commonwealth of pennsylvania Legizlatibe Journal

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024

SESSION OF 2024 208TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, March 20, 2024

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

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend ALISON BOWLAN-KURLAND, of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Spring Grove, offered the following prayer:

Good morning.

Let us pray.

God of all people, we are grateful for the opportunity to be here this morning to serve You and the people who live across this great Commonwealth. As we gather in Session to vote and have discussion this day, remind us that You gave us two ears and only one mouth for a reason: so, we might more often listen to the needs of the people, to learn from our neighbors gathered in this place, and to follow where You lead. God of justice, encourage us, we pray, when we do speak, to use our voice to speak out on behalf of those who are in need, to act for those who have no voice, and to work for the benefit of all Pennsylvanians.

God of peace, we humbly pray that when we look across the aisle, instead of seeing a great party divide, we would see in the faces of those serving alongside of us Your face, reminding us that every person is made in Your beloved image. Help us to be peacemakers, to build up instead of tear down, to unify instead of divide. Mostly, God, help us in our work to show those in this Commonwealth and across the nation that You have not walked away or abandoned us, but that You are here, helping to restore us to a nation full of love, acceptance, prosperity, and a place of hope--the hope of a better tomorrow. In Your holy Name we pray. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Pastor Bowlan-Kurland, who is the guest today of Senator Phillips-Hill.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator HUTCHINSON, from the Committee on Finance, reported the following bills:

SB 148 (Pr. No. 122)

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, providing for volunteer firefighter tax credit.

No. 7

SB 416 (Pr. No. 364)

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in corporate net income tax, further providing for imposition of tax; and abrogating a regulation.

SB 479 (Pr. No. 510)

An Act amending Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preliminary provisions relating to retirement for State employees and officers, further providing for definitions.

SB 659 (Pr. No. 1439) (Amended)

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

SB 1051 (Pr. No. 1346)

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.

SB 1056 (Pr. No. 1364)

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, in Treasury Department, further providing for investment of moneys.

Senator ROTHMAN, from the Committee on Game and Fisheries, reported the following bills:

SB 67 (Pr. No. 1437) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in hunting and furtaking, repealing provisions relating to hunting on Sunday prohibited, providing for hunting on Sunday and further providing for the offense of trespass on private property while hunting and for hunting on Sunday without written permission.

SB 1087 (Pr. No. 1438) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Pennsylvania Game Commission, further providing for organization of commission; in game or wildlife protection, further

Culver

providing for report to commission officer and for surrender of carcass to commission officer; in hunting and furtaking, further providing for the offense of trespass on private property while hunting; and, in special licenses and permits, providing for agriculture access permit list.

HB 1409 (Pr. No. 1577)

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, further providing for power to set fees; and, in fishing licenses, further providing for license, permit and issuing agent fees.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Mastriano and Senator Argall.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Comitta and Senator Muth, and a legislative leave for Senator Haywood.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Aument requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Mastriano and Senator Argall.

Senator Costa requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Comitta and Senator Muth, and a legislative leave for Senator Haywood.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

JOURNALS APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journals of the close-out of the 207th Session on January 2, 2024, and the opening of the 208th Session on January 2, 2024, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the close-out of the 207th Session on January 2, 2024, and the opening of the 208th Session on January 2, 2024.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Regan.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Aument requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Regan. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

And the question recurring, Will the Senate agree to the motion? The yeas and nays were required by Senator AUMENT and were as follows, viz:

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journals are approved.

GUESTS OF SENATOR PATRICK J. STEFANO PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Fayette, Senator Stefano.

Senator STEFANO. Mr. President, I stand before you today with great pride as we recognize a remarkable group of young athletes who brought honor to our Commonwealth on a national stage. I am pleased to introduce the Connellsville Area High School Clay Target sporting clays team, who took first place overall in the USA High School Clay Target League's national tournament. In the fall, high school teams from across the country competed in the tournament, where this Connellsville team swept both the male and female categories. The team, coached by Ken Brooks, Paul Means, and Greg Martray, joins us here on the floor for a second time this school year, following another national title in the summer clays. I again applaud these young sportsmen and women for their collective talents, discipline, determination, and teamwork. Their sport demands so much precision and focus, and these students have shown that with hard work, excellence is possible. Their achievements, once again, reflect not only their individual talents, but also the skilled guidance of their coaches and the unwavering support of their families and the Connellsville community. And it is with great joy and a sense of hometown pride that I welcome them here today, and I ask that the Senate join me in congratulating the Connellsville Area High School Clay Target sporting clays team on their national champion.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Mastriano and Senator Regan have returned, and their temporary Capitol leaves are cancelled.

GUESTS OF SENATOR KRISTIN PHILLIPS-HILL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise to welcome today's guest Chaplain, Reverend Alison Bowlan-Kurland of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church in Spring Grove. Reverend Bowlan-Kurland first opened the Senate in prayer in 2021, and it is wonderful to have her back as we celebrate Women's History Month, as Reverend Alison is the first woman to serve the congregation at St. Paul's as pastor. Leading the congregation since 2018, she continues to serve her community by upholding the church's mission with support to other ministries of the church, local social service organizations, and always helping those in need with aid.

