

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Legislative Journal

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024

SESSION OF 2024 208TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 21

SENATE

TUESDAY, June 11, 2024

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

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, GAVIN BITTNER, Chaplain Aide, Troop 5135, Laurel Highlands Council, Berlin, offered the following prayer:

Please prepare yourselves for a moment of reverence.

Dear Heavenly Father, we come before You today to bless all those gathered here. Lord, we ask that You send Your Holy Spirit down upon us and let us have a wonderful day. We ask for special blessings upon our Senators and Representatives and that You bless this country. And, Lord, help us all to follow Your Holy will. We praise You and thank You, Lord, for the wonderful things You do for us. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those assembled, led by Joshua Tyler Davidheiser, Troop 89, New Birth of Freedom Council, Enola.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair thanks Gavin Bittner and Joshua Tyler Davidheiser, who are the guests today of Senator Culver.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE
PRESIDING OFFICER**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to Senate Rule 21(b), the Chair is giving the Senators notice that a photographer from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor has been granted permission to take still photographs on the floor of the Senate during today's Session.

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

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 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Landscape Architects, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Megan Carpenter, Beaver, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

**MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD
OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated March 5, 2024, of Moriah Hathaway, 2501 Hoffer Street, Harrisburg 17103, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Landscape Architects, to serve [for] a term of three years, [and] until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice David Morgan, York, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 16, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Landscape Architects, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Edward Rak, Glenshaw, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated January 17, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Massage Therapy, to serve until October 9, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Ellyn Jo Waller, Ardmore, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Massage Therapy, to serve until October 9, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Shea Rhodes, Philadelphia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of 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 Keith Loiselle, Gibsonia, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Minority Business Development Authority, to serve until June 2, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Robert Agbede, Pittsburgh, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Pennsylvania Minority Business Development Authority, to serve until June 2, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jenine Diaz, Harrisburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS' EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated April 9, 2024, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Kristen Denne, Downingtown [sic], resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORRISTOWN STATE HOSPITAL

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Norristown State Hospital, to serve until January 16, 2029, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Raymond Catton, Phoenixville, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Addie Abelson, Esquire, 158 Erford Road, Apartment 404, Camp Hill 17011, Cumberland County, Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, to serve until June 30, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Diane Baldi, Scranton, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, to serve until November 16, 2024, [and] until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice James Shadduck, Warren Center, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth

Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, 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 William McIlwaine, Millersville, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, 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 Anne Holladay, Muncy, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, 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 Anita Lahr, Shippensburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Nursing, 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 Robert Ames, Coaldale, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 2501 Hoffer Street, Harrisburg 17103, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Nursing, 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 Jason Owen, Erie, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 2501 Hoffer Street, Harrisburg 17103, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure, to serve for a term of three years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Richard Turner, Mercer, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 2501 Hoffer Street, Harrisburg 17103, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Optometry, 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 Lisa Hegedus, Jeannette, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Optometry, 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 Brian Fill, Tarentum, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Amanda Warren, 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Optometry, 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 Carl Urbanski, Mountain Top, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr. (Public Member), 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Optometry, 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 Marla Wasson, Lewisberry, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic 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 Thomas Stephenson, Milford, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 2501 Hoffer Street, Harrisburg 17103, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Osteopathic 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 Joanne Coolen, Hershey, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Moriah Hathaway (Public Member), 2501 Hoffer Street, Harrisburg 17103, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, to serve until September 24, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Thomas Carey, Harrisburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, 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 Kishor Mehta, Gibsonia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks (Public Member), 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Physical Therapy, to serve until October 2, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Gary Coburn, Mechanicsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Physical Therapy, to serve until October 2, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Jeffrey Elliott, Wernersville, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Physical Therapy, to serve until October 2, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Tammy Frey, Bloomsburg, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

PHYSICIAN GENERAL

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of David Galinsky, M.D., 267 Meeting House Lane, Merion Station 19066, Montgomery County, Seventeenth Senatorial District, for appointment as Physician General, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Denise Johnson, M.D., Meadville, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Podiatry, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but

not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Edward Snell, Pittsburgh, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Elise Claire Schell (Public Member), 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Podiatry, to serve for a term of four years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Melissa Haluszczak, Coraopolis, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF POLK CENTER

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Polk Center, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice James Culbertson, Franklin, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF POLK CENTER

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Moriah Hathaway, 2501 Hoffer Street, Harrisburg 17103, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Polk Center, to serve until January 21, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jack Kyle, Franklin, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF POLK CENTER

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated

February 26, 2024, of Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Polk Center, to serve until January 19, 2027, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Eleanora Miller, Grove City, deceased.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF POLK CENTER

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 26, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of Polk Center, to serve until January 21, 2025, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Jayne Romero, Titusville, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

COMMISSIONER OF PROFESSIONAL
AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 16, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, vice Kalonji Johnson, Harrisburg, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

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

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated January 17, 2024, of Amanda Warren (Public Member), 213 Locust Street, Unit 301, Harrisburg 17101, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists, to serve for a term of six years, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Ronald Jumper, Carlisle, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO
Governor

MEMBER OF THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated February 16, 2024, of Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission, to serve until January 20, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, vice Mark Anderson, Columbia, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

June 11, 2024

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

In accordance with the power and authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth, I do hereby recall the nomination dated January 17, 2024, of Aaron H. Danks, 1801 North Second Street #2, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Psychology, 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 Vito DonGiovanni, Indiana, whose term expired.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

NOMINATIONS 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 BARBER EXAMINERS

June 11, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Elise Claire Schell, 1500 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg 17102, Dauphin County, Fifteenth Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Barber Examiners, to serve until June 16, 2024, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Burr Edsall, Camp Hill, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

June 11, 2024

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

In conformity with law, I have the honor hereby to nominate for the advice and consent of the Senate, Thomas J. Yablonski, Jr., 3115 Wayland Road, Mechanicsburg 17055, Cumberland County, Thirty-first Senatorial District, for appointment as a member of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors, to serve until February 9, 2026, and until the successor is appointed and qualified, but not longer than six months beyond that period, vice Cindy Moyer, Northumberland, resigned.

JOSH SHAPIRO Governor

BILL INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

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

June 10, 2024

Senators GEBHARD, K. WARD and PITTMAN presented to the Chair SB 1254, entitled:

An Act amending Title 4 (Amusements) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to gaming, further providing for definitions; in Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, further providing for general and specific powers, for regulatory authority of board and for number of slot machines; in licensees, further providing for Category 4 slot machine license, for manufacturer licenses, for gaming service provider, for nongaming service provider, for occupation permit application, for slot machine accounting controls and audits and for renewals; in table games, further providing for regulatory authority; in revenues, further providing for slot machine licensee deposits; in administration and enforcement, further providing for investigations and enforcement, for prohibited acts and penalties and for liquor licenses at licensed facilities; and, in miscellaneous provisions relating to gaming, providing for live-streaming on casino floor.

Which was committed to the Committee on COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, June 10, 2024.

BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES

Senator DiSANTO, from the Committee on Banking and Insurance, reported the following bills:

SB 1241 (Pr. No. 1716) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.789, No.285), known as The Insurance Department Act of 1921, in insurance producers, further providing for definitions, for powers and duties of department, for license prerequisites and for licensing.

HB 1664 (Pr. No. 3287) (Amended)

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

HB 1754 (Pr. No. 3198)

An Act amending the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, in casualty insurance, providing for coverage for biomarker testing.

HB 2096 (Pr. No. 2677)

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

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

SB 522 (Pr. No. 494)

An Act amending Titles 30 (Fish) and 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in fishing licenses, providing for volunteer firefighters; and, in hunting and furtaking licenses, further providing for resident license and fee exemptions and for license costs and fees.

SB 698 (Pr. No. 761)

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

SB 976 (Pr. No. 1220)

An Act amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preliminary provisions relating to boats and boating, further providing for boating education.

Senator BROOKS, from the Committee on Health and Human Services, reported the following bills:

SB 965 (Pr. No. 1215)

An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, providing for coverage of rapid whole genome sequencing.

SB 1080 (Pr. No. 1396)

An Act amending the act of June 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), known as the Vital Statistics Law of 1953, in death and fetal death registration, providing for pronouncement of death by a practical nurse.

Senator ROBINSON, from the Committee on Labor and Industry, reported the following bills:

SB 580 (Pr. No. 1721) (Amended)

An Act establishing the Pennsylvania Family and Medical Leave Program and the Family and Medical Leave Fund; conferring powers and imposing duties on the Department of Labor and Industry; creating a right of action; and imposing penalties.

SB 1230 (Pr. No. 1722) (Amended)

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, in powers and duties of the Department of Labor and Industry, its departmental administrative and advisory boards and departmental administrative officers, further providing for Elevator Safety Board.

SB 1244 (Pr. No. 1698)

An Act amending the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd Sp.Sess., 1937 P.L.2897, No.1), known as the Unemployment Compensation Law, in contributions by employers and employees, further providing for contributions by employees.

HB 1446 (Pr. No. 2726)

An Act amending the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd Sp.Sess., 1937 P.L.2897, No.1), known as the Unemployment Compensation Law, in compensation, providing for eligibility related to domestic violence.

