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THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024

SESSION OF 2024 208TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 26

SENATE

THURSDAY, June 27, 2024

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

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

PRAYER

The following prayer was offered by Senator LISA M. BOSCOLA:

It is very fitting that I give the prayer today. My mother had just passed away, and I just wanted, from the bottom of my heart, to say thank you to all my colleagues for offering your prayers.

Now, with that being said, let us pray.

Lord, please bless our Session today. We acknowledge that we do not always have clarity regarding what we should do. We need Your guidance and wisdom, especially now as we debate critical issues facing all Pennsylvanians and work to set policies that improve the lives of all. We pray for open hearts and minds to receive Your wisdom. May we have patience and willingness to listen and consider different ideas and perspectives. May You help us remember that we are all working collectively for the betterment of all Pennsylvanians. And while we may disagree, that collegiality and open-mindedness are crucial during these discussions. We pray for clear minds, efficient communication, and effective problem-solving. Please help us be productive and focused on our task at hand. In this we pray. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Senator Boscola.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

HOUSE MESSAGES

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE BILL

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 1084**, with the information the House has passed the same without amendments.

**HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS
TO HOUSE BILL**

The Clerk of the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House has concurred in amendments made by the Senate to **HB 1490**.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

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

SB 1242 (Pr. No. 1701)

An Act amending Title 63 (Professions and Occupations (State Licensed)) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers and duties, providing for continuing education tracking system.

SB 1255 (Pr. No. 1790) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of May 31, 2018 (P.L.123, No.25), known as the Outpatient Psychiatric Oversight Act, further providing for definitions.

HB 1619 (Pr. No. 2226)

An Act amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers and duties, providing for double utility poles.

Senator ARGALL, from the Committee on Education, reported the following bill:

HB 897 (Pr. No. 3424) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in transfers of credits between institutions of higher education, further providing for definitions and for duties of public institutions of higher education, providing for guaranteed admission and for reports to General Assembly and further providing for duties of department and for applicability.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

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

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

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

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pittman requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Baker and Senator Regan.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Haywood, and legislative leaves for Senator Muth, Senator Saval, and Senator Anthony Williams.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

CALENDAR

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

HB 2055 CALLED UP OUT OF ORDER

HB 2055 (Pr. No. 3241) -- Without objection, the bill was called up out of order, from page 9 of the Second Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN, as a Special Order of Business.

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

HB 2055 (Pr. No. 3241) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 22, 1931 (P.L.594, No.203), referred to as the Township State Highway Law, adding a route in Dauphin County and a route in York County.

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I move that House Bill No. 2055 be laid upon the table.

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

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The bill is laid upon the table.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

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

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

SB 1228 CALLED UP OUT OF ORDER

SB 1228 (Pr. No. 1651) -- Without objection, the bill was called up out of order, from page 8 of the Second Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN, as a Special Order of Business.

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED**

SB 1228 (Pr. No. 1651) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in employees, further providing for automatic certification.

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 2301 CALLED UP OUT OF ORDER

HB 2301 (Pr. No. 3405) -- Without objection, the bill was called up out of order, from page 9 of the Second Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN, as a Special Order of Business.

**BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED**

HB 2301 (Pr. No. 3405) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for special plates for recipients of Expeditionary Forces Medal, providing for special plates for recipients of Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, further providing for Distracted Driving Awareness plate, for special motorcycle plates related to veterans and for special plates for veterans and providing for special plates for recipients of Borinqueneers Congressional Gold Medal; and, 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.

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 a meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, followed by a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations, both to be held immediately in the Rules room, to be followed by a Republican caucus to be held in the Majority Caucus Room.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, at the conclusion of the two meetings, Senate Democrats will meet in the rear of the Chamber for a caucus.

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

AFTER RECESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (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.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 67 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 73 (Pr. No. 2125) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, providing for Operation Inherent Resolve veterans plate.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker [President], I think this bill is self-explanatory, but I want to talk for a minute, if you will indulge me, about the maker of the bill. Representative Joe Kerwin represents the 125th Legislative District in Dauphin County. He is currently Captain Joe Kerwin, deployed in

Operation Enduring Freedom in the Horn of Africa. He is an infantry officer with the 56th Stryker Brigade, a graduate of the Army Ranger and Army Airborne School, and is deployed with Task Force Paxton with the 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry. Captain Kerwin--this is a great bill recognizing his fellow veterans, but it is also an example of a legislator colleague of ours who is currently serving in harm's way. And I thank you for your support for his bill, and also that you would keep he and his men and women of his unit in your prayers.

Thank you, Madam President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 365, SB 375 and SB 522 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 645 (Pr. No. 1789) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, providing for ten-year limitation for acquiring title to vacant land for gardens in cities of the first class.

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-42

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

NAY-7

Coleman	Dush	Hutchinson	Rothman
DiSanto	Gebhard	Mastriano	

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 766, SB 795 and SB 812 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 840 (Pr. No. 1676) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act establishing the Alzheimer's, Dementia and Related Disorders Office and the Alzheimer's, Dementia and Related Disorders Advisory Committee.

Considered the third time and agreed to,
And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator BROWN. Madam President, today marks a significant step towards our efforts to support the many families affected by Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, otherwise known as ADRD. For nearly 2 years, I have worked alongside families in my district, advocates across the State, stakeholders, and legislators to get this proposal where it is today. Senate Bill No. 840 is in response to the countless constituents who have contacted my office, grappling with the heart-wrenching reality of Alzheimer's and dementia disorders by establishing a permanent ADRD division, an advisory committee within the Department of Aging. Currently, 280,000 of our seniors are living with Alzheimer's, and this number is expected to increase significantly

in the coming years. By 2025, we anticipate that number will rise to 320,000 and grow exponentially from there.

The financial statistics should also be known. In 2020, our State spent nearly \$3.7 billion in Medicaid costs caring for individuals with Alzheimer's and dementia. That number is projected to increase to more than 10 percent in just a few short years. The financial burden is not carried by our State alone. Families across Pennsylvania bear 70 percent of the total lifetime cost of caring for someone with dementia. This includes out-of-pocket healthcare expenses and the immense value of unpaid care, which in 2022 alone amounted to over [\$]10.7 billion provided by 404,000 unpaid caregivers in our State. These are not just statistics; these are our neighbors, they are our friends, they are our loved ones.

Each call or letter to my office has told a story of struggle, of love, and of unwavering commitment to caring for those who can no longer care for themselves. It is time we, as a State, build our approach that lacks the necessary coordination leading to inefficiencies and missed opportunities for comprehensive care and support. These entities will work together to bring stakeholders to the table, advocate for effective policies, and secure Federal funding as well. Our mission is clear, we must break down the bureaucratic barriers and foster collaboration across government agencies. I look forward to continued support and ask for an affirmative vote.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator COLLETT. Madam President, I rise today to offer comments in support of Senate Bill No. 840. This legislation, known as the Alzheimer's, Dementia and Related Disorders Act, which would establish a permanent ADRD Office and Advisory Council [Committee] in pursuit of quality care and support for individuals diagnosed with or treating a loved one with Alzheimer's, dementia, or another related disorder. Having worked as a bedside nurse in the long-term care setting, I have seen firsthand how much more challenging care can be for both the caregiver and the person receiving care when they are experiencing the effects of a disease like Alzheimer's.

We know that Pennsylvania has one of the largest aging populations in the nation. And with more than 280,000 Pennsylvanians aged 65 or older living with Alzheimer's, this disease and related disorders should be at the forefront of our healthcare advocacy in the Commonwealth. That is why I look forward to supporting this bipartisan legislation which will further address the needs of those experiencing the effects of Alzheimer's, dementia, and related disorders, along with their families and caregivers. I would like to thank Senator Brown for her work on this issue and for the support of the Shapiro Administration in crafting amendments and working collaboratively to ensure that Pennsylvanians and their families facing the challenges of ADRD will have appropriate and capable supports available. I urge my colleagues to join me in casting an affirmative vote.

