

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**Legislative Journal**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024

SESSION OF 2024 208TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 2

**SENATE**

MONDAY, February 5, 2024

The Senate met at 1 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

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

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Reverend JOHN BABOWITCH, of Our Lady of Calvary Catholic Church, Philadelphia, offered the following prayer:

In the name of the Father and of the Son, of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Heavenly Father, we call upon Your blessings upon all of our Senate. We pray for their families and all their constituents. We ask You to bless them and keep them always close to Your heart.

Let us pray.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, conscious of our sinfulness, but aware that we gather in Your Name. Come to us; remain with us; enlighten our hearts; give us light and strength to know Your will, and to make it our own, and to live it in our own lives. Guide us by Your wisdom, support us by Your power, for You are God, sharing the glory of Father and Son. You desire justice for all. Enable us to uphold the rights of others, and do not allow us to be misled by ignorance or corrupted by fear or favor. Unite us to Yourself in the bond of love and keep us faithful to all that is true. As we gather in Your Name, may we temper justice with love so that all our decisions may be pleasing to You and earn the reward promised to good and faithful servants who live and reign with the Father, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

And may almighty God bless us all, Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Father Babowitch, who is the guest today of Senator Dillon.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR**

**RECALL COMMUNICATIONS  
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following communications in writing from His Excellency, the Governor of the

Commonwealth, which were read as follows and referred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations:

CLERK OF JUDICIAL RECORDS,  
LEHIGH COUNTY

January 10, 2024

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 December 20, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Clerk of Judicial Records, in and for the County of Lehigh, to serve until the first Monday of January 2026, vice Andrea Naugle, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS,  
CAMBRIA COUNTY

January 10, 2024

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 December 20, 2023, of Rodney R. Akers, Esquire, 4307 Dakota Street, Pittsburgh 15213, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Cambria County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2026, vice the Honorable David J. Tulowitzki, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

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

January 10, 2024

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 November 6, 2023, of John Wabby, 50 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Pottsville 17901, Schuylkill County, Twenty-ninth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Council of Trustees of Kutztown

University of Pennsylvania of the State System of Higher Education, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

January 10, 2024

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 December 20, 2023, of Rodney R. Akers, Esquire, 4307 Dakota Street, Pittsburgh 15213, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Bradford, Magisterial District 42-3-04, to serve until the first Monday of January 2024, vice the Honorable Fred M. Wheaton, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

January 10, 2024

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 December 20, 2023, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Magisterial District Judge, in and for the County of Potter, Magisterial District 55-3-01, to serve until the first Monday of January 2024, vice the Honorable Annette L. Easton, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

**NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

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

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF  
THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

January 9, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education, to serve until December 31, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Allison Jones Manning, Philadelphia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

January 9, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, to serve for a term of five years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice George Dawson, Folsom, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS,  
LACKAWANNA COUNTY

January 9, 2024

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, Rodney R. Akers, Esquire, 4307 Dakota Street, Pittsburgh 15213, Allegheny County, Forty-second [sic] Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Lackawanna County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2026, vice the Honorable Julia Kathleen Munley, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

January 12, 2024

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, Russ Faber, 4714 North Galen Road, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth [sic] Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Employees' Retirement Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Greg Jordan, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

January 12, 2024

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, Gregory Thall, 165 Northgate Drive, Camp Hill 17011, Cumberland County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Employees' Retirement Board, to serve [for] a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE ARCHITECTS LICENSURE BOARD

January 17, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Architects Licensure Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Darryl Hamm, Harrisburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

January 17, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Massage Therapy, to serve 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 BOARD OF NURSING

January 17, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Nursing, 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 Ann Michele Coughlin, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

January 17, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Nursing, 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 Kristin Malady, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

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

January 17, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Amanda Warren (Public Member), 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth 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 Ronald Jumper, Carlisle, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

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

January 17, 2024

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

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

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

January 17, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Psychology, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Vito DonGiovanni, Indiana, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF TORRANCE STATE HOSPITAL

January 17, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the 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

January 17, 2024

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, Moriah Hathaway, 2501 Hoffer Street, Harrisburg 17103, Dauphin County, Fifteenth 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

January 17, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Veterinary Medicine, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Andrew Nebzydowski, Honesdale, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

January 29, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell (Congressional District 11), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the

Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Randall Wenger, Lititz, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION LAW ADVISORY BOARD

January 29, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Amanda Warren (Congressional District 3), 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Election Law Advisory Board, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Patrick Christmas, Philadelphia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, SOMERSET COUNTY

January 29, 2024

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, Addie Abelson, Esquire, 158 Erford Road, Apartment 404, Camp Hill 17011, Cumberland County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Somerset County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2026, vice the Honorable D. Gregory Geary, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

CORRECTIONS TO NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

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

JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, LACKAWANNA COUNTY

January 10, 2024

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

Please note that the letter dated January 9, 2024, for the nomination of Rodney R. Akers, Esquire, 4307 Dakota Street, Pittsburgh 15213, Allegheny County, Forty-second Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Lackawanna County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2026, vice the Honorable Julia Kathleen Munley, resigned, should be corrected to read:

Rodney R. Akers, Esquire, 4307 Dakota Street, Pittsburgh 15213, Allegheny County, Forty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge, Court of Common Pleas, Lackawanna County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2026, vice the Honorable Julia Kathleen Munley, resigned.

MEMBER OF THE STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

January 29, 2024

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

Please note that the letter dated January 12, 2024, for the nomination of Russ Faber, 4714 North Galen Road, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Employees' Retirement Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Greg Jordan, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

W. Russell Faber, 4717 North Galen Road, Harrisburg 17110, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Employees' Retirement Board, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Greg Jordan, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

JOINT SESSION

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate the following communication in writing from His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, which was read as follows:

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Office of the Governor  
Harrisburg, PA

January 12, 2024

The Honorable Kim Ward      The Honorable Joanna McClinton  
President Pro Tempore      Speaker  
Senate of Pennsylvania      Pennsylvania House of Representatives

Dear President Pro Tempore Ward and Speaker McClinton:

If it meets with the approval of the General Assembly, I am respectfully requesting a Joint Session of the General Assembly on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. The purpose of this session would be to address the members of the House and Senate for the annual budget address, at a time that is convenient to the General Assembly.

All the best,

JOSH SHAPIRO  
Governor

GENERAL COMMUNICATION

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

January 23, 2024

TO:            The Honorable Michael Gerdes  
                  Secretary of the Senate  
FROM:        Senator Kim Ward  
                  President Pro Tempore  
SUBJECT:     Senate Committee on Ethics

Pursuant to Rule 34, and in the case of Minority members upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader, as President Pro Tempore of the Senate, I hereby appoint the following Senators to the Committee on Ethics:

Senator Gene Yaw, Chairman  
Senator Anthony Williams, Vice Chairman  
Senator Camera Bartolotta  
Senator Wayne Fontana  
Senator Scott Hutchinson  
Senator Christine Tartaglione

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

January 2, 2024

Senators KANE, CAPPELLETTI, FONTANA, SANTARSIERO, HAYWOOD, COMITTA, COSTA, SCHWANK, BREWSTER, DILLON, MUTH and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SB 343**, 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 Internet safety education curriculum.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, January 2, 2024.

Senators DUSH and MASTRIANO presented to the Chair **SB 1022**, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for will of the people.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, January 2, 2024.

Senators COLEMAN and ROTHMAN presented to the Chair **SB 1023**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in disposition of Commonwealth surplus land, further providing for definitions, for annual property survey, for property disposition and for conditions upon conveyance; and making an editorial change.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, January 2, 2024.

Senators STREET, HAYWOOD, HUGHES, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, COMITTA, MILLER and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SB 1024**, entitled:

An Act providing for the annual designation and holiday observance of the first day of the Islamic lunar month of Shawwal as Eid al-Fitr Day in this Commonwealth.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, January 2, 2024.

Senators ROTHMAN, MUTH, CAPPELLETTI and CULVER presented to the Chair **SB 1033**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 24 (Education) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in membership, contributions and benefits, further providing for credited school service.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, January 2, 2024.

January 5, 2024

Senators MILLER, BAKER, GEBHARD, FONTANA, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI and STREET presented to the Chair **SB 1026**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 19, 1975 (P.L.604, No.173), entitled "An act to facilitate the use of electronic funds transfer systems by providing that credits to accounts in financial institutions designated by recipients shall satisfy legal requirements for payments by cash or checks," further providing for electronic funds transfers, for consumer protections and for payroll card accounts.

Which was committed to the Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, January 5, 2024.

Senators DUSH and BROWN presented to the Chair **SB 1027**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in alteration of territory or corporate entity and dissolution, further providing for conduct of referenda and for court review of transitional plan.