Senator BROWN, from the Committee on Local Government, reported the following bill:

HB 1730 (Pr. No. 2066)

An Act amending the act of February 19, 1980 (P.L.15, No.9), known as the Real Estate Licensing and Registration Act, in application of the act and penalties, further providing for exclusions.

Senator LANGERHOLC, from the Committee on Transportation, reported the following bills:

SB 1129 (Pr. No. 1718) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for definitions; in certificate of title and security interests, further providing for transfer to vehicle salvage dealer and for transfer to scrap metal processor; and, in abandoned vehicles and cargos, further providing for reports by private property owners of abandoned vehicles.

SB 1200 (Pr. No. 1719) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, providing for private driver education and training schools; imposing a penalty; and making a repeal.

SB 1246 (Pr. No. 1720) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 74 (Transportation) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sustainable mobility options, establishing the State Safety Oversight Office and providing for its powers and duties.

Senator MASTRIANO, from the Committee on Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, reported the following bills:

SB 1160 (Pr. No. 1524)

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

SB 1192 (Pr. No. 1593)

An Act amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Department of Military Affairs, further providing for Fort Indiantown Gap; and establishing the Service Members, Veterans and their Families Fund.

SB 1193 (Pr. No. 1717) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth services, further providing for

assistance to fire companies and EMS companies; and, in incentives for municipal volunteers of fire companies and nonprofit emergency medical services agencies, further providing for definitions, for volunteer service credit program, for service record, for certification and for duties of State Fire Commissioner.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Stefano, and a legislative leave for Senator Farry.

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

[Senator Costa signals no leaves]. No leaves from Senator Costa.

Senator Pittman requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Stefano, and a legislative leave for Senator Farry. Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

JOURNAL APPROVED

The PRESIDENT. The Journal of the Session of April 10, 2024, is now in print.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Journal of the Session of April 10, 2024.

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

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

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

The PRESIDENT. The Journal is approved.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

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

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA REPORT**

**GUESTS OF SENATOR LYNDY SCHLEGEL CULVER
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Northumberland, Senator Culver.

Senator CULVER. Mr. President, it is my great privilege to stand before you to introduce a remarkable group of young individuals who embody the spirit of leadership, service, and excellence: the members of the Boy Scouts of America. Today, we have the honor of welcoming approximately 150 of these exceptional Scouts, who have diligently prepared and will present the report to the Commonwealth, highlighting their significant achievements and contributions. These Scouts, representing troops from across the Commonwealth, have demonstrated their commitment to the ideals that are at the core of Scouting. They have embraced the values of duty to others and have eagerly taken on the challenges that come their way. Through their dedication, they have developed skills that will serve them well as they become our future leaders and guardians of democracy. Their report provides a glimpse into the transformative impact of Scouting in Pennsylvania. It showcases the countless hours of service, the environmental projects that have preserved our natural heritage, the initiatives that have uplifted our communities, and the personal growth that have shaped their character. These Scouts have truly embodied the Scout Oath and Law, and their accomplishments deserve our recognition. Their presence here today is a testament to the support and encouragement they have received from their families, Scout leaders, and the entire Scouting community. It is also a reflection of the faith we place in them as they step forward to address the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Their voices, representing the values of Scouting and the aspirations of our youth, hold immense significance. Let us together encourage them, celebrate their achievements, and support their efforts to shape a better Pennsylvania for all.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Boy Scouts of Pennsylvania for their invaluable contributions to our Commonwealth and this nation. Their commitment to service, leadership, and civic engagement should inspire us all. I am so pleased that the Scouts are with us today. I ask my Senate colleagues to give them a warm welcome to the Scouts who are with us.

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

[Applause.]

**BOY SCOUTS REPORT
TO THE COMMONWEALTH
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDENT. The Chair, once again, recognizes the gentlewoman from Northumberland, Senator Culver, to introduce the Scouts who will present the Boy Scouts Report to the Commonwealth to the Senate.

Senator CULVER. Mr. President, the report from the Boy Scouts of America will be presented by Chaplain Gavin Bittner and First-Class Scout Joshua Davidheiser.

The PRESIDENT. Would the Scouts please approach the rostrum and present your report.

[Whereupon, the report was presented to the PRESIDENT.]

The Chair lays before the Senate the following report from the Boy Scouts of America.

(The following Boy Scouts of America Report was made part of the record at the request of the gentlewoman from Northumberland, Senator CULVER:)

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

June 11, 2024

The Boy Scouts of America program is an ongoing adventure that delivers life-changing experiences, teaches a powerful set of real-life skills, and develops fundamental qualities that help more than 50,984 youth in 2,308 local Scouting groups in Pennsylvania become Prepared. For Life.®

As of December 31, 2023: 50,984 registered youth; 27,751 Cub Scouts; 21,526 Boy Scouts; 947 Venturers; 760 Explorers. The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Prepared. For Service.

Doing service projects together is one way that Scouts of all ages keep their promise to "help other people." Eagle Scout service projects are an opportunity for Scouts to show leadership while helping their community.

Prepared. For Learning.

From diverse subjects ranging from American Business to Woodwork, Scouts in Pennsylvania earned 81,636 Merit Badges.

Prepared. For Adventure.

2,308 local Cub Scout packs, Scouts BSA troops, Venturing crews and Explorer posts, were in operation during 2023.

Prepared. For Leadership.

1,697 Scouts in Pennsylvania earned the Eagle Scout Award during 2023.

81 young women from Pennsylvania earned the Eagle Scout Award in 2023.

2,732 Pennsylvania Cub Scouts earned the Arrow of Light, Cub Scouting's highest award, in 2023.

The PRESIDENT. This report will be noted in the Journal and filed in the Library.

The Chair, once again, recognizes the gentlewoman from Northumberland, Senator Culver.

Senator CULVER. Mr. President, thank you for allowing us to have this program here today. The Scouts will conclude the program by reciting the Scout Oath and Scout Law. I encourage any Scout in the Chamber to stand and join with them. They will begin with the Scout Oath.

Thank you, Mr. President.

[Whereupon, the Boy Scout Oath and Boy Scout Law were recited.]

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT. The Chair thanks all of the Scouts who are here present in the Chamber today.

The Senate will briefly be at ease.

[The Senate was at ease.]

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

**GUESTS OF SENATOR JIMMY DILLON
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Dillon.

Senator DILLON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize four exceptional individuals interning in my office this summer. Maya Fitterer is a graduate of Penn State University and majored in political science with a minor in communication arts and sciences. She previously interned in the Pennsylvania Senate Democratic Communications Office last summer under Senator Costa, and she is back for a second internship with the Senate. Kyla Mannings is currently attending Penn State University and is pursuing a bachelor of arts in psychology and social sciences. Kyla served in the Navy from 2015 to 2022 and has a vast amount of volunteer and community experience which has already made her an invaluable addition to my team.

I am proud to share that a few of my summer interns have achieved several athletic accomplishments. Primo Baldassarre is currently enrolled at Connecticut College. He is interested in economics and government relations. Primo is a skilled hockey player and has both captained and coached several teams throughout his short career. Brooke Cannon is currently attending Delaware University and pursuing a degree in political science. Notably, Brooke is a Division I student-athlete on the national champion dance team. In addition to her athletic accomplishments, she has been recognized several times for her academic accomplishments, including recently recognized on her school's dean's list.

In the short time they have been in my office, each of their voices have made a huge difference. I do not have time to explain to anyone here how invaluable new perspectives are to the work that we do. I appreciate their help, and I look forward to what will be and what we will accomplish this upcoming summer. Mr. President, I please ask my colleagues to welcome and join my four interns and give them our normal warm Senate welcome. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Dillon please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

**GUESTS OF SENATOR CAROLYN T. COMITTA
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Chester, Senator Comitta.

Senator COMITTA. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome two college students who are serving as summer interns in my West Chester district office. Jenea Davenport just completed her freshman year at Morgan State University in Baltimore, where she is studying political science. She serves as community service chair of the Political Science Association and is a member of the Morgan State NAACP. Jenea currently assists constituents and community organizations in our district office and is going to be advising us on policies to support HBCUs. In the future, Jenea

hopes to travel the world to learn about other democracies and see how they work. Thank you so much, Jenaea.

And I rise to welcome Douglas Newell. Doug is a rising senior at the University of Pittsburgh studying political science, economics, and public service. He serves as vice president of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity, where he helped raise thousands of dollars for cancer research and charities that combat hunger. Doug has also worked with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism to advocate for gun violence legislation. Previously, Doug visited Haiti with the nonprofit organization HEAL, and helped run a health clinic, including drawing blood for tests and assisting with minor surgeries.

Thank you, Doug and Jenaea. We are thrilled to have you join our team this summer. You have already pitched in for a number of our community events. We appreciate all your work and the unique skills, perspectives, and experience that you bring to the job. Please join me in extending a warm Senate welcome to Jenaea Davenport and Douglas Newell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Comitta please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.
[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR MICHAEL R. REGAN AND SENATOR ARTHUR L. HAYWOOD PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Senator Regan.

