

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007

SESSION OF 2007 191ST OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 85

SENATE

WEDNESDAY, November 14, 2007

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

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend JENNIFER WILLIAMS, of Crosspoint United Methodist Church, Harrisburg, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Holy Lord, in the season of Thanksgiving, we come before You to give thanks. Thank You, O God, for our many blessings. Thank You for these leaders and the responsibility that they carry to speak for all of Your children. These men and women have heard Your challenge and said yes. Bless them today and give them the strength, courage, and perseverance to faithfully serve with all of their gifts.

As we stand in these halls of power, remind each and every one of us that You are our true power and true source. We pray, Lord, for the powerless, those in our Commonwealth who have no voice and need Your comfort. We pray for the children in our communities. They are a gift from You, and we pray that we will treat them as such. We pray for our servicemen and women. Their sacrifice does not go without recognition. Protect them and watch over them, we pray. Bring those who serve abroad home safely.

You know our needs and desires and the yearnings of our hearts. Hear us, we pray. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Reverend Williams, who is the guest today of Senator Piccola.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

GENERAL COMMUNICATION

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

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

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

November 1, 2007

Mr. Mark R. Corrigan
Secretary of the Senate
Senate Box 203053
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3053

Dear Secretary Corrigan:

Enclosed is the Department of Environmental Protection's Annual Low-Level Radioactive Waste Program Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly. This report covers calendar year 2006.

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

The Pennsylvania Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Act (Act 1988-12) requires that this report be prepared each year. The enclosed report is based on data from the U.S. Department of Energy's Manifest Information Management System (MIMS). MIMS is a national database that contains the actual volume and radioactivity of LLRW disposed of at the three existing commercial LLRW disposal facilities in the country.

Please contact Scott Pauchnik, Director of Legislative Affairs, by e-mail at spauchnik@state.pa.us or by telephone at 717-783-8303 with any questions or comments you may have on this report.

Sincerely,

KATHLEEN A. MCGINTY
Secretary

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

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

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

SB 1 (Pr. No. 1553) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act providing for access to public information, for a designated open-records officer in each Commonwealth agency, local agency, judicial agency and legislative agency, for procedure, for appeal of agency determination, for judicial review and for an Open Records Clearinghouse; imposing penalties; providing for reporting by State-related institutions; requiring the posting of certain State contract information on the Internet; and making related repeals.

SB 266 (Pr. No. 1554) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act providing for a report on potential climate change impacts and economic opportunities for this Commonwealth, for duties of the Department of Environmental Protection, for an inventory of greenhouse gases, for establishment of Climate Change Advisory Committee, for a voluntary registry of greenhouse gas emissions and for a climate change action plan.

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

SB 776 (Pr. No. 873)

An Act amending the act of June 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), known as the Vital Statistics Law of 1953, further providing for registration districts and local registrars' duties.

SB 1122 (Pr. No. 1503)

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, prohibiting the furlough of Commonwealth employees.

HB 419 (Pr. No. 1269)

An Act to promote the general welfare and stimulate the economy of the Commonwealth by requiring that all government agencies purchase only flags manufactured in the United States; and imposing a penalty.

Senator McILHINNEY, from the Committee on Game and Fisheries, reported the following bill:

HB 1109 (Pr. No. 2638)

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing, in fishing licenses, for nonresident and tourist licenses, for one-day resident fishing licenses, for issuing agents and for license, permit and issuing agent fees.

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

SB 863 (Pr. No. 1059)

An Act amending the act of June 30, 1981 (P.L.128, No.43), known as the Agricultural Area Security Law, providing for proceeds from sales by the Department of Agriculture and for grants for agricultural land conservation assistance; and making a related repeal.

RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

Senator BRUBAKER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs, reported the following resolutions:

SR 193 (Pr. No. 1462)

A Resolution commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania.

SR 195 (Pr. No. 1464)

A Resolution directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to review the Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program.

