

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026**

**2:47 P.M.**

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The House will come to order.

Good afternoon, colleagues.

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 Hunter led visitors and members in the Pledge of Allegiance.)

A quorum being present, the Clerk will read the Journal of Monday, January 19th.

Mr. Fall.

MR. FALL: Madam Speaker, I move to dispense with the further reading of the Journal of Monday, January 19th and that the same stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Without objection, so ordered.

Mr. Fall.

MR. FALL: So the quote of the day is from Dr. Martin Luther King and it goes: *There is nothing more dangerous than sincere ignorance and stupidity. We have a responsibility to be intelligence* [sic].

And these words are from Dr. Martin Luther King.

Madam Speaker, may I have the members' attention so that we can announce the schedule for the day? Members have on their desk a main Calendar with six new bills. After introductions and/or housekeepings [sic], we will take up a privileged resolution honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We will then take up Calendar Resolutions on page 3. We will then take up the new bills on the Calendar beginning on page 4, with Calendar No. 220-225. We will continue consent on the main Calendar where we left off last week, beginning with Rules Report No. 13 on page 6.

Members should be aware that we will be calling for the following committees to meet off the floor today: Banks, Health, Insurance and Racing and Wagering.

So with that as the general outline, Madam Speaker, let's begin with any housekeeping and/or introductions.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you, Mr. Fall.

We have several pieces of housekeeping.

On a motion by Mr. Lavine, page 30, Calendar No. 105, Bill No. A00328, the amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mr. Bores, page 39, Calendar No. 149, Bill No. A05912, the amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mr. Zaccaro, page 44, Calendar No. 182, Bill No. A70337, the amendments are received and adopted.

Pursuant to Rule 3, Section 2, the following bill is committed back to the Committee on Transportation at the request of the Chair: Calendar No. 153, Bill No. A06188-C.

Pursuant to Rule 3, Section 2, the following bill is committed back to the Committee on Health at the request of the Chair: Calendar No. 176, Bill No. A06773-B.

Pursuant to Rule 3, Section 2, the following bill is committed back to the Committee on Local Governments at the request of the Chair: Calendar No. 185, Bill No. A07250, Calendar No. 196, Bill No. A07839.

Pursuant to Rule 3, Section 2, the following bill is committed back to the Committee on Real Property Tax at the request of the Chair: Calendar No. 198, A07986-A.

Resolution No. 847, the Clerk will read.

THE CLARK: Assembly No. 847, Mr. Heastie. Legislative Resolution commemorating the

observance of the 41st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the State of New York on January 19th, 2026.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On the resolution, Mr. De Los Santos.

MR. DE LOS SANTOS: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Today we honor, remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a leader who fought not just for civil rights or for dignity, economic justice and democracy that works for everyone. Madam Speaker, at a time when our democracy is being threatened, or when our country is being divided, when working families and immigrants are being treated different, we need to recommit to Dr. Kings' [sic] vision and his dream. A country where communities are protected, our voices are heard, all people are created equal. Our humanity should never be up for a debate. As he once said, "the time is always right to do what's right."

Let's continue to elevate his legacy, his vision, but also through this difficult time, let's make sure that we stay grounded and that we continue to build a state that work [sic] for everyone, not just for the chosen few. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Alvarez on the resolution.

MR. ALVAREZ: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity to speak on this powerful resolution. Today, we honor the life, legacy and enduring impact of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a visionary who [sic] courage reshaped the moral compass of this

nation. His dream continues to challenge us to be a communities [sic] root [sic] in dignity, opportunity and respect for all. As a public servant, we carry the responsibility to transform his words into policy that uplift families and protect every voice. As we pass this resolution, let us recommit to advancing equality, dignity and opportunity for all and to turning his dream into actions. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Wright on the resolution.

MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for allowing me to speak on this resolution. This holiday is an incredible holiday because it reminds us all of dreams and what we want to make into a reality. I know most of us have a Martin Luther King Boulevard, Martin Luther King Street, something in our district that reminds us of him everyday. I think it's important that we always look up at those signs, we look up at those who are doing the work for us and will continue to do the work after us and always remember those who've worked so Martin Luther King could see us come and see the next generation work as well. Thank you so much.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Walsh on the resolution.

