# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

# LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

# **WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020**

# **SESSION OF 2020**

### 204TH OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 43

# **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

The House convened at 11 a.m., e.d.t.

# THE SPEAKER (BRYAN CUTLER) PRESIDING

#### **PRAYER**

HON. PAM SNYDER, member of the House of Representatives, offered the following prayer:

Please bow your head as we ask for God's blessings.

Heavenly Father, we ask Your blessing today on this body and this Commonwealth. You have created us all in Your image. We ask that You show each of us the way to live up to that image by becoming the best version of ourselves as we work toward issues that impact all people's lives. Help us to open our hearts and our minds to follow Your example, Lord: to love our neighbor, to help those who cannot help themselves, and to forgive those who trespass against us.

It is through You, Father, that we get our strength and our love and our compassion. Let us all work together for the good of all people we serve with Your love in our hearts. Amen.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by members and visitors.)

#### JOURNAL APPROVAL POSTPONED

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the approval of the Journal of Tuesday, July 7, 2020, will be postponed until printed.

## LEAVES OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER. Are there requests for leaves of absence? The Chair recognizes the majority whip; seeing none. The Chair recognizes the minority whip; seeing none.

# MASTER ROLL CALL

The SPEAKER. Without objection, we will now move to the master roll. Members will proceed to vote.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### PRESENT-201

Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Rigby
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Roae
Bernstine	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
Boback	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Warner
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warren
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pyle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Ouinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Knowies	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans			Zillillerillali
	Kosierowski	Rapp Ravenstahl	Cutlor
Everett	Krueger		Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	

ADDITIONS-0

NOT VOTING-0

# EXCUSED-1

Mako

The SPEAKER. Two hundred and one members having voted on the master roll, a quorum is present.

#### GUEST INTRODUCED

The SPEAKER. Located to the left of the rostrum, the Chair is pleased to welcome Hunter Shreffler, who is interning with Representative Gleim this summer. He attends Widener Law School. Welcome.

#### **CALENDAR**

#### RESOLUTIONS

Ms. TOOHIL called up HR 789, PN 3398, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing the month of March 2020 as "Intellectual Disability Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Rigby
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Roae
Bernstine	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
Boback	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons

Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Warner
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warren
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pyle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Quinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	
Everett	Krueger	Ravenstahl	Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	•

#### NAYS-0

# NOT VOTING-0

#### EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

\* \* \*

# Mr. DeLUCA called up HR 833, PN 3494, entitled:

A Resolution honoring the life of Barbara Elaine Smith and expressing condolences upon her passing.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Dichy
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Rigby Roae
Bernstine	Flynn		Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Longietti Mackenzie	Rothman
Boback	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Davis, 1. Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Day			
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Warner
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warren
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pyle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Quinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	
Everett	Krueger	Ravenstahl	Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	•

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

# ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. For the information of the House members, the plan this morning is to quickly run through each of the four resolutions, and we will do comments at the break in order to try to be as efficient as possible.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Ms. DONATUCCI called up HR 906, PN 3991, entitled:

A Resolution recognizing August 26, 2020, as "Women's Equality Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

-			D: 1
Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Rigby
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Roae
Bernstine	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
Boback	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas

Davis, A. Tobash Innamorato Neilson Davis, T. Irvin Nelson Toepel Dawkins O'Mara Tomlinson Isaacson O'Neal Toohil Day James Oberlander Deasy Jones Topper Jozwiak DeLissio Ortitay Ullman Delloso Kail Otten Vitali Kaufer Owlett Delozier Warner DeLuca Kauffman Pashinski Warren Dermody Keefer Peifer Webster Diamond Keller Petrarca Wentling Donatucci Kenyatta Wheatley Pickett Dowling Kim Polinchock Wheeland Driscoll Kinsey Puskaric White Dunbar Kirkland Pyle Williams Dush Klunk Oninn Youngblood Ecker Knowles Rabb Zabel Emrick Kortz Rader Zimmerman Evans Kosierowski Rapp Everett Krueger Ravenstahl Cutler, Farry Kulik Readshaw Speaker Fee Lawrence Reese

#### NAYS-0

#### NOT VOTING-0

#### EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

\* \* \*

# Mr. HENNESSEY called up HR 918, PN 4002, entitled:

A Resolution requesting the United States Department of Transportation relinquish to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the ownership of the Philadelphia to Harrisburg railroad line, the former Pennsylvania Railroad Main Line now known as the "Harrisburg Line," currently utilized by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) for passenger rail operations.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

D	Eindler.	Las	Diabre
Barrar	Fiedler Fitzgerald	Lee Lewis	Rigby Roae
Benninghoff Bernstine	0		
Bizzarro	Flynn Frankel	Longietti Mackenzie	Roebuck Rothman
Boback	Freeman Fritz	Madden	Rowe
Bonner		Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Warner
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warren
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pvle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Quinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	
Everett	Krueger	Rayenstahl	Cutler.
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	Speaker
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NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-1

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The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

# RULES AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York County, Representative Saylor, for the purposes of an announcement.

Mr. SAYLOR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Rules Committee will meet immediately in the Appropriations conference room, and immediately following that the Appropriations Committee will meet in the majority caucus room, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Rules Committee will meet immediately in the Appropriations conference room, and immediately following that the Appropriations Committee will meet in the majority caucus room.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair would like to announce that Representative Gabler, a member of the Rules Committee, has hereby resigned. We thank him for his service on the Rules Committee.

#### REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady from Montgomery County, Representative Toepel.

Mrs. TOEPEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Republicans will caucus virtually and in person in the majority caucus room at 11:45. We would be prepared to return to the floor at 12:15. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

# **DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS**

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative McClinton, from Philadelphia.

Ms. McCLINTON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

House Democrats, we will caucus at 11:45; we will caucus virtually at 11:45.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR. KAUFER

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Kaufer, for the purposes of an announcement.

Mr. KAUFER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The northeast Republican delegation will meet immediately at the break in Chairman Millard's office. Thank you.

#### STATEMENT BY MR. STRUZZI

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Struzzi, for the purposes of unanimous consent.

Mr. STRUZZI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Colleagues, I would like to take this opportunity to wish a happy birthday to a former colleague of the House of Representatives, former State Representative Paul Wass. Paul will turn 95 tomorrow, on July 9. Paul served in this esteemed

House from 1976 until 1990, 14 years. So again, happy birthday to former State Representative Paul Wass, who served in the 62d District in Indiana County for 14 years. Paul will turn 95 tomorrow. Happy birthday, Paul.

Thank you.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair wishes to inform the members that we will be recessing until 12:15, unless sooner recalled by the Chair; however, we will not be recessing right now because we wish to recognize several individuals for comments upon resolutions that have recently passed. But in an effort to be as efficient as possible, we are going to allow those comments to be made while the committee meetings are ongoing.

#### STATEMENT BY MR. DAVIS

The SPEAKER. At this time the Chair would like to recognize Representative Austin Davis, who would like to speak on HR 833.

Mr. DAVIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I offer these comments on behalf of my colleague and good friend from Allegheny County, Representative Tony DeLuca.

HR 833 honors the life and legacy of Barbara Elaine Smith, known professionally as B. Smith, who was a Pittsburgh native and an inspiration to many across the nation and this Commonwealth. B. Smith rose from nothing to become an African-American icon, becoming one of the first African-American women to grace the cover of Mademoiselle magazine. In addition to a long and illustrious modeling career, B. Smith also served as a spokeswoman for major companies, including Verizon, Colgate, Palmolive Oxy, and McCormick's Lawry seasoning products. Ms. Smith was also a renowned television host and nonprofessional chef with restaurants in Washington, DC, Manhattan, and Sag Harbor, New York.

Ms. Smith broke many barriers, but sadly, in 2013, at the age of 64, she was diagnosed with an early onset Alzheimer's disease. Instead of giving up, she used her diagnosis and platform to work tirelessly at raising awareness of Alzheimer's disease, which affects approximately 280,000 Pennsylvanians a year. Sadly, B. Smith lost her battle with Alzheimer's disease and passed away on February 20, 2020, at the age of 70 years old.

By passing this resolution we celebrate her life and legacy and express our deep sadness that this bright life was extinguished far too soon. And thank you, Mr. Speaker, for recognizing me on behalf of Representative Tony DeLuca.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

# REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

The SPEAKER. The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Chester County, Representative Hennessey, under unanimous consent to speak on HR 918.

Mr. HENNESSEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I will submit the remarks for the record later today. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Mr. HENNESSEY submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

HR 918 requests the United States Department of Transportation to relinquish to the Commonwealth the Harrisburg Line, which is currently operated by Amtrak and extends from Philadelphia to Harrisburg. However, while Amtrak operates the Harrisburg Line and uses its own equipment and staff for the passenger rail services they offer, Amtrak does not actually own the line. USDOT obtained the line when it was turned over to the USDOT by the freight railroads as part of the creation of Amtrak.

Over the past 40-plus years, Pennsylvania has heavily subsidized the Harrisburg Line and every single passenger train operating over the Harrisburg Line. Since 1999 the Commonwealth has contributed approximately \$260 million to the maintenance and improvement of the Harrisburg Line. The Commonwealth has a strong desire to continue to provide its citizens timely and quality passenger rail services, and perhaps even more frequent passenger rail service on this line. By ceding the line to PA, the Commonwealth would have the opportunity to enhance passenger rail services to better meet the needs of our citizens who rely upon the Harrisburg Line for transportation and commuting needs.

Therefore, my resolution requests that USDOT turn over the Harrisburg Line to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and allow for the taxpayer dollars currently being used to subsidize the line to benefit PA citizens more directly by having the State own and operate the line.

#### **RECESS**

The SPEAKER. The House will stand in recess until 12:15, unless sooner recalled by the Speaker.

#### AFTER RECESS

The time of recess having expired, the House was called to order.

# **BILLS REREPORTED FROM COMMITTEES**

HB 1311, PN 1531

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending the act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89, No.18), known as the Conservation and Natural Resources Act, in Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, further providing for fees and charges.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 1582, PN 2577

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, in auditors and accountants, further providing for appointment of accountant and providing for appointment of independent auditor and abolishment of office of elected auditor.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 1995, PN 4078

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act establishing the Keystone Solvency Operating Study Commission and providing for its powers and duties and for a report.

APPROPRIATIONS.

#### HB 2025, PN 3907

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct a public comment process on and submit to the General Assembly a measure or action intended to abate, control or limit carbon dioxide emissions by imposing a revenue-generating tax or fee on carbon dioxide emissions.

APPROPRIATIONS.

#### HB 2122, PN 3012

By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending Title 8 (Boroughs and Incorporated Towns) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in associations and organizations, further providing for associations and organizations for mayors; in elections of officers, further providing for eligibility; in powers, duties and rights of appointed officers and employees, further providing for appointments and incompatible offices and for police serving under cooperative agreement or contract; in corporate powers, further providing for specific powers; in taxation and finance, further providing for investment of funds; providing for solid waste collection and disposition; and, in ordinances, further providing for ordinances and resolutions and for publication.

RULES.

#### HB 2141, PN 3048

By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to home rule and optional plan government, further providing for definitions, providing for appointment of government study commission in distressed municipality and further providing for first meeting of commission, for function and duty of commission, for hearings and public forums, for report of findings and recommendations, for limitation on enactment of ordinance or filing of petition and for limitation on municipal powers.

RULES.

#### HB 2149, PN 3698

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending the act of October 21, 1988 (P.L.1036, No.116), known as the Hardwoods Development Council Act, further providing for Hardwoods Development Council.

APPROPRIATIONS.

#### HB 2219, PN 3950

By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending the act of May 31, 1945 (P.L.1198, No.418), known as the Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act, further providing for Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board.

RULES.

# HB 2296, PN 3305

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in commercial drivers, further providing for notification requirements for drivers.

APPROPRIATIONS.

# HB 2540, PN 4079

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, establishing the State Epidemiology Advisory Council; and making an appropriation.

APPROPRIATIONS.

HB 2571, PN 3888

By Rep. BENNINGHOFF

An Act amending Title 8 (Boroughs and Incorporated Towns) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers, duties and rights of appointed officers and employees, further providing for appointments and incompatible offices.

RULES.

SB 927, PN 1320

By Rep. SAYLOR

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for issuance and content of driver's license.

APPROPRIATIONS.

# HOUSE RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

No. 931 By Representatives MACKENZIE, BARRAR, BIZZARRO, BROWN, BURNS, COX, SCHLEGEL CULVER, EMRICK, FREEMAN, GREEN, HILL-EVANS, HOWARD, JAMES, KINSEY, KULIK, LONGIETTI, MENTZER, MILLARD, B. MILLER, MOUL, MURT, NEILSON, PICKETT, POLINCHOCK, PYLE, READSHAW, ROTHMAN, RYAN, SAYLOR, SCHMITT, SCHWEYER, SHUSTERMAN, SONNEY, TOMLINSON, YOUNGBLOOD, ZIMMERMAN and JOZWIAK

A Resolution designating the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a Purple Heart State and recognizing August 7 as "Purple Heart Day" in Pennsylvania.

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, July 8, 2020.

**No. 932** By Representatives MURT, KORTZ, KAUFFMAN, SCHLEGEL CULVER, BOBACK, COX, HENNESSEY, BROWN, FREEMAN, RYAN, BURNS, HICKERNELL, READSHAW, LONGIETTI, KINSEY, MENTZER, SCHMITT, MILLARD, O'MARA, JAMES, DONATUCCI, MACKENZIE, B. MILLER, HOWARD and GAINEY

A Resolution commemorating the 76th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge.

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, July 8, 2020.

