

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**Legislative Journal**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023

SESSION OF 2023 207TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 49

**SENATE**

WEDNESDAY, October 25, 2023

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

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

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Reverend DAVID BISER, of CrossPoint Church, Harrisburg, offered the following prayer:

We ask you to rise because we are standing in the need of prayer. Amen.

Let us come before the Lord, our God who watches over all, who loves all, who created all, we come before You and You alone. For You are the Supreme One of our lives. And so, Lord, today, we ask that You would guide and lead the minds and hearts of those who sit at these desks in this room as we steer Your State, the State of Pennsylvania, in directions that might make You glad. Lord, our desire today is to bring a smile to Your face and joy to Your heart. And we ask that in our decision-making, in our conversations, in our work here in this place, that we might remember Your people, our constituents, but Your people, those whom You love of all nations, races, colors, and creeds who live within the boundaries of this great State. And so, O God, bless us today we pray. Bless all that we do that others might be able to live and breathe and have their being. We give all of this to You, O Lord, our God, on behalf of every faith that exists within the boundaries of this State and this room, and on behalf of my faith, I pray in Jesus' Name. And all of God's people said with one voice. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Pastor Biser, who is the guest today of Senator DiSanto.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AND REFERRED**

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

October 25, 2023

Senators MARTIN, CAPPELLETTI, KANE, BOSCOLA, PHILLIPS-HILL, COSTA, HUTCHINSON and BREWSTER presented to the Chair **SR 187**, entitled:

A Resolution designating October 1 through 7, 2023, January 7 through 13, 2024, and April 14 through 20, 2024, as "PIAA Officials Appreciation Weeks" in Pennsylvania.

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

**APPOINTMENT BY THE  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair wishes to announce the President pro tempore has made the following appointment:

Mr. Jeffrey N. Reeder as a member of the Pennsylvania Malt and Brewed Beverage Industry Promotion Board.

**BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

Senator STEFANO, from the Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, reported the following bills:

**SB 142 (Pr. No. 118)**

An Act amending the act of January 14, 1952 (1951 P.L.1898, No.522), known as the Funeral Director Law, further providing for conduct of business by individuals and partnerships.

**SB 403 (Pr. No. 1187) (Amended)**

An Act amending the act of May 23, 1945 (P.L.913, No.367), known as the Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law, further providing for definitions, for general powers of board, for procedure for licensing as professional engineer, for procedure for licensing as professional land surveyor, for continuing professional competency requirements, for fees and for penalties.

**SB 910 (Pr. No. 1080)**

An Act amending Title 63 (Professions and Occupations (State Licensed)) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers and duties, further providing for civil penalties.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Dush and Senator Brooks, and legislative leaves for Senator Yaw, Senator Vogel, and Senator Robinson.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Muth, Senator Flynn, Senator Haywood, Senator Hughes, and Senator Street.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Dush and Senator Brooks, and legislative leaves for Senator Yaw, Senator Vogel, and Senator Robinson.

Senator Costa requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Muth, Senator Flynn, Senator Haywood, Senator Hughes, and Senator Street.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

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

**JOURNALS APPROVED**

The PRESIDENT. The Journals of the Sessions of August 3, 2023, and August 30, 2023, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the Sessions of August 3, 2023, and August 30, 2023.

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

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

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

YEA-50

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journals are approved.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

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

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE**

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

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

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

**GUESTS OF SENATOR JOHN M. DiSANTO  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator DiSANTO. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to introduce today's guest Chaplain, David Biser, Vision Pastor at CrossPoint Church in the Colonial Park area of Dauphin County, where he has served for more than 25 years. Dave is no stranger to the Senate, having joined us as Chaplain on several occasions over the last few years. Raised in central Pennsylvania, Dave is a graduate of Cedar Cliff High School, Messiah College, and Eastern Baptist Seminary. He resides in Lower Paxton Township with his wife, Julie, and they have three grown children. Pastor Biser is joined today by Keith Strickler, the facility manager at CrossPoint Church. Please join me in welcoming Pastor Biser and Mr. Strickler to the Senate today.

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

[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR  
CHRISTOPHER M. GEBHARD  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lebanon, Senator Gebhard.

Senator GEBHARD. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my esteemed colleague from York County, Senator Phillips-Hill, with the great honor to recognize the Harley-Davidson Motorcycle [Motor] Company for reaching their 120th anniversary in 2023. From the humble beginnings of two friends tinkering around a machine shop in Milwaukee's north side, William Harley and the Davidson brothers built a company and a brand that personifies the American dream. Today, Harley-Davidson is known as the worldwide leader in building premium motorcycles. The unique and storied history of this company includes having their motorcycles utilized by the U.S. Army for use in both World War I and World War II, breakthrough innovations on engine mechanics, and the driving force of a grassroots movement that created the iconic motorcycle culture we know today. Their factory in York County, which is the largest motorcycle manufacturing facility in the country, employing nearly 1,000 people, is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year. As the chairman of the Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development, it is an honor to recognize this pillar of the Commonwealth's business community, a business that continues to provide quality motorcycles and family-sustaining jobs in our Commonwealth.

