

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

1:50 P.M.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The House will come to order.

The Reverend Carbone will offer a prayer.

REVEREND CASEY CARBONE: Would you please join me in an invocation. O Divine who grants us wisdom, understanding, compassion and love, instill in all those gathered here a sense of justice and mercy that allows all people here in the State of New York the right to live freely and without fear of being targeted because of their race, gender or sexual identity, economic status or beliefs. In this work of building communities based on trust and equality, let us never forget the many hands and hours and countless others who work behind the scenes to turn our dreams and visions into a shared reality rooted in a desire to love and care for all our

neighbors.

As those gathered here begin another legislative Session, allow them to be guided by a spirit of collegiality, fairness and a belief that together we can accomplish so much more than we go alone, for we know all too well these are challenging times in which we live. And may we resist the forces that seek to use fear and hate to divide us rather than uniting us in our similarities. So, let our similarities be the wellspring from where we find our strength, whether it be our families, our friends, our love and our desire to pass on to the next generation a better world. We ask Your blessing upon this Assembly and by Your power, grant them the courage and strength to persevere in the shared work of serving the people of this State. And may we seek Your guidance today and every day that is to come as we join hand in hand in this vocation, this high calling of creating a fellowship of diverse people, a New York that is ever upward. Amen.

MEMBERS: Amen.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: 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 Monday, February 10th.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

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

dispense with the further reading of the Journal of Monday, February the 10th and ask that same the stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Without objection, so ordered.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For members, colleagues and guests that are in the Chambers, we'd like to share with you our quote for today, which is from Booker T. Washington who was an American educator, author and advisor to multiple Presidents of the United States from -- between 1890 and 1915. Mr. Washington is sharing with us today: *Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life, but [sic] by the obstacles which he or she [sic] has overcome to [sic] succeed.* Again, Mr. Speaker, from Booker T. Washington.

Members do have on their desk a main Calendar, as well as a debate list, a much anticipated debate list. After any introductions and/or housekeeping, we will continue to consent from our main Calendar, beginning with Calendar No. 274 which is on page 46, and we will also take up bills from the debate list, as well as the main Calendar. There will be a need for a Majority Conference immediately following Session and, of course, we will check with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to determine what their needs are.

That's the general outline, Mr. Speaker. If there are

any introductions and/or housekeeping, now would be an awesome time.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

Mr. Byrne for a [sic] introduction.

MR. BYRNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my honor and privilege to rise this afternoon to introduce the Reverend Casey Carbone from the First Presbyterian Church of Mahopac. Casey is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary. Born in South Korea now living in Mahopac, he graduated from Calvin College in May 2014 with a B.A. in Religion and Minor Concentration in Youth Ministry. He is passionate about intersection of life and faith and the integration of academics into the practices of the church. He has been instrumental in our community working with the interfaith community, hosting things with our church in Mahopac with the temple -- local temple, folk festival, making sure that we can worship in prayer in peace and do it together in a collaborative way. We're -- we're just very, very fortunate to have him in Mahopac and in New York State and, Mr. Speaker, if you could, please extend the cordialities of the House, I would be grateful.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Assemblymember Byrne, the Speaker and all the members, Reverend, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. Thank you so much for coming and sharing your words with us this morning. Please know

that you are always welcome. Thank you very much.

REVEREND CARBONE: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My pleasure.

(Applause)

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Barclay for the purposes of a [sic] introduction.

MR. BARCLAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt the proceedings. It's my great honor to introduce to the Body Mayor Deana Michaels, who is the newly-elected mayor of the City of Fulton. In my new position, Mr. Speaker, I often get congratulated, and I congratulated the Mayor on winning her election. And she said to me, as I often say to others, *I'm not sure "congratulations" is the right word*, but... she's got a lot of challenges, but I know she's going to be a great leader for the City of Fulton and I would ask if you could please provide her the cordialities of the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Barclay, the Speaker and all the members, Mayor, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. You go with all our best wishes. We know you will have a successful term in office, and please continue to serve the people of this State. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Mr. Ashby.

MR. ASHBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing

me to introduce members of the Capital District Sled Warriors Team from STRIDE. STRIDE is an adaptive sports organization and the members here today are the 2020 New York State Empire Games Gold Medalist Champions for Sled Hockey.

All right, if they could rise, if they can, from -- from the back, those that can. With us today are Jesse Bulger, Shawn Fultz, Gordon Ide, Christine Lucier, Natasha Pomakoy, Abigail Radliff, Shawn Rawlins, Victor Tomelden, Luke Wilson, Bryan Darby, Derek Gallo, Brenda Jensis, Steve Pechacek, Richard Pooters, Jr., Robert Radliff, Stefon Stilwell and Benjamin Wilson. And they're coached by Chris Mancuso, the Team Manager, Kimberly Wilson; Don Gallo, Max Sherman and Tom Wilson. Some of these members that are here with us today are also Wounded Warriors who fought for our country and have provided great leadership amongst this team, and if you could be so courteous as to provide them all of the cordialities of the House.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Ashby, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome these gold medalists here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. Our congratulations on your athletic achievement, we know that it helps sustain us in other parts of our life. Keep up that good work. Know that our best wishes go with you. Thank you so very much to both coaches and advisors.

(Applause)

Mr. Byrne for a [sic] introduction.

