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MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2022

SESSION OF 2022 206TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 4

SENATE

MONDAY, January 24, 2022

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

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor John K. Fetterman) in the Chair.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend DR. DANIEL MOORE, of Guinston Presbyterian Church, Airville, offered the following prayer:

Will you join me in prayer.

Father, today the Pennsylvania Senate has gathered to deliberate and do business. When the ancient Romans were looking for a word to describe their newly formed legislative body in 753 B.C., they chose to call themselves a Senate. They chose this term because it suggested maturity. It shares the same root as "senior," meaning one who is more advanced, either in age or stature. The Romans believed that with age came wisdom, with experience came knowledge. As people lived their lives, they learned. They knew their leaders would need wisdom if they were to rule their empire well. The need for wisdom and leadership is no less urgent today than 2,800 years ago. For peace to abound, leaders must rule with wisdom. For justice to be enacted, representatives must legislate with discernment. When Malachi asked what You want of us, You tell the prophet "...to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." This is what You want from all people, and we need Your help to do it.

For this governing body, in addition to living these principles out in their own lives, they are charged with the task of crafting laws and regulations that promote justice, empower mercy, and model kindness through our government and among our people. It is a heavy responsibility made especially complicated with complex issues like abortion--having marked the 49th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* this weekend. With challenges like this, they are going to need Your help to govern well. They are going to need Your wisdom. You tell us in James' letter that if anyone needs wisdom they are to ask God, and it will be given. Our Senators have wisdom, but they are going to need even more. So, today, we lift them up and ask You to bless them with wisdom that goes beyond human understanding. We ask for wisdom to enact laws that promote the principles that You value: mercy and justice; righteousness and peace; kindness and truth and love. Grant them wisdom that surprises even themselves, and glorify Your name through their work today. For we pray all these

things in the wonderful and blessed name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, the Savior. Amen.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks Reverend Moore, who is the guest today of Senator Phillips-Hill.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

**RECALL COMMUNICATIONS
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

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

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

January 21, 2022

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 January 4, 2022, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Medicine, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice new position created by Act 79 of 2021.

TOM WOLF
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

January 21, 2022

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 January 11, 2022, of Larry Nulton, 3630 Snake Road, Colver 15927, Cambria County, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Transportation Commission, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice George Khoury, Lemont, whose term expired.

TOM WOLF
Governor

NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

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

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

January 21, 2022

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, Walter Eisenhauer, 83 Pansey Drive, Jersey Shore 17740, Lycoming County, Twenty-third Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Medicine, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice new position created by Act 79 of 2021.

TOM WOLF
Governor

**CORRECTION TO NOMINATION
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

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

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

January 21, 2022

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

Please note that the letter dated January 12, 2022, for the nomination of Joseph Wysock, 661 Eaglet Circle, Lancaster 17601, Allegheny County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Paul Hoffer, Millersville, whose term expired, should be corrected to read:

Joseph Wysock, 661 Eaglet Circle, Lancaster 17601, Lancaster County, Thirty-sixth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Paul Hoffer, Millersville, whose term expired.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

January 20, 2022

Senators AUMENT, YAW, MARTIN, ARGALL, BARLOTTA, ROBINSON, J. WARD, SCAVELLO, REGAN, BROOKS, PITTMAN, STEFANO, MASTRIANO, PHILLIPS-HILL, HUTCHINSON and BAKER presented to the Chair **SB 1018**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 25 (Elections) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in registration system, providing for updating the SURE system; and making inconsistent repeals.

Which was committed to the Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, January 20, 2022.

Senators STREET, LAUGHLIN, KANE, COLLETT, COSTA, MUTH, L. WILLIAMS and TARTAGLIONE presented to the Chair **SB 1024**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 17, 2016 (P.L.84, No.16), known as the Medical Marijuana Act, in patients, providing for cultivating cannabis for personal use.

Which was committed to the Committee on LAW AND JUSTICE, January 20, 2022.

Senator LANGERHOLC presented to the Chair **SB 1025**, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 8639, carrying State Route 3024, also known as Ragers Hill Road, over State Route 2006, Norfolk Southern Railroad, and the South Fork Branch Little Conemaugh River in Croyle Township, Cambria County, as the PFC Donald E. Hunter, USMC Memorial Bridge.

Which was committed to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION, January 20, 2022.

