakeholder feedback, and this bill stands to benefit all Pennsylvanians. I would like to encourage a "yes" vote.

Thank you, Mr. President.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Pennycuick.

Senator PENNYCUICK. Mr. President, I am proud to offer this bill with my friend from Philadelphia, Senator Dillon. This is a good, commonsense measure that addresses the unfortunate reality of our world. Cybercrimes and data breaches are all too common in an increasingly connected world. At no fault of their own, an individual can find themselves vulnerable and compromised

when they become victims of a data breach. These risks are compounded when personal financial information is stolen by a bad actor. When these incidents occur, our constituents need the tools necessary to understand if and how they have been impacted. Our bill would help remedy these issues by offering those affected access to a one-year credit monitoring service and one credit report for free, if vital information such as your social security number has been accessed. This way, our constituents will be better prepared and know if they are actively being exploited and the peace of mind that their futures are secure. I want to thank my colleagues, as well as those across all sectors of the industry, for their input and feedback on this bill. I urge my colleagues for an affirmative vote. Thank you.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-50

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

NAY-0

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

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

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 210 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 340 (Pr. No. 1101) -- 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 online curriculum availability.

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 365 (Pr. No. 975) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, in interpretation and definitions, further providing for definitions; and, in liability and compensation, providing for compensation for post-traumatic stress injury.

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

SB 365 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that Senate Bill No. 365, Printer's No. 975, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 375 and **SB 399** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

HB 404 (Pr. No. 1301) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in professional and occupational licenses, further providing for retention of licenses and certifications of persons entering military service.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 596 (Pr. No. 1146) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in theft and related offenses, further providing

for the offense of organized retail theft; and establishing the Office of Deputy Attorney General for Organized Retail Crime Theft.

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 597, HB 689, SB 721 and **SB 723** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 739 (Pr. No. 981) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act relating to telemedicine; authorizing the regulation of telemedicine by professional licensing boards; and providing for insurance coverage of telemedicine.

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 745 and **SB 792** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 842 (Pr. No. 995) -- 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 harassment of sports official.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

SB 941 (Pr. No. 1148) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties of the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, further providing for powers and duties and providing for regulatory flexibility during opioid epidemic.

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

HB 1351 (Pr. No. 1802) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 27, 2019 (P.L.742, No.108), known as the Pennsylvania Rural Health Redesign Center Authority Act, in Pennsylvania Rural Health Redesign Center Authority, further providing for Pennsylvania Rural Health Redesign Center Authority; and, in Pennsylvania Rural Health Redesign Center Fund, further providing for money in fund.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator ARGALL. 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 577, SB 867, SB 887, SB 945 and HB 1354.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023

Table with 3 columns: Meeting Type, Topic, Location. Includes Appropriations and Rules and Executive Nominations.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023

Table with 3 columns: Meeting Time, Topic, Location. Includes Education and Environmental Resources and Energy.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023

Table with 3 columns: Time, Topic, Location. Includes Intergovernmental Operations.

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Martin.

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on my forthcoming resolution to designate this week, the week of October 1 through 7, 2023; as well as January 7 through 13, 2024; and April 14 through 20, 2024, as PIAA Officials Appreciation Week in Pennsylvania.

Officiating is a very difficult job, considering the pressure officials are under in making the correct calls while the teams are in action and the fans are rooting on opposing sides.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator FONTANA. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Tartaglione, I submit her remarks for the record.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator Fontana has submitted remarks on behalf of Senator Tartaglione. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Fontana, on behalf of the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator TARTAGLIONE.)

Mr. President, I rise because today marks 6,296 days since this Commonwealth's legislature last passed an increase in our minimum wage.

Mr. President, when we come here to act on the people's business and legislate for our constituents and our Commonwealth, many of the Members take a per diem to cover their expenses that can come up during their time in Harrisburg when we are here for Session.