Senator REGAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to welcome a fellow law enforcement officer to the Senate today. Mr. Adrian McMenamin is a police officer in Montgomery County, but hails originally from Fintona, a small rural village in Tyrone, Northern Ireland. When Adrian reached out to me on Facebook regarding my legislation, Senate Bill No. 464, which provides for a municipal police pension buyback, we quickly struck up a conversation that extended beyond the bill in law enforcement to his journey from Ireland. Adrian is the epitome of a blue-collar, working-class man who followed the path of many Irish immigrants in coming to this country for better employment and life opportunities and wanting to serve his community as a police officer, which he has done since 2010. Over 20 years ago, he met his wife, Mai, who is back home with 2 of their 3 children, Aleena and Aidan, and has her own great American story, having been born in a refugee camp in Hong Kong after the fall of Saigon in the late seventies and finding a welcoming home in Philadelphia when she came to America.

Adrian is joined in the gallery by his oldest daughter, Sienna, who will be carrying on the family tradition of service as she has earned an appointment into the U.S. Naval Academy Class of 2018 [2028], for which the McMenamin family is so proud. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to give a warm Senate welcome to Adrian and Sienna McMenamin, a father and daughter duo that truly knows what it means to work hard to serve their fellow man.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montgomery, Senator Haywood.

Senator HAYWOOD. Mr. President, I join my good friend Senator Regan to welcome Abington Police Officer Adrian McMenamin and his daughter, Sienna. We have shared a tremendous conversation earlier today in Senator Regan's office about

how these immigrants--to the United States of America, husband and wife--found each other here in Pennsylvania, built a life for their three fantastic children, have engaged in community service, including Mr. McMenamin being a police officer since 2010. And now, as Senator Regan has shared, his daughter is moving on to the Naval Academy. This is a clear demonstration of their family's determination and grit and perseverance and how it has benefited each of us, particularly those in Abington but beyond, with the service of their daughter that will be expected and will be exceptional. So, I too want to welcome Officer McMenamin; his daughter, Sienna; and I want to thank their family for all that they have given to us so that we have a stronger community. And I also ask that we give them a warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Regan and Senator Haywood please rise to be recognized by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUEST OF SENATOR DAVID G. ARGALL PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Schuylkill, Senator Argall.

Senator ARGALL. Mr. President, joining me in the gallery today is an unusual job shadow for the day, Pierce Lithgow. Most of my job shadows traditionally have been high school seniors or college students. He is about to become a freshman at Blue Mountain High School in Schuylkill County in the fall, with an interest in politics, gearing toward his eventual degree in political science and law. Although he tells me he is still a little uncertain, and I told him he has plenty of time to make up his mind. I would ask for a warm Senate welcome for Pierce today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guest of Senator Argall please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR CHRISTINE M. TARTAGLIONE PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator Tartaglione.

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Mr. President, it is my honor to recognize and welcome a bright group of students from my district who have joined us in the Capitol today. Three students from Roberto Clemente Middle School have made the trip to Harrisburg with their teacher to experience the excitement of the budget season. Earlier today, I had a chance to sit and answer questions about what we do as Senators, how the process here in Harrisburg works, and other hard-hitting questions. I promised the students that their names would be part of the Senate record, and they are very excited to know their visit here today will forever be commemorated in the Senate Library in the official Senate record. The three students who join us all the way from Philadelphia are Qian Qian Liu, finished her eighth-grade year; Chastelyne Cruz-Santiago, seventh grade; Jordy Concepcion, his sixth-grade year; and Ms. Natalie Leon. Welcome to Harrisburg. Thank you for visiting us today. So, Mr. President, I ask that we extend our warm Senate welcome to our guests.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Tartaglione please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR SCOTT F. MARTIN PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster, Senator Martin.

Senator MARTIN. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome a very special group of young men to me personally. The Lancaster Aces AAU basketball team consists of players from the Lampeter-Strasburg, the Solanco, the Penn Manor, and the McCaskey school districts in Lancaster County. And often people wonder, you know, as Senators, what do we do in our free time when we are outside this building? Well, I actually spend a lot of time sitting in the bleachers watching these outstanding group of young men play because it also includes my oldest son, Hayden, who is joining them up there in the gallery today. So, it was an honor to have them be able to come to our court today instead of me always going to their court, which we are spending a lot of time doing this spring and summer. And I just wanted to take an opportunity to welcome Nolan Wagner; Luis Frias; Julien Guillermo; Elijah Wayman; Noel Cabrera; Kayden Tillie; Garrett Wagner; Eric Koch; Cody Stoltzfus; Kiran Ludgate; Travis Prange; Sam Harper; my son, Hayden Martin; and Head Coach Darren Tillie. They are joined today by some of their family members as well. It has truly been a blessing to see these young men compete and grow up and just looking forward to all what the future brings for them, and I ask for our traditional warm Senate welcome for the Lancaster Aces.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Martin please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUEST OF SENATOR MARTY FLYNN PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lackawanna, Senator Flynn.

Senator FLYNN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce my good friend and public servant, Bob MacCallum, the mayor of Dickson City. Dickson City is situated in northeastern Pennsylvania near the city of Scranton, originally named Priceburg after its founder, Tom Price. The borough was renamed Dickson City in honor of Tom Dickson, a prominent coal baron. The area was a significant coal mining region in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Mayor MacCallum is a distinguished graduate of Mid Valley High School and the University of Scranton. He began his life in public service as the elected controller of Dickson City and has continued his dedication to his constituents in his current role as mayor of Dickson City, which he has held since 2017. Outside of city hall, the mayor enjoys his time with his daughter, Lauren, and has dedicated over 26 years of his professional career to Proctor & Gamble. He is a lifetime member of the Dickson City Fire Department since 1984 and has previously served as fire chief and fire marshal during his tenure. Mayor MacCallum has demonstrated his unwavering dedication to his community's safety and well-being in his life of public service. Mr. President, please join me in welcoming the mayor of Dickson City to the Senate of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guest of Senator Flynn please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUEST OF SENATOR SCOTT E. HUTCHINSON PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

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

Senator HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce my summer intern, Mr. Ted Martin. Ted recently graduated from Trinity High School in Camp Hill on May 24. In his school's senior awards ceremony, Ted received several awards for his achievements in the classroom, in sports, and most notably, a monetary award from the American Legion for his service as the leader of Trinity's patriots club. As leader, he was part of bringing the Tunnel to Towers 18-wheeler mobile exhibit to his school and community, as well as organizing many other community and volunteer events. Ted ran cross country and track and field, earning varsity letters all 4 years. He was a member of the National Honor Society and the Spanish Foreign Language Honor Society. He will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall, where he will major in finance. Please join me in welcoming Ted Martin to the Pennsylvania State Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guest of Senator Hutchinson please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR STEVEN J. SANTARSIERO PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bucks, Senator Santarsiero.

Senator SANTARSIERO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a group of young men and women currently serving the constituents of the 10th Senatorial District in Bucks County as summer interns in my office. These four college students have joined me today in Harrisburg and are here in the Senate gallery. Danielle Gershman is from Lower Makefield Township and is a rising senior at the University of Maryland, where she studies government [and] politics and public policy. After graduation, she plans to continue her education at the University of Maryland, pursuing a master's in public policy. Danielle shared the highlight of her internship so far has been meeting with constituents from the Epilepsy Foundation.

Ian Mayer is a rising senior studying history and political science at the University of Pittsburgh. Ian is from Newtown Township and is active in his community as a referee with the Eastern Pennsylvania Soccer Association referee committee. Ian found out just last week that he has been accepted to Pitt's 4+1 program to pursue his master's degree after graduation. Congratulations, Ian. Ian's internship highlight so far is my office's annual tradition of participating in the Delaware Valley Vietnam Veterans Flag Memorial in Falls Township Community Park, where all of us every year plant about 65,000 American flags in honor of those who fell and were lost and POWs in the Vietnam War.

Gabrielle Kalayjian is from Newtown Township and studies international service at American University, where our younger son, John, is also a student. A rising junior, Gabrielle is active in

students for service groups on campus, a community service volunteer group. Since beginning her internship, she most enjoyed marching in the Doylestown Memorial Day Parade and seeing so many people celebrating the community and our service members. And that is always a great parade. It draws about 15,000 to 20,000 people every year. We were fortunate this year to be joined by Senator Bob Casey.

Wolfgang Culleton, of Newtown Borough, is a rising senior at Lehigh University. There he is majoring in history with a minor in international relations. Wolfgang enjoys pickup soccer games with friends and is an AEPi Fraternity member. The highlight of his internship so far was starting off on his first day with the Native Species Day seminar, learning about plant species native to Pennsylvania and how our local municipalities work to protect the environment.

I have been especially impressed with the work these young men and women have been doing with my team. It gives me faith, truly, in the future of our country that we will indeed be in good hands, as has also been demonstrated by the other interns that the other offices have presented today and on other days here in the Senate. So, with that, Mr. President, I would ask that all of the Members join me in applauding the hard work of these four young men and women in their service to the Commonwealth and give them the traditional warm Senate welcome.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Santarsiero please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUEST OF SENATOR VINCENT J. HUGHES PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Hughes.