If you are in Spring Grove, I highly recommend a visit to St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church. Modeled after the great cathedrals of Europe, the building's stunning architecture features something very familiar to those of us in this building, and that is the Moravian tiles that make up their floor as well, just like here in our State Capitol. Serving its community for over 100 years, St. Paul is a pillar to the community, having blessed thousands of congregants throughout the years. Thank you, Reverend Kurland, for your meaningful prayer today. And joining Reverend Bowlan-Kurland today are her son, Simon, who is seated here on the floor; as well as her husband, Michael; her youngest son, Titus; and her uncle, Karl Aikey, who are in the gallery. Would my colleagues please join me in giving Reverend Alison Bowlan-Kurland and her family our warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Phillips-Hill please rise and be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR JAY COSTA PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I am honored today to welcome here the family of our beloved Lieutenant Governor, State Treasurer, Catherine Baker Knoll. Catherine Baker Knoll was a remarkable woman whose life story is deeply intertwined with the spirit of the city of Pittsburgh. Catherine, or Lieutenant Governor Knoll, was known in the region as "the Steel Woman of the Steel City." As a trailblazer who broke barriers and made history as Pennsylvania's first female lieutenant governor, she was born into a working-class family in the McKees Rocks section of Allegheny County, where Catherine learned the value of hard work and, most importantly, compassion from an early age. She married Charles Knoll, and together they raised six children, instilling in each of them the same values that guided her own life. Many of them, their spouses, and their own children are here today, as I mentioned, on the Senate floor with us: Charles Albert Knoll, Jr., Mina Baker Knoll and Phyllis Link, Albert Baker Knoll, Dr. Kim Eric Knoll; grandson, Charles Chase Knoll; and grandson, Charles Randolph Knoll.

As we honor Catherine's memory here in the Senate Chamber today, let us also celebrate the love and support she received from her beautiful family. They stood by her in her many endeavors and always offered encouragement and strength as she pursued her dreams. As a committeeperson in Allegheny County; our Commonwealth State Treasurer; and then, ultimately, lieutenant governor, she worked day in and day out to improve the lives of every Pennsylvanian--the people who call Pennsylvania home-for more than 40 years. From her work in housing at the forefront of many housing issues, in education, preservation, and certainly women's issues, her legacy is one of bottomless energy and a drive to serve people. Catherine's impact extended beyond politics, however. She was known for her tireless advocacy and philanthropic activities, always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need.

In closing, Mr. President, I would like to say, let us remember Catherine Baker Knoll not only as a political trailblazer, but as a beloved wife, mother, and friend to many in Pennsylvania. And I would also like to acknowledge the family of the late artist, Nelson Shanks, who created the portrait of Catherine that will be unveiled later today in the Lieutenant Governor's Office: wife, Leona Shanks; as well as two children, Alexander and Annalisa Shanks. And finally, Mr. President, I would like to thank you, Lieutenant Governor Davis, and your staff for hosting today's event and for taking the time to remember the indelible mark that Catherine Baker Knoll has had not only on this institution, but this Commonwealth as a whole.

Mr. President, as a personal note, I had the privilege of knowing Catherine Baker Knoll for probably better than 50 years. Chuck and I were reminiscing earlier outside in the Rotunda area, and having grown up knowing the Knoll family, her relationship with my late father was one of a number of relationships that I remember very vividly and the work that they did together and the challenges they had many times in this Commonwealth in the political arena. And I stop and think about some of the other folks who they were close with, certainly Seymore Heyison. We cannot forget the activity and the impact Seymore had on many folks. And I look around, I look at Senator Tartaglione, knowing the work that she did in the Treasurer's office years before. But Catherine Baker Knoll was one of those individuals who really was committed to public service and, as was mentioned, as a trailblazer, but somebody who really made a difference. Never forgot where she came from, never forgot she came from McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, and let people know that, but was so proud of the work that she was able to do and all the things she did here. And her time here serving as lieutenant governor, while it was short, was remarkable in my view, and it was wonderful to have the first female lieutenant governor in this Commonwealth from Allegheny County. We are certainly proud of the work that she has done, and I am honored to be able to have provided a few remarks today on behalf of her and look forward to being part of the portrait unveiling later this afternoon. And I want to thank the family for joining us here today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Before we recognize the family, there are a few more speakers.

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Mr. President, you know, Catherine Baker Knoll was a kind woman. The first time I met Catherine Baker Knoll, I was in the elevator at the State Office Building--and it was a transition between Schweiker and Rendell--and she is in the elevator, and, you know, I have not been involved in the process all that much then, and I was starstruck, and she was just such a nice woman. So, I followed her, you know--not followed her physically--and she was a kind woman who really cared about people, who was able to connect with people, and she was loved. And, you know, I want to welcome her family here also, and I do not want to miss the opportunity because I said her name--when I was first elected to pro tem--when I stood up there to give my speech, and I had the platform that raised me up because otherwise, you would not be able to see me. And I said, I want to thank Catherine Baker Knoll for, you know, short people like me being able to govern in this building. So, I just wanted to take a minute to say how much she was loved, how much she was respected, and what a kind, kind lady who cared about people she was.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator FONTANA. Mr. President, I certainly would like to echo Senator Costa's and Senator Kim Ward's comments and welcome the family of Catherine Baker Knoll and Nelson Shanks to our Chamber. I met Catherine back in 1999 when I was running for Allegheny County Council. And then, obviously after that, when I ran for Senate, Catherine -- a lot of great memories and fond memories--but she came out and endorsed me for that round, which was very controversial back at that time and certainly made a big difference--McKees Rocks, those in my Senate district--and what a big impact that made. It certainly made me proud of that endorsement back in the day. But, as time went on, Catherine supported me during that time by coming to functions and meetings in my district and would always show up, even with the dog sometimes, she would show up there. And it is hard to forget when she was lieutenant governor here, the invitations to go to the--not where you are at, but the other place--residence, especially over the 4th of July when, you know, negotiations, budget negotiations, would go on and on and we would take a little break around the 4th of July. Come on out and we will have a barbecue, and you know, a lot of good, good memories of Catherine. But again, I am so proud to represent McKees Rocks and where the Bakers and the Knolls were the center of the political world back then. And, you know, Catherine was the definition of "old-school politician." She knew everyone; she loved everyone; she loved working a crowd; and she was so dedicated to the people of Pennsylvania. So, I know that we are all looking forward to this afternoon and seeing the work of Mr. Shanks in the Rotunda. So, again, I want to thank the family for coming and the Shanks for doing this. I think it is a real honor for all of us. And I would certainly like, if there is no other speakers on this subject, one more? I am going to yield to Senator Tartaglione. Thank you very much.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, to the Knoll family, I want to say thank you for sharing your mother with us for all those years. All I can think about on the campaign is taking the pictures and then doing the letter that went out. She was known for that, but she was a very nurturing woman. I was young when I went to work at the State Treasurer's office, and she was a great mentor. She cared about people; her heart was so big; she loved her family; and she did it all with grace and finesse. She will never be forgotten because of who she was, but I am looking forward to the portrait unveiling at 1 o'clock. So, thank you.

