

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020

3:22 P.M.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The House will come to order.

In the absence of clergy, let us pause for a moment of silence.

(Whereupon, a moment of silence was observed.)

Visitors are invited to join the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, Acting Speaker Aubry led visitors and members in the Pledge of Allegiance.)

A quorum being present, the Clerk will read the Journal of Tuesday, January 21st.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, I move

that we dispense with the further reading of the Journal of January the 21st and ask that the same stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Without objection, so ordered.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to provide today our daily quote from, again, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King as we celebrate the awesome legacy he has left us as a people, as a country and as a world. These words are from Dr. King. It says "I look to a day when people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." Again, Mr. Speaker, this is from the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King. I also note that members have on their desks a main Calendar, and after there are any introductions and/or housekeeping the majority of our work will be done from this Calendar including continuing our consent where we left off yesterday. That would be Calendar No. 143 and that's on page 26. At the conclusion of today, we will take up a privileged resolution honoring the life and the legacy of Dr. -- Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Mr. Speaker, and that is sort of kind of a general outline. If there are any introductions or any other housekeeping, that would be a great time.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: We do have some housekeeping at the moment, Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

On a motion by Ms. Richardson, page 15, Calendar No. 76, Bill No. A.1510-A, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Ms. Fahy, page 21, Calendar No. 113, Bill No. 2549-A, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mrs. Gunther, page 28, Calendar No. 152, Bill No. A.3705-A, amendments are received and adopted.

For the purpose --

On a motion by Mrs. Gunther, page 48, Calendar No. 259, Bill No. A.7172, amendments are received and adopted.

For the purposes of an introduction, Ms. Simotas.

MS. SIMOTAS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of Assemblywoman Jean-Pierre and myself, it is my great pleasure to introduce Vote Mama's founder, the trailblazing Liuba Grechen Shirley, and their dynamic Executive Director, Sarah Rowen. Liuba has spent her career fighting to empower working families and to advance paid parental leave policies at home and abroad. Last year Liuba ran for Congress while juggling her campaign with raising her one-year-old son and three-year-old daughter. Liuba became the first candidate in history to receive FEC approval to use campaign funds on childcare, breaking down barriers for mothers with young children running for office. And really, mothers and fathers. Parents. Following the FEC's ruling, nine Federal candidates used campaign funds for their childcare costs, and women and men across the country began petitioning their states and cities to do the same. Recognizing the need for greater representation for mothers at all levels of government, Liuba launched Vote Mama to provide financial support, mentorship, networking and endorsements to help candidates

overcome the unique structural and cultural obstacles facing moms with young children in political campaigns. Liuba, along with her passionate and dedicated Executive Director -- Director Sarah Rowen, have worked to lead 22 mothers to victory across the United States.

Mr. Speaker, please welcome them today and offer all of the cordialities of the House. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Ms. Simotas, Ms. Jean-Pierre, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, the People's House. We extend to you the privileges of the floor and certainly our appreciation and respect for the work that you've done to enhance the lives of women, children and men across this country. Thank you so very much. Continue that great work.

(Applause)

Mr. Palumbo for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. PALUMBO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt the proceedings for the purposes of an introduction. I'm pleased to be joined in the Chamber today by David Gable. David's family has known my family for many, many years. He lives in Mr. Garbarino's district, and he just recently graduated the University of Vermont as a political science major and is looking forward to a career possibly in politics. But he's certainly here to watch the democracy in action.

So if you would be so kind as to offer Mr. Gable the cordialities of the House and all the privileges of the floor. Thank

you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Palumbo, Mr. Garbarino, the Speaker and all the members, sir, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. Our congratulations on your completion of your education. We hope that you will continue the great work that is in your future. Obviously, Mr. Palumbo believes you have a place to be. We hope that maybe one day it'll be here, but not too soon. Thank you so very much. We hope you will continue your great life. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to introduce a former member of ours who almost needs no introduction, who spent almost her entire adult life in service as a legislator in Clinton County, then the treasurer. And for ten years, from 2006 to 2016, as one of our members. And on behalf of Billy Jones and all the residents in Clinton and Franklin Counties and part of St. Lawrence that were represented, it is a great day for us to have Janet Duprey with us. And I'm reminded of what Dr. Martin Luther King said when he said "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?" And former Assemblywoman Janet Duprey made it her life work to represent and serve others. So it's a great honor for us to have her here.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf

of Mr. Goodell, Mr. Jones, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you back here, home. You are a former member, you always have the privileges of the floor, and it is always good to see you. Every year you shine and brighten us up. And you don't look a day older. Goodness gracious. Retirement must have something in it. Thank you so very much, and welcome.

(Applause)

For the purposes of an introduction, Ms. Davila.