Which was committed to the Committee on LOCAL GOVERNMENT, January 5, 2024.

Senators BAKER, ARGALL, CULVER, FLYNN, BOSCOLA, COMITTA, PENNYCUICK, YAW, J. WARD, FARRY and BROWN presented to the Chair **SB 1034**, entitled:

An Act designating a portion of State Route 3046, also known as the South Valley Parkway, from the intersection with Middle Road to the intersection with State Route 2008 in Hanover Township, Luzerne County, as the Senator John Yudichak Commerce Parkway.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 5, 2024.

January 8, 2024

Senators CAPPELLETTI, KANE, FONTANA, PENNYCUICK, COSTA, SCHWANK, DILLON, KEARNEY, BREWSTER and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SB 342**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for school safety practices and for student online personal data safety practices; imposing penalties; making an appropriation; and making editorial changes.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, January 8, 2024.

Senators J. WARD, TARTAGLIONE, KEARNEY, DUSH, HUTCHINSON, BREWSTER, COLEMAN, MASTRIANO, CULVER, PENNYCUICK, LAUGHLIN, FLYNN, STEFANO, ARGALL, AUMENT, BARTOLOTTA, A. WILLIAMS, FONTANA, BOSCOLA, CAPPELLETTI, HAYWOOD, SANTARSIERO, HUGHES, L. WILLIAMS, COLLETT, ROBINSON, LANGERHOLC, KANE, FARRY, SAVAL and YAW presented to the Chair **SB 1000**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 21, 2016 (P.L.1318, No.169), known as the Pharmacy Audit Integrity and Transparency Act, further providing for title of act; in preliminary provisions, further providing for short title and for definitions; in pharmacy audits, further providing for limitations; and providing for pharmacy benefits manager contract requirements and prohibited acts.

Which was committed to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, January 8, 2024.

Senators VOGEL, LANGERHOLC, PENNYCUICK, BROWN, GEBHARD, LAUGHLIN, HUTCHINSON, DUSH, FARRY, CULVER and MASTRIANO presented to the Chair **SB 1030**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in minors, providing for the offense of trafficking drugs containing fentanyl to minors; and imposing a penalty.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, January 8, 2024.

Senators A. WILLIAMS, GEBHARD, HAYWOOD, ROTHMAN, PHILLIPS-HILL, STREET, SCHWANK, DUSH, COLEMAN, COSTA and SAVAL presented to the Chair **SB 1031**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 3, 1933 (P.L.242, No.86), referred to as the Cosmetology Law, further providing for definitions, for practice without license prohibited, for eligibility requirements for examination, for limited licenses, for requirements of a school of cosmetology, for practice in licensed salons only, for booth rental prohibited, for sanitary rules and for fees; providing for municipal registration, business license and taxes; further providing for duration and renewal of licenses and for penalties; and providing for waiver of certain fees, fines and penalties.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, January 8, 2024.

Senators FLYNN, FONTANA and COSTA presented to the Chair **SB 1032**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in licensing of drivers, further providing for issuance and content of driver's license and for carrying and exhibiting driver's license on demand; and, in fees, further providing for driver's license and learner's permit.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 8, 2024.

Senators PENNYCUICK, BROWN, FONTANA, BREWSTER, PHILLIPS-HILL, BAKER, HAYWOOD, SCHWANK, BARTOLOTTA, BOSCOLA, ROBINSON and J. WARD presented to the Chair **SB 1035**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for definitions, for reporting procedure, for disposition of complaints received, for responsibility for investigation, for access to information in Statewide database, for information in Statewide database and for release of information in confidential reports.

Which was committed to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, January 8, 2024.

Senators BROOKS, SCHWANK, COLLETT, KANE, BARTOLOTTA, HAYWOOD, HUGHES, PENNYCUICK, COSTA, BOSCOLA, COMITTA, BREWSTER, TARTAGLIONE, DILLON, KEARNEY, STREET, CAPPELLETTI and SANTARSIERO presented to the Chair **SB 1036**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, providing for Office of Child Advocate, the Coalition of Trauma Prevention and Intervention and the Statewide

Children's Mental Health Ombudsman; and imposing duties on the Department of Human Services.

Which was committed to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, January 8, 2024.

January 10, 2024

Senators DILLON, GEBHARD, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, DUSH, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI and KEARNEY presented to the Chair **SB 1021**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in burglary and other criminal intrusion, further providing for the offense of criminal trespass; and, in offenses against the family, further providing for the offense of endangering welfare of children.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, January 10, 2024.

Senators COLEMAN, DUSH and HUTCHINSON presented to the Chair **SB 1038**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in county boards of elections, further providing for powers and duties of county boards; in preparation for and conduct of primaries and elections, further providing for manner of applying to vote, persons entitled to vote, voter's certificates, entries to be made in district register, numbered lists of voters and challenges and for what ballots shall be counted and manner of counting and defective ballots; in voting by qualified absentee electors, further providing for applications for official absentee ballots, for date of application for absentee ballot, for approval of application for absentee ballot, for absentee and mail-in electors files and lists, for official absentee voters ballots, for envelopes for official absentee ballots, for voting by absentee electors and for canvassing of official absentee ballots and mail-in ballots and providing for violation of provisions relating to absentee voting; and, in voting by qualified mail-in electors, further providing for applications for official mail-in ballots, for date of application for mail-in ballot and for approval of application for mail-in ballot, providing for mail-in electors' files and lists, further providing for official mail-in elector ballots, for envelopes for official mail-in ballots and for voting by mail-in electors and providing for violation of provisions relating to mail-in voting.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, January 10, 2024.

Senators BROOKS, ARGALL, ROBINSON, STEFANO, DUSH, COSTA, SANTARSIERO and KANE presented to the Chair **SB 1039**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth services, further providing for curriculum, training and education certification management system.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, January 10, 2024.

January 11, 2024

Senators SANTARSIERO, TARTAGLIONE, KANE, DILLON, HUGHES, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, KEARNEY, COSTA, COLLETT, CAPPELLETTI, STREET, COMITTA, MUTH, SAVAL, L. WILLIAMS, BREWSTER, BOSCOLA, FLYNN and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SB 960**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, providing for prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, January 11, 2024.

Senators SANTARSIERO, TARTAGLIONE, KANE, DILLON, HUGHES, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, KEARNEY, COSTA, COLLETT, CAPPELLETTI, STREET, COMITTA, MUTH, SAVAL, L. WILLIAMS, BREWSTER, BOSCOLA, FLYNN and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SB 961**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 6, 1998 (P.L.705, No.92), known as the Keystone Opportunity Zone, Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone and Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone Act, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; and, in keystone opportunity zones, further providing for qualified businesses.

Which was committed to the Committee on COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, January 11, 2024.

Senator BARTOLOTTA presented to the Chair **SB 1037**, entitled:

An Act designating the interchange of I-79 and Pennsylvania Turnpike 576, Section 55c2-1 in Cecil Township, Washington County, as the Lance Corporal Robert Alan "Bucky" McPherson Memorial Interchange in all directions.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 11, 2024.

January 12, 2024

Senators STREET, BARTOLOTTA, CAPPELLETTI, KEARNEY, FONTANA, SAVAL, KANE, SANTARSIERO, LAUGHLIN, COSTA, FLYNN, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, HUGHES, COLLETT, COMITTA and MUTH presented to the Chair **SB 1028**, 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 prohibited acts and penalties.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, January 12, 2024.

Senators KANE, MUTH, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, SCHWANK, CAPPELLETTI, BREWSTER, COSTA, DILLON and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SB 1029**, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 24 (Education) and 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in membership, contributions and benefits, providing for supplemental annuity commencing 2023 and for supplemental annuity commencing 2024; and, in benefits, providing for supplemental annuity commencing 2023 and for supplemental annuity commencing 2024.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, January 12, 2024.

Senators BOSCOLA, COMITTA, HAYWOOD and KANE presented to the Chair **SB 1040**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in restructuring of electric utility industry, providing for requisite procurement.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, January 12, 2024.

January 22, 2024

Senators SANTARSIERO, COMITTA, KANE, KEARNEY, HUGHES, FONTANA, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SB 581**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 58 (Oil and Gas) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in development, further providing for well location restrictions.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, January 22, 2024.

Senators SANTARSIERO, KEARNEY, HUGHES, FONTANA, COSTA and CAPPELLETTI presented to the Chair **SB 586**, entitled:

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

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, January 22, 2024.

