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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2000

SESSION OF 2000 184TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 37

SENATE

TUESDAY, October 3, 2000

The Senate met at 1 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Mark S. Schweiker) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Monsignor JOSEPH QUINN, Rector of St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, offered the following prayer:

Senators and friends of the Commonwealth, on the universal millennium Jubilee calendar celebrating the great year 2000, today, October 3, has been set aside as a day of Jewish-Christian dialogue. Our Jewish brothers and sisters are now in the midst of their prayerful celebration of the high holy days, and Christians find themselves on the eve of the great feast of a renowned man of peace, Francis of Assisi. It was Francis of Assisi who once said, preach always, and when necessary, use words.

We are grateful for the privileged invitation extended to us today by Senator Mellow to open today's Session. Allow me to borrow words from both the Jewish world and the Christian sphere. The great Jewish philosopher and teacher, Abraham Joshua Heshel, once wrote, the quest for immortality is common to all men. Jews think not only of the end but also the beginning. We do not live in a void, we never suffer from harrowing anxiety nor fear of roaming about in the emptiness of time. We own the past, and hence are not afraid of what is to be. We remember from where we came. We are summoned and cannot forget it, as together we wind the clock of eternal history. We remember the beginning and we believe in an end, and we live between two historic poles - Mount Sinai and the kingdom of God.

Some eight centuries before these words were written, Francis of Assisi suggested how we should all live our time, that unique chapter of life entrusted to each of us. He wrote, and we pray today:

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

"O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

Lord of all, and source of life, beacon of hope for each of us, bless the Members of the Pennsylvania Senate. Use them as

instruments of your peace and channels of your grace. We ask this in your name, now and forever. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Monsignor Quinn, who is the guest today of Senator Mellow.

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. A quorum of the Senate being present, the Clerk will read the Journal of the preceding Session of October 2, 2000.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the preceding Session, when, on motion of Senator LOEPER, and agreed to by voice vote, further reading was dispensed with and the Journal was approved.

HOUSE MESSAGES

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILLS

The Clerk of the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House has concurred in amendments made by the Senate to **HB 1424** and **1863**.

SENATE BILLS RETURNED WITH AMENDMENTS

The Clerk of the House of Representatives returned to the Senate **SB 1219** and **1271**, with the information the House has passed the same with amendments in which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The PRESIDENT. Pursuant to Senate Rule XIV, section 5, these bills will be referred to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations.

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

The Clerk of the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House has concurred in resolution from the Senate, entitled:

Weekly adjournment.

HOUSE BILL FOR CONCURRENCE

The Clerk of the House of Representatives presented to the Senate the following bill for concurrence, which was referred to the committee indicated:

October 3, 2000

HB 2600 -- Committee on State Government.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

October 3, 2000

Senators HART, CONTI, HELFRICK, TOMLINSON, LEMMOND, SALVATORE, STOUT, COSTA, LAVALLE, HOLL, WAUGH, WHITE, BELL, WOZNIAK, BOSCOLA, TARTAGLIONE, GERLACH, KASUNIC, CORMAN, ROBBINS and MURPHY presented to the Chair **SB 1549**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 11, 1971 (P.L.104, No.3), entitled, as amended, Senior Citizens Rebate and Assistance Act, providing for heating assistance; imposing duties upon the Department of Public Welfare; further providing for claims; and making an appropriation.

Which was committed to the Committee on AGING AND YOUTH, October 3, 2000.

Senators O'PAKE, RHOADES, WAGNER, TOMLINSON, STOUT, COSTA, MELLOW, TARTAGLIONE, EARLL, STAPLETON, BELAN, KASUNIC, WAUGH, MUSTO and BOSCOLA presented to the Chair **SB 1550**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled Public School Code of 1949, further providing for approved reimbursable rental for leases hereafter approved and approved reimbursable sinking fund charges on indebtedness.

Which was committed to the Committee on EDUCATION, October 3, 2000.

RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

October 2, 2000

Senators RHOADES, TOMLINSON, JUBELIRER, PICCOLA, EARLL, CONTI, MURPHY, MOWERY, SCHWARTZ, KUKOVICH, LAVALLE, LOEPER, BRIGHTBILL, TILGHMAN, WENGER, ROBBINS, SALVATORE, MADIGAN, KITCHEN, WHITE, COSTA, GERLACH, HELFRICK, TARTAGLIONE, DENT, GREENLEAF, HOLL, BOSCOLA, STOUT, WAGNER, WOZNIAK, ARMSTRONG, BELL, CORMAN, PUNT, WAUGH, O'PAKE, MELLOW, THOMPSON, HART and LEMMOND presented to the Chair **SR 212**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution urging the President and Congress to increase funding for special education programs provided by the states to the level authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Which was committed to the Committee on INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, October 2, 2000.

Senators PICCOLA, KUKOVICH, WENGER, TARTAGLIONE, THOMPSON, BELAN, BRIGHTBILL, TOMLINSON, COSTA, DENT, WHITE, KITCHEN, GERLACH, BOSCOLA, EARLL, LAVALLE, O'PAKE, SCHWARTZ, TILGHMAN, GREENLEAF and MUSTO presented to the Chair **SR 213**, entitled:

A Resolution designating October 2000 as "Rett Syndrome Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Which was committed to the Committee on RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, October 2, 2000.

BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Mark S. Schweiker) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bills:

HB 1424 and HB 1863.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY

The SECRETARY. Consent has been given for the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to meet during today's Session to consider Senate Bill No. 1109, House Bills No. 609 and 877, Senate Resolutions No. 47 and 213, and certain nominations.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Senator GREENLEAF, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported the following bills:

SB 1443 (Pr. No. 1929)

An Act protecting the free exercise of religion; and prescribing the conditions under which government may substantially burden a person's free exercise of religion.

SB 1490 (Pr. No. 2081)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for Drug Education and Demand Reduction Fund; and imposing assessments.

Senator EARLL, from the Committee on Urban Affairs and Housing, reported the following bills:

SB 1290 (Pr. No. 2189) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of May 28, 1937 (P.L.955, No.265), entitled, as amended, Housing Authorities Law, further providing for the members of an authority.

HB 949 (Pr. No. 3717)

An Act limiting building permit requirements and property tax reassessment for the rehabilitation of historic homesites; and conferring powers and duties on the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Senator MOWERY, from the Committee on Public Health and Welfare, reported the following bills:

SB 1431 (Pr. No. 2188) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of February 13, 1970 (P.L.19, No.10), entitled Mental Health Procedures Act, providing for voluntary and involuntary mental health treatment.

HB 1625 (Pr. No. 4030) (Amended)

An Act providing for information, research and services relating to the prevention of birth defects, for powers and duties of the Department of Health, for a Statewide registry, for reporting requirements and for confidentiality of information; and imposing penalties.

Senator LEMMOND, from the Committee on State Government, reported the following bills:

SB 1468 (Pr. No. 2023)

An Act amending the act of June 25, 1999 (P.L.205, No.27) entitled "An act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor, to convey to East Allen Township, Northampton County, certain land situate in East Allen Township, Northampton County, and to convey to the trustees of the University of Pittsburgh certain land situate in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County; and authorizing and directing the State Armory Board of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor, to convey to the Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County a tract of land situate in the Borough of Indiana, County of Indiana, Pennsylvania," further providing for the purpose of the conveyance.

SB 1487 (Pr. No. 2183) (Amended)

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor and of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, to sell and convey to the County of Fayette, a certain tract of land and right-of-way situate in Wharton Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

SB 1502 (Pr. No. 2096)

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor, to grant and convey to Stepping Stone Counseling and Education Services, Inc., certain lands and building situate in the City of York, York County, Pennsylvania.

SB 1523 (Pr. No. 2118)

An Act amending the act of December 4, 1992 (P.L.761, No.115), entitled "An act designating May 15th as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" in Pennsylvania; designating that week of May during which May 15th occurs as "Police Week" in Pennsylvania; designating the Sunday during Fire Prevention Week as "Firefighters' Memorial Sunday"; and requiring that the flags of the United States and this Commonwealth be flown at half-mast on May 15th," further providing for display of flags.

Senator WENGER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs, reported the following bill:

SB 896 (Pr. No. 2182) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of December 12, 1994 (P.L.888, No.128), entitled Anaerobic Manure Digesters Act, further providing for the title, for legislative intent, for definitions, for development costs, for administration, for building and for funding.

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

HB 165 (Pr. No. 153)

An Act repealing the act of May 16, 1951 (P.L.300, No.60), entitled, as amended, "An act authorizing certain counties to establish fire training schools for the paid and volunteer firemen of municipalities within the county."

HB 1604 (Pr. No. 4004) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805, No.247), known as the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, further providing for recording plats and deeds, for applicability of ordinance amendments and for validity of ordinance and substantive questions.

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

HB 2200 (Pr. No. 4003) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of December 22, 1983 (P.L.306, No.84), known as the Board of Vehicles Act, further defining "franchise"; and further providing for powers and duties of the State Board of Vehicle Manufacturers, Dealers and Salespersons, for protest hearing decision within 120 days unless waived by the parties, for reimbursement for all parts and service required by the manufacturer or distributor, for reimbursement audits, for unlawful acts by manufacturers or distributors, for restriction of manufacturer invoking a right of first refusal and for limitations on establishing or relocating dealers; and making editorial changes.

HB 2209 (Pr. No. 3528)

An Act amending the act of December 4, 1996 (P.L.893, No.141), known as the Volunteer Health Services Act, allowing doctors with volunteer licenses to prescribe medication to family members.

HB 2481 (Pr. No. 3385)

An Act amending the act of July 10, 1990 (P.L.404, No.98), known as the Real Estate Appraisers Certification Act, further providing for application and qualifications.

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

SB 130 (Pr. No. 2190) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act establishing the Science Technology Partnership Program; and providing for State grants.