By Representatives MURT, HENNESSEY, HILL-No. 933 EVANS, BIZZARRO, EVERETT, RYAN, McNEILL. BROOKS, KINSEY, KORTZ, BROWN, SONNEY. KOSIEROWSKI, SCHLEGEL CULVER, BOBACK, JONES, FREEMAN, BURNS, ROZZI, COX, MALAGARI, GREEN, READSHAW, LONGIETTI, CALTAGIRONE, SCHMITT, MILLARD, O'MARA, DONATUCCI, MOUL, MERSKI, SCHWEYER, MACKENZIE, YOUNGBLOOD, WARREN, **HOWARD** and **GAINEY** 

A Resolution designating the month of June 2020 as "Cancer Survivors Recognition Month" in Pennsylvania and honoring all cancer survivors for their strength and courage in the face of this devastating illness.

Referred to Committee on HEALTH, July 8, 2020.

No. 934 By Representatives MURT, KORTZ, DONATUCCI, HENNESSEY, LONGIETTI, BURNS, ROZZI, SONNEY, SCHLEGEL CULVER, SCHMITT, SANCHEZ, RYAN, READSHAW, NEILSON, FREEMAN, MILLARD, SCHLOSSBERG, MALAGARI and GAINEY

A Resolution designating the month of June 2020 as "Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Referred to Committee on HEALTH, July 8, 2020.

No. 935 By Representatives MURT, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, RYAN, GALLOWAY, TOMLINSON, HOHENSTEIN, KINSEY, HANBIDGE, BROWN, HOWARD, YOUNGBLOOD, BIZZARRO, BURNS, READSHAW, NEILSON, ROZZI, GAINEY and FRANKEL

A Resolution designating the month of October 2020 as "Lifesharing Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES, July 8, 2020.

**No. 936** By Representatives MURT, PASHINSKI, SCHMITT, KORTZ, KIM, HENNESSEY, DONATUCCI, LONGIETTI, MALAGARI, KINSEY, BURNS, HILL-EVANS, ROZZI, SCHLEGEL CULVER, READSHAW, MILLARD, RYAN, STRUZZI, MACKENZIE, HOWARD, GAINEY and HOHENSTEIN

A Resolution designating June 12, 2020, as "Behavior Analyst Appreciation Day" in Pennsylvania.

Referred to Committee on PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, July 8, 2020.

**No. 937** By Representatives SCHLEGEL CULVER, HENNESSEY, SONNEY, MILLARD, SCHMITT, KINSEY, MURT, RYAN, BROWN, KORTZ, MEHAFFIE, BURNS, PICKETT, LONGIETTI, READSHAW, GREEN, MOUL and NEILSON

A Resolution recognizing the month of September 2020 as "Histiocytosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Referred to Committee on HEALTH, July 8, 2020.

No. 938 By Representatives SCHLEGEL CULVER, SONNEY, HENNESSEY, MILLARD, SCHMITT, KINSEY, MURT, RYAN, BROWN, SAMUELSON, HILL-EVANS, KORTZ, MEHAFFIE, BURNS, SCHLOSSBERG, PICKETT, LONGIETTI, YOUNGBLOOD, MENTZER, READSHAW, GREEN and NEILSON

A Resolution recognizing October 5, 2020, as "World Habitat Day" in Pennsylvania.

Referred to Committee on URBAN AFFAIRS, July 8, 2020.

No. 939 By Representatives SCHLEGEL CULVER, HOHENSTEIN, SONNEY, HENNESSEY, MERSKI, MILLARD, McNEILL, SCHMITT, KINSEY, MURT,

MADDEN, BIZZARRO, RYAN, BROWN, THOMAS, COX, MACKENZIE, BOBACK, SAPPEY, ZABEL, JAMES, POLINCHOCK, KULIK, HAHN, JONES, HILL-EVANS, KORTZ, GREGORY, MEHAFFIE, BURNS, SCHLOSSBERG, PICKETT, LONGIETTI, YOUNGBLOOD, ISAACSON, MENTZER, ULLMAN, FARRY, INNAMORATO, READSHAW, HOWARD, WHEATLEY, GREEN, DELLOSO, SCHWEYER. MOUL and NEILSON

A Resolution designating the month of November 2020 as "Veteran Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, July 8, 2020.

# HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

**No. 2655** By Representatives OBERLANDER, DALEY, ROZZI, HANBIDGE, GREGORY, DONATUCCI, RYAN, ROTHMAN, KINSEY, McNEILL, MILLARD, THOMAS, WILLIAMS, BERNSTINE, T. DAVIS, DAY, HILL-EVANS, YOUNGBLOOD, DELUCA and SCHMITT

An Act amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sexual offenses, further providing for the offense of institutional sexual assault; and, in registration of sexual offenders, further providing for sexual offenses and tier system.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2656** By Representatives WHITE, DIAMOND, ROAE, MILLARD, TOOHIL, ROWE, BARRAR, PYLE, NEILSON and GLEIM

A Joint Resolution proposing integrated amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for action by Lieutenant Governor as Governor and for vacancy in office of Lieutenant Governor; and providing for an initiative to recall certain elected Statewide and local officers.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, July 8, 2020.

No. 2657 By Representatives HOHENSTEIN, MURT, GALLOWAY, DRISCOLL, T. DAVIS, HILL-EVANS, HOWARD, KRUEGER, McCLINTON, MENTZER, PASHINSKI, READSHAW, ROZZI, SANCHEZ, SAPPEY, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, ULLMAN, ZABEL, ISAACSON, BOYLE, O'MARA, NEILSON, BULLOCK and DEASY

An Act amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, in fireworks, further providing for use of consumer fireworks and for penalties.

Referred to Committee on AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2658** By Representatives ISAACSON, GALLOWAY, RYAN, HOHENSTEIN, CALTAGIRONE, DELLOSO, DeLUCA, DRISCOLL, FREEMAN, HILL-EVANS,

McCARTER, McNEILL, ROZZI, SANCHEZ, SCHWEYER, VITALI and NEILSON

An Act amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to residential real property, further providing for definitions; and, in seller disclosures, further providing for application of chapter and providing for disclosure of construction defects.

Referred to Committee on URBAN AFFAIRS, July 8, 2020.

#### No. 2659 By Representative BOYLE

An Act amending the act of January 17, 1968 (P.L.11, No.5), known as The Minimum Wage Act of 1968, further providing for minimum wages; and repealing provisions relating to preemption.

Referred to Committee on LABOR AND INDUSTRY, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2660** By Representatives DeLUCA, MURT and KENYATTA

An Act amending the act of June 13, 2008 (P.L.182, No.27), known as the Clean Indoor Air Act, further providing for prohibition.

Referred to Committee on HEALTH, July 8, 2020.

#### No. 2661 By Representative PUSKARIC

An Act amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in particular rights and immunities, providing for immunity for regulatory compliance.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2662** By Representatives WHITE, TOEPEL, BARRAR, JONES, STEPHENS and MOUL

An Act amending the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code, in district attorney, assistants and detectives, further providing for district attorney, qualifications, eligibility and compensation.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, July 8, 2020.

#### No. 2663 By Representatives WHITE and BARRAR

An Act amending the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code, in preliminary provisions, further providing for applicability; and, in district attorney, assistants and detectives, providing for term limits.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, July 8, 2020.

# **No. 2664** By Representatives WHITE, TOMLINSON, GLEIM, BROOKS, M. K. KELLER, BARRAR and COOK

An Act amending the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as The County Code, in preliminary provisions, further providing for applicability; in county officers, further providing for enumeration of elected officers, providing for appointment of district attorneys in counties of the first class; and, in district attorney, assistants and detectives, further providing for district attorney, qualifications, eligibility and compensation and for filling of vacancies.

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2665** By Representatives PETRARCA, BOBACK, HILL-EVANS, KINSEY, GALLOWAY, DeLUCA, ROZZI, CEPHAS, LONGIETTI, FREEMAN, DALEY, HOWARD, ZABEL and SCHWEYER

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, in emergency COVID-19 response, further providing for use of money; and making an appropriation.

Referred to Committee on APPROPRIATIONS, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2666** By Representatives KEEFER, SCHMITT, ECKER, ROTHMAN, BARRAR, MASSER, METCALFE, MILLARD, BERNSTINE, PYLE, TOPPER, WARNER, STRUZZI, HERSHEY, MIZGORSKI, MOUL, ZIMMERMAN, SAYLOR and GROVE

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

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, July 8, 2020.

#### No. 2667 By Representatives GROVE and QUINN

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

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2668** By Representatives ISAACSON, NEILSON, MILLARD, SANCHEZ and HILL-EVANS

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the concurrence of the Department of Environmental Protection, to lease to L-A Battery, QOZ, LLC land within the bed of the Delaware River within the City of Philadelphia.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2669** By Representatives HOHENSTEIN, A. DAVIS, CALTAGIRONE, DALEY, DELUCA, GALLOWAY, HANBIDGE, HILL-EVANS, HOWARD, KENYATTA, KINSEY, KOSIEROWSKI, LEE, McCARTER, McNEILL, MURT, ROZZI, ZABEL and DEASY

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, in miscellaneous limitations and transfers, further providing for COVID-19 response transfers for assistance to the Commonwealth's health care system and providing for COVID-19 response transfers from Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund.

Referred to Committee on APPROPRIATIONS, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2671** By Representatives ISAACSON, ROAE, BURNS, DELLOSO, GAINEY, GALLOWAY, GREEN, HILL-EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, HOWARD, KENYATTA, MALAGARI, NEILSON, ROZZI and ZABEL

An Act amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, in Pennsylvania liquor stores, further providing for sales by Pennsylvania liquor stores.

Referred to Committee on LIQUOR CONTROL, July 8, 2020.

**No. 2672** By Representatives SCHMITT, PICKETT, BERNSTINE, JAMES, HILL-EVANS, HERSHEY, MILLARD, ZIMMERMAN and HENNESSEY

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to government and administration, providing for traffic control signals and systems contracts.

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, July 8, 2020.

# **No. 2673** By Representatives SCHMITT, GREINER, MILLARD and TOPPER

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, to grant and convey, at a price to be determined through a competitive bid process, certain lands, buildings and improvements situate in Allegheny Township, Blair County.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, July 8, 2020.

# **No. 2674** By Representatives SCHMITT, GREINER, MILLARD and TOPPER

An Act authorizing the Department of General Services, with the approval of the Governor and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, to grant and convey, at a price to be determined through a competitive bid process, certain lands, buildings and improvements situate in Allegheny Township, Blair County.

Referred to Committee on STATE GOVERNMENT, July 8, 2020.

#### SENATE BILLS FOR CONCURRENCE

The clerk of the Senate, being introduced, presented the following bills for concurrence:

# SB 273, PN 224

Referred to Committee on HEALTH, July 8, 2020.

# SB 987, PN 1822

Referred to Committee on VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, July 8, 2020.

#### SB 1045, PN 1550

Referred to Committee on URBAN AFFAIRS, July 8, 2020.

#### SB 1182, PN 1826

Referred to Committee on AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, July 8, 2020.

#### SB 1193, PN 1756

Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY, July 8, 2020.

#### SB 1195, PN 1825

Referred to Committee on INSURANCE, July 8, 2020.

SB 1199, PN 1823

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION, July 8, 2020.

# **CALENDAR CONTINUED**

#### **BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION**

The House proceeded to second consideration of SB 491, PN 558, entitled:

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

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration? Bill was agreed to.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2541**, **PN 3809**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for countywide reopening plan for businesses.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

The SPEAKER. It is the Chair's understanding that the amendments previously offered by Representatives Kaufer and Everett have been withdrawn.

The Chair thanks the members.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration? Bill was agreed to.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR A

#### **BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION**

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2219**, **PN 3950**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 31, 1945 (P.L.1198, No.418), known as the Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act, further providing for Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration? Bill was agreed to.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2122**, **PN 3012**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 8 (Boroughs and Incorporated Towns) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in associations and organizations, further providing for associations and organizations for mayors; in elections of officers, further providing for eligibility; in powers, duties and rights of appointed officers and employees, further providing for appointments and incompatible offices and for police serving under cooperative agreement or contract; in corporate powers, further providing for specific powers; in taxation and finance, further providing for investment of funds; providing for solid waste collection and disposition; and, in ordinances, further providing for ordinances and resolutions and for publication.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

# Mr. **B. MILLER** offered the following amendment No. **A06533:**

Amend Bill, page 1, line 23, by inserting after "association]" if requested by the mayor

Amend Bill, page 2, line 4, by inserting after "shall", if requested,

Amend Bill, page 3, line 4, by inserting after "treasurer."

At no time shall a mayor or member of council be compensated for more than one office.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

The SPEAKER. On that question, the Chair recognizes Mr. Brett Miller.

Mr. B. MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Regarding amendment 6533, this amendment makes no policy changes to the bill, but rather clarifies the language to make it crystal clear that reimbursement for a mayor for authorized expenses will only occur if requested. I know that a number of us will often perform activities and simply want to do it for our own selves and incur that expense ourselves, and this makes it perfectly clear that reimbursement shall occur only if requested by the mayor. Secondly, it also clarifies that no mayor or member of council shall be compensated for more than one office. This provision was formerly in the code. It was taken out. It is a good-government provision and I think it should remain in the bill, and both of these provisions I think are good government. I ask the members for an affirmative vote.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and now recognizes the gentleman, Representative Moul.

Mr. MOUL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This is an agreed-to amendment, so I would also encourage an affirmative vote. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the amendment?

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Dighy
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Rigby Roae
Bernstine	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
		Madden	
Boback	Freeman		Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Warner
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warren
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pyle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Quinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	
Everett	Krueger	Ravenstahl	Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	

NAYS-0

NOT VOTING-0

EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the amendment was agreed to.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration as amended?

The SPEAKER. It is the Chair's understanding that the gentleman withdraws amendment 6541.