MS. WALSH: Thank you, Madam Speaker. So it's hard to believe that this is the 41st year that this Body has spoken and had this resolution honoring Dr. Martin Luther King and I think that as the years pass on and on, it's harder -- there are fewer and fewer members in this Chamber who can claim to have known Dr. King. I

can recall a former member, this is my tenth year now in service in the Assembly, but I can recall a former member who always spoke at quite a bit of length about Dr. King and his view that Dr. King became a far more radicalized individual and leader in his later years leading up to the unfortunate year of 1968 when he was assassinated.

In some respects, as I look at Dr. King's readings and his quotations, I think that there were two Dr. Kings. The early Dr. King: Peaceful, civil disobedience, leader, believer of non-violence. And the later, agreeing with my former colleague, more radical and anti-establishment leader of the later 1960s. As with any public figure, I think -- or even renowned work, including the Bible, we can pick and choose the quotes that resonate with us in that moment. But how we quote Dr. King, often reveals more about our purposes than about his principles, using the words to align with our own particular agendas. Certainly the man had a tremendous gift for the spoken word and there are so many quotes that are remarkable and applicable today. The quotes that resonate the most with me at this moment emphasize core values of unity, of bridging gaps while still preserving the value of individualism and personal character versus the uniformity of assimilation of everyone into one belief system or a collective body. So I think about quotes like, "Unity has never meant uniformity." Dr. King also said, "If we do an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, we will be a blind and toothless nation." I find that impactful to me right now. And that, "We must all learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish together as fools."

So perhaps my favorite one is, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that." The question is not I think whether we admire Dr. King because we do, but whether we are willing to hear the parts of his message that challenge us and continue to challenge us.

It's hard to believe that Dr. King, had he lived would have been 97 years old. I'm honored to add my voice to this resolution recognizing his -- his legacy and his impact. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Kay on the resolution.

MS. KAY: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise today because I, too, want to voice the words of Martin Luther King. And I spoke these words yesterday in Monticello at the First Baptist Church and I think in 2026 they echo very well as well: "Never, never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the well-being of a person or an animal is at stake, society's punishments are small compared to the ones we inflict on our soul when we look the other way." Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Wieder on the resolution.

MR. WIEDER: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Today in the New York State Assembly, we honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martha [sic] Luther King, Jr. Dr. King taught us that leadership is not measured by position, but by purpose. He reminded the nation that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere and that moral

courage requires not just words, but action. More than a half a century later, his message remains urgent. We continue to grapple with inequity, division and questions about opportunity and fairness, yet Dr. King's vision still lights the path forward. A vision rooted in dignity, justice and love for one another. If Dr. King were with us today, I believe he might say this: The work of justice does not belong to one generation alone. It belongs to every generation that dares to believe that progress is possible. As public servants, that message challenges us. It challenges us to build communities where opportunity is real, where voices are heard and where government serves as a force of fairness and hope.

Today, we do more than remember Dr. King's dream. We recommit ourselves to it, not just in moments of reflection, but through our actions, our policies and our leadership. May we continue to honor his legacy by doing the work he called us to do. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Burroughs on the resolution.

MR. BURROUGHS: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Today I stand before you in appreciation of Martin Luther King. One of the most powerful and inspiring speeches that he ever gave was "I Have a Dream", and today we still live looking to see that his dream comes to fruition. Sadly, 63 years later, we still have not seen his dream come to fruition.

I had the -- the -- the great opportunity of having my dad march with Martin Luther King and the SCLC as a young

campaign leader. And -- and I grew up with the many stories and the inspiration of what Martin Luther King stood for. A lot of the assignments that he gave to my dad that my -- that my dad gladly and proudly performed all his duties as a staffer, as a young 15, 16-year-old young man. And he's raised me with those same values and those virtues. And today I continue to fight and push and strive to see that every single one of Martin Luther King's dreams become reality. And it's sad that, like I said, 63 years later we're still looking to see that his dream becomes reality. But I stand here just to say that that was one of the greatest individuals that I've known to exist on this planet. And so for that, I will always be in honor and be in debt to that man's life. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Hooks on the resolution.