Thank you, Madam President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEAS-49

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

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.

SB 913 (Pr. No. 1788) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for parental consent for virtual mental health services provided by a school entity.

Considered the third time and agreed to,
And the amendments made thereto having been printed as required by the Constitution,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator L. WILLIAMS. Madam President, I rise to submit my remarks for the record. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentlewoman from Allegheny, Senator L. WILLIAMS:)

Madam President, when thinking about supporting students and their mental health, my concern is the lack of access school-based professionals who have the appropriate training and certifications to treat children; if this bill sought to address that or even ensure that no one unlicensed or uncertified met with children virtually, I could understand that goal. However, this bill does not do anything about qualifications or licensure requirements for working with kids. This bill places obstacles in the path of mental health support at a time when we know that teens are at an increased risk for depression, anxiety, suicide ideation, etc. The fact is, there simply are not enough therapists in our schools or our communities to adequately meet the needs of our youth. Now, does that mean I am over the moon about addressing mental health needs by an app? No. An app or AI does not replace an experienced, school-based mental health professional. It is why, last Session, I fought to strengthen those pipelines, and this Session, I have a bill waiting in the Senate Committee on Education that would ensure that school counselors spend the majority of their time in schools actually counseling. But this bill does not do

anything to ensure that the mental health services students receive in school are in person, high quality, or by licensed professionals. Rather, it seeks to circumvent existing laws that give minors 14 years of age or old [sic] the ability to consent to their own outpatient mental health care. I am simply not willing to take away a support already in place that could be the first step a child takes to signal they need help and may help get them to the place where they can ask for it.

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

Senator LANGERHOLC. Madam President, I rise to ask for an affirmative vote for Senate Bill No. 913. Senate Bill No. 913 is quite simple. It requires parental consent prior to a school entity providing uncertified or unregulated behavioral health support. One thing that I had the personal experience to deal with during the pandemic as the chair of the Committee on Education was the dire need for mental health treatment. Having talked to various superintendents in the 35th Senatorial District, and asking during the pandemic, as well as during school safety and security committee meetings and hearings, was: what is the number one need in your schools? And overwhelmingly they responded: mental health. And I submit that that is not much different across this Commonwealth in each of your districts. And it makes sense, Madam President, that over that time--and it is hard to believe it has been 4 years now since the pandemic--but over those 4 years, the steps that this body has taken have been tremendous to address mental health needs, to have an increased appetite on both sides of the aisle for increased mental health support, as well as funding. And our efforts are commendable to what we have been able to do, but there is still much work to be done. And, to that end, it is important that we not only provide the funding, that we not only provide the resources, but we provide the right resources to mental health. We want to build proper foundations. We want to ensure that our children have the proper resources and that mental health is addressed.

This legislation--I want to be very, very clear--does not in any way affect any in-person school-based mental health or telehealth provided by a qualified licensed professional. That is untouched. This legislation will empower parents, simply giving them consent if mental health, as an evolving world that we have daily with technology evolving, we see different responses and different answers to different problems that we have. And what has happened is, in a rush to provide mental health treatment, some delivery models are peer support, or by those who do not have the qualifications, are unqualified professionals, or even, and scary to think, that potentially artificial intelligence could be guiding our children. That is very concerning. Now, to that end, this bill simply requires in those instances, those specific three instances--peer support community; counseling by unqualified professionals, as is laid forth in the bill; or behavioral health support by artificial intelligence--in those three instances only, if a school provides that, will a parent require to be notified and consent. If a parent still wants to allow their children to engage in those, they are free to do so. Would you want a root canal conducted by a lawyer? I can use that as being an attorney. I would not want to do that. It is not much--it seems incredulous to say that--but it is not much different. And I would submit it may be more damaging to allow the mental health of our children to be treated in this capacity. But, again, if a parent wants to take that route, they are free to do so. This simply empowers our parents to know, first of all, what

is happening, and second, to provide consent. I would ask for an affirmative vote.

Thank you, Madam President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Yaw.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Aument requests a legislative leave for Senator Yaw. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-28

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

NAY-21

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

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

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1031 (Pr. No. 1317) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, 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.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Haywood.

Senator HAYWOOD. Madam President, I rise on behalf of my colleague Senator Anthony Williams to offer remarks on his bill, Senate Bill No. 1031, of which I am a proud co-sponsor. Senator Anthony Williams introduced Senate Bill No. 1031 because currently, Pennsylvania's natural hair braiders are required to undergo at least 300 hours of cosmetology school, pass a computer-based examination, and pay for both school and professional licensing in the field. Unfortunately, due to the excessive burdensome nature of these requirements, many Pennsylvania residents are prevented from practicing this; they consider it a cultural, historical, racial, and geographic tradition. In 2018, the PA Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs conducted a study of overbroad licenses, which Governor Wolf decided that our State's licensing requirements for natural hair braiding were unnecessary and should be eliminated. That same year, Pennsylvania's acting Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs and Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs stated that no natural hair braider in the Commonwealth had ever received a complaint related to health or safety, and as such, recommended that all licensing requirements for natural hair braiders be repealed within the State.

In the surrounding States of Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, natural hair braiders are not required to obtain training or prior governmental approval. Overall, a total of 30 States do not require natural hair braiders to obtain occupational licenses. The following organizations are supporting this legislation: Philadelphia Community Legal Services, the Institute of [for] Justice, the Coalition of African and Caribbean Communities, Knee Regulator[y] Research, Young Americans for Liberty. In consideration of this information, Senator Anthony Williams believes it is time for Pennsylvania to end all licensing prerequisites for natural hair braiding, as these requirements are needlessly creating barriers to a valid occupation. On behalf of Senator Anthony Williams, I ask my colleagues to vote in the affirmative for this important legislation.

Thank you, Madam President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

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

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 1058, SB 1087, SB 1129, SB 1183 and SB 1232 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL OVER IN ORDER TEMPORARILY

SB 1260 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order temporarily at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 1477 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

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 third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator COLLETT. Madam President, I rise to support House Bill No. 1760 offered by my friend and colleague Representative Liz Hanbidge and Representative Paul Schemel, which would expand the Slayer Statute to cover elder abuse crimes. As a member of the Elder Justice Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Courts, I have had the privilege and honor to work with advocates, members of the justice system, Secretary Kavulich, and Chief Justice Todd on the variety of issues the courts and aging Pennsylvanians face. Regrettably, there have been cases brought to the court's attention where an individual has been convicted of elder abuse and yet still benefited from the estate of those they abused. Title 18 already provides for the Slayer Statute, which prohibits

individuals convicted of murder from benefiting from the estate of those they have murdered. House Bill No. 1760 extends this means of justice to victims of elder abuse and has been a legislative priority for the advisory council. I am grateful for the work of Representative Hanbidge and Representative Schemel for bringing forward this bipartisan legislation and for Damian Wachter at the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts for working to resolve this matter of law over the past several legislative Sessions. I urge my colleagues to join me in casting an affirmative vote so we can uphold justice and deliver this bill to the Governor for his signature.

Thank you, Madam President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1889 and HB 2161 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL REREFERRED

HB 2233 (Pr. No. 3164) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in miscellaneous provisions relating to operation of vehicles, further providing for accident scene clearance.

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

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 117 and SB 349 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 450 (Pr. No. 418) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 23, 2002 (P.L.298, No.39), known as the Main Street Act, further providing for the duration of grants.