MS. DAVILA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt the proceedings. So, I would like to today introduce a wonderful coalition that has done enormous amount of work. The New York Immigration Coalition, also called NYIC, is an umbrella policy and advocacy organization that represents over 200 immigrant and refugee rights groups throughout New York. The New York Immigration Coalition advocates for laws and policies to improve the lives of immigrants and all New Yorkers, particularly those that live in lower-income communities. New York Immigration Coalition provides multilingual information materials on Immigration Law citizenship requirements, school registration, healthcare access and voting rights. We would like to welcome the Executive Director, Steven Choi. Last year they were instrumental in the passage of Green Light Law, Jose Peralta DREAM Act, Farm Workers Labor Act. The New York Immigration Coalition was instrumental in securing Liberty Defense Fund [sic] in last year's budget. To date, the Liberty Defense program has provided more than 30,000 vital legal services to

immigrants and communities in need, particularly those who have been targeted by Federal immigration enforcement tactics including those in deferred action of early childhood arrive -- arrivals, DACA, and temporary protective status, TPS. The -- the LDP provides pre-legal consultation screenings for immigrants throughout New York, direct representation to immigrants in deportation proceedings, as well as other cases, assistance with other immigration legal services, particularly for complex matters. Now your -- Know Your Rights trainings for immigrants and community-at-large. One-quarter of the immigrants in -- in New York base detention provided with deportation defense representation under the LDP have been released and reunited with their families in their communities where they are better positioned to receive continued legal assistance to prepare their cases, and the hopes of finding long-term relief. This year they will continue to advocate for issues including additional Liberty Defense Fund [sic], immigrant access to vital health services, immigration enforcement and incarceration reform, strengthening immigration language access, immigrant workers' rights. Immigrants are under attack --

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Davila, you've expended --

MS. DAVILA: Sorry. We will -- I'm -- I'm done. I'm sorry. Mr. Speaker, please welcome the New York Immigration Coalition to the People's House and make them feel welcome. Because like myself and -- and my family and most of my colleagues,

at some point we were all immigrants here. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Ms. Davila, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. Our thanks for the work that you're doing to ensure that we all remember that everyone here, other than Native Americans, were immigrants at one time in their lives, and now that we have arrived, however we have arrived, that we are due the rights of all human beings. Thank you so very much. Continue that work, and we do appreciate you. Thank you.

(Applause)

We will now go to consent, page 26, Calendar No. 143.

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03408-A, Calendar No. 143, Zebrowski, Kim, Rodriguez, Weprin, Niou, Perry, Montesano, Wright, Darling. An act to amend the Financial Services Law, in relation to student debt consultants.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 180th day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to remind colleagues that this is the first vote of our third week of the 243rd Legislative Session.

Members that are in and around the Chambers, please cast your vote.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. Members, if you are in your chairs please vote now. If you are in the sound of the voice, come to the Chamber and cast your vote. Thank you.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03462, Calendar No. 144, Lentol, Mosley, Quart, Simon. An act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law, in relation to the right of a defendant who has entered a plea of not guilty to an information which charges a misdemeanor to a jury trial.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03534, Calendar No. 145, Dinowitz, M. G. Miller, Abinanti, Weprin, Colton. An act to amend the Judiciary Law and the Labor Law, in relation to creating additional remedies for unlawful discharge, penalty or discrimination on account of the exercise of a juror's right to be absent from employment for jury duty.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03556, Calendar No. 147, Dinowitz, Wright. An act to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law,

in relation to manipulation of traffic control signals.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03564, Calendar No. 148, Cusick. An act to amend the Transportation Law, in relation to the enforcement of provisions relating to carriers of household goods by motor vehicles.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 60th day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03654, Calendar No. 149, Pretlow, Abinanti. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to prohibiting approved organizations in the Child Health Insurance Plan from limiting the participation of certain health care providers.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03658, Calendar No. 150, Englebright, Thiele, Mosley, Galef, Ortiz, L. Rosenthal, Walker, Gottfried, Abinanti, De La Rosa, Williams, Jaffee, Glick, D'Urso, Griffin, Otis, Lifton, Niou, Fahy, Weprin, Ramos, Colton, Simon,

Burke, Carroll, Stern, Steck, Reyes, Paulin, Perry, D. Rosenthal, Barron, Jones, Epstein, McDonald, Quart, Peoples-Stokes, McMahon, Seawright, Rozic. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to freshwater wetlands and repealing Section 24-1305 of such law relating thereto.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03673, Calendar No. 151, Englebright, L. Rosenthal, Glick, Colton, D'Urso, Gottfried, Schmitt, Hevesi, Epstein. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to prohibiting the issuance of permits authorizing the use of wild animals in circuses.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03801, Calendar No. 153, Zebrowski, Galef, Abinanti, Magnarelli, Buchwald, Weprin, McDonough. An act to amend the Uniform Justice Court Act, in relation to establishing minimum educational requirements of certain town and village justices.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03832, Calendar No. 154, McDonald, Galef, Stirpe, Fahy, Steck, Montesano, Crespo, Simon, Cahill, M.G. Miller, Colton, Blake, Gottfried, Morinello, Ashby, Pichardo, Arroyo, Lupardo. An act to amend the Public Buildings Law, in relation to the authority of the Commissioner of General Services to lease public buildings.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03838, Calendar No. 155, Dickens, Taylor, Jean-Pierre, Ortiz, Sayegh, Aubry, Richardson, Darling, Steck. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to providing notice to applicants of potential liability for public assistance benefits.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03923, Calendar No. 156, Weprin, Cusick, Benedetto, Abinanti, Mosley, Seawright, Stern, Reyes, Buttenschon, Otis, Santabarbara, Fall. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to requiring counties to maintain a confidential registry of people of all ages with disabilities for evacuation and sheltering during disasters.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03972, Calendar No. 157, Aubry, Jaffee, Bronson, Weprin, De La Rosa. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to requiring employers to make a conditional offer of employment before inquiring about any criminal convictions of a prospective employee.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03993, Calendar No. 158, Weprin, O'Donnell, Aubry, Walker, Blake. An act to amend the Correction Law, in relation to certificates of relief from disabilities.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04061, Calendar No. 159, Englebright, Peoples-Stokes, Glick, Galef, Abinanti, Seawright,