MR. BYRNE: Second one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise again this afternoon to introduce two other great ladies from the 94th Assembly District, Susan Salomone and Eileen New. They represent Drug Crisis in our Backyard, which advocates for families struggling with addiction, the effects of addiction. It was founded in May of 2012 after the death of Susan's son, Justin. They have been a staple in the community, doing everything from advocating for services, destigmatizing addiction, enhancing trainings for Naloxone in the community and we're just very, very privileged to have them in -- in Putnam County. But they do so much work outside of the county and just for our State. So if you could, please extend the cordialities of the House. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Byrne, the Speaker and all the members, ladies, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly. We extend to you the privileges of the floor, our thanks and congratulations on the work that you're doing to help others in need. It's something that I'm familiar with. I started doing a similar work in the 1970's. So, I'm sorry that you continue to have to do that work, but glad that you have picked up the struggle that needs to be fought. Thank you, and keep that effort up. Thank you very much.

(Applause)

Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's my great pleasure to introduce two individuals who

drove six hours from my county to join us today, Terry McCool and Marrie Ulkins. Terry is the Administrator and Marrie is the Assistant Administrator of the WCA Home. The WCA Home is a beautiful, classic Victorian building. They provide great, high-quality personal care to assisted living residents. They've been doing it since 1892. And notwithstanding my hair color, that is before my time, for the last 128 years, and they're up here advocating on behalf of all the assisted living facilities, including their beautiful facility. So if you would welcome them, I would certainly appreciate it. Thank you, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Goodell, 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, also, our congratulations for the work that you do, caring for those who need help in their age and their life. Please know that we are grateful for the work that you do and we will always honor you for that work. Continue your great job. Thank you.

(Applause)

Ms. Walker.

MS. WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to introduce a group that I am very proud of. I am very fortunate to Chair the New York State Assembly's Committee on Science and Technology, and today we will present a resolution and proclamation to NPower, which is a leading non-profit organization that has trained and launched the tech careers of over 2,000 New

Yorkers in underserved and underrepresented communities. Today we will be marking -- marking March 12th, 2020 as Women of Color Tech Day in the State of New York. Today we have with us Ken Mitchell, who is the Vice President of Program Development and Operations; Helen Kogan, who is the Executive Director of the Metro Area; Patrick Cohen, the Vice President of Strategic Partnerships; Binta Vann-Joseph, who is the Vice President of Marketing; Felecia Webb, who is the Vice President of Philanthropy, and a number of present students and alumni of NPower. Would you please, Mr. Speaker, extend the courtesies and privileges of the floor to this outstanding group of individuals.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Ms. Walker, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor, congratulate you on the work that you're doing. Nothing more than -- important than helping people prepare themselves for the technology of the future and the jobs of today. Thank you. Continue that great work. And we wish you well, as I'm sure you've made Ms. Walker very happy by coming and visiting her today. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Mr. Crespo for the purposes of a [sic] introduction.

MR. CRESPO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce a delegation of the YMCA of Greater New York, particularly a delegation from the Bronx that is

with us. Many of you may have seen them in the halls or in your offices today. And for the brave ones that tried their bicycle that motored a -- a (speaking Spanish) -- see, that's what happens when you're bilingual, you get confused -- a blender, thank you. And -- and were able to be -- I hid from that, by the way, just so you know.

But, Mr. Speaker, this amazing delegation includes some teams of the Y -- SYEP Program and the College Access Programs. With us is Gloria, Richard, Makylia, Aisseta, Halima and Ninochca. They are also joined by Counselors Bobby-Ann and Shamli. Some of the volunteer -- Sean is with them, and Michael Rivadeneyra, Sharon Levy, administrators, as well as Schone Malliet, one of the Board Members. They have visited with many members. They spent some time with the Speaker today, but they are a reminder of the very best of our communities and we are grateful to the YMCA, as well, for giving them an opportunity and a pathway to live productive and successful lives and reach those goals. And so, Mr. Speaker, if you could extend the cordialities of the House to this amazing delegation from the Boogie Down Bronx.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Crespo, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here, this extraordinary group of young people, to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. And to the YMCA who has been doing this work forever, thank you for continuing that work, and thank you for making sure that you're serving the children of today and not the world of tomorrow. Thank

you so very much. Continue your great work.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, if we can begin our work on page 3 with resolutions, and immediately following that go to page 46 and start with Calendar No. 274.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 754 --

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Shh.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 754, Mr. Lentol. Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor M. Cuomo to proclaim February 8-15, 2020, as Court Reporting and Captioning Week in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye -- saying aye?

MEMBERS: Aye.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you very much. Opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 755, Mrs. Gunther. Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim February 14, 2020, as A Day for Hearts: Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day in the State of New York.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 756, Mr. Blankenbush. Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim February 16-22, 2020, as Grain Bin Safety Week in the State of New York.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 757, Ms. Walker. Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 12, 2020, as Women of Color in Tech Day in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Walker on the resolution.

MS. WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: One minute, Ms. Walker. Shh, shh, shh.

Thank you. Proceed, dear.

MS. WALKER: Nearly six million jobs are expected to require tech and digital skills in the future, and statistics show that there are only 3.2 million candidates in the pool with the training and skills necessary for these new, rare and futuristic opportunities. NPower was founded in the year 2000 in Brooklyn to empower individuals with in-demand tech skills and equalize opportunities which transform lives and create systematic changes in the most underserved and underrepresented communities. To date, the

non-profit organization has served over 2,200 adult New Yorkers, including many women of color and members of the military, seeking to transition careers and/or reenter the workforce by training them and helping them launch their tech careers.

While women make up the majority of the workforce, there continues to be a vast disparity in the -- in their presence in the tech industry. To highlight NPower's success and raise awareness about the urge and need to bridge the gap between women of color and tech jobs, we are presenting this proclamation to NPower which marks today, March 12th, as Women of Color in Tech Day in the State of New York. This particular day honors a new initiative that NPower is instituting, which is called 40 by 22. And this is a woman of color in tech coalition which seeks to aim -- which aims to increase the enrollment of young women of color in the program to 40 percent by the year 2022, and presently we are at 25 percent.