Earlier this morning, there was an organized ride to the Capitol that culminated on the plaza. There, I was able to speak directly with company officials and hear more about their successes, challenges, and their future here in Pennsylvania. I am excited to have the great-grandchildren of one of the founders, Karen and Bill

Davidson, here today; as well as Chris Yurista, general manager of the Harley-Davidson York Vehicle Operations; and Dave Tull, general manager of Susquehanna Valley Harley-Davidson. Mr. President, colleagues, will you please join me in giving a warm Senate welcome to these folks from the Harley-Davidson Motorcycle [Motor] Company.

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

[Applause.]

### **GUESTS OF SENATOR JUDY SCHWANK PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, today I have the honor of welcoming Marybeth Orlee and Alissa Vail from Laney's Legacy of Hope, a nonprofit that provides support to children and families battling a pediatric cancer diagnosis, as well as funds for research for treatment--welcoming them to the Pennsylvania Senate. The group is named in honor of Delaney "Laney" Brown, a little girl from West Reading who was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. After a courageous months-long fight with the disease, Laney passed away on Christmas morning 2013 at the age of 8.

Although Laney's story is tragic, it inspired and brought together our entire community in a way that I have not witnessed in all my years living in Berks County. I remember it very well. Despite Laney's devastating diagnosis, she and her family displayed incredible strength and bravery. Our entire community grieved the loss of Laney. But with Laney's Legacy of Hope, she lives on and is helping other children who are diagnosed with pediatric cancer. I am very grateful for the folks with Laney's Legacy of Hope, and I thank them for the work that they are doing to help other children and families. Mr. President, would you please join me in giving Marybeth Orlee and Alissa Vail our traditional warm Senate welcome. Thank you.

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

[Applause.]

### **LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

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

### **GUESTS OF SENATOR MARIA COLLETT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator COLLETT. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome two special guests to the Senate, Ms. Laurie Friedman and Ms. Fran D'Angelo. Laurie and Fran are here visiting the Capitol to see up close how our government works in action. Both women are members of the American Association of University Women, AAUW, a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization with the mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. They share the belief that education is critical to democracy. And while young people should learn the practical skills they need to succeed, they should also be

exposed to the principles of civic discourse and the responsibility of citizenship.

As members of the AAUW Lansdale Branch, Laurie and Fran support this mission through scholarships for girls, literacy programs, STEM for girls, voter education, support for at-risk families, and more. I am excited to provide personal insight into the legislative process so they can return to AAUW Lansdale and share their experiences, fostering an even greater appreciation of civic engagement. I hope we can bring girls who participate in the AAUW program here on a field trip. Who knows, there may even be a future senator or governor among them. I am honored to host both Laurie and Fran today and ask my colleagues to please join me in extending our usual warm Senate welcome.

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

[Applause.]

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

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Senator Regan.

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to welcome a group of constituents who are with us today in the gallery. These individuals are residents of Messiah Village, a barely-over-55 community in Mechanicsburg. In the spring, this group of Common Sense Conservatives invited me to speak to them on important policy matters. We had a spirited discussion in which they discussed pointed questions, shared strong opinions, and challenged my stances on a few issues. They were overall a lively bunch, and to provide them even more insight into the work we do here in Harrisburg, I invited them to visit the Capitol for a tour and a Senate introduction. Therefore, I will now ask my colleagues to join me in a warm Senate welcome to the Common Sense Conservatives from Messiah Village.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

### **PERMISSION TO ADDRESS AND MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED**

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

Senator COMITTA. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Colin Reedy of the West Whiteland Fire Company and a resident from my Chester County district. From a young age, Colin had a passion for service. His mother, Tracy, said that at his core, it was Colin's duty and calling to support and give back to his community. As a way of giving back, this year Colin and his partner Emily signed up to serve as volunteer firefighters with the West Whiteland Fire Company. In a few short months, Colin proved to be a valued member of the West Whiteland Fire family. Chief Kevin Miller called him very dedicated, hands-on, and always willing to learn.

On Friday evening, Colin and Emily were responding to a call during heavy rainfall when their vehicle left the roadway and crashed, severely wounding both Colin and Emily. Tragically, Firefighter Reedy succumbed to his injuries. At just 25, it is heartbreaking to think of Colin's precious life tragically cut short. But

as his family, friends, and colleagues share stories and remembrances, it is amazing to hear of the lasting impact that Colin had on the people he knew and those he loved.

Colin was a true hero, and with great appreciation for his service, the entire West Whiteland and Chester County community mourn his loss. Our hearts also go out to Emily as she recovers from her injuries. We are all pulling for her and her family during this very difficult time. I know our community is praying for both these young people. I now ask for a moment of silence in remembrance of Firefighter Colin Reedy. Let us keep his family, friends, and loved ones close to our hearts. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Comitta has requested a moment of silence. Will the Members and guests please rise.

