

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025

11:12 A.M.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The House will
come to order.

Good morning, colleagues.

Imam Hafiz Mas Ali will offer a prayer.

IMAM HAFIZ MAS ALI: Good morning, everyone,
and As-salamu alaykum, meaning peace be upon you all.

I'll begin my prayer with a verse from the Holy Book
of Quran, chapter 2, verse 45, in which Almighty God says:
(chanting). In this verse "And seek help through patience and prayer.
For indeed it is a heavy burden, except for the humble." So, we
humble ourselves in front of Almighty God, and we pray to Almighty
God, our Holic, our Creator, to show His mercy upon our nation and
upon the whole world. And we ask Almighty God to bless our

President, our Governor, all elected officials and especially all the members of this honorable Assembly. And we ask our Almighty God to bless these dedicated public servants, to make them excel in their duties. We ask Almighty God to make them pillars of justice and compassion in each and every single one of their communities. We ask Almighty God to grant them clarity in their decisions, courage in their conviction and we ask Almighty God to bless them with success in all of their endeavors. Almighty God, we pray that You make our wonderful State of New York a model of hope for the whole entire world, a living example of unity, where people from each and every single faith, from every race, and from all religions live together and thrive together. Almighty God, we ask You to make this State shine so brightly that when the world seeks a model of peace, cooperation, and unity, they look towards New York to find it in New York. And, Almighty God, we ask You to protect the vulnerable, we ask You to comfort the suffering and help the less fortunate. Almighty God, bless our work, our families and our communities with harmony and purpose. And, Almighty God, we ask You to let us become a reason to bring humanity closer together by remembering the fact that we are all descendents of Adam and Eve, peace upon them and we are all family.

So, with this in mind, we ask Almighty God to strengthen the bonds between us, remove from our hearts any hatred and anonymity between each other, and replace it with love and unity. And I conclude by asking Almighty God to bless all of us with success

in this world and the next. God bless our wonderful State of New York, God bless the United States of America and God bless the world. Amen.

MEMBERS: Amen.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: 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 Tuesday, May 20th.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Madam Speaker, I move to dispense with the further reading of the Journal of Tuesday, May the 20th, and that the same stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Without objection, so ordered.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Madam Speaker. To colleagues and the multiple guests that are in the Chambers, good morning to you all. I do have a quote I would like to share today. This one is coming from Stevie Wonder. No need to explain who this Grammy award winner is, most people have heard of his name and/or his music. His words for us today: "Just because a man lacks the use of his eyes doesn't mean he lacks vision." Again, these words from amazing songwriter, Stevie Wonder.

Madam Speaker, members have on their desks a main

Calendar. Before you do any housekeeping and/or introductions, we'll be calling for the Rules Committee to meet. This committee is going to put -- put together an A-Calendar, which we will take up today.

And if there will be additional floor activity, we will announce that at that moment. However, Majority members should be clear that there will be a need for a conference immediately following the conclusion of our work on the floor today, and, as always, we will consult with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to determine what their needs may be. That's the general outline of where we're going today. Madam Speaker, if you could begin by calling the Rules Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Rules Committee to the Speaker's Conference Room.

Anyone on Rules to the Speaker's Conference Room.

We do have a piece of housekeeping.

On a motion by Ms. Rosenthal, page 12, Calendar No. 121, Bill No. A00606-A, the amendments are received and adopted.

We have several introductions this morning.

Mr. Colton for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. COLTON: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I want to introduce the Imam who gave the opening prayer today. He is a religious leader in IQRA Masjid, which has been a cornerstone of faith and spiritual growth and community service in my community since 1996. And they have engaged in

youth mentorship, in humanitarian work and they continue to be a beacon of unity and compassion in the community. Imam Hafiz Mas Ali, who is actually a devoted religious leader at IQRA Masjid, is also a current student at Brooklyn College studying accounting. Imam Mas exemplifies the discipline, humility and a deep commitment to community service and interfaith understanding, which reaches far beyond the bounds of the community.

He also -- I would also like to recognize his brother Husafah Ahmed, a sixth grade student at Seth Low I.S. 96, a school in my district, and he also follows in the footsteps of his family, in inspiring to be an Imam. And also accompanying the Imam here to Albany, is Muaswas Ali who serves the community as an Imam as well as being an EMT. In addition -- accompanying them are business leaders who are members of the IQRA Masjid: Mohamad Iui (phonetic), Antwa Ali (phonetic), Mazhah Saleem (phonetic), Marboob Danish (phonetic), Chadjri Tareek (phonetic), Mohamad Jangua (phonetic) and Ms. Anza Zoobia (phonetic), who are all accompanying and business leaders in the community.

And I would ask that, Madam Speaker, you give the cordialities of the floor to these distinguished persons who are playing such an important role in bringing about goodness and -- and unity in our communities. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

On behalf of Mr. Colton, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome back Imam Hafiz Mas Ali to our Assembly

Chamber, as well as the distinguished guests from Mr. Colton's district. We welcome you to the Chamber, extend the privileges of the floor to you. Hope you enjoy our proceedings today. Thank you so very much for joining us.

(Applause)

Mr. Jones for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. JONES: Madam Speaker, I rise today to share a bit of information with you all about cystic fibrosis. This is very personal to me because I've had dear friends affected by cystic fibrosis. This disease is caused by a defective gene that forces the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucous that clogs the lungs and can lead to life-threatening lung infections that obstruct the pancreas. Approximately 40,000 children and adults in the United States, and over 105,000 worldwide, are affected by cystic fibrosis. In New York, there are over 1,600 individuals who live with this disease.

We will be doing a resolution on this, honoring May as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month, but I'd like to highlight some of the incredible advocates that work to support families, as well as recognize 21 world-class specialized treatment centers throughout New York. On behalf of McDonald -- Assembly members McDonald, Bendett, Steck and Friend, it is my pleasure to introduce some of the families who live with cystic fibrosis and celebrate all they do to raise awareness and the wonderful advocates on what they do for the loved ones with cystic fibrosis. I want to thank the following great New Yorkers for being here today: Emilie McHale,

Kellen McHale, her little guy in the bunch (Zeke McHale), Janet Shuster, Francis Gransbury, Julie Chasney, Nina Harmon, Diane Nardacci, and Anita Gerace. And I believe we have Lisa Reid with them back there for a little bit.

Madam Speaker, will you welcome these fine individuals to the People's House and thank them for all the incredible work they do on behalf of cystic fibrosis.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On behalf of Mr. Jones, Members McDonald, Bendett, Friend, Steck, the Speaker and all members, we welcome you to the Assembly Chamber and extend the privileges of the floor to you. Thank you for the families impacted by cystic fibrosis to come to our Assembly Chamber and advocate for this very important medical issue. We hope you enjoy our proceedings today. Thank you so very much for joining us.

(Applause)

Mr. Stern for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. STERN: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and good morning to all of my colleagues.