MS. HOOKS: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise today in I'm very happy to say to mirror my brother's sentiments of Dr. King when he said, *It is always the right time to do what is right.* Right now, at a time where our civil rights are being attacked, this is that time. It is that time for each one of us to stand up and be the next and stand on the shoulders of Martin Luther King. We here today have to remind ourselves the right things that should be done by everybody, for everybody. By the people, for the people. Martin Luther King stood on that principle, and I would like to say that I will continue to stand on that principle. But this year, even harder because our history is trying to be erased. But it will never be erased from our

mouths, from our hearts and from our minds, and we will continue that legacy. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Anderson on the resolution.

MR. ANDERSON: Thank you, Madam Speaker, on the resolution. Today we pass this resolution, commemorate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., but I really want to highlight the period in Dr. King's life where he became very radical, and I say radical for that time. There was a period towards a conclusion of his life where he fought for causes that weren't popular of that day. Dr. King opposed the Vietnam War as an unjust battle against folk who hadn't wronged them in the way that America had. Dr. King took on the fight against poverty. Dr. King took on the fight for fair wages, true equality. And in his final speech, or one of his final major speeches, "I've Been to the Mountaintop" given on April 3, 1968, he shared a fight that must lead to the next phase of the Civil Rights Movement and that's fair wages for working-class Americans, for people who were trying to put food on the table. He spoke about the sanitation workers, Madam Speaker, who were fighting to just put food on the table and to get fair wages. Today we're in a historic battle in New York City to ensure our nurses get fair wages. So when my colleagues say that Dr. King's dream isn't fully realized, it is true and the work must continue to make sure that his economic message, Madam Speaker, that he was giving towards the waning hours of his life, are the messages that we find whole and centered. But one of my

favorite quotes from Dr. King are along that same lanes, was he said, "What good is having the right to sit at a lunch counter if you can't afford to buy a hamburger?" That's the reality, folks, that we are in now. Yes, while we're fighting for fair wages and equality for working-class folks as Dr. King had outlined, we're also fighting not just to integrate into a space, and in America we all call home, but to ensure we don't integrate into a burning building. That we don't integrate into a space that will further segregate and pillage Black lives and Brown lives.

Dr. King was a uniter, but I want to make sure that we don't erase the fact that he was someone who fought for economic justice for our communities across this nation. So I want to commemorate him, of course, and will be voting in the affirmative on this resolution.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. O'Pharrow on the resolution.

MR. O'PHARROW: Thank you, Madam Speaker. "I Have a Dream" is a speech that was heard around the globe. It was a dream that became a reality and I know this to be true because I am living proof of it. You see in life we are blessed to witness individuals who are capable of transforming policy, meanwhile shifting a nation. Exceptionally rare is the case, but let it be known that this individual, this legendary -- the -- the Honorable Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King is just that, rare. As a nation, we are a delicate tapestry woven together by our unique cultural differences and that is what makes us

great. To those who aspire to be great, look no further than those who sacrifices themselves for the greater good of all people. I will end on this quote, "A right delayed is a right denied." Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Bichotte Hermelyn on the resolution.

MS. BICHOTTE HERMELYN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in strong support of this resolution adopted on January 19th honoring Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a global icon of justice, nonviolent and moral courage. Born on January 15, 1929, Dr. King would have been around 97 this year. Though his life was cut short while fighting for workers' rights, his legacy endures. His leadership ignited the Civil Rights Movement, challenged systematic racism and inspired generations to pursue justice through nonviolent resistance. His infamous speech "I Have a Dream" delivered to over 250,000 people at the Lincoln Memorial remains a cornerstone of American history. But today, as civil rights, reproductive freedom, LGBTQ+ recognition and diversity initiatives faces renewed attacks, we're reminded that the "dream" is still unfinished. Dr. King taught us greatness is routed in service. Yesterday on the L -- L -- Martin Luther King National Day of Service, New Yorkers, people from Brooklyn joined millions nationwides [sic] in acts of community care. Let us carry that spirit forward not just on Martin Luther King Day but everyday.