Senators SANTARSIERO, COLLETT, KANE, KEARNEY, HUGHES, FONTANA, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI and COMITTA presented to the Chair **SB 587**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 7, 1980 (P.L.380, No.97), known as the Solid Waste Management Act, in enforcement and remedies, providing for criminal proceedings.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, January 22, 2024.

Senators SANTARSIERO, COLLETT, KANE, KEARNEY, HUGHES, FONTANA, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI and COMITTA presented to the Chair **SB 588**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 22, 1937 (P.L.1987, No.394), known as The Clean Streams Law, in procedure and enforcement, further providing for summary proceedings.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, January 22, 2024.

Senators SANTARSIERO, COLLETT, KANE, KEARNEY, HUGHES, FONTANA, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI and COMITTA presented to the Chair **SB 589**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1984 (P.L.206, No.43), known as the Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act, further providing for penalties and remedies.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, January 22, 2024.

Senators LANGERHOLC, ROBINSON, MARTIN, STEFANO, HAYWOOD and VOGEL presented to the Chair **SB 920**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 29, 2006 (P.L.1471, No.165), known as the Sexual Assault Testing and Evidence Collection Act, further providing for definitions; providing for sexual assault evidence tracking system; and further providing for rights of sexual assault victims and for report by Pennsylvania State Police.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, January 22, 2024.

January 24, 2024

Senator K. WARD presented to the Chair **SB 1047**, entitled:

An Act designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 31 from the intersection with First Street to the intersection with Yoder Avenue in the Borough of Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County, as the Mayor Gerald D. Lucia Memorial Highway.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 24, 2024.

January 29, 2024

Senators KEARNEY, HUGHES, KANE, FONTANA, CAPPELLETTI and MUTH presented to the Chair **SB 590**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 58 (Oil and Gas) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in development, further providing for bonding.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, January 29, 2024.

Senators BROWN, ROTHMAN, CULVER, PHILLIPS-HILL, COSTA, HUTCHINSON and LAUGHLIN presented to the Chair **SB 1041**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in community colleges, further providing for definitions.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, January 29, 2024.

Senators BROWN, CULVER, HUTCHINSON, COSTA, SCHWANK and ARGALL presented to the Chair **SB 1042**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 10, 1975 (P.L.383, No.110), known as the Physical Therapy Practice Act, further providing for definitions, for powers and duties of board, for continuing education and for practice of physical therapy.

Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, January 29, 2024.

Senators KANE, DILLON, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, HAYWOOD, COSTA and CAPPELLETTI presented to the Chair **SB 1045**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in forgery and fraudulent practices, providing for the offense of unauthorized dissemination of artificially generated impersonation of individual.

Which was committed to the Committee on JUDICIARY, January 29, 2024.

Senators BROOKS, PENNYCUICK, BREWSTER, CULVER, DILLON, DUSH and KANE presented to the Chair **SB 1048**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, providing for online access control measures.



Which was committed to the Committee on CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, January 29, 2024.

Senators HUTCHINSON, DUSH, ARGALL, AUMENT, PENNYCUICK, GEBHARD, YAW, BAKER, J. WARD, BROOKS, ROTHMAN, BROWN and CULVER presented to the Chair **SB 1051**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in procedure and administration, further providing for review by board and providing for settlement conference process.

Which was committed to the Committee on FINANCE, January 29, 2024.

January 30, 2024

Senators MASTRIANO, ARGALL, LAUGHLIN and YAW presented to the Chair **SB 1054**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 3, 2022 (P.L.2158, No.158), known as the Overdose Mapping Act, further providing for definitions and for establishment and design; and providing for entry requirements for EMS providers.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, January 30, 2024.

February 2, 2024

Senators LANGERHOLC, ROBINSON, AUMENT, MASTRIANO, DUSH, ROTHMAN, PENNYCUICK, BROOKS, BARTOLOTTA, STEFANO, COSTA and J. WARD presented to the Chair **SB 915**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for lost, stolen, damaged or illegible registration plate.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, February 2, 2024.

Senators DiSANTO, ARGALL, PHILLIPS-HILL, STEFANO, PENNYCUICK, BOSCOLA, MASTRIANO, BAKER and COLEMAN presented to the Chair **SB 1049**, entitled:

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for expiration of authority to levy or collect real property taxes.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, February 2, 2024.

Senators YAW, PITTMAN, K. WARD, ARGALL, LANGERHOLC, BARTOLOTTA, COLEMAN, VOGEL, LAUGHLIN, ROTHMAN, AUMENT, HUTCHINSON, BAKER, STEFANO, BROOKS, J. WARD, DUSH, MARTIN, ROBINSON, BROWN, CULVER, PHILLIPS-HILL, DiSANTO, MASTRIANO, REGAN, GEBHARD, PENNYCUICK and FARRY presented to the Chair **SB 1058**, entitled:

An Act providing for the abrogation of regulations relating to the CO2 Budget Trading Program.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, February 2, 2024.

## RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

January 2, 2024

Senators DUSH, MARTIN and J. WARD presented to the Chair **SR 216**, entitled:

A Resolution celebrating the 215th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Bible Society.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 2, 2024.

January 5, 2024

Senators STREET, KEARNEY, HAYWOOD, BOSCOLA, HUGHES, COMITTA, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, SANTARSIERO, SCHWANK and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SR 220**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of March 2024 as "Muslim Heritage and Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 5, 2024.

January 8, 2024

Senators HAYWOOD, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, KANE, FONTANA, SANTARSIERO, SCHWANK and COLLETT presented to the Chair **SR 222**, entitled:

A Resolution designating January 6, 2024, as "1/6 Day" in Pennsylvania to honor the law enforcement officers who defended our nation against the insurrection at the United States Capitol and the members of the Congress of the United States who proceeded to vote despite threats to their personal safety, on the three-year anniversary of the January 6, 2021, insurrection.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 8, 2024.

January 26, 2024

Senators MARTIN, DILLON, ARGALL, COSTA, DUSH, FLYNN, HUTCHINSON, PENNYCUICK, PHILLIPS-HILL, ROBINSON, TARTAGLIONE, J. WARD and MASTRIANO presented to the Chair **SR 229**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the week of January 28 through February 3, 2024, as "Catholic Schools Week" in Pennsylvania and expressing congratulations and appreciation to Catholic elementary and secondary schools across this Commonwealth.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 26, 2024.

January 29, 2024

Senators ROTHMAN, PHILLIPS-HILL, MARTIN, ARGALL, COSTA, COMITTA, DUSH and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SR 180**, entitled:

A Resolution commemorating the 100th anniversary of The GIANT Company and congratulating its board, leadership and employees for reaching the anniversary milestone.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 29, 2024.

Senators ROBINSON, ROTHMAN, LANGERHOLC, MARTIN, BROOKS, PHILLIPS-HILL, GEBHARD, BROWN, HUGHES, KANE, HUTCHINSON, PENNYCUICK, COSTA, DUSH, AUMENT and MASTRIANO presented to the Chair **SR 186**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing October 13, 2023, as the 248th birthday of the United States Navy.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 29, 2024.

Senators ROBINSON, BROOKS, PHILLIPS-HILL, FONTANA, BARTOLOTTA, CAPPELLETTI, LAUGHLIN, LANGERHOLC, DUSH, SCHWANK, MARTIN, KANE, TARTAGLIONE, STEFANO, J. WARD, MASTRIANO, SANTARSIERO, HUTCHINSON, COMITTA, COSTA and ROTHMAN presented to the Chair **SR 201**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing November 10, 2023, as "Marine Corps' Day" in Pennsylvania in honor of the United States Marine Corps' 248th anniversary of its founding.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 29, 2024.

Senators COLEMAN, PENNYCUICK and DiSANTO presented to the Chair **SR 225**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution calling for a convention under Article V of the Constitution of the United States to consider amendments that limit the number of terms that members of Congress may serve.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, January 29, 2024.

Senators CAPPELLETTI, SAVAL, TARTAGLIONE, KEARNEY, HUGHES, SCHWANK, FONTANA, HAYWOOD, COMITTA, BROWN, KANE, COSTA, DILLON and SANTARSIERO presented to the Chair **SR 226**, entitled:

A Resolution designating January 23, 2024, as "Maternal Health Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania to recognize all the women and birthing people who die from complications of pregnancy or childbirth.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 29, 2024.

Senators TARTAGLIONE, BAKER, KEARNEY, MARTIN, BROOKS, COSTA, SANTARSIERO, FONTANA, HUGHES, COMITTA, HAYWOOD, BOSCOLA, DILLON, BROWN, PHILLIPS-HILL, J. WARD, CAPPELLETTI, COLLETT, KANE and SCHWANK presented to the Chair **SR 228**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing February 2, 2024, as "National Wear Red Day" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 29, 2024.