It's my privilege today to welcome the Walt Whitman High School Boys Varsity Soccer Team to the floor of the New York State Assembly. Led by Coach John DiGiacomo and Assistants Brian Karcz, Robert Tedesco, Nicholas Costa, and Brayan Portillo, the Wildcats had a historic season this year, with an overall record of 14 and 5, including 8 and 1 in league play. They were the Suffolk County Class AAA Champions, the Long Island Class AAA

Champions securing a dramatic overtime win in the championship game. Madam Speaker, this is the second time in program history that the Wildcats are Long Island Champions and the third time that they had been crowned Suffolk County Champions. These young men bring great pride to their families, to their school, and to our entire community, and we wish them all every success in the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you welcome these outstanding champions from Long Island and their coaches to the Assembly Chamber, and provide them with all of the cordialities of the House and the privileges of the floor.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On behalf of Mr. Stern, the Speaker and all members, we welcome you, the Walt Whitman High School Boys Soccer Team, to the Assembly Chamber. Congratulations to you for being the Long Island Class AAA Champions. Offer you, the coach, and you, the players, a successful academic and athletic year, extend the privileges of the floor to you. Hope you enjoy the proceedings today. Thank you so very much for joining us.

(Applause)

Mr. Anderson for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. ANDERSON: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

If I may rise today to make an introduction to three amazing groups from the 31st Assembly District. Today, Madam Speaker, is a special day, not only because the Knicks are playing today in the Eastern Conference Finals, but also, we have three

amazing groups that are true champions in the Rockaway Peninsula. They are making waves and having a tremendous impact on the entirety of the Rockaway Peninsula. These three groups are as follows: Our friends at Rok Nation, who's lead by Tierra Holmes. This is a talented, energetic and championship level dance team that has won multiple competitions, not just here in the State of New York, Madam Speaker, but all across the country. Most recently, they won a state competition in Oxford, Alabama. This group was founded in 2015 and they're celebrating ten years this year. They dance to a variety of music including hip hop, majorette, lyrical and jazz. This year, we're proudly celebrating their ten year anniversary of the work that they do to empower young girls all across our communities but also building confidence and leadership skills.

Up next, we have a group of young women led by two exceptional detectives within the NYPD 101st Precinct, Detectives Slay and Blanchette. They have recognized a group of young women in the community who are making a meaningful difference, inspired by the concept that no good deed goes unpunished. And through their mission, they ensure that these rising leaders are seen, heard and valued, Madam Speaker. And it's so important that we invite them up.

And lastly, but certainly not least, we have our friends at the Queens Community Justice Center. We have Marissa Williams-Reid, Krystan Coley-Edwards, Jacob Garcia, Ayesha Tucker and Aaliyah Wise. Marissa and Christian have been especially vital to

the organization, mentoring young people, supporting clients and also helping to sustain the mission of QCJC.

Madam Speaker, please afford all of these amazing young women and men the cordialities of the floor of the People's House.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

On behalf of Mr. Anderson, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome the friends from Roc Nation, a happy tenth anniversary to you and congratulations for winning your State Championship. We also welcome the detectives from the NYPD 101st Precinct and thank you for the work you're doing with your Young Women of the Year and also the Queens Community Justice Center celebrating your youth engagement program. Welcome to the Assembly Chamber. We extend the privileges of the floor to you. We hope you enjoy the proceedings today. Thank you so very much for -- all of you for joining us today.

(Applause)

Mr. Dais for the purpose of an introduction.

MR. DAIS: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I rise today with immense pride to introduce my beloved fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated founded on January 9th, 1914 by three visionary founders on the campus of Howard University: A. Langston Taylor, Leonard F. Morse and Charles I. Brown. As of today, Phi Beta Sigma stands 111 years, four months and 12 days strong, rooted in our eternal principles of

brotherhood, scholarship and service. I had the honor of becoming a member on April 5th, 2001 at 12:31 a.m. That's 24 years, one month, 16 days, 14 hours and 39 minutes ago. And every moment since has shaped me by this great -- by this great brotherhood.

I'm joined in this Chamber by fellow Sigma man, Assemblyman Brian Cunningham, and together we celebrate our constitutionally bound with our sister organization, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, such as Assemblymember Latrice Walker. We proudly wear royal blue and pure white, just like our Majority Leader is wearing right now. We are men of brotherhood, scholarship and service. Our motto is culture for service and service for humanity. Our Creator's our compass. As always, Go Mob Blue Phi, you know.

Today I want to acknowledge the distinguished Sigma men joining us in the Chamber: Michael Rock, Brendan Jackson, Anthony Sanford, Howard Miller, Robert Hulgert, Damen Jackson, Andrew Bergmodge and Samuel Caldwell.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you extend the cordialities of this Chamber to these honorable brothers at Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

On behalf of Mr. Dais, Ms. Walker, the Speaker and all members, we welcome you brothers from Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and sisters from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Welcome you to the Assembly Chamber, extend the privileges of the floor to you. We

hope you enjoy our proceedings today. Thank you so very much for joining us today.

(Applause)

Mr. Patrick Carroll for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. P. CARROLL: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Colleagues, I rise today to introduce Rockland County Legislator Dr. Aney Paul and other distinguished guests from the Indian Cultural Heritage and Arts Awareness Club and the Indian Cultural Society of Rockland County, as well as the Capital District Malayalee Association, who have joined us today in celebration and in support of Indian Heritage Month -- Month. Legislator Dr. Paul is a registered nurse and the first Indian American woman elected official in Rockland County. She has left an indelible mark on Rockland County and New York State through her commitment to her community, through her medical field, the legislator and various activism in cultural events. The Indian Cultural Heritage and Arts Awareness Club and the ICSR, which has been around for over 50 years, are -- add to the diverse culture of Rockland County by promoting Indian heritage and culture through many events throughout the year. They include concerts and other cultural shows, as well as food and clothing drives which give back to the community.

Please join me as we celebrate Indian Heritage Month in advance of the resolution that we'll pass today and welcome these distinguished guests to the Chamber.

(Applause)

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On behalf of Mr. Patrick Carroll, the Speaker and all the members, welcome Dr. Paul and members of the India Cultural Society of Rockland County. We welcome you to the (indiscernible) -- we welcome you all to the Assembly Chamber, extend the privileges of the floor to you. We hope you enjoy our proceedings today. Thank you in front of me and behind me, thank you for joining us today.

(Applause)

Mr. Burdick for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. BURDICK: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

It is my honor and pleasure to introduce my niece, Natalia Hussey-Burdick, who is visiting here from Hawaii with her fiancé, Braedon Wilkerson. Natalia is a former member of the Hawaii State House of Representatives, a reformer who advocated for women's rights and environmental protections. She continues her advocacy with passion and commitment. My brother and Natalia's father, Allen, is very proud of the work that Talia continues to do. Braedon is an avid political analyst who hopes to become a Washington State Legislator and very supportive of the great work that Talia does.