The PRESIDENT. Would the family of former Lieutenant Governor Baker Knoll please rise and be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT. The Senate will briefly be at ease. [The Senate was at ease.]

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

GUESTS OF SENATOR SHARIF T. STREET PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise, appropriately this morning, to recognize a group of women from around the Commonwealth who joined us in the Capitol today to celebrate the portrait unveiling of former Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll, the Women in Blue. I am proud to join them in saluting one of Pennsylvania's greatest leaders, Catherine Baker Knoll, who served as the 30th Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, serving under Governor Ed Rendell from 2003 to 2008. We have heard a lot about her life story, but I want to say that she was a proud member of the Women in Blue, which was an auxiliary group for the Democratic State Committee. These women have joined us today because they remember Lieutenant Governor Baker Knoll and the work she did. Lieutenant Governor Baker Knoll, as you know, was the first woman to serve as lieutenant governor, and the Women in Blue are so proud of that and to this day, keep up her tradition. This was a group that she championed and expanded. And today, I salute the Women in Blue for their work and welcome them to the Chamber as they are here to honor former Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator L. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, today I have the honor to introduce the 2023 WPIAL Class AAA Girls' Volleyball champions, the Hampton School District Talbots. This talented group of young women are the first in the program's history to win a district title following a truly impressive season. Hampton went undefeated. In fact, they lost only three sets all season: two during their first week of competition and one midseason. They won their WPIAL match against North Catholic by sweeping all three sets. The Talbots finished with 36 kills as a team. Talbots senior outside hitter Emerson Schrom led all players with 15 points thanks to 12 kills and 3 service aces, while adding 13 digs defensively for a double-double. Setter Lilly Muczinski had 32 sets and 17 digs for the Talbots in the game, and senior Avery Koontz led Hampton with 24 digs. While Hampton lost in the PIAA finals, they had an absolutely outstanding season, going 25-0 into their last match. Senior Emerson Schrom will be heading to Duquesne University, recorded her thousandth career kill in the PIAA quarterfinals. And All-WPIAL senior Avery Koontz, who is headed to Pitt-Johnstown, recorded 290 digs. The Talbots will retain sophomore setter Lilly Muczinski, who already has more than 1,000 career assists, meaning that the Talbots will be a team to watch for years to come. The team is coached by second-year coach Dainen Holler. Please join me in giving the 2023 WPIAL Class AAA Girls' Volleyball champion Hampton Talbots our traditional warm Senate welcome.

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

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator Lindsey Williams.

Senator L. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I also have the honor today to introduce the 2023 PIAA Class AA Boys' Cross Country champions, the Hampton School District Talbots. After a tough fourth-place finish in the PIAAs last year, this year's team came into the season hungry for a win, and with seven of their top runners returning, they were ready. The Talbots took the season by storm, racking up a perfect 11-0 regular season record in Section 4-AA. They won their third consecutive WPIAL championship with a total of 59 points, with the second-place team coming in a distant second at 119 points. And for those of you who do not know cross country, it is a little like golf--you want the lowest score possible. At the PIAA finals, the Talbots scored 66 points, defeating defending State champion and fierce rivals Grove City by over 20 points to bring home their first PIAA cross country win in the program's history. Senior Dale Hall came in second place, covering the 3.1-mile course in 16 minutes and 12 seconds for the best finish by a Hampton runner since 1991. Other point scorers were junior Christopher Belch, senior Jacob Bonnar, Layne Haught, and junior Nathan Gardner. The team was coached by Dean Longwell. Please join me in giving the 2023 PIAA Class AA Boys' Cross Country champion Hampton Talbots the traditional warm Senate welcome.

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

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR GREG ROTHMAN PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cumberland, Senator Rothman.