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PILEGGI. Madam President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Punt, and a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Corman.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Pileggi requests a legislative leave for Senator Punt, and a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Corman.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Mellow.

Senator MELLOW. Madam President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Fumo, and a legislative leave for Senator Stout.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Mellow requests a legislative leave for Senator Stout, and a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Fumo.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS JOURNALS APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journals of the Sessions of October 22, 2007, October 23, 2007, and October 24, 2007, are now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journals of the Sessions of October 22, 2007, October 23, 2007, and October 24, 2007.

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

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

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

YEA-50

Armstrong	Fontana	O'Pake	Tartaglione
Baker	Fumo	Orie	Tomlinson
Boscola	Gordner	Piccola	Vance
Browne	Greenleaf	Pileggi	Washington
Brubaker	Hughes	Pippy	Waugh
Corman	Kasunic	Punt	White, Donald
Costa	Kitchen	Rafferty	White, Mary Jo
Dinniman	LaValle	Regola	Williams, Anthony H.
Earl	Logan	Rhoades	Williams, Constance
Eichelberger	Madigan	Robbins	Wonderling
Erickson	McIlhinney	Scarnati	Wozniak
Ferlo	Mellow	Stack	
Folmer	Musto	Stout	

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journals are approved.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
GUESTS OF SENATOR BOB REGOLA
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Westmoreland, Senator Regola.

Senator REGOLA. Madam President, I am pleased to introduce Mr. Ray Thompson, the president of Operation Outward Reach, an organization that provides a very important service to our Commonwealth. For 35 years, Operation Outward Reach has trained inmates in State correctional institutions in the trades of carpentry and masonry. By working with individuals who are about to be released from incarceration, Operation Outward Reach gives them experience with skills that can help them find meaningful employment once they are outside the prison walls.

What makes this program even more special is that Operation Outward Reach provides construction services for low-income homeowners, fire companies, and small municipalities and only charges them for the cost of the materials. This program, which started at the State correctional facility near me in Greensburg, has grown to also serve correctional facilities at Huntingdon, Cresson, Mercer, Somerset, and Albion, as well as the women's facility at Cambridge Springs.

In addition to celebrating its 35 years of service, Operation Outward Reach recently received another very special honor as it was recognized for its work and achievements by the American Correctional Association. This national organization selects only one treatment program for this honor each year, and we as a Commonwealth can take great pride that Operation Outward Reach is the 2007 recipient.

Madam President, I ask that the Senate welcome Mr. Ray Thompson and extend our appreciation for all the good work he has done and for all the good work that is done by Operation Outward Reach.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT. Will Mr. Ray Thompson please rise so we can thank you for all of your good work with Operation Outward Reach.

(Applause.)

**GUEST OF SENATOR JEFFREY E. PICCOLA
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

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

Senator PICCOLA. Madam President, I am very pleased to have serving as a guest Page Sylvia Nurick. Sylvia is currently out of school and is presently volunteering with the ARC of Dauphin County. She has decided that she would like to spend the day to get an idea of how the Senate of Pennsylvania works and is on the floor today as one of our guest Pages. I would appreciate it if the Senate would welcome Sylvia to the Senate floor.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT. Will Sylvia Nurick please rise so we can welcome you.

(Applause.)

**GUEST OF SENATOR JOHN EICHELBERGER
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Blair, Senator Eichelberger.

Senator EICHELBERGER. Madam President, it is an honor for me to introduce a young man who has been an intern in my office for a period of time and is soon to graduate from Penn State University. Dan Burkhart, affectionately known in the office as "Dan the Man," is 26 and originally from Clearwater, Florida, and his family moved to Pennsylvania a number of years ago. He is majoring in business management and marketing at Penn State in Altoona, and he is on the board of directors for the Miracle League in Blair County, which built a baseball field for disabled children this year. Dan is very active in that organization as well as other community organizations in the Altoona/Blair County area. I ask the Senate to join me in a warm welcome for Dan Burkhart.