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

HB 491 and SB 580 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 816 (Pr. No. 2732) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in rules of the road in general, providing for removal of vehicles in a city of the first class.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, AMENDED AND REREFERRED

HB 829 (Pr. No. 3417) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in Pennsylvania liquor stores, further providing for sales by Pennsylvania liquor stores; in licenses and regulations and liquor, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages, further providing for sales by liquor licensees and restrictions, for interlocking business prohibited and for relating to liquor and alcohol (not including manufacturers), for extension of licensed service area and issuance of off-premises catering permits, for malt and brewed beverages manufacturers', distributors' and importing distributors' licenses, for interlocking business prohibited relating to malt and brewed beverages (including manufacturers) and for Pennsylvania Malt and Brewed Beverages Industry Promotion Board, repealing provisions relating to surrender of club licenses for benefit of licensees and further providing for surrender of restaurant, eating place retail dispenser, hotel, importing distributor and distributor license for benefit of licensee, for Pennsylvania Wine Marketing and Research Program Board, for unlawful acts relative to malt or brewed beverages and licensees, for hours of operation relative to manufacturers, importing distributors and distributors, for unlawful acts relative to liquor, malt and brewed beverages and licensees and for premises to be vacated by

patrons; and, in distilleries, wineries, bonded warehouses, bailees for hire and transporters for hire, further providing for limited distilleries and distilleries and providing for Pennsylvania Distilled Spirits Industry Promotion Board.

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

SANTARSIERO AMENDMENT A5284 ADOPTED

Senator SANTARSIERO offered the following amendment No. A5284:

Amend Bill, page 23, line 16, by striking out "AND" where it occurs the second time and inserting a comma

Amend Bill, page 23, line 16, by inserting after "(V)": and (vi)

Amend Bill, page 25, by inserting between lines 6 and 7:

(vi) Notwithstanding subclause (i) or any other provision of law, a limited winery may offer to nonlicensees discounted pricing on products that the limited winery may sell for off-premises consumption and may condition the pricing on the purchase of a specific amount of alcohol.

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

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Madam President, this amendment will make a simple clarification that limited wineries are permitted to advertise quantity discounts to the general public. Currently, wineries are able to sell to the general public cases or more at prices below the total that individual units would cost if bought separately. However, they are not able to advertise these products as a percentage reduction or as special offers, which is an outdated rule. This amendment will provide a clarification that wineries can advertise what they are currently already permitted to do. We worked with the PLCB to write this amendment, have Pennsylvania State Police sign off, and the Pennsylvania Winery [Wine] Association is supporting the amendment, and my understanding is this is an agreed-to amendment.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

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

YEA-47

Table with 4 columns of names: Argall, Aument, Baker, Bartolotta, Boscola, Brewster, Brooks, Brown, Cappelletti, Collett, Comitta, Costa, Culver, Dillon, Dush, Farry, Flynn, Fontana, Gebhard, Haywood, Hughes, Hutchinson, Kearney, Langerhole, 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-2

Coleman DiSanto

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

On the question,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on second consideration, as amended?

It was 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, as amended, was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILL OVER IN ORDER AND LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 841 (Pr. No. 1591) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of August 15, 1961 (P.L.987, No.442), known as the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act, further providing for definitions, for specifications, for prevailing wage and for duty of secretary.

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 988 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Senator COSTA asked and obtained leaves of absence for Senator STREET and Senator COMMITTA, for the remainder of today's Session, for personal reasons.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 1026 (Pr. No. 1592) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, 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.

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

SB 1026 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, I move that Senate Bill No. 1026, Printer's No. 1592, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 1032 (Pr. No. 3415) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act establishing the Solar for Schools Grant Program; and providing for powers and duties of the Department of Community and Economic Development.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 1118 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

SB 1160 (Pr. No. 1524) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 38 (Holidays and Observances) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in veteran recognition, providing for Vietnam War Veterans Day.

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 1171 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 1201 (Pr. No. 3394) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for consumer data privacy, for duties of controllers and for duties of processors; and imposing penalties.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 1208, SB 1230, SB 1251, SB 1271 and SB 1274 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

HB 1443 (Pr. No. 3416) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Statewide Advisory Council on Playground Safety; and providing for duties of the Statewide Advisory Council on Playground Safety.

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

HB 1730 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

HB 2310 (Pr. No. 3408) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Agriculture Innovation Grant Program and Agriculture Innovation Board.

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.

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

SB 1260 CALLED UP

SB 1260 (Pr. No. 1738) -- Without objection, the bill, which previously went over in its order temporarily, was called up, from page 4 of the Third Consideration Calendar, by Senator PITTMAN.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1260 (Pr. No. 1738) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act prohibiting the State Treasurer, the State Employees' Retirement System, the Public School Employees' Retirement System and the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System from boycotting or

divesting from Israel; and prohibiting funding to an institution of higher education that engages in a boycott against or divestment from Israel.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Madam President, I rise in support of Senate Bill No. 1260. And if you were to look at this Chamber and label a profile in courage, I would look no further than the good gentleman from Bucks County who is co-prime sponsoring this legislation with me. How did we get here to this point on June 27 to find bipartisan common ground on legislation that would prohibit State divestment from our country's number one ally in the Middle East? Two hundred and sixty-four days ago, there was a group of innocent Israelis, many of them young--they were enjoying the Nova Music Festival--when a group of Hamas terrorists breached the Gaza border and opened fire on concertgoers and innocent Israeli civilians. On October 7, more than 1,000 innocent Israelis were murdered at the hands of the Palestinian militant group. Dozens upon dozens were taken hostage. A newborn baby, only 14 days old; a 94-year-old woman, murdered at the hands of Hamas. As our nation's number one ally in the Middle East, the United States of America has always stood with Israel. President Harry Truman was the first world leader to recognize Israel as an independent State more than 76 years ago. Since then, we have been Israel's largest global trading partner, and when Israel needed its number one ally most, we were there. Our Treasurer doubled down her support of Israel and purchased \$20 million in Israeli bonds. We currently hold more than \$55 million in Israeli-based investments through our State treasury. Subsequently, following Israel's response to the attacks of October 7, protests have taken hold across the State and nationwide supporting the outright destruction of Israel.

I do not think anyone in this Chamber opposes freedom of religious expression. In fact, this Chamber was unified when we said that the First Amendment right does not end when an educator enters a classroom and wishes to wear a religious emblem of his or her faith. But where we draw the line is when we call for the entire eradication of a group of people based simply on their religion. Protesters on college campuses calling for the outright destruction of an ally of the United States. It is unacceptable. Jewish students who attend those very colleges, they had to resort to hiding in their dorm rooms and their apartments because of death threats levied against them by fellow students, even some professors, simply for their faith. Former University of Pennsylvania President Magill could not say that these protests, which included calls for the genocide of Jews, violated a code of conduct on harassment or qualified as bullying. This university, named after the very person who sought religious freedom and tolerance. And let me be clear, anti-Semitism in any form must never be tolerated. These protesters want to threaten, to intimidate, and bully the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and colleges across the State to divest its investments in Israel. And like Israel, we will not be bullied. Israel is the only true democracy in a very volatile region of the world. And when we turn our back on our ally in their most challenging moment, what message does that send to the world?

We are the greatest nation in the world, and today is our moment as a Commonwealth to show that we will always stand for our allies, and we will not be bullied or threatened in the face of adversity. Most importantly, we will continue to stand for religious toleration as a Commonwealth the way our founder, William Penn, intended and stand against anti-Semitism.

I want to thank the good gentleman from Bucks County for working with me on this bill. We do not agree on every issue, but he has always had my respect for his thoughtful and pragmatic approach to solving issues that are important to his district and our Commonwealth. Today, he showed a profile in courage, and for that, I thank him, and I respectfully ask my colleagues to cast an affirmative vote for Senate Bill No. 1260.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator COSTA. Madam President, on behalf of our colleague Senator Nikil Saval, I would like to offer his remarks for the record.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

(The following prepared remarks were made part of the record at the request of the gentleman from Allegheny, Senator COSTA, on behalf of the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator SAVAL:)

Madam President, I rise today in opposition to Senate Bill No. 1260. In the wake of the extreme horror of Hamas' deadly attack on Israel on October 7, and of Israel's continued devastation of Gaza, incidents of anti-Semitic, Islamophobic, and anti-Arab hatred have skyrocketed across our country. I am certain that every one of us here in this Chamber has heard from constituents who have either been directly harmed or who now live in increased fear for their well-being and the well-being of their neighbors and communities. I recognize, here in our Chamber, a strong collective desire to stop these acts of hatred, to free all the hostages, to end the violence against Israeli and Palestinian people, and instead, to create a world that is safe for all of us. It is my belief and my fear that the passage of this bill will do the opposite.