Senator ROTHMAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the Cumberland Valley High School Cheer Team from my district, who joins us today in recognition of their recent accomplishments. Following the inception of the District III cheer championship, Cumberland Valley has won 14 consecutive titles, including the 2024 crown. This team then went on to win the PIAA State Championship this year, their 6th in 11 years. Not only has this team won titles six times, but they have also been a State finalist every year since the initial State championship in 2013. Head coach Kristi Shaffner and her dedicated team of assistants then led their 28 varsity cheerleaders to the High School National Championships in Orlando, Florida. Competing against over 100 teams from across the country, these varsity cheerleaders from Cumberland Valley placed 10th in the Small Division I Varsity division. I am honored to represent such a talented and dedicated group of young ladies and thank them for taking the time to visit us today. Please join me in providing our guests a warm Senate welcome.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

GUEST OF SENATOR RYAN P. AUMENT PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator AUMENT. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to introduce my guest for the day, Ms. Malini Sakrudkar. She is a student at Elizabethtown College and is slated to graduate in May of 2026 with a bachelor of science in political science. She has been learning about how public policy influences political ideas, institutions, and practices. And so, I am pleased to offer her the opportunity to be here with us today at the State Capitol while the Senate is in Session. Seeing State government at work has been a wonderful complement to the training she is receiving. Malini made the effort to get involved in local politics this past fall when she handed out materials for Manheim Township school board director, commissioner, and magisterial district judicial races. As you know, understanding the campaign process helps to paint the full picture of public service. She is also involved in Elizabethtown College, serving as the secretary of the College Republicans. When she is not studying or taking an active role in the political process, Malini volunteers her time with Unified Track. She supports student-athletes with disabilities who want to compete in track and field events by running with them to foster a safe environment. She worked at Giant as a cashier, Purple Turtle Consignment as an associate, and John R. Bonfield Elementary School as a teacher's assistant. Please join me in welcoming my guest, Malini Sakrudkar, to the Pennsylvania Senate.

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

[Applause.]

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

GUESTS OF SENATOR DOUGLAS V. MASTRIANO PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Mastriano.

Senator MASTRIANO. Mr. President, I am honored to introduce Mr. Ronald Zeigler, who is a Korean War veteran here on the floor. Prior to enlisting in the United States Navy-my dad was a Navy man, great service--he enlisted in 1951. He lived in New Cumberland and worked at the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Mr. Zeigler was a Parachute Rigger Third Class who was

stationed at the Air Transport Squadron at Moffett Field in California, flew as a steward on a DC-3 transport plane, and was stationed on the historic USS Yorktown, a great aircraft carrier. He received an honorable discharge from the Navy in 1955 and has been awarded the China Service Medal and the National Defense Medal. Service is not something new for the Zeigler family; his father served in the First World War in the Governor's Troop under General John J. Pershing's 28th Division--fantastic division; our division here still in Pennsylvania and our great National Guard. He was a machine gunner in the Battle of the Argonne--America's greatest battle--fighting to clear the half of the Argonne Forest in the Meuse Valley in constant combat for weeks on end from September 26 until the end of the war on 11 November at the 11th hour--historic division, great family legacy. Mr. Zeigler now lives in Glen Arm, Maryland, is joined by his lovely wife, Leonore, as well with his son, the Reverend Ron Zeigler, who offered the prayer for us today at our Medal of Honor service. It is an honor to welcome Mr. Zeigler, now 92 years young, and his family.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

[Applause.]

RECESS

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

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

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

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.

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 269, SB 346 and SB 365 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL REREFERRED

SB 667 (Pr. No. 1279) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156), known as the Local Option Small Games of Chance Act, in games of chance, providing for payment; and abrogating a regulation.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 831 and SB 832 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1054 (Pr. No. 1435) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, 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.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

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

On the question, Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Mastriano.

Senator MASTRIANO. Madam President, thank you for this consideration of Senate Bill No. 1054. Senate Bill No. 1054 requires EMS providers who encounter a suspected overdose to access an information technology platform to report and document the incident within 72 hours. The bill also requires the Department of Health to coordinate with the Pennsylvania State Police to ensure that real-time overdose reporting entered by an EMS provider into the information technology platform is promptly transferred to the Overdose Information Network known as ODIN. ODIN is a centralized database that enables the Commonwealth to quickly record, analyze, and share information concerning fatal and nonfatal drug overdoses. With such reporting, we are able to surge assets to areas that may have a poisoned batch of drugs.

This proposal was recommended by the State Police, who oversee the ODIN program, in a July 2023 report to the General Assembly. I would like to thank the Pennsylvania State Police, and the Department of Health, and the Bureau of EMS for their input on this legislation, and for their support of it. Access to realtime data helps public officials ensure that adequate overdose reversal drug supplies are available whenever law enforcement are surging in an area. Accurate real-time data also allows the ODIN system to send out overdose spike alerts.

Over 5,000 Pennsylvanians die annually from drug poisonings. Sadly, Pennsylvania still lags behind many of our neighboring States when it comes to tracking real-time overdose data, costing us more lives. EMS providers are responsible for handling over 80 percent of overdoses annually in Pennsylvania, and adding their real-time data input to ODIN will save lives. It is important to note that the vast majority of EMS providers are already inputting real-time data into an information technology platform within 72 hours. This bill will simply codify that and ensure that real-time data is promptly transferred into the ODIN system. It will not require duplicative entries or place any new burden on our EMS providers, and the amendments we made yesterday ensure that. The enactment of this legislation gives our Commonwealth another tool in the toolbox to help save lives as we continue to combat this overdose epidemic. I respectfully ask for an affirmative vote.

And the question recurring, Shall the bill pass finally?