Senator HUGHES. Mr. President, these young people always want to do something that they are not supposed to do [directs his guest where to stand and laughs.] Mr. President, I rise today to welcome and introduce our summer intern, Sean Eden. Sean is a rising senior at--guess where, Mr. President--Penn State University, majoring in sociology. As an international student growing up in Malaysia and Poland, Sean was inspired to learn more about society and the communities that surround him. When Sean was in middle school, his family moved to Pennsylvania, first to Bucks County, then finally to Philadelphia.

At Penn State, Sean is heavily involved on campus. He is trilingual. I will say that again, he is trilingual in English, Spanish, and American Sign Language; serves as the president for the Sign Language Organization at Penn State; and is a Schreyer Honors College scholar. During his first year, Sean became interested in philanthropy and has since become a three-time THON captain, dedicating hundreds of hours to supporting children and families impacted by childhood cancer.

However, one of his biggest feats is his large presence on social media. Since 2020--I hope the Members are paying attention--Sean has gained more than a half a million followers across his platforms. He enjoys filming content and the creative process that goes into creating videos. In the fall, he will help run Penn State's social media. Give him a follow on YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram under @SeanEdenn.

Since coming to my office, Sean has found he is very interested in issues concerning higher education funding, teacher

recruitment and retention, disability rights, and transportation services. Sean has also admitted that he has just recently binge-watched all three seasons of Abbott Elementary--there is a good young man, that one right there [laughter]. Sean will be graduating--shameless plug, Mr. President, I am sorry--Sean will be graduating next May and hopes to work in public policy or social work before he continues his education at law school. We are excited to have him in the office as he continues to assist us through all aspects of the budget process. Please join me in giving Sean Eden our traditional warm Senate welcome.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guest of Senator Hughes please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

GUESTS OF SENATOR TIMOTHY P. KEARNEY PRESENTED TO THE SENATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware, Senator Kearney.

Senator KEARNEY. Mr. President, I rise to introduce new members of my team who will be working in my district offices as interns this summer. Both are Delaware County natives--go Delco--and will be helping with constituent services in addition to providing research support for our policy team. I will start with Ms. Kyra Lydon. Kyra currently attends Temple University--go Owls--and will graduate next year with a degree in criminal justice. She is passionate about social work and reform and has experience interning in law offices and in the healthcare industry. Upon graduation, she plans to start a career in criminal justice, specifically focusing on social work. Unfortunately, she was not able to be with us today, but she is with us in spirit.

Next up, we have Michael Solomou. Michael is a senior at West Chester University and will graduate with a bachelor of science degree in business management and minors in political science and business law this coming December. He already has an associate degree in business administration from Delaware County Community College. He comes to my office with experience in research and has been civically and politically involved on campus and in his community. Please join me in welcoming our new interns.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the guests of Senator Kearney please rise to be welcomed by the Senate.

[Applause.]

RECESS

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

Senator PITTMAN. Mr. President, I request a recess of the Senate first for the purpose of a meeting of the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, followed by a meeting of the Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development, both to be held in the Rules room immediately. Following those committee meetings, the Senate Republican Caucus will convene in the Majority Caucus Room.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 meeting as well.

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

AFTER RECESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Senator Kim L. Ward) in the Chair.

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

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Farry has returned, and his legislative leave is cancelled.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVES

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, I request temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Dush, Senator Yaw, Senator Brooks, Senator Coleman, and Senator Pittman, and a legislative leave for Senator Gebhard.

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

Senator COSTA. Madam President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Saval, and a legislative leave for Senator Haywood.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Aument requests temporary Capitol leaves for Senator Dush, Senator Yaw, Senator Brooks, Senator Coleman, and Senator Pittman, and a legislative leave for Senator Gebhard.

Senator Costa requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Saval, and a legislative leave for Senator Haywood.

Without objection, the leaves will be granted.

CALENDAR

BILL ON CONCURRENCE IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 126 (Pr. No. 1681) -- 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.

On the question,

Will the Senate concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 126?

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, I move that the Senate do concur in the amendments made by the House to Senate Bill No. 126.

On the question,

Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

Senator MASTRIANO. Madam President, I rise in support of Senate Bill No. 126. Assuming a positive vote on this, today is not just a good day, but a great day for Pennsylvania's nearly 700,000 veterans. Many disabled veterans currently receive Federal disability compensation, and unfortunately, some State programs utilize that compensation in the calculation of their income. Senate Bill No. 126 would correct this issue by excluding this compensation like what is already done with the State Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program. The bill would also extend the exclusion of the veteran's compensation benefits to the veteran's unmarried surviving spouse. This measure is very important, as it will ensure that these rightfully earned Federal payments will no longer be used to potentially disqualify a disabled veteran from Commonwealth assistance. This measure had been worked on for several Sessions, and I am thrilled that we are close to the finish line and look forward to its implementation.

Thank you, Madam President. I ask for an affirmative vote.

And the question recurring,

Will the Senate agree to the motion?

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

YEA-49

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

NAY-0

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

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

THIRD CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 67, SB 186, SB 187, SB 365 and SB 375 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator AUMENT.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 464 (Pr. No. 1685) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in municipal pensions, providing for pension service credit for prior service with police department.

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

On the question, Shall the bill pass finally?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Senator Regan.

Senator REGAN. Madam President, earlier today I had the opportunity to introduce Adrian McMenamin, a local police officer of Montgomery County. He is just one of the many, many police officers who have contacted me over the years regarding my legislation to provide a municipal police pension buyback. This is an issue I have championed for the last several Sessions. As with many pieces of legislation, this bill has had a great deal of support. The Fraternal Order of Police has led the charge, officers themselves have advocated for its passage, and my colleagues have joined me as cosponsors and have voted in favor of this in prior versions several times over and over. But also like many pieces of legislation, this bill has had opposition, not because of the underlying benefit to police officers, but rather the fact that it would have been a mandate on all municipalities and regional police departments to afford police officers the opportunity to purchase prior service with another department. Such an approach came with the potential for a hefty price tag for our local governments and taxpayers, which brings us to where we are today with this version of Senate Bill No. 464. Like many pieces of legislation, we had to compromise in order to get something done. Although I ultimately sought to guarantee that all police officers the option to buy back time, the bill before us opens the door to such benefit to be negotiated at the local level. This mirrors the existing military buyback option within Act 600, the Municipal Police Pension Law.

In working with the FOP to reach this point, I am hopeful that, incrementally, we will see municipalities and regional departments incorporate a pension buyback until, ultimately, it is a universal benefit for all Pennsylvania local police officers. Such a benefit is no doubt a recruitment tool to attract seasoned professionals which, in turn, saves time and money on training. Not every officer stays at the department where they began their career, but when an officer makes the choice, for whatever reason, to change departments, they do so knowing they are losing those years towards their final pension and extending the time until they can retire. The job of a police officer is both physically and mentally demanding. The prospect of retiring at age 50 or 55 is not a luxury, it is sometimes a necessity for both the officer's safety and that of the community. Therefore, my bill would allow for officers to buy back up to 5 years of prior service time, part time and full time, at another police department. Madam President, I

respectfully ask my colleagues to show our local police officers our support for them and the job they do in protecting all of us and our communities we represent by voting in support of Senate Bill No. 464.

Thank you, Madam President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Saval has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

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

Table with 4 columns of names: Argall, Aument, Baker, Bartolotta, Boscola, Brewster, Brooks, Brown, Cappelletti, Coleman, Collett, Comitta, Costa, Culver, Dillon, DiSanto, Dush, Farry, Flynn, Fontana, Gebhard, Haywood, Hughes, Hutchinson, Kane, Kearney, Langerholc, Laughlin, Martin, Mastriano, Miller, Muth, Phillips-Hill, Pittman, Regan, Robinson, Rothman, Santarsiero, Saval, Schwank, Stefano, Street, Tartaglione, Vogel, Ward, Judy, Ward, Kim, Williams, Anthony H., Williams, Lindsey, Yaw

NAY-0

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 645, SB 761, and SB 795 -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator AUMENT.

BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 801 (Pr. No. 1710) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in certification of teachers, further providing for teacher support in the structured literacy program; and providing for evidence-based reading instruction.