[Whereupon, the Senate en bloc stood in a moment of silence in solemn respect to the memory of FIREFIGHTER COLIN REEDY.]

### REQUEST FOR RECESS

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

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

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

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I ask the Senate Democrats meet in the rear of the Chamber with us for a caucus immediately as well.

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, could we be at ease one second?

The PRESIDENT. The Senate will briefly be at ease.

[The Senate was at ease.]

### LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Muth, Senator Brooks, and Senator Dush have returned, and their temporary Capitol leaves are cancelled.

### RECESS

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

### AFTER RECESS

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

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

### LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Hughes has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

### LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Regan, and legislative leaves for Senator Brown and Senator DiSanto.

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

Senator COSTA. Madam President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Saval, and a legislative leave for Senator Brewster.

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

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

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

### CALENDAR

#### THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

#### BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

**SB 22 (Pr. No. 1099)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 50 (Mental Health) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for protection of minors on social media; and imposing penalties.

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.

#### BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**HB 295** and **SB 346** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

#### BILL AMENDED

**SB 438 (Pr. No. 1184)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in veteran-owned small businesses, further providing for definitions; providing for miscellaneous provisions; and imposing a penalty.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

#### BARTOLOTTA AMENDMENT A2751 AGREED TO

Senator BARTOLOTTA offered the following amendment No. A2751:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 3, by striking out "providing for" where it occurs the second time and inserting:  
adding

Amend Bill, page 1, line 4, by inserting after "provisions":  
relating to veteran-owned business logotype and nonprofit membership association

Amend Bill, page 5, line 30, by striking out "(i)" and inserting:  
(h)

On the question,  
Will the Senate agree to the amendment?  
It was agreed to.  
Without objection, the bill, as amended, was passed over in its order.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**HB 623, SB 689 and SB 690** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL AMENDED

**HB 735 (Pr. No. 2209)** -- 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, providing for Flood Insurance Premium Assistance Task Force; in powers and duties of Department of Human Services and its departmental administrative and advisory boards and commissions, providing for child support enforcement fees; and, in judicial administration, providing for surcharge and fee.

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

PITTMAN AMENDMENT A2753 AGREED TO

Senator PITTMAN offered the following amendment No. A2753:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 22, by inserting after "DETERMINED," in Commonwealth budget procedures, providing for scope and for definitions;

Amend Bill, page 5, lines 28 through 30, by striking out all of said lines and inserting:

Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding sections to read:

Section 601. Scope.--(a) This article applies to all legislative and executive actions related to the enactment and implementation of legislation under sections 13 and 14 of Article VIII of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

(b) Subsection (a) includes the determination of a surplus under this article and Subarticle A of Article XVII-A of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as "The Fiscal Code."

Section 602. Definitions.--The following words and phrases when used in this article shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Surplus." A fiscal operating result which occurs in a fund at the end of a fiscal year, whereby expenditures, including tax refunds, are less than the fund's beginning balance, revenues and receipts and lapses during the same period.

Section 1.1. The act is amended by adding an article to read:

Amend Bill, page 11, by inserting between lines 13 and 14:

Section 2.1. The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

(1) In all legislative and executive actions related to the enactment and implementation of legislation under sections 13 and 14 of Article VIII of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, the term "surplus"

has always meant a fiscal operating result which occurs in a fund at the end of a fiscal year, whereby expenditures, including tax refunds, are less than the fund's beginning balance, revenues and receipts and lapses during the same period.

(2) The addition of the definition of "surplus" in section 602 of the act is a clarification of existing law.

On the question,  
Will the Senate agree to the amendment?  
It was agreed to.  
Without objection, the bill, as amended, was passed over in its order.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

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

NAY-2

Coleman      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.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore, Senator Saval has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

**CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED****THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED**

## BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 882** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION  
AND FINAL PASSAGE

**SB 959 (Pr. No. 1168)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator BAKER. Madam President, I want to commend my colleague from Allegheny County for his leadership in spearheading Senate Bill No. 959, a critical piece of legislation as we continue to combat the opioid crisis. A particular difficulty in this battle is that manufacturers of drugs change formulas faster than the laws and schedules of illicit substances are adjusted to allow for successful prosecution. In speaking with the 5 district attorneys in the 20th Senatorial District, all were strongly in support of this effort that I am proud to join with Senator Devlin Robinson. Wayne County DA, A.G. Howell, explained the challenges that our law enforcement officials are facing. [Reading:]

The sooner a substance can be classified as a scheduled drug the better. New mixes and synthetic drugs are being created and produced so rapidly it is difficult to keep up with the fight against the production and the dealers while also trying to protect the individuals suffering from addiction. It's becoming more common that a person is addicted and ingesting substances that are deadly, and they do not even know it.