\$204 per day, which is intended to cover all housing or lodging costs as well as food needs and any other incidental costs that can come up while they are in Harrisburg serving their communities. I, for one, do not take a per diem, Mr. President, but this is not a debate on the merit of per diems and whether Members should take them. But what I find unfathomable is that we have Members in this Chamber and in the House of Representatives across the building who will take the \$204 while claiming hard-working Pennsylvanians do not need us to raise the minimum wage.

Mr. President, for a minimum-wage earner to make as much as a legislator's daily per diem, they need to work 28 hours--28, Mr. President. Our low-wage earners need to work more than one full day, just to earn what our Members earn just for showing up to their job. It is unconscionable for our low-wage earners to need to work 28 hours just to earn what our legislature has determined is the "fair" rate intended to cover all expenses. How can we in good faith say someone needs to work more than three full 8-hour shifts, to cover 1 day of living expenses? Our low-wage and minimum-wage earners deserve better, Mr. President. Legislation that would raise our minimum wage is stalled in committee right now waiting for a vote. Legislation like Senate Bill No. 12 would put Pennsylvanians on the path to \$15 an hour and out of the endless cycle of poverty we currently allow them to exist in. Pennsylvanians deserve better, Mr. President. Pennsylvanians deserve Senate Bill No. 12.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from York, Senator Phillips-Hill.

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, as the Senate co-chair alongside the good Senator from Allegheny County, I rise to recognize October 6 as Manufacturing Day in Pennsylvania. Since being asked to spearhead this caucus by the President pro tempore, I have met so many manufacturing leaders from York County and all across this great Commonwealth. We have called on our manufacturers to do more now than ever before. Manufacturing in Pennsylvania accounts for more than \$100 billion each year in gross State product. More than half a million Pennsylvanians work in this vital industry. And our hardworking manufacturers also account for millions of additional jobs in retail, as well as supply chain and distribution networks. However, we continue to hear about the challenge of finding employees to fill these good-paying, family-sustaining jobs. They pay great wages. They include paid time off, health care, retirement packages, and even sign-on bonuses. On average, these jobs pay \$82,000 a year. We have over 8,000 opportunities in Pennsylvania for our next generation of manufacturers. Colleges and universities are finding innovative ways to create partnerships between higher education, industry, and community partners. York College is doing just that with the Knowledge Park. The manufacturing caucus will be touring their facility later this month to learn about their initiative. I am so proud of our manufacturers in York County, and for that matter, all across our great Commonwealth. And we know this is just the beginning of a resurgence in Pennsylvania manufacturing. And I must note, with great pride, that we have quite the maker spirit in the 28th Senatorial District. Whether it is potato chips and pretzels, military equipment, or motorcycles, you can have it made in York County. And that is why I am so grateful and proud to celebrate October 6, 2023, as Manufacturing Day in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in honor of Operation Enduring Freedom, which began 22 years ago on October 7, 2001, and continued until the final withdrawal in

August of 2021. There are some days in history that we experience that are etched into our memory. For the World War II generation, of course, it was the surprise attack at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Others recollect and remember and reflect upon the lunar landing or the tragic assassination of John F. Kennedy, but most of us in our generation remember vividly what happened on September 11, 2001, when America was shaken. But the foundation of our country, despite the attack, remains strong. We wept for those who lost their lives, whether in New York, Washington [DC], or Pennsylvania. We remember Flight 93 in the skies of Pennsylvania on that tragic day when 40 innocent passengers lost their lives trying to take the plane back in the first attack, pushing back against the terrorists, and the famous words of Todd Beamer where he said: "let's roll."

Less than a week after the attack on 9/11, President Bush visited Ground Zero in lower Manhattan near the remains of the Twin Towers. His unprepared remarks echoed across the generations to us today. And we remember, vividly, him standing on the rubble with a bullhorn with firefighters and first responders, one of them yelling, "We can't hear you." And he responded back: "I [can] hear you. The rest of the world hears you, and the people who knocked these buildings down will hear all of us soon." And less than a month later, American allied troops began a campaign in Afghanistan to take out--to kill, capture, eliminate--the terrorists who had masterminded the attack on us on 9/11. That marked the beginning of the Global War on Terror. Operation Enduring Freedom encapsulated our operations in Afghanistan against the terrorists who masterminded the attack against us. The objectives were very clear: destroy terrorist training camps and infrastructure in Afghanistan, kill or capture top Al-Qaeda operatives, and eliminate and cease all terrorist activities in Afghanistan. The plan focused on the Taliban, who had been leading the country through means of terror and oppression since 1996, taking power just a few years after the Russian retreat out of Afghanistan in '89.

