

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

10:58 A.M.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The House will
come to order.

Good morning, colleagues, good morning, New
York.

MEMBERS: Good morning.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: 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 members in the Pledge of
Allegiance.

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

A quorum being present, the Clerk will read the

Journal of Monday, January 13th.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Madam Speaker, I move to dispense with the further reading of the Journal of Monday, January the 13th and that the same stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Without objection, so ordered.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Madam Speaker. As always, I want to start our day out with a quote. This one comes from Og Mandino, II. He is an American author who wrote the best-selling book, *The Greatest Salesman in the World*. This book has sold over 50 million copies and it has been translated into over 25 different languages. His words for us today, "Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later." Again, these words from Og Mandino.

Madam Speaker and members, our schedule for today is kind of brief but lengthy. Let's get started. Members have on their desks a main Calendar. Before housekeeping and introductions begin, we're calling for the following committees off the floor today: Consumer Affairs, Health and Rules. These committees will produce an A-Calendar. So our principal work today will be taking up four of the Calendar resolutions that are on page 3, and then we're going to consent the new bills on the main Calendar beginning on page 4. There may be a need for additional floor activity. If so, Madam

Speaker, I will announce it at that time; however, that's the general outline of where we're going. So if you would please call the Consumer Affairs Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room, we can begin our work.

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

There is no housekeeping this morning. Consumer Protections [sic] to the Speaker's Conference Room.

Ms. Giglio for the purpose of an introduction.

MS. GIGLIO: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to introduce Mr. Brock Pierce, who is joining us today. Brock, if you could please stand up. Mr. Pierce is from Minnesota. He grew up starring in movies such as *The Mighty Ducks*, and the *First Kid* where he played the son of the President with -- with Sinbad as his head of Secret [sic]. He gave up acting at the age of 16 to become the youngest institutionally-backed internet entrepreneur by creating the first major streaming media company in 1997. Following that, Mr. Pierce pioneered the largest business in the world, making markets in virtual currency globally with hundreds of thousands of people mining currencies to meet the rapidly growing demand. As the virtual world began to merge into the analog, Mr. Pierce found his way to becoming Chairman of Mastercoin, which paved the way for ICOs, as well as Chairman of Blockchain -- Blockchain Capital, and was founder of Tether. He also ran for President in 2020.

So, Madam Speaker, if you would please extend the

cordialities of the House and welcome our guest Mr. Brock Pierce.

Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you, Ms. Giglio. Mr. Pierce, welcome. On behalf of Ms. Giglio, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you to the Chamber and extend the privileges of the floor and hope you enjoy the proceedings. Thank you for joining us.

(Applause)

Resolutions on page 3, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 10, Mr. Kim.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 13, 2025 as Korean American Day in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Mr. Kim on the resolution.

MR. KIM: Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. And thank you to -- to the Assembly for putting this resolution on every year. At the beginning of Session it's very hectic, but we manage to put this in to commemorate and honor the culture of Korean Americans. January 13 is a recognized Korean American Day in America through a congressional resolution many years ago. We started celebrating January 13th as a Korean American Day to recognize the culture and contributions of Korean Americans.

This year in particular, you know, I rise to honor my

father who passed away, as some of you know, last year, a day before the Korean American Day on January 12th. And, you know, here was a man who gave up everything to come here in 1997 with me - his only child - and his wife to open up a small business, a mom-and-pop -- mom-and-pop small business grocery store back in the '80s. If you remember Korean Americans back in the '80s, there was a Korean grocery store on every other block. And -- and, you know, if somebody had told him the margins and the business plan and the markets, he probably wouldn't have opened up that grocery store. It just didn't work out. But, that was the spirit of Koreans and Korean Americans for generations, that it doesn't matter what the market was, it doesn't matter what the margins were, they were willing to just come in, work the extra hours, work seven days a week, take no vacation and try to make ends meet so the next generation -- generation can do a little bit more better. That was the spirit of -- of my dad and many other Korean Americans like him that come to this country to this day in pursuit of that American Dream, which is still alive.

So in honor of him and many other Korean Americans, I join my colleagues in -- in memorizing -- commemorating [sic] Korean American Day. Thank you so much.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 11, Ms.