SB 231 (Pr. No. 2191) (Amended) (Rereported)

A Joint Resolution proposing amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for the election of Senators in certain circumstances; and further providing for retirement of justices, judges and justices of the peace.

SB 295 (Pr. No. 2192) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act providing for the regulation of home improvement contracts and for registration of certain home improvement contractors; prohibiting certain acts; prescribing requirements for home improvement con-

tracts; establishing the Home Improvement Guaranty Fund; and providing for claims against the fund and for the offense of home improvement fraud.

SB 393 (Pr. No. 2193) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending Titles 15 (Corporations and Unincorporated Associations) and 54 (Names) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, relating to associations; making revisions, corrections and additions; and making repeals.

SB 474 (Pr. No. 2194) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act prohibiting the sale of products containing dog or cat fur, skin or hair; defining a criminal offense; directing the Bureau of Consumer Protection to conduct investigations; and imposing penalties.

HB 519 (Pr. No. 3954) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for reports of child death where abuse is suspected.

HB 1142 (Pr. No. 4032) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of December 21, 1998 (P.L.1307, No.174), known as the Community and Economic Improvement Act, further providing for the location of real property within neighborhood improvement districts; extending provisions relating to neighborhood improvement districts to all municipalities; and making editorial changes.

RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator MOWERY, from the Committee on Public Health and Welfare, reported the following resolution:

SR 43 (Pr. No. 2187) (Amended)

A Concurrent Resolution urging the Governor to establish a committee to study allergic reaction associated with natural rubber latex and natural rubber latex products.

The PRESIDENT. The resolution will be placed on the Calendar.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Loeper.

Senator LOEPER. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for today's Session on behalf of Senator Corman.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Loeper requests a legislative leave for Senator Corman. Without objection, that leave is granted.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Mellow.

Senator MELLOW. Mr. President, I request legislative leaves for Senator Belan, Senator Musto, Senator Tartaglione, and Senator Wagner.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Mellow requests legislative leaves for Senator Belan, Senator Musto, Senator Tartaglione, and Senator Wagner. Without objection, those leaves are granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Senator MELLOW asked and obtained leave of absence for Senator STAPLETON, for today's Session, for personal reasons.

CALENDAR

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. 201
CALLED UP OUT OF ORDER, ADOPTED**

Senator LOEPER, without objection, called up from page 5 of the Calendar, as a Special Order of Business, **Senate Resolution No. 201**, entitled:

A Resolution honoring the 225th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps on November 10, 2000.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

Senator SALVATORE. Mr. President, it is an honor and privilege for me to introduce Senate Resolution No. 201. Senate Resolution No. 201 honors the 225th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps. It is a day that many people celebrate, and it is a day that I honor because of the things that the Marine Corps has done through the years since its inception in 1775. We are privileged in this Senate to have six former Marines, which is 12 percent of the Senate. When you think about that, Mr. President, 12 percent of the Senate are Marines, starting with Senator Tilghman, Senator Bodack, Senator LaValle, Senator Wagner, Senator Armstrong, and myself. I think those are pretty good odds when you look at those statistics in any profession of life, when you can have 12 percent of any body represent that body. I am honored to serve with all of them and with all of you, and I just think it is a day that we all should remember.

Thank you.
The PRESIDENT. Thank you, Senator Salvatore.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

YEA-48

Armstrong	Gerlach	Loeper	Schwartz
Belan	Greenleaf	Madigan	Stout
Bell	Hart	Mellow	Tartaglione
Bodack	Helfrick	Mowery	Thompson
Boscola	Holl	Murphy	Tilghman
Brightbill	Hughes	Musto	Tomlinson
Conti	Jubelirer	O'Pake	Wagner
Corman	Kasunic	Piccola	Waugh
Costa	Kitchen	Punt	Wenger
Dent	Kukovich	Rhoades	White
Earll	LaValle	Robbins	Williams
Fumo	Lemmond	Salvatore	Wozniak

NAY-0

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

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
GUESTS OF SENATOR JOE CONTI
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator CONTI. Mr. President, I rise today for the purpose of an introduction. It is with great pleasure that I bring to the Senate today visitors in the gallery led by Dr. George Taylor, the former superintendent of Quakertown School District and a great friend and advisor to me on educational issues for many years. Quakertown's loss, through the retirement of Dr. Taylor, is Lehigh University's gain, as he is now a professor at Lehigh, and he has with him a graduate class of students studying school financial management. So, Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lead the Senate in our usual warm reception of Dr. Taylor and his students from Lehigh.

The PRESIDENT. Would Dr. Taylor and his students from Lehigh please rise so the Senate may welcome you.
(Applause.)

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR FORMER
GOVERNOR ROBERT P. CASEY**

The PRESIDENT. As a special order of business, we now turn to a memorial service Session in honor of the former Senator, former Auditor General, and proud Governor Robert P. Casey. This Session will again be opened with prayer, and prayer will again be offered by Monsignor Joseph Quinn, Rector of St Peter's Cathedral in Scranton.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Monsignor JOSEPH QUINN, Rector of St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, offered the following prayer:

My friends, just 4 months ago this very day, many of you here present were kind enough to join Mrs. Casey and the Casey family in Scranton at St. Peter's Cathedral as we bid a fond farewell to a man who taught us so many lessons about life, about service, and about faithfulness. We all still mourn the loss of Governor Robert P. Casey, and we gather here today in these esteemed Chambers, conscious of our desire and our need to forever cherish his memory. We open this Session of the Pennsylvania Senate today calling to mind the words of another revered and holy man, St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast the world celebrates tomorrow.

To commence this memorial service today, allow me to call to mind the inspired and the inspiring words of Governor Casey. They are taken from a commencement address he gave at the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio less than a year after his transplant surgery, which made medical history and which only evidenced all the more deeply the strength of his character, the courage of his ways, and his ever-persevering spirit. May his compelling words be our prayer this day.

He spoke:

"The world will try again and again, in a thousand different forms, to sell you power, popularity, acceptance. But look very closely because usually the price is a high one. The price is to surrender the greatest power and freedom any man or woman could ever have - your conscience.

"...In past ages, a person looking for the world's centers of power would have pointed to some government temple or tribune or emperor. Never, 1,500 years ago, would anyone ever have thought to look for power and influence in a dark cave in" ...the city of Assisi in Italy. St. Francis "was never discouraged. Despite all odds, he pressed on."

And so "[T]his is the message I leave with you: Never forget that beneath all the slogans and fierce arguments is the fate of innocent children. They need your love; their mothers need your courage. Do not be discouraged in the face of scorn: Press on!

"Try, as St. Francis and all the really great ones have done, to have compassion for those who offer only anger and bitterness. In the long term, you possess no greater weapon: Press on!

"And finally, give your country not what it wants or will reward, but what it needs. Lend it in your own lives that goodness without which it cannot be great, and the grace without which it cannot be saved: Press on!"

My friends, may the enduring example of the cherished memory of our beloved Governor Casey help us all to press on, to press on, to press on. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair would acknowledge and thank Monsignor Quinn for those most appropriate spiritual reflections.

Now the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Mellow, for the purpose of offering a condolence resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 214 ADOPTED

Senator MELLOW, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 214**, which was read by the Clerk as follows:

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the achievements and honoring the legacy of Robert P. Casey.

WHEREAS, Robert P. Casey, former Governor of Pennsylvania and distinguished statesman, passed away on May 30, 2000, at the age of 68; and

WHEREAS, The patriarch of a family devoted to politics and public service, Governor Casey began his political career in 1962, when he was elected State Senator; and

WHEREAS, Governor Casey served as Auditor General from 1969 to 1977, won the gubernatorial election in 1986 and was reelected as Governor in 1990; and

WHEREAS, During his dynamic tenure, Governor Casey worked to improve the quality of education, expand jobs and economic growth, reclaim the environment and strengthen consumer protection initiatives in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Governor Casey's unwavering commitment to social justice was reflected in everything he did, especially as a tireless advocate for women, children and families, a pioneer in health care reform, a national leader in appointing women to key government posts, a prudent fiscal manager, a national model for economic and high-tech development and a dedicated public servant; and

WHEREAS, Governor Casey, an outstanding student athlete, was the valedictorian of the Class of 1949 at Scranton Preparatory School in Scranton; and

WHEREAS, Governor Casey attended Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts, on a basketball scholarship and graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in English, after which he earned a Juris Doctor degree from the George Washington University School of Law in 1956; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate note with great sadness the passing of Robert P. Casey, who served in a way most befitting the highest ideals of public service, and extend heartfelt condolences to his wife, Ellen Harding Casey; sons, Robert Jr., Christopher, Patrick and Matthew; and daughters, Margi McGrath, Mary Ellen Philbin, Kate Brier and Erin Walsh; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this document be transmitted to Mrs. Ellen Casey.

On the question,
Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. Without objection, the Chair would direct the attention of the Members of the Senate and our special guests to the television monitors situated around this Senate Chamber. We will now have the opportunity to view and enjoy a short presentation.

(Whereupon, a video entitled "The Senate of Pennsylvania Remembers Governor Robert P. Casey" was presented.)

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. It was a wonderful video, certainly a wonderful segue, much more than that.

At this time it is most appropriate to recognize the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Mellow, for his eulogy.

Senator MELLOW. Mr. President, to Mrs. Casey and members of the Casey family, Monsignor Quinn, the President pro tempore of the Pennsylvania Senate, Senator Jubelirer, who made all this happen today with his cooperation and understanding and willingness to honor such an outstanding individual as Governor Bob Casey, to my wife Diane, who is here with me this afternoon, and to everyone present, to the Members of the Senate, all 49 current Members of the Senate, trying to put a few words together and eulogize properly the tributes and the words we have heard over the past 4 months about Governor Casey was quite difficult.