The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration as amended?

Bill as amended was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The bill as amended will be reprinted.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2141**, **PN 3048**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to home rule and optional plan government, further providing for definitions, providing for appointment of government study commission in distressed municipality and further providing for first meeting of commission, for function and duty of commission, for hearings and public forums, for report of findings and recommendations, for limitation on enactment of ordinance or filing of petition and for limitation on municipal powers.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration? Bill was agreed to.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2571**, **PN 3888**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 8 (Boroughs and Incorporated Towns) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers, duties and rights of appointed officers and employees, further providing for appointments and incompatible offices.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration? Bill was agreed to.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL CALENDAR B

# **BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION**

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 2149**, **PN 3698**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of October 21, 1988 (P.L.1036, No.116), known as the Hardwoods Development Council Act, further providing for Hardwoods Development Council.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration? Bill was agreed to.

Rarrar

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

Fiedler

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

I ee

Righy

Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Rigby
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Roae
Bernstine	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
Boback	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Warner
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warren
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pyle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Quinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
•			

Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	
Everett	Krueger	Ravenstahl	Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	_

#### NAYS-0

#### NOT VOTING-0

#### EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1582**, **PN 2577**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, in auditors and accountants, further providing for appointment of accountant and providing for appointment of independent auditor and abolishment of office of elected auditor.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration? Bill was agreed to.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-197

Barrar	Fee	Kulik	Reese
Benninghoff	Fiedler	Lawrence	Rigby
Bernstine	Fitzgerald	Lee	Roae
Bizzarro	Flynn	Lewis	Roebuck
Boback	Frankel	Longietti	Rothman
Bonner	Freeman	Mackenzie	Rowe
Borowicz	Fritz	Madden	Rozzi

Boyle	Gabler	Malagari	Ryan
Bradford	Gainey	Maloney	Sainato
Briggs	Galloway	Markosek	Samuelson
Brooks	Gaydos	Marshall	Sanchez
Brown	Gillen	Masser	Sankey
Bullock	Gillespie	Matzie	Sappey
Burgos	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burns	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Caltagirone	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Carroll	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Causer	Greiner	Merski	Schweyer
Cephas	Grove	Metcalfe	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hahn	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Hanbidge	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harkins	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Harris	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Heffley	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Helm	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hennessey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hershey	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hickernell	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Hohenstein	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Howard	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Innamorato	Nelson	Toepel
Davis, 1. Dawkins	Irvin	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	Isaacson	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	James	Oberlander	Ullman
DeLissio	Jones	Ortitay	Vitali
Delloso	Jozwiak	Otten	Warner
Delozier	Kail	Owlett	Warren
DeLuca	Kaufer	Pashinski	Webster
Dermody	Kauffman	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keefer	Petrarca	Wheatley
Donatucci	Keller	Pickett	Wheeland
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Polinchock	White
Driscoll	Kim	Puskaric	Williams
Dunbar	Kinsey	Pyle	Youngblood Zabel
Dush	Kirkland	Quinn	
Ecker	Klunk	Rabb	Zimmerman
Emrick	Knowles	Rader	C 4
Evans	Kortz	Rapp	Cutler,
Everett	Kosierowski	Ravenstahl	Speaker
Farry	Krueger	Readshaw	
	NΔ	VS_1	

#### NAYS-4

McCarter Metzgar Schroeder Topper

#### NOT VOTING-0

#### EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1995**, **PN 4078**, entitled:

An Act establishing the Keystone Solvency Operating Study Commission and providing for its powers and duties and for a report.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration? Bill was agreed to.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lebanon County, Representative Ryan.

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, imagine a situation in which you think something is going to happen and all of a sudden something entirely different does happen and then you are surprised. When you look at HB 1995, it is an effort for us to recognize that we need to make sure that Pennsylvania is not surprised by the financial events of the future because of financial decisions that have been made in the past.

Since the beginning of the pandemic of 2020, the sheer magnitude of the change in our lives has been extraordinary. The emotional roller coaster of the transition from a booming economy to one on the brink of economic disaster has been nothing short of mind-numbing. In my years and my decades of helping keep companies out of bankruptcy and my experience in the United States Marine Corps and seeing over six nations that have collapsed economically, I worry about some of the experiences that have happened throughout the world.

The first economic victim of a pandemic, and any economic disaster will not be the consumer, it will be the host of municipalities already operating on the brink of financial disaster, since the housing bubble burst. States like Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and California will feel the crisis first; others will follow. Fortunately, and you have heard me say this many times before, Pennsylvania had about 12 years to go before we would run into a period of insolvency. That number is down to between 8 to 10 years. Should the Federal government's fiscal and monetary policies become ineffective in bailing out the States – which even that, in and of itself, is of dubious constitutionality - the death spiral of deflation occurs, and I am probably one of the only people in this chamber that has experienced a deflationary spiral. It is similar to a whirlpool, and equate ourselves at this point to being on the outer rings of that whirlpool, but once you get pulled into the center of it, you cannot escape it. And once it happens, it is severe, it is deadly, and there will be no recourse for those who are caught in the grips of that

Deflation has a devastating effect. Anyone with debt will find it much more difficult to pay it back. Organizations with fixed costs will find it almost impossible to operate. We are already seeing that now with a rash of bankruptcies in the retail space. I will assure you that shopping malls will be one of the first victims, in terms of their inability to ever recover. Once the deflationary spiral starts, the ability of society to pay for things as mundane as Social Security and retirement pay under the defined benefit pension plans becomes questioned, something that we thought was sacred.

Unfortunately, in dealing with an economy and dealing with financial distress, most people prefer to feel that ignorance is bliss. In my years of doing turnarounds, I can tell you that if you believe that ignorance is bliss, all I can assure you is once that spiral starts and you see the economic consequences on people, you will no longer feel it is so blissful.

There are some economic laws that I would encourage you to consider. They are called natural laws. The first is the natural law of supply and demand, and the elasticity of supply and demand are not subject to any government, Governor—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will please suspend.

The gentleman is speaking on a very important issue and I believe he deserves to be heard. Members, please take your seats.

You may proceed.

Mr. RYAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The law of supply and demand and laws of elasticity of supply and demand are natural laws. They are not subject to any government, Governor, legislature, or court. They are inviolate.

The second natural law is that governments can never react as quickly as free markets. Please do not confuse a free market with any type of economic system. I am not referring to capitalism. I am not referring to socialism. I am not referring to totalitarianism. I am referring to the fact that people will always act in their own best self-interest. They will protect themselves first, society last. Free markets always win, and governments always overreact and underperform.

So let me just give you some axioms, and many of you have heard me say this before. I was told when I got here that a school district cannot go bankrupt. We know that is no longer accurate; they can. Did you know that your property serves as collateral for the unfunded pension obligations of the school districts in which you live? That your property serves as collateral for the debt obligations of your school district? Did you know? Did you know that your school district is liable for all the unfunded pension obligations of all the other school districts, because it is a cost-sharing plan? Did you know? Did you know that a State can go bankrupt and become insolvent? Did you know? Did you know that a city can go bankrupt; in fact, we are in one of those cities that that has happened. Sixty-one cities have filed bankruptcy since 2010. Did you know that a State may not be able to borrow at some point in time?

Mr. Speaker, I humbly ask for your support of HB 1995. Some of you will sit back and say this is not necessary, that we do not need to deal with it. Let us not worry about it. It is not something that we are going to get elected on today or not. But I will tell you, the bullet is going down the barrel of the weapon. It has already been – the trigger has been pulled; the round is heading down the barrel. All we can do at this point is determine where it hits, and hopefully, that no one gets hit. But in the years in which I have seen economies collapse, I can tell you the social danger and damage that is done is horrific. The destabilization to those who are the most vulnerable is sad. Do not let your grandchildren decades from now ask you and say, "Grandmom, Granddad, did you know?"

I humbly ask for your support of HB 1995.

### REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I do have other remarks I would like to submit for the record.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and will accept the remarks to be submitted for the record.

Mr. RYAN submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

Bursting myths of government – did you know?

HB 1995 is an extremely important step in making sure that Pennsylvania is not surprised by the financial events of the future and financial decisions of the past. Since the beginning of the panic of 2020, the sheer magnitude of the change in our lives has been extraordinary. The emotional roller coaster of the transition from a booming economy to one on the brink of economic disaster has been nothing short of mind-numbing. The U.S. economy went from a 3.5-percent unemployment rate in February 2020 to over 14.7 percent less than 60 days later. It was the sharpest increase in the unemployment rate since the Great Depression.

With the panic of 2020, the pandemic or COVID-19, it is significantly more challenging to dismiss its causes despite efforts of so many to do so. My experience in helping organizations avoid financial and economic disaster suggests that the vast majority prefer an adage that "ignorance is bliss." Unfortunately, current fiscal and monetary policies of most western nations are merely moving us farther up the fiscal cliff rather than away from it. It is easier to spend more rather than be disciplined in managing nations' financial affairs.

The first economic victim of the pandemic will not be the consumer. It will be the host of municipalities already operating on the brink of financial disaster from the housing bubble bursting. States like Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and California will feel the crisis first. Other States will follow. Should Federal government fiscal and monetary policies become ineffective in bailing out the States – which is of dubious constitutionality – the death spiral of deflation begins. Economic recovery will be difficult at best because deflation's spiral is so difficult to reverse. Buyers are rewarded with even lower prices by waiting to purchase goods and services. Deflation has devastating effects in every aspect of life.

First, anyone with debt will find it more difficult to repay the debt in a deflationary cycle. Incomes and prices will fall, making debt repayment difficult or impossible.

Second, organizations with high fixed costs such as airlines, hospitals, automobile manufacturers, drug and pharmaceutical companies, governments, and sports teams, just to name a few, will find that they must reduce prices in order to cover their fixed costs or lose customers. While this strategy works in the short run, the economic consequences of the lower prices will ultimately translate into lower pay.

Third, once the deflation cycle starts, the ability of a society to pay for things such as Social Security, retirement benefits, unfunded obligations, and any type of retiree health-care cost will be impaired. The deflationary spiral will prevent any of these organizations from increasing prices.

Unfortunately, in dealing with an economy, ignorance is bliss may be fatal to our citizens, the most vulnerable, and our entire viability as a Commonwealth. There are certain rules of law that fall within the purview of man, and there are significantly more important truisms of markets that defy the laws of man. These are called natural laws of economics. Whenever man attempts to interfere with these natural laws, chaos ensues.

The first natural law is that the laws of supply and demand and elasticity of supply and demand are not subject to any government, Governor, legislature, or court. They are inviolate.

The second natural law is that governments can never react as quickly as free markets. Despite efforts by government to react, the reactions are just what the name implies — a reaction. Free markets, however, can be proactive. Governments solve yesterday's problems with yesteryear's solutions, thereby setting the stage for tomorrow's crisis. Government provides the framework for the economy but cannot control it.

Please do not confuse free markets with any type of economic system; it is not capitalist, socialist, communist, or whatever label one uses. It is the underlying premise that people will look to their own self-interests, regardless of the type of system governments attempt to advocate.

The third natural law is that free markets will always win. The concept of a black market is deliberately designed to circumvent the rules that governments put into place to begin with.

A fourth natural law is that governments always overreact and underperform.

Finally, the last natural law is one that I hope all will consider very carefully. That principle is nations can fail. Governments are able to provide the framework for how we live, yet interfering in our economic lives by attempting to control the economy will always revert to the first natural law. People naturally will look to their own self-interests.

Should we take the Keystone SOS study seriously, we have the opportunity to sound an early warning to protect the entire Commonwealth and all who live here. If we pay lip service to such a study, we may find that our negligence hurts those who depend upon us the most.

Some axioms to challenge led me to a concept called, "Did you know?" which led to HB 1995.

- Did you know that a Pennsylvania school district can go bankrupt?
  - Myth: Many in government refused to believe that a school can go bankrupt. The thought was that the school would always be bailed out by the property owners on the State. In the case of Chester-Upland School District, those options were fundamentally flawed. A judge even ordered the school district to consider opening up to outsourcing the school system to charter schools.
- 2. Did you know that your property serves as collateral for the future value of all bond payments and interest due to the bondholders of school debt?
  - Myth: The "system" does not want you to know how much you are indebted with your property due to debt incurred by the school system where you live. The concept of "retained" debt in HB 76 was due to this crisis, which the DoE (Department of Education) wants to downplay. "The school district has irrevocably pledged its full faith, credit and taxing power, with taxing power presently includes the power to levy ad valorem taxes on all taxable property with the school district..."
- 3. Did you know that your school district is liable for the unfunded pension liabilities of all other school districts with the PSERS system (Public School Employees' Retirement System)?
  - Myth: Most are discouraged from finding out that the PSERS pension system is a cost-sharing plan, which means that all school districts are obligated to pay the pensions of all the other schools in the event of a default.
- 4. Did you know that a State can go bankrupt and become insolvent?
  - Myth: Big spenders like you to believe that a State cannot go bankrupt, but with application to the Congress, a petition to reorganize can be approved. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico filed bankruptcy on May 3, 2017.
- 5. Did you know that a city can go bankrupt?

  Myth: Lots of folks like to perpetuate that myth because they can just keep spending. Harrisburg filed bankruptcy and the city of Chester is about to be next. Over 61 cities and counties have filed bankruptcy since 2010.
- 6. Did you know that a State may not be able to borrow at some point and become insolvent?
  - Myth: It is commonly believed that a State can always borrow money, but the financial markets determine that, not the executive branch and the legislature. Puerto Rico become insolvent and then went bankrupt.
- 7. Did you know that the Federal government legally cannot bail out a State due to the Constitution? Myth: The belief that the Federal government can bail out a State is a myth and is actually prohibited by the Constitution. The Feds

- can lend money, but not give out grants, further making the State more vulnerable.
- 8. Did you know that a State cannot just raise taxes?