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

On the question, Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator SCHWANK. Madam President, I have been giving a lot of thought to this legislation, and it gives me pause for concern, primarily because there is zero funding attached to this. According to information we received from other experts on the subject, other States have prioritized the science of reading and recognized the need for financial support and made upfront and lasting State investments in early literacy. Florida invested \$79 million in 1 year of its program, 36 million for professional development alone. Today, Florida invests 170 million in its reading initiative. Ohio's most recent State budget committed 160 million to early literacy with a corresponding commitment to the science of reading. Of that allocation, 43 million was for professional development and 64 million was to provide schools with the materials that they needed in order to hand out to students and materials that are consistent with the science of reading. I have watched this, I have voted for it as it has gone through at least the Committee on Appropriations, and we have no funding attached to it. That is a big concern for me. Zero funding. I have heard time and time again from teachers, school board members, professors, and superintendents of the dangers and worries associated with unfunded mandates. I am sure some of you have heard it too. In fact, I met with educators from my district who specialize in this field in preparation to learn more about this legislation and this proposal, and they emphasized some real concerns about a one-size-fits-all-type approach to literacy. And I am concerned how well-received this legislation is going to be when it finally gets down to the teachers in the classroom, the reading specialists, the individuals who are actually going to have to implement this. Especially when we are not promising the financial supports they will have to have in order to make this happen. I am not an expert in the science of reading or literacy. I stand before you as a grandmother who has a 7-year-old who is struggling to read. Believe me, I know she needs help and a different way of learning. I have been a tutor for 6 years in the Reading School District on a United Way program called get Ready.Set.READ! that reads to second-grade students to help them comprehend and learn how to read better. And even having done that, I surely do not feel like an expert in this subject, but I do know that this is not just a tweak to what we are proposing in school districts. It is not just a minor change. It is fundamentally changing the most important aspect of a child's education: how to read. I surely want to support our children's education. I will vote for anything that will make sure that our kids can learn better. That is always what I have been about, but I am not ready to throw my full support behind this right now until I am sure that the resources are definitely there to make this happen.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, it is clear that our children are struggling to read. The data tells us that, and the heartbreak that many of us have heard from parents all across this Commonwealth tells us that. This is a dangerous trend that will set them far back academically and later in life. Almost half of Pennsylvania fourth graders are reading below grade level. Let me say that again, almost half of Pennsylvania fourth graders are reading below grade level. And this is happening all across this

Commonwealth in urban, suburban, and rural communities. No community has not been impacted by this. Research has consistently shown that early literacy is critical to academic success and long-term achievement. A strong, evidence-based reading program beginning in kindergarten and continuing into third grade and beyond gives students a far better chance at lifelong success. Because we are not born with the natural ability to read, the skills that lead students to become competent lifelong readers must be explicitly and systematically taught at a young age with ample opportunity for practice and improvement. As policymakers, as lawmakers, we must ensure our students get the reading support they need in those early years so they can succeed later on in life. Learning to read is a challenge for many, and that challenge does not discriminate. Literacy cannot be a skill reserved for wealthy families and those who can afford private tutoring. To improve early literacy in Pennsylvania, I have been pleased to work with my colleagues across the aisle, the gentleman from Philadelphia, and I have sponsored the bill before us today, Senate Bill No. 801, which mirrors a bipartisan legislation, a bipartisan proposal from Representative Justin Fleming and Representative Jason Ortity in the House.

Senate Bill No. 801 uses a three-pronged approach. First, it bolsters reading instruction with evidence-based reading curricula, ensuring literacy achievement for children across the Commonwealth. Second, struggling readers will be identified through a universal screening within the first 30 days of school. Finally, looking at the screening data will help schools and educators design and implement intervention plans to prevent children from falling behind. When States take this comprehensive approach, positive outcomes for students rise. Florida, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina have all showed and continue to show us what is possible when a comprehensive law is adopted and implemented with fidelity. After Mississippi's literacy program was passed in 2013, that State rose from 49th in 4th grade reading to 21st in the nation. These are the kinds of results Pennsylvania families deserve, and we cannot afford to wait.

Researchers have spent decades determining which approaches work best to teach reading, but if our teachers do not have the resources they need to educate our kids, our outcomes are unlikely to improve. We talk a lot in this building about education funding as a way to balance the scales, but it is also critically important to recognize, before the final vote on this bill, that literacy itself is a great equalizer. Whether a person can read is a critical predictor of educational and lifelong success. We cannot afford to have almost half of our students falling short of that goal. By providing support for early literacy development, Senate Bill No. 801 has the potential to make a meaningful difference in the lives of countless Pennsylvania children and ensure that they are able to reach their full potential.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to all of the parents, educators, advocates, who have championed this cause. Our educators, our friends of the PSEA, who have provided consultation to this legislation, Dr. Megan Gierka, Greg Kiehl, the Donegal School District, and many, many others to my staff, Stephanie Buchanan, to Senator Lindsey Williams and her staff across the aisle, I am very grateful for the input that you have provided on this piece of legislation. It is my hope that we can pass this bill today and send this to the Governor soon and ensure that we are improving literacy here in Pennsylvania for all of our children.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Senator Anthony Williams.

Senator A.H. WILLIAMS. Madam President, I want to thank my colleague for allowing me to be a part of this bill. Many folks in this Chamber know of my passion to make sure that whether you live in rural, urban, or suburban Pennsylvania that we meet a certain standard as it relates to outcomes for our children in their educational experience. This one is very, very significant to me for one very specific reason. My mother, a retired public school teacher, often lamented in the best of times that the challenges of our system, our public system, were taking away instruction for teachers so they could competently teach our children in kindergarten and first grade how to read. She indicated over 20 years ago the pattern that America has now changed and achieved. Our literacy levels in this country are tragically and dangerously low. We cannot serve, not simply a company, not McDonald's, but we cannot serve the nation to protect it because our children are starting so far behind in the standard of reading.

I do not want to quote a bunch of statistics today because it is very well documented--Democrat, Republican, arbitrary, in between, Independent--reading is an essential skill to advance in this country. Reading is an essential building block for even those who do math. It is the way we communicate, and the numbers are scary. Philadelphia's numbers are past scary. They are tragic. And unfortunately, we debate about the money and not the consequence of that money. In this space that we are going to have an extraordinary public debate about funding public education, I do believe that for those who are concerned about this particular bill and its funding mechanism, then I think we need to go back to our school district and demand that if we are going to give you "X" amount of dollars, then we expect a return in this specific area. I do not think we can any longer continue to fight for the perfect when good would be very, very helpful. We are at that place.

There are States that have implemented this. Mississippi improved from 49 to 21st in the State literacy rankings between 2013 and 2022 as a result of this science-based approach to literacy. More than 30 percent of children in third grade are scoring at the lowest level or below levels on this exam in Pennsylvania. These are a few data points that illustrate the crisis that we are in. And I recognize in this building--that does not always mean a lot--special interests always come knocking on the door, pointing out the holes that they think to be there, and while the dam is broken and the flood is occurring, we are still figuring out where to find the boat, and what we do with the boat when we find the boat, and if we can save 5 lives as opposed to 5,000 that are drowning. That is wearing on all of us who can see, literally, literally every day when you look at something that is scrolled and a generation cannot spell the words that they are trying to articulate. We can see every day how people no longer read the news, they simply consume the news from their favorite television show. We can see every day the consequence of that with those generations of young people who do not believe in work, let alone the ability to work.

I do not think I should have to come to this podium to persuade anyone, and I am not quite sure I am going to persuade anyone. But what I am going to do is make sure that I leave a record of when I was here that anything I said, whether it is perceived to be

Democrat or Republican, is it truly in the best interest of our children? Because this nation is now at the tipping point for this next generation. If you think that China and Russia and those countries which are investing in their educational experiences for their children, taking our information and using it against us and do not understand that we are in these conversations as if everything is okay; then be very clear, 10 years from now it will not be an invading army that our children and our grandchildren have to live with, it will be the sheer ability for those countries to move in front of us intellectually, because academically they focused upon their children and we did not focus upon ours. Shame on us if we do not quite understand that. But most importantly, woe be this nation if things like this are difficult for us to move forward.

Thank you, Madam President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE CANCELLED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Pittman has returned, and his temporary Capitol leave is cancelled.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Aument requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Regan. 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-48

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

NAY-1

Schwank

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

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

BILLS AMENDED

SB 1099 (Pr. No. 1426) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in grants to fire companies and emergency medical services companies, further providing for definitions, for publication and notice, for award of grants, for consolidation incentive, for publication and notice and for award of grants, repealing provisions relating to COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program and to Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program, further providing for expiration of authority, repealing provisions relating to expiration of authority relating to COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program and to expiration of authority relating to Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program and further providing for annual reports.

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

MUTH AMENDMENT A4864 AGREED TO

Senator MUTH offered the following amendment No. A4864:

Amend Bill, page 14, line 27, by striking out "2034" and inserting: 2029

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

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

Senator MUTH. Madam President, my amendment would simply change the sunset date for the Fire and EMS Grant Program from December 31, 2034, which is currently in the bill, to December 31, 2029. This would shorten the sunset date to 5 years instead of the proposed 10 to allow the legislature to more regularly review and update the program as needed. I ask for an affirmative vote. Thank you.

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, this is an amendment that we are happy to support and would also encourage an affirmative vote.

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

It was agreed to.

Without objection, the bill, as amended, was passed over in its order.

SB 1138 (Pr. No. 1531) -- 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 organization of departmental

administrative boards and commissions and of advisory boards and commissions, further providing for the State Geospatial Coordinating Board.

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

CAPPELLETTI AMENDMENT A4947 AGREED TO

Senator CAPPELLETTI offered the following amendment No. A4947:

Amend Bill, page 5, line 13, by inserting after "departments":
The day-to-day work of the executive director shall be at the direction and supervision of the board. For administrative purposes, the executive director shall report to the Secretary of Administration.

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

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

Senator CAPPELLETTI. Madam President, this is simply a technical amendment that adds that the executive director of the Geospatial Coordinating Board works at the direction and supervision of the board but reports to the Secretary of Administration solely for administrative purposes.

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

Senator PITTMAN. Madam President, this amendment is also an amendment that we see our way clear to supporting and would ask it be agreed to.

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

It was agreed to.

Without objection, the bill, as amended, was passed over in its order.

BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION
AND FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1150 (Pr. No. 1711) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, establishing the Grow Pennsylvania Scholarship Grant Program; and imposing powers and duties on the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency.