I can recall, Mr. President, just several months ago after Governor Casey was buried, a number of us stood on the floor of the Senate and offered our thoughts and our reflections about Governor Casey on that particular day. I can recall vividly attending the Mass of Christian Burial for Governor Casey at the Cathedral in Scranton when Monsignor Quinn gave his outstanding eulogy on Governor Casey and the strength that we were able to receive from that. Mr. President, I also read in Webster's Dictionary the definition of courage, because I believe that Governor Casey meant a lot to each and every one of us here today, but the courage that Governor Casey demonstrated to the people of Pennsylvania and to the people of this great country of ours goes without question. The definition of courage is the "mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty." Governor Casey's picture today in my mind, Mr. President, truly exemplifies what courage means to our people.

On a personal note, I had the opportunity of knowing Governor Casey for a good part of my life. Back in 1962, when I was too young to vote, as a young volunteer I remember working the polls to try to help this young lawyer from Scranton, whom I did not know, become a State Senator from Lackawanna County.

When he ran for Auditor General in 1968, I did have the opportunity then of knowing attorney Bob Casey and did everything that I possibly could, along with my family, to make sure that he was elected because of the qualities and the courage that he showed us then. And, Mr. President, it goes without saying what a supporter and admirer I am and that my wife is of the entire Casey family.

Mr. President, his qualities today are unparalleled. They cannot be measured by any measuring stone that we have or any way that we can measure those particular attributes. His honesty with the people of Pennsylvania was something from which I think each and every one of us can learn a very strong lesson. He was filled with integrity to the point of being stubborn. I can recall a number of occasions where we would meet with Governor Casey over in the Governor's Office as Members of leadership and we would talk to the Governor about certain things that we would want to do here in the General Assembly on a bipartisan basis, and when he, based on his integrity, thought that we were wrong, he would never back down.

His compassion, Mr. President, toward children and the poor and working families is not matched. He would say to us over and over and over, as Senator Jubelirer pointed out in the beautiful video that was shown, when you had the power, what did you do with the power to make the life of these people just a little bit easier? His political philosophy matched, I believe, his faith as an individual, because his political philosophy was one that no one should ever be left behind. His religious faith, his support for the unborn, and his support of the family are qualities that we will remember about him forever.

Mr. President, perseverance was something that Governor Casey demonstrated to us not only in the way he lived his life but also in the way he pursued his professional goals. Most of us in this room today would not have the same type of desire or perseverance as Governor Casey had when it came to his professional goal of being elected Governor of Pennsylvania. The love for his family, which is a great indication here today with his lovely wife and his children and his grandchildren, they are examples that we can learn from and that we can follow.

Governor Casey, to his friends, was known as "Spike." I guess the nickname came from his love for sports, especially basketball, but the nickname of "Spike" leads to his commitment to the downtrodden and to the oppressed. Mr. President, I think Governor Casey took the Scripture reading, and I quote, "When you do for the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me," I think we can take from that Scripture quote and talk about the legacy of Bob Casey as an elected official. One of the most important things that Bob Casey the Governor did when he was elected was that he insisted on the Children's Health Insurance Program back in the early 1990s. I do not think any State in the United States at that point in time had CHIP, but Governor Casey would talk to us, once again on a bipartisan basis, and say how important it was that no child today, based on birth, should not have the proper type of insurance coverage. And would it not be a shame if an individual was born and they died a few days later because they did not have the proper type of medical care based on a lack of insurance coverage, and therefore based on not giving that child the proper type of care. It was deeply ingrained in him, Mr. President, to provide for that care.

I can recall during the campaign in 1986 traveling out in western Pennsylvania. When the people of western Pennsylvania said it was so important that we have a revitalization of western Pennsylvania the way our economy has changed, and the only way that we can probably do that would be the construction of the Mon Valley Expressway, those of us who were in the Senate at that particular time realized that was something that had been talked about but was never totally realized. And one of the first things that Bob Casey the Governor did was go out to western Pennsylvania and commit himself after the election that the Mon Valley Expressway would be built. It would lead to the revitalization of western Pennsylvania, and the promise was dealt with, the commitment was met, and we now know the results of what has taken place because of that.

I can recall the discussion about the Philadelphia Convention Center and how important it was if we were going to make Philadelphia the first class city that it is in the United States, we had to build a convention center there that would give them the opportunity to attract the types of conventions to Philadelphia that were so vitally necessary. I think the fruits of his efforts were shown just this past summer when the Republican National Convention was able to showcase nationally and to the world how great the city of Philadelphia is and what the wonderful Philadelphia Convention Center has meant not only to Philadelphia and to southeastern Pennsylvania but indeed to this great Commonwealth of ours.

In northeastern Pennsylvania, Mr. President, it would take me the rest of the day to try to explain the great deeds of Governor Casey in northeastern Pennsylvania, but two projects stick out of which we should all be very proud. Very similar to the Mon Valley Expressway, we had a part of northeastern Pennsylvania that actually connects the great Pocono northeast with Luzerne County and Lackawanna County and then up into the northern tier. Our problem was we did not have a means of transportation to get through that particular part of the Commonwealth, and opening that up would mean tremendous growth in the future. Governor Casey committed his administration to the construction of that highway, which is in excess of 16 miles and now is named the Governor Robert P. Casey Highway, because of what it would mean to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and, more importantly, northeastern Pennsylvania.

And when we tried to recruit businesses to come into northeastern Pennsylvania from other States, one of the areas we talked about that was asked was what theatrical performances and what types of sports venues do you have that would allow our people to come here? And when we talked to Governor Casey about that, immediately he was of the mindset to build an arena, with the support now of Governor Ridge, and to make sure that arena was properly funded so we could tie in the cultural aspect of northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, what he did for senior citizens and for the prescription drug program and how the State had to do everything within its power to guarantee that the drug program would last forever, because of elderly care and to take care of the greatest generation of Americans and the greatest generation of Pennsylvanians.

Mr. President, Governor Casey was a unique individual. We will never, ever experience the likes of this gentle giant again in

Pennsylvania, with his compassion, his desire to do what is right at any cost. He threw out a challenge to each and every one of us in public service and he asked again, what did you do when you had the power? Power is accumulated in order to live out your faith and in order to live out your beliefs. Power means to be able to do the right thing all the time, not to be able to use power in a punitive way or to hurt other people. Governor Casey did that, Mr. President. He knew that millions of Pennsylvanians needed his help, just as much as he needed their help.

Mr. President, Governor Casey taught us that you never, ever, ever quit, that regardless of the field of endeavor, if you are right and you have honesty and integrity and you are prepared to persevere and never quit, that eventually the point in life that you want to administer and the point in life that you want to get to, you will be able to arrive there no matter how hard or how cold the winds blow through our lives. He taught us that, and he taught us to keep our heads up high.

Mr. President, we loved him, we miss him, but we will never forget him, and the greatest legacy that Bob Casey has is not that of an elected official, not that of a professional lawyer, but of his great family, his wife and children and his wonderful grandchildren. So I think we are indeed honored today to be able to say, Governor Casey, State Senator Bob Casey, Gramps, Dad, Pop, or whatever the family may have called him, we love you and we miss you, but we will never forget you.

Thank you very much.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the President pro tempore of the Senate, the gentleman from Blair, Senator Jubelirer.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Mr. President, a famous architect buried in an awe-inspiring cathedral he designed has as his epitaph, "If you would see his monument, look around." To see the monuments to the life and service of Robert P. Casey, we need only to look around us. He was not an architect of buildings, but he left a legacy of resolute character, of huge public achievements, and of limitless personal courage, monuments that are enduring to our memories.

With his work and the profound impact it had on individuals, on communities, and on our Commonwealth, Bob Casey has a story that stretches far beyond just a record of winning political office. There is a large and devoted family, a beautiful family, marked by the principles of service and determination and loyalty that were central to his character. There are the many friends and neighbors who knew that he considered northeastern Pennsylvania and its people the very, very best in the world. They knew he would fight for them, fight to do what he believed right and necessary, and that he would do everything in his power to get for them the opportunities they needed and the quality of life they so richly deserved. There are State programs still counted among the very best in the nation that were designed and implemented during his governorship, popular and successful programs such as PENNVEST and CHIP. In these areas he eventually brought together people of different philosophies and perspectives, because the bedrock principle was that State government could accomplish things positive and productive by investing in individuals, families, and in communities.

Mr. President, there was nothing temporary about the issues he embraced, nothing transient about the laws he championed or

the programs he created. He was a political warrior in the truest sense of that term. Always ready to fight for what he believed in, no one knows that better than I. He came into issues and problems head-on, relentlessly. The determined look, the set of the jaw, the way he welcomed challenge, the distinctive Casey mannerism so well reflected in the video, all come to mind to me this very special day.

Mr. President, many people are noted for what they did. For Bob Casey, you see, it was much more: what he did, how he did it, and perhaps more importantly, why he did it. Though Pennsylvania is justly noted for the intensity of our politics, and certainly he was the poster child of that, and the deep roots of traditional rivalries, the courage and determination and commitment to public service displayed by Bob Casey gave us all an example that will never, ever fade.

Mr. President, Pennsylvania is a better place because of Bob Casey, because of the leadership and the inspiration of his personal conduct and public involvement. Most of all, he will be remembered for eternity as a man of great conscience. In the afterlife, whenever Bob Casey is asked a question about what he did when he had the power, he can answer with pride, he can answer with conviction, he can answer with unquestioned certainty, that what he did was good and right and meaningful and lasting.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Senator Jubelirer for his eulogy.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Loeper.

Senator LOEPER. Mr. President, today we are here to honor the memory of a great man, a remarkable public servant, and a person who did so much for our Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In so many ways Bob Casey has become larger than life because of what he stands for and the many legacies that he has left all of us.