The PRESIDENT. Will Dan Burkhart please rise so we can welcome you to the Pennsylvania Senate.

(Applause.)

**GUESTS OF SENATOR ROBERT D. ROBBINS
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mercer, Senator Robbins.

Senator ROBBINS. Madam President, today I have the pleasure of introducing a group of political science students from Clarion University, two of whom are residents of my district. Joe Ferguson and Heather Morrell, both residents of Crawford County, are visiting the Capitol today to get a firsthand look at government in action. Accompanying Joe and Heather are Chris Katella, Zach Hause, and Dan Hagen.

Madam President and fellow Members, please join me in welcoming my special guests to the Senate of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDENT. Will Joe Ferguson, Heather Morrell, Chris Katella, Zach Hause, and Dan Hagen please rise. Welcome.

(Applause.)

DISCHARGE PETITIONS

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

November 14, 2007

A PETITION

To place before the Senate the nomination of The Honorable Thomas Goldsmith as a member of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

TO: The Presiding 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 The Honorable Thomas Goldsmith, Easton, Pennsylvania, as a member of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, before the entire Senate body for a vote, the nomination not having been voted upon within 15 legislative days:

Robert D. Robbins
Joseph B. Scarnati III
Dominic F. Pileggi

Jane C. Orié
Michael L. Waugh

November 14, 2007

A PETITION

To place before the Senate the nomination of Robert S. Marcus, Esquire, as a member of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

TO: The Presiding 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 Robert S. Marcus, Esquire, Indiana, Pennsylvania, as a member of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, before the entire Senate body for a vote, the nomination not having been voted upon within 15 legislative days:

Robert D. Robbins
Joseph B. Scarnati III
Dominic F. Pileggi
Jane C. Orié
Michael L. Waugh

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

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 43, SB 317 and SB 390 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 721 (Pr. No. 1539) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

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 real estate appraiser certification required, for powers and duties of board, for application and qualifications, for reciprocity, for certification renewal and record, for disciplinary and corrective measures, for reinstatement, for reporting of multiple certification, for surrender of suspended or revoked certificate, for penalties, for injunctive relief and for scope of practice.

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-50

Armstrong	Fontana	O'Pake	Tartaglione
Baker	Fumo	Orie	Tomlinson
Boscola	Gordner	Piccola	Vance
Browne	Greenleaf	Pileggi	Washington
Brubaker	Hughes	Pippy	Waugh
Corman	Kasunic	Punt	White, Donald
Costa	Kitchen	Rafferty	White, Mary Jo
Dinniman	LaValle	Regola	Williams, Anthony H.
Earl	Logan	Rhoades	Williams, Constance
Eichelberger	Madigan	Robbins	Wonderling
Erickson	McIlhinney	Scarnati	Wozniak
Ferlo	Mellow	Stack	
Folmer	Musto	Stout	

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 TEMPORARILY

SB 777 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order temporarily at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 1013 and SB 1051 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 642 (Pr. No. 2557) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the offense of neglect of care-dependent person.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 1000 and HB 1420 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

BILL RECOMMITTED

HB 1589 (Pr. No. 2829) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the capital budget for the fiscal year 2007-2008; itemizing public improvement projects, furniture and equipment projects, transportation assistance projects, redevelopment assistance capital projects, flood control projects, Keystone Recreation, Park and

July 14, 2007

Conservation Fund projects, Environmental Stewardship Fund projects, Motor License Fund projects, State forestry bridge projects, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission projects, Manufacturing Fund projects and federally funded projects to be constructed or acquired or assisted by the Department of General Services, the Department of Community and Economic Development, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the Department of Transportation, together with their estimated financial costs; authorizing the incurring of debt without the approval of the electors for the purpose of financing the projects to be constructed, acquired or assisted by the Department of General Services, the Department of Community and Economic Development, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission or the Department of Transportation; stating the estimated useful life of the projects; providing an exemption; providing for limitation on certain capital projects, for special provisions for certain redevelopment assistance capital projects and for preemption of local ordinances for Department of Corrections projects; and making appropriations.