Lupardo. An act to amend the Public Officers Law, in relation to defining the terms "retiree" and "beneficiary" within the Freedom of Information Law.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04234, Calendar No. 160, Weprin, O'Donnell, De La Rosa, Gottfried. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to procedures for the conduct of the work of the State Board of Parole.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04235, Calendar No. 161, Weprin, O'Donnell, Aubry, Gottfried, Blake, Walker. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to medical parole.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04253-A, Calendar No. 162, Weprin, O'Donnell, Colton. An act to amend the Correction Law, in relation to confidential hearing records.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04259, Calendar No. 163, DenDekker, Seawright, D. Rosenthal, D'Urso, DeStefano, Morinello, Ashby, Darling. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to requiring that advertisements which include a discount or rebate in the advertised price also include the actual selling price prior to any deductions in the same font and size.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04275, Calendar No.

164, DenDekker, Wallace, Barron, D. Rosenthal, Blake, Sayegh, Colton, Reyes, Wright, Darling, Seawright, Steck. An act authorizing the study of fees and charges assessed to residents of assisted living facilities.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04310, Calendar No. 165, Aubry. An act to amend the Correction Law and the Public Health Law, in relation to birth certificates for inmates.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04350-A, Calendar No. 166, Zebrowski, McDonald, Stirpe, Wallace, Benedetto, Colton. An act to amend the Workers' Compensation Law, in relation to the requirement for policyholders to provide 30 days notice to withdraw from the State Insurance Fund.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 90th day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will

record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04438, Calendar No. 167, DenDekker, Bronson, Hawley, Brabenec, McDonald, D'Urso, Walczyk. An act to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law, in relation to the display of amber and blue lights on certain hazard vehicles.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04454, Calendar No. 168, Cusick, L. Rosenthal, Englebright, Abinanti, Lupardo, Otis, D'Urso, Malliotakis. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to requiring notice to adjacent landowners where certain development is proposed in wetlands in a city with a population of one million or more.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04470-A, Calendar 169, Zebrowski, Paulin, Galef, Williams, Gunther, Cook, Dinowitz, Mosley, Ortiz, Jaffee, Buchwald, Blake, Gottfried, Vanel, Walsh, Finch, Montesano. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to missing or non-functioning airbags in certain vehicles.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04507, Calendar No. 170, Aubry, Weprin, De La Rosa. An act to amend the Correction

Law, in relation to inmates with a serious mental illness.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04508-A, Calendar No. 171, Crespo, Bichotte, De La Rosa, Epstein, Simon, Ortiz, Pichardo, Hyndman, Williams, Rivera, Arroyo, Griffin, Hunter, Colton, Taylor, D'Urso, Sayegh, McDonough, Palumbo, Reyes, Frontus, Fernandez, Jacobson, Cruz, Barron, Seawright. An act to amend the Penal Law, in relation to crimes involving the death or injury of a worker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04516, Calendar No. 172, Glick, Colton, L. Rosenthal, Buchwald. An act to amend the Real Property Law, in relation to prohibiting clauses in leases requiring the declawing of animals.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04568, Calendar No. 173, Englebright, Thiele, D'Urso, Colton, Weprin, Ramos, L. Rosenthal, Abinanti, Gottfried, Glick, Romeo, Ryan, Epstein, Griffin, Byrne, Steck, Jaffee, Jacobson, Carroll, Seawright. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to the sale or use of nitrogen fertilizer.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04574, Calendar No. 174, Jean-Pierre, D'Urso, Steck, Gottfried, Thiele, Seawright, Montesano, Walker, Vanel, Ra, Otis, Epstein, Reyes. An act to amend

the Public Service Law, in relation to requiring utility companies to include a notice of public hearings concerning rate increases.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04604, Calendar No. 175, Blake, Dickens, Arroyo, Cook, Sayegh, Jacobson. An act to amend the Election Law, in relation to the time Election Day workers must be at poll sites to prepare for the opening of polls, including receiving voting system keys and other ancillary Election Day supplies.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04615, Calendar No. 176, Bichotte, Gantt, Mosley, Gottfried, Blake, Walker, Cook, Perry, Pretlow, Ortiz, Dinowitz, Lifton, Peoples-Stokes, Hevesi, L. Rosenthal, Reyes, Zebrowski, Barrett, Wright. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to ethnic or racial profiling.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04620, Calendar No. 177, Englebright, Gunther, Joyner, Arroyo, Davila. An act to amend the Tax Law and the State Finance Law, in relation to providing for taxpayer gifts for diabetes research and education and establishing the Diabetes Research and Education Fund.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04666, Calendar No. 178, Ryan, Ortiz, Jaffee, Englebright, Gunther, Burke, Fahy, Lifton, D'Urso, McDonald, Niou, Reyes, Weprin, Glick, Mosley, Thiele,