I think if we were to take a look at Bob Casey's record and Bob Casey the man, the individual, we would find a number of qualities that impressed all of us who interacted with him on a regular basis. Certainly one which has been demonstrated not only in the video but certainly in the remarks of the Minority Leader and the President pro tempore has been that Bob Casey was a fighter. He was a fighter who battled a rare disease and helped to bring to national attention the issue of organ donation. We know that he was a fierce man of independence. He made no apologies for those issues that he felt so strongly about. He championed the rights of the unborn because he believed with all his conscience that it was the right thing to do. He was a dedicated public servant who created such successful programs as PENNVEST and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

But most importantly, Mr. President, Bob Casey was a husband and a father who loved and respected his family. I know that he was so proud of his wife, Ellen, and their children and grandchildren. And it is wonderful to have many of you with us here in the Senate Chamber today as we honor the memory of this remarkable man. Befitting Bob Casey's style, his family is also larger than life, and it is so nice to see all of those who were closest to him to be part of this ceremony here today.

I believe that there are so many things that can be said and have been said about Bob Casey. He was loved, respected, and admired for his courage, his faith, his tenacity, and, most importantly, his dignity. He will not be forgotten, and we particularly want to impart upon you, his family, who knew him best and loved him the best, to know how much Bob Casey meant to so many and how much he is missed by all of us.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Berks, Senator O'Pake.

Senator O'PAKE. Mr. President, Mrs. Casey, and all the Casey clan, Monsignor Quinn, the passing of our friend Robert Patrick Casey truly is the loss of one of the most committed and effective advocates for people that Pennsylvania ever has seen or ever is likely to see.

As I said here in June, over the last 32 years, Bob Casey taught me a lot. He taught me never to forget where we came from, which for me was the Glenside housing project. He taught me that public service is an honorable profession and that in politics, as in life, as he would say, do what is right and let the chips fall where they may. More than any other politician I know, Bob Casey was a man of character and principle. He knew right from wrong and had the courage to do what was right. He was a relentless and tireless fighter for life, not just for the unborn, but for children, the family, the helpless, the broken, the underdog. And this is not just rhetoric. As Abraham Lincoln said in the Gettysburg Address, it is men's deeds, not words, that mark them and that are remembered. But the light cast by our deeds is often reflected in other's words.

Like many others, I found the tremendous outpouring of public affection at Governor Casey's death, particularly in the editorial pages of newspapers from all corners of this Commonwealth, truly remarkable. As politicians, we are used to praises being dispensed with rather than being disbursed. In all candor, in four decades of political life, opinions could not have always been of such universal generosity for anyone toiling in politics, nor were they for Governor Casey, yet the laurels so universally expressed at his death were undeniably deserved. Once individual differences are narrowed to the highest common denominator, it seems we are compelled to extol, as we do here, the uncommon graces bestowed on us.

As I said here before, Governor Casey had an unflickering sense of the difference between right and wrong and the obligation to do what is right. The old Irish, the very old Irish, before Patrick introduced them to Christianity, and I mean Saint Patrick, not Patrick Casey, believed that great men were given certain geisas, obligations, that they were compelled to spend their lives fulfilling or they must surrender their greatness. Governor Casey apparently was given the geisa of politics. Politics, he once told me, is the best way to help people who need help.

To those who knew him through his four decades of public life, first as a Senator in this Chamber, then as Auditor General, and finally through two terms as Governor, it must be admitted that Bob Casey was not your typical back-slapping, deal-making politician, but he was tenacious and effective in getting Pennsylvania where he believed it needed to be for senior citizens, for children, for the environment, for the working man, for the little

guy. Nor did he flinch at all, but struggled with all the energy he could command on behalf of the most voiceless of all, the unborn.

Winston Churchill once said that politics is the art of the possible. Governor Casey might have agreed, but only while stubbornly insisting that what is right can never be impossible; as in one effort, so in all. Governor Casey had the geisa also to do what he believed was right without regard to political consequences. He believed that government had a responsibility to help those who were helpless. His own relentlessness in that effort put life into his words. Long after he left public office he had not left public life. It put a light on the role of politics that as citizens we too often fail to see and as officials we too often fail to live up to. It is a beacon for us to follow. Here was a political leader who did not just talk about values, he lived them every day of his life.

Governor Casey, Bob Casey, never gave up fighting for what he believed was right, not in the face of political death and not in the face of physical death. At his funeral, many enviable adjectives were bestowed: honest, upright, compassionate, courageous, tenacious, a fighter for the little guy, faithful. Two of the most worthy are "respected" and "beloved," which he was, certainly, for his commitment and for his refreshing integrity. That integrity is his legacy. It is up to us to keep it alive.

So when partisan politics threaten to overwhelm us, when critics give us their best shot, when we start to question why we are here, let us remember Robert Patrick Casey and his integrity. Bob Casey never gave up, not in his belief in God and in doing what was right, not in his love for his beautiful wife and family, not in his total commitment to his duty, as he put it, to serve the people of Pennsylvania with integrity. May his life and values guide us as we try to do the people's business.

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

Senator BODACK. Mrs. Casey, Mr. Auditor General, Casey family, Monsignor Quinn, and Mr. President, I would like to say as we rise today to pay tribute to our dearly departed friend, Governor Casey, we cannot help but remember the example of a leader who put principle and conviction ahead of his politics. In fact, it is telling that despite all the partisan spats that were conducted here on the floor and throughout his political career, Governor Casey today is remembered by those on both sides of the aisle for being a man of honor, of integrity, and for his tenacity and courage in the fight for what he believed was right.

As I said just over 4 months ago on this floor immediately following the Governor's passing, Bob Casey was one of the greatest governors that this State has ever known. And I also talked at that time about all that Governor Casey had accomplished for our own State, and especially for southwestern Pennsylvania during his two terms as our chief executive. And in answer to Governor Casey's own question of what did you do when you had the power, southwestern Pennsylvania is and should be forever grateful for Bob Casey. He served during a much different economic time, but following the 1980s' economic recession, Bob Casey, the fighter that he was, rolled up his sleeves and he went to work in putting Pennsylvania and its people back to work.

Bob Casey was instrumental in so many projects, from the construction of Pittsburgh's world-class airport to the decision of Sony to locate in Westmoreland County, to the development of the Carnegie Science Center, the Andy Warhol Museum, the John Heinz Regional History Center, the Pittsburgh Technology Center, and the National Robotics Engineering Consortium in the Lawrenceville section of Pittsburgh.

And of course there were many, many more, but today we remember Bob Casey not so much for any particular project or for the projects for which he was responsible, but for the leadership example he set for all of us. In his autobiography, "Fighting for Life," our departed Governor wrote, and I quote, "I believe the most important quality a person can bring to political office is a passion for justice and sense of outrage in the face of injustice." Bob Casey, in the truest sense, was a governor of, by, and for the people, and he never forgot his roots. He will be forever remembered for his devotion to public service and for upholding the public trust.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator FUMO. Mr. President, Mrs. Casey, Casey family, my colleagues, Mr. President, several years ago Robert P. Casey participated in a video to commemorate my 20th anniversary as a State Senator, and even though he was out of office and quite ill by then, he agreed to be interviewed. During the interview he actually had to take a break for some time because he was not feeling well, but he returned and sat back down in front of the camera and completed the taping. At one point in the interview, he reflected on the attitudes and styles of politicians, and I would like to read a quote to you today of what he said. Quote, "If you can just sit back and view with equanimity these injustices that pervade society, you should get out of politics. You should sell cars, or life insurance, or do something else. Don't be in politics. Because unless you have a sense of outrage, you are not going to be effective."

As I remember Bob Casey, he was a politician and a leader who had a sense of outrage. He did not close his eyes to the injustices of the world, and when he saw problems, he set out to meet them head on with an intensity that truly marked the essence of who he was as a governor. His motivation was in his belief in what he was doing. He believed in himself and his ability to make a difference in the world, and because of that he fought for his causes with the kind of passion seldom seen in public officials. If there was one quality that defined him, he was a fighter. Sometimes he fought with me, and yes, I fought with him. A few of those battles were classics, because I am sure that many in this Chamber would agree that I have also been known to bring a certain amount of passion and intensity to an issue on occasion. I do not always think Bob Casey was right about the injustices he saw, and I did not always agree with his solutions to a problem. But as I look back on the 8 years that we served together, those differences were very few and far between.

Of a much greater significance were the times when Bob Casey came through for the people of Pennsylvania. More often than I can remember, when I pointed out an injustice that I saw in my city, he came through for the people of Philadelphia. The

same was true all over our State. When he saw opportunities for government to make people's lives better, he seized them. He acted quickly soon after he became Governor to rescue Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. He dedicated the State's efforts to creating good jobs for working people at the port. He supported legislation that protected the child welfare system from budget cuts. He insisted on providing health insurance and coverage to those children whose families could not afford medical care. He tried to improve the economy of the city of Philadelphia and solve some problems of neighborhoods with highway projects and off-ramps from I-95. He tried to make sure that the schools in every corner of our State had enough funding to provide children with a high quality education. The list could go on and on and on.

He faced obstacles to become Governor and even greater obstacles after he took office. He was not the luckiest man to ever hold the job. Severe health problems sapped his strength, but they never diminished his desire. Times were tough in his second term. We were in a national recession. He did not benefit from the booming national economy that we have enjoyed in recent years. Yet, that did not deter him from trying to help people in need.

In a way, he was the perfect man for his times because he identified with the underdog. He had come from a working class family led by a father who had to fight long odds to succeed. Bob Casey saw the struggles of the working class firsthand when he was growing up, and after he reached Harrisburg, he continued that struggle on behalf of the neglected and vulnerable men and women of Pennsylvania. In the process, he created a true legacy of service. His children learned by his example, and they carry on his commitment to helping others today. The Casey family is Pennsylvania's Kennedy clan, without the money, regrettably, or the scandal.

Bob Casey held office in an era when it was fashionable to attack big government, an era when the shrill cry of demagogues across this land insisted that government should stay out of the lives of people. But Bob Casey knew that government by itself was not inherently good or inherently evil. He had faith, as our Founding Fathers did, in government by the people. He knew that government can be a tremendous force for good in people's lives if those who held power dedicated themselves to that high ideal.