Senators HAYWOOD, HUGHES, COLLETT, KEARNEY, COSTA, STREET, FONTANA, KANE, SCHWANK, L. WILLIAMS and MUTH presented to the Chair **SB 1026**, entitled:

An Act providing for a full and independent investigation into a use of deadly force by a police officer.

Which was committed to the Committee on LAW AND JUSTICE, January 20, 2022.

Senators STEFANO, ARGALL, BAKER, BROOKS, DUSH, FONTANA, GEBHARD, GORDNER, HUTCHINSON, MARTIN, MASTRIANO, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN, REGAN, ROBINSON, SCAVELLO, SCHWANK, J. WARD and YUDICHAK presented to the Chair **SB 1027**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 24, 2012 (P.L.1209, No.151), known as the Child Labor Act, further providing for minors serving in volunteer emergency service organizations.

Which was committed to the Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, January 20, 2022.

January 21, 2022

Senators YAW, LANGERHOLC, REGAN, BARLOTTA, ARGALL, DUSH, J. WARD, SCAVELLO, HUTCHINSON, PITTMAN, MENSCH and STEFANO presented to the Chair **SB 1030**, entitled:

An Act providing for suspension of the Pennsylvania Heavy-Duty Diesel Emissions Control Program and for expiration of suspension.

Which was committed to the Committee on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, January 21, 2022.

Aument	Dush	Martin	Stefano
Baker	Flynn	Mastriano	Street
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tartaglione
Boscola	Gebhard	Muth	Tomlinson
Brewster	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Brooks	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Browne	Hughes	Regan	Ward, Kim
Cappelletti	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Kane	Santarsiero	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kearney	Saval	Yaw
Corman	Langerholc	Scavello	Yudichak
Costa			

NAY-0

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

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

GUESTS OF SENATOR KRISTIN PHILLIPS-HILL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise to welcome back today's guest Chaplain, Dr. Daniel Moore of Guinston Presbyterian Church, located in Airville. Dr. Moore was invited to give the opening prayer in October, and I am happy he has returned to deliver another thoughtful prayer at the beginning of a busy Session week. Would my colleagues please join me in welcoming back Dr. Daniel Moore and his daughters, Marilla and Cora, to the Senate.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Welcome back.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDENT. The Chair continues to recognize Senator Phillips-Hill.

Senator PHILLIPS-HILL. Mr. President, I rise to introduce my guest shadow, Bryan Caraballo from Red Lion. Bryan is a junior at Dallastown Area High School where his favorite classes are AP government with Mr. Koons and AP environmental science with Mr. Tapp. He plans to attend college and study political science. As a distinguished honor roll student, Bryan spends most of his time playing music. He is part of the Dallastown marching band, the wind and jazz ensembles, and the orchestra pit for his school's musical. I have had the pleasure of watching Bryan play at Dallastown American Legion Post 605. Bryan also likes to give back to his community. He has donated water and blankets to those in need. Bryan has a very bright and promising future ahead of him, and I look forward to hearing about all of his future successes. Would my colleagues please join me in a warm Senate welcome for my shadow, Bryan.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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

(Applause.)

GUEST OF SENATOR SCOTT F. MARTIN PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, as everyone in this Chamber can agree, our district offices are indispensable in establishing connections and relationships with the people of our respective communities who we are elected to represent. We make sure we help folks navigate State government and help solve their issues. That is why it is a privilege to introduce Eros Cedeno, who is shadowing me today in the Senate.

Eros is the son of Mario Cedeno and Vielka Lozano and is a ninth grader at Lancaster Mennonite High School with an interest in politics, public service, and the problems that affect our different areas across this wonderful Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Throughout his brief time at Lancaster Mennonite, he has been elected as a representative for the freshman class and his student council, a member of the debate team, quiz bowl team, and acquiring a 4.0 GPA so far in his time. I am sure Eros has a bright future ahead of him as he looks to serve his community.

Therefore, Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in giving our traditional warm welcome to Eros Cedeno.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guest of Senator Martin please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

(Applause.)

GUESTS OF SENATOR CAROLYN T. COMITTA AND SENATOR TIMOTHY P. KEARNEY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Chester, Senator Comitta.

Senator COMITTA. Mr. President, good afternoon, friends. I rise today on behalf of Senator Kearney and myself in welcoming the Conestoga High School Girls' Tennis Team to the Pennsylvania Senate. This is the team that could not be beaten. The Conestoga Pioneers went undefeated this fall, compiling a 22-0 record that led to the Central League title, a District 1 AAA team championship, and, finally, a PIAA AAA State team title. Senator Kearney and I want to congratulate these student athletes on a perfect season. We thank all their supporters and their parents who made this possible, and we recognize their coaches: head coach, Brittany Aimone; and assistant coach, Marsha Faass.