Madam Speaker, kindly join me in welcoming Natalia Hussey-Burdick and Braedon Wilkerson, and extend to them the privileges and cordialities of the People's House.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On behalf of Mr.

Burdick, the Speaker and all members, welcome to the Assembly Chamber, always love to see family members of our members. A representative all the way from Hawaii, that's very exciting. Thank you for your service and future potential service to you, sir. Extend the privileges of the floor to you. We hope you enjoy our proceedings. I don't know if it's similar to Hawaii, but we hope you enjoy the proceedings. Thank you so very much for joining us.

(Applause)

Ms. Rajkumar for the purposes of an introduction.

MS. RAJKUMAR: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

As the first Indian American elected to this legislative body, it is with extraordinary pride that I rise to introduce an extraordinary group of Indian Americans, proud members of the Pioneer Club of Keralites, one of the earliest and most impactful Malayali organizations in our State. The Pioneer Club represents a trailblazing community of Malayalis, the people of Kerala, a beautiful and vibrant state on the southwestern coast of India. Known for its lush greenery, backwaters, high literacy and deep traditions of pluralism. Whether Christian, Hindu or of any faith, Malayalis are united by our rich cultural heritage and a strong spirit of public service, education and community leadership.

Kerala is often called "God's Own Country" and its sons and daughters here in New York carry that spirit with them. Giving back as doctors, spiritual leaders, teachers, entrepreneurs and advocates for justice and peace. I would like to recognize each

distinguished leader by name: Christian Bishop, John C. Itty, our Hindu guru Dileepkumar Thankappan, Mr. Koshy O. Thomas, Mr. Johny Zacharia, Mr. V.M. Chacko, Mr. Verghese Abraham, Mrs. Appukuttan, Mrs. Leela Maret, Mrs. Mary Philip, Mrs. Michael, Mrs. Usha George, Mr. George Chacko, Mrs. Jessy Joshy, Mrs. Arkoputo (phonetic), Mr. Nala Singah (phonetic), Mr. Thomas Thomas, Mr. Eapen Samuel, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Elizabeth Matai (phonetic), Ms. Divya Samuel (phonetic), Mrs. Leila Joseph (phonetic), Mrs. Sicily Joy (phonetic) and Mr. Joy (phonetic).

Let us all give them a warm welcome and thank them for their service, their heritage and their contributions to our great State.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On behalf of Ms. Rajkumar, the Speaker and all members, we welcome these distinguished guests to our Chamber today. Welcome you, extend the privileges of the floor to you en masse, we hope you enjoy the proceedings today. Thank you so very much for joining us.

(Applause)

(Pause)

Ms. Seawright for the purposes of an introduction.

MS. SEAWRIGHT: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I have two special guests today in the Chamber and they're here today --

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Hold on a second, Rebecca. Can we have some quiet, please? Go ahead.

MS. SEAWRIGHT: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I rise today to introduce two special guests in the Chamber today here in Albany for MWBE Advocacy Day. Sandra Wilkin is a Chief Executive Officer of Bradford Construction, a long-time leader in the feminist and construction business. She's also a vice-chair of the City University of New York Board of Trustees, a co-founder of the Women Builders Council that advances the role of women in the building industry, and also shares a very unique distinction of receiving the Louboutage Youth Organization's Woman of Valor Award for her commitment and dedication to helping people of all ages, one of only two women to receive that award.

Additionally, I'd like to recognize and welcome to the Chamber Yena C. Bell, with over two decades leading the nexus of architecture, engineering, construction, and social justice. Ms. Bell stands as a transformative force in the AEC industry. Her work spans multi-million dollar luxury developments and major public sector initiatives and projects.

Please welcome them and grant them the cordialities of the House. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

On behalf of Ms. Seawright, the Speaker and all members, we welcome you, our distinguished guests, to the Assembly Chamber and extend the privileges of the floor to you. Thank you for this outstanding work that you're doing in our community. I definitely appreciate that. Hope you enjoy our proceedings today. Thank you so

very much for traveling and joining us today.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Madam Speaker, colleagues have on their desks an A-Calendar. I would like to move to advance that A-Calendar.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Mrs. Peoples-Stokes, the A-Calendar is advanced.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you.

We're going to begin on page 3 with Bill No -- Rules Report No. 194 by Mr. Carroll.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

On consent, page 3, Rules Report No. 194, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00174, Rules Report No. 194, R. Carroll, Anderson, Jackson, Mitaynes, Epstein, Lunsford, Lasher. An act to amend the Real Property Law, in relation to prohibiting rent minimums in mortgages.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00182, Rules Report No. 195, Cruz, Stern, Burdick, Simon, McDonough, Weprin, Colton. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to homeowner natural disaster preparedness, home safety and loss prevention courses.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00268, Rules Report No. 196, Paulin, McDonough, Seawright, Dinowitz, Weprin, Simon. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to prohibiting the sale of infant walkers and restricting the use of such infant walkers in certain settings.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Ms. Paulin, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced. This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00291-A, Rules Report No. 197, Barrett. An act to amend the General Construction Law, the Election Law, the Insurance Law, the Military Law, the Public Officers Law, the Economic Development Law, the Civil Service Law, the Real Property Tax Law and the Education Law, in relation to including members of the space force as being members of the armed forces or veterans eligible for certain credits and benefits.

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. A00678-A, Rules Report No. 198, Solages, Hevesi, Seawright, Lavine, Blumencranz, Ramos, Woerner, Jones, McDonald, Paulin, Otis, Griffin, P. Carroll, McMahon, Kay, Bronson, Chludzinski, Lunsford, McDonough, Smullen. An act to amend the Education Law, in relation to allowing pharmacy technicians to practice in any pharmacy under the supervision of a pharmacist.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Ms. Solages, 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. A00949, Rules Report No. 199, Lunsford, Simon, González-Rojas, Hevesi, Kassay, Jacobson. An act to amend the Workers' Compensation Law, in relation to permitting telemedicine services for mental and behavioral health issues under the workers' compensation system.

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. A00982, Rules Report
No. 200, Barrett, Conrad, Stern, Cunningham, Santabarbara,
Seawright, Magnarelli, Shimsky, Jacobson, Palmesano, Smullen,
Clark, Pirozzolo, Manktelow, Lucas, Dilan, Simpson. An act in
relation to establishing the New York State Grid Modernization
Commission.

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. A01195-A, Rules
Report No. 201, Peoples-Stokes, Weprin, Reyes, Shimsky, Simon,

Hevesi, Lunsford, Cruz, Meeks, Steck, Raga, Lupardo, Buttenschon, O'Pharrow, Simone, Burdick, Zaccaro, Lavine, Bronson, Epstein, Stirpe, Santabarbara, Maher, Slater, Jacobson. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to mandatory health insurance coverage for follow-up screening or diagnostic services for lung cancer.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect January 1st, 2027.