So, by tying under this bill the scheduling for new drugs to the Federal schedule, we will give our anti-drug enforcers a better chance to counter the spreading of poisons in our communities. Some have suggested that we should be giving greater expansion to the Department of Health authority, allowing them to change an existing drug, such as marijuana, if that should be declassified at the Federal level. I think it is important to distinguish the difference between marijuana and the illegal drugs and drug mixtures that we are targeting specifically in this bill. It is true, marijuana is not deadly, as too often is the case with fentanyl, but it does not mean it is harmless. For that reason, I believe most Pennsylvanians agree that any change in marijuana laws should come through the action of this General Assembly, not through the health secretary. That is my firm view. I do not believe we should turn our authority over to one individual who has not stood before the voters and exchanged their positions with them. There may

come a day when the General Assembly decides it is time to take a vote on recreational marijuana, but in my judgment, that day is not today. It is important that this bill not be the vehicle for accomplishing such a quantum shift in State law and policy. So, I urge an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 959, which offers a very specific, targeted approach to combating the growing threat of new drug mixtures being detected in overdose deaths and being found on our streets and throughout our communities.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator COSTA. Madam President, very briefly, I rise to oppose this legislation. I think this was described by the gentlewoman--we are relinquishing our authority in Pennsylvania to be able to address these issues going forward, removing the discretion from our Secretary of Health to make those very difficult decisions about where matters need to be in terms of what level. We have that right to be able to do that, move them up on the schedule, move them down depending on the circumstances, whether it be in northeast Pennsylvania or other parts of the urban settings. I think that is a prerogative that we should maintain for ourselves. As it relates to advancing other types of controlled substances, I think, certainly, I agree with the notion that the Secretary of Health should not unilaterally make some of these decisions, but rather should be done in consultation with the administration, but also with this General Assembly. But for those reasons, I intend to vote "no" on this particular matter. Thank you.

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

Senator STREET. Madam President, I rise to urge a "no" vote on this bill as well. Pennsylvanians clearly need to be making our own decisions about how we schedule drugs. The Federal government still lists cannabis as a Schedule I drug. That is clearly inconsistent with Pennsylvania law. We have a medical marijuana program that is working well. We are actively discussing expanding into recreational. But even if you did not go past that, the example of the inconsistencies between what the Federal government is doing around scheduling with marijuana and where Pennsylvania already is with our medical program, show that there really is a need for Pennsylvanians to make our own decisions around scheduling of drugs. So, I certainly think we should take a look at what the Feds do, but ultimately it should be--those of us who are empowered in Pennsylvania should not relinquish that authority. We should make our own decisions around the scheduling of drugs.

Thank you, Madam President. I yield.

## LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Pittman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Langerholc. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

And the question recurring,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-30

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

NAY-20

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

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.

**HB 1094 (Pr. No. 1306)** -- 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 pupils and attendance, providing for military child advance enrollment.

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	Langerholz	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.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**HB 1160** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

**HB 1170 (Pr. No. 1235)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 28, 1937 (P.L.417, No.105), known as the Milk Marketing Law, further providing for title of act; in purpose, short title and definitions, further providing for definitions and construction; in organization of the board, further providing for appointment and terms of members and quorum; in licenses of milk dealers, further providing for grounds for refusal, suspension or revocation; in monies and expenses of board, further providing for expenses and for payment; and, in saving provisions, repealing provisions relating to Joint Study Committee.

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	Langerholz	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.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 55** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

**SB 210 (Pr. No. 84)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in procedure, further providing for written requests; and, in judicial review, further providing for fee limitations.

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 OVER IN ORDER

**SB 265** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**HB 269 (Pr. No. 2187)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 16 (Counties) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, consolidating the act of April 8, 1868 (P.L.73, No.37), entitled "An act to authorize the recorder of deeds in the several counties of this Commonwealth to record the discharges of all honorably discharged officers and soldiers"; and making a repeal.

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

#### BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

**SB 399 (Pr. No. 1103)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for notice and disclosure of proposed collective bargaining agreements and related documents and for open records.

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 OVER IN ORDER

**SB 501** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**HB 507 (Pr. No. 1033)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 20, 2002 (P.L.154, No.13), known as the Medical Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, in medical professional liability, providing for informed consent in pelvic, rectal and prostate examinations.

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

#### BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 563** and **SB 577** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 668 (Pr. No. 1180)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act, providing for certified medication aides; and imposing duties on the Department of Education.

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

#### BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

**HB 689 (Pr. No. 1988)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in criminal history record information, further providing for definitions, for general regulations, for expungement, for petition for limited access, for clean slate limited access, for exceptions, for effects of expunged records and records subject to limited access and for employer immunity from liability.

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

#### HB 689 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I move that House Bill No. 689, Printer's No. 1988, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be placed on the Calendar.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 700 (Pr. No. 1183)** -- 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 certification of teachers, further providing for Career and Technical Instructional Certificate.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

**SB 723 (Pr. No. 810)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in ethics standards and financial disclosure, further providing for restricted activities.