Sports are an important part of the growth, education, and healthy development of our young people, and during the pandemic, athletics have been an invaluable outlet for so many. But the Pioneers have been especially resilient. Just take a moment to think of how many points, games, and matches they needed to play, persevere through, and win to get to 22-0. In closing, I also want to reiterate the words of head coach Brittany Aimone from an interview she gave this fall, and I quote, "On our team, everyone is viewed as an equal. We are a team first and foremost. We stand in solidarity with one another. I believe it's that sisterhood and family atmosphere that we create that contributes the most to our success. I try to create a culture where respect, kindness, humility, and grace are values that are embodied by every player on the team, day in and day out. These girls are truly a family." So, win or lose, that is a recipe for lifelong achievement, friendship, and community. Thank you, and please rise in joining me and Senator Kearney today in congratulating the Conestoga High School Girls' Tennis Team on their championship season, an undefeated season that they will always remember. Congratulations.

The PRESIDENT. Would the guests of Senator Comitta and Senator Kearney please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.
(Applause.)

CALENDAR

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OUT OF ORDER

Without objection, the following bills on today's Calendar were called out of order by Senator K. WARD, as Special Orders of Business.

BILLS REREFERRED

SB 992 (Pr. No. 1267) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act providing for the adoption of a population data set certified by the Legislative Reapportionment Commission and providing for use requirement in congressional redistricting legislation.

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

HB 2146 (Pr. No. 2541) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act apportioning this Commonwealth into congressional districts in conformity with constitutional requirements; providing for the nomination and election of Congressmen; and requiring publication of notice of the establishment of congressional districts following the Federal decennial census.

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

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 979 (Pr. No. 1706) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous articles, further providing for limitation on the regulation of firearms and ammunition; and, in preemptions, providing for regulation of firearms and ammunition.

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

Upon motion of Senator K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

RECESS

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for the purpose of a Republican caucus to be held in the Majority Caucus Room.

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

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

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

AFTER RECESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Senator Jacob D. Corman III) in the Chair.

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Baker and Senator Brooks have returned, and their legislative leaves are cancelled.

HOUSE MESSAGE

HOUSE RESOLUTION FOR CONCURRENCE

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

January 24, 2022

HR 165 -- Committee on State Government.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Columbia, Senator Gordner.

Senator GORDNER. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate for purposes of a meeting of the Committee on Appropriations to be held here on the floor, followed by a meeting of the Committee on State Government to be held in the Rules room.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. For purposes of off-the-floor meetings of the Committee on Appropriations to be held here on the floor, followed by the Committee on State Government to be held in the Rules room, without objection, the Senate stands in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor John K. Fetterman) in the Chair.

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Aument and Senator Regan.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Kim Ward requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Aument and Senator Regan. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 1, SB 113, SB 137, HB 220, SB 327, SB 457, SB 573, HB 598, SB 676, SB 703, SB 704, HB 723, SB 745, SB 775, SB 807, SB 846, SB 862, SB 927, SB 938 and HB 1082 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

HB 1304 (Pr. No. 1396) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a bridge, identified as Bridge Key 48382, on that portion of S.R. 4021 over the Stonycreek River, Hooversville Borough, Somerset County, as the Private First Class Howard Hahn Memorial Bridge.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

Argall	DiSanto	Laughlin	Schwank
Aument	Dush	Martin	Stefano
Baker	Flynn	Mastriano	Street
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tartaglione
Boscola	Gebhard	Muth	Tomlinson
Brewster	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Brooks	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Browne	Hughes	Regan	Ward, Kim
Cappelletti	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Kane	Santarsiero	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kearney	Saval	Yaw
Corman	Langerholc	Scavello	Yudichak
Costa			

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1660, HB 1823 and HB 2051 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 118, SB 200, SB 225, SB 284, SB 471 and SB 474 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 491 (Pr. No. 934) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the exclusion of veterans' benefit payments from income for Commonwealth programs.

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

Upon motion of Senator K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 522, SB 527, SB 597 and HB 636 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 763 (Pr. No. 749) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 1, 1945 (P.L.1242, No.428), known as the State Highway Law, in construction, improvement, maintenance and repair of State highways, providing for native vegetation along highways.