I close with this timeless words, "Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve. You only need a heart full of grace.

A soul generated by love.” Thank you, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Taylor on the resolution.

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to speak on this resolution. I -- I don't have a prepared speech, but I have a heart that's prepared. And in 1968 at 6 p.m. at the Lorraine Hotel [sic], Dr. King was assassinated by a single shot from a rifle. While the bullet stopped his mortal life, it did not stop his dream. And I want to remind us and encourage us wherever we find ourselves, injustice anywhere is unacceptable for anyone. We have the will, the might and determination to do all the right things by Dr. King as we celebrate his birthday and I would ask that we do those things. Independent of anything that's going on, your individual humanity says, *how can I help and what does that look like?*

Dr. King also had this and I'll -- I'll share this and one other thing and I'll try to sit down, but as a reverend myself, it is imperative that we look at the scope of where we at today and how much has changed from what happened the night that bullet took his life versus where this nation is headed to. It's one thing to talk about it, but there's a text that says, *faith without words is dead*. Don't talk about it, be about it. I don't need another song, another march, I need transformation of life and Dr. King put his life on the line for the workers in Memphis and for so many other folks and so many people have benefited from that. But today we sit in silence when there's an opportunity to stand up and be counted. I choose not to be silent

today because in 1968 in April when that bullet silenced him it also tried to shatter a nation and I'm saying we're better than the sum total of what happened then and we're even greater today if we exercise our rights, walk calmly with our God, seek justice, do mercy, it is what is required of us. Dr. King said, *If you cannot run, walk. If you cannot walk, crawl.* I encourage us to continue with vigilance and making sure that nothing will turn you around. There's a negro song that said, *Nothing, I will not let anything turn me 'round, turn me 'round, turn me 'round.* And I thank America and New York State and my colleagues today. We need to remember that we will not be turned around, we will not be silent, we will not be erased. Dr. King's memory lives, but more importantly, the fight continues.

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will be voting in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Chandler-Waterman on the resolution.

MS. CHANDLER-WATERMAN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm in support with my colleagues, his resolution. In this time of uncertainty, we must reflect on the enduring leadership of the great leaders like Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who consistently emphasized love over hate, justice over injustice, nonviolence over aggression and perseverance in the face of adversity.

So we all heard what everyone said about his quotes, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that." And "Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." But -- and with

his dreams, he -- the reality that we have today is that we cannot be silent and stand by while injustice happens. Like with immigration, we have a -- a mother who was killed because of injustice when it came to immigration. Stand up for people. Renee Good did not have to lose her life. We want to continue to advocate in this space and make sure those who are held accountable and make sure our constitutional rights are not being violated.

We also need to make sure there's housing equity. Housing's a basic human right. He would want people to be able to be safe and live in dignity, in proper housing and affordability. He also would want our parents, our mothers, our fathers not to worry about childcare, so I'm glad we took steps in the right direction. I'm sure he would say we can do a little bit more to make sure it's free all the way. Our nurses should not be outside striking, they was with us for our most vulnerable times, bringing life into the world -- helping us bring life into the world. He would also say our nurses should have fair wages and they should be safe when they are taking care of the most vulnerable and not be vulnerable in their position going to work. So he would say when it comes to utility, we shouldn't have to worry about if we're in darkness and turn off the lights. We should be able to have affordable bills so we could be able to be in the light.

So with that, I will say to my colleagues and everyone here that our justice and our service to MLK is not a day of service, it's a daily effort. That we must continue with the legacy and I will always end with a "It's not an 'I' thing, it's a 'we' thing." If we all ban

together and live and love one another no matter your race, no matter what -- what -- what party you serve, we got to love each other and come back to humanity. That's the only thing that we can be certain, the God above and what we can do everyday in the light of Dr. Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Thank you. I vote in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

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

Mr. Fall.