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 OVER IN ORDER

**SB 736** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

**SB 745 (Pr. No. 889)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 62 (Procurement) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in contracts for public works, providing for contracts for information technology commodities and services.

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

**SB 745 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE**

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I move that Senate Bill No. 745, Printer's No. 889, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be placed on the Calendar.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Langerholc has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

**CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED**

**SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED**

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**SB 792** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 828 (Pr. No. 1181)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 29, 2012 (P.L.549, No.54), known as the Stroke System of Care Act, providing for Statewide stroke registry.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 943 (Pr. No. 1121)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 31, 2018 (P.L.125, No.26), known as the Travel Insurance Modernization Act, providing for scope and purpose; further providing for definitions, for licensure of limited lines travel insurance producers, for requirements for sale of travel insurance and for policy; and providing for travel protection plans, for sales practices, for travel administrators, for filing classification and for regulations.

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

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

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

**SB 958 (Pr. No. 1178)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 42031, located on that portion of U.S. Route 219 over Pentz Run on the border of Sandy Township and the City of DuBois, Clearfield County, as the Trooper First Class Brad Wilson Honorary Bridge.

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

**SB 964 (Pr. No. 1179)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating the roundabout connecting U.S. Route 209 and Pleasant Valley Lane near the Pleasant Valley High School in Brodheads-ville, in Monroe County, as the Schlyer Herman Memorial Roundabout.

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

**HB 1096 (Pr. No. 2189)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; and, in licenses and regulations and liquor, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages, further providing for public venue license, for malt and brewed beverages manufacturers', distributors' and importing distributors' licenses, for interlocking business prohibited, for limiting number of retail licenses to be issued in each county and for unlawful acts relative to malt or brewed beverages and licensees.

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

#### BILL OVER IN ORDER

**HB 1246** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**HB 1258 (Pr. No. 1768)** -- 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 calculation of average daily membership for a dual credit course.

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 AND RECOMMITTED

**HB 1284 (Pr. No. 2188)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in rules of the road in general, further providing for automated speed enforcement systems in active work zones and for pilot program for automated speed enforcement system on designated highway.

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 recommitted to the Committee on Transportation.

#### BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**HB 1507 (Pr. No. 1723)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in preliminary provisions, providing for minimum number of days or hours.

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.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will be at ease.  
[The Senate was at ease.]

#### LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

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

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

Senator COLLETT. Madam President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Haywood.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Pittman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Baker.

Senator Collett requests a legislative leave for Senator Haywood.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

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

#### MOTION NOTWITHSTANDING SENATE RULE 12

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, as a special order of business, I call up Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 1 and move the Senate proceed to consider Senate Bill No. 438, notwithstanding the provisions of Senate Rule 12(p)(2)(ii).

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the motion?

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

#### BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

**SB 438 (Pr. No. 1186)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in veteran-owned small businesses, further providing for definitions; adding miscellaneous provisions relating to veteran-owned business logotype and nonprofit membership association; and imposing a penalty.

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 pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington, Senator Bartolotta.

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Madam President, throughout our nation's history, service and sacrifice have been the hallmarks of our veterans. Senate Bill No. 438 is a way to show our commitment to the entrepreneurial efforts of veterans throughout Pennsylvania, with the goal of increasing the awareness and success of their businesses. The development of a special logo to draw attention to these veteran-owned businesses is just one simple way that we can show our deep gratitude and support. Madam President, I ask my colleagues for an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 438.

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.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 2**

**MOTION NOTWITHSTANDING SENATE RULE 12**

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, as a special order of business, I call up Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 2 and move the Senate proceed to consider House Bill No. 735, notwithstanding the provisions of Senate Rule 12(p)(2)(ii).

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-49

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

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

NAY-1

Coleman

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

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION  
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**HB 735 (Pr. No. 2210)** -- 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 Commonwealth budget procedures, providing for scope and for definitions; providing for Flood Insurance Premium Assistance Task Force; in powers and duties of Department of Human Services and its departmental administrative and advisory boards and commissions, providing for child support enforcement fees; and, in judicial administration, providing for surcharge and fee.

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Madam President, I rise in support of House Bill No. 735. While the bill has been amended with a number of important provisions for The Administrative Code that pertain to our annual budget process--and I was happy to support those, as was the rest of the Senate unanimously--I am rising to speak to the underlying subject matter of the bill, which deals with flood insurance and the flooding issue generally that impacts so many communities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Eight years ago, back in June of 2015, I introduced what was then House Bill No. 1299 when I was a Member of the House. And that is today House Bill No. 735 and my Senate companion Senate Bill No. 442. At the time, I represented the 31st Legislative District in the House, which is the district that Representative Warren, the maker of this bill, now represents. Then, as now, residents in neighborhoods along the Delaware River were facing skyrocketing flood insurance costs that threatened their ability to stay in their homes but made it almost impossible for them to be able to sell. This situation was a direct result of a change that Congress made to the National Flood Insurance Program in 2012 called the Biggert-Waters Act. Biggert-Waters phased out the Federal subsidy for flood insurance costs and directed FEMA to undertake a revision in the floodplain maps. The initial changes

to FEMA's floodplain maps became effective on March 16, 2015. In the past several years, FEMA has updated the flood mapping to include many more properties that previously did not require flood insurance. FEMA's new rating system, Risk Rating 2.0, took effect on October 1, 2021, for new policies and April 1, 2022, for existing policies. The result of these changes, Madam President, has been higher insurance costs and more homeowners now having to purchase policies since their homes that were previously not included in the floodplain are now.