Since October 7, nearly 38,000 people have been killed and more than 86,000 have been wounded in Israel's war on Gaza. In addition, 21,000 children are unaccounted for. Nearly all of Gaza's population--its 2.3 million residents--have been displaced. The following data, collected by the Associated Press, is from more than 2 months ago, and so the figures are assuredly higher--percentage of buildings likely damaged/destroyed: 55.9 percent; percentage of homes likely damaged: more than 60 percent; percentage of school buildings damaged or destroyed: 90 percent; hospitals that are functioning: 10/36; Palestinian civilians facing catastrophic food insecurity, according to the U.N.: 1.1 million; percentage of northern Gaza children under age 2 who are actually malnourished: 31 percent; percentage of students out of school: 100 percent.

All of this violence, all of this destruction, is enacted within the confines--141 square miles. Gaza is just 25 miles long--the distance from Philadelphia to Phoenixville, from Harrisburg to York, from Wilkes-Barre to Hazleton. Israel's war on Gaza is taking a catastrophic toll. This war is a superlative war, leaving experts, humanitarian aid workers, and investigators struggling to convey the scale of destruction. In response to a military strike on Rafah on May 26, a doctor volunteering in Gaza treated the injured and sent this message to his colleagues: "In all my years of humanitarian work, I've never witnessed something so barbaric, so atrocious, so inhumane. These images will haunt me forever...and will stain our conscience for eternity." Under these circumstances of extreme death and destruction and incalculable suffering that exceeds any other moment in our recent history, I think it is right to prevent money from flowing to support this conflict. Results from poll after poll after poll show that the majority of Americans want a ceasefire. As legislators, we need to represent our constituents. Moreover, though it

may be painfully obvious to express, a goal of safety can only be achieved for everyone with the cessation of violence.

The bill at hand prohibits simple, nonviolent protest and encourages institutions to repress those who depend on them under threat of penalty, thus creating a level of State control at stark odds with our professed valuation of freedom. In our country, there is historical precedent for withholding money from Israel to influence the direction of a conflict. Past U.S. Presidents, including Dwight Eisenhower in 1953, Ronald Reagan in 1981, and George H.W. Bush in 1992 have threatened to withhold funding to Israel in particular. The war on Gaza shows no signs of slowing. Right now, whole families have been slaughtered. The United Nations estimates it would take 80 years to restore all the fully destroyed housing. We know that there are figures in the Israeli government who desire for the conflict to go much further. In May, The Times of Israel reported calls from far-right members of Israel's government at a rally for Palestinians to leave their homes in Gaza, a voluntary emigration, and to build Israeli settlements. Are there not future circumstances for which we would want to preserve the possibility for us to respond? Is our ability, our freedom, to use our dollars as a tool to demand peace something that we should really consider stripping away?

I share my colleagues' desire for a world free from anti-Semitism, Islamophobic, and anti-Arab hatred. I share my constituents' overwhelming desire for a ceasefire. I share with all here in this Chamber a hope for lasting peace and prosperity wherever there is suffering. In our current system, our dollars are our most powerful votes for peace. I cannot support a bill that would take away our freedom to cast these votes. I will be voting "no" on Senate Bill No. 1260, and I ask my colleagues to join me.

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Madam President, as my colleague rightly stated, 264 days ago, on October 7, the horrors and butchery and barbarism of vicious terrorists unimaginable occurred against the people of Israel. I have been to war and war zones in Bosnia and Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan, and what I saw in those images and those GoPros taken by those vicious terrorists was worse than what I have seen on the battlefields defending my country. I could not watch those horrors, and I had to avert my eyes. Some of the images I saw were torturous and are reoccurring nightmares. I cannot imagine being one of the family members, one of those survivors, one of those who escaped the rape and mutilation and torture. The loss of life for Israel on October 7 was worse than our 9/11. For comparison, population wise, it would be a loss of life for them equal to 30,000 of our own people. It is an existential threat they are facing launched by vicious terrorists--worst loss of life for the Jewish people since the Holocaust.

You would think in light of the horrors, the evil, the demonic attitude by these terrorists, that the world would stand with Israel in the aftermath. But, as we have seen, so many international organizations, that is not the case. After 9/11, we had a level of unity and resolve and support unmatched in modern history. But in the United States and in Canada, and in Europe, and even here in the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, we have seen mass protests condemning Israel, talking about a genocide from the river to the sea of the people of Israel. We have seen calls for divestments, boycotts, and the loudest of those voices being on many of our college and university campuses subsidized by our taxpayers. Strategically, Israel is our greatest ally and friend in the region. Only democracy in the area--I visited Israel twice. I worshiped with Christians and Jews in the country and did not look over my shoulder, felt just as safe there as far as exercising freedom of religion as I would here in Pennsylvania. Israel is indeed facing an existential threat. They deserve and need our support in this dark time. I applaud the excellent work of our State Treasurer,

Stacy Garrity, who enthusiastically supports this Senate bill, but also with her move to secure \$20 million in bonds from Israel to physically help them.

It is heartbreaking as we look across Pennsylvania and the United States and the Western world where we are seeing a 400 percent increase in anti-Semitism in these continents. I have spoken with many Jewish students who visited me here in the Capitol as well as in my district, and many of these young Jewish people at school do not feel safe on campus. And I just cannot believe that. This is the United States, and regardless of your creed, you should be able to walk as free people and not look over your shoulder wondering if you are going to get jumped because you have a yamaka on. This is reprehensible to me. The testimony of University of Penn President Magill last December before Congress--it was appalling to me when she refused to condemn anti-Semitism on her campuses or to take any action to protect her Jewish students. This is America, and this is Pennsylvania, where the light of liberty was lit in 1776 in Philadelphia, where we had a new birth of freedom in Gettysburg, and where, on our own 9/11, we had Todd Beamer stand up and fight against terrorists and said, "let's roll." So, let us come together in support of this excellent bill, and let us stand with our ally, and let us continue to walk as free people.

Thank you, Madam President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Baker has returned, and her temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Haywood.

Senator HAYWOOD. Madam President, I rise to share some serious concerns regarding the legislation that is before us today. I want to be clear; I stand with Israel and its right to exist. I stand for the release of all hostages, and I am opposed to the violence against women and children, the killing of civilians, and against the rise of anti-Semitism here in the United States. I also stand for the right of Palestine and Palestinians to exist. I rise against the killing of civilians, especially women and children. I stand against what the UN has said may be the use of starvation as a weapon of war. Madam President, I also support our 2016 legislation, where we in the General Assembly passed legislation to prohibit efforts to destabilize Israel with boycotts and divestments and more to make it difficult, in fact, prohibit organizations that receive contracts from Pennsylvania to engage in this destabilizing boycott and divestment movement. That was in 2016, and I stand in support of that legislation today. Madam President, I also stood against the 7 October massacre that has been referred to by my colleagues. I did introduce Senate Resolution No. 197, which was to condemn the attacks as well as call for the release of all hostages and the beginning of humanitarian aid, and most importantly, a just and lasting peace.

Since that time, the war has devastated both Israel and Gaza. In my conversations, both sides feel like they are on the verge of annihilation--both sides. For me to stand with Israel is to stand for peace, to stand for an immediate ceasefire, the release of all

hostages, the stop of starvation, and the end of the war. Now is the time to incentivize peace, as the Biden Administration is doing, to let Israeli and Palestinian leaders know that it is now time for an immediate ceasefire. It is now the time to release the hostages and provide humanitarian aid. It is the time to send signals that there is no alternative to peace.