That is why he was in politics. He knew it was a tough business. He got kicked around a lot and took his share of the lumps, but Bob Casey always came back fighting. He fought the injustices of the world with a mixture of anger and compassion and determination that made him one of the best friends the common man of this Commonwealth ever had. Pennsylvania is fortunate that Bob Casey was a man who did not give up easily. He, more than most men of his time, belonged in politics. And I, along with so many Pennsylvanians, are truly grateful that he was and that his children still are today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator SCHWARTZ. Mr. President, I, too, would like to add my words of condolence and admiration to the Casey family, to Mrs. Casey, to Auditor General Bob Casey. I did not know your

father when he was your age, but people tell me that you resemble him quite strongly, and I think not only in the way you look but in many of the attributes that you bring to public service as well, so to all Casey family members, welcome, and I am pleased to add just a few words to the many words that were already said about Governor Casey.

When I was elected in 1990 and then began to serve in 1991, there were some who might have thought that in spite of the fact that Governor Casey and I were both Democrats that we did not agree on everything and that we were unlikely to be allies or to work closely together. The case was in fact quite different. Very early on, one of the first pieces of legislation that I introduced and championed to get through the General Assembly and onto the Governor's desk was setting quality standards for mammography, and it was that very first piece of legislation that I got done that Governor Casey sent word to my office quite directly that this was a piece of legislation that he cared personally about. It turned out that he had a niece who had been diagnosed with breast cancer and he was very, very well aware of how important it was for us to set standards to assure the public, to assure women that when they went for health services that they would be able to get the kind of health services that they needed. So we got that legislation through and signed and it did, as other legislation that we worked on which I will mention later, set a national standard. We were one of the first States to set quality standards for mammography. It is now done nationally through the Medicare program so that women across this country have the same kinds of standards, but we were one of the first States to do that and I thanked Governor Casey then for stepping forward and working with me on that legislation.

We stood together on many issues, including family medical leave, which we never did pass in Pennsylvania but it has become national law, which allows families, particularly parents, to meet the obligations of their young children, to meet obligations of some of their loved ones who might need their help and to be able to be there.

The proudest legislation probably that I would speak to and I have spoken to often is the Children's Health Insurance Program, and Governor Casey himself personally and his staff spent many hours with me and my staff and then State Representative Allen Kukovich on creating a program that we are now, all of us, very proud of in having established the Children's Health Insurance Program. And I remember the discussions, what kinds of benefits would we have, how would we be sure to tell parents about it, how would we make it available to the youngest children, those young children between 0 and 6 who needed health care, who needed to be diagnosed and immunized and taken care of early on so they will have the very best start in life, and I think he would be proud to know that I still stand up on the floor of the Senate and demand that we cover all children and that they all get health care. And when we do that, I hope we do that in Governor Casey's honor because he set us on a terrific path to do just that in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in this nation as again we set the stage for the nation in establishing the Children's Health Insurance Program. I am very proud in that video, although I looked a little younger, that I was sitting next to Governor Casey when he signed that legislation, and very pleased to have been able to do that.

In all these issues, and I could go on to others that I worked with the Governor's Office on, Governor Casey's understanding of the needs and concerns of his own family were in fact so representative of the needs and concerns of Pennsylvania's families, that he understood that in a way that I think many politicians are just now beginning to understand. So many separated politics from their personal lives, their family's lives, their community's lives, and Governor Casey just never did that. He understood that if he had concerns about someone in his family who had cancer, or if he had concerns about someone in his community who did not have health insurance, and he understood the concern of seniors, which he did, the concerns of so many, he understood that the job we have in public service is to take those concerns of our families and to act on them for all families, and Governor Casey did that. And he led the way in doing that.

His commitment and devotion to his own family, we were always delighted to get his Christmas cards and to see the growing family and the cards had to almost get bigger it seemed in order to accommodate the wonderful growing Casey family. But the legacy I think he leaves is not only in the specific legislation that has been mentioned and in his own personal integrity and commitment to life, he did have such determination to be with us for as long as he possibly could and to serve with us, but to understand that his devotion to his own family, his devotion to Pennsylvania families is really a legacy for all of us to understand and to act on.

I was honored to know him and to serve him, and my condolences and special remembrances to his family and to all Pennsylvanians.

Thank you.

The PRESIDENT. In a moment the Chair would again recognize the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Mellow, to proudly introduce the members of the Casey family and special guests who are with us on the floor, and then he will invite the ever so gracious Mrs. Casey to the floor and the microphone to provide comments, and I know you will welcome her warmly. So with that, Senator Mellow, the floor is yours to introduce those assembled, our special guests.

Senator MELLOW. Mr. President, I think when Mrs. Casey gives her remarks to the Senate, she is going to introduce her family.

The PRESIDENT. Wonderful. Mrs. Casey, we would love to hear from you.

(Applause.)

Mrs. CASEY. Thank you very much, Lieutenant Governor Schweiker, Senator Jubelirer, Senator Mellow, and Members of the Senate. On behalf of my family, I want to thank you for this great tribute to my husband. Our entire family is very grateful to you, those who are here and those who could not be here because of their jobs, so maybe I can introduce the ones who are here. In the front row I think you all know Bobby and his wife, Terese, and their little girl, Marena. My son-in-law, Pat Brier, and his wife, Kate. In the second row we have Jack and Erin Walsh, my daughter and son-in-law. My daughter, Margi McGrath, and her husband, Bill. My daughter-in-law Anne, Patrick's wife, he could not be here today, and her son, Bobby. And in the next row, we have Will McGrath, who is celebrating his 12th birthday today.

(Applause.)

And Sean Philbin and James Philbin, they are my daughter Mary Ellen's children. She could not be here today either. And Dan McGrath and Casey McGrath, Margi and Bill's son and daughter. Nora Brier and Patrick Brier, Pat and Kate's daughter and son. And in the back row we have Elyse Casey, she is Bobby's daughter, and Ellen Walsh, who is Erin's daughter, and Caroline Casey, who is Bobby's daughter. I think I have them all.

(Applause.)

I am sure that was easier for me than it would have been for Senator Mellow.

(Laughter.)

You all honor him today by your presence, honor my husband, and by your kind remarks and your remembrances. Many of you worked with him to make Pennsylvania a better State, and we appreciate your acknowledgments of his service to Pennsylvania which began in this Chamber in 1963. I can still remember coming in here for the first time and seeing his seat back there, and what an exciting time that was for all of us. I do not think this beautiful carpeting was here at that time. But it was a special time in our lives.

He cherished his memories of his years of service with the Commonwealth and its people, but he particularly treasured the memories of his early years as a State Senator. He was always very pleased to be able to respond to the needs of individuals and their families, as well as all of you are. He was grateful to be able to sponsor legislation that addressed the issues that touched people's lives, and sometimes changed their lives. What you do here is very essential work. Although political life today is very difficult and you are subject to all sorts of criticism, what you do is so rewarding and it is so great to have a job like this. It is so important to see the satisfaction that you can see, how your work affects people's lives for the better.

So thank you again for remembering Bob and for remembering the work he did. I am sure he would be very pleased. This is a very special day for all of us.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. Thank you, Mrs. Casey. And certainly your comments are most fitting and memorable, but what I think is most memorable is that you sailed right through the names of the family and nailed every one of them. I am being playful. We all know that you were a successful spouse and first lady for Pennsylvania. Thank you for that. And the fact that we are not surprised that as a proud grandmother you would remember all those names and very quickly, so welcome to all. We are happy that we had the opportunity to invite you here. Auditor General, Mrs. Casey, thank you so much.

Thank you so much.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. Will all Members rise for a moment of respectful silence in remembrance of our former Senator, former Auditor General, and former Governor Robert P. Casey. Would all staff and guests also please rise.

(Whereupon, the Senate en bloc stood in a moment of silence in solemn respect to the memory of Governor ROBERT P. CASEY.)

The PRESIDENT. The Chair declares the resolution unanimously adopted.

Again, thank you. This was certainly a memorable occasion and most fitting and most appropriate, and with that, we will declare this special moment and ceremony closed.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Loeper.

Senator LOEPER. Mr. President, at this time I request a recess of the Senate, first for a meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to take place immediately in the Rules room at the rear of the Senate Chamber, then to be followed by a Republican caucus to take place immediately following the adjournment of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations meeting in the first floor caucus room, with an expectation of returning to the floor at approximately 4:30 p.m.

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

Senator BODACK. Mr. President, I remind the Members of the Democratic Caucus that there will be a caucus immediately following the meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations at the rear of the Chamber.

The PRESIDENT. For the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations to begin immediately following this announcement at the rear of the Senate in the Rules room, and then to be followed by Republican and Democratic caucuses, this Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT. The Chair notes the presence on the floor of Senator Corman, and his legislative leave is cancelled.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 227 and SB 386 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator LOEPER.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 398 (Pr. No. 3148) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 21, 1984 (P.L.1253, No.238), known as the Speech-Language and Hearing Licensure Act,

further providing for powers and duties of the board; and providing for impaired professionals.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

Armstrong	Gerlach	Loeper	Schwartz
Belan	Greenleaf	Madigan	Stout
Bell	Hart	Mellow	Tartaglione
Bodack	Helfrick	Mowery	Thompson
Boscola	Holl	Murphy	Tilghman
Brightbill	Hughes	Musto	Tomlinson
Conti	Jubelirer	O'Pake	Wagner
Corman	Kasunic	Piccola	Wagh
Costa	Kitchen	Punt	Wenger
Dent	Kukovich	Rhoades	White
Earl	LaValle	Robbins	Williams
Fumo	Lemmond	Salvatore	Wozniak

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.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Robert C. Jubelirer) in the Chair.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS GUEST OF SENATOR JEFFREY E. PICCOLA PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Dauphin, Senator Piccola.