Our society has greatly benefitted by the purposeful efforts of this coalition, and we unite to improve that quality of life not just for the young people in Brooklyn, but really all across the State of New York. And so, today we would like to ask that this legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim today [sic], March 12, 2020 as Women of Color in Tech Day, and be it further resolved that a copy of the resolution which we will pass and engross be transmitted to the Governor on behalf of NPower. So, thank you very much and I look forward to its passage.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

Mr. Vanel on the resolution.

MR. VANEL: I just speak in support of the sponsor and of this resolution proclaiming March 12th as Women in Color [sic] Tech Day. It's very important to make sure that we help diversify the technical industry, and very important not -- not only with race, but also with gender. This is a very, very worthy -- worthy goal. It's very -- it's also -- we're very excited that NPower is here, which is a great organization that does work throughout New York City. And this goal is very important and I stand in total support of this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, sir.

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

(Applause)

Page 46, Calendar No. 274, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07523, Calendar No. 274, Dinowitz. An act to amend the Surrogate's Court Procedure Act, in relation to the computation and allocation of the commissions of trustees of charitable trusts; and repealing certain provisions of such law relating thereto.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07526, Calendar No. 275, Lavine, Dinowitz. An act to amend the Civil Practice Law and Rules, in relation to the content of a summons with notice in certain

actions.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On a motion by Mr. Lavine, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced and the bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07528, Calendar No. 276, Gantt, Dinowitz, Wright, Weprin, Gottfried, Cruz. An act to amend the Family Court Act, in relation to use of restraints on children appearing before the Family Court.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07544, Calendar No. 277, Stirpe, McDonald, McMahon, Steck. An act to amend the General Municipal Law, in relation to including lakes in adopt-a-municipal park, shoreline or roadway programs.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07572, Calendar No. 278, Dinowitz, Weinstein, Gottfried, Seawright. An act to amend the Civil Practice Law and Rules, in relation to arbitration awards in consumer and employment disputes.

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.)

Members, this is the first vote of the day. Mrs.

Peoples-Stokes would tell you what day, what week and what year you're in, but I won't do that. I'll just ask you to vote as you sit in your chair. And if you're in your seats, please vote now; if you're in the sound of our voice, come to the Chamber and vote. Thank you.

Are there - shh - any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07573, Calendar No. 279, Gunther, D'Urso, Buttenschon, Blake. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to the definition of "veteran."

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 30th 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. A07598, Calendar No. 280, Seawright, Dinowitz, Colton, Cruz. An act to amend the Civil Practice Law and Rules, in relation to the failure to provide notice of a default judgment.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07599, Calendar No. 281, Dinowitz. An act to amend the Civil Practice Law and Rules, in relation to admissibility of an opposing party's statement.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07605, Calendar No. 282, Braunstein, Dinowitz. An act to amend the Civil Practice Law and Rules, in relation to commissions for receivers of rents and profits.

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.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to interrupt our proceedings for an introduction on behalf of our colleague, Mr. Weprin. We have Brian Brown, the Assistant Vice President of St. John's University, and a group of students that are attending his great institution. If you could please welcome them to our Chambers and give them the cordialities of the House.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf

of Assemblymember Weprin, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome this distinguished group of students from St. John's University and their staff and all of the administration here to the New York State Assembly. We extend to you the privileges of the floor. Thank you for sharing with us today the issues that are important to you. Know that you are always welcome here, and there are a lot of friends from Queens who share in your enthusiasm for St. John's University. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. Actually, I'd like to make another introduction on behalf of our members Pheffer Amato, Rosenthal and Eichenstein. We'd like to welcome a group of education advocates and parents from 23 different Yeshivahs from Queens and Long Island, representing over 10,000 students. Mr. Speaker, if you could welcome them to our Chambers.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of all of Queens, right? Because just about all of Queens is there for you, and Brooklyn, we have Brooklyn in that crowd, too, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. Thank you for joining us today. Thank you for also participating in the public life of our City and our State. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

The Clerk will read. No. 284, page 47.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07648, Calendar No. 284, Goodell. An act to amend the General City Law, in relation to a residency exemption for plumbing inspectors in the City of Jamestown.

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? Shh, please. Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07669, Calendar No. 285, Cook, Lentol. An act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law, in relation to preliminary proceedings involving adolescent offenders.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07670, Calendar No. 286, Pretlow, Lentol. An act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law, in relation to the sealing of law enforcement records.

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. A07676, Calendar No. 287, Mosley. An act to amend the Correction Law, in relation to the manner through which enforcement proceedings are brought.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

Shh. Ladies and gentlemen, please. Thank you.

Shh.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07699-B, Calendar No. 288, Gunther, Jacobson, Schmitt, Brabenec, L. Rosenthal, Gottfried, B. Miller, Thiele, Steck, Epstein, Carroll, Seawright, Ortiz, Colton. An act to amend the General Municipal Law and the Tax Law, in relation to the definition of designated community for community preservation funds.

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.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes. Shh.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, if we can now go to our debate list, just want to take up a few bills from it. We want to start with Calendar No. 340, it's on page 56, by Member Paulin.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Senate No. S07171, Calendar No. 340, Senator Brooks (Paulin, Blake--A08952). An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to direct dialing to public service answering phones.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: An explanation is requested, Ms. Paulin.