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

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator L. WILLIAMS. Madam President, I would like to start by thanking Senator Martin and his staff for working with my office and stakeholders to consider feedback and make changes to this and the following piece of legislation on our

Calendar. There are certainly additional improvements that I hope to see as this bill moves forward, such as priority for students attending PASSHE schools and community colleges and additional flexibility for students, but I appreciate the fact that we are having this discussion in a serious way. Generally speaking, Senate Bill No. 1150 and Senate Bill No. 1151 are a step in the right direction. They create scholarships that are available to more students, and with yesterday's amendments, give students greater latitude to change majors as they adjust to college and find a path that hopefully keeps them here in Pennsylvania after graduation. But Pennsylvania's problems in higher education funding cannot be fixed with a grant here and a scholarship there. We cannot dig our way out of this hole by awarding individual scholarships. This is a broader problem of how we fund, or rather do not fund, higher education in Pennsylvania. We rank 49th in the country for State investment in higher ed. That is almost dead last.

So, it comes as no surprise that Pennsylvania graduates carry some of the highest student loan debt in the country. I have been talking about how this impossible burden of student loan debt is holding back an entire generation and our economy since I took office nearly 6 years ago, but it has not gotten a lot of attention. I am glad we are talking about it today. If you are a Pennsylvania student and you want to go to a PASSHE school or a community college, you should be able to do that at no cost. It should not be a question. This educational pathway should just be open and accessible for you, but right now for most students, it is simply not. Instead, our students are being hit with sticker shock when they see the total cost of attending a PASSHE school or even a community college. They think higher education is not accessible to them.

Research consistently shows that increases in tuition correlate to decreases in enrollment. Until we lower tuition, we are not going to move the needle on enrollment. And while grants and scholarships are out there, the process of piecing together that funding is hard and time-consuming. It was hard for me, and I did not have language barriers that our first-generation students and their families may have. I did not have the time barriers that our nontraditional students with families may have. I had a guidance counselor in my high school who assisted me and my family with the forms. I got grants; I got scholarships; my parents and I both took out loans. We pieced it together, but it is still hard for me, and I had every advantage. I have been saddled with student loan debt for 2 decades now. That is a weight that I do not want to put on the next generation. This legislation is going to get more scholarships to more students, which is great, but as I said, we cannot fix higher education funding in Pennsylvania one student at a time. We are missing the forest for the trees.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator MARTIN. Madam President, over the course of the last 3 years or so, many of us have been trying to really put focus on some of the biggest challenges facing our Commonwealth. It would be no surprise to anyone in this Chamber that our fastest-growing age demographic is 80 and above. It would be no surprise to everyone in this Chamber that the number of our kids graduating from Pennsylvania high schools continues to decline. And according to the Center for Rural Pennsylvania recently, we just had the smallest kindergarten class enrollment since 1986,

which will be working its way through the system. That is our future workforce. That is our future tax base. So, how do we position Pennsylvania to be more competitive? There should be great credit shared by this Chamber in recognizing the need to make this State more competitive. It is what has driven us to try to reduce one of the highest corporate net income taxes in the country. It is what also has driven us to say that we need to be more consistent, predictable, and less costly with regulatory reform. But here is another avenue, Madam President, that has been long needed to refocus the needs of this Commonwealth and engage in policy discussions that lead to growth in this State, and that is where Senate Bill No. 1150 comes. Senate Bill No. 1150 creates the Grow PA Scholarship Grant Program, which would offer grants up to \$5,000 per year for in-State students who attend postsecondary institutions in Pennsylvania, pursue a degree in a high-demand industry, and agree to work in that industry and live in Pennsylvania after graduation.

This bill will also keep us, as elected officials, engaged in measuring our outcomes and successes and making changes in the future when the economy starts to demand that our focus move to other top industries that are critically needed here in our State. Since April 10, when my colleagues and I first circulated this cosponsorship memo outlining the intent of Grow PA, which was a multi-bill package focused on postsecondary and career preparation reform, we have worked towards the end goal of addressing the significant economic and demographic challenges that Pennsylvania is facing. As our State grows older, more and more young people are simultaneously choosing to relocate to other States and better educational and job opportunities. The best way to address this crisis is to encourage the best and the brightest students, both here in PA and throughout the country, to earn their degrees here, get jobs here, and put down their roots here and raise their families here. Over the past 4 weeks, we developed and refined this bill thanks to the feedback of my colleagues--and a special thank you to the gentlelady from Allegheny County for also her work with her team alongside ours--numerous Pennsylvania industries and stakeholders, as well as many students, parents, and families who we have heard of during the past year in communities throughout the 13th Senatorial District and statewide.

Just to give some examples of the folks who have been involved in this process: the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business [and Industry], the Manufacturer & Business Association, the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, the Hospital [and Healthsystem] Association of PA, LeadingAge PA, the PA Health Care Association, PennAg Industries Association, the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, the Pennsylvania School Employees Association [sic], Teach Plus, the PA YouthBuild Coalition, Penn State University, the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, Lincoln University, Thaddeus Stevens, the PA College of Technology, Williamson Trade School [Williamson College of the Trades], Associated Pennsylvania Constructors, the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges, Northern Pennsylvania Regional College, AICUP, PASSHE, PHEAA, students, and the list goes on and on. We are confident that Senate Bill No. 1150 will achieve our shared goals of addressing Pennsylvania's economic and demographic challenges and connecting young people with quality, in-

demand, family-sustaining jobs right here in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Thank you, Madam President.

LEGISLATIVE LEAVE

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, I request a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Farry.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Senator Aument requests a temporary Capitol leave for Senator Farry. 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	Culver	Kearney	Santarsiero
Aument	Dillon	Langerholc	Saval
Baker	DiSanto	Laughlin	Schwank
Bartolotta	Dush	Martin	Stefano
Boscola	Farry	Mastriano	Street
Brewster	Flynn	Miller	Tartaglione
Brooks	Fontana	Muth	Vogel
Brown	Gebhard	Phillips-Hill	Ward, Judy
Cappelletti	Haywood	Pittman	Ward, Kim
Coleman	Hughes	Regan	Williams, Anthony H.
Collett	Hutchinson	Robinson	Williams, Lindsey
Comitta	Kane	Rothman	Yaw
Costa			

NAY-0

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

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

SB 1151 (Pr. No. 1712) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in the State System of Higher Education, further providing for definitions and establishing the Grow Pennsylvania Merit Scholarship Program.

Considered the third time and agreed to,

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

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator MARTIN. Madam President, I rise and ask for an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 1151. Senate Bill No. 1151 creates the Grow PA Merit Scholarship Grant Program, which would help attract high-performing, out-of-State students to

Pennsylvania educational programs in our PASSHE schools. The merit scholarships would allow students pursuing in-demand occupations to pay tuition at an in-State rate rather than out-of-State rates. Similar to Senate Bill No. 1150, we have worked during the past several weeks with my colleagues, key Pennsylvania industries, and stakeholder groups to refine this legislation. Senate Bill No. 1150 [1151] places the focus on attracting young people into Pennsylvania and incentivizing them to stay here and work here after they graduate. Madam President, being that Pennsylvania is the second largest importer of out-of-State students, we see a tremendous opportunity in front of us, and we are confident that Senate Bill No. 1151 will help attract high-performing, out-of-State students to Pennsylvania educational programs in our PASSHE schools in high-demand fields. But even more importantly, will also keep them here in great, Pennsylvania, family-sustaining jobs and live and raise their families. So, I ask for an affirmative vote on Senate Bill No. 1151.

Thank you, Madam President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-48

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

NAY-1

Haywood

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

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

SB 1154 (Pr. No. 1713) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act establishing the Performance-based Funding Council and providing for its powers and duties.

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

On the question,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

Senator L. WILLIAMS. Madam President, I rise today in opposition to Senate Bill No. 1154. Since it is higher education week here in the Senate, I thought I would take an academic perspective on this bill, starting with: what is performance-based budgeting? It is a budgeting process that allocates funds based on programmatic results that contribute to the organization's goals. That sounds reasonable. It even sounds logical that creating incentives to operate more efficiently and effectively will result in better delivery of public services. But history has shown us repeatedly that while good in theory, performance-based budgeting rarely results in positive outcomes or outcomes that are sustainable over time. Thanks to recent research by Professor Nicholas Hillman from the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, I was pointed to one of the earliest investigations of performance-based budgeting in 1938 by Clarence Ridley and Herbert A. Simon, where they evaluated performance systems in public organizations. They started with the system they thought would be easy: fire departments. They quickly found out that it was quite complicated to measure. For example, some fires are easier to put out than others based on size and weather conditions. It was easy to measure that the fire was extinguished, but the process to get there was complex. Professor Hillman pointed out that, quote, "Their fundamental conclusion was similar to what we continue to find today: using outcomes as a management tool is difficult because public services are delivered through complex organization[s] where tasks are not routine and are inherently difficult to define and measure." Herbert A. Simon, a professor at Carnegie Mellon University from 1949 to 2001, built upon that initial research to later win the Nobel Prize in Economics for developing the theory of bounded rationality. He argued that data generated by performance incentives do, and I quote, "not even remotely describe the processes that human beings use for making decisions in complex situations." His work found that: [Reading]

Performance-based funding regimes are most likely to work in non-complex situations where performance is easily measured, tasks are simple and routine, goals are unambiguous, employees have direct control over the production process, and there are not multiple people involved in producing the outcome. In higher education, it may be easy to count the number of graduates, but the process of creating a college graduate is anything but simple.