January 30, 2024

Senators DiSANTO, HAYWOOD, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, COSTA, HUTCHINSON, SCHWANK, DILLON, J. WARD, FLYNN and COMITTA presented to the Chair **SR 230**, entitled:

A Resolution designating the month of February 2024 as "Turner Syndrome Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, January 30, 2024.

February 2, 2024

Senators SCHWANK, COSTA, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, HUGHES, COMITTA, CAPPELLETTI, TARTAGLIONE, KEARNEY and BREWSTER presented to the Chair **SR 227**, entitled:

A Resolution urging the Governor to develop a comprehensive legislative plan to improve basic education in the public schools of this Commonwealth and to establish an advisory commission to study and make specific recommendations for components of the plan.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, February 2, 2024.

Senators HAYWOOD, HUGHES, SAVAL, STREET, TARTAGLIONE, DILLON, FONTANA, PENNYCUICK, COMITTA, KANE, CAPPELLETTI, SCHWANK, BOSCOLA and COSTA presented to the Chair **SR 233**, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the week of February 8 through 14, 2024, as "William Still Week" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, February 2, 2024.

Senators MARTIN, K. WARD, PITTMAN, AUMENT, ARGALL, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, BROOKS, BROWN, COLEMAN, CULVER, DiSANTO, DUSH, FARRY, GEBHARD, HUTCHINSON, LANGERHOLC, LAUGHLIN, MASTRIANO, PENNYCUICK, PHILLIPS-HILL, REGAN, ROBINSON, ROTHMAN, STEFANO, VOGEL, J. WARD and YAW presented to the Chair **SR 234**, entitled:

A Resolution urging the President of the United States to secure our border and provide the needed policies and resources to protect American citizens and communities throughout this country from the effects of illegal immigration.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, February 2, 2024.

## 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:

January 2, 2024

- HB 908** -- Committee on State Government.
- HB 1795** -- Committee on Health and Human Services.

January 5, 2024

- HB 1417** -- Committee on Health and Human Services.
- HB 1476** -- Committee on Environmental Resources and Energy.
- HB 1564** and **HB 1882** -- Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.
- HB 1585** -- Committee on Banking and Insurance.
- HB 1700** -- Committee on Judiciary.
- HB 1760** -- Committee on Aging and Youth.
- HB 1777** -- Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs.
- HB 1833** -- Committee on Transportation.

January 8, 2024

- HB 1751** -- Committee on Labor and Industry.

**HOUSE RESOLUTIONS FOR CONCURRENCE**

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

January 5, 2024

- HR 75** -- Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations.
- HR 279** -- Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness.

**GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**RADIATION PROTECTION ACT  
REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
 Department of Environmental Protection  
 Rachel Carson State Office Building  
 P.O. Box 2063  
 Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

December 20, 2023

The Honorable Michael Gerdes  
 Interim Secretary - Parliamentarian of the Senate [sic]  
 Senate Post Office Box 203053  
 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3053

Dear Mr. Gerdes:

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is pleased to present to you the working group report on nuclear facility fees paid to DEP. This report is required by Act 31 of 2007. It provides detailed information on the functions of the Nuclear Safety program and its fiscal status.

DEP is providing a link for accessing the report online. The report can be accessed at <http://www.depgreenport.state.pa.us/elibrary/GetFolder?FolderID=4235>.

Folder?FolderID=4234. If you have any questions, please contact Taylor Nezat, Director of Legislative Affairs, by email at [tnezat@pa.gov](mailto:tnezat@pa.gov) or by telephone at 717.783.3517.

Thank you for your interest in this report and for continuing to partner with DEP to promote a clean environment and safer communities for all Pennsylvanians.

Respectfully,

JESSICA SHIRLEY  
 Interim Acting Secretary

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

**2022 ANNUAL LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE  
WASTE PROGRAM REPORT**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
 Department of Environmental Protection  
 Rachel Carson State Office Building  
 P.O. Box 2063  
 Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

January 3, 2024

The Honorable Michael Gerdes  
 Interim Secretary - Parliamentarian of the Senate [sic]  
 Senate Post Office Box 203053  
 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3053

Dear Mr. Gerdes:

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is pleased to present to you its Annual Low-Level Radioactive Waste Program Report to the General Assembly and the Appalachian Compact Commission. This report covers the calendar year 2022.

The report provides a summary of the current activities of the Appalachian States Low-Level Waste Compact (compact), a list of all low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) generators in the compact, and the amounts of LLRW disposed by volume and radioactivity. It also contains a discussion of LLRW generation trends, waste minimization and financial statistics relating to all aspects of the compact.

The Pennsylvania Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Act (35 P.S. §§ 7130.101-7130.905) requires that this report be prepared each year. The enclosed report is based on data from the U.S. Department of Energy's Manifest Information Management System (MIMS).

DEP is providing a link for accessing the report online. The report can be accessed at <http://www.depgreenport.state.pa.us/elibrary/GetFolder?FolderID=4235>. If you have any questions, please contact Taylor Nezat, Director of Legislative Affairs, by email at [tnezat@pa.gov](mailto:tnezat@pa.gov) or by telephone at 717.783.3517.

Thank you for your interest in this report and for continuing to partner with DEP to promote a clean environment and safer communities for all Pennsylvanians.

Respectfully,

JESSICA SHIRLEY  
 Interim Acting Secretary

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

**PEMA TRIENNIAL RADIATION PROTECTION ACT REPORT**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency  
Office of the State Fire Commissioner  
1310 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

January 4, 2024

To the General Assembly  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

All,

In accordance with Act 31 of 2007, attached is the Triennial Radiation Protection Act.

Act 31 amended the Radiation Protection Act to include a provision that specified a review of PEMA's nuclear power plant (NPP) fees every three years beginning in 2009 with a working group with DEP and NPP representatives. This report is PEMA's work product based on the actual expenditures during the three-year review period of State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022, with projections through SFY 2029-2030.

Following the review, PEMA recommends increasing NPP fees for RERP from \$275,000 to \$375,000; RERF from \$150,000 to \$200,000, and RTERF from \$2,500 to \$3,000 per individual vehicle shipment and from \$4,500 to \$5,000 per railroad car or river barge shipment. These increases are necessary to meet the requirements established in 35 Pa. C.S. § 7320. The funding increases are due to increases as discussed in 2014. If funding is not increased, PEMA will have a deficit beginning in SFY 2026-2027.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Westburn S.T. Majors  
Legislative and Policy Director

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

**2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF STATE INSPECTOR GENERAL**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Office of State Inspector General  
555 Walnut Street, 7th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

January 11, 2024

To the General Assembly  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Good afternoon,

Per the requirements of Section 509-A of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, the Office of State Inspector General's 2022-2023 Annual Report is available on OSIG's website. Please let me know if you have any questions about

this Annual Report or anything else regarding the Office of State Inspector General.

Thank you,

Jonathan P. Hendrickson  
Deputy State Inspector General

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

**2023 YEAR-END TAX-EXEMPT BOND ALLOCATION REPORT**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Department of Community and Economic Development  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 4th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225

January 17, 2024

Michael Gerdes  
Secretary of Senate  
Office of the Secretary of the Senate and Parliamentarian  
462 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Mr. Gerdes:

As required by the Job Enhancement Act of 1996, (P.L. 434, No 67), Act 113, Section 2706, as amended, I am providing a report on tax-exempt bond allocation for year-end 2023.

This report includes a summary of volume cap allocation usage for small issue, agriculture, exempt facility, housing, and education bonds.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact my office.

Sincerely,

FREDERICK C. SIGER  
Secretary

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

**OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023 STATE ETHICS COMMISSION RULINGS**

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
State Ethics Commission  
Finance Building  
613 North Street, Room 309  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0400

TO: Director or Administrator  
FROM: Mary Fox, Executive Director  
State Ethics Commission  
DATE: January 23, 2024  
RE: Distribution of State Ethics Commission Rulings

On June 26, 1989, the revised Public Official and Employee Ethics Law was enacted which re-authorized the State Ethics Commission. The

State Ethics Commission is responsible for issuing various types of rulings on matters within its mandated jurisdiction. Pursuant to the law, the Commission is mandated to forward, quarterly, a copy of every Opinion, Advice of Counsel, and Order issued to one law library in each county, one public library in each county, the State Library, the State Senate Library, each authority appointing a Commission member, the Pennsylvania Association of County Commissioners, the Pennsylvania Association of Boroughs, the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners, the Pennsylvania State School Boards Association, and the Pennsylvania League of Cities. Your agency is either specifically identified in the above requirement or has been selected as a library to which this mailing will be made pursuant to the above authority. As such, enclosed please find decisions of the State Ethics Commission from October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Due to budgetary restraints, a CD containing said rulings will replace paper copies that were previously sent.