MS. PAULIN: Yes. So, this is a chapter amendment of a bill that we did last year -- or last Session, and the idea behind the chapter amendment is to allow its permissive a college campus, a CUNY or a SUNY to -- and to clarify, because this is what they do now, to allow them to route 911 calls to both their own central operating campus police if they have them. You know, obviously some smaller campuses do not have campus police. It allows them to both route the 911 call to their campus police, as well as to an emergency operator such as a local police department.

So, the rationale being that they know the campus best, they have a policy in place and it might be to the advantage of those students to be able to allow the calls to go to both parties or, you know, if their policy is such to go to them first, because they're so closely -- or they're so able and knowing what the campus looks like.

I don't know if I said that all right.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the sponsor yield?

MS. PAULIN: Yes.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Paulin yields.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Ms. Paulin. It certainly seems to make a lot of sense that if you have a campus phone and you dial 911, it goes directly to campus security, because obviously they're right on campus. They know where all the dorm rooms are and the dorm buildings and the other buildings on campus, and they probably can respond faster than anyone else. At the same token, though, we -- there have been some technical concerns have been raised by the 911 Coordinators Association. And they raised two issues, in particular, I was hoping you could address.

The first question was whether or not the campus security that answers a campus 911 call have the training and experience that the normal 911 dispatchers would have. And they have expressed a concern on that. Could you address that concern?

MS. PAULIN: So remember, firstly, it's permissive, you know, so it -- there's a "may" here. So, you know, currently these college campuses that have -- because they're doing -- they do this now, you know, they -- this is what the current procedure is. So, if there's a policy that they are -- are equipped and they deem themselves as such when the -- when that student or person on the campus is

actually trying to communicate to 911, it does go to the campus police. Sometimes these campus police or the universities route them to both at the same time.

And all this does, we understand, is clarify existing policy so that, you know, while we were making correction in the law -- or, not a correction, while we were requiring, you know, a direct routing of 911 so that people who are pressing 911 aren't confused, and they don't have to press a two first or, you know, like in this building right, you know, you have to -- I mean, I don't know what this -- this building actually can do 911, but you have to press a two and it could be confusing about what is the process. The same thing could be -- occur on a college campus. So, you know, we made that clarification to allow the direct routing of 911 and to require it and, at the same time, we were informed that -- that there was a -- a problem on CUNYs and SUNYs because they were routing those calls not directly always to law enforcement, that sometimes they deemed it in the -- to the safety advantage of those who were making those calls to go first -- either first or at the same time to the college security police. So -- so there was -- that was already happening and, you know, I don't, I -- I think they are trained, you know, they were trained. We haven't heard of an incident where this was happening where it's been a problem.

So, I would say that the existing policy for CUNY and SUNY is working, so this is just clarifying that this -- that what they're doing is working and it is keeping people safe.

MR. GOODELL: Along the same line, am I correct that campus security do not have full police authority like a peace officer or a police officer; is that correct?

MS. PAULIN: That what?

MR. GOODELL: That campus security may not have the full police power that your Sheriff's Department might have.

MS. PAULIN: Some of them are very small, that's correct. And in those cases, I don't think that they would opt to do this. This is, again, permissive. You know, it's -- it's if they have -- if it's a large university, they are usually staffed up and they would have more ability to respond. The small ones likely would not go through the -- go through the same process.

MR. GOODELL: The other issue raised by the 911 Coordinators Association is that there is new Federal law that kicks in in about a week.

MS. PAULIN: That what? I'm sorry.

MR. GOODELL: There's a new Federal law that kicks in in about a week, February 16th, 2020 called Kari's Law, and there's a concern that this legislation would conflict with the Federal legislation. Could you address that concern?

MS. PAULIN: You know -- you know if, there's additional Federal legislation or if that -- I mean, State legislation to -- to deal with the State legislation, I mean I guess we can look at that and do another amendment on top of this -- on this one in the same section of law, but we were not -- this was crafted by the Governor's

Office. You know, I do not -- I believe that they're unaware, as well, about this Federal provision. So, we can look into it and, certainly, we if need to address something, we can -- we can do that.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you very much, Ms. Paulin.

MS. PAULIN: Okay.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to interrupt our proceedings to invite some guests who have joined us in the Chambers. On behalf of Mr. Crespo, Mr. (Inaudible) and Ms. Cruz, we'd like you to welcome Karol Mason, President of John Jay College. By the way, our colleagues whose names I just mentioned are all alumni. She's also joined by Mindy Bockstein, Director of External Affairs. Would you please welcome them to our Chambers, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf

of Mr. Crespo, Ms. Cruz, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, President. We extend to you the privileges of the floor. Our thanks for the work that you're doing in educating our young people, sending them on to a better life. We know that is a great calling and so happy that you've joined us, so happy that you continue to do a great job. And there's a lot of pride in the Bronx for the school that you represent. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, thank you, for one more introduction. On behalf of Mr. Al Taylor, as well as our colleague, Inez Dickens and all of our colleagues who are familiar with the earlier hip hop days, I'd like you to welcome Kurtis Blow. He is a rapper, singer, songwriter and producer, DJ and a public speaker. He is a hip hop pioneer, first to sign with a major record label. "The Breaks" was a single -- was a single from the first gold hip hop record, we all remember that one, "These Are the Breaks." His song, "If I Ruled the World," became a top five hit on the Billboards of R&B charts. He is the founder of the Hip Hop Church in Harlem where he is the worship leader. He is here today, Mr. Speaker, with his wife. Would you please welcome him -- them to our Chambers.