MR. FALL: Madam Speaker, would you please call the Bank [sic] Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Banks Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room. If we could move quietly to the Speaker's Conference Room to meet Chair Vanel. Banks Committee members to the Speaker's Conference Room.

Resolutions, page 3, the Clerk read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 844, Ms. Paulin.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 18-24, 2026, as Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Week 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.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 845, Mr. Magnarelli.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 19-23, 2026, as National Passenger Safety Week 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.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 846, Ms. Levenberg.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim January 2026, as Mentoring Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Mentoring Month.

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

On consent, page 4, Calendar No. 220, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A01202-A, Calendar No. 220, Simon, Cook, Bronson, Williams, Sayegh, McMahon, Jacobson, Lunsford, Stern, Levenberg, Colton. An act to amend the Civil Service Law, in relation to use of accrued sick time, compensation time or vacation time.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid

aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A06388-A, Calendar No. 221, Hyndman. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to the establishment of Local Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A08436, Calendar No. 222, Pheffer Amato. An act to amend the Civil Service Law, in relation to resolution of disputes in the course of collective negotiations.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09039-A, Calendar No. 223, Barrett, Clark, Burdick, Conrad, Kelles, Magnarelli, Kay, Lupardo, Tapia, McDonald, Weprin, Shrestha, Levenberg, Reyes, Santabarbara, Dilan. An act to amend the Public Service Law, in relation to enacting the "Accountability of Costs for Data Centers Act".

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09047, Calendar No. 224, Kelles, Otis, Dinowitz, González-Rojas, Shrestha, Cruz, Levenberg, Simon, Glick, Kim, Colton. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to banning the use of

polystyrene foam docks, buoys and floating structures.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09280, Calendar No. 225, Hevesi. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to removing research restrictions from certain unfounded reports of alleged abuse or maltreatment.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

On consent, page 6, Rules Report No. 13, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09481, Calendar -- Rules Report No. 13, Hevesi. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to information required to be provided in calls made to the Statewide Central Register of Child Abuse and Maltreatment; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the Social Services Law relating to the administration of the Statewide Central Register of Child Abuse and Maltreatment, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S00550-A and A00066-A, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09483, Rules Report No. 14, Paulin. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to providing guidance to certain staff accepting registrations, issuing

licenses or conducting inspections of child day care homes, programs or facilities on the identification of circumstances that may indicate the presence of controlled substances and referrals to law enforcement; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the Social Services Law relating to training certain staff accepting registrations, issuing licenses or conducting inspection of child day care homes, programs or facilities on the recognition of controlled substances, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S06226 and A01382, 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. A09484, Rules Report No. 15, Paulin. An act to amend the Elder Law, in relation to publishing a guide to actions when someone close dies.

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. A09504, Rules Report No. 16, Glick, Colton. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to rechargeable battery recycling.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09506, Rules Report No. 17, Walker. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to requiring social services districts to maintain a waiting list of certain families applying for child care assistance.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

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.

Mr. Fall.

MR. FALL: Madam Speaker, can you please call the Health Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Health Committee members to the Speaker's Conference Room. Health Committee members please meet Chair Paulin quietly to the Speaker's Conference Room.

On consent, page 7, Rules Report No. 18, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09511, Rules Report No. 18, Glick, Colton. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, relating to certain leases relating to the exploration, development and production of gas or oil in state forests, reforestation areas and wildlife management areas.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09431, Rules Report No. 19, Magnarelli. An act to amend the Tax Law, in relation to procedures for the use of an electronic signature on documents submitted to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance; to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the Tax Law relating to authorizing the use of an electronic signature by a person granted a power of attorney by a taxpayer with respect to documents submitted to the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance and the New York City Department of Finance, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S00052 and A00249, in the

relation to the effectiveness thereof; and to repeal certain provisions of the Tax Law relating thereto.

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. A09438, Rules Report No. 20, Dinowitz. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to the requirement to include a comparison of prices charged by energy services companies on a customer's billing statement; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the General Business Law relating to requiring comparison of prices charged by energy services companies, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S03876 and A03875, 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. Palmesano to explain his vote.