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

Upon motion of Senator K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

SB 812 (Pr. No. 1219) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 62 (Procurement) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in source selection and contract formation, further providing for debarment or suspension.

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

Upon motion of Senator K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request a legislative leave for Senator Martin.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Kim Ward requests a legislative leave for Senator Martin. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR RESUMED

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR RESUMED

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 815, HB 951, SB 977 and HB 987 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 995 (Pr. No. 2381) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Department of Military Affairs, establishing the PA VETConnect Program.

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

Upon motion of Senator K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 1096 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 1224 (Pr. No. 1289) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 104, from the southern border of the Borough of Middleburg to the northern border of the Borough of Middleburg, Snyder County, as the Chief of Police Tony M. Jordan Memorial Highway.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1248 and HB 1312 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION AND REREFERRED

HB 1410 (Pr. No. 2613) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act establishing the Weigh Station Preclearance Program; and providing for criteria for preclearance system and devices and for data access.

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

Upon motion of Senator K. WARD, and agreed to by voice vote, the bill just considered was rereferred to the Committee on Appropriations.

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 1421 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 1479 (Pr. No. 1598) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a portion of Pennsylvania Route 31 from Strikertown Road to Renaissance Lane in South Huntingdon Township, Westmoreland County, as the John Michael Beyrand Memorial Highway.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 1500 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

HB 1560 (Pr. No. 1717) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act designating a portion of State Route 2038, also known as County Line Road, from Meetinghouse Road to Blair Mill Road in Bucks County as the U.S. Air Force Major James Doherty Memorial Highway.

Considered the second time and agreed to,

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1650 and **HB 1819** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator K. WARD.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

SB 806 (Pr. No. 1105) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of July 20, 1979 (P.L.183, No.60), known as the Oil and Gas Lease Act, further providing for definitions, for payment information to interest owners and for accumulation of proceeds from production.

SB 967 (Pr. No. 1266) (Rereported)

An Act establishing the Women, Infants and Children State Advisory Board.

SB 992 (Pr. No. 1267) (Rereported)

An Act providing for the adoption of a population data set certified by the Legislative Reapportionment Commission and providing for use requirement in congressional redistricting legislation.

SB 1019 (Pr. No. 1321) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in temporary regulatory flexibility authority, further providing for COVID-19 regulatory flexibility authority.

HB 764 (Pr. No. 1634) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for employees having contact with children and adoptive and foster parents.

HB 979 (Pr. No. 1706) (Rereported)

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous articles, further providing for limitation on the regulation of firearms and ammunition; and, in preemptions, providing for regulation of firearms and ammunition.

HB 1122 (Pr. No. 1170) (Rereported)

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in hunting and furtaking licenses, further providing for resident license and fee exemptions and for license costs and fees.

HB 2146 (Pr. No. 2541) (Rereported)

An Act apportioning this Commonwealth into congressional districts in conformity with constitutional requirements; providing for the nomination and election of Congressmen; and requiring publication of

notice of the establishment of congressional districts following the Federal decennial census.

RESOLUTION REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE

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

HR 165 (Pr. No. 2494)

A Concurrent Resolution adopting a population data set without adjusting any group quarters population for use in congressional redistricting legislation.

The resolution will be placed on the Calendar.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 1

BILL AMENDED

HB 764 (Pr. No. 1634) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further providing for employees having contact with children and adoptive and foster parents.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?

Senator BAKER offered the following amendment No. A3458:

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 7 through 9, by striking out all of said lines and inserting:

Section 1. Section 6344(m) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

Amend Bill, page 1, lines 13 through 18; pages 2 and 3, lines 1 through 30; page 4, lines 1 through 23; by striking out all of said lines on said pages and inserting:

(m) Provisional employees for limited periods.--The following shall apply to provisional employees:

(1) Employers, administrators, supervisors or other persons responsible for employment decisions, except for a child-care institution, a prospective adoptive parent or a prospective foster parent may [not] employ [applicants] an applicant on a provisional basis[, except that the department is authorized to grant a waiver of this provision upon request from a child day-care center, group day-care home or family child-care home. If a child day-care center, group day-care home or family child-care home is granted a waiver, an applicant may be employed on a provisional basis] for a single period not to exceed 45 days, if all of the following conditions are met:

[(1)] (i) The applicant has applied for the information required under subsection (b) and the applicant provides a copy of the appropriate completed request forms to the employer, administrator, supervisor or other person responsible for employment decisions.