Colton, Simon, Gottfried, L. Rosenthal, Ramos, Galef, Epstein, Steck, Griffin, Seawright, Rozic, Dickens. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to the protection of certain streams.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04739-B, Calendar No. 179, Fahy, Thiele, Gottfried, L. Rosenthal, Epstein, Ortiz, Galef, Stirpe, Jaffee, Dinowitz, Magnarelli, Romeo, Lifton, Carroll, Colton, Stern, D'Urso, Mosley, Paulin, Reyes, Perry, Steck, Wallace, Griffin, Abinanti, Jones, Buchwald, Barron, Quart, Simon, Zebrowski, Fernandez, Peoples-Stokes, Davila, Barrett, McDonald, Woerner, Ryan, Hevesi, M.G. Miller, Sayegh, Glick, LiPetri, McMahon, Simotas, Rozic, Rodriguez, Solages, Weprin, Santabarbara, Gunther, Hunter, Walker, O'Donnell, Burke, Frontus, Vanel, Rivera, Otis, Kim, D. Rosenthal, Seawright, Englebright, Schmitt, Cook, Niou, Barnwell, Ashby, Jacobson. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in food packaging.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04746, Calendar No. 180, L. Rosenthal. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to requiring private hospitals to provide notice of prohibited procedures to patients.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A04752-C, Calendar

No. 181, Zebrowski, Woerner, Galef, Brabenec. An act to amend the Real Property Law, in relation to requiring assessors using the comparable sales, income capitalization or cost method for assessments to consider certain comparable properties in formulating the assessment.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mr. Goodell for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you very much, Mr.

Speaker. It's my honor to introduce Alexis Weik. Ms. Weik is the Town of Islip Receiver of Taxes, and she's been -- Islip -- and she's been in that role for the last eight years and was just reelected for another term, which speaks volumes to her and the job she does as Receiver of Taxes. And all of us in this room know how important it is to collect and properly record all the taxes so that all of us have an opportunity to wisely spend it.

But if you would please welcome Alexis Weik from the Town of Islip, Receiver of Taxes.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf

of Mr. Smith, Mr. Garbarino, Mr. Fitzpatrick and Mr. LiPetri, the Speaker and all the members -- I take -- I take instructions well, Mr. LiPetri -- we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly. We extend to you the privileges of the floor. Our thanks for the public service that you provide your -- your community. Continue to do that, and congratulations on your reelection. Thank you so very much. Always welcome.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, do you have any further housekeeping or resolutions?

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: We certainly do.

On behalf of Ms. Jaffee, Bill No. A.570, Assembly bill recalled from the Senate. The Clerk will read the title of the bill.

THE CLERK: An act to amend the Social Services Law.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill passed the House.

The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

The Clerk will announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is before the House and the bill is starred.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. If members who are in the Chambers could take your seats, we are about to proceed with the memorial resolution honoring the life and legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: The Clerk will read the title of the resolution.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 686, Mr. Heastie.

Legislative Resolution commemorating the observance of the 35th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the State of New York on January 20, 2020.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: So on this -- whenever we come to reading this resolution commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, it always has a special moment for me. Because if you remember, five years ago when we finally got to -- even though it was almost three weeks later after his -- the celebration of his birthday, the first reading of this resolution happened on the day that all of you gave me the privilege of being elected Speaker. So it's always a special moment for me when I read this resolution and we present this resolution. And, you know, over the weekend as I went to different events commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., what is just -- the thing that just sat most with me is just our continued commitment -- and if you remember my opening comments during the Session, was to continue to follow through on -- on Dr. King's commitment to social justice. We're -- we're in a better place than we were when he was

assassinated. I, unfortunately, was only about seven months old when he was -- he was assassinated, but I think there's still much more work to do. Still -- as long as we still have income inequality, as long as we still have homeless people, as long as we still have mass incarceration, as long as we still have people not being able to make ends meet, as long as we still have people not having suitable places to live, I think it's a reminder. And it should be a constant reminder to us every day that although we have made progress, I think Dr. King would say to us, *We still have much, much, much, much, much, much more work to do.*

Thank you.

Mr. Barron on the resolution.

MR. BARRON: Thank you very much. I always try to rise to have you see another side of Dr. King. A side that is not often depicted in the media. A side that is not as comfortable as people would want it to be. So when he says things like, *Judge people by the content of their character*, well, that's very comfortable for people to say. And when he says things like, *We should judge everybody and have a Rainbow Coalition*, that's very comfortable. But when he begins to talk against capitalism and say that *I am more of a socialist than a capitalist*, it gets uncomfortable. And when he begins to say in '63 he believed in integration, he believed in a system that would be just for everybody, but by the time '68 came when his "I Have a Dream" speech that's played over and over, his dream became a nightmare and he said, *Perhaps I'm trying to integrate into a burning*

house, and Maybe America needs to look towards moving towards a Democratic socialism, then people get uncomfortable. Did you know that Dr. King was for reparations? All of you who love Dr. King, vote for my reparations bill. He was for reparations. Said we should get paid over \$800 billion in debt. Dr. King. Did you know what Dr. King, who he -- what he said about Black Power? Oh, this is what Dr. King said about Black Power. Not my words, his words. "Black Power in its broad and positive meaning is a call to black people to amass the political and economic strength to achieve their legitimate goals. No one can deny that black people are in dire need of this kind of legitimate power. Indeed, one of the great problems that black people confront is their lack of power." Dr. King. He wasn't against Black Power. He met with the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, leader of the Nation of Islam. They had a cordial, wonderful meeting. He met with Malcolm X up in Congress. Both of them were fighting for human rights and civil rights. Matter of fact, many of us believed that they were coming together. And their assassinations, both of us -- many of us believed had a lot to do with government input, regardless of who pulled the trigger. And they both died at the age of 39. Just 39 years old. So Dr. King was calling for us to have Black Power. He was not against it. And Dr. King was also calling for us to unite and come together as black elected officials and be independent from the White Power structure. This is what Dr. King said. Not Charles Barron, Dr. King. "The Majority of black political leaders do not ascend to prominence on the shoulders of mass support. Most are