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. 01248-A, Rules Report No. 202, Tapia, Zaccaro, Alvarez, Lavine, De Los Santos, Simone, Forrest, Shimsky, Lucas, Cunningham, Cruz, Simon, Sayegh, Epstein, Bichotte Hermelyn, Bores, K. Brown, Chang, Giglio, Pirozzolo, DeStefano, Pheffer Amato, Weprin. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to prohibiting the sale of xylazine above a certain weight.

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. A01450, Rules Report No. 203, Dinowitz, Weprin, Epstein, Tapia. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to restricting insurers from demanding intrusive personal, financial and tax information from insureds, as a standard practice in processing ordinary theft claims.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A01799, Rules Report No. 204, Hyndman. An act to amend the Banking Law, in relation to prohibiting certain financial institutions from charging a fee for periodic paper statements.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A02318, Rules Report No. 205, McDonald, Lavine, Smullen, Burroughs, Otis, Beephan. An act to amend the Local Finance Law, in relation to the exclusion of certain indebtedness of school districts in a city with one hundred twenty-five thousand inhabitants or more.

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 results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A02581, Rules Report No. 206, Gonzáles-Rojas, Epstein, Burdick, R. Carroll, Barrett, Kim, Heveso, Dinowitz, Sayegh, O' Pharrow, Lunsford, Reyes, Bronson. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to the creation of a Department of Health education and outreach program on reproductive health services.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A02620-A, Rules Report No. 207, Hevesi, Clark, Raga, Simon, Kelles, Dinowitz, Rosenthal, Epstein, Zaccaro, R. Carroll, Lavine, Glick, González-Rojas, Bronson, Cunningham, Meeks, Alvarez, Paulin, De Los Santos, Bores, Simone, Gallagher, Walker, Gibbs, Lunsford, Tapia, Woerner, Bichotte Hermelyn, Cruz, Shrestha, Seawright, Davila, Hyndman, Steck, Zinerman, O'Pharrow, Schiavoni,

Levenberg, P. Carroll, Taylor, Burdick, Weprin, Otis, Forrest, Mamdani, Vanel, Lupardo, Reyes, Septimo, Hooks, Mitaynes, Burroughs, Solages, Dais, Shimsky, Anderson, Kim, Valdez, McMahon, Lasher, Dilan, Wright. An act to amend the Family Court Act and the Criminal Procedure Law, in relation to the custodial interrogation of juveniles by law enforcement.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A02379-A, Rules Report No. 208, Vanel, Burdick, Sayegh, Burke, Weprin, Taylor, Lemondes. An act in relation to establishing the New York State cryptocurrency and blockchain study task force; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03343, Rules Report No. 209, Bronson. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to fines for false alarms by an alarm system.

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. A03470, Rules Report No. 210, Lavine, Seawright. An act to amend the Real Property Actions and Proceedings Law, in relation to the foreclosure of lines for unpaid assessments due to a Homeowners' Association or condominium board.

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. A03790, Rules Report No. 211, Weprin, Shrestha, Santabarbara, Lemondes, Hawley. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to reporting by the Office of Fire Prevention and Control.

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. A03858, Rules Report No. 212, Rozic, Kelles, Levenberg, Glick, Jacobson, Bores, Simon.

An act to amend the Penal Law, in relation to fines for corporations.

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

This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A03939-A, Rules Report No. 213, 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. A04315-A, Rules Report No. 214, Eachus. An act to amend Chapter 510 of the Laws of

2016, amending the Tax Law relating to the imposition of a hotel and motel tax in the town of Woodbury, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Home Rule
Message is at the desk.

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. A04521, Rules Report
No. 215, Hyndman, Lee. An act to amend the General Business Law,
in relation to the definition of "protected consumer."

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. A04944, Rules Report No. 261, Tapia, Burdick, Seawright, Glick, Lunsford. An act to amend the Penal Law, in relation to prohibiting the operation of uncrewed aircraft over school grounds or critical infrastructure.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

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

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 is an interesting bill. This bill will create the crime of unlawfully operating an uncrewed aircraft over school grounds or critical infrastructure, and it will be a Class B misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class A misdemeanor for any subsequent offense. I'm going to be supporting this bill. I think what some concerns we're just -- we were -- as we were talking about the bill, there were some concerns raised to just make sure that if you have, say, a school club, or you have school photography that's being done and you want to use a drone for that, I just want to make sure that that was still going to be allowed, and it will be allowed as long as there is prior written consent from the schools.

There was also a concern that was being raised about

the bill not defining what remains above or hover means, and it doesn't include a time frame as to what qualifies as such an act. So, there was a little bit of concern about whether the application of this bill would be subjective and maybe result in unequal prosecution under the law, but I think we felt that unbalance. The bill was a good bill and from reading the news, we know that sometimes there are -- there is definitely an increase in drone traffic around. So, to protect our critical infrastructure and areas around our schools, I will be supporting the bill. I just think that, you know, there -- there may be a little bit of an improvement in language that would be helpful. So, I just want to make that and put that on the record.

So, thank you very much, Madam Speaker, I will be in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Walsh in the affirmative.

Mr. Morinello to explain his vote.

MR. MORINELLO: I just want to comment on this bill because it's over school grounds. With the proliferation of pedophiles, it would really concern me if there were drones over schoolyards with little children and young adults running around.

So, I commend this bill. I do vote in the positive and I think it's a great step, even though that may not have been one of the focuses. What we have to do when we look at the bills is tear them apart and add other positives. So, I think it's a very good bill and I think it does protect our children. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Morinello in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A05298, Rules Report No. 217, Pretlow. An act to amend the Local Finance Law, in relation to bonds and notes of the City of Yonkers.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Home Rule Message is at the desk.

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.)

Ms. Walsh to explain her vote.

MS. WALSH: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

This is a fast vote because it is a local law, but in the past, I wanted to alert members that it has received considerable opposition. Last year, we had 17 no votes on the floor of the Assembly, and the reason why is because it eliminates the requirement that bond issuances in the City of Yonkers go through a competitive bidding process, which is the same process that almost every other municipality goes through. Yonkers was authorized to do a private sale 18 years ago when they had a fiscal crisis. They are no longer in

a fiscal crisis. The bond rating for the City of Yonkers is currently A+ with a stable outlook. And so, the feeling is that maybe it's time that you go back and have an open competitive bid to make sure that anybody who wants to bid on those bonds has a fair and equal opportunity to bid to make sure that you're getting the best price, by getting the best competition to avoid favoritism and the possibility of corruption.

Because this bill is no longer needed, I will be voting against it and I would recommend that my colleagues do the same. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Walsh in the negative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A05301, Rules Report No. 218, Woerner. An act to amend the Education Law, in relation to absentee ballots for school district elections.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Ms. Woerner, 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. A05311, Rules Report No. 219, Reyes. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to expanding the membership of the interagency task force on trafficking in persons.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On a motion by Ms. Reyes, 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.)

Ms. Walsh to explain her vote.