MR. PALMESANO: Yes, Madam Speaker. My colleagues, I chose not to debate this bill this year. Had an extensive debate on it in the past, but I am going to continue to voice my opposition to this legislation. I am encouraged of the fact that some of the points we brought up about the utilities having to absorb the cost for me I suppose seems to be changed which is a positive thing. But if this Chamber's really worried about consumer bills, then how about -- and transparency, how about put on the utility all the green energy mandates that this House continues to put on the ratepayer and the customer, the small business, the manufacturer, the farmer, the senior citizen. Show them on their bill all those line items, all those green energy mandates that we have done, that would be true transparency and accountability. But unfortunately, this House does not want to bring this bill to the floor. So for that reason and for some other reasons, I'm going to continue to vote in the negative, but I do understand those who are voting for it. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Palmesano in the negative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09441, Rules Report No. 21, Jacobson. An act to amend the Public Service Law, in relation to consideration of capital expenditures by a utility proposing

a major change in rates.

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. Jacobson to explain his vote.

MR. JACOBSON: To explain my vote. This bill requires greater transparency when a utility requests a rate increase and part -- and that part of the rate increase is due to capital expenditures. The reason this is so important is that utilities as -- as it stands now, receive a greater rate of return on capital expenditures. This bill would require that the utility explain on a per-project basis, the purpose and need for the capital expenditure, the total cost in benefits to the ratepayers and the operation of the distribution system. And this information must be posted on the Public Service Commission website. This will bring greater transparency, which is necessary for -- for all of us, for all these ongoing rate increases that never seem to end. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Mr. Jacobson in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09442, Rules Report No. 22, Magnarelli. An act to amend the Financial Services Law, in relation to litigation funding; to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the General Business Law relating to consumer litigation funding, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S01104-A and A00804-C, relating to the legislative intent and the effectiveness thereof; and to repeal Article 39-H of the General Business Law relating to customer litigation funding.

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, would you please call the Insurance Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Yes, ma'am. Insurance Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room. Please meet Chair Weprin quietly to the Speaker's Conference Room. Insurance Committee members.

On consent, page 8, Rules Report No. 23, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09443, Rules Report No. 23, Steck. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to regulating the sale of kratom products.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 365th day.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Ms. Walsh to explain her vote.

MS. WALSH: Thank you, Madam Speaker. So this chapter amendment establishes additional requirements for warning labels on kratom products that are sold or delivered in New York State. So as you may remember, we've done two pieces of legislation addressing kratom in this past legislative Session. One, which Assemblymember McDonald carried, had to do with 21 and up being the required age. This is the bill that deals with warning labels, and it's a chapter amendment that changes -- it -- it pretty much -- it significantly rewrites the original bill, but it still allows for warning labels. And I am very appreciative that in the rewrite it did not remove the fact that the warning label is still going to need to state that kratom may be addictive. I think that's very important for people

21 and up who are purchasing kratom to understand that there may be an addiction that is formed from using kratom.

I'm-- I'm less happy that the chapter amendment no longer requires a prohibition of any kind of statement that the product is all natural, because that is something that I think a lot of people when they reach for kratom, maybe to address a problem getting to sleep or other health issues like that, take solace in the idea that kratom is all natural and unfortunately, the warning label is not going -- is -- there aren't -- there isn't going to be a prohibition of saying that the product is all natural. So I don't like that part of the chapter, but I think overall, the idea that we're going to get a warning label on this product is a positive thing and I'll be supporting the bill for that reason. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Walsh in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09445, Rules Report No. 24, Paulin. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to prohibiting the use of infant walkers in child care facilities; and to repeal Section 399-KK of the General Business Law relating to prohibiting the sale of infant walkers and restricting the use of such infant walkers in certain settings.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last

section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mr. Sempolinski to explain his vote.