selected by white leadership, elevated to position, supplied with resources, and inevitably subjected to white control. The mass of blacks nurtures a healthy suspicion towards these manufactured leaders." Dr. King. We got some manufactured leaders still running around here today. But Dr. King spoke of these things, and nobody wants to talk about that. When they asked Dr. King to condemn the so-called rioters - we call them uprisings and rebellions - he said this: "I will not condemn the riot until I first condemn the conditions that caused them to riot in the first place." And then he said, "A riot is the voice of the unheard."

So as we move through Dr. King's celebration and honor him, honor all aspects of him. He evolved in '68 to a radical, a revolutionary, a socialist, an anti-capitalist, anti-imperialism by '68. Even Coretta Cot -- Scott King, when she got the first letter from him he wrote to her, "I just want to let you know that my philosophy on economics is closer to socialism than capitalism." And Dr. Cornel West wrote in history book *The Radical King after he spoke to Coretta, she said, Man, I didn't know I was going to be dating a black socialist*. This is another Dr. King.

So right here in the 21st Century, Black Power is under attack. It's under attack through the Census undercount that always happens. It's under attack through gentrification. Whites moving into our neighborhoods and changing the political agenda in the neighborhoods and the demographics. It's attacked by voter suppression of the black vote.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Mr. Barron --

MR. BARRON: And it's attacked by reapportionment.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Your time is up. Sorry.

MR. BARRON: Reapportionment. So, if we want to be like King and honor King, then honor those of us who are calling for Black Power.

Rest in peace, Dr. King, for a job well done. Black Power.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Mr. Blake on the resolution.

MR. BLAKE: If I were standing at the beginning of time with the possibility of taking a kind of general and panoramic view of the whole of human history up to now, and the Almighty said to me, *Martin Luther King, which age would you like to live in?* I would take my mental flight by Egypt and I would watch God's children in their magnificent trek from the dark dungeons of Egypt through and across the Red Sea. He then spoke of -- that he would travel to Greece or Mount Olympus and speak to Plato and Aristotle. Or the heyday of the Roman Empire. But it's important as we reflect on Dr. King and reflect on his name and his birth that we don't forget these words that he said the day before he was assassinated. "I would even go by the way that the man for whom I'm named had his habitat, and I would watch Martin Luther as he tacks his 95 Theses on the door of the church in Wittenburg." I start there because it's important for us to understand that Martin Luther King, Jr. was not named that at

his birth. He was Michael King. His father, Michael King, Sr., in 1934 had went to Berlin. And while traveling with other faith leaders and missionaries, he was impacted forever by seeing firsthand the visual of 95 Theses that had been placed there by Martin Luther himself. As we think about what drives us to today, repeatedly Dr. King spoke of not being satisfied. *We can never be satisfied when it comes to the bank of justice being bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vault of opportunity in this nation. We can never be satisfied without sufficient justice for as long as the negro in New York believes for he has nothing which to vote. No, we are not satisfied and will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream.* It's important for us to realize and appreciate as we celebrate Dr. King, even in his final hours he was thinking about what happened and the condition of the people in New York. So we not only say "Happy Birthday" to Dr. King as we realize 91 years of his birth through now, it is our appreciation that as he said often, to not ignore the silence. The line that always stays with me about Dr. King. "In the end we remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." So let us be elected officials who understand that our work, our policy, our rhetoric and our duties are not to be silent for those that we represent.

Happy birthday, Dr. King.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Ms. Wright on the resolution.

MS. WRIGHT: Thank you for the opportunity to speak today in celebration and commemoration of the legacy of

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King is one of the most effective human rights leaders of our time. He was a leader and spokesman -- spokesperson in the Civil Rights Movement from 1955 until his assassination in 1968. While he made tremendous strides in the quest for equality in America and he can be credited with leading a successful bus boycott, marches and being instrumental in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, I submit that one of his greatest achievements is a body of written work that has inspired and continues to guide us as we strive for equality and justice in America. His words guide us in the ongoing fight for civil, social, racial and economic justice. I know that loving my neighbor is important, but equally important is stopping predatory mortgages and deed theft, redlining and usury interest. I remain guided by Dr. King's words as we here in the Assembly tackle the oppressive cycles of racism and poverty. As Dr. King often stated, *We have a common destiny, and that destiny is intimately connected to our economics*. So as we honor Dr. King's legacy, let us reconnect -- recommit ourselves to finding solutions for poverty in our State. Solutions which create an opportunity for each person to have a dignified, productive and creative life.

Thank you.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Mr. Rivera on the resolution.

MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will attempt to record myself for the first time with my new toy. Mr. Speaker, thank you for this resolution. The last few years, especially since you became Speaker around this time, we felt part of Martin

Luther King's mission has been accomplished. You're sitting where you're sitting right now; in a seat of power where you can help and you can help us help our constituents back home. I quite often say if I'm here as a member of the State Assembly, someone that has been mocked or laughed at because I supposedly -- I only speak fluent broken English, but fluent broken Spanish, too. So I get it from both sides. But someone like me was able to get elected because the civil rights struggle made that possible. Especially the civil rights struggle of 1965 when two young persons, the Jewish, they joined the African-American students and together they went South. They never came back alive. One of them lived in -- in -- in my friend Jeff Dinowitz's district. Okay? So, here because of those struggle, people like me was able in '65 to join the civil rights struggle for the right to register in Spanish. And anyone that registers in other languages today, you owe it to the civil rights struggle. So how can I not get up here and say thank you? Thank you for helping Puerto Rico in the time of need. You want to know what's happening in Puerto Rico right now? Not only a hurricane which you, Mr. Speaker, Marcos Crespo, the Governor, all of us contributed to helping them. We told the people and the Governor, *Be careful. There's nothing but abuse of power in government and abuse of power by the Governor in Puerto Rico.* The people in the civil rights-style march of non-violence, they overthrew a government in Puerto Rico. Unheard of. Nobody got killed. They got tear gassed. Well, what else is new? That's all the police officer knows how to do. So, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you

for those efforts. But I was there this whole five, seven days. The Governor went, Marcos Crespo went. They did a great job. We went straight to the mountains. We're not going to -- anything we collect we're going to make sure, as we did before, it doesn't get into the hands of corruption. Look into the reports coming out. Look into the report. One lie after another. People are going to go to jail. This Governor is going to be investigated because she said, *I didn't know that everything that was being sent to us for the United States, especially New York, was being put in a warehouse where the owner of the warehouse was getting paid some \$30,000 to use -- to let them use the warehouse and not one of those items was ever distributed.* It's in the newspaper. It's not my big mouth speaking. Okay? It's in the newspaper. So, Mr. Speaker, you know what made me more proud that on the day that was set aside to celebrate Martin Luther King officially here? That's an official celebration in Puerto Rico. So as I was driving with my other leader, Phil Ramos, to the mountains to help distribute, to help the people, for over half-an-hour, it made me very proud. What I try to say here made me very proud. I heard what I heard and plus more than what I have said. I heard in radio in Puerto Rico in English and Spanish, I heard of the struggle of Martin Luther King. And the announcer said and it was people from New York who on that day in 1963 joined by the thousand, over 10,000 Puerto Ricans, traveled with -- to join the marches in -- in Washington, D.C. Over 10,000. And he said if nobody believes us, we have the photos to prove it. And they named names. They gave names of one of my

mentors who used to be a City Council person. (Inaudible). He passed away, but he made a contribution.

So I just want to say Martin Luther King is a very important figure in the history of struggle. The history of struggle not only here, but in Puerto Rico. I -- they made me proud (inaudible). And then as (inaudible) said, right now we're in the (inaudible). Right now there's thousands of youngsters gathering to demonstrate in front of the Governor's mansion. Guess what? We did.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Mr. Rivera, your --

MR. RIVERA: (Inaudible).

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Unfortunately, your time -- your time is up.

MR. RIVERA: And it's all on videotape. Once again, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Thank you, Mr. Rivera.

MR. RIVERA: Martin Luther King, thank you very much.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Ms. Jaffee on the resolution.

MS. JAFFEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is really an honor to be joining you and my colleagues in commemorating the observance of Martin -- of the 35th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the State of New York and to celebrate his life and legacy, bringing us together in remembrance and reflection. Dr. King's cause was firmly rooted in his true calling. That of an unyielding faith not only in matters spiritual, but in the inherent

decency and righteousness of his fellow man. A humanitarian, he dedicated his life to battling social injustice. And one of the most influential forces behind the Civil Rights Movement was Dr. Martin Luther King in the 1950s and '60s. Dr. King once said, and I quote, "We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there is such a thing as being too late." End of quote. By the time of his tragic assassination in 1968, he had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and had led millions of people in a non-violent movement that shattered forever the Southern system of segregation of the races. His eloquent, passionate advocacy of civil and human rights rooted in the techniques of peaceful demonstration brought a new dimension of dignity to people's lives and a new hope for freedom. Alan Wolf from the *New York Times* had said, and I quote, "America was lifted up because King would not lay his burden down." End of quote. Dr. King's words communicated his vision, his passion and his faith, and they demonstrated his gift to inspire others to follow his lead. He asked to be remembered as the drum major for justice, and he is the drum major for justice. Always inspired me and so many others. The message his words convey are as inspiring and fundamental today as it ever was during his lifetime. As a nation and a state, we must bring renewed commitment to confronting and addressing and rectifying inequalities in our country. In our State. In our communities. For our youth, for their future. We must not ignore those who have been left out and left behind in our economy,

especially in the challenging and difficult economic and sometimes political times. We must take on this challenge to close the gaps that still exist in our schools, in our healthcare systems, in our employment, in our financial institutions. And we have started the path in our criminal justice system. We must aggressively support quality education, quality strong education for every child, for every one of our adolescents and our older adults. Strengthen our civil liberties and assure social justice. The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lives within each of us, and we are responsible to promote, teach and live the true American Dream. As Dr. King said, and I quote, "Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action." He has inspired me for years.

Thank you. Thank you, Dr. Martin Luther King.

Thank you.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Ms. Walker on the resolution.