Rajkumar.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January as Tamil Heritage Month in the State of New York in conjunction with the observance of Pongal to be celebrated January 14, 2025.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 12, Mr. Epstein.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 15, 2025 as Bagel Day in the State of New York.

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

Ms. Walsh for an introduction.

MS. WALSH: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Good morning to my colleagues. This morning we're joined by our very special guest, our former colleague Mike Lawler. Congressman Mike Lawler from the 17th Congressional District is here. I think that Wayne would want you to stand, I'm pretty sure.

(Laughter)

It's always a pleasure to have Mike join us, and if you would, Madam Speaker, please welcome our former colleague to the

Chamber and afford him all of the cordialities of the House.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Welcome, Congressman. Wonderful to see you. On behalf of Ms. Walsh, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you back to the Chamber, extend the privileges of the floor and hope you enjoy the proceedings. Thank you for joining us today.

(Applause)

Page 4, Rules Report No. 2, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00519, Rules Report No. 2, Zaccaro. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to requiring that residential buildings with common spaces shared between three or more dwelling units have installed a smoke detector which can be clearly heard in such common paces, and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2024 amending the Executive Law relating to requiring the installation of smoke detectors in common places of certain dwellings, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S.3249-B and A.5730-B, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mr. Ra to explain his vote.

MR. RA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. So, this is

the first of many chapter amendments to come that we're gonna be doing in the coming weeks. We have some on the Rules Report from yesterday, we have a Rules meeting coming up with a bunch more. This is a good bill. But I just want to point out, the chapter amendment process is one of the least transparent things we do in this government each and every year. And we hear that there was an agreement reached with the Legislature. Well, there wasn't an agreement reached with the Legislature. There's usually a sponsor in either House; the Governor, so that she doesn't have to veto something that is politically problematic from [sic] her, basically expects a rubber stamp of this House and the House down the hall so that she doesn't have to veto something and take the flack for it. It's a horrible way to do government. And some of these, I will say, actually put in the provisions that our colleagues on our side of the aisle bring up when we debate these bills on the floor. And some of them are an excuse for the Governor to say, *I want an extra representative on this particular council. I want more power over this or that.* So I think we should look at these on their merit, each and every one of them, instead of just assuming that they should be passed because the Governor said they should be, otherwise she wouldn't pass the bill. Once she's put her signature on it, we're under no obligation to do anything else. The process doesn't -- doesn't work that way.

So with that said, I'm going to be voting in the affirmative on this bill, but I think there are more transparent ways we can operate this government. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Mr. Ra in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes for an announcement.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Madam Speaker, would you please call the Health Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Health Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room.

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00596, Rules Report No. 3, Woerner. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to increasing membership on the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2024 amending the Executive Law relating to the appointment for agricultural representation on the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S.1218-B and A.1080-B, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: 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. A00693, Rules Report No. 4, Stern. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to certain contact information provided to crime victims.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: 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 for an announcement.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Madam Speaker, would you please call the Rules Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room immediately?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you, Mrs. Peoples-Stokes. Rules Committee in the Speaker's Conference Room. The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A01020, Rules Report

No. 5, Taylor. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to hazardous materials emergency response training for incidents involving lithium-ion batteries.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: 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: Madam Speaker, members have on their desks an A-Calendar. I would like to move to advance that A-Calendar.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

On a motion by Mrs. Peoples-Stokes, the A-Calendar is advanced.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Do you have any further housekeeping or resolutions?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: No housekeep -- no housekeeping, but we do have a number of resolutions we will take up with one vote.

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

(Whereupon, Assembly Resolution Nos. 14-23 were unanimously approved.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: I would like to remind members, some of you I'm sure are already aware, that the Governor's State of the State Address will be at 1:00 p.m. today in the Hart Theatre.

I now move that the Assembly stand adjourned until Wednesday, January the 15th, tomorrow being a legislative day, and that we reconvene at 2:00 p.m. on January 21st, Tuesday being a Session day.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On Mrs. Peoples-Stokes' motion, the House stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 11:55 a.m., the House stood adjourned until Wednesday, January 15th, that being a legislative day, and to reconvene on January 21st at 2:00 p.m., that being a Session day.)