Back in 2015, after conducting a number of town hall and neighborhood meetings, as well as discussions with local stakeholders, which included the Pennsylvania [Association of] Realtors and the Offices of Senator Casey and then-Senator Toomey, as well as the late Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick, about possible Federal fixes to this problem, we decided here in Pennsylvania that the best option at the State level was the creation of a task force to review the problem and see what State changes might be able to be made that would help address it. And to be clear, as I said earlier, this is an issue that impacts Pennsylvania across the State and impacts Pennsylvania disproportionately than any other States. And the reason for that is simple: we are blessed, and sometimes one might say burdened, with many more rivers, creeks, and streams that are prone to flooding than many other States in the United States. Communities along Pennsylvania's rivers and creeks have been devastated by plummeting property values due to unaffordable flood insurance premiums.

So, what exactly does House Bill No. 735 do to address this problem? The bill would establish the Flood Insurance Premium [Assistance] Task Force, which will explore ways of how to combat these high costs of premiums and how to incentivize communities to invest in ways that prevent flooding in the first place. The task force will be appointed within 25 days after enactment and, as modified by an amendment that was passed in committee earlier this year, will consist of one appointee each from the director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, the Insurance Commissioner, Secretary of Banking and Securities, Senate Majority and Senate Minority Leaders, and the House Majority and Minority Leaders. The first meeting of the task force will be held within 45 days of the effective date of the statute, and members of the task force will not be compensated but may be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses. The task force will have the power to review and analyze laws, procedures, practices, and processes and rules related to the administration of flood insurance. In addition, the task force will have the power to hold public meetings and accept written comments from the public. No later than 6 months after the effective date of the bill, the task force will deliver a final report to the Governor, to the Senate, the House of Representatives, and therefore to all of us. The result of that report will be recommendations regarding potential programs that can be enacted at the State level to deal with premiums and discounts to them, potentially; potential programs, whether through the mechanism of premium discounts or other relief, that create incentives for local governments to undertake flood mitigation efforts; the implementation of necessary changes in State statutes and practices, policies, and procedures relating to the administration of flood insurance; and three things that Representative Warren added to my original bill--once he offered it in the House later--and that is ways to educate the public about flooding risks and mitigation techniques; informing Pennsylvanians about

flood insurance options; and presenting recommendations to increase the number of flood insurance policies purchased by Pennsylvanians. The report will be adopted at a public meeting and made a public record. The task force will expire 30 days after the report is issued.

Once again, Madam President, it is important to note that this bill would do is--all it does is create this task force. But it is an important work that the task force is going to undertake to report back to us as to what we as the General Assembly can do to address this issue. If we do not act, ultimately; if we do not have a set of recommendations; and if we do not take those recommendations to heart and pass subsequent legislation to enact them, we do, in fact, risk having many communities across the State become ghost towns, eventually, because people will not be able to afford to stay in their homes and they will not be able to afford to sell them and they will be put in an economic bind that goes to the very center of the American dream, which is having a place to live and call home. So, I applaud Representative Warren for continuing this battle. I applaud the Senate for taking this bill up and ask for a unanimous vote, both in terms of the underlying changes to The Administrative Code that we need to do as part of the budget process, but also for this very important piece of legislation as it relates to the difficult issue of affording flood insurance here in the Commonwealth.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to also support this piece of legislation as amended. The reality is that there are significant provisions within this amendment that advance the continuation of us closing out the budgetary process. In this instance, what we are doing is we are reauthorizing longstanding fees that were provided not only for the judiciary, but also for our child support services in this Commonwealth. And so, I think this is a significant and necessary step. Additionally, we further amended this legislation to codify the existing definition of surplus using the generally accepted best practices that have been consistently used in codifying that definition--I think is very significant--and we must do that as we advance this budgetary process.

Thank you, Madam 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 return said bill to the House of Representatives with information that the Senate has passed the same with amendments in which concurrence of the House is requested.