For your information, the Commission generally issues these types of decisions as follows:

**Commission Opinions** - Opinions are advisory rulings issued by the State Ethics Commission regarding the duties and responsibilities of public officials and employees under the Public Official and Employee Ethics Law. Opinions are catalogued by year of issuance followed by the sequential number of the opinion during that year. As such, opinions relating to 2023 will begin with the number 23-001 and proceed there from as decisions are rendered.

**Advice of Counsel** - The Commission's Chief Counsel is authorized to issue similar advisory letters. Such letters are issued generally when there is prior precedent for counsel to rely upon in issuing a decision or when the provisions of the State Ethics Act directly provide the answer to the question posed. Advice of Counsel letters are numbered with the year and a 500 series number that progresses in order therefrom as rulings are issued. If more than 100 such letters are issued, a 600 series number will then be used.

**Orders** - Commission orders are issued at the end of an investigation and are determinations as to whether or not there has been a violation of the State Ethics Act. Commission orders are categorized numerically from the date of the first order in 1979. That is, the first Order issued was Order No. 1. All orders proceed there from.

It is recommended that Opinions, Advices of Counsel and Orders be maintained separately (in numerical order) so as to afford better retrievability.

The enclosed items are being forwarded for retention, cataloging and for the purpose of being publicly available for review by citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who may have an interest therein. Additional mailings will be made on a quarterly basis henceforth. If you have any questions in relation to your receipt of these documents and future distribution, please contact me at 717-783-1610 or 800-932-0936. For your information, all Commission rulings are available on-line at [www.ethics.pa.gov](http://www.ethics.pa.gov).

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

### 2024 ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO ACT 36 OF 2018 EMPLOYMENT FIRST ACT

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Office of the Governor  
238 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

January 31, 2024

To the General Assembly  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Good morning,

Attached is the 2024 Employment First Cabinet Report. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Lauren Channing

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

### ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE CATASTROPHIC LOSS BENEFITS CONTINUATION FUND

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

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Office of the Insurance Commissioner  
1326 Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

To: The General Assembly  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

From: MICHAEL HUMPHREYS  
Insurance Commissioner  
URI MONSON  
Secretary, Governor's Office of the Budget

Date: January 31, 2024

Re: Annual Report of the Status of the Catastrophic  
Loss Benefits Continuation Fund

Pursuant to Act 24 of 1989, the Department is pleased to present the annual report of the status of the Catastrophic Loss Benefits Continuation Fund of the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Should any questions arise regarding these statistics, members should feel free to contact me, Deputy Insurance Commissioner Laura Slaymaker, or our Legislative Director Abdoul Barry at (717) 783-2005.

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

### APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

Senator Elisabeth J. Baker as a member of the Flood Insurance Premium Assistance Task Force and the Indigent Defense Advisory Committee.

Mr. Mark D. Bolkovac as a member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing.

#### APPOINTMENT BY THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT. The Chair wishes to announce the Majority Leader has made the following appointment:

Mr. Robert Loughery as a member of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency Board.

#### APPOINTMENTS BY THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT. The Chair wishes to announce the Minority Leader has made the following appointments:

Senator Amanda M. Cappelletti as a member of the State Council on Interstate Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

Senator Arthur L. Haywood III as a member of the Indigent Defense Advisory Committee.

Senator Anthony H. Williams as a member of the Liquor Control Board Stop-and-Go Legislative Task Force.

Mr. Ronald J. Brown as a member of the Pennsylvania Economic Development Financing Authority.

Mr. Austin Burke as a member of the Commonwealth Financing Authority.

Mr. Sean Casey as a member of the Pennsylvania Malt and Brewed Beverage Promotion Board.

Mr. Geoffrey W. Clarke as a member of the Public-Private Transportation Board.

Mr. Christopher Dezzi as a member of the Board of Trustees of Salus University.

Dr. Karen Wolk Feinstein as a member of the Health Research Advisory Committee.

Mr. Thomas O. Fitzpatrick as a member of the Board of Trustees of Drexel University.

Mr. William Leonard as a member of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority.

Ms. Juliet M. Moringiello as a member of the Board of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

Mr. Ross Nese as a member of the Board of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency.

Ms. Bhavini Patel as a member of the Medical Marijuana Advisory Board.

Ms. Veronica A. Richards as a member of the Patient Safety Authority.

Mr. Martin J. Sobol as a member of the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority.

Mr. Dennis A. Watson as a member of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission.

**BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES**

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

**SB 1014 (Pr. No. 1356) (Amended)**

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in city revitalization and improvement zones, further providing for definitions, for establishment or designation of contracting authority, for approval, for transfers, for restrictions, for transfer of property and for review.

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

**HB 1564 (Pr. No. 2568) (Amended)**

An Act amending the act of July 9, 1987 (P.L.220, No.39), known as the Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors Act, further providing for definitions, for license required, for State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors, for powers and functions of board, for qualifications for license, for procedures for licensing, for reciprocity, for endorsement of out-of-State licenses and for reinstatement of license; providing for restrictions on use of title "Licensed Associate Marriage

and Family Therapist" and for restrictions on the use of title "Licensed Associate Professional Counselor"; further providing for license renewal and records and fees and for unlawful practice; and providing for effect of associate licensure.

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVES**

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Bartolotta, Senator Brooks, and Senator Regan.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request legislative leaves for Senator Muth and Senator Anthony Williams.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Bartolotta, Senator Brooks, and Senator Regan.

Senator Costa requests legislative leaves for Senator Muth and Senator Anthony Williams.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

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

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

**LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED**

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

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**WEEKLY RECESS**

Senator PITTMAN offered the following resolution, which was read as follows:

In the Senate, February 5, 2024

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the Senate recesses this week, it reconvene the week of Monday, March 18, 2024, unless sooner recalled by the President Pro Tempore; and be it further

RESOLVED, Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, that when the House of Representatives recesses this week, it reconvene the week of Monday, March 18, 2024, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

On the question,  
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

YEA-48

Argall	Costa	Langerholc	Santarsiero
Aument	Culver	Laughlin	Saval
Baker	Dillon	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	Hughes	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Hutchinson	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Kane	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kearney	Rothman	Yaw

NAY-0

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

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

**GUESTS OF SENATOR JIMMY DILLON  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator DILLON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Father John Babowitch from my grade school alma mater, Our Lady of Calvary Catholic Church, located in the Fifth Senatorial District. He was kind enough to join us here in Harrisburg today to act as our guest Chaplain. Father Babowitch has been a staple in the northeast community for decades and is always a firm handshake away from letting me know what I am doing right, and yes, even wrong. I want to thank Father Babowitch for all he has done for not only OLC, but the northeast Philly in itself. Many of us have recognized and celebrated Catholic Schools Week last week. Catholic Schools Week is an excellent time of year to remember the importance Catholic schools have in our community. Senator Martin and I have introduced an annual resolution highlighting the impact that these schools have had across our State. I am proud to have such an excellent representation here of Our Lady of Calvary School. In addition to Father Babowitch, I would also like to welcome Mrs. Jeanne Costello, who is the vice principal at Our Lady of Calvary, but more importantly, my sixth-grade teacher when I attended OLC. Mrs. Costello has continued to serve our youth and our community for decades as well.

And lastly, Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Sister Mildred Chesnavage, the principal of Our Lady of Calvary. You see, Mr. President, Sister Mildred thinks she is here today because we are honoring Our Lady of Calvary, but little does she know today that the school and I are honoring her. And I know she is going to kill me for making this about her today. Sister Mildred arrived at Our Lady of Calvary in 1987. She was the principal when I was at school there, and as stated, is the current principal there now in which my children attend. She is an avid Notre Dame fan. She is a Joe Montana fanatic. She is everything to anyone who stepped foot in the hallways of Our Lady of Calvary. She does not age, Mr. President. The Fifth Senatorial District is remarkably lucky to have such a strong base of Catholic schools' education in it. But there is no one luckier than me to be able to serve our community together.

As many of you in this Chamber know, 2 years ago, my house had burnt down on my birthday. It was a tragic and chaotic time for my family. Not shocking to me at all was the love and the outreach from our community. But what I remember most, the first person to reach out was Sister Mildred and the OLC

community. She has been everything anyone could ask for in terms of her heart, her kindness, and her goodwill. I am grateful for everything that she has done, not only for me and my family, but for the entire Our Lady of Calvary community. Mr. President, Sister Mildred has just completed her 50th year of education and services to Catholic schools. When it comes to helping students to form strong foundations of values, self-esteem, self-confidence, and leadership skills, Sister Mildred has the heart for it. I just hope she is around for another 50 years to continue to make the wonderful impact she has on our students, faculty, and community. Sister Mildred, for these reasons, I would like to present you with a Senate Citation of recognition, honoring your 50 years of service to the Catholic school education. And I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in a warm welcome for all of our guests, Our Lady of Calvary, and the great northeast Philadelphia.