MS. WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to pause in commemoration of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King was a baptist preacher. So when I think of the DNA in terms of the make up of a man, *the* man, I am reminded of the Bible myself. And in Genesis 27 it reads, *There goes that dreamer. Let's kill him and see what becomes of his dream.* Well, we know that there was a day when Dr. King delivered one of his most famous speeches. It was entitled "I Have a Dream." And the end of that speech reads, "Free at last. Free at last. Thank God Almighty, we

are free at last." So Dr. King was a man that stood for freedom, justice and equality. And more importantly, equity. I am also reminded again that another great document that was written is the Constitution of the United States of America. And the Eighth Amendment remind us that bail should not be excessive. It should not be required. Excessive fines should not be imposed. And cruel and unusual punishment should not be inflicted. It also tells us in the Thirteenth Amendment that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude except as a punishment for a crime whereof a party shall have been duly convicted shall exist within the United States of America. So Dr. King was a proponent of freedom. And we know that the very document that separates people, those of us, those of our ancestors who lived in slavery, the one thing that separates are those words. And so in that regard, we recognize that over 2.2 million people are now incarcerated within the United States of America. In fact, 25 percent of all of the people who are incarcerated all around the world exist right here in America. So the Voting Rights Act was something that allowed opportunities for people of color, people all across this country, to be able to vote for people who are racially, ethnically and geographically connected and related to the voter. So I will sit here as a proponent of Dr. King's dream to be able to utilize my opportunity as a member of this Body to purport and push forward the true equities, rights and responsibilities that not only our State Constitution has, who by the way, dictates that bail should just be about returning to court and not punishment for a crime, notwithstanding that -- purport

to make sure that the tenets of the Constitution are applicable to all of the people that we represent. So again, since Dr. King was a man who stood for freedom, for justice, for access, I am honored to stand on his shoulders and the shoulders of all of the people who stood side-by-side with him as we purported to push forward towards freedom. To be able to say to all of those people who are enjoying those freedoms now as a result of bail reform who have gone back to work, who've gone back to school, who's taking care of their family members, that I am a living example of the fact that the dreamers dream did not die with the dreamer, but that I get to walk in the footsteps of his dreams of freedom. And I get to stand eye-to-eye with all of those individuals and continue to stay free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last. And while it may have taken 400 years to achieve those freedoms --

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Ms. Walker --

MS. WALKER: -- it will -- it will --

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Your time is up.

MS. WALKER: -- take an eternity to protect.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me the opportunity.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Thank you.

Ms. Dickens on the resolution.

MS. DICKENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and -- and thank you for putting this reso in. So important to history. Dr. Martin Luther King is often quoted as saying that, "The arc of the moral

universe is long, but it bends towards justice." This is true. But it only happens when caring, committed people put their hands on that arc and pull it towards justice. We must be those people. Dr. King is now renowned in -- in -- in history, immortalized forever in world history. But many people don't know that he was considered radical back in 1966 and '65. Today we say he is a hero. Today we stand up and we commemorate his work and what he did for the world. But that was not the case, not the case just a few decades ago. A few decades ago we fought for equality in pay. We fought hard for housing. We demanded equal educational opportunities. And today in 2020, we stand here still fighting for the same exact things. Strides has [sic] been made. Yes, successes have certainly been had, but woefully slow and very inadequate. We, in this House, the People's House, are elected to stand together for the betterment of all the citizens of this great State, and not just a few. Not just down in the City or the North Country. Not out west. But for the entire State of New York. When we do this, when we actually do the people's work, we will then be walking in the shoes behind the work that Martin Luther King laid down his life to give us a model.

I want to thank each of you for recognizing him, for giving me this time, and hopefully, that Dr. Martin Luther King did not die in vain. That the work that he put forth, that the role he laid out for us to follow is a path that each of us will walk and lay our footprints in for a better world for our future, our youth.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for giving me

the time.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Ms. Bichotte on the resolution.

MS. BICHOTTE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to speak on this resolution to commemorate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, one of this world's greatest hero [sic]. In 1963, Dr. King came to Plymouth Church in Brooklyn Heights, Brooklyn, and delivered a sermon called "The American Dream." He was working out the themes that would become his "I Have a Dream" speech six months later on Washington, D.C. And in this sermon, Dr. King preached, *We must all learn to live together as brothers, or we will perish together as fools*. Today we can say we must all live together as brothers and sisters or we will perish together as fools.

This day will always be memorable to me not only because he was a humanitarian who fought for freedom, equality and socioeconomic justice, but also on this very day it is with humility that I was recently elected to be the first woman county party leader in Brooklyn, the same borough where he preached in 1963, "The American Dream." I must say this would not have happened without a revolution that he led, and without the radical spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to fight for all of us.

Happy birthday, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Thank you.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Mr. Fall on the resolution,.

MR. FALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And a special

thank you for the sponsor for his leadership and introducing this very important resolution. As we celebrate the life and work of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., let us reflect on his legacy, especially in the youth development field. Young people are the future, and as we have seen in recent years our youth rose up to right the wrongs brought upon them. We have seen this both in the March For Our Lives movement and the climate change movements. Because of Dr. King, the youth of the 1960s and the youth today have become more willing to stand up against injustice that they witness. Unfortunately, many of the disparities Dr. King was fighting against still exist today. We have seen an increase in hate crimes on race, religion and sexual orientation. While people should be held accountable for their actions, we still need to do a better job by teaching our youth the values of tolerance and diversity. We should continue to preserve and enhance human dignity by -- as Dr. King did by the actions he took that are now solidified in our nation's history. A couple days ago I had a conversation with my daughter, Maimouna, who's six years old and is in first grade. And I asked her what did she learn in school about Dr. King. And by the end of that conversation I was, you know, very satisfied by what I heard, but also showed how far we have come as a country by the simple fact that, you know, she was able to articulate who Dr. King was and what he stood for. And that conversation also led to the importance of standing up for what's right, and that doesn't mean standing up to Mom and Dad when we say no to candy. I want to make that clear to her.