(Applause)

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf

of Assemblymembers Taylor, Dickens, Bichotte and Walker, the Speaker and all the member, sir, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you and your wife the privileges of the floor. Thank you for the enjoyment that you have given most of us for a long time in our lives. It's so great to see you, so great that you've taken the time to come here to Albany and share this day with us. Please know that you are always welcome here. Thank you and great luck in the future.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, if we go we can go back to our debate list and go to Calendar No. 388, it is on page 57, it is by our colleague, Sandy Galef.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09135, Calendar No. 388, Galef. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to ordering services where the identified caregivers being unwilling or unable to give proper care.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On a motion by Mrs. Galef, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced.

An explanation is requested, Mrs. Galef.

MRS. GALEF: Yes. We passed this bill last year. This is a chapter amendment, 617, and -- but what it -- the original bill indicated that designated caregivers before discharging a patient with

a central venous line would be assured that they would have the proper care when they got home. What this bill does is expands that, and I compliment the Governor for suggesting it to anyone that is leaving a hospital setting, being discharged, that they have the -- if they are designated to go home, that they have the appropriate care being provided for them at home. If the caregiver determines that they do not have the capability, they don't have the experience to perform a medical service that they are not trained for.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the sponsor yield?

MRS. GALEF: Yes.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mrs. Galef yields.

Shh, ladies and gentlemen.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mrs. Galef. As you know, last year we had a bill that related specifically to patients being discharged with intravenous lines.

MRS. GALEF: Yes.

MR. GOODELL: Which was a fairly specific, relatively high-risk situation where if they didn't receive proper follow-up care, they would have risks of infection and other serious complications. This bill takes that mandate and expands it to all care, correct?

MRS. GALEF: Yes.

MR. GOODELL: All after-hospital care.

MRS. GALEF: After hospital care if -- if the caregiver is not able to give the type of care that is needed. And they -- the type of care could come in even if it's for a day. You know, something that I thought about recently, an example that I had, when my husband was very ill and he needed a feeding tube and the physicians or the nurse at Sloan Kettering told me exactly how to provide this for my husband. I went home and I couldn't figure it out. And part of it was I'm not experienced; secondly, I'm very emotionally involved. And I had this feeling that my husband would die because he couldn't be fed by me. Now, fortunately I was able to call somebody in the medical field because of our contacts that were able to help me, but not everybody is in my situation. And you can go home and, you know, you may just need somebody to come for a couple of hours, a nurse's aide or whatever, but the hospital has to be sure that they have that recommendation for somebody who said, *I don't know how to do this*. We don't want people to go home and have more complications, we want people to get well when they get home or be taken care of.

So, yes, I think it's very important. We can't always designate what the issues are that people are going to face, but we know that there are a lot of -- a lot of individuals that are just -- don't feel at all that they have the expertise to help in the situation. Intravenous line is even more dramatic, but mine would have, in my case, it would be a person, a home health care whatever just to almost come for an hour to help out. And, you know, I think we owe our

loved ones that.

MR. GOODELL: Now, this bill goes on to say that not only does the hospital have to ensure follow-up care for those with intravenous lines, but for any other situation if they make a determination that the designated caregiver can't provide it. And then it goes on to say that the hospital shall order such service, the hospital orders the service. So it's not just including it in a discharge plan or recommending it to the patient, the hospital is now, under this bill, under statutory obligation to actually order the service; is that correct?

MRS. GALEF: Well, I think when you're dismissed from a hospital and you still need services, the social worker at the hospital has to assure that the patient when they -- wherever they are going have those services provided, whether it's a nursing service to come in within five hours, you know, they -- they do that. We don't want people to go home, have another issue and then go back to the hospital. That's going to cost more if people aren't cared for properly at their home.

MR. GOODELL: So is the hospital ordering these services at the patient's expense?

MRS. GALEF: No, I mean you have insurance --

MR. GOODELL: You hope --

MRS. GALEF: -- you know.

MR. GOODELL: -- presumably.

MRS. GALEF: We have the insurance. You know, frankly, the insurance companies are going to have to start to cover

some of these things.

MR. GOODELL: And the hospital is ordering these from a company that the hospital is comfortable with rather than having the patient order it from a company they might prefer?

MRS. GALEF: Patient -- patient isn't ordering it. The hospital is order -- the hospital knows what needs to be provided, right? And when you -- when you exit a hospital, there's a social worker, there's a discharge plan and usually it's through, I -- I understand it's usually through a social worker which has the advice of the medical community and so on as to what needs to be done when the patient gets home.

In this situation, this was a little girl who had sickle cell and had to have an intravenous line and the hospital just said, *Your daughter, you're going to take your daughter home and you're in charge of taking care of her.* And the insurance denied any kind of coverage. And so, you know, this was a -- a woman that -- that fought her way through this, but not everybody can do that. So we're just saying, you know, if they say that you have to have nursing care for two days from the hospital to get somebody settled in, then the insurance companies will be covering that.

MR. GOODELL: But this bill doesn't require insurance companies to cover anything. It doesn't change insurance coverage, it says that the hospital must order the service. So my question then, is, the hospital is deciding which organization should be providing the service without necessarily input from the patient,

without necessarily ensuring that the patient's insurance coverages -- covers it. Isn't that a potential liability then for the patient that's not covered? In other words, under the current situation, under the current law, the hospital does a discharge report, discharge plan. They meet with the patient. They say to the patient, *This is what you should have for follow-up care*. They help the patient arrange what the patient wants. They make sure that in that process the patient's insurance covers it or it's an expense that the patient can afford. This bill takes the patient out of patient care and says the hospital, not the patient, the hospital orders it and there's no restrictions on the hospital being able to select their preferred provider or not, or whether the patient can afford it or not, or whether they're even selecting a provider that's within the patient's preferred network or not. Or without consideration of whether there's a higher copay or a lower copay to the patient. Shouldn't we leave that decision to the patient and require the hospital discharge plan to help the patient, but leave the final decision to the patient?