  Myth: Many like to believe that a State or government can just increase taxes, but every study shows that people move out of high tax States to lower tax States, limiting the ability of government to fund stupidity.

I humbly ask for your support of HB 1995. Let us be proactive and learn from the mistakes of others rather than have others learn from the mistakes we make. Do not let our grandchildren decades from now ask, "Granddad, Grandmom, did you know?"

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Bradford, from Montgomery County.

Mr. BRADFORD. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in opposition to HB 1995. I want to begin by saying I recognize the gentleman is so very sincere, thoughtful, and in many ways, correct to raise the alarm that he has done today. Representative Ryan and I have had the opportunity over the past months and years to have some of these discussions about our financial circumstances in our Commonwealth, and Representative Ryan truly is courageous to stand up and offer suggestions to deal with problems that many would rather sweep under the rug, and he is courageous for doing so and I recognize that.

But I also want to throw out a counter to some of the points in terms of "did you know." Did you know that the Federal Bankruptcy Code does not allow and has never allowed State governments to declare bankruptcy? That is obviously very different than a municipal bankruptcy. Senate Majority Leader McConnell flirted with this idea recently in Washington, DC. He created a panic, and all sane minds immediately realized the idea to allow any Commonwealth to allow pensioners to allow debt obligations to go unpaid, the panic that that would create in our country would be catastrophic. And we have got to be thoughtful in how we propose to go forward.

I would also say that the contracts clause of the U.S. Constitution prohibits State governments from impairing the obligations of contracts. As originally understood and enforced, this clause prohibits State legislators from passing any laws to relieve either private debt or the State government's own debt. And the Supreme Court in 1977 reiterated that a State cannot refuse to meet its legitimate financial obligations simply because it would prefer to spend the money on something else or refuse to raise revenue. Clearly, State governments that pursue voluntary bankruptcy would seek relief from certain debt obligations, particularly pension debts now owed to retired State employees and interest payments now owed to holders of State bonds. Like private parties who declare bankruptcy, a State government that declared bankruptcy would find it more difficult and more expensive to obtain credit, and every component of State government would feel that impact. Simply put, you would create a financial crisis the likes of which we have never seen, that to the point of the good gentleman, literally can bring nations to their knees and bring the end of empires.

I recognize, again, the sincerity and the thoughtfulness and the time and the effort of the good gentleman. He is right to be concerned about these challenges in front of us. They existed before this pandemic, and they have only been exacerbated and exposed by it. We have huge challenges. I would point out that this body is the right venue to have that discussion, not as proposed in this bill, but as 203 members recognizing our

financial challenges, the obligations we have to future generations, to our children. We must begin to deal with our financial obligations.

I would point out, respectfully, that when we pass 5-month budgets and push off to the horizon just beyond another election that we do not recognize the insolvency that that will generate in our country. We have the tools. They are cuts and they are revenues, they are efficiencies, but they are hard choices and they need to be made in this room. We can no longer put off 5 months or 5 years or 5 generations what has been a mounting debt obligation that Representative Ryan rightfully points to. We cannot point to Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico, as the President recently learned, is not a State, and the obligations of Puerto Rico are not the debts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and I believe that that distinction needs to be made clear to this body.

Most of the claims in the event of a State insolvency would need to be adjudicated even if this was possible. And the IFO (Independent Fiscal Office), the body that would help out under this bill, has neither the resources nor the experience to evaluate the legal resolution of those issues. The data collection required is totally infeasible and could place an undue burden on municipalities and school districts whose cooperation would be required to compile all the information requested by the bill. Six months is an unrealistic timeline to complete and compile and analyze and report on the data requested by the bill.

But I would say that there is a deadline that we should all keep our eye on, and that is that 5-month horizon, because when this body punted off to another day after another election because it would not use the tools of revenue and the choice of cuts, because we put off to another day what we should have decided on yesterday – and not just this most recent yesterday, but yesterdays of decades and decades - the debt has piled up. And my most conservative friend, who I think knows I am on the progressive side of many of these issues, you are right to be worried. Your concern is not misplaced. I disagree with how you pursue it, but this body has an obligation to begin to deal with what debts we will pass to our children, what revenues we will no longer seek, what cuts we will choose not to make. These decisions are in front of us and they must be made. We do not need another commission; we need courage. Courage has been in short supply in this Commonwealth for decades, and as a consequence, the debt that this gentleman rightly points out needs to be addressed.

But let us do it by the elected body that we are. Let us show the courage to come together – Democrats and Republicans – and put all the options on the table and deal with this challenge, because the gentleman is not wrong about the problem. We have a moral obligation to future generations to work with this gentleman and to work with each other and to begin to address the structural challenges that existed before COVID that, unfortunately, have been only exacerbated by this pandemic. This challenge will not go away. This body, this Commonwealth, though, will only be eternal if we continue to do tough things, and I say we should stand with the gentleman in addressing those.

Though we may not support this bill, I again recognize your courage and your thoughtfulness to stand up and point out to the challenges that are not just 5 months ahead, but are 5 years ahead, and many years ahead.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

Prior to recognizing the next speaker, the Speaker would like to remind the members, from Mason's Manual, section 124, subsection 2: "A member in referring to another member should

avoid using the member's name, rather identifying that member by district, seat, as the member who last spoke or by describing the member in some other manner."

I know that we have done a midseason shift here, and there will be a decorum memo coming out from the office shortly, but I simply wanted to remind the members of what Mason's and our House rules require.

With that, we will move on to the good gentleman from Lebanon County – excuse me, someone else is seeking recognition.

The Speaker recognizes the gentleman from Lancaster County, Representative Brett Miller.

Mr. B. MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to read a summary of the bill and note that that gentleman who previously spoke, spoke in agreement that there are financial problems that the Commonwealth is facing, and I just want to establish what the bill does.

"The Keystone Solvency Operating Study Commission is established as a legislative commission for the purpose of analyzing the economic conditions of the Commonwealth, specifically unfunded obligations of school districts, municipalities and public pension plans. The commission will consider unfunded postemployment benefits to determine the impact on operations of other financial commitments during periods of economic recession. The study will also ensure that the priority of financial claims is understood within the framework of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

And it talks about what the commission is comprised of, and then "The duties of the Commission are as follows:" They shall "Analyze the financial insolvencies under PROMESA (Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act) and solvency concerns of other states to determine if the Commonwealth can become bankrupt or insolvent and to determine lessons learned. The Commission will also study the impact of insolvency proceedings to meet financial obligations in operating budgets."

Secondly, will "Assess how insolvency proceedings may affect the Commonwealth's ability to meet SERS (State Employees' Retirement System) and PSERS's obligations."

Third: "Assess how insolvency proceedings may affect the ability of SERS and PSERS to pay benefits to annuitants and beneficiaries."

And fourth: "In consultation with the Independent Fiscal Office, develop cash flow projections for the immediate five years following the effective date of the act. The projections will include best case, expected case, and worst-case scenarios to be defined by the IFO in the creation of the projections."

Number five will "Determine critical risk factors of importance to the Commonwealth on the Commonwealth's financial well-being and control measures to monitor the risk factors."

And number six: "Develop performance metrics for use by the IFO to monitor the critical risk factors identified with the measures published in the quarterly economic updates from the IFO."

Mr. Speaker, this commission's responsibility is very basic. It is to analyze where the Commonwealth is and where the Commonwealth may be in light of the fiscal challenges that we are facing. I do not see that this bill is in any way imprudent; in fact, I see this as a very prudent step, something that we would give this body here the tools it will need to make important

decisions going forward. It will not in any way prevent the Commonwealth, this body, or the General Assembly from making decisions in the time that this commission is going forward or after. This Commission is an essential ingredient to helping us maintain solvency in our fiscal matters in the Commonwealth, and I would urge a "yes" vote.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Lebanon County, Representative Ryan.

Mr. RYAN. I wanted to thank the minority Appropriations chair, because a good part of what he said reinforced the argument about why I recommend we pass HB 1995. We have had an opportunity to work together on a number of issues, and we do come from opposites sides of the political spectrum, but I do believe that we share the common concern, the financial concerns about getting the Commonwealth on track.

But I can assure you of a couple different things. As I said in my comments, these decisions are not determined by any government, by any Governor, by any legislature, or by any court. It is determined by the person with the cash, and when the States fail to exercise prudent financial responsibility, the people who have the opportunity to lend money to those governments will deny it and the States will go insolvent. I have seen that happen and that is an inviolate perspective under which the insolvency of the State will ensue.

At the time of the PROMESA bankruptcy of Puerto Rico, President Obama and the then Republican legislature and the House of Representatives and the Senate got together to craft a package to specifically address some of the constitutional challenges, but nothing alters the concern that when you are out of cash, you are out of cash. It is quite that simple. We do that every day in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We do need to have the courage to stand up and make sound decisions.

Our Tax Code in this Commonwealth is absolutely disastrous to working families. It punishes working families, and they have already decided to deal with that by the net exodus of young, working families and businesses out of the Commonwealth. The Independent Fiscal Office has been saying that now for a significant number of years, but that voice has fallen on deaf ears apparently. We need to make a courageous decision, and I proposed a bill and I had someone specifically say to me, "Yes, we know we need to do that, but who has the political courage to do it?" We require States persons today, because I remember all too well here in the commentary, General Motors was too big to fail - and I will concede that General Motors is not a State -Bethlehem Steel, if it goes bankrupt, will reemerge out of bankruptcy, but it did not and the pensioners were hurt. I do also believe that the obligations of the pension funds need to be paid and that is why it is of such importance to me, because I think we have that responsibility to make sure that we honor those obligations, that we are the good custodians of the dollars that have been provided to us and spend that money wisely rather than irresponsibly. That means making sure the pension reform bills get passed. That makes sure that we look at the structure of government and go lean. That means that we take this stewardship that we have seriously, because I will assure you of but one thing: when you run out of cash, the pensioner will get the IOU that says, "When we get money, it will be paid."

This is merely a study and I have yet to find any circumstance under which a study's results could be painful, other than perhaps it will be pulling the bandage off very quickly, to which we will all understand our ultimate responsibility to all the citizens of the Commonwealth to include those who have homes that would like to be able to retire, just as we have State workers and teachers who would like to retire as well. People who do not have the benefit of working for government would like to retire in the safety of their homes.

We must all be in this together, because I can assure you, if you are not in this together, if we are not all rowing against the tide and we break the cycle of that deflationary spiral, we will all be sinking together, because at some point in time, the insolvency issues will cause the Federal government to say, perhaps we need to look at modifying the Bankruptcy Code to deal with the insolvency of the States, none of which we ever anticipated would happen. And I agree with the gentleman, but I ask you, if you are afraid of the study results, you should vote against this bill. If you believe that you need to have an informed consent to make a rational decision about the future of this Commonwealth, then I ask you to please stand with me and vote for HB 1995 so that we all know what we are getting into and we can solve this problem before it becomes a crisis. Let us learn from the mistakes of other municipalities, let us learn from the mistakes of other States, let us learn to protect all of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Thank you so much.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

On the question recurring,

Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

### YEAS-117

Barrar	Gillespie	Mehaffie	Rowe
Benninghoff	Gleim	Mentzer	Ryan
Bernstine	Gregory	Metcalfe	Sainato
Boback	Greiner	Metzgar	Sankey
Bonner	Grove	Mihalek	Sappey
Borowicz	Hahn	Millard	Saylor
Brooks	Heffley	Miller, B.	Schemel
Brown	Helm	Mizgorski	Schmitt
Burns	Hennessey	Moul	Schroeder
Causer	Hershey	Murt	Simmons
Ciresi	Hickernell	Mustello	Snyder
Cook	Irvin	Nelson	Sonney

Cox Culver Davanzo Day Delozier Diamond Dowling Dunbar Dush Ecker Emrick	James Jones Jozwiak Kail Kaufer Kauffman Keefer Keller Klunk Knowles Kulik	O'Mara O'Neal Oberlander Ortitay Owlett Peifer Petrarca Pickett Polinchock Puskaric Pyle	Staats Stephens Struzzi Thomas Tobash Toepel Tomlinson Toohil Topper Warner Wentling
Diamond	Kauffman	Peifer	Toepel
Dowling	Keefer	Petrarca	Tomlinson
Dunbar	Keller	Pickett	Toohil
Dush	Klunk	Polinchock	Topper
Ecker	Knowles	Puskaric	Warner
Emrick	Kulik	Pyle	Wentling
Everett	Lawrence	Quinn	Wheeland
Farry	Lewis	Rader	White
Fee	Mackenzie	Rapp	Zimmerman
Fritz	Malagari	Reese	
Gabler	Maloney	Rigby	Cutler,
Gaydos	Marshall	Roae	Speaker
Gillen	Masser	Rothman	

#### NAYS-84

Bizzarro	Dermody	Kim	Rabb
Boyle	Donatucci	Kinsey	Ravenstahl
Bradford	Driscoll	Kirkland	Readshaw
Briggs	Evans	Kortz	Roebuck
Bullock	Fiedler	Kosierowski	Rozzi
Burgos	Fitzgerald	Krueger	Samuelson
Caltagirone	Flynn	Lee	Sanchez
Carroll	Frankel	Longietti	Schlossberg
Cephas	Freeman	Madden	Schweyer
Comitta	Gainey	Markosek	Shusterman
Conklin	Galloway	Matzie	Sims
Cruz	Goodman	McCarter	Solomon
Daley	Green	McClinton	Sturla
Davidson	Hanbidge	McNeill	Ullman
Davis, A.	Harkins	Merski	Vitali
Davis, T.	Harris	Miller, D.	Warren
Dawkins	Hohenstein	Mullery	Webster
Deasy	Howard	Mullins	Wheatley
DeLissio	Innamorato	Neilson	Williams
Delloso	Isaacson	Otten	Youngblood
DeLuca	Kenyatta	Pashinski	Zabel

#### NOT VOTING-0

## EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 2540**, **PN 4079**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, establishing the State Epidemiology Advisory Council; and making an appropriation.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration? Bill was agreed to.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the lady from Philadelphia, Representative DeLissio.