MS. WALSH: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I just want to say that I think that this is an important bill. I think it's a really helpful bill. I was honored to co-chair the Assembly Republican Task Force on Human Trafficking and as we traveled everywhere last summer, meeting all over the State with different stakeholders, it -- it just made an awful lot of sense to me, looking at this bill, to add the DOT and DMV commissioners to the task force because of the way that trafficking does occur. So, I think

that this is a very helpful bill and I'm happy to support it. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: 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. A05448-B, Rules Report No. 220, Rozic, Lasher, Stern, Ra, E. Brown, Norber, Levenberg, McDonald, Glick, Hevesi, Epstein, Braunstein, Novakhov, Berger, Bores, Colton, Lunsford, Clark, Zaccaro, Paulin, McDonough, Lavine, Wieder, Griffin, Dinowitz, Eichenstein, Bendett, McMahon, Slater, Wright, Septimo, Bichotte Hermelyn, Ramos, Torres, Alvarez, Gallagher, Forrest, P. Carroll, O'Pharrow, Eachus, Reyes, Rosenthal, Burroughs, Sayegh, Seawright. An act to amend the Education Law, in relation to requiring the appointment of a Title VI coordinator at every college and university in the State.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Ms. Rozic to explain her vote.

MS. ROZIC: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Today, I rise proudly to vote in favor of this legislation which requires every college and university in New York to appoint a Title VI coordinator. This bill is a direct response to the alarming rise in anti-Semitic incidents and other forms of discrimination on campuses across the State. I want to thank SUNY, CUNY and (indiscernible) for their support of this bill. As we know, having a dedicated Title VI coordinator would ensure that students have a clear point of contact to report discrimination and receive timely, effective support. Many schools like NYU, my alma mater, have already taken this important step by appointing a coordinator and it's time for every institution in New York to follow suit. Our institutions of Higher Education must live up to the values of safety and inclusion of everyone, regardless of who they are, regardless of where they come from or what religion they practice. This legislation ensures that no student is left without recourse and that colleges are equipped to respond to hate, bias and discrimination before it actually escalates. As we've seen, there continues to be troubling incidents at colleges across the State from various CUNY institutions to Columbia University. So the need for accountability and institutional action is quite urgent. We cannot afford to be passive in the face of rising anti-Semitism and discrimination.

So, I'll be voting in the affirmative and I urge my colleagues do the same. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Rozic in the affirmative.

Mr. Ra to explain his vote.

MR. RA: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I want to thank the sponsor for bringing this piece of legislation forward. As -- as many know, I've introduced legislation to do a number of things with regard to campuses and anti-Semitism and one of them is exactly what this bill covers, in making sure that there is a point person, there is a process for students when they need to make a complaint and there's a process for dealing with that complaint on our campuses. As -- as the sponsor said, there's been alarming rise in anti-Semitism on our campuses and -- and any other form of discrimination, and it is important that we make sure that all of our students feel safe on -- on their campuses and -- and know what to do if there's an incident and how to report it and how it should be dealt with.

So, I'm happy to be a cosponsor on this piece of legislation and I urge all my colleagues to support it. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Ra in the affirmative.

Mr. Lavine to explain his vote.

MR. LAVINE: I want to commend the sponsor as well. No student, on any college campus, should be made to feel uncomfortable, should be harassed, should be assaulted, because of who they are inherently are. This bill helps us to protect those students and again, I sincerely want to thank the sponsor for her efforts to bring this to the floor and I want to thank all my colleagues

because this is passing unanimously. Thanks again.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Mr. Lavine in the affirmative.

Mr. Yeger to explain his vote.

MR. YEGER: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I, too, am very grateful to the sponsor for proposing this legislation. But, as we sit here today and vote for it and, as the gentleman said, I'm glad it's unanimous. It is also a constant reminder not just what's going on on the campuses, but that there are schools in this State that need a law to make this happen. It shouldn't have been the case, the -- the schools, the campuses, the universities, both public and private in our State, have seen the rise in anti-Semitism in the last several years. Many of them have not only done nothing to combat it, but their leadership has encouraged it, not just by osmosis, but by actual real actions. So, this law is necessary, but it's also a reminder to us that colleges have not been doing the right thing in the State.

So, I'm grateful again to the Speaker. I vote in the affirmative. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Mr. Yeger in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A05973, Rules Report No. 221, Jones. An act to amend the Public Officers Law, in relation

to removing residency requirements for Franklin County assistant district attorneys.

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. A06078-A, Rules Report No. 222, Hunter. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to allowing child day care providers an extension of time to make necessary changes or accommodations to their facility to meet licensing requirements.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the -- 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. A06326-A, Rules Report No. 223, Valdez, Simon, Otis, Forrest, Zaccaro, Shrestha, Beephan, DeStefano, Durso, Hevesi, Kassay, Burroughs, Shimsky, Griffin, Santabarbara. An act to amend the Public Service Law, in relation to requiring gas and electric corporations to provide 45 days' notice to customers whenever there is a service rate or charge increase.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On motion by Ms. Valdez, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced. This bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A06486, Rules Report No. 224, Otis, Sayegh, Paulin. An act to amend the Education Law, in relation to requiring on-site cardiac automated external defibrillators for nonpublic schools.

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

Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: The Clerk will record the vote.

(Pause)

Ms. Walsh to explain her vote.

MS. WALSH: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

So, colleagues will recall that a couple of years ago, I think, now -- seems like a couple of years ago -- we -- we passed a bill

requiring AEDs, these auto -- automatic external defibrillators, to be maintained on-site at public schools. What this bill does is it extends that mandate and requirement to nonpublic schools. And while I don't generally like the idea of the State putting mandates on nonpublic schools, I'm -- I'm going to support this because, number one, I think that it is important for the safety of people that work within the school or that are visiting the school. And in our prior debate on the previous bill, we talked a lot about that.

And I think the other thing that sort of leaned me towards a yes vote on this particular piece of legislation is that, it's my understanding that in the budget this year there is an appropriation of \$70 million for grant money to assist with the cost of AEDs, and -- in the -- in the nonpublic schools.

So, for those reasons I'll be happy to support this bill this year based on those factors.

So, thank you, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Ms. Walsh in the affirmative.

(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. A06559-B, Rules Report No. 225, Benedetto. An act to amend the Veterans' Services Law, in relation to the establishing a Veteran's Bill of Rights.

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.

Mr. Gandolfo for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. GANDOLFO: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

On behalf of our colleague, Mr. Smullen, I have the distinct honor of introducing some guests who are here with us in the Chamber today. They are student veterans from the Empire State University Veterans and Military Resource Center, and they're visiting today for the SUNY State of the University Address. They are Tom Elwood, Director of the Joseph P. Dwyer Vet-to-Vet Program of Fulton County; Najay Logan (phonetic), Mike Alexander, Bethany Hicks and Desiree Drindock (phonetic).