(Laughter)

As we honor Dr. King on this day, let's reflect on his legacy that has been left behind and the work that is still left to be done. That includes advancing social equality and justice for all, for the common good of mankind.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Ms. Richardson on the resolution.

MS. RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we elevate our gaze, stretching towards division, I am so honored to be a member of this very diverse Body as we honor -- honor the revolutionary Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who had many hallmarks of things that he fought for, such as love, community. Such as mercy, voting rights. But I really want to draw our attention to the Poor People's Campaign where Dr. Martin Luther King was looking out for people who were less fortunate. Looking out for the education of our children. Looking out for the housing for the poor. And I really want to see that this Legislature continues to move in that spirit not in just talk, but in action. We have mass incarceration that's still alive today. Voting rights are under attack today. And so I really am grateful that I am here in this moment in time, and that I can stand as a beacon of light not only for my district, but for all those who look like me, black people across the State and City of New York.

Thank you.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Mr. Lavine on the resolution.

MR. LAVINE: Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker.

Dr. King was one of thousands who were sacrificed in an American battle for human rights and justice. I was very fortunate to have heard him speak in November of 1965 while a student at the University of Wisconsin. Thousands of us crowded into a huge auditorium. And I cannot remember the words that he said, but I certainly remember the spirit. And I still feel that spirit. That was the spirit not simply of Dr. King, that was the spirit of Amos and of Isaiah, his Old Testament prophets who he -- who he so, so loved. Now, I hope I have taught my children the lessons I learned there -- there back in 1965. But he was a controversial man, and those were certainly controversial times. I guess that's something that we have in common with the world we live in today. And I think that one of the lessons of Dr. King is - not just Dr. King, but so many of the others who were martyrs to civil rights - is we cannot fear controversy. We cannot fear derision. We must rise to the occasion. These are difficult times in our nation. There is an atmosphere of hatred that I have not before seen in my life. And I think that those of us who believe in love must stand and stand in the way Dr. King stood and not avoid controversy. And I will simply quote two short quotes of Dr. King that are on the North Wall of his Memorial in our nation's Capital. And the first is, "True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice." Let us resolve to fight for justice. And finally, given all the divisive -- divisive language from American leaders today, let us fight against that philosophy. And let us remember another quote on the North

Wall: *Every nation must now develop an overriding loyalty, a loyalty to mankind as a whole in order to preserve the best in our individual societies.* We must, my friends and colleagues, we must at great peril stand together. If we do not stand together, our nation will fall apart.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Ms. Darling on the resolution.

MS. DARLING: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the spirit of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, my Morehouse brother, my Morehouse brother, I would like to say that we all need to remain encouraged as we fight the good fight here in the State of New York. And one quote that I recently heard really kind of sums up what we all need to continue to challenge ourselves and each other to do. "The time is always right to do what is right." He didn't say it was going to be easy. He didn't say it was going to be convenient. But it is always right to do what is right.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Thank you.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes to close.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank my colleagues in the Chambers. I actually sat here and watched people's expressions as we went through this process of honoring the legacy of this great man. And quite honestly, it -- it's a learning experience for some of us even though most of us have grown up knowing that name. Some of us were alive and living

when he was killed. Some of us were alive and living when he lived that legacy. But it was -- it was a learning experience for us. And I really want to honor you all for sitting here and listening as we honor this great man. Dr. King didn't just give a speech about dreaming, he was a dreamer. And if you don't dream about things and visualize things, then surely you will not make anything happen. He has made some things happen in our society. Is it enough? No. But we've still got time. We still have life left. We still have an opportunity to ensure that his legacy lives on in a strong kind of way.

Mr. Speaker, I want to end by saying this: I'm recalling the moment when you became Speaker. And it popped into my head Dr. King's quote that I mentioned first thing today when we opened Session, that you are not judged by the color of your skin whether or not you should be Speaker, you were judged by the content of your character. And I honor him for that and I honor you, and I honor all of you for sitting through this opportunity to honor this great man.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I thank you and I ask that you would now allow us to move that the Assembly stand adjourned --

SPEAKER HEASTIE: I have to get the votes on the resolution.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Oh, I'm sorry.

(Inaudible), Mr. Speaker.

(Laughter)

SPEAKER HEASTIE: We're so excited to honor Dr.

King, right?

On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Okay, now I can say it.

Now we move --

SPEAKER HEASTIE: No, we have other fine resolutions.

(Laughter)

We will take them up en masse.

All those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, nay. The resolutions are adopted.

(Whereupon, Assembly Resolution Nos. 687-695 were unanimously adopted.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. My apologies. I do now move that the Assembly stand adjourned until Thursday at 10:00 a.m., January the 23rd. Tomorrow will be a Session day.

SPEAKER HEASTIE: Thank you, Mrs.

Peoples-Stokes. The House stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 5:19 p.m., the House stood adjourned until Thursday, January 23rd at 10:00 a.m., that being a Session day.)