Ms. DeLISSIO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I have remarks for the record that I would like to submit.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

Ms. DeLISSIO. Thank you.

(Remarks were not submitted.)

On the question recurring,

Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

### YEAS-198

Barrar	Fee	Lawrence	Reese
Benninghoff	Fiedler	Lee	Rigby
Bernstine	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Roae
Bizzarro	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Boback	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
Bonner	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Borowicz	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Boyle	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Bradford	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Briggs	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Brooks	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brown	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Bullock	Gillespie	McClinton	Sappey
Burgos	Gleim	McNeill	Saylor
Burns	Goodman	Mehaffie	Schemel
Caltagirone	Green	Mentzer	Schlossberg
Carroll	Gregory	Merski	Schmitt
Causer	Greiner	Metcalfe	Schroeder
Cephas	Grove	Metzgar	Schweyer
Ciresi	Hahn	Mihalek	Shusterman
Comitta	Hanbidge	Millard	Simmons
Conklin	Harkins	Miller, B.	Sims
Cook	Harris	Miller, D.	Snyder
Cox	Heffley	Mizgorski	Solomon
Cruz	Helm	Moul	Sonney
Culver	Hennessey	Mullery	Staats
Daley	Hershey	Mullins	Stephens
Davanzo	Hickernell	Murt	Struzzi
Davidson	Hohenstein	Mustello	Sturla
Davis, A.	Howard	Neilson	Thomas
Davis, T.	Innamorato	Nelson	Tobash
Dawkins	Irvin	O'Mara	Toepel

Day	Isaacson	O'Neal	Tomlinson
Deasy	James	Oberlander	Toohil
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Topper
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Ullman
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Vitali
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warner
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Warren
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pyle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Quinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	
Everett	Krueger	Ravenstahl	Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker

#### NAYS-3

Jones McCarter

ter Webster

#### NOT VOTING-0

#### EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1311**, **PN 1531**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89, No.18), known as the Conservation and Natural Resources Act, in Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, further providing for fees and charges.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration? Bill was agreed to.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentlemen, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Rigby
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Roae
Bernstine	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
Boback	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	
	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warner Warren
DeLuca			
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pyle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Quinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	-
Everett	Krueger	Ravenstahl	Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	

NAYS-0

# NOT VOTING-0

#### EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 2296**, **PN 3305**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in commercial drivers, further providing for notification requirements for drivers.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration? Bill was agreed to.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Rigby
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Roae
Bernstine	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
Boback	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla

Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Warner
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warren
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll	Kinsey	Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kirkland	Pyle	Williams
Dush	Klunk	Quinn	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles	Rabb	Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	
Everett	Krueger	Ravenstahl	Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	

#### NAYS-0

#### NOT VOTING-0

#### EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to third consideration of SB 927, PN 1320, entitled:

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for issuance and content of driver's license.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration? Bill was agreed to.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-201

<b>D</b>	T. 11		D. 1
Barrar	Fiedler	Lee	Rigby
Benninghoff	Fitzgerald	Lewis	Roae
Bernstine	Flynn	Longietti	Roebuck
Bizzarro	Frankel	Mackenzie	Rothman
Boback	Freeman	Madden	Rowe
Bonner	Fritz	Malagari	Rozzi
Borowicz	Gabler	Maloney	Ryan
Boyle	Gainey	Markosek	Sainato
Bradford	Galloway	Marshall	Samuelson
Briggs	Gaydos	Masser	Sanchez
Brooks	Gillen	Matzie	Sankey
Brown	Gillespie	McCarter	Sappey
Bullock	Gleim	McClinton	Saylor
Burgos	Goodman	McNeill	Schemel
Burns	Green	Mehaffie	Schlossberg
Caltagirone	Gregory	Mentzer	Schmitt
Carroll	Greiner	Merski	Schroeder
Causer	Grove	Metcalfe	Schweyer
Cephas	Hahn	Metzgar	Shusterman
Ciresi	Hanbidge	Mihalek	Simmons
Comitta	Harkins	Millard	Sims
Conklin	Harris	Miller, B.	Snyder
Cook	Heffley	Miller, D.	Solomon
Cox	Helm	Mizgorski	Sonney
Cruz	Hennessey	Moul	Staats
Culver	Hershey	Mullery	Stephens
Daley	Hickernell	Mullins	Struzzi
Davanzo	Hohenstein	Murt	Sturla
Davidson	Howard	Mustello	Thomas
Davis, A.	Innamorato	Neilson	Tobash
Davis, T.	Irvin	Nelson	Toepel
Dawkins	Isaacson	O'Mara	Tomlinson
Day	James	O'Neal	Toohil
Deasy	Jones	Oberlander	Topper
DeLissio	Jozwiak	Ortitay	Ullman
Delloso	Kail	Otten	Vitali
Delozier	Kaufer	Owlett	Warner
DeLuca	Kauffman	Pashinski	Warren
Dermody	Keefer	Peifer	Webster
Diamond	Keller	Petrarca	Wentling
Donatucci	Kenyatta	Pickett	Wheatley
Dowling	Kim	Polinchock	Wheeland
Driscoll		Puskaric	White
Dunbar	Kinsey Kirkland		Williams
Dush	Klunk	Pyle Ouinn	
		Rabb	Youngblood
Ecker	Knowles		Zabel
Emrick	Kortz	Rader	Zimmerman
Evans	Kosierowski	Rapp	Costless
Everett	Krueger	Ravenstahl	Cutler,
Farry	Kulik	Readshaw	Speaker
Fee	Lawrence	Reese	

NAYS-0

## NOT VOTING-0

#### EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk return the same to the Senate with the information that the House has passed the same without amendment.

#### **BILLS SIGNED BY SPEAKER**

Bills numbered and entitled as follows having been prepared for presentation to the Governor, and the same being correct, the titles were publicly read as follows:

#### SB 320, PN 324

An Act amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, enacting the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act; providing for user direction and agreements, for disclosure of digital assets and electronic communications, for functions of fiduciaries and for compliance and immunity for custodians of digital assets and electronic communications; and making conforming amendments.

#### SB 927, PN 1320

An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for issuance and content of driver's license.

Whereupon, the Speaker, in the presence of the House, signed the same.

#### **BILL ON THIRD CONSIDERATION**

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 2025**, **PN 3907**, entitled:

An Act authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct a public comment process on and submit to the General Assembly a measure or action intended to abate, control or limit carbon dioxide emissions by imposing a revenue-generating tax or fee on carbon dioxide emissions.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration? Bill was agreed to.

(Bill analysis was read.)

The SPEAKER. This bill has been considered on three different days and agreed to and is now on final passage.

The question is, shall the bill pass finally?

On that question, the Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Struzzi.

Mr. STRUZZI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to ask for your support for HB 2025 that would require legislative authorization before the Governor or any administration, like the Department of Environmental Protection, enters into a multistate pact.

In October of last year, the Governor announced that he would authorize the Department of Environmental Protection to move forward with entering into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. That was not vetted through this House. And as was stated earlier, any, any sort of activity that affects the entire Commonwealth should be run through all 203 members of this House and the General Assembly. That did not occur when the

Governor authorized the DEP to move forward with the RGGI initiative, and when that happened, I can tell you that the people in my district and the people in most of Pennsylvania who work in the energy industry were terrified because they felt their voices were not being heard. HB 2025 will allow their voices to be heard. It will require the Governor, or anyone who is in that seat, the current Governor or anyone who is in that seat regardless of their affiliation, to vet it through the General Assembly as a piece of legislation requiring public input before we can agree to move forward with anything like the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. That is so vitally important.

HB 2025 also requires that considerations like the economic impact of entering a multistate pact be considered. The impact of potentially losing \$3 billion in economic revenue, the impact of potentially losing 8,000 jobs that could go to other States like Ohio and West Virginia, the impact of losing local tax dollars and the millions of dollars that help pay for our local schools – all those factors need to be considered, and currently they are not. That is why HB 2025 is so important.

I know that there have been a lot of e-mails and a lot of different groups involved in this process the past few days, but I think it is important that we as elected officials representing the people of the Commonwealth have the opportunity to speak on issues that affect the entire Commonwealth. We are the voice of the people of Pennsylvania, and currently in this process the voice of the people of Pennsylvania is not being heard. I think it is important that we stand up for Pennsylvania jobs, for Pennsylvania families, for Pennsylvania communities, and HB 2025 will allow the voice of all Pennsylvanians to be heard, not just one person making unilateral decisions to enter into multistate pacts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for your support as elected members of this House of Representatives representing the people of Pennsylvania, that you support HB 2025 and give us a voice. Give the people we represent a voice in this House and in the process. It is for our future. It is for our economy. It is for our communities. It is for our families. So I ask for your support. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware County, Representative Vitali.

Mr. VITALI. Mr. Speaker, I have been in this chamber a long time, and I have worked on climate change issues for 20 years – 20 years I have watched this General Assembly, this Governor ignore a catastrophe that is slowly occurring.

Mr. Speaker, if you believe in science, you need to acknowledge that if we continue to do nothing on climate change, if we do not get this planet to carbon neutrality by 2050, the consequences to our children – the maker talks about our future. Future lives matter. Our children's lives matter. Our grandchildren's lives matter. And what we are going to leave them is a planet where our major cities have been flooded. We continue to get superstorms like Maria that devastated Puerto Rico, like Sandy that devastated the northeastern States, like Katrina that devastated New Orleans. We are going to give them the wildfires that have burned California, that almost put the entire country of Australia on fire.

These are the consequences, these are the consequences of ignoring climate change, and that is just what we are doing. We have been an irresponsible body. We are more concerned with keeping our friends in this interest group or that interest group

happy – because they call this and they want you to vote on this – than we are about our children and our future, and this has to stop.

Mr. Speaker, we have to understand that Pennsylvania is a major greenhouse gas producer—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will please suspend.

#### POINT OF ORDER

The SPEAKER. For what purpose does the gentleman rise? Mr. DUSH. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to ask the Speaker to remind the gentleman not to go to motive when he was ascribing going to a special interest group.

The SPEAKER. The Speaker thanks the gentleman.

And as a general reminder to the members, in addition to not referring to one another directly by name, which was mentioned previously, I would also point out that it is never correct to go to motive, although the gentleman may proceed.

Mr. VITALI. Mr. Speaker, we have to realize that Pennsylvania has a unique responsibility because we are such a huge global greenhouse gas emitter. Between our utility sector and our transportation sector, our power plants, our cars and trucks, and so forth, we produce about 1 percent of the world's greenhouse gases. It is a full 1 percent of the world's greenhouse gases, so we have the opportunity, we have the responsibility to stop this.

Mr. Speaker, this bill has one single purpose in mind and that is to stop RGGI. It has nothing to do with legislative choice or discretion. This is all about stopping RGGI.

Mr. Speaker, if you look at how this bill is constructed, it is a ridiculously constructed bill. What it does is create a system where 6 months of hearings have to be held and an onerous report has to be prepared – all of which to give the DEP the privilege of giving a legislator a bill to introduce. They could give it to me. I could introduce it tomorrow. This is a ridiculously constructed bill and we should not put our "yes" vote to it.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about jobs because I know a lot has been said about jobs with regard to this issue. Mr. Speaker, when Governor Wolf announced his RGGI proposal, Energy Harbor, who owns the two Beaver Valley plants which employ 1,000 people – 1,000 people – and they were going to close those plants and put those 1,000 people out of work in 2020 and 2021. Because the Governor started the RGGI process, they discontinued doing that, and if we kill RGGI, we are going to kill those 1,000 jobs at the two Beaver Valley units.

Mr. Speaker, an independent economic expert called the Analysis Group has found that since 2009, RGGI has created 45,000 job-years of work; 45,000 job-years of work RGGI has created. That is what this group found. Another report by the Acadia Center has found that in the last decade, RGGI States, the 10 RGGI States, their economies have grown 31-percent faster than the non-RGGI States. And electricity prices in the RGGI region have fallen 5.7 percent.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt, there is no doubt that RGGI is not going to help the coal industry. There is no doubt. But coal plants will close whether RGGI occurs or not. Fracking has made natural gas cheap. The new high-efficiency combined-cycle power plants, they have made gas cheap. Gas is killing coal. That is the reality. Gas is killing coal. The coal people do not want to admit that and the gas people do not want to admit that, but that is what is happening. And these jobs that our union friends are

telling us we need a few more years of, they are gone. They are gone whether we want it or not. The coal jobs are gone. That is regrettable. We need to help displaced workers. We need to help them. But in a free market economy, more efficient industries, jobs move to more efficient industries from less efficient industries.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said that this is a tax. This is not a tax. If you understand how this works, what this does is require power companies – gas companies, coal companies, other power companies – to buy allowances for the pollution they emit. That is how it works. You have to buy allowances if you want to emit pollutants. That is something very different than a tax. This is not a tax.

Mr. Speaker, the RGGI regulations, which are scheduled to start to move through perhaps a 2-year arduous process through the EQB, go through extreme scrutiny. Mr. Speaker, not only do they have to go through an EQB process, an Environmental Quality Board process that requires public hearing, public comment, legislative input – I, Chairman Metcalfe, and others in the legislature are on that – they have to go through a very strict process. They also have to be reviewed, these RGGI regulations, by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission, by the Attorney General, and in the end, we also have a say in this; we have the veto power over this. So this RGGI process is a very stringent, methodical, studious process.