Can you please give them a warm welcome to our Chamber today?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On behalf of Mr. Gandolfo, Mr. Smullen, the Speaker and all members, we welcome you, fellow veterans, to our Assembly Chamber, extend the privileges

of the floor to you. Hope you enjoy our proceedings today. And thank you so very much for your service and for joining us today.

Thank you.

(Applause)

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A06624, Rules Report No. 226, Pheffer Amato, Griffin. An act to amend the Civil Service Law, in relation to requiring appointing authorities to provide appointment and promotion letters.

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. A07004, Rules Report 227, Burdick. An act to amend Chapter 260 of the Laws of 1969, relating to incorporating the Pound Ridge Volunteer Exempt Firemen's Benevolent Association and providing for its powers and duties, in relation to updating such association's charter.

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. A07033-B, Rules Report No. 228, Zaccaro. An act to amend the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, in relation to authorizing the Council on the Arts to designate Little Yemen as a cultural district.

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. Zaccaro to explain his vote.

MR. ZACCARO: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Today I rise with deep pride as a representative of the largest Yemeni Community in New York City; Little Yemen right in the heart of the Bronx. And just as we celebrate cultural landmarks like Little Italy, El Barrio, Chinatown, today we are taking a meaningful step towards honoring another vital part of our City. With the passage of this bill, we officially recognize Little Yemen as a

cultural district. Little -- Little Yemen is vibrant, it's resilient and full of life, whether breaking fast together during Ramadan or opening small businesses in our community or gathering for celebrations, the Yemen -- Yemeni community continues to shape the Bronx with its generosity and its strength.

And so I want to thank my colleagues in this Chamber today for their support of this legislation. And I especially want to thank many members of the Yemeni community back home in the Bronx, and my staff, who have worked so hard with me in this effort. Your voices and your vision have made this bill today possible.

And, Madam Speaker, this designation is not just symbolic, it brings real opportunities. With it comes access to funding, technical support, and the kind of recognition that strengthens cultural institutions for generations to come.

There's a Yemeni proverb that says, "He who has no past has no future." And so today, with this legislation, we honor a proud past, and we help secure a thriving future for Yemenis across our State, but more importantly, in the Bronx. And to all those who visit the Bronx, and to my colleagues, make sure, when you come to the Bronx, Little Yemen is on your list. And there you'll find heritage, you'll find hospitality, and a community that exemplifies the American Dream.

And so I proudly cast my vote today in the affirmative. And thank you so much, Madam Speaker, for the time today to explain my vote.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. Zaccaro in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

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

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt our proceedings for the purposes of making an introduction.

If I could have the gentleman to my right's attention. Thank you.

Madam Speaker, we are joined by some of the women who have been here all day with the MWBE Advocacy Day. They are from the Women's Business Coalition. They represent a leading advocacy organization for women and diverse professionals in construction and professional services industries. New York's success is dependent on the ability of its residents to achieve economic empowerment through entrepreneurship.

So would you please welcome these two young ladies that are with us? Tatiana Kotlove is the Executive Director of the organization, and Christina [sic] Boccia is the President and owner of JD Traditional.

Please, Madam Speaker, if you would give them a grand welcome and offer them the (inaudible/audio cut out).

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

On behalf of our Majority Leader, Member Bichotte Hermelyn, the Speaker and all members, we welcome you today from the Brooklyn Business Coalition to the People's House, our Assembly Chamber, extend the privileges of the floor to you. Thank you for all the work that you're doing today in celebrating in our MWBE Advocacy Day. We hope you enjoy our proceedings today. Thank you so very much for joining us.

(Applause)

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07145, Rules Report No. 229, Walker, Colton. 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: On a motion by Ms. Walker, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced.

Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect
October 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.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07287, Rules Report No. 230, Burdick. An act to amend the Town Law and the Public Officers Law, in relation to authorizing the assistant court clerk and fire marshal of the Town of Harrison, County of Westchester, to be nonresidents of such town.

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. A07301-B, Rules Report No. 231, Tapia, Shimsky, Cruz. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to requiring appearance enhancement businesses to display a poster about sexual and domestic violence.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 180th 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. A07348, Rules Report No. 232, Pretlow. An act to amend the Tax Law, in relation to increasing the tax on deeds in the City of Mount Vernon.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Home Rule Message is at the desk.

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. A07373, Rules Report No. 233, Otis. An act to amend Chapter 509 of the Laws of 2016, amending the Tax Law relating to authorizing the imposition of an occupancy tax in the Village of Port Chester, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section -- oh, Home Rule Message is at the desk.

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. A07375, Rules Report
No. 234, Otis, Paulin. An act to amend the Tax Law, in relation to
extending the authorization of the City of New Rochelle to impose an
additional sales and compensating use tax.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Home Rule
Message is at the desk

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. A07561, Rules Report
No. 235, Lupardo, Buttenschon. An act to amend the Education Law,
in relation to continuing education requirements for landscape
architects.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 140th 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. A07578, Rules Report No. 236, Kay. An act to amend the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law, in relation to providing for a license to sell liquor at retail for consumption on certain premises.

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. A07627-A, Rules Report No. 237, Kay, Griffin. An act to amend the Veterans' Services

Law, in relation to availability of information on home care services.

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. A07653, Rules Report No. 238, Santabarbara. An act to amend the Real Property Actions and Proceedings Law, in relation to requiring a petition in a summary proceeding to recover possession of real property in the City of Schenectady to allege proof of compliances with local laws requiring rental residential property registration and licensure.

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. A07753, Rules Report No. 239, Peoples-Stokes. An act to amend the Tax Law, in relation to the imposition of additional rates of sales and compensating use taxes by Erie County.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Home Rule Message is at the desk.

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. A07821, Rules Report No. 240, Kelles, Gallahan. An act to amend the Tax Law, in relation to extending the authorization for imposition of additional sales tax in the County of Cortland.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Home Rule Message is at the desk.

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. A07837, Rules Report No. 241, Levenberg. An act to amend the Village Law, in relation to certain elections for fire companies in Croton-on-Hudson.

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.)

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill has passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A08004, Rules Report No. 242, Pretlow. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to prohibiting approved organizations in the Child Health Insurance Plan from limiting the participation certain health care providers.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: The bill is laid aside.