[(2)] (ii) The employer, administrator, supervisor or other person responsible for employment decisions has no knowledge of information pertaining to the applicant which would disqualify him from employment pursuant to subsection (c).

[(3)] (iii) The applicant swears or affirms in writing that he is not disqualified from employment pursuant to subsection (c) or has not been convicted of an offense similar in nature to those crimes listed in subsection (c) under the laws or former laws of the United States or one of its territories or possessions, another state, the District of Columbia, the Common-

wealth of Puerto Rico or a foreign nation, or under a former law of this Commonwealth.

[(3.1) A child day-care center, group day-care home or family child-care home received the result of the report of the criminal history record information under subsection (b)(1) or (3).

(4)] (iv) If the information obtained pursuant to subsection (b) reveals that the applicant is disqualified from employment pursuant to subsection (c), the applicant shall be immediately dismissed by the employer, administrator, supervisor or other person responsible for employment decisions.

[(5)] (v) The employer, administrator, supervisor or other person responsible for employment decisions requires that the applicant not be permitted to work alone with children and that the applicant work in the immediate vicinity of a permanent employee.

(vi) The applicant received the results of the information required under subsection (b)(2) and either subsection (b)(1) or (b)(3) and submitted the results to the employer, administrator, supervisor or other person responsible for employment decisions.

(2) For the purposes of this subsection, the term "child-care institution" shall mean a child-care institution as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 672(c)(2)(A) (relating to foster care maintenance payments program) on the effective date of this paragraph.

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 K. WARD.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1019 (Pr. No. 1321) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in temporary regulatory flexibility authority, further providing for COVID-19 regulatory flexibility authority.

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

MUTH AMENDMENT A3534 OFFERED

Senator MUTH offered the following amendment No. A3534:

Amend Bill, page 3, line 30, by inserting after "website":
and the publicly accessible Internet website of the Governor's Office

Amend Bill, page 3, line 30; page 4, line 1; by striking out "each of the" in line 30 on page 3 and "individuals listed under subsection (c)." in line 1 on page 4 and inserting:

the members of the General Assembly. The report shall be entered upon the journals of the proceedings of the Senate and the House of Representatives within five legislative days in each chamber from the date of the report.

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

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Muth.

Senator MUTH. Mr. President, my amendment would change the current makeup of the bill where these waivers are to be pub-

lished and submitted. My amendment would require that each agency's permanent suspension report be published comprehensively on the Governor's website instead of individually through each agency. It would be issued to all Members of the General Assembly and entered into the legislative Journals of each Chamber instead of the current proposed legislation that is issued only to legislative leaders and the Committee chairs with jurisdiction over the authority.

Thank you, Mr. President.

MUTH AMENDMENT A3534 TABLED

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, there are many things in this amendment that we like, for instance the transparency, but there are some things that we still need to work on. We got this at a late hour, so I would like to continue working on this; we would all like to continue working on this. For today, I am asking that we place it on the table.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Kim Ward moves that Senator Muth's amendment be laid upon the table.

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

The yeas and nays were required by Senator K. WARD and were as follows, viz:

YEA-29

Argall	Dush	Mastriano	Stefano
Aument	Gebhard	Mensch	Tomlinson
Baker	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Bartolotta	Hutchinson	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Langerholc	Regan	Ward, Kim
Browne	Laughlin	Robinson	Yaw
Corman	Martin	Scavello	Yudichak
DiSanto			

NAY-20

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

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

The PRESIDENT. Amendment A3534 will be laid on the table.

And the question recurring,
Will the Senate agree to the bill on third consideration?
It was agreed to.

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Corman.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Kim Ward requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Corman. Without objection, the leave will be granted.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-49

Argall	DiSanto	Laughlin	Schwank
Aument	Dush	Martin	Stefano
Baker	Flynn	Mastriano	Street
Bartolotta	Fontana	Mensch	Tartaglione
Boscola	Gebhard	Muth	Tomlinson
Brewster	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Brooks	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Browne	Hughes	Regan	Ward, Kim
Cappelletti	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Kane	Santarsiero	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kearney	Saval	Yaw
Corman	Langerholc	Scavello	Yudichak
Costa			

NAY-0

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

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

**MOTION NOTWITHSTANDING
SENATE RULE 29**

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, as a special order of business, I call up Senate Supplemental Calendar No. 3 and move that the Senate proceed to consider the following resolution, notwithstanding the provisions of Senate Rule 29(b):

HR 165.