Performance-based budgeting in the higher education space has come in two distinct waves, one in the 1990s and then a second wave beginning around 2010. This resurgence is notable since two-thirds, two-thirds of all States that experimented with the policy discontinued it at some point in time.

Professor Hillman looked at 12 different quantitative evaluations of State performance-based funding. He found remarkable consistency in the findings over different years and different policies. Across this whole body of research, evidence shows that States using performance-based funding do not out-perform other States and sometimes even have negative effects. In light of these critiques, proponents of performance-based budgeting, such as HCM Strategists, have rebranded performance-based budgeting plans to call them, quote, "outcome-based funding," and then later "student success funding." These proponents have received contracts from States to implement performance-based budgeting

plans. In fact, HCM currently has a \$243,000 contract in Pennsylvania with the administration and PDE to facilitate the performance-based budget working group for the Governor's blueprint for higher ed. That working group concluded its work in mid-April and was supposed to produce a written document. I have asked PDE a number of times for that document and still have not received it.

HCM's own reports, both in 2016 and 2020, both sang performance-based budgeting praises, but also warned of significant risks if not done correctly. They warned of design and implementation flaws for programs that were designed in a top-down approach by legislators or policy leaders with little or no input from institutions. They warned of metrics that were vague and based on unreliable data and of plans that corresponded to multiple, often conflicting priorities. They also warned that unintended consequences could include cost to comply with data collection, reduced academic standards, the emphasis of parts of the institution's mission, increased admission standards, and inhibited faculty voice. Now, even if you were to ignore the Nobel Prize-winning economist and trust the proponents who have a financial interest in continuing performance-based budgeting, neither today's Senate Bill No. 1154 or the Governor's blueprint avoid the various pitfalls that the proponents warn States to avoid. I know that some of our State-related institutions have expressed an interest in performance-based budgeting, but I believe they have been told a lie and promised something that they will never be delivered. They have been told that if you succumb to performance-based budgeting, you will be able to get your yearly appropriation without the legislature's two-thirds problem from the last couple of years. I believe those legislators will still hold up State-related appropriations no matter what performance-based budgeting plan is in place.

Even if you do not want to trust the Nobel Prize-winning economist, please listen to the faculty on the ground at these institutions. Twenty-one West Chester University faculty warned in a recent op-ed that, quote, "institutions will become beholden to numbers and data sets at the expense of quality education." They pointed out that schools and programs already suffering from decades of underfunding will be in more danger because these metrics will, quote, [Reading:]

...shape every administrative decision, chilling new initiatives and readying the knives for cuts. Those that don't hit all of their targets, or simply do not hit all of the targets quickly enough for the annual budget assessment, will be eliminated regardless of their educational value.

I trust the educators on these campuses. They know what will happen to these programs that students rely on because they have seen it happen before. Even if performance-based budgeting is implemented with the best of intentions, the danger for students and the future of higher education institutions in Pennsylvania is too high. Any dollar spent in the higher education space should be spent in a way that will make education more accessible and affordable for all students. So, whether it is today's Senate Bill No. 1154 or the Governor's blueprint, I am opposed to performance-based budgeting, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, the bill before us, Senate Bill No. 1154, proposes to move Pennsylvania's research-based State-related universities to a performance-based funding model in an effort to hold these institutions accountable for results. It has long been my view that funding increases for our State's colleges and universities must reflect whether the investments we make are providing students with the skills to obtain family-sustaining jobs and to experience economic opportunity, especially here in the Commonwealth. Students should be able to expect that when they attend one of our universities, that they will pay a reasonable amount for their education and that they will graduate with the skills they need to gain meaningful employment, and we cannot continue to invest more in a system without any respect to the outcomes that system is producing. Pennsylvania taxpayers make a significant investment in our system of higher education. Likewise, students and their families must make significant personal financial investments to attend these institutions as out-of-pocket costs continue to rise. In fact, it costs the Pennsylvania resident anywhere from \$24,500 to \$40,000 a year to attend a Pennsylvania State-related university. Holding institutions of higher education accountable for graduating students who are prepared to be successful in the real world after they leave campus will not only help our students, but it will also improve our return on investment and result in a better use of taxpayer dollars. Rather than simply increasing funding, we should make universities earn their funding based on their performance on key priorities such as: graduating students within 4 years, which controls costs for both the student and the university; ensuring students fully understand where the major they have chosen will land them a job that pays them enough to afford their monthly college debt payments; or educating students about in-demand professions and job opportunities here in Pennsylvania so they can get a job here in the Commonwealth and our State can slow our outbound migration. Moving to a performance-based funding model will hold universities accountable, safeguard taxpayer dollars, and prepare students to secure family-sustaining jobs right here in the Commonwealth. I encourage support for Senate Bill No. 1154.

Thank you, Madam President.

And the question recurring,
Shall the bill pass finally?

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

YEA-28

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

NAY-21

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

Costa
Dillon

Kane

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 present said bill to the House of Representatives for concurrence.

SB 1155 (Pr. No. 1714) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, providing for Higher Education Task Force.

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-28

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

NAY-21

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

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 1157 and **SB 1231** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator AUMENT.

BILL AMENDED

SB 1236 (Pr. No. 1669) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 6, 1951 (P.L.69, No.20), known as The Landlord and Tenant Act of 1951, in preliminary provisions, further providing for definitions; in recovery of possession, further providing for notice to quit; in repeals, providing for applicability; and making an editorial change.

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

LAUGHLIN AMENDMENT A4869 AGREED TO

Senator LAUGHLIN offered the following amendment No. A4869:

Amend Bill, page 1, line 17, by striking out "a landlord" and inserting:

another

Amend Bill, page 1, line 17, by striking out "landlord's" and inserting:

other's

Amend Bill, page 1, line 18, by striking out "landlord's" and inserting:

other's

Amend Bill, page 1, line 18, by striking out the period after "consent" and inserting:

, including, but not limited to, oral or written leases or acceptance of rent by an owner or their agent.

Amend Bill, page 2, line 3, by inserting after "not":

, nor ever has been.

Amend Bill, page 2, lines 10 and 11, by striking out "possesses the real property of another without the" in line 10 and all of line 11 and inserting:

is not, nor ever has been, a tenant.

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.

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

HB 1477 and **HB 1760** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator AUMENT.

SECOND CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

BILL LAID ON THE TABLE

SB 219 (Pr. No. 188) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of December 13, 1988 (P.L.1190, No.146), known as the First and Second Class County Property Tax Relief Act, further providing for short title, for definitions, for deferral or exemption authority and for retroactive application.

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

SB 219 TAKEN FROM THE TABLE

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, I move that Senate Bill No. 219, Printer's No. 188, be taken from the table and placed on the Calendar.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 501, SB 525 and **SB 800** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator AUMENT.

BILL ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

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

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

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

BILLS OVER IN ORDER

SB 841, SB 1000, SB 1026, SB 1108, SB 1203 and **SB 1232** -- Without objection, the bills were passed over in their order at the request of Senator AUMENT.

BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION
AND REREFERRED

HB 1853 (Pr. No. 2921) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act, in licensing of health care facilities, further providing for administration.

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

HB 1889 (Pr. No. 2367) -- The Senate proceeded to consideration of the bill, entitled:

An Act amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in weights and measures, further providing for meter required.

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

BILL OVER IN ORDER

HB 2055 -- Without objection, the bill was passed over in its order at the request of Senator AUMENT.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES**

Senator GEBHARD, from the Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development, reported the following bills:

SB 1121 (Pr. No. 1723) (Amended)

An Act amending Title 12 (Commerce and Trade) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Pennsylvania-Ireland Trade Commission and the Pennsylvania-Ireland Trade Commission Account; imposing duties on the Department of Community and Economic Development; and making an editorial change.

SB 1254 (Pr. No. 1715)

An Act amending Title 4 (Amusements) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to gaming, further providing for definitions; in Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, further providing for general and specific powers, for regulatory authority of board and for number of slot machines; in licensees, further providing for Category 4 slot machine license, for manufacturer licenses, for gaming service provider, for nongaming service provider, for occupation permit application, for slot machine accounting controls and audits and for renewals; in table games, further providing for regulatory authority; in revenues, further providing for slot machine licensee deposits; in administration and enforcement, further providing for investigations and enforcement, for prohibited acts and penalties and for liquor licenses at licensed facilities; and, in miscellaneous provisions relating to gaming, providing for live-streaming on casino floor.

Senator PITTMAN, from the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations, reported the following bill:

HB 1333 (Pr. No. 3295) (Amended) (Rereported)

An Act amending the act of July 25, 1961 (P.L.857, No.372), referred to as the Stuffed Toy Manufacturing Act, further providing for definitions, for manufacturing, for materials and for enforcement; and providing for labeling and for report.