Mr. Speaker, if we have any hopes of solving this climatechange crisis, we have to pass RGGI. But RGGI, frankly, is not enough. We have to pass the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards. We have to increase the efficiency standards in Act 129. We have to electrify our transportation sector. This is just a first step.

You know, Mr. Speaker, I really ask my members — I have been listening to a lot of caucus chatter, and I understand if you are in a coal region, you cannot vote for this. I get it. I am not asking that. But, Mr. Speaker, I am so disgusted, so disgusted by the chatter I hear from some of my colleagues — politicians, not statesmen — who are planning not to vote for this because they got a call from this person or that person who helped them here and helped them there. We have to do what is right, Mr. Speaker. We have to do what is right for our present, for our future, for our grandchildren. We need to vote "no" on this bill and let the RGGI process continue.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

#### REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Krueger, from Delaware County.

Ms. KRUEGER. Mr. Speaker, I am going to submit my remarks for record. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

Ms. KRUEGER submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

I rise today in opposition to HB 2025. A vote for HB 2025 is a vote to derail the biggest environmental policy effort that Pennsylvania has seen in a generation. When Governor Wolf announced last year that Pennsylvania would be joining 10 of our neighbor States in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while generating economic growth, it was the biggest action that has been ever

taken in this building to address climate changes. Yet today, in this chamber, we face a bill to preempt it.

Many of the comments we have heard from supporters of this bill are complaints about process. They want the legislature to have more input. But the input process the administration has in place for RGGI is much more extensive than anything in HB 2025. In fact, the Governor recently gave the Department of Environmental Protection a 6-week extension to develop proposed rulemaking in order to incorporate more stakeholder feedback from affected communities and the general public.

Simply put, this bill is an attack effort designed to preempt the Governor and prevent the Department of Environmental Protection from cleaning our air, saving lives, and creating the jobs of the future.

I have tremendous empathy for my colleagues who serve districts in this Commonwealth that are historically dependent on coal for their economic livelihood. But RGGI is not what is killing coal – cheaper natural gas is already putting coal out of business. With RGGI, we have a chance to generate real economic resources to help with an energy transition. Economic modeling shows that participating in RGGI will lead to a net increase of more than 27,000 jobs and add \$1.9 billion to the gross State product in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, we have a chance today to take real action on climate change. Vote "no" on HB 2025.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Lawrence, from Chester County.

Mr. LAWRENCE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, before us today is HB 2025 dealing with RGGI, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. Mr. Speaker, I apologize for getting into the weeds here on the issue of multistate compacts, but I do think it is important for the debate that is in front of us today. Article I, section 10, of the U.S. Constitution deals with interstate agreements, stating: "No State shall, without the Consent of Congress...enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State...." So this language is pretty clear, and Pennsylvania has gone through this process before.

To cite just one of many examples, on June 30, 1921, the U.S. Congress ratified an interstate agreement between Pennsylvania and Delaware regarding a parcel of land known as the Wedge, which had been claimed by both States. Congressional ratification resolved with finality the border between the two States, which had been contested in some manner for hundreds of years. But, Mr. Speaker, this was only after the legislature of both States passed resolutions to agree to the terms of the arrangement – Pennsylvania in 1897 and Delaware in 1921.

With regard to the matter before the House today, the Clean Air Act, passed by the United States Congress, specifically addresses multistate pollution mitigation efforts. Section 102(c) of the Clean Air Act provides – and I am quoting directly from the Clean Air Act – "The consent of the Congress is hereby given to two or more States to negotiate and enter into agreements or compacts, not in conflict with any law or treaty of the United States, for (1) cooperative effort and mutual assistance for the prevention and control of air pollution and the enforcement of their respective laws relating thereto, and (2) the establishment of such agencies, joint or otherwise, as they may deem desirable for making effective such agreements or compacts. No such agreement or compact shall be binding or obligatory upon any State a party thereto unless and until it has been approved by Congress...."

Now, Mr. Speaker, this language is, again, very clear, and there are two points that I want to bring forward. First, Congress consents to an agreement or compact between States regarding air pollution. Second, no such agreement or compact shall be binding or obligatory upon any State unless and until it has been approved by the United States Congress.

On the first point, I reviewed RGGI's bylaws. The bylaws are careful not to use the terms "agreement" or "compact," despite the fact that RGGI is clearly intended to act as an interstate compact. The word used is "initiative." RGGI is actually a corporation, incorporated in the State of Delaware. States are referred to as "participating members." RGGI itself is careful not to use the language clearly proscribed in the Clean Air Act for such an arrangement regarding pollution abatement.

So why should we care about this? Well, I would submit that at the very least, we should be concerned that RGGI may fall outside the blanket approval outlined in the Clean Air Act for an interstate effort to deal with air pollution. The choice by those administering RGGI to omit the words "agreement" and/or "compact" in favor of the term "initiative" is not accidental.

Now, some may argue that this is merely a matter of semantics. A State participating in RGGI is making an agreement no matter what one wants to call it. But I would counter that semantics mean a great deal here, which brings me to my second point. If RGGI is indeed an agreement, the plain language of the Federal Clean Air Act states: "No such agreement or compact shall be binding or obligatory upon any State a party thereto unless and until it has been approved by Congress." The U.S. Congress has never approved RGGI. As a result, RGGI is not federally binding or obligatory upon any State that participates.

So why would we care about that and what does it have to do with HB 2025? Well, if RGGI has no Federal enforcement requirement, that puts a great weight on the method of each State's individual authorization to join RGGI. Now, His Excellency, the Governor, has proposed to join RGGI by Executive action. If the Governor is successful in this effort, any succeeding Governor could remove Pennsylvania from RGGI by the same Executive action. This is not an exercise in theoretical postulating; it actually happened in the State of New Jersey. One Governor put the State into RGGI, and another took the State out of RGGI. And we need only look to the Federal level: one President implemented the Clean Power Plan, and another rolled it back. Without legislative approval, it was vulnerable. Regardless of one's views on the merits of the Clean Power Plan, it is clear that executive implementation of the vehicle was a roll of the dice. It was this executive implementation that ultimately was the undoing of the Clean Power Plan – again, regardless of the underlying merits of the plan.

Executive action is the weakest possible legal approach for Pennsylvania to associate with RGGI. If the Governor is successful in his approach, 1 person will have committed 13 million Pennsylvanians to a corporation trying very hard not to look like an interstate compact, in an arrangement that has no Federal enforceability and can be undone by the whim of a Governor elected mere months after it becomes effective.

Does it not make sense for the General Assembly to weigh in on an issue like this? If RGGI is fundamental to the future of this State and our neighbors, does not the Commonwealth's participation deserve sure legal footing? Especially since Congress, even a Democratic Congress under President Obama, has never taken action to approve RGGI.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I humbly submit that the General Assembly still does count for something in this Commonwealth. The legislative branch, which is the branch of government to enact policy, should have the opportunity to speak into a decision

that affects every Pennsylvanian that uses electricity. More than that, the General Assembly should be the origin of such a decision. And this General Assembly has acted before on the weighty issue of electric power generation. Mr. Speaker, I would remind you of HB 1509 of 1996, which we created Act 138, the competitive market for electrical generation in this Commonwealth. This law fundamentally reconfigured the generation and sale of electricity in Pennsylvania, an undertaking so massive that it is hard to believe it actually happened. Act 138 passed with broad bipartisan support.

Now, today the issue before us is HB 2025. The bill is only eight pages long. It can be read in less than 10 minutes. What does the bill propose? Very simply, that the Department of Environmental Protection should hold hearings across the State on this issue, an important issue that affects every Pennsylvanian that uses electricity, and draft a legislative proposal regarding RGGI for consideration by the General Assembly.

Now, what is the alternative? What is a "no" vote on this bill? While I do not – and I want to be very clear – I do not wish to examine motives of another member, it seems to me that a "no" vote on this bill is a yes to the Governor's proposal. As I outlined earlier, his proposal is on shaky legal ground. It lacks enforceability, and can be swept away at a moment's notice, as happened in New Jersey.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I apologize for the length of my comments, and I will end with this one thought. There are few issues, there are few issues that touch more people in Pennsylvania than that of electrical power generation. We all take reliable electric power for granted. Most Pennsylvanians, I think, rarely think about it – until the lights go out. And, Mr. Speaker, that happened in my district a few years back after a bad winter ice storm. The town of Cochranville was without power for 7 days – 7 very cold days. West Grove Borough was without power for 3 days. The phones in my office never rang off the hook like they did for those 7 days. People called and called and called. When is the power coming back on? Why cannot PECO get the power back on? What am I supposed to do with my four kids? My pipes are freezing. I am cold. It is something I will never forget.

We take electric power for granted until there is an issue. Mr. Speaker, this is a big issue. It deserves public hearings. It deserves legislative input. It deserves to be placed on solid legal footing. On that basis, I encourage an affirmative vote for HB 2025.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Philadelphia, Representative Kinsey.

Mr. KINSEY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I want to stand up in opposition of HB 2025, but I also want folks to understand the reason why. You know, even though, Mr. Speaker, I think that there is good intention on the gentleman, the prime sponsor of the bill, I think it is important that we recognize the impact that RGGI has on low-income households throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

You know, Mr. Speaker, since its inception, States that comprise the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative have earmarked significant percentages of RGGI's carbon tax revenue to assist low-income households. For instance, Mr. Speaker, in 2017 direct bill assistance made up 16 percent of RGGI's investment and 14 percent of the cumulative investment over the life of RGGI. In 2017, Mr. Speaker, \$49 million was earmarked

for direct bill credits and assistance to consumers in those 10 States that are involved in RGGI. One of our neighboring States, Mr. Speaker, Maryland, for instance, allocates 44.5 percent of RGGI's investments for direct bill assistance.

It is for that reason, Mr. Speaker – the impact that RGGI will have on low-income households throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – that I would urge my colleagues to vote "no" on HB 2025.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chairs thanks the gentleman.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Westmoreland County, Representative Nelson.

Mr. NELSON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise today in support of HB 2025, which ensures that RGGI will be decided by this legislature, but in the halls of this chamber and not by the Governor. It is interesting, the debate. And just for a moment if we think back to something John Adams said: "The way to..." defend "liberty is to place it in the people's hands...." That is what we are asking for today. This chamber, elected Representatives from our districts, from the citizens on all sides of this issue, should be deciding what happens when it comes to RGGI, not a single elected official.

From across the State, hardworking families in unions are concerned about this initiative. From the Philadelphia Trades, and I quote: RGGI will substantially affect how energy is produced and sold. From the Pittsburgh Building Trades: This job-crushing regulation that accomplishes little environmental benefit is a concern. And when we talk about why the trades are so concerned about this issue, and other employers, it is because they are seeing it every day. Already the threat of this Executive order of RGGI has impacted our State. Our coal plants lost \$20 to \$30 million of outages that did not occur through this fall, Mr. Speaker. Instead, our boilermakers crossed the border into Ohio. And it is interesting, Mr. Speaker, that Energy Harbor was mentioned, when they invested massive moneys into large coal plant outages where Pennsylvania workers had to go because our construction was shut down.

RGGI and PJM (Pennsylvania-Jersey-Maryland) are two different things. PJM is a multistate energy sale system. And under RGGI, Pennsylvania's energy prices will increase. And that is why companies like Energy Harbor are quite supportive of this effort, because there are nine plants that are strewn along the Ohio border ready and prepared to sell energy to Pennsylvania. We will not only lose our status as one of the premier energy-producing States, but we are going to lose thousands of jobs, tens of thousands of jobs, and even our own DEP recognizes it. In their report, they recognize that this does not achieve environmental improvements because the wind blows east and the power plants that will generate and replace our coal plants that have closed will swath right across our State.

We should be working together, environmentalists and capitalists, to be able to create a Pennsylvania where everybody wins. We know, Mr. Speaker, plastics, masks, gloves – all of the medical equipment and pharmaceuticals that are currently made overseas are going to be returning here. And as ethane comes online in Pennsylvania, we could work together to have some of the best-performing environmental private investment opportunities, new technology. My friend from across the aisle, highly committed to the environment, knows full well that products manufactured in this State are made safer and cleaner with new technology here versus overseas. We have seen the

consequence of that, and we cannot allow that decision to be made by one executive.

Mr. Speaker, I represent the free west, and already our people suffer under consequences of Executive order. Even now, Mr. Speaker, our citizens are wondering, should there be an announcement today that businesses may be closed. At a time when over 2 million Pennsylvanians are out of work, this Governor wants to force through a job-crushing, long-lead, decade-ending opportunity for our State. All of us should be supporting HB 2025, and all of us should be working together to build our State's jobs and economy, not one person despite all of our voices.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask all of us to support HB 2025 – support jobs, support our trades, support our families, support low-cost energy, and support a future where Pennsylvania can work and not relinquish authority to some out-of-State compact that is questionably legal at best.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the lady, Representative Snyder, from Greene County. Mrs. SNYDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I stand today in support of HB 2025. The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative will have far-reaching and devastating impacts on the people that I represent and the people of this Commonwealth.

Greene County has the largest producing coal mine in the entire United States. Let me repeat that: Greene County has the largest producing coal mine in the entire United States. Coal mining is our top industry, and three of the four top employers are coal companies. And over 25 percent of the coal mined in my district goes directly to power generation. A carbon tax that RGGI imposes will present significant harmful impacts to our economy and our way of life.