Madam President, I am very concerned that this legislation will restrict some of the speech that some of my colleagues are so concerned about. According to the ACLU of Pennsylvania, this legislation raises constitutional concerns that will have a chilling effect and go against some of our First Amendment values. Now, we do not have to agree with everyone, with their First Amendment speech, in order to protect it. We also, Madam President, must recognize that Israel cannot achieve peace alone. Hamas, too, has a duty to drive for peace. Further war, death, and destruction will not bring the hostages home, only peace will. War will not end the starvation and near famine in Gaza, only peace will. I finally, Madam President, want to thank all those who spent time talking with me about their serious concerns regarding my vote, this legislation, and the difficult and painful positions here and abroad. For these reasons, Madam President, I plan to vote "no" on this legislation. Thank you.

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

Senator DUSH. Madam President, on Tuesday, it was my privilege, as chair of the Committee on State Government, to convene a voting meeting to successfully advance Senate Bill No. 1260, the Stand with Israel Act. This act would prohibit the Commonwealth from divesting or boycotting the State of Israel and Israeli-based companies. This includes the PA Treasury, the State Employees' Retirement System, Public School Employees' Retirement System, and Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System. Make no mistake, the Stand with Israel Act will not prevent these entities from seeking higher rates of return in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibilities, nor would it prevent private individuals from exercising the right to think and act as they want with their words and their money. But when it comes to stewarding Pennsylvania's resources, I fully support aligning our financial practices with our moral values. In the wake of the October 7 attacks 264 days ago, we saw people boasting, taking videos and boasting of what they were doing to these innocent women and children and young men, committing violent acts against them. And for some reason I cannot fathom, we have people who are standing with those folks--people who are sodomizing and raping women and children, boys and girls--we have people actually standing behind those people. They have taken over our campuses saying that what was done by those terrorists was the right thing to do, and they have been putting pressure on universities and on businesses and others to divest from Israel in order to help financially starve Israel to the point of submission to those who would do violence against their citizens.

When I was serving in the Middle East, there were those who were Muslim with whom I interacted. One colonel in particular who I can remember, he was talking about the "People of the Book." In this case, he was referring to us as Christians, but talking about how we can live in peace with one another--Arab, Muslim, Christians, Jews. And you see that in Jerusalem. You see that in other places. The people who are talking about "from the river to the sea" are talking about wiping Israel off the face of the map.

Emperor Hadrian tried to do that years after even Jesus was walking this Earth by creating the name Palestine and prohibiting references to the Jewish faith and Hebrews. There have been attempts over and over and over again against God's people. God has said that those who condemn Israel, he will condemn, and he will bless those of us who stand with Israel. I stand with Israel. I stand with the Jewish people. They have a right to that land which God gave them, and it predates any reference to Palestine by centuries. The fact that we have people who are trying to force our State government, our State entities, to help starve them out, that is unconscionable, and that is why I stand with the gentleman from Bucks County and the gentlelady from York County on this bill. I ask my colleagues to support Senate Bill No. 1260.

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

Thank you, Mr. President

LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Kane has returned, and his personal leave is cancelled.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Muth.

Senator MUTH. Mr. President, I am actually going to submit my remarks for the record, but we will send them via email because there is a typo in one of my sentences. So, thank you.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

[Remarks were never submitted.]

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington, Senator Bartolotta.

Senator BARTOLOTTA. Mr. President, I thought it was important that I rise and speak about this legislation. I have many friends in Israel. I have spent time there. I have been in Tel Aviv; I have been in Akko; I have been in Safed; I have been in many places. I speak regularly with my friends from Israel on almost a daily basis right after October 7, wondering if they were okay, getting updates on WhatsApp, et cetera, et cetera. To think that this country, after World War II, was so adamant about saying never again; never again would we treat the Jewish people the way they had been treated and literally massacred in Germany and other places, rounded up and brutalized. It was a horrific blot on humanity worldwide because so many thought, well, it is not happening to me. You know, I will not speak up. It is not that bad; it is not this; it is not that; oh, they are exaggerating or any of those things. What is happening in Israel is not an exaggeration. We know. We have video; we have people; we have testimony; we have witnesses who will tell you clearly that Hamas does not care about the Palestinian people. That is not what this is. It is not Palestine versus Israel. That is not what we are talking about. It is about a maniacal, horrific group whose sole mission, whose sole purpose is to annihilate an entire group of people no matter

where they are. Peace comes when hostages are released. Peace comes when attackers and warmongers and those who have brutalized over 1,200 innocent civilians in a country who were celebrating at a concert are held accountable.

We know from evidence and reports, firsthand reports in Gaza, that there are massive tunnels that have been being built for decades and decades, huge tunnels as large as highways, all underground, oftentimes popping up in places in Israel. And this is what Mossad and others and the Israeli army are always mindful of and always on the alert and always on high alert, wondering if today is the day that they are going to be killed. We know that Hamas has been using their citizens and weaponizing their citizens by hiding underneath hospitals, by hiding underneath schools, by using their citizens as human shields, and by confiscating caravans of medication and food and relief. Hamas is brutalizing their own citizens to their own end. We must stand with Israel. They are the last bastion of democracy in the Middle East. They are our allies. To turn our back on our ally is to turn our back on innocent civilians who, through no fault of their own, are being--they are being attacked with a mission to wipe them off the face of the Earth. There is no negotiating with terrorists.

If we acted on 9/12/ 2001 the way that some people want Israel to act today, I think the American people would have revolted. How dare you have terrorists come and attack our land, in our home, and kill over 3,000 innocent people? What if the rest of the world--what if other countries told America: oh, just, just be peaceful, have a ceasefire, it is okay? Our hair would be on fire. We would never tolerate that. And the more than 1,200 innocent lives that were taken in 1 day on October 7, 2023, in Israel, if you make an equivalent percentage of that kind of death in America, we would be looking at over 60,000 innocent Americans killed in a day. Would we tolerate that? Would we hear other countries say, oh, let us broker peace, let us broker peace? If hundreds and hundreds of our citizens were being held hostage--absolutely not. That is why we must support Israel. We cannot weaponize Pennsylvania tax dollars and, in any means, allowing any of our tax dollars to fund and fuel entities that may boycott or divest from Israel. That is not what our taxpayers expect of us. Let us not use our tax dollars to weaponize and politicize any kind of message ever, but in particular, with our number one ally in the Middle East who relies on us for support. That is my message.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, I rise in support of Senate Bill No. 1260. The issue before us today is not that much different from what this body sought to do and undertake following the invasion of Ukraine by Russia on February 24, 2022. On February 25, 2022, my colleague Senator Street introduced a bill to divest Pennsylvania from Russia in support of Ukraine. The two bills moved through both Chambers, one to prohibit any Russian connections with Pennsylvania government investments, grants, and tax credits, and another to require divesting State investments in Russia. I supported these bills then because Ukraine is our friend and our ally, and they were viciously attacked. Today's vote is not that much different for me. My parents taught me from a very young age, loyalty matters. Always back your allies. You back your friends. On October 7 this year [sic], Israel was viciously attacked, hostages were taken, and many have not

returned. Countless innocent lives were lost. Women and children were raped and mutilated, some during the rape itself. The loss of life was the single greatest loss of Jewish life since the Holocaust. The response by Israel was to be expected. They are fighting for the return of their hostages and to protect their people from future attacks by Hamas, a terrorist organization that has made the eradication of Israel and the Jewish people a central tenet of their government and mission.