Dush

Farry

Kearney

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

YEA-49

Argall Aument Baker Bartolotta Boscola Brewster Brooks Brown Cappelletti Collett Comitta Costa Culver

Dillon Langerholc DiSanto Laughlin Martin Mastriano Flynn Miller Fontana Muth Gebhard Pennycuick Haywood Phillips-Hill Hughes Pittman Hutchinson Regan Kane Robinson

Santarsiero Saval Schwank Stefano Street Tartaglione Vogel Ward, Judy Ward, Kim Williams, Anthony H. Williams, Lindsey Yaw

NAY-0

Rothman

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1058 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1111 (Pr. No. 1429) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, further providing for definitions and for sexual offenses and tier system.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

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

On the question, Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

Dillon Argall Aument DiSanto Baker Dush Bartolotta Farry Boscola Flynn Brewster Fontana Brooks Gebhard Brown Havwood Hughes Cappelletti Collett Hutchinson Comitta Kane Kearney Costa Culver

Langerholc Laughlin Martin Mastriano Miller Muth Pennycuick Phillips-Hill Pittman Regan Robinson Rothman

Santarsiero Saval Schwank Stefano Street Tartaglione Vogel Ward, Judy Ward, Kim Williams, Anthony H. Williams, Lindsey Yaw

NAY-0

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1120 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 1234 (Pr. No. 1325) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question, Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

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



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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1246, HB 1295 and HB 1661 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 99, SB 219 and **SB 250** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 358 (Pr. No. 1798) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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

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 363, SB 454, SB 501, SB 577, HB 663 and SB 801 --Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

SB 819 (Pr. No. 928) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in burglary and other criminal intrusion, providing for offenses relating to critical infrastructure facilities; and imposing penalties.

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

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 845 (Pr. No. 1278) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act establishing tourism improvement districts and tourism improvement district management associations; and providing for powers of counties, for powers of tourism improvement district management associations, for dissolution of tourism improvement district, for annual audit and report and for applicability.

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 975 (Pr. No. 1228) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assault, further providing for the offense of terroristic threats.

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 1014 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 1018 (Pr. No. 1275) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 2 (Administrative Law and Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in practice and procedure, providing for child victims and witnesses.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1021 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 1101 (Pr. No. 1427) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, 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.

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.

HB 1760 (Pr. No. 2144) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in intestate succession, further providing for forfeiture; in wills, further providing for modification by circumstances; in slayers, further providing for definition of terms, providing for elder abuser not to acquire property, further providing for descent, distribution, dower, curtesy, and statutory rights as survivor, for legacies, for tenancies by the entirety, for joint tenants, joint owners and joint obligees, for reversions and vested remainders, for interests dependent on survivorship or continuance of life, for contingent remainders and executory or other future interests, for powers of appointment, for proceeds of insurance, for bona fide payment by insurance company or obligor, for bona fide purchasers, for record of conviction as evidence and for preadjudication rule and providing for intent to transfer notwithstanding elder abuse; and making an editorial change.

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.

HB 1795 (Pr. No. 2211) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of September 26, 1951 (P.L.1539, No.389), known as The Clinical Laboratory Act, further providing for definitions and for exemptions.

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.

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

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

[MEMBER OF THE] STATE BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

March 13, 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 October 19, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve until June 15, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Burr Edsall, Camp Hill, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS

February 15, 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 the nomination dated December 15, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Funeral Directors, to serve for a term of five years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Andrew Chomko, Scranton, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

March 13, 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 February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice William Jones, South Abington Township, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

February 15, 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 the nomination dated December 20, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Edward Mihelcic, Indiana, resigned.

> JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

February 15, 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 the nomination dated November 6, 2023, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve until October 26, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Wolters, West Chester, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

February 15, 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 the nomination dated November 6, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve until November 16, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice William Swallow, Lewiston [sic], resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY

February 15, 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 the nomination dated December 15, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Podiatry, 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 Robert Weber, Trappe, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

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

February 15, 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 the nomination dated January 17, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Francis Stanton, Richboro, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 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 the nomination dated December 15, 2023, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, 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 Joseph Pasquarella, Fort Washington, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

SHERIFF, CAMERON COUNTY

March 13, 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 October 19, 2023, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Sheriff, in and for the County of Cameron, to serve until the first Monday of January 2024, vice Alan Neyman, resigned.

> JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

NOMINATIONS RETURNED TO THE GOVERNOR

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

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

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

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

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

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS

February 15, 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, Charles Snyder III, 70 Eshelman Road, Lancaster 17601, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Funeral Directors, to serve until June 8, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Andrew Chomko, Scranton, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

March 1, 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, Kathleen Hill, 3012 State Hill Road, Wyomissing 19610, Berks County, Eleventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Massage Therapy, to serve until October 9, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Vickiann Hicks, Stroudsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

February 15, 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, Ayanna Kersey-McMullen, 72 South Brighton Avenue, Upper Darby 19082, Delaware County, Twenty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve until November 16, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice William Swallow, Lewistown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

February 15, 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, James Latronica, 177 Glen Rape Road, Zelienople 16063, Beaver County, Forty-seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve until October 26, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and

qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Wolters, West Chester, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 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, R. Scott Hartman, 63 Spruce Drive, Gettysburg 17325, Adams County, Thirty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, to serve until June 8, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice David Matthews, Havertown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 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, Chandra Mast, 148 Mason Drive, Ephrata 17522, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, 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 Joseph Pasquarella, Fort Washington, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 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, Jonathan Schuck, 282 North Phoenixville Pike, Malvern 19355, Chester County, Forty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, 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 Randy Waggoner, Enola, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 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, Mark Smeltzer, 4603 Northridge Court, Murrysville 15668, Westmoreland County, Thirty-ninth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, to serve [for] a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

NOMINATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

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

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Senator BARTOLOTTA,

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

Which was agreed to by voice vote.