(Pause)

On a motion by Mr. Pretlow, the Senate bill is before the House. The Senate bill is advanced and the bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A08045, Rules Report No. 243, Bronson, Berger. An act to amend Chapter 230 of the Laws of 2022, amending the Education Law relating to diagnostic privilege, in relation to extending the effectiveness of certain provisions thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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. A08303, Rules Report No. 244, Lunsford. An act to amend the Civil Practice Law and Rules, the Business Corporation Law, the General Associations Law, the Limited Liability Company Law, the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law and the Partnership Law, in relation to consent to jurisdiction by foreign business organization to authorized to do business in New York.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A08407, Rules Report

No. 245, Lavine. An act to amend the Family Court Act, in relation to records checks in family offense cases involving custody of, or access to, children; and to repeal certain provisions of such law relating thereto.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 30th day.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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. A08409, Rules Report No. 246, Seawright, Taylor. An act to amend Chapter 223 of the Laws of 1996 amending the Banking Law relating to permissible fees in connection with open-end loans, in relation to extending the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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. A08410, Rules Report No. 247, Barrett, Santabarbara. An act to amend the Public Authorities Law, in relation to the annual reporting obligations of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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. A08411, Rules Report No. 248, Stirpe. An act to amend the Economic Development Law, in relation to extending the reporting deadline of the Advisory Panel on Employee-Owned Enterprises; and to amend Chapter 435 of the Laws of 2017 amending the Economic Development Law relating to establishing an Advisory Panel on Employee-Owned Enterprises within the Division of Small Business Services, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last

section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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. 8413 --

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Oh -- oh, pardon me.

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

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt our proceedings to briefly introduce a -- another one of the folks who are here for the MWBE Advocacy Week. On behalf of our colleague, Ms. Levenberg, we have Kecia Palmer-Cousins. She is a project management consultant, and she works with helping people get access to certifying themselves as MWBE companies. And she also happens to be the daughter-in-law of our Senate Majority Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

So if you could please welcome her to our Chambers, offer her the cordialities of the House.

Thank you.

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

Ms. Palmer-Cousins, on behalf of the Speaker, Ms. Levenberg and the entire membership of the House, we welcome you today to the People's House. Thank you so much for the great work that you do on behalf of the MWBE community. And we welcome you and extend to you the privileges of the floor, and hope that you enjoy the proceedings.

Thanks, and come back and visit us again soon.

(Applause)

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A08413, Rules Report No. 249, Steck, Weprin. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to extending authorization for certain exemptions from filing requirements.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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. A08428, Rules Report

No. 250, Meeks. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to extending the authority of the Department of Environmental Conservation to manage fish.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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. A08432, Rules Report No. 251, Davila. An act to amend Chapter 81 of the Laws of 1995, amending the Vehicle and Traffic Law and other laws relating to the enforcement of support through the suspension of driving privileges, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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 bill extends for two years the provision that allow for the Department of Motor Vehicles to suspend driver's licenses of individuals who have failed to make child support payments, which, I think, is an important stick in the conversation to make sure that the people who owe child support actually do pay child support. I do think, though, however, that there's a missing piece to the puzzle that I think could be in the future incorporated.

I had developed legislation and had introduced it. I didn't introduce this year. Don't ask me why, I think I just got busy. But the idea that I had was -- and -- and I think others do, too, is that in order for people who owe child support to get current, they need to be able to get to work to be able to make the money to pay the child support. And if they don't have transportation, particularly in Upstate areas, that is a real problem. And that could just -- it -- it could become a situation where neither party is happy; the one who is owed, who's not going to be getting paid, or the person that owes the money. So I think that there -- there's a need for some kind of a process to allow for a conditional driver's license, and I think that that's something that we should probably try to work on going forward.

I'll support the extender because I do think it's important that we -- that we continue to hold individuals accountable. And this is certainly a way to get people's attention if you take away their driving privileges until they can come current or make these payments. But I do think that in -- in -- realistically, I think that we

need to create a possibility for a conditional driver's license. I think that that's -- that's maybe a better way to go in conjunction with this bill.

But I will be supporting it. I'll be in the affirmative. And thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Thank you, Ms. Walsh. Ms. Walsh in the affirmative.

(Pause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: The bill is laid aside.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: The bill is laid aside.

(Pause)

The roll is withdrawn, and the bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A08433, Rules Report No. 252, Davila. An act to amend Chapter 436 of the Laws of 1997, constituting the Welfare Reform Act of 1997, in relation to extending the current exemptions of income and resources for public assistance programs.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: 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. A08478, Rules Report No. 253, Valdez. An act to amend Chapter 20 of the Laws of 1998, amending the Education Law relating to the provision of physical therapy assistant services in public and private primary and secondary schools, in relation to extending the effectiveness of such chapter.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Ms. Valdez to explain her vote.

MS. VALDEZ: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity to explain my vote.

This five-year extension will allow physical therapy assistants to continue providing vital care to students in primary and secondary schools without requiring direct on-site supervision by a physical therapist. We know that there is great need for these services across New York State, including for students with disabilities who often see important improvements with mobility and function after treatments. Physical therapy allows all of our students to develop the foundations necessary to meaningfully participate in their school day

alongside their peers.

This extension -- extension of this provision maintains the continuity of essential care for students and allows our dedicated physical therapy assistants to continue to practice in schools where they've already made their marks.

Thank you, again, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity to speak. I'm proud to vote in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Ms. Valdez in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

And congratulations, Ms. Valdez, on your very first bill.

(Applause)

Well done.

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A08479, Rules Report No. 254, Lucas. An act to amend Chapter 554 of the Laws of 2013, amending the Education Law and other laws relating to applied behavior analysis, in relation to extending the expiration of certain provisions thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER WOERNER: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

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

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you so much, Madam Speaker.

As you know, we have had a tremendous amount of guests in our Capitol today with the MWBE Advocacy Initiative. We have two additional guests that I would like for you to welcome and offer the cordialities to the House on behalf of Ms. Bichotte and Ms. Buttenschon; Juan Perez is from Highbrid Media, and Osagie Afe is from the Brooklyn Chamber of the Commerce for small businesses.

Could you please welcome these fine gentlemen to our Chambers?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: On behalf of Mrs. Peoples-Stokes, Bichotte Hermelyn, Buttenschon, the Speaker and all members, we welcome you, our distinguished guests, to the Assembly Chamber, our People's House, extend the privileges of the floor to you. Thank you for joining us today on MWBE Advocacy Day. We hope you enjoy our proceedings.

Thank you so very much for joining us.

(Applause)

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A08482, Rules Report No. 255, Cruz, Bronson, Jacobson. An act to amend the Workers' Compensation Law, in relation to prohibiting insurance carriers and employers from withholding certain benefits from injured workers based on attachment to the labor market.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: This bill is laid aside.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Madam Speaker, if we can now take up our resolutions on today's agenda.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Resolutions, page 3, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 554, Ms. Bichotte Hermelyn.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 21, 2025, as MWBE Advocacy Day in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Ms. Bichotte Hermelyn on the resolution.

MS. BICHOTTE HERMELYN: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for allowing me to speak on this vital resolution that establishes today as MWBE Advocacy Day in New York State.

Advocacy Day represents the economic empowerment for minorities and women business enterprise who own and operate business, and increasing their success and ability to thrive under New York State's and other municipalities such as New York City's MWBE program.

Despite decades of legislation and programs in both New York City and New York State to level the playing field for MWBEs, disparities continue to persist and our MWBE community faces an uphill battle and roadblocks to equality and contracting with the government.