Senator PICCOLA. Mr. President, I am very happy to welcome to the Senate floor this afternoon a young guest who is serving as a guest Page for us today. Jason Klock is 13 years of age and goes to Swatara Junior High School in the Central Dauphin School District. He plays the snare drum in the band and he enjoys very much the Internet and launching model rockets. He is currently attending a Masonic program for young men called the Order of the DeMolay and he is a member of the Pilgrim Chapter here in the Harrisburg area. He is currently attending a bowling league every Saturday, and his high score is 219, which is way far and above anything that I have ever bowled. His church is the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and he is a member of the youth group of that church and he also is an acolyte. Would the Senate please welcome Jason to the Senate of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Would the guest of Senator Piccola please rise and be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 643 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator LOEPER.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1032 (Pr. No. 2140) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, relating to residential real estate transfers; providing for disclosures by sellers of residential real estate and for home inspections; and making a repeal.

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-48

Armstrong	Gerlach	Loeper	Schwartz
Belan	Greenleaf	Madigan	Stout
Bell	Hart	Mellow	Tartaglione
Bodack	Helfrick	Mowery	Thompson
Boscola	Holl	Murphy	Tilghman
Brightbill	Hughes	Musto	Tomlinson
Conti	Jubelirer	O'Pake	Wagner
Corman	Kasunic	Piccola	Waugh
Costa	Kitchen	Punt	Wenger
Dent	Kukovich	Rhoades	White
Earll	LaValle	Robbins	Williams
Fumo	Lemmond	Salvatore	Wozniak

NAY-0

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

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 1150 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator LOEPER.

BILL OVER IN ORDER TEMPORARILY

SB 1281 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order temporarily at the request of Senator LOEPER.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1295 (Pr. No. 1744) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act repealing the act of December 5, 1933 (Sp.Sess., P.L.38, No.6), entitled Spirituous and Vinous Liquor Tax Law.

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-48

Armstrong	Gerlach	Loeper	Schwartz
Belan	Greenleaf	Madigan	Stout
Bell	Hart	Mellow	Tartaglione
Bodack	Helfrick	Mowery	Thompson
Boscola	Holl	Murphy	Tilghman
Brightbill	Hughes	Musto	Tomlinson
Conti	Jubelirer	O'Pake	Wagner
Corman	Kasunic	Piccola	Waugh
Costa	Kitchen	Punt	Wenger
Dent	Kukovich	Rhoades	White
Earll	LaValle	Robbins	Williams
Fumo	Lemmond	Salvatore	Wozniak

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 1312 and SB 1346 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator LOEPER.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1532 (Pr. No. 2129) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), entitled The Insurance Company Law of 1921, further providing for inclusion of health maintenance organizations in conversion notifications; and changing the expiration date of an article.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

Armstrong	Gerlach	Loeper	Schwartz
Belan	Greenleaf	Madigan	Stout
Bell	Hart	Mellow	Tartaglione
Bodack	Helfrick	Mowery	Thompson
Boscola	Holl	Murphy	Tilghman
Brightbill	Hughes	Musto	Tomlinson
Conti	Jubelirer	O'Pake	Wagner
Corman	Kasunic	Piccola	Waugh
Costa	Kitchen	Punt	Wenger
Dent	Kukovich	Rhoades	White
Earll	LaValle	Robbins	Williams
Fumo	Lemmond	Salvatore	Wozniak

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.

HB 2037 (Pr. No. 2605) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for unemployment compensation benefits.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

Armstrong	Gerlach	Loeper	Schwartz
Belan	Greenleaf	Madigan	Stout
Bell	Hart	Mellow	Tartaglione
Bodack	Helfrick	Mowery	Thompson
Boscola	Holl	Murphy	Tilghman
Brightbill	Hughes	Musto	Tomlinson
Conti	Jubelirer	O'Pake	Wagner
Corman	Kasunic	Piccola	Waugh
Costa	Kitchen	Punt	Wenger
Dent	Kukovich	Rhoades	White
Earll	LaValle	Robbins	Williams
Fumo	Lemmond	Salvatore	Wozniak

NAY-0

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

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

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 454 and SB 1444 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator LOEPER.

BILL REREFERRED

SB 1447 (Pr. No. 1957) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No. 284), entitled The Insurance Company Law of 1921, further defining "insurer" and "person" for purposes of insurance holding companies; and further providing for standards and management of an insurer within a holding company system.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 1475, SB 1495 and SB 1504 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator LOEPER.

BILL REREFERRED

HB 1584 (Pr. No. 2688) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the computation of seniority for reduction in force.

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

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 2139 (Pr. No. 3974) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the State Veterans' Commission and for military leaves of absence.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 2189 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator LOEPER.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 2533 (Pr. No. 3955) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of November 30, 1965 (P.L.847, No.356), known as the Banking Code of 1965, further providing for bank holding companies, for authorization of reciprocal interstate operations of savings banks, for corporations authorized to act as fiduciary, for general corporate powers and duties of incorporated institutions, for additional powers of incorporated institutions related to conduct of business, for additional powers related to conduct of business of incorporated institu-

tions other than trust companies, for real estate loans by banks and bank and trust companies, for transactions with respect to shares of corporate stock and capital securities and for real estate loans by savings banks; further prohibiting promoters' fees; further providing for branches outside Pennsylvania, for audits and reports and for preferential rates of interest requiring a report from the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee; and making repeals.

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

SB 1281 CALLED UP

SB 1281 (Pr. No. 2178) -- Without objection, the bill, which previously went over in its order temporarily, was called up, from page 2 of the Third Consideration Calendar, by Senator LOEPER.

BILL AMENDED

SB 1281 (Pr. No. 2178) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act relating to the satisfaction of mortgages; providing for certain forms; and making repeals.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator LOEPER offered the following amendment No. A3878:

Amend Sec. 11, page 26, lines 1 and 2, by striking out all of said lines

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the amendment?

It was agreed to.

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator SALVATORE, called from the table communications from His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, recalling the following nominations, which were read by the Clerk as follows:

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

October 2, 2000

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated March 14, 2000 for the appointment of Rozell A. Stidd (District 4), 1402 Warm Springs Avenue, Huntingdon 16652, Huntingdon County, Thirtieth Senatorial District, as a member of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, to serve for a term of eight years or until his succes-

sor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Donald K. Anderson, Meyersdale, whose term expired.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

September 29, 2000

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall my nomination dated September 12, 2000 for the appointment of Mark Navarro (District 2), 4148 Kittatinny Drive, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, to serve for a term of eight years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Dennis Roy Fredericks, McMurray, whose term expired.

I respectfully request the return to me of the official message of nomination on the premises.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

NOMINATIONS RETURNED TO THE GOVERNOR

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

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

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

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

Senator SALVATORE, 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:

JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, BERKS COUNTY

August 23, 2000

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, Mary Ann Campbell, Esquire, 128 Hawthorne Court, Wyomissing 19610, Berks County, Forty-eighth Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Berks County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2002, vice The Honorable Elizabeth G. Ehrlich, mandatory retirement.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

JUDGE, MUNICIPAL COURT

September 22, 2000

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Wendy L. Pew, Esquire, 210 West Rittenhouse Square, Apartment 1407, Philadelphia 19103, Philadelphia County, First Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge of the Municipal Court of Philadelphia, to serve until the first Monday of January 2002, vice The Honorable Edward G. Mekel, resigned.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

JUDGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS,
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

September 22, 2000

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, Margaret T. Murphy McKeown, Esquire, 13460 Lindsay Street, Philadelphia 19116, Philadelphia County, Fifth Senatorial District, for appointment as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, to serve until the first Monday of January 2002, vice The Honorable Ricardo C. Jackson, resigned.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

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

September 14, 2000

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, Frank W. Fletcher, Ph.D., 800 North Tenth Street, Selingsgrove 17870, Snyder County, Twenty-seventh Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists, to serve for a term of six years or until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Ronald L. Schrock, Somerset, whose term expired.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

June 5, 2000

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Richard A. Watson, Jr., 2412 Raleigh

Drive, Lancaster 17601, Lancaster County, Thirteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, to serve until the third Tuesday of January 2003, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Stephen J. Brody, Lititz, deceased.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

NOMINATIONS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

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

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Senator LOEPER, from the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, reported the following bills:

SB 1109 (Pr. No. 2147) (Rereported) (Concurrence)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for cruelty to animals and for discrimination on account of guide, signal or service dog or other aid animal.

HB 609 (Pr. No. 3466) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for grading of the offense of prostitution.

HB 877 (Pr. No. 2770) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for juvenile history record information and for the definition of "local agency" for purposes of matters affecting governmental units.

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

SB 1262 (Pr. No. 1616)

An Act authorizing the maintenance and operation of multipurpose service centers for displaced homemakers and single parents; providing for powers and duties of the Department of Education; and making an appropriation.

**RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM
COMMITTEE**

Senator LOEPER, from the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, reported the following resolutions:

SR 47 (Pr. No. 722) (Rereported)

A Concurrent Resolution requesting Congress submit to the several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United States forbidding judicial taxation.

SR 213 (Pr. No. 2174)

A Resolution designating October 2000 as "Rett Syndrome Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

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

DISCHARGE PETITIONS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following communications, which were read by the Clerk as follows:

October 3, 2000

A PETITION

To place before the Senate the nomination of Sant Ram, M.D., as a member of the State Board of Medicine.

TO: The President Officer of the Senate:

WE, The undersigned members of the Senate, pursuant to section 8 (b) of Article IV of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, do hereby request that you place the nomination of Sant Ram, M.D., as a member of the State Board of Medicine, before the entire Senate body for a vote, the nomination not having been voted upon within 15 legislative days:

Raphael J. Musto
Robert J. Mellow
Leonard J. Bodack
Michael A. O'Pake
Richard A. Kasunic
J. Barry Stout

October 3, 2000

A PETITION

To place before the Senate the nomination of Elan L. Welter Lewis, as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board.