MRS. GALEF: Well, this is a case in point with little Dream, 11-year-old. Her mom got the response from the insurance company that, *We will not cover anything. You are to take your child home and take care of her*. So I would assume that through the discharge process that you're going to be working with your insurance companies. First of all, when you go to the hospital, many times you have to be preauthorized, right, for the operation or whatever it is, so you'd be working with your insurance company. You know whether

they're going to cover you or not and, you know, you have to -- to work to make that change.

MR. GOODELL: Well using that as an example, and it's a great example, under this bill, the hospital would order it, period. Only later would the parents of the 11-year-old realize that it wasn't covered by insurance after it was ordered. Shouldn't that analysis occur up front?

MRS. GALEF: Yeah, I mean, if you're in the hospital, you -- you -- just because something is ordered, you don't have to use it. As the patient, you can make some of your own decisions.

MR. GOODELL: Well, for sure if it's ordered --

MRS. GALEF: Right.

MR. GOODELL: -- you're going to end up paying for it, right?

MRS. GALEF: But if it's ordered, you don't have to -- you have the right to say no and not follow through on that as a patient. But if you were a patient and would prefer to have services provided, in this instance for your child, then you're going to fight for those services even though your insurance company said, *No, we will not do that.*

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mrs. Galef. I appreciate your comments.

On the bill, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the bill, Mr.

Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Last year, this Legislature unanimously approved requiring hospitals make sure that when somebody is discharged with intravenous lines that their caregiver was capable of providing care. This bill is more than just a chapter amendment. What this bill now says is if you're discharged for anything, the hospital has to make an evaluation of whether or not you might need follow-up care, and the hospital, not the patient, not the individual, the hospital has to "order such services."

Now, there are several problems when you expand a good idea that applied to a narrow circumstance to expanding the hospital's liability and responsibility to cover everything. And here are some of the problems: The first problem is if the hospital errs on being conservative and careful for you, they may err on the side of ordering more than you want or need. But unless your insurance covers 100 percent of the cost, you, the patient, all of our patients, will get hit with a bill, a bill that they did not order, a bill for services they did not order. And unless the hospital knows the details of your insurance --

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ladies and gentlemen, we are on debate. That means staff should leave the aisles. I do not want people running around trying to get signatures while we are on debate.

I'm sorry, sir, go ahead.

MR. GOODELL: If the hospital doesn't understand

the details of your insurance policy, they may order the services from someone who's not in your provider network which means days or weeks later, you get a bill that's much more than you should be paying had it been ordered through somebody who's in your provider service. That creates another problem, the third problem it creates. If for some reason the hospital doesn't order the services, who's getting sued? The hospital, which is going to drive up our malpractice and our hospital costs. The third -- or the fourth issue we have, the Governor has pointed out to us that we're facing a \$6.8 billion Medicaid shortfall. The memo in support of this suggests that this system is free. I can assure you if the hospital is ordering services and one-third of our residents are on Medicaid, the cost of the Medicaid Program is going to be substantial which means that you and I are going to have to address how to deal with even larger Medicaid shortfalls.

So, under the present system, how does it work?

Under the present law, the hospital does a discharge plan. They sit down with the patient and with the patient's caregiver. They explain what the patient should have in follow-up care. They help the patient select the patient's choice, the provider that the patient wants, the provider that's in the patient's network. They work with the patient to do that cost-benefit analysis so the patient doesn't become bankrupt over services that they, the patient, didn't order. That's the current system. And this bill would replace it with the hospital ordering the services for the patient and the patient getting the bill without the patient necessarily agreeing either to hire those services or to hire that

particular provider. And one of the patients, if you will, that's going to get that bill is the State of New York because we know that one-third of our residents qualify for Medicaid and we're facing a huge cost overrun in that field.

So, my recommendation is, ensure that the hospitals do proper discharge planning, number one. Number two, make sure that discharge planning is with the patient. And, number three, make sure the patient decides who they hire and not some third-party like the hospital. For those reasons, even though I supported the bill last year on intravenous lines which was a narrow, very specific bill, I cannot and will not support a bill that requires hospitals to take over all patient care after they leave the hospital and to actually require them to order those services at the patient's expense.

Thank you, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Montesano.

MR. MONTESANO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the sponsor yield?

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mrs. Galef, will you yield?

MRS. GALEF: Yes.

MR. MONTESANO: I just wanted to take you back for a second to clarify just a couple of things. In current cases where a patient is discharged home with an IV infusion, which is very common, you know, people have certain infections that take a long time to treat and they go home with an IV line and then there's

antibiotics that are infused. That requires a nurse who usually checks on them occasionally, correct?

MRS. GALEF: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, yes; right.

MR. MONTESANO: But if it's a child or -- or someone, the family member looks after them, but that doesn't require an insurance reimbursement for the caregiver, correct? It's just for the nurse that goes there and for the medication that's utilized?

MRS. GALEF: Yes. It's --

MR. MONTESANO: Okay.

MRS. GALEF: -- it's for the person who would provide the care outside the hospital.

MR. MONTESANO: Okay. Now, this applies also to like a nursing home setting and things of that nature?

MRS. GALEF: Well, I would -- I would -- if they've been discharged from a hospital, but the nursing home may have staff --

MR. MONTESANO: Right, to handle the IV.