In 1988 the New York State Executive Law enacted Article 15-A to ensure and promote fair and equal employment, and minority women business enterprise participation in State contracts through the establishment of goals for the minority and women-owned business enterprises. And in 1989 the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the landmark case *City of Richmond v. Croson*, and others that followed it, set legal boundaries for municipalities intending to create minority business enterprise programs. Then in 2005, New York City established an MWBE program via Local Law 129. On a State level in 2014, New York State launched an MWBE certification campaign to encourage minority and women business owners to certify with the State and take advantage of billions of dollars in State procurement opportunities. And the Governor pledged to increase MWBE certification by an additional 2,000 businesses; a goal that the State exceeded in January of 2016 as a result of the number of certified

State firms more than doubled just in five years.

Since then we have become a nation leader in MWBE utilization, setting back-to-back records for support in spending. But we still have a lot of work to do. We are still experiencing bias, exclusion, and barriers, still making it hard for minority communities to close the wealth gap. And guess what? Minorities and women make up the majority of our population.

We want expanded mentorship and training so our firms and small businesses can grow from subcontractors to prime contractors. We want ways to increase participation and improve the quality of programs through access of State funding, City funding, localities so it can do what it was meant to do, that our procurement process is equitable. Because we all know what the truth is despite what certain folks say or are trying to tell you, MWBEs are not looking for favors. They're asking for fairness. They don't want to be given contracts. They want a fair shot to win. They don't want handouts. They want the system to stop putting hurdles in their path.

This is what Advocacy Day is all about. MWBC -- MWBE Advocacy Day has gathered the best businesses, leaders, industry groups, stakeholders, and lawmakers. It's about showing up, speaking out, and making it clear that economic justice is not optional, it's essential. We are here to ensure that this State's wealth and opportunity are shared equitably. Not just for today, but future generations. This is our moment. Let's keep building. Let's keep fighting. And let's make 2025 the year New York fully commits to

MWBE equity. Not in name, but in action.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 555, Mr. Ra.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 20, 2025, as Transatlantic Flight 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.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 556, Ms. Kassay.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 23, 2025, as Long Island Sound Day in the State -- State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Ms. Kassay on the resolution.

MS. KASSAY: Thank you for letting me speak on this very important resolution.

Being a native Long Islander growing up on the North Shore, my relationship with the Long Island Sound started when I was child going to the beach. But I felt really -- when I started my

career in environmental science and leading a team volunteer group along the North Shore in Stony Brook in Suffolk County that I really got to know the Long Island Sound more deeply.

I would take students out to tag horseshoe crabs, conduct species studies of terrapin turtles, to do beach cleanups and invasive species removal, and it really deepened my understanding of this incredible ecological resource and how sensitive and how important it is to both native species as well as migratory species that pass through like the Red Knot and others throughout the year going to and from the Arctic and South America.

So little did I know as a child this incredible, incredible place in our backyard was so ecologically important in our global ecological society. Then as I became a small businessowner in the Village of Port Jefferson, we had a bed and breakfast, we had folks coming near and far to enjoy the beauty and the magnificence and the recreation on the Long Island Sound.

My husband and I also took up sailing. We had a J-24 sailboat and would go out there ourselves and along with fellow boaters, enjoy that aspect of the Long Island Sound.

And so I'm very proud today to represent a stretch of the land that is -- is along the Long Island Sound there. You know, it stretches from the Western Narrows of New York City and along the Sound Shore of Westchester County. And so this body of water truly connects a lot of us here in this room, and is of great importance, again, both ecologically and economically, as it's a huge economic

driver. Commercial and recreational activities in the Long Island Sound generate upwards of \$9 billion in the economy every year. And as an environmentalist, I've learned that sometimes you have to speak about the environment and its importance in terms of how it's an economic driver. And so, again, I will say \$9 billion of our local economy comes from this incredible body of water. So when we speak about water quality, when we speak about protecting our environment, it's not just for, you know, the incredible species that it call it home, but it's also for our economy. And so I look at every investment that New York State makes into environmental protections is just that, an investment in the grand scheme of our wonderful economy and one of the many reasons why New Yorkers love to call New York home.

So I'm so proud to present this resolution and celebrate, again, Long Island Sound Day and its importance this Friday and every day of the year.

Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. O'Pharrow on the resolution.

MR. O'PHARROW: Good afternoon, Madam Speaker, colleagues, and guests.

I'd like to first thank my colleague and fellow Long Islander, Rebecca Kassay, for bringing this resolution to the floor. But I'd just like to take a moment to brag about Long Island. It's one of this -- our State's natural resources. Long Island is also known as --

Long Island Sound is actually known as "The Sound". But the Sound plays a vital role in our daily lives. It -- it does everything from ferries and ships and -- and transporting people and goods throughout our waterways. The Sound is also known for its commercial and recreational shellfishing. Everything from oysters to crabs and -- and to lobsters. Not to mention anglers from all across the State and all across this great country come in search of bluefish, bass, and fluke, and -- and many more fishes. But -- I mean, I like to fish. You probably don't want to fish with me, though, because I carry a boot every now and then when I go throw an angle out there. But I'm not that good, so don't take me on fishing trip.

But here's the thing. What makes the Sound so special is -- if you didn't know, it's actually an estuary, where you have saltwater and freshwater coming together. And an estuary is the most productive ecosystem on the Planet Earth; serving, feeding, breeding, and providing nursery grounds for over 7 -- excuse me, over 1,200 species and invertebrates, not to mention 170 different kinds of fish and dozens of migratory birds.

So let's do our part not to only protect and preserve this incredible natural resource of Long Island, let's do it for future generation -- future generations, but to also vote yes on this amazing resolution.

And thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying

aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 557, Mr. Jones.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2025, as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month 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. 558, Ms. Rajkumar.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2025, as Malayalee Heritage Month 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. 559, Mr. P. Carroll.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim August 2025, as Indian American Heritage Month 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. 560, Mr. Rivera.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 19-25, 2025, as Lead Poisoning Prevention 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. 561, Ms. Lunsford.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 14, 2025, as World Diabetes 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.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 562, Mr. DeStefano.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 17-25, 2025, as Hunger and Homelessness Awareness 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.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

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

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: We do have a piece of housekeeping.

On a motion by Ms. Paulin, page 9, Calendar No. 54, Bill No. A55 -- A00544-A, the amendments are received and adopted.

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. 563-566 were unanimously adopted.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Madam Speaker, would you call on Ms. Clark for the purposes of an announcement?

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Ms. Clark for the purposes of an announcement.

MS. CLARK: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I'm here to announce that there will be a Majority Conference immediately following Session in Hearing Room C. Majority Conference immediately following Session.

ACTING SPEAKER HUNTER: Thank you.

Majority Conference, Hearing Room C, at the adjournment of our Session.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: I now move that the Assembly stand adjourned, and that we reconvene at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, May the 22nd, tomorrow being a Session day.

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

(Whereupon, at 3:26 p.m., the House stood adjourned until Thursday, May 22nd at 10:00 a.m., that being a Session day.)