NOMINATIONS TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Madam President, I call from the table certain nominations and ask for their consideration. The Clerk read the nominations as follows:

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS

February 15, 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, Charles Snyder III, 70 Eshelman Road, Lancaster 17601, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Funeral Directors, to serve until June 8, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Andrew Chomko, Scranton, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

March 1, 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, Kathleen Hill, 3012 State Hill Road, Wyomissing 19610, Berks County, Eleventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Massage Therapy, to serve until October 9, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Vickiann Hicks, Stroudsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

February 15, 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, Ayanna Kersey-McMullen, 72 South Brighton Avenue, Upper Darby 19082, Delaware County, Twenty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve until November 16, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice William Swallow, Lewistown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

February 15, 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, James Latronica, 177 Glen Rape Road, Zelienople 16063, Beaver County, Forty-seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, to serve until October 26, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Wolters, West Chester, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 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, R. Scott Hartman, 63 Spruce Drive, Gettysburg 17325, Adams County, Thirty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, to serve until June 8, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice David Matthews, Havertown, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 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, Chandra Mast, 148 Mason Drive, Ephrata 17522, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, 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 Joseph Pasquarella, Fort Washington, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 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, Jonathan Schuck, 282 North Phoenixville Pike, Malvern 19355, Chester County, Forty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, 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 Randy Waggoner, Enola, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

February 15, 2024

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

Dillon

Dush

DiSanto

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Mark Smeltzer, 4603 Northridge Court, Murrysville 15668, Westmoreland County, Thirty-ninth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers, to serve [for] a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months bey that period.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

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

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

YEA-49

Argall Aument Baker

Langerholc Laughlin Martin

Santarsiero Saval Schwank

Bartolotta Farry Boscola Flynn Brewster Fontana Gebhard Brooks Haywood Brown Cappelletti Hughes Collett Hutchinson Comitta Kane Costa Kearney Culver

Phillips-Hill Rothman

Stefano Street Tartaglione Vogel Ward, Judy Ward, Kim Williams, Anthony H. Williams, Lindsey Yaw

NAY-0

A constitutional majority of all the Senators having voted "aye," the question was determined in the affirmative. Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RISES

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator J. WARD. Madam 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 67, SB 148, SB 416, SB 479, SB 659, SB 1051, SB 1056, SB 1087 and HB 1409.

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, MARCH 27, 2024

/ond	10:30 A.M.	VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (public hearing on the Norfolk Southern train derailment on the Pennsylvania border - one year after)	Darlington Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. 3590 Darlington Road, Darlington
		THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024	
s of	1:00 P.M.	EDUCATION (public hearing on delaying school start times)	Hearing Room 1 North Office (LIVE STREAMED)

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024

Off the Floor APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bills Rules Committee No. 667, 819, 831, 975, 1018, 1099 and 1101; Conference Room and House Bills No. 917 and 1795)

Miller Muth Pennycuick Pittman Regan Robinson

Mastriano

Conference Room

	and (1127)	Conference Room		
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024				
9:30 A.M.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bills No. 1132, 1133 and 1134; and House Bill No. 1477)	Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)		
10:00 A.M.	BANKING AND INSURANCE (to consider Senate Bill No. 1092)	Room 461 Main Capitol		
10:30 A.M.	VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (to consider Senate Bills No. 973, 1139 and 1145; and Senate Resolution No. 263)	0		
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024				
9:30 A.M.	URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING (to consider House Bills No. 775, 1207 and 1567)	Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)		
10:00 A.M.	LABOR AND INDUSTRY (to consider Senate Bills No. 761 and 1109)	Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)		

Off the Floor JUDICIARY (to consider Senate Bills No. 920 Rules Committee

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Madam President, I rise today because it marks 6,464 days since our Commonwealth last passed an increase in our minimum wage. We are getting left behind, Madam President, not only by our neighboring States on all sides, but also by private industry as well. Madam President, just last week, Allegheny Health Network announced it was raising its minimum hourly starting wage to \$18 an hour. This increase of up to \$4,000 a year will impact the lives of almost 1,700 workers across the [Allegheny] Health Network who make at or near their current minimum hourly wage of \$16 an hour. Madam President, as I have said time and time again: this is not an east or west issue or a big-city or small-town issue, it is a Pennsylvania issue; it is a moral issue. And look, I think too often our corporate leaders are undervaluing, underappreciating, and underpaying their workers. But when calling balls and strikes, it is important to highlight the leaders who are doing business the right way and treating their employees with the dignity all workers decide [sic]. I think Allegheny Health Network's president said it well in their statement announcing the wage increase: "At AHN, we recognize that there is no more valuable asset to our organization than the exceptional caregivers we employ across every discipline, and we are committed to rewarding them appropriately for the important roles they [all] play in helping us accomplish our mission."

All workers deserve to be compensated fairly for the role they play and the work they do. So, to Allegheny Health Network, thank you. Thank you for providing a wage workers can live off of. Hopefully, your actions will drive other employees to follow suit. To my Senate colleagues, we cannot continue to wait to raise our minimum wage. Our workers deserve better. And to minimum-wage and near-minimum-wage workers across our Commonwealth, I have not forgotten about you. I have not and will not stop fighting for each and every one of you so you can survive. We need to raise the wage, Madam President. As we enter this coming budget season, we must focus on the priorities that drive this Commonwealth forward, adequately address our minimum wage, and put our low-wage earners on a path to prosperity.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Franklin, Senator Mastriano.