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

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

SB 777 CALLED UP

SB 777 (Pr. No. 1456) -- 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 PILEGGI.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

SB 777 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator PILEGGI.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Senator ROBBINS,

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

Which was agreed to by voice vote.

NOMINATION TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

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

The Clerk read the nomination as follows:

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD

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 S. Marcus, Esquire, 57 South 6th Street, Indiana 15701, Indiana County, Forty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, to serve until the third Tuesday of May 2010, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jonathan H. Newman, Esquire, Bryn Mawr, resigned.

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Governor

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

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

YEA-49

Armstrong	Fontana	Orie	Tomlinson
Baker	Fumo	Piccola	Vance
Boscola	Gordner	Pileggi	Washington
Browne	Greenleaf	Pippy	Waugh
Brubaker	Hughes	Punt	White, Donald
Corman	Kasunic	Rafferty	White, Mary Jo
Costa	Kitchen	Regola	Williams, Anthony H.
Dinniman	LaValle	Rhoades	Williams, Constance
Earl	Logan	Robbins	Wonderling
Eichelberger	Madigan	Scarnati	Wozniak
Erickson	McIlhinney	Stack	
Ferlo	Mellow	Stout	
Folmer	Musto	Tartaglione	

NAY-1

O'Pake

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

NOMINATION TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

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

The Clerk read the nomination as follows:

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD

July 14, 2007

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, The Honorable Thomas Goldsmith, 1461 Toursdale Drive, Easton 18045, Northampton County, Twenty-fourth Senatorial District, for reappointment as a member of the Penn-

sylvania Liquor Control Board, to serve until the third Tuesday of May 2011, and until his successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period.

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Governor

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

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

YEA-50

Armstrong	Fontana	O'Pake	Tartaglione
Baker	Fumo	Orie	Tomlinson
Boscola	Gordner	Piccola	Vance
Browne	Greenleaf	Pileggi	Washington
Brubaker	Hughes	Pippy	Waugh
Corman	Kasunic	Punt	White, Donald
Costa	Kitchen	Rafferty	White, Mary Jo
Dinniman	LaValle	Regola	Williams, Anthony H.
Earll	Logan	Rhoades	Williams, Constance
Eichelberger	Madigan	Robbins	Wonderling
Erickson	McIlhinney	Scarnati	Wozniak
Ferlo	Mellow	Stack	
Folmer	Musto	Stout	

NAY-0

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

Ordered, That the Governor be informed accordingly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RISES

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS**

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

Congratulations of the Senate were extended Matthew E. Nielsen by Senator Armstrong.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Carl R. Meier, David Donowski, John Twardzik and to Michael Otto by Senator Baker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Donald Weaver and to Jennifer Raimo by Senator Brubaker.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Dan Thimoleas, William Barker, Theresa Colaizzi, Joseph Adragna, Jr., Jim Devine, Courtney Sturm, Robert Kleppick, Bob Walters, Christine Brown, Dennis Brown, Michael J. Welsh, Jr., Mary Bernacki, Frank Lamanti, James Gregg, Jr., Michelle Wolfe, Sylvia Wilson and to Chasers by Senator Costa.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Strode, Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Merion, Dr. Madeleine Wing Adler, Neal Gilkyson Thorpe, Shannon Royer, John E. Nash and to the West Chester Area Day Care Center by Senator Dinniman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Aaron Loncki by Senator Earll.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jonathan M. Norton by Senator Folmer.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Joshua Meyers by Senator Fontana.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. George Gabsewics, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hauck, Beatrice Ermisch, Lee S. Mowery, Frederick T. Trump and to David Earl Lewis by Senator Gordner.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Joanne Slade and to William James Bielucke by Senator Greenleaf.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mark John McCuen by Senator Hughes.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. R. Allen Rightmire by Senator Madigan.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Matthew W. McKeon and to Andrew S. Nitroy by Senator O'Pake.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Nathaniel William Patten, Daniel N. Csonka and to Patrick J. Garrett by Senator Orie.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mary L. Barley by Senator Pileggi.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable David Mushrush, the Honorable James Sacco, Matthew W. McKeon, Andrew S. Nitroy and to the Downingtown West High School Marching Band by Senator Rafferty.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Springfield Senior High School Marching Band of Royersford by Senators Rafferty and Dinniman.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to J. Edward Hutchinson, Reverend Dr. Kenneth Rutter and to Dr. Pascal Spino by Senator Regola.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Jerry L. Carr, John Lee Barnes, Carolyn Kee and to Nichole McCandless by Senator Robbins.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. William T. Mack, John Smith and to the Stackpole-Hall Foundation of St. Marys by Senator Scarnati.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Gene McMillan by Senator Stout.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Floyd H. Laughlin by Senators Stout and Pippy.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable Dennis M. O'Brien by Senator Tartaglione.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Sister Francesca Onley, CSFN, by Senators Tomlinson and Stack.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to W. Cody Anderson and to Elliot L. Shelkrot by Senator Washington.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Pine Grove Presbyterian Church of Airville by Senator Waugh.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to Daniel Marshall by Senator D. White.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Honorable Clair F. Bailey by Senator M. J. White.