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

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

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR No. 3**

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
No. 165, ADOPTED**

Senator K. WARD, without objection, called up from page 1 of Supplemental Calendar No. 3, **House Concurrent Resolution No. 165**, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution adopting a population data set without adjusting any group quarters population for use in congressional redistricting legislation.

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

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

Senator K. WARD. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do concur in House Concurrent Resolution No. 165.

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

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise and ask for a negative vote on House Resolution No. 165. For the benefit of the Members, this is a resolution that goes along with the work that will be done as it relates to our congressional redistricting. This resolution would say that we would utilize the Census data as it came to us from the Federal government. Mr. President, this also is a resolution that was adopted by the Legislative Reapportionment Commission many weeks ago in our commission meeting. There were two sets of data that were approved by the Legislative Reapportionment Commission. This data set, which I think is referred to as Resolution 6B, if I am not mistaken, and also a resolution that related to the issue of prisoner reallocation. Mr. President, the prisoner reallocation data was the data that we selected for the Reapportionment Commission and that is the data set that we are moving forward with. Now, 10 years ago when we went through this process, there was consistency between--and probably previous redistricting cases before that--10 years ago we adopted a resolution in the General Assembly that also talked about what data set we would use. Back then we were consistent with the Legislative Reapportionment Commission, we adopted the same data set, that was the data set that came from the Census Bureau. However, because the Reapportionment Commission used a different data set this time, I believe--and I think many of us on this side of the aisle believe--that we should be looking at the data set that was adopted by the commission, which was Resolution 6A, the prisoner reallocation data. I think it is important for us to recognize that by adopting this resolution, and this Resolution 6B data set, it could very likely create significant legal problems for us in the courts as we go forward. In fact, it could likely end up being part of a Federal lawsuit that addresses the issue of one person, one vote, going forward. Given these inconsistencies between the congressional redistricting that we will be doing here in this body--possibly, hopefully--or also the Reapportionment Commission that adopted a different set of data. I think those inconsistencies are going to create a very significant issue for us going forward. More importantly, I think it is important that we recognize the underlying reason for why we did the prisoner reallocation. That was to ensure that those individuals--10 years or less, I believe, in prison as was defined by Leader Ward--would have the ability to have their residency counted at their last known address and not at the prison location they were housed at as was traditionally done. We feel that it was a very important issue that needed to be addressed in the com-

mission, and by a 3 to 2 vote the commission adopted that. The inconsistency is what I am concerned about, and for those reasons, I am asking for a negative vote with respect to House Resolution No. 165.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Schuylkill, Senator Argall.

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, in terms of consistency, for more than 200 years the rule in the Census was: Where are you on this given day? That seems to have gotten very confusing in the last few years. In the 2010 Census, for instance, I would much rather have had my two children counted in Schuylkill County rather than in Philadelphia. But the rule was very simple, they were in Philadelphia attending college classes, sleeping in a dorm on that given day, so they were counted in Philadelphia, not in my home in Schuylkill County. The same for 200 years has been true for those who are incarcerated. Where are they on that given day? That is why the House has chosen to approve this resolution to say that we will not be adjusting the group quarters population for use in congressional redistricting. I also find it interesting that the Governor, in his proposed maps on congressional redistricting, chose not to adjust the data, either. So, in terms of consistency, in terms of precedent, I would ask that we honor the precedent of the last 200 years.

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

The yeas and nays were required by Senator K. WARD and were as follows, viz:

YEA-29

Argall	Dush	Mastriano	Stefano
Aument	Gebhard	Mensch	Tomlinson
Baker	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Bartolotta	Hutchinson	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Langerholc	Regan	Ward, Kim
Browne	Laughlin	Robinson	Yaw
Corman	Martin	Scavello	Yudichak
DiSanto			

NAY-20

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

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

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate inform the House of Representatives accordingly.

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

**BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE**

HB 2146 (Pr. No. 2541) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act apportioning this Commonwealth into congressional districts in conformity with constitutional requirements; providing for the nomination and election of Congressmen; and requiring publication of notice of the establishment of congressional districts following the Federal decennial census.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator COSTA. Mr. President, I rise and ask for a negative vote on House Bill No. 2146. This measure represents the congressional plan as drafted by our colleagues on the other side of the aisle in the House. Clearly, it is a partisan map that significantly benefits the Republican party, something that, certainly, we are not in support of along this side of the aisle. Mr. President, this process was designed to be one that was going to be an open and transparent process that allowed for a fair representation of the people of Pennsylvania at the congressional level. This map does not do that. Quite frankly, it does the exact opposite in terms of what needs to be done.