Senator MASTRIANO. Madam President, Medal of Honor Day is held nationally on the 25th of March every year. In honor of Medal of Honor Day, we held a service in the East Wing Rotunda this morning featuring Pennsylvania's last surviving Medal of Honor recipient, Colonel Walter "Joe" Marm, [Jr.], Colonel, U.S. Army, retired. He received his Medal of Honor for actions in November of 1965 during the Battle of Ia Drang, made famous by Mel Gibson's movie, "We Were Soldiers." Meanwhile, in the Capitol Rotunda, we have poster boards of Pennsylvania's 60 most recent Medal of Honor recipients, and these are on display with their citation described and their unit as well. It encompasses men from all battlefields, from around the world, fighting for America's freedom. Whenever the cause of freedom and liberty has been threatened, we have had patriots in Pennsylvania willing to stand up and defend them. That was the case during an 8-yearlong Revolutionary War, when the fate of the nation hung in the balance, where there was a birth of freedom in Philadelphia. Another generation answered the call during the horrific Civil War, where Pennsylvanians served in a key turning point in Gettysburg, where there was a new birth of freedom. Pennsylvanians responded to the call in World War I, fighting in the Argonne and along the Marne River and bringing an end to that catastrophic war on 11 November 1918. Just a few decades later, Pennsylvanians again rose and answered the call to serve in Europe and the Pacific to defeat Nazism and militarism. When war broke out in Korea in 1950, Pennsylvanians once again answered the call, advancing freedom and liberty. Pennsylvanians served in the thousands of rice paddies and jungles and mountains of Vietnam. An entire generation of Pennsylvanians stood up to the Red Menace during the Cold War, giving Europe an unprecedented era of peace, longer than any other time in European history for central and western Europe since the Roman Empire. Pennsylvanians served as liberators in Iraq and defenders of freedom in Afghanistan. So many Pennsylvanians answered the call after the attack on 9/11 and seemly responding to the battle cry of Todd Beamer on Flight 93 that crashed in Somerset County, "Let's Roll."

In all these instances, Pennsylvania men and women answered the call to defend our nation and the values that we hold dear. They went as liberators, not conquerors. They went because it was the right thing to do. Pennsylvania has been blessed to have so many wonderful and courageous veterans, and we celebrate and recognize their sacrifice and their commitment and service to our nation. Jesus said in the gospel of John: Greater love has no man than this, but to lay down his life for a friend. Our veterans personify that call from Jesus. And yet in it all, there is one class of veterans that are set apart. There is a group of veterans who did more and gave more, and we know them as Medal of Honor recipients.

The Medal of Honor is America's highest award, created during the horrific Civil War to honor those performing exceptional feats of heroism. Pennsylvania is the home to many Medal of Honor recipients. As I mentioned earlier, whenever a country has

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needed them, Pennsylvania men and women answered the call to serve. Many of our patriotic Medal of Honor recipients served during historic turning points in our nation's history. Consider, for example, Chief Boatswain Edwin Joseph Hill from Philadelphia. Hill was awarded his Medal of Honor for his distinguished conduct and courage on the USS *Nevada* on 7 December 1941. And of the eight American battleships at Pearl Harbor on that horrific day, the USS *Nevada* was the only battleship to go underway, thanks, in part, to Chief Boatswain Hill's exceptional courage. Sadly, on that day, Hill was killed during the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor.

Less than a month before Edwin Joseph Hill gave his life at Pearl Harbor, a boy was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, named Walter Joseph Marm. Nearly 24 years after this, he would commit his own act of conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity and bravery in Vietnam at Ia Drang. Marm was then a first lieutenant with the United States Army serving with the 1st Cavalry Division. And as I mentioned earlier, you may be familiar with that action as it was featured in Mel Gibson's movie, "We Were Soldiers." The book and the movie are about this battle. Marm was a platoon leader in the 1st Cavalry Division in November 1965. His company was moving through the valley to relieve another platoon trapped by enemy forces. Marm's platoon came under heavy fire. During the action, Lieutenant Marm saw four enemy soldiers moving against him. He quickly eliminated the threat, and then he noticed an enemy machine gun position and he tried to take it out with a light anti-tank weapon. Having not completed the mission with that, Marm threw several grenades and attacked that position, eliminating all the enemy soldiers there. But during the action, he was shot through the face and medevacked out of the area, with months of recovery at Valley Forge Medical Center. His heroic effort eliminated about eight of the enemy's soldiers attacking his position. His heroic action and selflessness reduced the fire on his platoon and broke the enemy's attack, enabled his own unit to rally to complete the mission. While Joseph Marm's story is extraordinary, it certainly was not the last time a Pennsylvanian would perform heroic deeds.

The most recent Medal of Honor recipient to be awarded from Pennsylvania, it was U.S. Army Specialist [sic] Ross McGinnis. McGinnis was serving as a .50-caliber machine gun gunner on a Humvee with the 1st Platoon, "Charlie" Company, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division in northeastern part of Baghdad. In December 2006, his platoon was conducting combat operations to reduce enemy activity. While manning the machine gun, an insurgent threw a fragmentation grenade at him. Ross tried to beat it off, but it fell through the hatch, and he yelled "grenade," as he was trained, so the other men in the Humvee could escape, and he realized they would have no time to escape. So, giving up his own life so that those other four men could live, Ross McGinnis slid down into the hatch from the top of the Humvee and laid on top of the grenade, absorbing the blast, killing him immediately, but saving four of his fellow soldiers' lives. And, indeed, John 15:13, when Jesus says: Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends, that is personified in soldiers like Ross McGinnis from Knox, Pennsylvania. I ask veterans to share their stories, whether they had the Medal of Honor or not. The cost of freedom is not free, it comes through great sacrifice. We ask for God's blessing on all of our veterans, and may God continue to bless them and their families and the United States of America.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Muth.