Congratulations of the Senate were extended to the Borough of Bridgeport by Senator C. Williams.

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTIONS

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

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late John Y. Woodruff, Sr., by Senator Kasunic.

Condolences of the Senate were extended to the family of the late Dr. Terrance Anthony Johnson by Senator Madigan.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

The motion was agreed to.

The bills were as follows:

SB 776, SB 863, SB 1122, HB 419 and HB 1109.

And said bills having been considered for the first time,

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

SENATE RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Senators C. WILLIAMS, PILEGGI, COSTA, KASUNIC, LAVALLE, WASHINGTON, MUSTO, FONTANA, RAFFERTY, FERLO, STACK, STOUT, PIPPY, ORIE, ERICKSON, GREENLEAF, REGOLA, BAKER, WONDERLING, McILHINNEY, EARLL, FOLMER and BROWNE, by unanimous consent, offered **Senate Resolution No. 215**, entitled:

A Resolution designating November 15, 2007, as "Pennsylvania Geographic Information System Day."

On the question,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Connie Williams.

Senator C. WILLIAMS. Madam President, I would like to submit remarks for the record.

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

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

Madam President, I rise to ask your support in declaring November 15, 2007, as Pennsylvania GIS Day. GIS, or geographic information system, is a progressive technology that has transformed the way we live and work.

Have you ever wondered how the navigation system in your car actually knows where to go? How do soldiers know every inch of their surroundings when they are at the base of huge mountain ranges? The answer, ladies and gentleman, is GIS technology.

Geospacial technologies, like GIS, global positioning systems (GPS) and digital mapping have become everyday tools that we rely on to deliver public safety and emergency response. It is used in medicine, economic development, homeland security, for education, workforce analysis, transportation, agriculture, historical preservation, and even for travel and advertising.

If you would like to see some good examples of GIS technology, you should take a few minutes to visit some of the GIS exhibits in the Capitol rotundas on November 15. You will be amazed at how this type of technology has changed daily living.

The United States Department of Labor has identified geospacial technology, biotechnology and nanotechnology as the three technologies with the greatest potential for growth and job creation. Employment in the geospacial technology industry is growing by 10 percent to 13 percent per year and the demand for geospacial technology services is creating new jobs in a wide range of fields.

Pennsylvania is a leader in research and training in geospacial technology and is home to many of the nation's leading geospacial technology firms.

I hope that you will join with me in drawing attention to GIS by declaring November 15, 2007 as Pennsylvania GIS Day.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate adopt the resolution?

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

RECESS

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

Senator PILEGGI. Madam President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Monday, November 19, 2007, at 1 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 1:40 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.