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

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

**MEMBER OF THE ARCHITECTS LICENSURE BOARD**

October 19, 2023

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

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

October 19, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated June 22, 2023, and corrected on June 23, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Massage Therapy, to serve until October 9, 2026, 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**

October 19, 2023

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

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

22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State 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**

October 19, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated June 22, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of 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**

October 19, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated June 22, 2023, of 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 STATE BOARD OF VEHICLE  
MANUFACTURERS, DEALERS AND SALESPERSONS**

October 24, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated June 12, 2023, of John DeFilippo, 102 Indian Hannah Road, West Chester 19382, Chester County, Nineteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Vehicle Manufacturers, Dealers and Salespersons, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Mermon, Nesquehoning, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

October 19, 2023

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated June 22, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of 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 Nebzydowski, Honesdale, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

**NOMINATIONS RETURNED TO THE GOVERNOR**

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Madam President, I move that the nominations just read by the Clerk be returned to His Excellency, the Governor.

A voice vote having been taken, the question was determined in the affirmative.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The nominations will be returned to the Governor.

**REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES  
AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS**

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

MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

October 3, 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, Susan Cohen, 2960 North Second Street, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, to serve until July 1, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Laura Ellsworth, Sewickley, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

SECRETARY OF BANKING AND SECURITIES

July 7, 2023

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Wendy Spicher, 3501 Raintree Lane, Mechanicsburg 17050, Cumberland County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as Secretary of Banking and Securities, to serve

until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Richard Vague, Philadelphia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD

September 13, 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, Bruce Erb, 109 Ajay Court, Hollidaysburg 16648, Blair County, Thirtieth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Rodney Wagner, Gardners, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD

September 13, 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, Lindy Keefe, 515 West Broadway, Apartment 2, Red Lion 17356, York County, Twenty-eighth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Angela Liddle, Camp Hill, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 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, Charles Charlesworth (At-Large), 38 Myers Lane, Monroe Township 18657, Wyoming County, Twentieth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 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, William Gibney (District 7), 70 Shuman Road, Honesdale 18431, Wayne County, Fortieth Senatorial

District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 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, Eric Hussar (District 5), 680 Tall Oak Lane, Lewisburg 17837, Union County, Twenty-third Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 2023

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Richard Kauffman (District 8), 505 Butter Lane, Leesport 19533, Berks County, Forty-eighth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 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, Daniel Pastore (District 1), 5401 Uhlman Road, Fairview 16415, Erie County, Forty-ninth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS'  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION

September 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, Samuel Sanguedolce, 93 Mara Lane, Plains Township 18702, Luzerne County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Richard Long, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

October 3, 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, Mark Dambly, 354 Darlington Road, Media 19063, Delaware County, Ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Loughery, Perkasio, whose term expired and whose last day was April 23, 2021.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

October 3, 2023

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Joseph V. Hill, 2301 Cherry Street, Apt. 6G, Philadelphia 19103, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jeff Brown, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

October 10, 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, Henry Lee Moore, 624 Ashton Court, North Huntingdon 15642, Westmoreland County, Thirty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Westmoreland, Magisterial District 10-2-09, to serve until the

first Monday of January 2024, vice the Honorable Wayne B. Gongaware, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

**NOMINATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE**

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

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

**EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Which was agreed to by voice vote.

**NOMINATIONS TAKEN FROM THE TABLE**

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

The Clerk read the nominations as follows:

MEMBER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

October 3, 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, Susan Cohen, 2960 North Second Street, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, to serve until July 1, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Laura Ellsworth, Sewickley, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD

September 13, 2023

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JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

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JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 2023

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of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

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JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
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JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

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FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 2023

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of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

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appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 2023

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of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

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JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 3, 2023

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JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS'  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION

September 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, Samuel Sanguedolce, 93 Mara Lane, Plains Township 18702, Luzerne County, Twenty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Richard Long, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

October 3, 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, Mark Dambly, 354 Darlington Road, Media 19063, Delaware County, Ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Loughery, Perkasio, whose term expired and whose last day was April 23, 2021.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

October 3, 2023

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Joseph V. Hill, 2301 Cherry Street, Apt. 6G, Philadelphia 19103, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jeff Brown, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

October 10, 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, Henry Lee Moore, 624 Ashton Court, North Huntingdon 15642, Westmoreland County, Thirty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Westmoreland, Magisterial District 10-2-09, to serve until the first Monday of January 2024, vice the Honorable Wayne B. Gongaware, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

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

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-1

Muth

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

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

**NOMINATION TAKEN FROM THE TABLE**

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

The Clerk read the nomination as follows:

SECRETARY OF BANKING AND SECURITIES

July 7, 2023

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Wendy Spicher, 3501 Raintree Lane, Mechanicsburg 17050, Cumberland County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as Secretary of Banking and Securities, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Richard Vague, Philadelphia, 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-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	Pennycuik	Vogel
Brown	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Cappelletti	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kane	Rothman	Yaw
Costa	Kearney		

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RISES**

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

**SB 142, SB 403 and SB 910.**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY**

The following announcement was read by the Secretary of the Senate:

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023

10:00 A.M.	ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (joint public hearing with the Ohio Public Utilities Committee on Inter-State Relationships within PJM Grid)	William Penn Omni Hotel Lawrence Welk Room Pittsburgh
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**PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES**