Senator MUTH. Mr. President, I rise today to ask for support for Senate Resolution No. 247, which recognizes March 2024 as National Athletic Training Month in Pennsylvania. National Athletic Training Month is celebrated each March to help spread awareness about the important work of the athletic training profession and the care that they provide. This year's theme is called "From Head to Toe," highlighting the whole person, whole body care that athletic trainers provide to their patients. The first ever National Athletic Training Month took place in 2001, when it was established by the National Athletic Trainers' Association, also known as NATA. It was to celebrate every March, annually, an opportunity to spread awareness of the impacts athletic trainers have in work, life, and sport. Founded in 1950, NATA now represents and supports more than 45,000 athletic trainers across the country working in professional sports, colleges, universities, high schools, clinics, hospitals, corporate/industrial settings, performing arts, and every branch of the United States military.

Here in Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society, also known as PATS, has been an advocate for the athletic training profession and working to enhance patient-centered health care since their first meeting in 1976. In our Commonwealth, we have over 3,000 athletic trainers here providing healthcare and making sure our athletes are safe and all the performers and residents they take care of. Licensed athletic trainers have a long history of providing high-quality healthcare and applying evidence-based knowledge and skills to care for and protect people.

I want to mention that this week is extra special because we were able to pass on Senate Bill No. 559 and Senate Bill No. 560 with overwhelming bipartisan support, which will help modernize the Athletic Training Practices Act and allow licensed athletic trainers to practice to the full extent of their education and training. I am proud to have worked with so many wonderful healthcare professionals throughout my own career. And, as an athletic trainer, I want to say thank you to all the other athletic trainers who provide this care and do the hard work and hustle every day. So, happy Athletic Training Month.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES (CONTINUED)

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise today to speak a little bit about another one of our Senate Democratic priorities that we are outlining for this upcoming--rest of this Session--more importantly, this budget process. Mr. President, I am happy to report that the work that we are acknowledging and making a high priority relates to economic development in this Commonwealth. And what I am proud about is how it aligns very closely with what Governor Shapiro has laid out and set forth with an economic development plan. As we collectively begin to work and, hopefully, we will be able to pass legislation to allow us to continue to invest in our workers, our entrepreneurs, our innovators, and our business leaders.

Mr. President, I think we all know that Pennsylvania has the potential to lead the nation in cutting-edge technology, energy, and manufacturing, and these investments and these strategies which set forth in the economic development plan put forth by Senate Democrats and the Shapiro Administration prepares our Commonwealth well to capitalize on the incredible resources and succeed and how we can succeed across the board. Governor Shapiro's economic plan is critical to move forward, to move Pennsylvania forward as a leader in business and family-sustaining jobs. This is a vision where our workers have good jobs, our Commonwealth is attractive to new business, and our brightest minds can lead here and stay here as we go forward. I am excited that the work of the legislature can get done, and hopefully gets done, as we move forward that are in alignment with these priorities.

As mentioned previously, Governor Shapiro's plan has five main economic goals for Pennsylvania. First and foremost is investment in our economic growth to compete and prioritize economic development and invest that capitalize on Pennsylvania's strengths and results in real opportunities for our businesses, communities, and residents. Continue to make government work at the speed of business and ensure that all companies find an attractive business environment where they can innovate, they can thrive, and get responses from government on a reasonable timeline. Open doors of opportunities for all Pennsylvanians will increase pathways to the workforce that enable every Pennsylvanian to secure a family-sustaining job and have a meaningful career. Innovate to win, because innovators become the entrepreneurs and new discoveries enable our people and our Commonwealth and our companies to succeed. Build vibrant and resilient regions where every community flourishes. We focus on each region's diverse strengths, and localities can provide for the needs of the residents and our businesses.

Based on rigorous data-driven analysis, the Shapiro Administration will focus our resources in the following five key areas: agriculture, energy, life sciences, manufacturing, and robotics and technology. And, as I mentioned, Senate Democrats are committed to working alongside this administration and the work that they are trying to do with this economic development plan and join our Caucus priorities. And we encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, but more importantly, both sides of this building, to be able to come together to advance these economic investments we have talked about so important to our Commonwealth, and we look forward to that conversation concluding with our budget process on June 30.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Venango, Senator Hutchinson.

Senator HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I just wanted to stand up and acknowledge a true hero from Knox who was previously mentioned by another speaker. Specialist [sic] Ross McGinnis. And, as many times as I have heard the story of Ross McGinnis, the Medal of Honor winner, it still brings an ache to my heart for his family, for his community, and this country knowing that such a giving, thoughtful, brave young man would give his life for others. And I just--I thank the gentleman from Adams [sic] County for mentioning Ross McGinnis, and hope that we all realize how blessed this country is to have men and women of his caliber who are willing to give it all, generation after generation. May God bless the soul of Ross McGinnis, and may God continue to bless the United States of America. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair thanks the gentleman, and may God richly bless the McGinnis family.

BILL SIGNED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair wishes to announce the following bill was signed by the President pro tempore (Senator Kim L. Ward) in the presence of the Senate:

HB 1234.

RECESS

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, April 8, 2024, at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 12:26 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.