RGGI puts places like southwestern Pennsylvania at a competitive disadvantage. With West Virginia directly bordering us to the south and Ohio just to the west, industrial manufacturers will seek States that do not incur the great cost of the RGGI program. Joining RGGI is truly an economic stimulus package for West Virginia and Ohio. This is not just about coal jobs; it is about all the downstream businesses that this will impact – the sandwich shops that the workers stop at to eat, the gas stations where they fill up their tanks – not to mention the people that work at the machine shops and the welding shops who are working on equipment that support these industries.

Pennsylvania has already reduced its carbon footprint by 30 percent. I also want a cleaner planet for my children and grandchildren. Contrary to what some people might believe, I do care about the environment. But we can do it without completely crushing the economy of my district and the livelihood of the people I represent. The costs of RGGI will be passed on to ratepayers whether they live in energy-producing counties or in city suburbs. There must be an analysis of the effect on electric bills that consumers will see.

The data that DEP has been using to make its case for RGGI is beyond flawed, relying on assumptions in place prior to the pandemic, not to mention, again, the devastating economic impacts that will occur in our communities if power plants are prematurely closed and those jobs go away. In addition, State officials initially promised to talk with plant owners and workers about their concerns with RGGI. To date, to my knowledge, that has not occurred.

Our State is working to recover from the economic impacts of this pandemic. The last thing we need is a carbon tax. And make no mistake about it, it is a tax. We cannot have more Pennsylvanians losing their jobs and worrying about how they will support their families – all based on a plan that uses flawed data and empty promises. We cannot have consumers impacted by higher electric bills. And we must remember that coal is taxed on the property tax assessment system. If the mines were to close in Greene County, I literally have school districts that could not make up the revenue loss. I would have an entire county whose budget would be crushed. This would force counties, school districts, and municipalities to raise property taxes to make up for that lost revenue. My property owners cannot afford that.

The people of Pennsylvania are represented by this General Assembly. They deserve to have their voices heard. The legislature should have the opportunity to weigh in on the decision whether or not to be a part of RGGI, and that is why I am voting "yes" on HB 2025. I am committed to protecting ratepayers, property owners, and preserving energy jobs, not just in my district, but across this Commonwealth.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman from Westmoreland County, Representative Davanzo. Mr. DAVANZO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of HB 2025 for the simple reason that the legislature needs to be included in these conversations. Mr. Speaker, in my short time serving in this body, I have enjoyed the discussions from each bill that we have considered. I appreciate that there are folks who disagree with me on any given issue. They speak from a viewpoint – sometimes with great passion – and they cast their vote in the best interest of their constituents in mind. And if the proposal is deemed to be worthwhile by us, the Senate, and the Executive, we make it law. It is that simple. This is how it is supposed to work, Mr. Speaker. If the policies that are part of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative are so important and so worthwhile for our Commonwealth, Mr. Speaker, the responsibility of selling these policies should lie on the shoulders of those who believe them.

This is an important issue for me, Mr. Speaker, because I am a tradesman. I have fellow colleagues out there, I have guys out there working right now, calling me daily. I am the voice for them. I stand here to support the thousands of tradesmen who carry their tools, repair our infrastructure, mine our resources, and manufacturer our products. Their voices cannot be ignored, Mr. Speaker. And when the administration takes it upon themselves to bypass the House and the Senate and establish new policies that impact their work, those tradesmen expect me to voice my opinion.

I will be voting for HB 2025 and urge my colleagues to do the same. Thank you.  $\,$ 

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the lady from Monroe County, Representative Madden.

Ms. MADDEN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise in opposition to HB 2025, and I reject the false narrative that a vote for the environment is a vote against our union brothers and sisters. I have been a staunch union supporter from the time I was a 19-year-old waitress working in New York City and I assisted SEIU (Service Employees International Union) in organizing the restaurant that I worked for. In fact, I am the sponsor of the workplace freedom act, a bill that – if it would ever

make it out of committee – would not only make it easier to join a union but would strengthen our unions.

In 2019 I was recognized both by the AFL-CIO as "Legislator of the Year" and the Brodhead Watershed Association in Monroe County by being given the "John Riley Friend of the Watershed" Award. Being a supporter of unions and being an environmentalist are not mutually exclusive.

Why do we have to always be last when it comes to the most important things in the Commonwealth? Why can we not be a leader in renewable jobs? Why can we not be a leader in reducing carbon emissions? Why do we always have to be last or in the lower half of the 50 States? I do not understand.

We have handcuffed our DEP. We have reduced them to numbers so small they cannot possibly protect the environment in Pennsylvania in any real way or live up to Article I, section 27, of our State Constitution that states: "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment...." Something, by the way, that passed unanimously.

So in conclusion, I would just like to make one brief statement. If we have learned anything from this pandemic, if there has been a glimmer of hope, it is that with all the cars not on the road and all the airplanes not in the sky, we have actually seen an improvement in our air quality and a lowering of emissions, of carbon emissions. Why can we not ride with that trajectory and keep improving our environment while creating renewable jobs? Why do we have to be the State that has a ban on banning plastic? Why do we take that one manufacturing plant that manufactures plastic bags that—

#### POINT OF ORDER

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Point of order.

Ms. MADDEN. —take a thousand years to decompose—

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Point of order, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER. The lady will suspend.

For what purpose does the gentleman rise?

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. I have tried to give a little bit of latitude – she does not get up that often to speak – but now we are talking about bags and everything else. I think we are a little bit far off. I could talk about where the bags come from and how they are produced, but I will not do that right now, and I would ask the young lady not to do that.

The SPEAKER. Thank you, Mr. Leader.

I will remind the member to please stay on the content of the underlying bill.

Ms. MADDEN. So the content of the underlying bill is that this bill will not protect our environment. It will not do anything to reverse carbon emissions. It will not do anything to uphold the Constitution, which guarantees us a right to clean air and clean water. And I would like to see us go on a different trajectory where we do things that are creating renewable jobs like bags that we reuse that do not take a thousand years to decompose.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Struzzi, from Indiana County.

Mr. STRUZZI. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to make a brief comment on the previous speaker's notion that there was a vote related to the environment in this House, that there was a vote to enter into RGGI, because that did not occur. That is what this bill is about – giving us the

right to make those decisions that affect the entire Commonwealth. And by the Governor unilaterally deciding to enter into RGGI, we have not been given that choice. The people of Pennsylvania have not been given the opportunity to be heard on this issue. That is what this bill is about.

This bill does not say whether or not RGGI is good or bad for Pennsylvania. All that it says is let us look at all of the impacts. Let us look at the impacts on the climate. Let us look at the impacts on our job losses. Let us look at the impacts on our economy. Let us look at the impacts on our communities, on our families. That is what HB 2025 does. It gives us a voice; it gives the people of Pennsylvania a voice.

I would like to also address some of the issues raised by my good friend from Philadelphia County previously related to funds from RGGI being allocated to help low-income families. The DEP itself has stated, because of the Air Pollution Control Act, that it cannot provide those funds to low-income families. And I would also submit that entering into RGGI hurts low-income families because it will increase the cost of energy. It will increase the cost of utilities for homeowners. And so I do not understand how that can be a benefit to low-income families when it will increase their energy costs on a monthly basis. In fact, the State of Virginia, which is a RGGI member, recently announced that it will be increasing energy costs on an average basis by \$50 per household. So I do not understand that rationale as well.

And I should also submit, as a closing remark, you know, again, HB 2025 is about having these discussions here on this House floor where they should occur. So again, Mr. Speaker, I ask for your support on HB 2025, giving a voice back to the General Assembly, giving a voice to the people of Pennsylvania so that we all have a say in decisions that are made that affect all aspects of Pennsylvania. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the majority leader from Centre County, Representative Benninghoff.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And compliments to all the previous speakers. It is nice to see a bipartisan effort talked about.

First and foremost, I just want to share a couple quick thoughts and then we will get to the vote. We need to make something very clear: No Governor has the authority to rule by the swipe of a pen without the input and the consent of the people of Pennsylvania. No Governor has the authority to implement a tax. And no Governor has the authority to enter into a binding compact or agreement. That authority lies with the people of Pennsylvania and the members of this chamber who were sent here by the people of Pennsylvania.

Please keep in mind – I think this was discussed yesterday and it is worthy to renote – that the nine other States who have entered into this agreement all did so by the vote of the individually elected Representatives in the legislature of that State. Pennsylvania should do no less.

As it was recognized over the last several months, over 3 million Pennsylvanians have applied for unemployment and over 2 million are still on it. This is surely no time to enter into a multistate compact that will increase taxes and keep people out of work. Our priority should be Pennsylvania's economic recovery and not the economic recovery of Ohio and West Virginia and neighboring States that would benefit. More importantly, we need to be making sure that we have

family-sustaining jobs and that this will go further if the Governor ignores the constitutional separation of powers and enters into this agreement.

More than anything, this vote today is about keeping the power of the people and ensuring that their voices in Pennsylvania are heard through you, duly elected to represent them in this chamber. I ask all of our 203 members to please vote "yes" on HB 2025.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

#### REMARKS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Innamorato, from Allegheny County, for submission of remarks. The Chair thanks the lady.

Ms. INNAMORATO submitted the following remarks for the Legislative Journal:

I rise in opposition of HB 2025. There are a number of deeply concerning elements of this bill that I will do my best to summarize.

The mission of the Department of Environmental Protection is to "protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water from pollution..." to ensure public health and safety, and to secure for all Pennsylvanians the clean environment they are constitutionally entitled to.

This bill prohibits the DEP from doing its most basic job. It forbids the DEP from regulating carbon dioxide "...unless the General Assembly specifically authorizes such a measure or action...." The implications of this prohibition would be far-reaching and catastrophic. The DEP would not be able to regulate any carbon dioxide emissions, not only in the energy sector, but in manufacturing and transportation as well.

Gutting the DEP's power to regulate would depress the health and well-being of our neighbors and the future vitality of our Commonwealth. In a time where the overwhelming majority of Pennsylvanians demand that their elected Representatives proactively take on the climate crisis, this bill is the exact opposite of what we should be doing.

My county has some of the worst air quality in the nation. I can tell you, my neighbors have waited too long for an ambitious, forward-thinking climate policy that looks out for them. They are tired of footing the bill for pollution. They are tired of keeping their children indoors because the air outside is unsafe to play in. They are tired of paying billions in tax credits to prop up a failing industry, and billions more in hospital trips for asthma attacks and other smog-related emergencies. They are tired of straining their municipal budgets to pay for repairing public infrastructure buckling under the strains of climate change and heavy machinery. Instead of placing the financial burden on victims, RGGI will ensure that polluters pay.

There are many misconceptions about what RGGI is and is not. RGGI relies on market forces that reward efficiency and penalize waste and frivolous polluting. These fees can be considered the "rent" that the energy sector pays for the air we all breathe.

This bill, HB 2025, is a smoke screen that seeks to cover up changes in energy markets, both domestically and globally.

As I mentioned yesterday, the use of coal in energy production has declined precipitously over the past decade. This is not a conspiracy against the industry – it is basic economics. It is cheaper to generate energy from shale gas and renewables, and that is not going to change. With the COVID-19 recession hitting these unprofitable plants hard, Pennsylvania may see some of its remaining coal plants retired before 2022 even without RGGI.

We can either sit passively and watch jobs leave our communities, or we can build an economy that welcomes technological innovation and protects our workers at the same time. With previous legislation, we fought to close the coal mine and did not stick around to fight for coal miners and their communities. This was not justice, and it was certainly not the right thing to do. We must work to rebuild trust in those communities. It will be hard, but it is possible. Our job as leaders is to lead. We must use our power as a legislature to make Pennsylvania a competitive player in these new industries, to revitalize frontline communities with new economic opportunities, and to create pathways to financial stability for affected workers. It just takes the political will.

RGGI is just one tool in a toolbox of policies needed to address climate change and its impacts on communities and workers. Instead of debating whether to join this initiative that will have a net positive effect on our Commonwealth, we should be using our legislative powers to ensure emission benefits and investment benefits from RGGI go to those most in need – those displaced by market transition and our vulnerable communities, especially low-income and communities of color, who have historically borne a disproportionate amount of suffering.

Simply put, RGGI will save lives and livelihoods. Through 2030, the DEP estimates that over 600 premature deaths and 83,000 lost workdays could be avoided in Pennsylvania due to the proposed emissions reductions. RGGI membership will not only remove 180 billion tons of carbon dioxide from our atmosphere, it will grow our economy by nearly \$2 billion annually and create thousands of quality jobs that cannot be outsourced.

In this time of great need, when Pennsylvania is projected to lose billions of dollars in revenue, why are we not demanding multinational corporations pay their fair share? Why are we neglecting opportunities to fund health programs and a just transition that would benefit Pennsylvania's working families? As elected leaders, we must prioritize the health of our people over the profits of corporate polluters and their shareholders, who are detached from our constituents and the lives they lead. We must rise to meet the immensity of our climate crisis, and the health and economic crises that accompany it.

For the sake of our children, of our seniors, and of vulnerable Pennsylvanians everywhere, it is time for polluters to pay up.

On the question recurring,

Shall the bill pass finally?

The SPEAKER. Agreeable to the provisions of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken.

(Members proceeded to vote.)

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady, Representative Oberlander.