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Madam President, I rise because today marks 6,317 days since this Commonwealth's legislature last passed an increase in our minimum wage. The evidence is clear, Madam President. Raising the minimum wage can be a powerful catalyst for expanding and strengthening the middle class. It means more money into the pockets of workers, and as they spend that money, it circulates back into the community, boosting local businesses and ultimately creating more jobs. But what it also will do, Madam President, is help some 1.88 million Pennsylvanians who struggle to make ends meet to get off government assistance programs they rely on. Madam President, in September, nearly 2 million Pennsylvanians were recipients of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, benefits. These benefits help households obtain more nutritious diets and increase their food-purchasing power at grocery stores and supermarkets. But what it also does, Madam President, it allows employers across Pennsylvania to take a backseat in ensuring their workers earn a livable wage. While legislation like my bill, Senate Bill No. 12, would put Pennsylvania's low-wage earners on a path to \$15 an hour, it would also put Pennsylvania's low-wage earners on a path off of government assistance programs.

A study by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, recently estimated that low wage[s] cost U.S. taxpayers a whopping \$152.8 billion each year. Yet, for workers who cannot make ends meet on the starvation-level wages, public assistance programs are critical to their survival. Madam President, let me put this as plainly as I can. It is unacceptable and unconscionable for anyone working full time to live in poverty. Elevating the

minimum wage not only upholds the fundamental dignity and economic stability of working families, but also yields several additional advantages, including substantial savings for taxpayers. Bringing workers out of poverty and onto a path of prosperity would save more than \$200 million in SNAP benefits in Pennsylvania alone, according to the same study out of California, Berkeley. We have the chance to kill two birds with one proverbial stone, Madam President. Senate Bill No. 12 would bring tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians out of poverty while also cutting our government expenses. Let us act for our low-wage earners and taxpayers and pass Senate Bill No. 12.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Dillon.

Senator DILLON. Madam President, sports officials have a challenging job. They make difficult split-second calls under relentless scrutiny. The strain they endure is real, and the harassment they face is undeniable. Sadly, if you spent any time at all on the sidelines or in the stands, you have witnessed how one call can spiral into threats of violence. Imagine being a recent graduate or a working parent trying to stay connected to a sport that you love by officiating for a local club. You blow your whistle, you make your call, the harassment and the shouts come, and then the ultimate "I will see you in the parking lot" comment. Almost half of our officials said they feel unsafe due to the actions of parents, coaches, and players, and it is a big reason that they are quitting this profession. The Respect the Whistle Act is a direct response to this issue. And while Pennsylvania has protected sports officials from assault since 1990, there is a vital gap in that protection when it comes to harassment. The Respect the Whistle Act takes a lesson from States like Alabama and Louisiana by introducing a specific offense for harassing of our sports officials. By passing Senate Bill No. 842, we can protect the unsung heroes who make the games possible, the officials who ensure fair play, foster sportsmanship, and keep children across Pennsylvania safe. I am proud to say that the Respect the Whistle Act has earned the support of the National Association of Sports Officials as well as the PIAA. It highlights the crucial importance of our sports communities.

Our goal is straightforward: we want sports officials to perform their duties without fear of intimidation or mistreatment. By challenging what some might consider acceptable behavior, we create a safer and more welcoming environment for our youth athletes and our families at our rec centers and our gymnasiums. It is important to note that this bill does not expand the definition of harassment; instead, it empowers law enforcement and the judicial system to determine the appropriate course of action when an individual is targeted in our profession. I want to thank our officials across the State. And I know that a few colleagues on the other side are asking me to strike my remarks for Monday about our Philadelphia Phillies, in which I will offer as well.

Thank you, Madam President.

## RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

October 25, 2023

Senators L. WILLIAMS, CAPPELLETTI, KEARNEY, TARTAGLIONE, COMITTA, HUGHES, ARGALL, MARTIN, COSTA, FONTANA, SCHWANK, CULVER, MILLER and DUSH presented to the Chair **SR 181**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of October 2023 as "National Principals Month" in Pennsylvania and honoring the contributions that principals make in the elementary schools, middle schools and high schools of our nation.

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

Senators TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, MARTIN, COMITTA, CAPPELLETTI, HUTCHINSON, BREWSTER, COSTA, PHILLIPS-HILL and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SR 183**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of October 2023 as "National Physical Therapy Month" and October 21, 2023, as "Global Physical Therapy Day of Service" in Pennsylvania.

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

Senators TARTAGLIONE, BOSCOLA, HUGHES, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, MARTIN, PENNYCUICK, COMITTA, CAPPELLETTI, BREWSTER and COSTA presented to the Chair **SR 184**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of October 2023 as "National Sensory Processing Disorder Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

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

## APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair wishes to announce the President pro tempore has made the following appointment:

Ms. Kathleen A. Gallagher as a member of the State Ethics Commission.

## RECESS

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, November 13, 2023, at 1 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 1:22 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.