TO: The President Officer of the Senate:

WE, The undersigned members of the Senate, pursuant to section 8 (b) of Article IV of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, do hereby request that you place the nomination of Elan L. Welter Lewis, as a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board, before the entire Senate body for a vote, the nomination not having been voted upon within 15 legislative days:

Raphael J. Musto
Robert J. Mellow
Leonard J. Bodack
Michael A. O'Pake
Richard A. Kasunic
J. Barry Stout

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following resolutions, which were read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Alton J. Kint and to the Mifflin-Juniata Area Agency on Aging Incorporated by Senator Corman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Catherine M. Milson by Senator Dent.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mary Wilson by Senator Greenleaf.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Lily Yeh by Senator Kitchen.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to John Wehrum Gilligan and to the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, 1st Battalion, 109th Field Artillery, by Senator Lemmond.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Howard J. Grossman by Senators Lemmond, Musto, and Mellow.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Henry A. Van Zanten by Senator Loeper.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Huber, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew L. Hertel, Mr. and Mrs. George Sacco, Mr. and Mrs. John Rada, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Egan, Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Carl, Ron Rhen and to Michael J. Kane by Senator Rhoades.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Elsie Wilson Fox by Senator Salvatore.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Rosemary Adiletto, John Fuhrmann and to Anna C. Marino by Senator Tomlinson.

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following resolution, which was read, considered, and adopted by voice vote:

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Iona Viola Galloway by Senator Kitchen.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

Senator DENT. 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.

The bills were as follows:

SB 896, SB 1262, SB 1290, SB 1431, SB 1443, SB 1468, SB 1487, SB 1490, SB 1502, SB 1523, HB 165, HB 949, HB 1625, HB 2200, HB 2209 and HB 2481.

And said bills having been considered for the first time,

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

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, earlier today Senate Democrats unveiled their Senate Democratic senior citizens agenda, and I would just like to take a moment to talk very briefly about some of the agenda we set forth today and also talk more specifically about the prescription drug proposal I talked about last week.

As part of the senior citizen agenda put forth by Senate Democrats, Mr. President, we would like to see the following items addressed: Prescription drug benefits, which we talked about earlier, and assisted living and personal care home access, which would essentially increase State assistance for low-income residents of assisted living facilities or personal care homes. We would also like to address the Family Caregiver Support Act, which would create a family caregiver tax credit and increase the maximum reimbursement for out-of-pocket care expenses from \$200 per month to \$500 per month.

Mr. President, in senior citizen improvements, we would like to see the funding doubled up to \$4 million for the Senior Companion Center Capital Assistance Program. And finally, we would like to help our long-term care facilities hire and retain their direct care workers, and to do that we ask for an increase in our appropriations at that level. Mr. President, those are some of the important issues that we Senate Democrats believe need to be addressed in the remaining weeks that we have in our legislative Session.

More specifically, I would like to talk about an issue as part of that package that has received considerable attention here in Harrisburg, across our Commonwealth, and throughout our country, and that is the subject of rising prescription drug costs. Historically, Pennsylvania has been a leader in making prescription drugs affordable for low-income seniors through the PACE program. In fact, just last week, a leading health care specialist was quoted in the Harrisburg Patriot-News as saying Pennsylvania has one of the three most generous programs in terms of the drugs covered and also in terms of the cost of copayments.

As a member of the General Assembly, we should be proud of what Pennsylvania has done so far. However, Mr. President, Senate Democrats and Members of this Chamber should not be complacent. The sad reality is that the very good things that we have accomplished through PACE are today being undermined by the rising cost of prescription drugs. Affordable prescriptions are still out of reach for many of our older Pennsylvanians due to PACE's very restrictive income eligibility limits, PACENET's \$500 deductible program, as well as inadequate coverage by Medicare supplemental plans.

Mr. President, I rise on behalf of the many Pennsylvanians who are facing this reality and ask support for Senate Bill No. 1525 from my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, a prescription drug plan that we call FAIRx. FAIRx would make prescription drugs available to all seniors and disabled individuals at a discounted price. At the same time it would expand PACE eligibility to make the program more accessible to more middle-income Pennsylvanians. Mr. President, today it is simply unacceptable at a time when our Commonwealth and our country have enjoyed great prosperity that even one Pennsylvania citizen must choose between life-sustaining medication or making a decision with respect to purchasing groceries or paying a utility bill.

Mr. President, I ask each of my colleagues in the Chamber here today and those who are watching this program to ask themselves what choice would they make? What choice would they make for their family members, for their mother, for their father, for their spouse? Should they buy groceries or should they buy their prescription? Should they turn down the heat in

the upcoming winter months in order to save enough money to purchase their prescription drugs? Mr. President, over the past year or so too many mothers and fathers have been making that decision, and unless we do something now, that is going to continue.

And, Mr. President, the challenge, in my mind, has been set forth by the administration. The Governor has indicated that he does not want to deal with a program for prescription drugs that taps into the tobacco settlement money. For my colleagues who think that Pennsylvania lacks the money to pay for a more comprehensive and compassionate prescription drug program, I say, think again. We do not need Pennsylvania money to pay for this program. We do not need to invade or tap into the Lottery Fund, and we do not need to tap into the very precious tobacco settlement dollars that we are waiting for. Simply by pooling all of Pennsylvania's resources, all of Pennsylvania's prescription drug programs under a single benefits pharmacy manager who will have the opportunity to negotiate a best price rebate, which we estimate to be a very conservative \$103 million, that rebate, Mr. President, will entitle 77,000 more Pennsylvanians the opportunity to participate in the PACE program. It would also allow for every person who holds a Medicare card the opportunity to purchase the prescription drugs at a reduced price. And, Mr. President, our FAIRx program would eliminate PACENET and its costly deductible and, as I mentioned earlier, expand income eligibility to meet the needs of middle-income seniors.

As I mentioned earlier, it would not require additional State dollars. It would not invade the integrity of the Lottery Fund, and as the Governor has requested, it would not impact and require precious dollars being removed from the tobacco settlement.

Mr. President, the specialist I mentioned earlier in my remarks called Pennsylvania one of the most generous States. There are two other things worth noting with respect to what that person stated. She said that drug prices are expected to increase between 15 to 18 percent a year, and she said that many States will wait to see what happens in Washington in the upcoming election before they take any action. Mr. President, I ask you, should Pennsylvania be one of those States? Should we wait to see what Congress does? I will submit to you that with respect to our PACE program, we did not wait to see what Congress did. And more importantly, with our Children's Health Insurance Program, CHIP, a national model, we did not wait to see what Washington did. In fact, Washington is in the process of copying what we have done.

So, Mr. President, I submit to you that we should not be sitting around waiting to see what Washington does. We have a program here that appears on the face of it to meet the criteria that the Governor has set forth with respect to addressing this issue. Two other States, our surrounding States of New York and New Jersey, have taken the initiative and have increased their income limits, and I submit, Mr. President, that it is now time for Pennsylvania to do that.

The Governor has essentially rejected the House Republican and Democratic plan, so the onus now is upon us here in the Senate to address this very important problem, and I hope that my colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle will join me in supporting Senate Bill No. 1525 so that we can make our pre-

scription drugs more affordable for 77,000 seniors and also those who are currently on Medicare.

Mr. President, thank you for the opportunity to speak.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Dauphin, Senator Piccola.

Senator PICCOLA. Mr. President, one of the greatest pleasures that Pennsylvanians have always enjoyed is the opportunity to come together as a community and individual communities to savor the good food that you can find in almost every town and community in Pennsylvania that is sponsored by various fire companies, chicken barbecues that are sponsored by fire companies, the church strawberry festivals, and pancake breakfasts sponsored by your local Lions Club. I am sure that all of us have participated in a sub sale that supports a Little League team or a funnel cake at a carnival to raise money to support a local volunteer group.

It is really part of Pennsylvania's great heritage, but unfortunately, there is a State law that will be coming into effect next year that could very well cause many of these organizations to limit their food-related fundraising activities and perhaps even lose money or just simply not participate in these activities in the future. Beginning in July, July 1 of the year 2001, all of these volunteer food establishments and food fundraising organizations will be required to have at least one of their workers, one of their volunteer workers, certified under the State's Food Employee Certification program, and this would include nonprofit organizations that have food sales to the general public each year.

Now, this law was passed in 1994 by the General Assembly, and I confess I voted for that law, and it was passed with good intentions. At the time there were some salmonella outbreaks in other States, and the Pennsylvania General Assembly reacted to that. However, in that law we said that the program of certification would remain voluntary until the year 2001, and 2001 is almost upon us, and we are starting to see some repercussions of that new law. One of the things that is in the law would require restaurants to comply, but it is something else again to require nonprofit organizations, fire companies, churches, and other volunteer organizations to have to compete and have to engage in training and have to pay the fees related to training. These people are volunteers, and it is hard enough in this day and age to get people to volunteer for these activities, and if they have to be subjected to the potential liability and subjected to the training, they most likely will just simply not entertain the effort.

I have introduced, or am about to introduce, a bill, and I believe I have circulated a memo inviting your cosponsorship to exempt out from this statute nonprofit organizations. It is similar to a bill that was introduced in the House by Representative Dan Clark of Juniata County. Representative Clark has had his bill reported out of the House Committee on Agriculture and it is pending consideration in the House. I am sure you can imagine what will happen if fire companies or Lions Clubs or Rotaries or the Kiwanis are required to have someone take a course every time they wanted to have a food sale. More than likely, they are simply not going to do it. It is going to be very difficult to find a person who will want to take the responsibility of having that kind of training and being on the spot when it comes time to making sure that everything is handled in accordance with all the

rules and regulations. It has the potential for costing them a lot of money, but as I indicated, I think more critically it will impact on their membership and certainly impact on their ability to raise funds to help their fellow citizens.

I would invite, Mr. President, the cosponsorship of my colleagues here in the Senate of this bill that will exempt out nonprofit organizations from this program and continue to have it voluntary for the foreseeable future. We have enjoyed 7 years under this law on a voluntary basis, and to my knowledge there have been no outbreaks of any diseases as a result of the poor preparation of food, and I see no reason why that should not continue in the future. Certainly volunteer outreach programs and the ability to reach out to these organizations and try to educate them in how to handle food preparation is all well and good, but to put State training mandates on them I think government has gone beyond the pale and we should step back from what we did in 1994.