However, unlike the vote to divest in Russia or prohibit investments with those having connections with Russia, that is not an option in this case. Hamas has been an enemy of the United States since 1997, when it was designated a terrorist organization. There is no American investment in Hamas or the countries that support their efforts to destroy Israel that we can disinvest from because of their acts of war. Instead, we need to stand up and to combat people here who seek to weaken Israel by protesting private and public investments in one of our strongest allies. Strong-arm tactics to force disinvestment is not okay. War is hard, and I want war between Hamas and Israel to end. My father was a Marine. He served our country. So, I understand at some level that the task at hand of war is very complicated. So, while I do pray for peace sooner rather than later, I do support Israel's right to defend themselves, to defend their people. They were not the aggressor on October 7 and Hamas has made it very clear their intentions to destroy Israel. As I noted earlier, I stand with my friends. Israel is one of our greatest allies and, without a doubt, our most important ally in the Middle East. So, I am proud to stand with Israel today, just as I was so proud to stand with Ukraine in 2022.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator SCHWANK. Mr. President, I want to say, first, I am heartened by the comments of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in support of Israel. I can tell you, as the good Senator from Washington County--I think it is Washington and Fayette--told us, she has many friends who are Israeli. I do as well, and relatives, and I can tell you that what happened on October 7 shook that country to its core, and the country still has not recovered. So, to hear this support in the face of great criticism, almost consistently in the media, is very heartening. My colleagues, also, I think, aptly described the horrific events that occurred on October 7. Hamas militants attacked Israel, killing more than 1,100 people and kidnapping roughly 250. In response, Israel did what it had to do, it fought to defend itself, to beat back terrorists who had bloodlust on their minds. And almost immediately, protests erupted at college and university campuses in Pennsylvania, as well as across this country and worldwide, quite frankly. And I bring that up because I think, as we look at this legislation, which I will vote "yes" on, I think my colleagues also need to think about the other ramifications of what we need to be doing as legislators with the fiduciary responsibility for what happens at State-owned and -related universities. I observed those protests carefully and watched with horror as many devolved into lawlessness. Jewish students, faculty, and staff were subjected to racial slurs implied, and actual death threats and abhorrent Nazi slogans, language reminiscent of pre-World War II Germany. Property was destroyed on many of our campuses. I hope--my message is simple, and it is short--I hope the passage of Senate Bill No. 1260 sends a message to our college administrators and

boards of trustees that they have an obligation to maintain order and ensure the safety of everyone on campus. Bodily harm, death threats, go beyond just hurt feelings, and they certainly stretch the limits of free speech. I urge us as a legislature to be proactive in watching as schools return to campus in the fall. And I urge those responsible for the safety and welfare of Pennsylvania students to be proactive in protecting everyone's rights.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, I rise in support of Senate Bill No. 1260. Let me begin by thanking my friend and colleague from York County, Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill, for standing up for Israel and the Jewish people as a co-prime sponsor of this legislation with me. I am deeply, deeply grateful for her partnership in this effort. And like my friend from Berks County, Senator Schwank, I want to thank her and all the other Members who have stood to speak today in support of this legislation and all those who have shown their support of it thus far. I want to thank the Majority Leader for bringing the bill up, and Chairman Dush, for bringing the bill up in committee.

As I have said before, most recently in October, after the horrific events of October 7, Israel is an important place. It is, as the late Mayor of New York Ed Koch once said, a life raft for people who all too often throughout their history have needed it. It is the Jewish homeland. It is the only country in the world--the size of the State of New Jersey--the only country that is that homeland. For the United States and for our Commonwealth, it is, as has been noted by previous speakers today, our steadfast ally and the only democracy in one of the most volatile and strategically important regions of our world. And like all democracies, its governance can be messy at times, no less so than ours. But over its existence, it has endured as a democracy.

Senate Bill No. 1260 is, at its heart, a bill to support Israel by combating the pernicious BDS movement. In a few moments I will talk at greater detail about exactly how it does that. But first I think it is important that we all understand exactly what the BDS movement is and what it is not. BDS, of course, standing for Boycott, Divest[ment] and Sanctions. The BDS movement began about 20 years ago by Palestinians and other actors in the Middle East that are hostile to Israel. It is, make no mistake, a political movement. Its funding has always been suspect, but as is the case with the terrorist organization Hamas, it is very likely that Iran has played a role over the years. The BDS movement is not merely about advocating for a Palestinian State. Its true aim is the ultimate destruction of the State of Israel. And make no mistake, the BDS movement seeks to marginalize Jews and supporters of Israel, often engaging in antisemitic tactics and tropes. But, do not take my word for it. Hear what the Anti-Defamation League, the organization that combats hate in all its form, including Islamophobia, has to say: [Reading]

The BDS movement's regressive policy of "anti-normalization" forbids people-to-people exchanges, dialogue opportunities for Israelis and Palestinians or even interactions between "pro-Israel" and "pro-Palestine" groups and advocates unless the parties involved first recognize Israelis as "oppressors" and "colonizers." BDS thus seeks to dehumanize Israelis and opposes the fundamental building blocks for Israeli-Palestinian understanding, peace-building and ultimate reconciliation, even at the grassroots level. Some supporters of BDS may genuinely believe that these tactics are a productive and non-violent way to effect change in the

decades-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict. While we all seek to resolve the conflict peacefully,--**ADL continues**--BDS campaigns, which portray Israel as a pariah state and advocate that it be singularly targeted, are unfair, one-sided and disproportionate.

In fact, the BDS campaign--**the ADL continues**--does not support constructive measures to build Israeli-Palestinian engagement, nor does it promote peace negotiations or a mutually negotiated two-state solution to the conflict. Rather, BDS presents a biased and simplistic approach to the complex Israeli-Palestinian conflict, positioning this dispute over territorial and nationalistic [nationalist] claims as the fault of only one party-Israel-while ignoring [other] actors and dynamics such as **the** Palestinian's shared responsibility for the continuation of the conflict. BDS advocates for self-determination for Palestinians while denying to Jews that same right.

The BDS movement--**the ADL continues**--uses divisive and inaccurate terms like "apartheid", "genocide," "settler colonist [colonialist]," and "supremacists" to refer to aspects of Israeli action or policy they criticize, language which serves to demonize the Jewish state and those who support its existence. ADL believes that many of the founding goals of the BDS movement, which effectively reject or ignore the Jewish people's right to self-determination, or that, if implemented, would result in the eradication of the world's only Jewish state, are antisemitic.

Furthermore, some BDS advocates and campaigns engage in antisemitic rhetoric, including allegations of Jewish power, dual loyalty, and Jewish/Israeli culpability for unrelated issues and crises. Some have made clear their opposition to the existence of the state of Israel altogether, or justify **and** express support for violence against Israelis. Increasingly troubling are incidents involving BDS advocates holding all Jews culpable for the Israeli government's actions, and advocating a litmus test for Jews to renounce Israel and/or Israeli policies in order to join certain social activist movements.

We have seen the truth of these statements, Mr. President, in recent months right here in Pennsylvania. When Jewish and Israeli restaurateurs, who had nothing to do with the war in Gaza or Israeli policy in general, were targeted with mob demonstrations as a means of bullying and intimidation merely because they were Jewish. Alleged student protesters--and I say alleged because many of them were outside agitators on our college campuses--shouting from the river to the sea, a slogan that refers to one thing and one thing only, and that is wiping the State of Israel off the map. Indeed, protesters at one of our college campuses actually demanded divestment, as well as the abolishment of the school's Hillel, a Jewish student organization that exists on most American college campuses and that serves Jewish students with cultural activities, weekly services, and outreach to the broader community. Its targeting can be nothing else but a blatant act of anti-Semitism. As the ADL notes, the BDS movement propagates the lie that Israel is an apartheid State. It does this because it knows that the word "apartheid" strikes a chord with many people around the globe, including right here in the United States and Pennsylvania, who fought the injustices of the former Afrikaner regime in South Africa, but a lie is a lie. In Israel, Arab and non-Jewish citizens enjoy the same rights, serve in elected and appointed government office, and make their voices heard at the ballot box, and indeed, even in the Knesset. I am reminded of protests against the Netanyahu government that are occurring now and have occurred before October 7 in Israel, in which thousands of Israelis have marched, carrying their country's flag, and I have to note, in some cases, the pride flag as well. It is ironic because I was just at a pride festival this last weekend in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, where a young woman came up to my table when I was not there and demanded to know of my staff person how it is I could possibly have a table there since I am proposing this legislation. The irony of that comment is

astounding because there is no other place in the Middle East, no other place in the Middle East where members of the LGBTQ community can stand and be free and be safe.