MR. SEMPOLINSKI: Thank you, Madam Speaker. So I -- I want to explain my vote on this because I think the -- the goal is very admirable, which is protecting kids. But as I spoke on the bill-in-chief last Session, my thoughts go to my daughter who I've talked about quite a bit who has Down Syndrome and it took her quite a bit of time to learn to walk. And we used one of these infant walkers to enable her to get the confidence and the core strength to be able to walk. And -- so the -- the -- the bill-in-chief was a blanket ban, this is certainly an improvement, but it doesn't have a carveout for special needs. If was something about a specific design that had a particular flaw or a need to have some sort of supervision, I would certainly consider it.

But I also want to comment, I got a video texted to me today by my wife and my wife has an app on her phone which flashes back, you know, on this date five years ago or three years ago or whatever and five years ago this day was one of the first times that Jojo, my daughter, was able to take some of her first steps around her playroom. I was watching that video this morning. It's frankly a

favorite piece of video that I think exists in the world and the fact that she was able to be able to walk and that video is such an accomplishment considering all of the problems that she had, I don't want to blanketly take away that opportunity from somebody who may have a physical therapy need for this particular type of instrument. So while the goal I think is very admirable, it does not -- this chapter amendment doesn't solve the problems that I had with the bill-in-chief and therefore, I will be voting in the negative in remembrance of the great success and struggles that my daughter had learning to walk.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Sempolinski in the negative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09448, Rules Report No. 25, Pheffer Amato. An act to amend the Real Property Tax Law, in relation to a real property tax exemption for veterans who have a one hundred percent service connected disability; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the Real Property Tax Law relating to establishing a real property tax exemption for veterans who have a one hundred percent service connected disability, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S01183 and A00074, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Ms. Pheffer Amato, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is

advanced.

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. A09456, Rules Report No. 26, Rajkumar. An act to amend the State Finance Law and the General Municipal Law, in relation to prohibiting procurement of certain technology that poses security threats; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the State Finance Law and the General Municipal Law relating to prohibiting procurement of certain technology that poses security threats, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S03259 and A02237, in relation to the authority of the Office of Information Technology Services to issue certain guidance relating thereto.

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. A09458, Rules Report No. 27, Williams, Colton. An act to amend the Real Property Tax Law, in relation to establishing a real property tax exemption for surviving spouses of police officers killed in the line of duty.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Ms. Williams, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced.

Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect January 1st.

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. A09459, Rules Report No. 28, P. Carroll. An act to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 relating to authorizing the Thiells-Roseville Fire District to file an application for exemption from school taxes and real property taxes, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S06428 and A06657, in relation to making technical corrections thereto.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Mr.

P. Carroll, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced.

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. A09460, Rules Report No. 29, Rosenthal. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to actions involving coerced debts; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the General Business Law relating to establishing a Right of Action for claims arising out of coerced debts, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S01353-B and A03038-B, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09461, Rules Report No. 30, Hunter. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to clarifying requirements for glass repair and calibration of advanced driver assistance systems; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the General Business Law relating to establishing standards for glass repair and calibration of advanced

driver assistance systems, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S04879-B and A06943-B, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Ms. Hunter, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced.

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. A09468, Rules Report No. 31, Burdick. An act to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 relating to authorizing the Bedford Hills Fire District to file an application for exemption from school taxes and real property taxes, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S04043 and A00046, in relation to making technical corrections thereto.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Mr. Burdick, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced.

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.

Ms. Walsh for the purpose of an introduction.

MS. WALSH: Thank you very much, Madam

Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt these proceedings for the purposes of an introduction on behalf of Assemblymember DiPietro.

We are joined today by Staff Sergeant Ian McNulty and by Santos Lopez, who is the Public Affairs Chief of North America. Both of these gentlemen are with the U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion in Albany on the public affairs team. The U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion handles the Northeast, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa and consists of military and civilians who represent the US Army.