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

[Applause.]

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

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

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize an incredible trailblazer, one of Lancaster County's first women's professional boxers to compete on a national and international level, Leah Mellinger. Leah joins us today with members of her family, including her father, Art; Barb; her sister, Morgan; and her children, Declon and Madlyn. A graduate of Penn Manor High School, Leah began this path participating in a self-defense class, which led her to kickboxing, and ultimately, a boxing career that began shortly after. To her great credit, Leah was recently inducted into the International Women's Boxing Hall of Fame for a career that boasted a 12-5-1 record and 3 junior-welterweight titles. She also once held the Pro Boxing Incorporated Jr. Welterweight title. Leah grew up playing sports only a few short years ago but faced adversity and barriers that many of her male counterparts never had to worry about. She learned at a young age to never take "no" for an answer. That confidence, attitude, and grit, combined with her hard work and dedication, created an example worth living up to by athletes of all ages. I am incredibly proud to represent a district with individuals like Leah Mellinger. Her life has inspired so many and will continue to do so going forward. So, I ask my colleagues to join me in giving International Boxing Hall of Fame member Leah Mellinger our customary warm Senate welcome.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR JAMES R. BREWSTER  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator BREWSTER. Mr. President, I am honored today to introduce the McKeesport Marching Band--your school of graduation and mine, of course different years [laughter]. I will make that point. But the 2023 McKeesport Area [High] School

Marching Band marched their way to their second consecutive State title. McKeesport won the tournament on their own field in McKeesport's Weigle-Schaeffer Stadium. With them today is the band, the color guard, and parents. And I want to introduce the band director, Drew DeCarlo; director of public and government affairs for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association, Mark Despotakis; Keith Parton; Jania Wheeler; and other parents who I did not quite meet at the photo--but if you stand, if you do not mind, if you are up there. They are there somewhere. There you go. Okay, Mr. President, I would ask the Senate for a warm welcome.

The PRESIDENT. It is my pleasure to welcome my alma mater. Would the Senate please rise and give its customary greeting. [Applause.]

### RECESS

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for purposes of meetings of the Committee on Appropriations, to be followed by the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, to be followed by the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, to be followed by the Committee on Environmental Resources and Energy, to be followed by the Committee on State Government. At the conclusion of all of these meetings, which will be held immediately in the Rules room, we will return to Session for the Lincoln Day Address, which will be provided to us by the gentleman from Lancaster County, Senator Aument. And following that address, we will then recess for the purpose of a Senate Republican caucus to be held in the Majority Caucus Room.

The PRESIDENT. For purposes of a series of committee meetings to be held off the floor in the Rules room immediately, beginning with the Committee on Appropriations, followed by the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, followed by the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, followed by the Committee on Environmental Resources and Energy, followed by the Committee on State Government, and we will return to the floor immediately following those committee meetings, 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 Muth has returned, and her legislative leave is cancelled.

### SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS LINCOLN DAY ADDRESS

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, in 2012, a group of historians decided they wanted to do something different to

recognize the life and legacy of President Abraham Lincoln. They wanted to find a creative way to physically illustrate his importance, and they did so by creating a tower of books that have been written about him. That tower measured 8 feet around and 3 1/2 stories tall. It is estimated that over 15,000 books have been written about Lincoln. I share this to point out that I fully recognize that there is nothing I am going to say today that is original or has not likely already been said and likely been said far better than what I could articulate. However, it is appropriate for us here to pause as we approach the 215th anniversary of President Lincoln's birth, to remember his life and legacy, and thank God that Abraham Lincoln lived.

The speech today has presented me with an opportunity the last few weeks to reflect on that legacy. And I have often found myself thinking about the sad and tragic circumstances of his life. Perhaps, in the midst of it, we can find some hope from the inner strength that Lincoln possessed. Far too often, we attempt to clean up our great historical figures and assign them a life we wish they had lived, or better fits our use today. We make the very mortal, immortal; flawed, flawless; and actually miss some of their greatness when we do so. This does all of us, especially our children, a deep disservice. Poverty, depression, tragedy, abuse, neglect, the circumstances of your birth, your childhood; while it may be your present and important part of your story, does not ultimately have to define who you are or what you become or what you can achieve. We often gloss over this fact of Lincoln's life from beginning to its tragic end. His was a life marked by deep sadness, dissatisfaction, bouts of prolonged depression, and tragedy.

He was born into deep poverty on February 12, 1809, in Kentucky, and raised on the frontier. He lost his mother to milk sickness at the age of 9. Just 10 years later, he lost his beloved sister while she was giving birth to a stillborn son. He had a complicated relationship with his father. He hated the farm labor of his upbringing, possessed very little formal education. Lincoln sunk deep into depression after the loss of a dear friend, perhaps his first real love interest, Ann Rutledge. He had a stormy relationship with his wife. Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln had four sons. Two died in childhood, only one survived beyond the age of 18. One son, Willie, died at the age of 11 in the White House, in the midst of the Civil War. He suffered political rebuke, unpopularity, multiple election defeats. Then when he finally reached the pinnacle, election to the White House in 1860, he sees the country literally break apart between his election and inauguration of March 1861, sneaking into Washington in disguise. He presided as a moderate Republican in a deeply fractured party and country. He served as Commander in Chief during a bloody civil war that left 620,000 Americans dead in a country of just 31 million. Brother against brother, countrymen against countrymen, with the promises contained in the Declaration of Independence that all men are created equal hanging in the balance. The very hope that a government of the people, by the people, for the people, might not perish from the Earth. He then became among the final casualties of that war, cut down by an assassin's bullet just days after the surrender at Appomattox. I am only touching the surface of the pain, the tragedy, and the deep sadness Lincoln felt throughout his life. Yet there was a remarkable resilience, strength, and determination. What kept him getting back up when knocked down? What kept him going? This also is worth thinking



about as we celebrate Abraham Lincoln as his 215th birthday approaches.

Lincoln possessed a remarkable drive and an incredible personal ambition. Yes, he was most certainly ambitious for himself and his own personal achievement. He was also incredibly ambitious for his country and ambitious for his fellow Americans, and far more often than not, those ambitions aligned. May the same be said here of us. He was grounded, always grounded by a compass, his true north, and tried to do what was right, even when it was incredibly unpopular and came at a high political and personal cost. As Lincoln concluded his first major eastern address, while preparing to run for President in 1860 at Cooper Union, he said:

Neither let us be slandered from our duty by false accusations against us, nor frightened from it by menaces of destruction to the Government nor of dungeons to ourselves. Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.

May it be so with us.  
Thank you, Madam President.  
[Applause.]

**RECESS**

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a Senate Republican caucus, which will be held immediately in the Majority Caucus Room.

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

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. For purposes of Republican and Democratic caucuses to be held in their respective caucus rooms, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

**AFTER RECESS**

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

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

**CALENDAR**

**THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR**

**BILLS OVER IN ORDER**

**HB 269, SB 346, SB 375 and SB 831** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE**

**SB 1020 (Pr. No. 1267)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 5796, carrying State Route 4001 over U.S. Route 22 in Allegheny Township, Blair County, as the LCPL Ralph J. Fabbri USMC Memorial Bridge.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Blair, Senator Judy Ward.

Senator J. WARD. Mr. President, I rise to give my support for this important legislation and to honor this fallen hero. Lance Corporal Ralph Fabbri was born in Altoona in 1989. He attended Penn Cambria High School and graduated in 2008. It was here that his passion for art and photography began to develop. Corporal Fabbri's love for photography and his desire to serve met when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps as a combat photographer. He was then assigned to the Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, at Camp Pendleton, California. Corporal Fabbri was deployed to Afghanistan, participating in Operation Enduring Freedom. On September 28, 2010, he was tragically killed in action in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan, 1 day before his 21st birthday.

Corporal Fabbri was an avid hunter and fisherman and was known to many by his down-to-earth, fun, loving, and considerate persona. On my way to a restaurant where he grew up--it is a favorite restaurant of mine--I often get to see his park. There is a park dedicated to Corporal Ralph Fabbri, and he was a beloved member of the community. But this resolution [bill] and bridge designation help to ensure that no one will forget the blessing he was to those who knew him and that we always remember his selfless sacrifice and his service.

Thank you, Mr. President.