On October 7, 2001, less than a month after the terrorist attacks against the United States, U.S. and British warplanes began targeting Taliban and Al-Qaeda locations. This was the beginning of our coordinated response against the terrorists. The operation involved a comprehensive approach from the land, air, and sea and was quickly successful in driving the Taliban largely out of Afghanistan and destroying Al-Qaeda operational areas. And after that began the long, hard campaign in the country of Afghanistan with its extreme terrain, whether of mountains throughout the breadth and width of the country or in the deserts in the south. And American soldiers led the way together with our allied and coalition partners. Fighting took place in sparse, low-populated areas in the mountains as well as in the urban areas, even including Kandahar and Kabul. What happened is our soldiers, Marines, airmen, and sailors took the fight to the enemy. So, we salute all our Operation Enduring Freedom veterans who answered their country's call, many joining in the aftermath of the attack to have a direct role in pushing back against those vicious terrorists who hit us so hard.

It is impossible to say how many American lives were saved as a result of our operation in Afghanistan, but our military went there to prevent the terrorists from attacking us here. This reminds us of what Jesus said in the Gospel of John, chapter 15: greater love has no one than this, but that he lay down his life for his friends. And our brothers and sisters in uniform in the military

were willing to do just that. They put their lives on the line so that others may live. The brave men and women in our military put their lives on the line in Afghanistan, leaving families behind, operating halfway around the world to protect our countrymen from another attack. Nearly 100 Pennsylvanians lost their lives in Afghanistan, leaving behind loved ones, parents, brothers, sisters, wives, sons, and daughters, and their sacrifice forever leaves a hole left behind with their loved ones. It is impossible to offer our thanks enough to those who gave the last full measure of devotion, but we remember them and all their sacrifice and commitment.

All told, during the war in Afghanistan, more than 3,500 soldiers were killed, whether American or allied. I was blessed to lead 80 men and women from 18 different countries in my last deployment to Afghanistan. Of the 3,500 soldiers who were killed on that mission, it included 2,448 American losses, not counting the 20-some-thousand-plus Americans who were injured. But sadly, the end in Afghanistan looked a lot like 1975 Saigon. Sadly, we never have learned from our mistakes and left behind a vacuum where the Taliban quickly regained power. It is hard for veterans to see that moment and to retreat and withdraw out of Afghanistan and the loss of 13 Marines, sailors, and 1 soldier in that haphazard retreat 2 years ago, and it leaves many wondering was it worth it? And I am here to tell you it was worth it. Your commitment and sacrifice in serving your nation in Afghanistan held back catastrophe from happening to America again. We had no major terrorist attacks since, thanks to your commitment and sacrifice. In closing, we honor all the soldiers, Marines, airmen, sailors, and coast guardsmen who served during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, as well as their families for making so much sacrifice to ensure that America remains free and strong.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lebanon, Senator Gebhard.

Senator GEBHARD. Mr. President, sadly, most of us know someone who is fighting or has fought breast cancer. It is a medical struggle that impacts so many people, yet we still need to bring attention to metastatic breast cancer. It is the most advanced stage of breast cancer and is more commonly known as stage IV, which is when the cancer has spread to other parts of your body. Despite advancements in medical science, metastatic breast cancer remains incurable. To raise awareness of MBC and increase support for impacted families, I sponsored Senate Resolution No. 175 to recognize October 13, 2023, as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Thanks to all of you for standing in solidarity with thousands of patients and their families as they fight the battle with metastatic breast cancer. Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

RECESS

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, October 16, 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 12:44 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.