BDS seeks to demonize Zionism for purely political gain, falsely describing it as a colonization movement rather than what it is: a movement that began in the 19th century when Jews from around the world decided to return to their ancestral homeland to find a place to live in peace, in peace, at long last free from oppression, hate, and yes, true genocide. The BDS movement propagates the lie that the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians is one between white people and people of color. Israelis are multi-racial, whose ancestors come from Europe to be sure, particularly after 6 million Jews were murdered in the Holocaust, but also from other countries in the Middle East, and indeed, even Africa. Yes, the BDS movement has, in many ways, succeeded in making Jews on college campuses feel marginalized, and frankly, scared. These are feelings that the Jewish people have known for 2 millennia, and over history, they have all too often been followed by horrific acts. Finally, as part of that marginalization campaign, the BDS movement has sought to falsely portray anyone who speaks against it and who speaks up for Israel as anti-Muslim. The irony of that lie is not lost on me. For just like the role Jews played in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s here in the United States, in our own time, my own congregation, myself, thousands of congregations like ours across the United States have repeatedly stood with our Muslim brothers and sisters to fight Islamophobia. And you know what, Mr. President, we will continue to do exactly that. So, this is why I offer Senate Bill No. 1260 and believe that it is critical to do so now, now, before our colleges and universities across the Commonwealth reconvene in the fall.

What does the bill do? First, it prohibits our major pension funds, PSERS, SERS, and the Municipal Pension Fund, and any other State account under the custodianship of the Treasurer from boycotting or divesting from Israel and companies doing business there. Second, it withholds funding from any institution of higher learning in Pennsylvania that takes the extreme step of boycotting or divesting from Israel. What does it not do? It does not outlaw investment decisions that are made to fulfill a fund's fiduciary obligations to maximize returns. It does not impact defined contribution programs where beneficiaries make their own personal investment decisions, and it has absolutely no effect on student loans or student aid. And most importantly, because I know the argument has been made many times, including today, it does not infringe on anyone's free speech rights. Students, professors, administrators, and anyone else will remain free to peacefully protest and speak out on Israel or any other topic of their choosing.

Some have raised the question: would this bill, were it enacted into law, be enforceable? The answer is yes. The requirements of Senate Bill No. 1260 will simply be added to the list of other requirements that investors and recipients of State funding must already comply with. A self-evident one, just by way of example, is that we cannot invest State funds into organized crime syndicates, okay? The Treasurer's Office, the Auditor General, the Governor's Office, and if a referral is made, the OAG would all play a role in enforcing the law. And for those who believe that this bill is without precedent, I will remind you that in 2016, this General Assembly passed House Bill No. 2107, former Representative Matt Baker's bill, to block BDS against Israel by

companies doing business with the Commonwealth. That bill passed the House of Representatives in the fall of 2016 by a vote of 181 to 9, and it passed this State Senate that same season by a vote of 47 to 1 and was ultimately signed by Governor Wolf. Senate Bill No. 1260 is a little more than the logical extension of existing law, a law that had broad bipartisan support.

Mr. President, I have not lost hope in a future in which two States, Israel and Palestine, live peacefully side by side, because, you see, in addition to being a Jew by choice, I am also half Irish. Who would have believed, as recently as 35 years ago, that peace would come to Northern Ireland, but it did, and it has lasted. But in this moment in which anti-Semitism is once again rampant in our State and country, I will stand with the State of Israel. I will continue to fight to ensure that the well-known motto of the Jewish people since the Holocaust is in fact followed: "Never again."

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to vote in favor of Senate Bill No. 1260. Thank you.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Regan and Senator Laughlin.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Phillips-Hill requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Regan and Senator Laughlin. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-41

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

NAY-7

Coleman	Kearney	Saval	Williams, Lindsey
Haywood	Muth	Williams, Anthony H.	

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.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR
REPORTED 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:

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Scott D. Harron, 6354 Tulipwood Lane, Jamesville, New York 13078, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Mark Goodwill, retired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Lynn Lee, 35 Gelding Lane, Horsham 19044, Montgomery County, Twelfth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as NGAP Assistant, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice vacant position.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Brian Lehew, 107 Lily Lane, Centre Hall 16828, Centre County, Twenty-fifth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Michael Regan, retired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Jaime E. Ramirez, 533 Pusey Mill Road, Lincoln University 19352, Chester County, Nineteenth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Director of Joint Staff, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Terrence Koudelka, retired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Traci Wallace, 12125 Darnley Road, Woodbridge, Virginia 22192, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as NGAP Assistant, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice vacant position.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Frank McGovern IV, 1112 Foss Avenue, Drexel Hill 19026, Delaware County, Twenty-sixth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Joint Force Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice vacant position.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Francis Montgomery, 338 West Orange Street, Lancaster 17603, Lancaster County, Thirteenth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Land Component Commander, Joint Force

Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General John Pippy, promoted.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Shawn Wray, 318 Muffley Hollow Road, Apollo 15613, Westmoreland County, Forty-first Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as #2 Assistant Division Commander, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Jeffrey Heasley, retired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MAJOR GENERAL, PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Brigadier General John Pippy, 7018 Weeping Willow Drive, Moon Township 15108, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Major General, LINE, with assignment as Commander, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Major General Mark McCormack, reassignment.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA PAROLE BOARD

March 25, 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, Martin Pane, 215 South Street, Elmhurst Township 18444, Lackawanna County, Fortieth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Parole Board, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Anthony Moscato, Emporium, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA PAROLE BOARD

June 3, 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, Christian Stephens, 1123 Green Street,

Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the the [sic] Pennsylvania Parole Board, to serve until October 17, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Leo Dunn, Newport, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Alexander Brown, 590 Woodmere Drive, Apartment 2, New Stanton 15672, Westmoreland County, Thirty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Sandra Crawford, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Alfonso Frioni, Jr., 210 Main Entrance Drive, Mt. Lebanon 15228, Allegheny County, Forty-second Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, William Gabig, 441 North 25th Street, Camp Hill 17011, Cumberland County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Robert Krebs, 3235 Comanche Road, Pittsburgh 15241, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve to serve [sic] until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Joseph Petrarca, 303 Young Drive, Apollo 15613, Westmoreland County, Forty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice add to complement.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Catherine Surbeck, 1513 County Line Road, Bryn Mawr 19010, Montgomery County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice David Wilderman, Camp Hill, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

NOMINATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

The PRESIDENT. 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 Govern-
nor.

Which was agreed to by voice vote.