Ms. OBERLANDER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady and recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The electronic board is accurate.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

The following roll call was recorded:

#### YEAS-130

Barrar	Flynn	Lewis	Ravenstahl
Benninghoff	Fritz	Longietti	Readshaw
Bernstine	Gabler	Mackenzie	Reese
Bizzarro	Galloway	Maloney	Rigby
Boback	Gaydos	Markosek	Roae
Bonner	Gillen	Marshall	Rothman
Borowicz	Gillespie	Masser	Rowe
Boyle	Gleim	Matzie	Rozzi
Brooks	Goodman	McNeill	Ryan
Brown	Gregory	Mehaffie	Sainato

Burns	Greiner	Metcalfe	Sankey
Causer	Grove	Metzgar	Saylor
Cook	Hahn	Mihalek	Schemel
Cox	Harkins	Millard	Schmitt
Culver	Heffley	Miller, B.	Schroeder
Davanzo	Helm	Mizgorski	Simmons
Davis, T.	Hennessey	Moul	Snyder
Day	Hershey	Murt	Sonney
Deasy	Hickernell	Mustello	Staats
Delloso	Irvin	Neilson	Struzzi
Delozier	James	Nelson	Tobash
DeLuca	Jones	O'Neal	Toepel
Dermody	Jozwiak	Oberlander	Tomlinson
Diamond	Kail	Ortitay	Toohil
Dowling	Kaufer	Owlett	Topper
Driscoll	Kauffman	Peifer	Warner
Dunbar	Keefer	Petrarca	Wentling
Dush	Keller	Pickett	Wheeland
Ecker	Klunk	Polinchock	White
Emrick	Knowles	Puskaric	Zimmerman
Everett	Kortz	Pyle	
Farry	Kulik	Rader	Cutler,
Fee	Lawrence	Rapp	Speaker

#### NAYS-71

Bradford	Fiedler	Lee	Sappey
Briggs	Fitzgerald	Madden	Schlossberg
Bullock	Frankel	Malagari	Schweyer
Burgos	Freeman	McCarter	Shusterman
Caltagirone	Gainey	McClinton	Sims
Carroll	Green	Mentzer	Solomon
Cephas	Hanbidge	Merski	Stephens
Ciresi	Harris	Miller, D.	Sturla
Comitta	Hohenstein	Mullery	Thomas
Conklin	Howard	Mullins	Ullman
Cruz	Innamorato	O'Mara	Vitali
Daley	Isaacson	Otten	Warren
Davidson	Kenyatta	Pashinski	Webster
Davis, A.	Kim	Quinn	Wheatley
Dawkins	Kinsey	Rabb	Williams
DeLissio	Kirkland	Roebuck	Youngblood
Donatucci	Kosierowski	Samuelson	Zabel
Evans	Krueger	Sanchez	

# NOT VOTING-0

# EXCUSED-1

Mako

The majority required by the Constitution having voted in the affirmative, the question was determined in the affirmative and the bill passed finally.

Ordered, That the clerk present the same to the Senate for concurrence.

# VOTE CORRECTION

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman, Representative Harris, from Philadelphia.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to rise to correct the record.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. HARRIS. On HB 1582 please let the gentlelady, Representative Hanbidge, be in the positive.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman's remarks will be spread upon the record.

Mr. HARRIS. Thank you.

# REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The SPEAKER. The Chair is in receipt of the following supplemental report from the Committee on Committees.

The following report was read:

Committee on Committees
Supplemental Report

In the House of Representatives July 8, 2020

RESOLVED, That

Representative Carl Metzgar, Somerset and Bedford Counties, is being elected a member of the Agriculture Committee.

Representative Martin Causer, McKean, Cameron, and Potter Counties, is resigning as a member of the Environmental Resources and Energy Committee.

Representative Stephanie Borowicz, Clinton and Centre Counties, is being elected a member of the Environmental Resources and Energy Committee.

Representative Sheryl Delozier, Cumberland County, is resigning as a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Representative David Zimmerman, Lancaster County, is being elected a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Representative Sheryl Delozier, Cumberland County, is resigning as a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Representative Clint Owlett, Tioga, Bradford, and Potter Counties, is being elected a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Respectfully submitted, Stan Saylor, Chairman Committee on Committees

On the question, Will the House adopt the resolution? Resolution was adopted.

The SPEAKER. For what purposes does the gentlelady from Philadelphia rise?

Ms. McCLINTON. Unanimous consent.

The SPEAKER. May we do one more item and then proceed to that, ma'am? The Chair thanks the lady.

#### JAMES FATA PRESENTED

The SPEAKER. If I could please have the members' attention. I will ask members to please take their seats.

It was announced during Speaker Turzai's retirement speech that our good friend, James, who has been the macebearer for some time, would be leaving. I had spoken to James, and obviously, he is still here this week, which I greatly appreciated because we wanted to properly recognize him for his years of service here in the chamber, and specifically, to the Office of the

Speaker. Now, the good news is, James is still here, and he will be. And for those of you who may not know, he does serve the remainder of his time in Representative Quinn's district office. But I thought that it was important for us to recognize the service that he has given to the chamber, specifically to the Office of the Speaker.

One of things that we are all asked to do is to be a good steward of the offices and the positions that we hold. And I can personally vouch for his good stewardship of his position and this chamber. And I thought it was only appropriate that we recognize, but more importantly, thank him for his many years of service. And since we are reviewing the fall session calendar and I knew we would be here today and have a large number of members because of some of the topics that we were covering, I wanted to maximize the audience to thank him for his service, and I would ask the members of the House to join me in congratulating him.

Since we have several newer members, I did want to briefly review his history. For those of you who may not know, he has been the macebearer since 2011. And it is a position – and I was given very strict instructions by our Parliamentarian, Clancy, when I took the office a few weeks ago. He said, "Listen, there's one thing you have to do, and that is closely follow this man up to the floor and down from the floor as we go about our business."

We will also be presenting James with a citation thanking him for his years of service, but we also know that we are going to keep him quite busy here through the remainder of session, and we will be presenting him and taking some pictures here as well.

So, James, personally I want to thank you for everything that you have done and making my transition into this office a little bit easier. Thank you.

With that, the Speaker would like to recognize the gentleman from Delaware County, Representative Quinn.

Mr. QUINN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

You know, as we present James with the citation, it is one of those things that is hard to do. For those of you that do not know, I inherited James into my office, and it was one of those situations when you have someone in your office who also reports to the Speaker, you sort of wonder what type of problems is that going to cause you. Then you learn that his real name is "Jimmy the Mace," so you are stopping and you are thinking, "Okay, I can either have issues with the Speaker or I can end up with a horse head in my bed," and I was not quite sure which it was going to be.

But James has been a huge asset to me. And it does not matter the simplest task in my office to the largest task. I could ask him to go and help me negotiate an issue or I could ask him to help simply answer the phones.

James, I want to say thank you for all of the years of service that you have given to me and to this House. We truly appreciate it.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and thanks James for a wonderful time here and all your years of service.

The Chair recognizes the Democratic leader, Leader Dermody.

Mr. DERMODY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say, James, you know, thank you. I mean, over the years we have had some interesting meetings up there and you have always been a gentleman. You

have always treated us well. On behalf of the caucus and me, personally, thank you for everything. I have enjoyed working with you all these years, and you really have, you have stopped a few riots over the time.

Thank you, James.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman and recognizes the Republican leader, Representative Benninghoff.

Mr. BENNINGHOFF. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Very briefly. James, on behalf of the Republican Caucus, too, we would like to say thank you very much for your service, but most of all, thank you for being who you are. If I had to sum it up in one word, I would say a "true gentleman" – I guess that is two words.

I very fondly remember how kind you were in my own personal challenge with my family, and you took a special interest in that and you often asked questions, offered prayers, and that goes above and beyond what you have given in service to the rostrum, but it speaks to your character. You are a great man and one that we can all emulate. Thank you very much.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

We will briefly be at ease so we can do some photographs, and then we will return to the lady from Philadelphia, Representative McClinton.

The House will come to order. I am sure there will be many pictures to come.

#### STATEMENT BY MS. McCLINTON

The SPEAKER. At this time the Chair would like to recognize the lady from Philadelphia, Representative McClinton, under unanimous consent.

Ms. McCLINTON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I just stood this afternoon to thank one of our colleagues who was such a team leader and team player as we worked together to get the police reform bills done, and that is the gentleman from the 36th Legislative District, Chairman Harry Readshaw. Can we just give him an applause for his flexibility. Thank you, colleagues.

Chairman Readshaw as always is on the right side of these issues, but he was very flexible in allowing us to amend HB 1841 to be one of the first States across the country to take meaningful steps towards reforming the way policing happens across the Commonwealth. Chairman Readshaw, we are all indebted to you. Thank you.

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chester County, Representative Lawrence, under unanimous consent. The gentleman waives off. The Chair thanks the gentleman.

# STATEMENT BY MS. WHITE

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the lady from Philadelphia, Representative White, under unanimous consent.

Ms. WHITE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This past weekend in Philadelphia we have crossed a horrific threshold. In 3 days the city recorded 31 shootings, leaving 7 dead, including a 6-year-old and a 15-year-old boy. It breaks

my heart to know that these children will never have a chance to grow up. We are raising a generation of children surrounded by gun violence. How many more must die or be wounded before we stand together to demand the violence end and the criminals who shed blood in our streets be incarcerated and held accountable? The trend is a grotesque reminder that crime is escalating while our local leaders spout feeble platitudes without ever taking action.

In all of 2019 there were 353 homicides. In just this first 6 months of 2020 we have surpassed that total and are on pace to double the number of homicides – a rate unseen in Philadelphia in years. In the last 10 years Philadelphia has recorded 3,340 homicides, providing our elected leaders are on a road to ruin.

Politicians who placate to mobs as they loot small businesses and set police cars on fire are only emboldening criminals. When protesters demand the defunding of police and those in power buckle under the pressure, they send a message to our officers that they are not valued. Although some officials may approve of diverting funds for other purposes, I do not think it is an either/or choice. I want the thousands of officers in Philadelphia and across our Commonwealth to know that I support them, as do many of our colleagues.

I want this violence to end and we need to start taking action. It is time to be strong on criminals by ending the District Attorney, Larry Krasner's overuse of programs like diversion, which coddle gun offenders, release them onto our streets where they can kill again. It has led to the tragic death of police Sgt. Jimmy O'Connor. It is time to stand up together and let people know that gun violence has serious consequences. The penalties must fit the crime and crimes must come with penalties. We have sacrificed too many of our children on the altar of appeasement and political expediency.

I thank you very much for all of your indulgence in this regard. This is an important matter that is taking place in our city. We desperately need to correct it, and we need to do so in a bipartisan manner.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The SPEAKER. The Chair thanks the lady.

# ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. For the information of the members, we do have some remaining housekeeping, and there will be no further votes today. However, before everyone rushes off, I want to encourage everyone to watch your e-mails. We will be recessing to the call of the Chair. We have some meetings regarding what the Senate may send us potentially next week that will determine if we are in session next week. I also know that some of the committees are working on other issues that are important to many members in this chamber. So we will give you as much notice as possible and predictability. So please watch your e-mails.

But there will be no further votes. I will keep the desk open to do a little bit of remaining housekeeping, and I wish everyone safe travels and look forward to seeing everyone again soon.

#### **BILLS RECOMMITTED**

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that the following bills be recommitted to the Committee on Appropriations:

HB 2122;

HB 2141;

HB 2219;

HB 2541;

HB 2571; and

SB 491.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

# **BILLS REMOVED FROM TABLE**

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that the following bills be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar:

SB 1125;

SB 1166; and

SB 1188.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

#### CALENDAR CONTINUED

#### BILLS ON SECOND CONSIDERATION

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 1555**, **PN 3006**, entitled:

Amending Titles 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 61 (Prisons and Parole) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, further providing for order of probation and for modification or revocation of order of probation; in other criminal provisions, further providing for definitions and for supervisory relationship to offenders; and, in Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, further providing for supervisory relationship to offenders.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

#### **BILL TABLED**

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 1555 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

#### **BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE**

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 1555 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

\* \* \*

The House proceeded to second consideration of **HB 2040**, **PN 2867**, entitled:

An Act providing for the PA Second Chance Jobs website and for powers and duties of the Department of Labor and Industry.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on second consideration?

#### **BILL TABLED**

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 2040 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

### BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 2040 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

# **BILLS ON THIRD CONSIDERATION**

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1106**, **PN 1599**, entitled:

An Act amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, providing for environmental permits and plan approvals; making related repeals; and abrogating regulations.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration?

# **BILL TABLED**

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 1106 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

On the question, Will the House agree to the motion? Motion was agreed to.

#### BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 1106 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question, Will the House agree to the motion? Motion was agreed to.

\* \* :

The House proceeded to third consideration of **HB 1569**, **PN 2939**, entitled:

An Act amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in assessments of persons and property, providing for limitation on tax increase after countywide reassessment in cities and counties of the first class.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the bill on third consideration?

#### **BILL TABLED**

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 1569 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

On the question, Will the House agree to the motion? Motion was agreed to.

## **BILL REMOVED FROM TABLE**

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HB 1569 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question, Will the House agree to the motion? Motion was agreed to.

## RESOLUTIONS

Mr. BENNINGHOFF called up HR 206, PN 1938, entitled:

A Concurrent Resolution petitioning the Congress of the United States to call a Convention for proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States limited to proposing amendments that impose fiscal restraints on the Federal Government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the Federal Government and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of Congress.

On the question, Will the House adopt the resolution?

# RESOLUTION TABLED

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HR 206 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

#### RESOLUTION REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HR 206 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

\* \* \*

Mr. BENNINGHOFF called up HR 607, PN 2841, entitled:

A Resolution designating December 1, 2019, as "Penske Truck Leasing Day" in Pennsylvania.

On the question,

Will the House adopt the resolution?

#### RESOLUTION TABLED

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HR 607 be removed from the active calendar and placed on the tabled calendar.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

#### RESOLUTION REMOVED FROM TABLE

The SPEAKER. The majority leader moves that HR 607 be removed from the tabled calendar and placed on the active calendar.

On the question,

Will the House agree to the motion?

Motion was agreed to.

# BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PASSED OVER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, all remaining bills and resolutions on today's calendar will be passed over. The Chair hears no objection.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER. The House will stand in recess until the call of the Chair.