Unfortunately, we were not able to come to a consensus here on this side of the building that would allow us the opportunity to draw lines and a map that would be beneficial to the people of Pennsylvania. I do want to say that I know our colleagues have tried to do that and worked closely, certainly, with me and my colleagues, Senator Street and Senator Argall, and their staff. Senator Kim Ward and Senator Corman's staff as well, tried to reach a place where we could have something that we could agree to that we can meet the Commonwealth Court's deadline of January 30. Unfortunately, it appears that we are not going to be able to do that. This version of the map, I think as we now know, the Governor has clearly indicated that he will veto this Republican congressional map and we are asking for a negative vote and will deal with the issue if there is going to be an attempt to override, we will deal with it then, but more importantly, this is something we should not advance out of this Chamber at this point in time.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Schuylkill, Senator Argall.

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, as the Minority Leader pointed out, for 7 months, many of us, especially Senator Street and I and our staff--I have to congratulate the staff, because they really did put a tremendous effort into this, in our attempt to negotiate a new congressional map. Our goal was quite simple: to receive a majority vote--the House Democrats, House Republicans, Senate Republicans, Senate Democrats--and the signature of the Governor. As the Minority Leader has pointed out, we have made considerable progress, but we have not reached a final agreement. He also noted that time is running short, and because time is running short due to the impending action in the courts, I would urge an affirmative vote on House Bill No. 2146, so that this bill can, indeed, be considered by the Governor if our negotiations fail to reach a bipartisan solution.

It was frequently noted in the House that this legislation began in a very unique way. Not written by a politician, not written

by a legislative staffer, but written by a genuine citizen advocate, someone who has spent an extraordinary amount of time on this issue on her own time in the last decade. It, of course, was amended--all bills in this building seem to get amended at one point or another--but it certainly began as a noble effort by a citizen advocate. I would also encourage you to look at the current map and compare it with previous redistrictings: 10 years ago, 20 years ago, 30 years ago. It is not a perfect map. Guess what? There is no such thing as a perfect map, but I do believe that you will, certainly, with a very clear eye, see that it is a much-improved map over previous maps approved over the years in the House, in the Senate, by both Republicans and Democrats. For all of those reasons, Mr. President, I would urge a "yes" vote today.

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

Senator STREET. Mr. President, I rise to urge a "no" vote. I do want to thank the gentleman, the Senator from Schuylkill County, for the work that was done in a sincere effort to reach a consensus, and efforts that are ongoing. Unfortunately, this is not that. This is a map that was drawn and adopted by the House Republican Caucus without bipartisan input. They did not engage in the process we have, and this map is not a product of our sincere negotiations. It is a map that will most assuredly get vetoed, and it does not, therefore, advance our goals. So I ask Members to vote "no" on this map. We can continue to do work of trying to reach something genuinely bipartisan.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-29

Argall	Dush	Mastriano	Stefano
Aument	Gebhard	Mensch	Tomlinson
Baker	Gordner	Phillips-Hill	Vogel
Bartolotta	Hutchinson	Pittman	Ward, Judy
Brooks	Langerholc	Regan	Ward, Kim
Browne	Laughlin	Robinson	Yaw
Corman	Martin	Scavello	Yudichak
DiSanto			

NAY-20

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

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.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION**

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.
The bills were as follows:

SB 936, HB 996 and HB 1737.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022

9:30 A.M.	ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (to consider Senate Bills No. 945 and 1030; and House Bills No. 668 and 1842)	Room 8E-B East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
9:30 A.M.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bill No. 589; and House Bills No. 221, 1350 and 1877)	Room 8E-A East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
10:00 A.M.	ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY (public hearing on storm water fees and implementation)	Room 8E-B East Wing (LIVE STREAMED)
10:30 A.M.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (to consider Senate Bills No. 152 and 956; and House Bill No. 1420)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. (LIVE STREAMED)
11:30 A.M.	CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (to consider House Bills No. 889, 1801 and 1868)	Room 461 Main Capitol
12:00 P.M.	COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (to consider Senate Bill No. 962)	Room 461 Main Capitol
12:30 P.M.	STATE GOVERNMENT (to consider Senate Bill No. 322)	Room 461 Main Capitol
Off the Floor	APPROPRIATIONS (to consider Senate Bills No. 934 and 935; and House Bills No. 245, 253 and 1849)	Senate Chamber (LIVE STREAMED)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2022

9:30 A.M.	COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (public hearing on small business assistance and economic recovery)	Hrg. Rm. 1 North Off. (LIVE STREAMED)
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PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Senator Cappelletti.