NOMINATIONS TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

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

The Clerk read the nominations as follows:

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Scott D. Harron, 6354 Tulip-
wood Lane, Jamesville, New York 13078, for a Certificate of Eligibility
to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Chief of Staff, Head-
quarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated,
vice Brigadier General Mark Goodwill, retired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Lynn Lee, 35 Gelding Lane,
Horsham 19044, Montgomery County, Twelfth Senatorial District, for a
Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as
NGAP Assistant, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to
serve until terminated, vice vacant position.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Brian Lehew, 107 Lily Lane,
Centre Hall 16828, Centre County, Twenty-fifth Senatorial District, for
a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment
as Assistant Adjutant General, Headquarters, Pennsylvania Air National

Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Michael Regan,
retired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Jaime E. Ramirez, 533 Pusey
Mill Road, Lincoln University 19352, Chester County, Nineteenth Sen-
atorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General,
LINE, with assignment as Director of Joint Staff, Headquarters, Penn-
sylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier
General Terrence Koudelka, retired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Traci Wallace, 12125 Darnley
Road, Woodbridge, Virginia 22192, for a Certificate of Eligibility to
Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as NGAP Assistant, Head-
quarters, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, to serve until terminated,
vice vacant position.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Frank McGovern IV, 1112
Foss Avenue, Drexel Hill 19026, Delaware County, Twenty-sixth Sen-
atorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE,
with assignment as Assistant Adjutant General, Joint Force Headquar-
ters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice
vacant position.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Francis Montgomery, 338 West Orange Street, Lancaster 17603, Lancaster County, Thirteenth Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as Land Component Commander, Joint Force Headquarters, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General John Pippy, promoted.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Colonel Shawn Wray, 318 Muffley Hollow Road, Apollo 15613, Westmoreland County, Forty-first Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Brigadier General, LINE, with assignment as #2 Assistant Division Commander, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Brigadier General Jeffrey Heasley, retired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MAJOR GENERAL, PENNSYLVANIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

May 3, 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, Brigadier General John Pippy, 7018 Weeping Willow Drive, Moon Township 15108, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for a Certificate of Eligibility to Major General, LINE, with assignment as Commander, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to serve until terminated, vice Major General Mark McCormack, reassignment.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA PAROLE BOARD

March 25, 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, Martin Pane, 215 South Street, Elmhurst Township 18444, Lackawanna County, Fortieth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Parole Board, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Anthony Moscato, Emporium, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA PAROLE BOARD

June 3, 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, Christian Stephens, 1123 Green Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the the [sic] Pennsylvania Parole Board, to serve until October 17, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than ninety days beyond that period, vice Leo Dunn, Newport, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Alexander Brown, 590 Woodmere Drive, Apartment 2, New Stanton 15672, Westmoreland County, Thirty-ninth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Sandra Crawford, Philadelphia, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Alfonso Frioni, Jr., 210 Main Entrance Drive, Mt. Lebanon 15228, Allegheny County, Forty-second Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, William Gabig, 441 North 25th Street, Camp Hill 17011, Cumberland County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal

Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Robert Krebs, 3235 Comanche Road, Pittsburgh 15241, Allegheny County, Thirty-seventh Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve to serve [sic] until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Joseph Petrarca, 303 Young Drive, Apollo 15613, Westmoreland County, Forty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice add to complement.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION APPEAL BOARD

May 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, Catherine Surbeck, 1513 County Line Road, Bryn Mawr 19010, Montgomery County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice David Wilderman, Camp Hill, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

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

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Haywood.

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, there are many exceptional individuals on the list just read, and I have met a number of them. At the same time, the Workers' Compensation Appeal

Board nominees, which does have exceptional individuals, has a set of nominees who represent zero diversity for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania--no Blacks, no browns, zero diversity. And we have a State of which we have significant ethnic and racial differences and distinctions. It is the goal of all of us to make sure that there is representation in decision-making that reflects the entire Commonwealth. It is this Workers' Compensation Appeal Board that does not match the demographics of the Commonwealth or have the diversity that we need in the decision-making. And, Mr. President, for these reasons, I am very disappointed to have to vote against the entire tremendous group but feel compelled to do so given the unacceptable composition.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEAVE CHANGED

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request that Senator Laughlin's leave be changed from a temporary Capitol leave to a Personal leave.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pittman requests that Senator Laughlin's leave be changed from a temporary Capitol leave to a personal leave. Without objection, the leave will be changed.

LEAVE CANCELLED

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

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations?

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

YEA-47

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

NAY-1

Haywood

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

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RISES

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SB 1228 (Pr. No. 1651) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in employees, further providing for automatic certification.

HB 327 (Pr. No. 2082) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of June 19, 1931 (P.L.589, No.202), referred to as the Barbers' License Law, further providing for licensure of manager-barbers and barber-teachers.

HB 1664 (Pr. No. 3392) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 40 (Insurance) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in regulation of insurers and related persons generally, providing for payment choice and for electronic notice of insurance practices; and imposing penalties.

HB 2096 (Pr. No. 2677) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, in surplus lines, providing for surplus lines fees and further providing for monthly reports.

HB 2182 (Pr. No. 3145) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in other required equipment, further providing for visual signals on authorized vehicles.

HB 2301 (Pr. No. 3405) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for special plates for recipients of Expeditionary Forces Medal, providing for special plates for recipients of Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, further providing for Distracted Driving Awareness plate, for special motorcycle plates related to veterans and for special plates for veterans and providing for special plates for recipients of Borinqueneers Congressional Gold Medal; and, in fees, further providing for exemption of persons, entities and vehicles from fees.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator SCHWANK. 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 1242, SB 1255, HB 897 and HB 1619.

And said bills having been considered for the first time,

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 1, 2024

Off the Floor CONSUMER PROTECTION AND Rules Committee
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (to consider Conference Room
Senate Bill No. 25)

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator Tartaglione, I offer the remarks for petitions. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

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

Mr. President, I rise because today marks 6,563 days since our Commonwealth's legislature last passed an increase in our minimum wage. Mr. President, every day that passes, we get closer to 18 years of legislative inaction from this body and our counterparts across the building. When Senate Bill No. 1090--my bill--was signed into law, we raised the pay of hundreds of thousands of workers across Pennsylvania. But while we were still negotiating the bill's language, I will never forget passionately advocating for tying future minimum wage increases to the Consumer Price Index so we would never allow our minimum-wage earners to fall behind again. I said, "I hope we are not back here in 5 years fighting to raise the minimum wage." And look at us now, Mr. President. We are just days shy of the 18th anniversary of the signing of Senate Bill No. 1090. We blew right past my concerns. We are nearing two decades of inaction that has seen the buying power of minimum-wage earners erode while the cost of living has skyrocketed.

Mr. President, we cannot continue to ignore the challenges our working families are facing every day. The hardworking people across our Commonwealth, who currently earn at or near the minimum wage, deserve to earn a wage that allows them to live with dignity and security. We need to come together, Mr. President, to act and correct this failure of government. Let us commit to taking meaningful action to support our workers and strengthen our communities by ensuring all Pennsylvanians can survive on the work they do and the wages they earn. Let us come together and pass Senate Bill No. 1186 and put Pennsylvania's minimum-wage and low-wage earners on a path to stability and prosperity. Pennsylvania's workers deserve better.

Thank you, Mr. President.

BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Austin A. Davis) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bills:

SB 1084 and HB 1490.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair wishes to announce the following bills were signed by the President pro tempore (Senator Kim L. Ward) in the presence of the Senate:

HB 109 and HB 1818.

LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. Senator Comitta has returned, and her personal leave is cancelled.

**PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES
(Continued)**

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, as we prepare to recess the Senate today, I do want to make a few brief comments about the work that is ahead of us to complete a '24-'25 State budget here in the Commonwealth. I am encouraged by progress that has been made over the last several days, and while I do not believe the work that is before us can be completed on June 30, I am quite confident that we have movement significant enough to allow the pieces of a budget puzzle to come together shortly after the constitutional deadline of June 30. And so, as we prepare to recess until Monday, I just wanted to make it very clear to the Members and to the people of the Commonwealth that we are working diligently to conclude our business, and we certainly hope that business can be concluded several days past June 30.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, just very briefly, Mr. President, I echo some of the comments of the Majority Leader with respect to the progress that has been made. We no doubt have a significant amount of work to do in the next coming days, and I think it is appropriate that we take this break to be able to focus on what needs to get done. What is most important is that we have a General Appropriation bill and relevant code bills that get it done right. And I think that is what is important here, and that is why I think it is important that we continue this dialogue and continue the positive movement that has taken place among the Caucuses and among the Chambers and the Governor's Office.

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 Monday, July 1, 2024, at 3 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 2:06 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.