And the question recurring,  
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

**YEA-48**

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

**NAY-0**

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

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

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

**HB 1304 (Pr. No. 2279)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in 911 emergency communication services, providing for a Legislative Budget and Finance Committee study and further providing for termination.

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

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**HB 95** and **SB 219** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**HB 250 (Pr. No. 213)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fees, further providing for exemption of persons, entities and vehicles from fees.

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 259, SB 265, SB 363, SB 365** and **SB 501** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 559 (Pr. No. 1292)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985, further providing for definitions; and abrogating regulations.

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

**SB 560 (Pr. No. 1293)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, further providing for definitions; and abrogating regulations.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

**SB 577, SB 667, SB 845, SB 975** and **SB 1017** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

**SB 1019 (Pr. No. 1269)** -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 9, 1987 (P.L.220, No.39), known as the Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors Act, further providing for definitions, for license required, for State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors, for powers and functions of board, for qualifications for license, for procedures for licensing, for reciprocity, for endorsement of out-of-State licenses and for reinstatement of license; providing for restrictions on use of title "Licensed Associate Marriage and Family Therapist" and for restrictions on the use of title "Licensed Associate Professional Counselor"; further providing for license renewal and records and fees and for unlawful practice; and providing for effect of associate licensure.

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED  
SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILL OVER IN ORDER

**HB 1295** -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator MASTRIANO, from the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, reported the following bills:

**SB 1054 (Pr. No. 1348)**

An Act amending the act of November 3, 2022 (P.L.2158, No.158), known as the Overdose Mapping Act, further providing for definitions and for establishment and design; and providing for entry requirements for EMS providers.

**HB 358 (Pr. No. 1798)**

An Act Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for awards to first responders.

**RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

Senator MASTRIANO, from the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, reported the following resolution:

**HR 279 (Pr. No. 2440)**

A Concurrent Resolution extending in whole the disaster emergency declared on June 12, 2023, and extended in whole by the General Assembly until November 1, 2023, by Senate Resolution No. 136, and further extended in whole by the General Assembly for an additional 120 calendar days from November 1, 2023, by House Resolution No. 197, in response to the collapse of the northbound bridge and severe compromise of the southbound bridge on Interstate 95 in the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County.

The resolution will be placed on the Calendar.

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

**MOTION NOTWITHSTANDING SENATE RULE 29**

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I call up Supplemental Calendar No. 2 and move to consider **House Concurrent Resolution No. 279** on Supplemental Calendar No. 2, notwithstanding the provisions of Senate Rule 29.

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

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

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION  
No. 279, ADOPTED**

Senator PITTMAN, without objection, called up from page 1 of Supplemental Calendar No. 2, **House Concurrent Resolution No. 279**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution extending in whole the disaster emergency declared on June 12, 2023, and extended in whole by the General Assembly until November 1, 2023, by Senate Resolution No. 136, and further extended in whole by the General Assembly for an additional 120 calendar days from November 1, 2023, by House Resolution No. 197, in response to the collapse of the northbound bridge and severe compromise of the southbound bridge on Interstate 95 in the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County.

On the question,  
Will the Senate concur in the resolution?

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in House Concurrent Resolution No. 279.

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

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

Senator DILLON. Mr. President, I rise to speak on behalf of House Resolution No. 279, sponsored by Representative Bellmon. House Resolution No. 279 should be the final extension resolution in response to the I-95 collapse from last June. This extension should get us closer to the 1-year anniversary of the collapse, and hopefully to a full repair. I have frequented the construction site in my district and spoke with all branches of labor and government, all of which are thrilled with the progress that has been made in such a short time frame. These resolutions have allowed for the continued use of the emergency Federal resources and have helped accelerate the repair timeline. As the current extension expires at the end of February, this extension will ensure work continues to complete these repairs for the good of the people and the local businesses that have been impacted by this tragedy. I want to take a moment to thank each and every one of our colleagues, both here in the Senate and over in the House, for ensuring that this resolution will help finalize the I-95 project and get us to the finish line.

Thank you, Mr. President. I urge for an affirmative vote.

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

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

**YEA-47**

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

**NAY-1**

Coleman

A majority of 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.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**JOINT SESSION**

Senator PITTMAN, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution, which was read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

In the Senate, February 5, 2024

RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Senate and House of Representatives meet in a Joint Session tomorrow, February 6, 2024, at 12:30PM, in the Capitol Rotunda for the purpose of hearing an address by His Excellency, Governor Josh Shapiro; and be it further;

RESOLVED, That a committee of three, on the part of the Senate, be appointed to act with a similar committee on the part of the House of Representatives, to escort His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Capitol Rotunda.

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

**SB 792 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE**

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that Senate Bill No. 792, Printer's No. 919, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.  
The PRESIDENT. The bill will be placed on the Calendar.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS  
BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES**

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

**SB 228 (Pr. No. 197) (Rereported)**

An Act providing for museum unclaimed loaned property.

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

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 745 (Pr. No. 1357) (Amended) (Rereported)**

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.

**SB 832 (Pr. No. 1277) (Rereported)**

An Act amending Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in boards and offices, establishing the Independent Energy Office.

**HB 1246 (Pr. No. 1415) (Rereported)**

An Act providing for crematory regulation.

Senator YAW, from the Committee on Environmental Resources and Energy, reported the following bill:

**SB 1058 (Pr. No. 1355)**

An Act providing for the abrogation of regulations relating to the CO2 Budget Trading Program.

**RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE**

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

**SR 234 (Pr. No. 1354)**

A Resolution urging the President of the United States to secure our border and provide the needed policies and resources to protect American citizens and communities throughout this country from the effects of illegal immigration.

The resolution will be placed on the Calendar.

**BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION**

Senator ROBINSON. 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 1014, SB 1054, SB 1058, HB 358 and HB 1564.**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY**

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024

- 10:00 A.M. TRANSPORTATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 915 and 1047; and House Bill No. 73) Room 461 Main Capitol
- 10:15 A.M. EDUCATION (to consider Senate Bill No. 801) Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
- 2:00 P.M. COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY and STATE GOVERNMENT (joint public hearing on the recent Office of Administration server data loss) Hearing Room 1 North Office (LIVE STREAMED)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024

- 9:00 A.M. GAME AND FISHERIES (public hearing on the annual report from Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Fish and Boat Commission) Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
- 11:15 A.M. COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY and COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (joint informational meeting - roundtable on Pennsylvania semiconductor production and workforce pipeline) Infinera Corp. 7360 Windsor Dr. Allentown

**PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES**

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

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, throughout the year, we pause to call attention to cancer in various forms and we honor those fighting it and those we have lost to it. While all forms of cancer are horrible, we can all agree that pediatric cancer is especially heartbreaking. Next week, on February 15, the world will honor International Childhood Cancer Awareness [sic] Day, and I rise today to join them. While it should be celebrated that the 5-year survival rate has increased to over 80 percent, I again stand here to remind this body that this figure does not tell the full story. This statistic does not explain that the incidence rate of children diagnosed has increased over the last half-century. It does not show that those who made it past their 5-year mark before passing away, nor does it reflect the struggle these children face for the rest of their lives due to the long-term damage many of our decades-old treatments, harsh treatments, designed for adults, have caused on their young bodies. Today, I rise to call attention to this whole truth, the good, the bad, and the heartbreakingly sad. I want to highlight and thank the medical community for all their work on this terrible disease. I want to tell the parents and families of these children that we, as a body, share grief in all of their losses and, most importantly, to tell these brave little fighters that we stand with them and that we will continue to do so in any way we can support them. I encourage every member of our respective communities to do the same in whatever way they can. I am truly hopeful that as we continue to prioritize this issue, improve access to medications and better treatments, and do what we can do to help, that one day soon we will beat childhood cancer. I ask my colleagues of the Pennsylvania Senate to join me in honoring International Childhood Cancer Awareness [sic] Day in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Martin.

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, I rise today to join Senator Langerholc and Senator Dush in recognizing our resolution designating the week of February 12 through 18 as THON Week. The Pennsylvania State University's no sitting, no sleeping, 46-hour dance marathon, affectionately known as THON, is the culmination event of a year-round fundraising campaign by what is considered the largest student-run philanthropy in the world. These donations go directly to the Four Diamonds fund, which works with Penn State's Children's Hospital to cover all medical expenses related to pediatric cancer care not covered by insurance and to help fund pediatric cancer research broadly. Over the last 50 years, THON has raised nearly \$220 million for the kids, aiding about 4,800 families. Students engage in an array of fundraising activities, most notably canning weekends, where they visit communities all over our region collecting donations. Approximately 16,500 Penn State students work through various committees to raise these funds and ultimately organize a 46-hour event where over 700 students dance in solidarity with these brave little kids. One of their many mottos is: "One day we will dance in celebration, --but-- until then, we [will] dance for a cure."