BILLS ON FIRST CONSIDERATION

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

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The bills were as follows:

SB 522, SB 580, SB 698, SB 965, SB 976, SB 1080, SB 1121, SB 1129, SB 1160, SB 1192, SB 1193, SB 1200, SB 1230, SB 1241, SB 1244, SB 1246, SB 1254, HB 1446, HB 1664, HB 1730, HB 1754 and HB 2096.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY

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

SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

- | | | |
|------------|--|--|
| 9:30 A.M. | AGING AND YOUTH (joint hearing with House Aging and Older Adult Services Committee on the status of the State's Aging Our Way plan. Department of Aging Secretary Jason Kavulich will testify) | Hearing Room 1
North Office
(LIVE
STREAMED) |
| 9:30 A.M. | EDUCATION (to consider Senate Bills No. 913, 971, 1171, 1175 and 1252) | Room 8E-A
East Wing
(LIVE
STREAMED) |
| 10:30 A.M. | CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE (to consider Senate Bills No. 1250 and 1251; and House Bills No. 109, 327, 1490 and 1818) | Room 461
Main Capitol |

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024

- | | | |
|------------|--|--|
| 11:00 A.M. | TRANSPORTATION (public hearing on Pittsburgh's Airways and Inland Waterways) | Pitt. Int. Airport
1000 Airport Blvd.
Landside Terminal
4th Floor Mezz.
Conference Rm. A
Pittsburgh |
|------------|--|--|

PETITIONS AND REMONSTRANCES

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

Senator ROBINSON. Madam President, I am pleased to join my Committee on Labor and Industry Minority chair, Senator John Kane, and Senator Tina Tartaglione in recognizing July 22 and [through] July 26 as Construction Opioid Awareness Week. Construction workers are particularly susceptible to issues related to opioid addiction and prescription drug abuse due to the physically demanding nature of the work and older workforce. A recently released National Center for Health Statistics report found that the construction industry had the highest rate of overdose deaths in 2020. It is critical that we educate our workers about the potential dangers of opioid abuse and provide resources to those struggling with addiction. I applaud the efforts of construction associations and businesses to promote awareness about the dangers of opioid and prescription drug abuse. The construction industry is very active in the summer months, making late July an ideal time for these awareness efforts. Thank you to our hard-working construction workers for all you do to build and maintain our facilities and infrastructure that allow us to sustain our lifestyles. We want to make sure our workers are safe both on and off the job so they can be there each day for their families and friends.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chester, Senator Kane.

Senator KANE. Madam President, I would like to talk about Senate Resolution No. 307. The resolution recognizes the last full week of July as Construction Opioid Awareness Week in Pennsylvania. Yesterday, I joined my co-prime sponsors of the resolution, Senator Robinson and Senator Tartaglione, at the Capitol fountain--oh boy, I am struggling today--at the Capitol fountain to discuss Senate Resolution No. 307 and the impact of the opioid addiction on the construction industry. We were joined by two

representatives from the Keystone Contractors Association and a representative from the Pennsylvania Building & Construction Trades Council. Construction workers tend to get hurt performing their jobs and self-medicating themselves with drugs and alcohol, or doctors prescribe addictive medication for the pain, then they find themselves addicted over time. See, construction workers, they work hard, and they party harder. And how do I know that? Well, because I spent most of my career on construction sites, some of the largest projects in the city of Philadelphia. As a young man, at the early age of 22, I had an issue with drugs and alcohol. And if it was not for the fellow plumber who was on that job, who recognized I was always getting in trouble because of my drinking and my drug use, I would not be here today. So again, I would like to thank my colleagues on cosponsoring Senate Resolution No. 307. I am Senator John Kane, and I am an alcoholic and a drug addict.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Madam President, together with my colleagues, Senator Kane and Senator Robinson, I rise in support of Senate Resolution No. 307, recognizing Construction Opioid Awareness Week in this Commonwealth. Yesterday, I had the honor of standing with my fellow Senators and the Keystone Contractors Association for a press conference highlighting this critical issue, and thank you, again, to those who shared and listened to our stories. As someone in recovery from alcohol for the last 21 years, I can attest to the challenge of overcoming addiction. Each person's path in recovery is different, but without exception, the journey is difficult, and I empathize deeply with those who do not currently see a way out of the cycle of addiction. It is no secret that the construction industry is physically demanding, and it is no surprise it has been particularly susceptible to opioid misuse. Construction workers often suffer from injuries and chronic pain, leading them to seek relief through medical interventions and, too often, opioid pain relief. Unfortunately, this can quickly spiral into dependency and addiction. The statistics are alarming. Construction workers are significantly more likely to develop opioid use disorders and other addictions compared to other professions. But through Construction Opioid Awareness Week and other initiatives, we can raise awareness, educate our friends and coworkers, and help implement preventative measures to overcome the scourge of addiction.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes, for a second time, the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator Tartaglione.

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Madam President, I rise because today marks 6,547 days since our Commonwealth's legislature last passed an increase in our minimum wage. All eyes are on us, Madam President. As we near the end of the fiscal year, the residents of our State, whom we are elected to serve, are looking to Harrisburg to see what we do next, to see where our economic priorities lie. But more important, Madam President, they are looking to see where our morals are. Across our Commonwealth, tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians live on our \$7.25 minimum wage. They are struggling to make ends meet and on a precipice of poverty, and that is because our Commonwealth has left morality at the door the last few years, Madam President. Every June

we are here advocating how to best position the Commonwealth for the future. We have Members vying for tax cuts. We have Members trying to expand grant programs. We have Members working to ensure that the money our Commonwealth is investing in our communities is effective and going to its intended uses. But what we do not hear, Madam President, are other Members vying to provide relief for our minimum-wage earners, except for me. I am here every single Session day highlighting the injustice we are perpetrating our minimum-wage earners. Making our minimum-wage earners subsist on our current minimum wage is immoral, and I am fighting for each and every one of them, especially when our workers could leave our Commonwealth for any of our neighboring States and earn more for the same exact work.

Madam President, I like to think Pennsylvania is a leader, that we are in the forefront of workers' rights and protecting workers' livelihoods, but we are not, Madam President. It is embarrassing that we are falling behind. We are behind every single neighboring State, including West Virginia, Madam President. Eight years ago, in 2016, West Virginia knew that \$7.25 was immoral and too low, so they acted and raised the minimum wage. That was in 2016. This is not new, Madam President. There have been calls for years by me and other Members, both in the House and the Senate, but they have fallen on deaf ears. But 18 years of inaction is too long. We must hear the cries for help and acknowledge we must do something. We need to make sure that all Pennsylvanians can survive on their full-time work. We need to pass a living wage in Pennsylvania. We need to pass Senate Bill No. 1186.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair recognizes, for a third time, the gentlewoman from Philadelphia, Senator Tartaglione.

Senator TARTAGLIONE. Madam President, on behalf of Senator Costa, I want to submit these remarks and have them spread upon the record.

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

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

Madam President, I rise once again today to bring attention to five bills that the House has sent us to meaningfully and substantially improve the lives of Pennsylvanians, which have been stalled here in our Chamber. The House of Representatives has crafted bills that impact working families across Pennsylvania and worked hard to get them passed through their Chamber. From gun safety to child safety to energy and beyond, these bills are bipartisan, commonsense measures that will meaningfully improve the lives of the people we love. Not only are these bills meaningful, they are extremely popular. Pennsylvanians of all walks of life support measures that will improve the safety of their neighborhoods, tackle the climate crisis, and deliver beautiful futures for our children.

House Bill No. 714, which would provide for comprehensive background checks by closing loopholes, has been stalled 385 days. Senator Hughes and Senator Santarsiero introduced its companion bill, Senate Bill No. 60, in the Senate. House Bill No. 1028, known as the Safer Rails, Safer Communities bill, has been stalled 372 days. Senator Katie Muth's Senate Bill No. 808 is the companion bill. House Bill No. 494, which would mandate carbon monoxide detectors in daycares, has been stalled 413 days. Senator Fontana's Senate Bill No. 205 would also mandate that childcare centers have carbon monoxide detectors. House Bill No. 1032, which would issue grants to schools for solar energy projects, including

costs related to equipment, installation, and maintenance of solar energy systems, has been stalled 350 days. Senator Hughes, Senator Comitta, and Senator Bartolotta have circulated a cosponsorship memo that mirrors this bill. House Bill No. 299, which would extend OSHA protections to public workers, has been stalled 409 days. Senator Tina Tartaglione's Senate Bill No. 93 is a companion bill to this one in the Senate.

I once again urge my colleagues in the Majority party to take up these bills and give our constituents the opportunity to hear a real conversation from their leaders about how we move these issues forward. We owe it to the people who send us here to represent them to discuss these issues and bring these bills up for a vote. I look forward to ongoing, good faith conversations as we continue to make progress on these important bills.

BILLS SIGNED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore (Senator Kim L. Ward) in the presence of the Senate signed the following bill:

SB 126.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair wishes to announce the following bill was signed by the President (Lieutenant Governor Austin A. Davis) in the presence of the Senate:

HB 1097.

RECESS

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

Senator AUMENT. Madam President, I move that the Senate do now recess until Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 11 a.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, unless sooner recalled by the President pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate recessed at 4:48 p.m., Eastern Daylight Saving Time.