So, Madam Speaker, as a former veteran yourself, would you please welcome these gentlemen to the People's House? Thank you so much.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Yes, of course. On behalf of Ms. Walsh, Mr. DiPietro, the Speaker and all members, we welcome our distinguished guests to the Assembly Chamber. Welcome Staff Sergeant and Mr. Lopez, we extend to you the privileges of the floor and hope you enjoy the proceedings today. Thank you for joining us today. Hooah. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

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

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Racing and Wagering Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room. Please meet Chair Woerner in the Conference room. Racing, Wagering Committee.

On consent, page 10, Rules Report No. 32, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09479, Rules Report No. 32, Bronson. An act to amend the Public Authorities Law, in relation to the Mechanical Insulation Energy Savings Program.

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. A09482, Rules Report No. 33, Hevesi. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation

to requiring local social services districts to provide luggage to children in foster care.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 120th day.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Ms. Walsh to explain her vote.

MS. WALSH: Thank you, Madam Speaker. So very quickly, I -- I wanted to again commend the sponsor. This is a -- this is a really important bill for kids that are coming in and out of foster care. When I used to do this work as an assistant county attorney, I can't even tell you the number of kids that would be moving their things in garbage bags from -- from one home to another home. It is just -- we talk so much in this Chamber about trying to show and recognize the inherent dignity in people and I think that just having something simple like a piece of luggage to move from one place to the other goes a long way in trying to -- to really show that to a young person that's experiencing foster care.

The chapter amendment makes a couple of changes. It does say that because the Governor didn't feel that OCFS interfaced directly with children in foster care so that the purchase and distribution of the luggage is now going to occur at the local level,

rather than at the OCFS level. But, it also authorizes State reimbursement to districts for eligible luggage costs, so it's not going to be an unfunded mandate on the -- on the locals. So I think that as it is, the -- the chapter is every bit as valuable as the original bill and I'm happy to support it. Thank you so much.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Walsh in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09491, Rules Report No. 34, Simone. An act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law and the Mental Hygiene Law, in relation to cases terminated due to mental disease or defect and to establishing reporting obligations regarding such cases.

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.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09492, Rules Report No. 35, Reyes. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to training requirements for certain child protective services workers; and to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the Executive Law relating to requisite training instruction for police officers for crimes involving sexual assaults, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S02295 and A05206, 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. A09493, Rules Report No. 36, Romero. An act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law, in relation to the method of notifying certain crime victims of the disposition of criminal trial.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09494, Rules Report No. 37, McDonald. An act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law, in relation to the removal of actions to certain courts in an adjoining

county.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Mr. McDonald, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced.

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 result.)

The bill is passed.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes for the purpose of an introduction.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt our proceedings for a brief announcement. It is my honor and pleasure to introduce to the Chambers -- turn around, can you turn around -- my great-granddaughter --

(Applause)

-- the daughter of my son, Kaleb King, her name is Kamryn Nicole King. She is three years old. She loves reading books and she loves science. Would you please offer her the cordialities of the floor?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On behalf of

Grandma, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you, Kamryn, to the People's House, to our Assembly Chamber and we extend to you the privileges of the floor. That means there's lots of candy around here the Sergeant-at-Arms can find for you, and we hope you enjoy having good times with your great-grandma here today. Thank you so much for joining us today.

(Applause)

On consent, page 11, Rules Report No. 38, the Clerk will read.

**THE CLERK:** Assembly No. A09514, Rules Report No. 38, Cunningham. An act to amend a chapter of the Laws of 2025 amending the Tax Law relating to excluding certain food donations from sales tax, as proposed in Legislative Bills numbers S02279 and A04216, 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.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

**MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES:** Madam Speaker -- can

you do this?

MR. FALL: Madam Speaker, do we have further housekeeping or resolutions?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: We have a number of resolutions before the House. Without objection, these resolutions will be taken up together.

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

(Whereupon, Assembly Resolution Nos. 847 through 858 were unanimously approved.)

Mr. Fall.

Mr. FALL: I now move that the Assembly stand adjourned and that we reconvene at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 21st, tomorrow being a Session day.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On Mr. Fall's motion, the House stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 4:40 p.m., the House stood adjourned until Wednesday, January 21st at 1:00 p.m., that being a Session day.)