MRS. GALEF: -- there so it wouldn't --

MR. MONTESANO: Okay.

MRS. GALEF: -- wouldn't be the same situation.

MR. MONTESANO: So I -- I just want to go back to one of the subjects that Mr. -- the previous member questioned you about. When the hospital does a discharge plan and says that a patient requires certain services at home, whether it be PT, OT or a nurse to look in on them, something of that nature, usually the hospital has a

record of the insurance provider that's covering that patient?

MRS. GALEF: Yes, they would.

MR. MONTESANO: Okay. And --

MRS. GALEF: And they have probably reached out to that insurance provider at this time --

MR. MONTESANO: Right, and those insurance --

MRS. GALEF: -- possibly.

MR. MONTESANO: -- providers, do they generally disclose to the hospital, as they would the patient, of who's going to provide the service, who's their vendor, so-to-speak, to deliver those services?

MRS. GALEF: I would -- I would assume -- I would assume that when you're leaving the hospital, you know who's -- what's -- if you need nursing services, that you would know what company is coming in and what day they would be there, are they going to meet you at the door when you get to your house --

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- because you have --

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- a very complicated medical situation. So, they're not just -- unless -- unless you were discharged and you didn't need any assistance --

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- for a while, but you would work and you -- as -- as a patient, and your family members, you would

work with the individuals and you'd talk about what kind of services are available, just as you do right now if you're leaving a hospital, going to a nursing home. Sometimes you have no choice because --

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- the nursing homes are filled. But if you have a choice, you're -- you're talking with the social worker about what type of nursing home, what are your problems --

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- and so on.

MR. MONTESANO: But the term "order" was kicked around a few times, and the hospital "ordering," you know, a service.

MRS. GALEF: Right.

MR. MONTESANO: So, it's almost like they write a doctor's order or prescription for a particular service that you need once you go home, correct?

MRS. GALEF: Right.

MR. MONTESANO: All right.

MRS. GALEF: That's right. And -- and, again, the patient, even though the -- a doctor orders things, doctors order us to get --

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- all kinds of exams, do we always do it or not?

MR. MONTESANO: Right. Okay.

MRS. GALEF: We don't always do it. So it's not a total order that we have to follow.

MR. MONTESANO: Because I think the big question here is, you know, protecting the patient financially is when the hospital writes an order and even arranges, you know, for certain services to be provided, that it's kind of in conjunction with the insurance carrier and what they're going to cover or not cover. But in the case where we have a patient who doesn't have any coverage whatsoever, they're not Medicaid, they're not Medicare and they don't have insurance, what role does the hospital take at that point? Does this bill cover that at all?

MRS. GALEF: Probably not, it's probably -- I mean, there's indigent medical care that the hospital, if they don't have anything, the hospital is already taking care of that. You know, actually the hospital may have a very hard time discharging someplace because the person is not covered medically.

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: I mean, I've seen that happen.

MR. MONTESANO: Right. Okay.

MRS. GALEF: But I'm not, you know, I --

MR. MONTESANO: Okay.

MRS. GALEF: But, you know, if we -- if we were -- if we're talking about money, too, if we're talking about the hospital or the indigent person in a hospital that isn't paying, it's less expensive if they're in a home setting.

MR. MONTESANO: Yeah, that --

MRS. GALEF: For all of us --

MR. MONTESANO: Definitely, definitely.

MRS. GALEF: -- for Medicaid and every other service, so I would disagree with the earlier speaker. I mean, we say when people leave hospitals -- we want people to leave hospitals quickly, we don't want them to stay there and get infected --

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- we don't want them to come back. We want them to go home and -- and get repaired and -- and it's just less expensive. And, again, I think you mentioned, sometimes it's just having somebody in once a day to assure that --

MR. MONTESANO: Right. Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- things are happening for six days.

MR. MONTESANO: Right.

MRS. GALEF: It may be that somebody needs a full-time person, where every -- every disease and every sickness is very different, so --

MR. MONTESANO: Right. Okay.

MRS. GALEF: -- what your needs are.

MR. MONTESANO: Okay. Thank you very much.

MRS. GALEF: Okay. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Reyes.

MS. REYES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to lend my voice to add some clarity to what is the discharge process

when a patient is going home. First of all, every hospital in their discharge interdisciplinary team has a nurse, a clinical case manager. And that is the person who is charged with placing orders, not the hospital as a whole, but a clinician who, in collaboration with the patient, determines whether, A, they need care, B, whether their insurance covers that care and, C, they help to identify whatever provider is covered by that health insurance. But more importantly, if we're sending somebody home with a central line, we want to make sure that they don't catch an infection. Many times in order for us to treat a lot of these superbugs requires months, weeks of IV antibiotics. It is not cost-effective to keep people in the hospital just for one daily infusion. That is what costs our system money.

So, it is important for us to send them home with appropriate care so they can receive that care at home and we lessen the burden on hospitals. But also, one of the -- the highest rates of death and preventable deaths amongst patients is sepsis. So, if we send somebody home and the caregiver or their family member is incapable or unable to take care of that central line appropriately, we want to make sure that they have somebody that can oversee that care so they don't catch an infection. Readmission rates in hospitals, we know that if a patient comes back after being discharged within a certain amount of time, that is a -- a -- an unreimbursed admission for hospitals, and this is where the system loses money.

I think this is a commonsense piece of legislation, I think the questions on the process, it's because there's a

misunderstanding of how the system works. But I commend the speaker for the -- the sponsor for this legislation. I think it goes a long way to save our State some much-needed Medicaid dollars.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Assemblymember Melissa Miller.