Again, I invite your cosponsorship of this legislation, and certainly if the measure reaches the Senate and comes to the Senate floor, I urge your positive vote on that bill when we have that before us.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator BOSCOLA. Mr. President, I would like to urge my Senate colleagues to consider legislation that would help older seniors cope with the rising costs of medical care. You know, I keep hearing, well, let us see what the Federal government does. Let us see what Congress does. What about when the President is elected? Let us wait and see who is elected President, and then we will figure out what to do. That is a copout. That is not leadership. That is not what leadership is all about. We do not have to wait for Congress to act, nor do we have to wait until the next President is elected. We can and we should act now to reduce the burden of prescription drug costs on our seniors and medical care for our older Pennsylvanians. We can act right here, right here in Pennsylvania, right now, right here in the Pennsylvania General Assembly. So let us be the leaders that I know we can be.

Mr. President, there have been too many disturbing accounts of senior citizens putting off paying bills or cutting back on their meals just to afford prescription drugs. And just as disturbing, it is projected that 12,000 more seniors will lose their PACE eligibility this year because of small Social Security cost-of-living increases.

Mr. President, there have been many, many, many ideas, many proposals from both Democrats and Republicans that would help our senior citizens through this health care crisis. We need to find a workable solution that draws from the best of all of these ideas. Wow, think about it, what a concept. Democrats and Republicans working together to do what is right. We have the capability. That is the way it should be. The remedies that we are proposing are not complex, and yet they address some of the most major issues when we are dealing with senior citizen health care remedies.

I have introduced a bill that would increase the State supplement for low-income residents of personal care homes. In 1974, the Federal government replaced a State-administered public

assistance program for the elderly, blind, and disabled with a Supplemental Social Security income program. Mr. President, SSI provides a basic monthly payment to elderly, blind, and disabled people who meet national uniform eligibility standards. Pennsylvania provides a modest supplement grant to these SSI recipients. The monthly grants were first made available to personal care home residents in 1982. Pennsylvania's supplement for eligible SSI recipients is a mere \$25 per patient per day, a woefully inadequate amount that has not increased since 1993.

My legislation, Senate Bill No. 1527, would increase the State's supplement to \$60 per day for residents of personal care homes, and the amount of the State supplement assistance would be adjusted each year to keep pace with inflation. You know, it is amazing to me, and if you think about it, many people spend the same amount of money to board their dog in a kennel as our State and Federal governments do combined to help our seniors live in personal care homes. Let me repeat that again: Many people spend about the same amount of money to board their dog in a kennel as our State and Federal governments combined spend to help our seniors live in personal care homes. That is really profound, Mr. President.

Personal care homes, also known as assisted-living facilities, are an important part, they are an important care option for many older Pennsylvanians and their families. These facilities are a little different. They are a little different than nursing homes and long-term facilities in that the resident is not a patient. They are more a resident of the facility. And maybe they do not have all the medically necessary things that they have to have in a long-term care facility, a lot of people need that option, that option of saying, well, all I need is assisted living. These settings are safe, they are secure settings for senior citizens who want to live independently and with a lot of dignity. Too many low-income older Pennsylvanians cannot afford assisted-living facilities because current State reimbursement levels are inadequate.

Further, more and more personal care homes are closing because they cannot stay fiscally sound with current State SSI reimbursement levels. Other facilities are simply not accepting SSI recipients. By increasing the State supplement it would make assisted living more accessible and affordable to all Pennsylvanians, and it would help more senior citizens receive the level of care they deserve and need.

I urge my colleagues to act now on legislation that would improve the quality of life for thousands and thousands of older Pennsylvanians. I have been working in this Chamber for the last 2 years now. If we can pass a stadium funding plan in 2 days, or a bill that allows the State to take over public schools in 24 hours, then we can certainly get this done in this Session before the end of the year. It is really a matter of priorities. And if we can shell out \$320 million in taxpayer dollars to buy four new sports stadiums, then we can certainly use some of the surplus money that we have in our State budget to help our seniors live in dignity. It is the right thing to do. Our constituents elected us to do a job. It is about time we get back to work and start doing it.

Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

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

MEMBER OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF ASSISTANCE

October 3, 2000

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, Marilyn A. Bok (Republican), 107 Bressler Street, Sayre 18840, Bradford County, Twenty-third Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Bradford County Board of Assistance, to serve until December 31, 2001, and until her successor is appointed and qualified.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF ASSISTANCE

October 3, 2000

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 C. Carroll (Republican), R.R. #5, Box 5268, Towanda 18848, Bradford County, Twenty-third Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Bradford County Board of Assistance, to serve until December 31, 2002, and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY BOARD OF ASSISTANCE

October 3, 2000

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, Eugene G. Hiduk (Republican), 44 Fawcett Avenue, P.O. Box 38, New Albany 18833, Bradford County, Twenty-third Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Bradford County Board of Assistance, to serve until December 31, 2000, and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY
BOARD OF ASSISTANCE

October 3, 2000

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, Seth B. Johnston (Republican), R.D. #2, Box 285, Wyalusing 18853, Bradford County, Twenty-third Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Bradford County Board of Assistance, to serve until December 31, 2000, and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY
BOARD OF ASSISTANCE

October 3, 2000

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 E. Krause (Republican), R.R. #2, Box 191, Canton 17724, Bradford County, Twenty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Bradford County Board of Assistance, to serve until December 31, 2001, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, vice Richard E. Teeter, Towanda, whose term expired.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY
BOARD OF ASSISTANCE

October 3, 2000

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, Joy W. Musselman (Republican), 140 Canton Street, Troy 16947, Bradford County, Twenty-third Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Bradford County Board of Assistance, to serve until December 31, 2000, and until her successor is appointed and qualified.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BRADFORD COUNTY
BOARD OF ASSISTANCE

October 3, 2000

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, Fred N. Smith, Esquire, (Democrat), 300 Wilmont Drive, Towanda 18848, Bradford County, Twenty-third

Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Bradford County Board of Assistance, to serve until December 31, 2000, and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

THOMAS J. RIDGE
Governor

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES
(Continued)

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cambria, Senator Wozniak. For what purpose do you rise?

Senator WOZNIAK. Mr. President, can we return back to Petitions and Remonstrances? I will not take long.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. You are on the record, Senator. Go ahead.

Senator WOZNIAK. Thank you, Mr. President. I will keep my word and my remarks will be brief and to the point.

Mr. President, this past year the State Department of Aging has received more than \$11 million in requests for projects at Pennsylvania senior citizen activity centers, but the administration has budgeted just \$2 million for capital improvements. The numbers speak for themselves. There is a lot of work to be done and not enough money to go around. I have introduced Senate Bill No. 1530 which would double the State's appropriation for the senior citizen community center capital assistance program to \$4 million. I realize we cannot fund all the projects, Mr. President. I know that some of my colleagues may not believe that senior citizen activity centers are a priority, but I believe we can and we should do more to ensure that every older Pennsylvanian has access to the services senior citizen community centers provide.

For many senior citizens who live alone, senior community centers are vital sources of socialization and of support. I am proud that the Johnstown area has one of the most active senior citizen centers in the State with over 7,000 clients. On any given day, 200 to 350 seniors visit the Johnstown center. On an average day, 180 meals are served at the center and over 600 more are delivered. Senior centers are more important for these obvious reasons, but volunteer programs at the Johnstown center show how much older Pennsylvanians contribute to their community. The retired senior volunteer program has 700 active people who help prepare and serve meals in the center's kitchen. They also volunteer their time to help with other issues, such as Habitat for Humanity and in area hospitals. In the Foster Grandparent program, 100 senior citizens dedicate at least 20 hours a week to help kindergarten through third grade children learn to read. Johnstown senior center volunteer programs provide a shining example of why community centers are so valuable and why they should be supported by State government.

We also cannot forget that the baby-boomer generation, of which I am part, is approaching retirement age. We need to plan ahead. We need to get the infrastructure in place so senior community centers can serve future generations of older Pennsylvanians.

I urge my colleagues to support my effort to increase capital funding for senior community centers, and I also urge you to support a program that requires no legislative action. We have

heard much about trying to reduce property taxes, and we do have a program that already exists, the Seniors Earning Rebates Volunteering In Schools program. In return, they receive a reduction up to \$500 on their property taxes. The SERVIS program, which it is called, allows seniors to earn volunteer vouchers worth \$5 in tax deductions for every hour worked up to 100 hours. Only a handful of Pennsylvania school districts currently offer the program, but I urge you to encourage your school districts to participate. We all know how hard it is for older Pennsylvanians to cope with rising property tax bills. SERVIS is an innovative way for senior citizens to lower their taxes while sharing their wisdom and experience with children. Please join us in trying to get that commitment in every school district in Pennsylvania.

Mr. President, I said I would keep my remarks brief. I thank you very much.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator, you are a man of your word.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Loeper. I would be delighted to hear from him.

Senator LOEPER. Mr. President, on the last point, I just could not help when I heard the gentleman's last proposal as to the plight of our seniors with their property taxes for school purposes, I would refer the gentleman to about 8 years ago when I introduced exactly that amendment to a property tax reduction bill, and I would indicate that editorially I got torn apart for making seniors go back to work again. But I think it is certainly something we can examine as we go forth.

Thank you, Mr. President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The gentleman from Allegheny, Senator Wagner, has returned, and his legislative leave will be cancelled.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2000

10:15 A.M.

CONSUMER PROTECTION AND
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (to
consider Senate Bill No. 804)

Rules Cmte.
Conf. Rm.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator LOEPER. Mr. President, at this time I move that the Senate do now adjourn until Wednesday, October 4, 2000, at 11 a.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate adjourned at 5:08 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.