I cannot imagine hearing the gut-wrenching words, your child has cancer. But because of the combined efforts of so many, including Penn State students and mini THONs at high schools across Pennsylvania, the very next words these families hear are: we are from the Four Diamonds fund, and we are here to help. For those who have not had the opportunity to witness the event,

it is truly something that cannot be explained in words. You simply must see it for yourself. I encourage everyone listening to this to join the fight against pediatric cancer in whatever way they can, and I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing next week, February 12 through 18, as THON Week in Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise because today marks 6,420 days since our Commonwealth's legislature last passed an increase in our minimum wage. And we are back, Mr. President, this week because our Governor is going to deliver his second budget address tomorrow, which will lay out his plans, hopes, and goals for the coming year. One thing I think we can expect him to call for is raising our embarrassing low poverty-level wage. Governor Shapiro gets it. He knows the current minimum wage just is not cutting it to many hardworking Pennsylvanians. Our low-wage workers are often working two or three jobs and still struggling to make ends meet. We can do better, and it is time to make sure that everyone gets a fair shot. Raising our minimum wage is not just about money, it is about treating people with respect. No Pennsylvanian should be working full-time and have trouble putting food on their table or paying their bills. That is why I introduced Senate Bill No. 12. We cannot continue to allow Pennsylvanians to be caught in this current cycle of economic hardship. Senate Bill No. 12 is a crucial step towards ensuring that every hardworking Pennsylvanian is afforded the dignity they deserve. Mr. President, Senate Bill No. 12 and the calls for an increase in the minimum wage are born out of a basic idea: the idea that a fair wage is not a luxury, it is a basic right. Let us come together and send a clear message to Pennsylvanians that we are prioritizing every worker's right to make a livable wage and not be forced into a cycle of poverty our current starvation-level wage perpetuates. Let us put Pennsylvania's low-wage earners on a path to \$15 an hour. Let us pass Senate Bill No. 12.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, I rise today and ask that my Senate colleagues join Senator Baker and me in supporting Senate Resolution No. 228, which recognizes Friday, February 2, 2024, as National Wear Red Day in Pennsylvania. National Wear Red Day urges us all to reflect on the importance of women's heart health and improving the lives of women around the world.

Mr. President, according to the American Heart Association, cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of death among women, causing 1 in 3 deaths each year. While women's heart disease awareness has increased in recent years, Mr. President, a gap in awareness still exists among the demographics of minorities and younger women. By recognizing National [Wear] Red Day in our Commonwealth, we can increase public awareness of cardiovascular disease and the risk it poses to all women. Let us use this day and our clothing as catalysts for change so that we can encourage healthier lifestyles, regular checkups, and promote gender-specific research on health heart. Together, we can ensure women across our Commonwealth and the world have the knowledge and resources to prioritize their cardiovascular well-being. Finally, I want to thank my good friend Senator Baker for

joining me in this critical venture, and I encourage my Senate colleagues to wear red this month to bring attention to women's heart health.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BAKER. Mr. President, each February, the nation goes red for American Heart Month and Wear Red Day, as millions unite to raise awareness about cardiovascular disease and help to save lives. I am so pleased to join my friend and colleague from Philadelphia, Senator Tartaglione, in sponsoring this Senate Wear Red Day proclamation to recognize these efforts to educate about heart disease and strokes.

As Senator Tartaglione said: cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of women, causing 1 in 3 deaths each year. And although it impacts some women at higher rates than others, most cardiovascular disease can still, can still be prevented with education and healthy lifestyle changes. So, knowing your risk, knowing your risk is critical to prevention. And knowing your risk starts with knowing your numbers. Know your numbers for blood pressure, cholesterol, blood sugar, BMI; your heart depends on it. Tremendous strides have been made educating women especially to the symptoms and dangers of these health concerns. But we need everyone to join us in spreading this message across Pennsylvania to save our hearts and the hearts of those you know and love. Together, we can continue to rock our red and help save more lives. So, in February, let us remember this is national wear red month, and I hope that you will rock your red with us.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Jefferson, Senator Dush.

Senator DUSH. Mr. President, I am proud to stand with Senator Martin and Senator Langerholc, and as the State Senator representing the main campus of Penn State University, I am greatly looking forward to attending THON Weekend of 2024, which starts Friday, February 16, and finishes on Sunday, February 18. As anyone who has previously participated is fully aware, THON is the world's largest student-run philanthropy, committed to enhancing the lives of children and families impacted by childhood cancer. Their mission is to provide emotional and financial support, spread awareness, and ensure funding for critical research, all in the pursuit of a cure. This tremendous yearlong effort culminates in a 46-hour dance marathon at the Bryce Jordan Center. Last year's THON was my first. It was an absolute blessing to see thousands of students, along with their organizational teammates, becoming actively involved with young children who have been tragically impacted by cancer. Some of those children and their families were there last year, and their stories about how the student organizations had adopted them and the relationships between the students and these kids was very heartwarming. Time and time again, these inspiring volunteers have basically become part of these kids' families and partners in their care.

Personally speaking, I consider THON to be an excellent example of practicing God's second commandment: to love our neighbors as ourselves. These relationships are truly heartwarming. As always, donations, large or small, make it possible for these pediatric cancer patients and their families not to have to make difficult choices between what is the best treatment and

what their family budget can afford. Much of the money raised annually through THON helps to expand lifesaving cancer research and delivers additional resources to support patients, families, and their caregivers. I fervently believe that all funding generated by THON is essential to developing effective cancer treatments, as well as identifying risk factors and genetic patterns that will accelerate the fight against this terrible disease and ultimately bring an end to childhood cancer. Moving forward, let us always remember the precious loved ones we have lost; let us pray for everyone currently battling childhood cancer; and let us celebrate the courageous survivors who continue to beat this disease. If only one person can make a difference in the fight against childhood cancer, imagine what all of us can do together. We are, Penn State. Thank you for all you do to support THON.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise today, alongside my colleague from Indiana County, to commemorate the observance of Four Chaplains Day. Each February 3, this day of remembrance is celebrated across our nation and our Commonwealth. Rabbi Alexander Goode, a Jewish rabbi; Reverend George Fox, a Methodist minister; Reverend Clark Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister; Father John Washington, a Catholic priest; the Four Chaplains.

These military chaplains sacrificed their own lives to save the lives of their fellow service members during World War II, when the USAT *Dorchester* was attacked in what was known as Torpedo Junction, about 150 miles off the coast of Greenland in the frigid waters of the Atlantic Ocean. As the ship began to sink, the Four Chaplains could be heard together, offering up prayers to God, and in a tribute by 1 of the 230 survivors, it was said that it was the finest thing I have ever seen this side of heaven.

Each year, we gather at the Four Chaplains Memorial of York County's annual breakfast to commemorate and honor the service and the sacrifice of the Four Chaplains. We find strength in the legacy of the Four Chaplains and of Rabbi Alexander David Goode, who left the pulpit at Temple Beth Israel in York to become an Army chaplain. In York, and around the Commonwealth, we continue to remember, to reflect, to commemorate, and to honor the service and the sacrifice of the Four Chaplains. Local leaders who live their lives by the values of the Four Chaplains are recognized, and scholarships are awarded to students from the Alexander D. Goode Elementary School to help them pursue a future in education and to build a strong foundation for a life in which they can give themselves to others for their betterment. Today I thank the Senate of Pennsylvania for the opportunity to remember the Four Chaplains, their service, their sacrifice, and their legacy.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I want to rise and echo the comments of my friend and colleague, the gentlelady from York County. For many years now, she and I have worked together to recognize the service and sacrifice of the Four Chaplains. And as we have discussed on this floor over time, my great-uncle Robert Maurice Pittman was a crew member on the USS *Dorchester*. He was not one of those who was fortunate enough to survive, and

to this day remains missing at sea. Obviously, I did not know my great-uncle, but I remember my great-grandmother quite well. And what has always struck me about that sacrifice that she made, was that it was such an ordinary sacrifice in an extraordinary time. And I think it is critically important, as the generations go on and we lose direct contact from the sacrifices that were made during World War II, that we take time to remember how significant those sacrifices were at the time; the sacrifices that the Four Chaplains made; and quite frankly, the standard that it sets for all of us to recognize service above self. And again, the gentelady from York County, I have always been impressed with what York County does in recognizing and commemorating the sacrifice of the Four Chaplains, and I am thankful that she continues to take the lead on that effort.

Thank you, Mr. President.

### RECESS

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 11 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 4:01 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.