MS. MILLER: I also told you on Committee I -- I love this bill. I mean, I couldn't love it more really because I live a life where I don't have the care that Oliver needs at home. I think some of the confusion and -- and I'm not, that's why I'm asking, is who, you know, when you say the hospital orders, it's -- it's really not a hospital that's ordering, it would be a physician that's still ordering, probably your own physician; is that correct? The physician providing the care in the hospital.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mrs. -- Mrs. Galef, you've been asked to yield.

MRS. GALEF: Oh, yes.

MS. MILLER: I'm sorry.

MRS. GALEF: Yes, I would believe it's one physician or maybe multiple physicians that are working with the patient, and then, you know, they -- they have their recommendations and go with the -- that's a part of the discharge plan --

MS. MILLER: Okay.

MRS. GALEF: -- that they would have.

MS. MILLER: And then from that point, as you pointed out, it goes to the discharge planner who is already should be

working with their team to coordinate with your insurance --

MRS. GALEF: Right.

MS. MILLER: -- and what your needs are. It's not that the patient is ever left out of this and they're just saying, *He needs this, set it up at home*, that you'd be part of that care team; is that correct?

MRS. GALEF: You stated it very well and the discharge groups, you know, they almost start I think at the time that you get into the hospital they're looking at what your issues --

MS. MILLER: Right.

MRS. GALEF: -- are going to be, how many days you're going to be there and they start to plan for when you leave for home.

MS. MILLER: Right. And I -- and I think that's wonderful. I know we experience it all the time. My concern, as I shared to you before, is that while in an acute setting or for an initial, you know, training or treatment protocol, this is, you know, may be easy to -- to accomplish. In the terms of longer care needs, finding the actual providers to come to the home and provide these services is a -- a separate problem in itself --

MRS. GALEF: Right.

MS. MILLER: -- and why many hospitals currently can't even discharge patients. It's not just that they don't have insurance or even those that do just still can't find the care that's necessary to address this. But I do -- I applaud the efforts.

MRS. GALEF: Thank you.

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.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes to explain her vote.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, on the bill. I want to commend the sponsor of this legislation. While it may seem like it's not enough, important enough to get some specificity around this issue, it's, like, really important. And I appreciate the fact that she mentioned that the patient was a sickle cell patient which, oftentimes, caregivers, doctors and sometimes even hospitals don't even recognize sickle cell symptoms. So, you really do need to have the best opportunity for recommendations on service after they go home.

The other thing I think was failed to -- wasn't mentioned here yet, Mr. Speaker, I -- I heard that our Medicaid costs may go up if this bill is passed. I really kind of doubt it. It was mentioned that even though one-third of the people who receive Medicaid in this State tend to be adults and/or children, but there's two-thirds of them that are seniors and they're disabled. And, by the way, they're the largest part of the cost; they're 75 percent of the cost. So, 75 percent of the cost is not the people that we're discussing with this piece of legislation right here necessarily. And so, to suggest that

this might increase the cost of Medicaid I think is a little disingenuous and unfair to the legislation.

So with that, I will remove my objection and vote in favor of this bill.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mrs. Peoples-Stokes in the affirmative.

Mr. Ortiz to explain his vote.

MR. ORTIZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do also would like to join my colleague to support this best piece of legislation and to thank the sponsor, because this is -- this piece of legislation really hit home. I used to be the executive director in a home care -- home care provider many years ago before I came to the Legislature. And when somebody was trying to be discharged from the hospital, sometime we will get the phone call to try to provide for a caregiver. And I think when we talk about cost, this is the type of legislation that really would upset costs if we keep the -- if the care -- the family inside the home by providing a caregiver and home attendant and home provider, somebody that would take care of this individual. So the Medicaid analysis is -- is completely unacceptable. And -- and the other thing is that this bill is completely over -- overdue. So, I will be voting in the affirmative and I, again, thank the sponsor for bringing this to the floor.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Ortiz in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, if I could interrupt our proceedings to introduce a guest of our colleague, Mr. Buchwald, and all the Westchester members. It is John Ravitz, he is Executive Vice President of the Business Council of Westchester County. Mr. Speaker, if you could please offer him the cordialities of our House, and the entire delegation from the Council.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: I was going to say, that's a lot of people, Mr. Buchwald.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: There's a lot of people.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On behalf of Mr. Buchwald, the Speaker, the entire delegation from Westchester, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. Thank you for coming, thank you for the work that you do to ensure the economy of Westchester County and the State of New York thrives and prospers. It's great for all of us. Thank you so much, and you're welcome to be here.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

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

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Resolutions, Mrs. Peoples-Stokes, which we will take up with one vote.

On the resolutions, all those in favor signify by saying aye -- all those in favor signify by saying aye.

MEMBERS: Aye.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: You're not getting out of here. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

MEMBERS: Aye.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The resolutions are adopted.

(Whereupon, Assembly Resolution Nos. 758-760 were unanimously approved.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Mr. Otis, there will be an immediate conference in the Speaker's Conference Room for the Minority members. I now move that the Assembly stand -- Oh --

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Majority members. I know the Minority would love to get in the Speaker's Conference Room.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Majority members, I'm sorry, I'm tired. I ready to go to conference.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: No problem.

(Laughter)

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Let's go to conference, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Let's go to

conference. Immediate Democratic Conference, Speaker's Conference.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, I now move that the Assembly stand adjourned until Wednesday, February the 12th, tomorrow being a Session day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Assembly stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 3:33 p.m., the Assembly stood adjourned until Wednesday, February 12th at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday being a Session day.)