Senator CAPPELLETTI. Mr. President, last week, the United States Senate failed to pass the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act after a party-line vote and a failure to reform Senate rules, including the filibuster. For almost 10 years, voting rights have been under attack since the Supreme Court gutted the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In that time, we have seen voter suppression laws implemented in dozens of States across the country. These laws disproportionately affect minorities, the elderly, the disabled, and our youth from being able to vote, and I would hate to see our legislature pass similar laws.

As you may know, Act 77, also known as the Voting Reform Act, was passed with bipartisan support in both Chambers and signed into law by Governor Wolf. Act 77 was a historic election reform bill that made significant changes to our Election Code, including the elimination of straight party/ticket voting, extending voter registration deadlines, and introducing no excuse mail-in voting. Act 77 was signed into law on October 31, 2019, months before the Pennsylvania Primary and months before the COVID-19 pandemic turned our lives upside down. Both the Pennsylvania Primary and general elections were free, fair, and secure across the Commonwealth. Yet, due to the overwhelming scare tactics of our former President, our legislature continues to introduce voting reform bills that would make it harder for our constituents to vote. By imposing voter ID laws, we are excluding a large group of voters who are unable to obtain the proper identification to exactly match their voter registration. By moving the voter registration deadline to 30 days before the election, we are excluding new residents of the Commonwealth who may want to have a voice in being represented in their new communities. By limiting no excuse mail-in voting, we are excluding our youth studying at out-of-State colleges and universities. Over the past couple of months, I have received countless calls, emails, and letters from my constituents in the 17th Senatorial District urging me to protect voting rights. I came to Harrisburg to represent the residents of the 17th Senatorial District honestly and justly. As the U.S. Senate remains deadlocked on voting rights and the elimination of the filibuster, I would like to recommend to my colleagues here in the State Senate of Pennsylvania that voting is not a privilege, it is a constitutional right. So let us drop these voter suppression bills and pass legislation to protect our Commonwealth's election laws.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Senator Tartaglione has submitted remarks for the record. Without objection, the remarks will be spread upon the record.

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

Mr. President, today is day 5-6-7-8 in Pennsylvania; 5,678 days since the Pennsylvania legislature last passed an increase in the minimum wage.

Our Commonwealth's lowest earners not only deserve to make a livable wage, but they need to. Time after time, when I walk my district

and meet my constituents, I hear devastating stories about the effect of making the minimum wage on people's lives. These are not just high school students working for some pocket change, but people trying to support their families, working 50, 60, sometimes more than 70 hours a week, just to put food on their table and a roof over their family's head. How can this be acceptable, Mr. President?

According to the global charity Oxfam International, the world's top ten billionaires doubled their wealth since the COVID-19 pandemic began. This means they increased their wealth by \$1.3 billion a day, or \$15,000 a second, during the global pandemic. That means that every second, the wealthiest 10 people in the world made more money than a minimum-wage employee will take 1 full year to make. We cannot allow trends like that to continue, Mr. President, while continuing to fail our lowest earners, the people who likely worked for and contributed to the wealth gains of those individuals. Mr. President, to have someone making in 1 second what it takes others 1 year to make should be unconscionable for us.

That is why I have introduced Senate Bill No. 12, because, Mr. President, I do not think it is right that the wealthy get to see record growth in their net worth while we ignore our low-wage earners. Senate Bill No. 12 would raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour for our lowest earners, and if it is acceptable for the mega-wealthy to double their worth, I think doubling the poverty wage that workers make now to something livable is more than acceptable; I think it is great. That is why I am calling on the Senate to pass Senate Bill No. 12, so that we can provide the same growth we are seeing at the top to the people who actually need it.

Thank you, Mr. President.

HOUSE MESSAGE

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL

The Clerk of the House of Representatives informed the Senate that the House has concurred in amendments made by the Senate to **HB 1588**.

BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor John K. Fetterman) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bills:

HB 1588 and **HB 2146**.

RESOLUTION SIGNED

The PRESIDENT (Lieutenant Governor John K. Fetterman) in the presence of the Senate signed the following resolution:

HR 165.

RECESS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Venango, Senator Hutchinson.

Senator HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 1 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 4:37 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.