

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020

2:58 P.M.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The House will come to order.

Reverend Elia will offer a prayer.

REVEREND DONNA ELIA: Let us pray. O God, by whom we call by many names, we thank You for this day as we pause to ask Your blessing upon the work at hand. Strengthen and empower this Body and each member for the important task of building a better state. For any who carry grief or worry about their districts because of tragedy or uncertainty or struggle, we ask, O Lord, that You would lift their spirits. Thank You for the willingness of each member to embrace public service. Help them to the best of their ability to strive for consensus, and to disagree with civility and respect when disagreement is unavoidable. Bless, too, their families and all

they hold dear, and bless the staff, those whose work is seen and those whose work is unseen but is necessary for the good of the whole. On this day, O God, some may be weary. Give them strength. Some may not feel well. Give them healing. Some may need a word of hope. May they receive it. And as we draw near to the anniversary of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birth, help us to remember to speak up when we see injustice. Help us to do the work of peace and justice that we are able to do. And do not let us grow weary in well-doing. May there be peace here and in the world.

In your Holy Name we pray. Amen.

MEMBERS: Amen.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Visitors are invited to join the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A quorum being present, the Clerk will read the Journal of Sunday, January 12th.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, I move to dispense with the further reading of the Journal of January the 11th and ask that the same stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Without objection, so ordered.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, if I can

have the members' attention so that we can announce our schedule for today. First, I would I like to provide a daily quote. This one comes from Nelson Mandela, who you know, Mr. Speaker, was the -- the country of South Africa's first head of state and the first elected in a fully representative democratic [sic] election. His quote is, *What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made in the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life that we lead.*

Again, Mr. Speaker, that is by Nelson Mandela.

Members have on their desk a main Calendar. That's going to be where we're bringing our principal work from on today on consent. As we conclude, we will take up Rule changes, the necessary technical amendments to our 2019-2020 Rules. And that pretty much, Mr. Speaker, is a general outline of where we are going today. If there are any introductions and/or housekeeping, now would be a great time.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Let us start with an introduction by Mr. Zebrowski.

MR. ZEBROWSKI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt for an introduction. If I could ask my guests in the back to stand. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, I introduce to you the North Rockland Red Raiders, the 2019 Girls Bowling State Champions. With them today let me say is Ileana Eckert, who is the North Rockland School Superintendent. And just briefly, Ms. Eckert will be retiring this year. She joined the District in 1984, became Superintendent in 2009 and we will miss her. Chris Felicello is the

Assistant Superintendent and will be taking over. Also with them is chaperones Susan Varano and Lisa Palamaro. And our bowlers, Akira Deloatch, Nancy Kohut, Isabella Palamaro, Victoria Varano, and Nicole Cona was not able to make it but was part of this team. This is their first-ever State Championship after more than a decade of making it to the tournament and coming in second place multiple times. In the section tournament they set a Section 1 tournament record with a total pin fall of 6,057 pins. They had five bowlers finish in the top 15 of the 54-bowler field which projected them on to the championship tournament, whereas they broke a tournament record en route to the title. They had a 300 bowler in Nicole Cona who was just the second 300 in tournament history, and they closed out a 1,147 pin score which broke a 24-year record previously held by the Town of Colonie.

Mr. Speaker, I represent this district with Colin Schmitt. I'd ask you to recognize him as well, and if all my colleagues could wish them a hearty congratulations on this feat. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Zebrowski, Mr. Schmitt, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly. We extend to you the privileges of the floor. Certainly for the bowlers, our congratulations on your championship. We hope that it serves as a bridge-way to greater championships in life. We know you will learn those lessons. And to you who are retiring, congratulations and thank you for the extraordinary service that you provide. And to you, sir,

who are taking the place, hopefully you will follow in those shoes with both longevity and quality of service. Thank you all for being here. You're welcome.

(Applause)

Ms. Rozic.

MS. ROZIC: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Madam Majority Leader. I have the pleasure today of introducing Ezras Nashim. Ezras Nashim is New York's first women-only EMT group founded and directed by Judge Ruchie Freier. The culturally-appropriate emergency care that they provide to women across New York City is invaluable and should be recognized for its impact. They currently operate with 40 certified EMTs, 25 of whom are in the training process. Its service provides women with dignified emergency health care. This organization of fully-trained EMTs strives to assist as many women as possible.

It's my honor today to ask if we can extend the cordialities of the floor to welcome Ezras Nashim, EMTs and advocates to the People's House. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Ms. Rozic, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. Thank you for the work that you're doing to ensure the health and well-being of women who come into your facility. Please continue that, know that you will always be in our thoughts and we will always be grateful for the service that you're providing. Thank

you.

(Applause)

Mr. Ramos.

MR. RAMOS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to introduce a distinguished group that I have from my community. Please stand up. A group of constituents -- as is my tradition every year around the beginning of Session I try and bring a group of constituents here to learn a little bit about how government works from the inside. This group here are -- they are advocates in many areas. Many of them have had an impact Statewide. Many were here fighting for driver's licenses, for the DREAM Act. We have members of the Muslim community who as a result of coming up year after year have really engaged government in our area. In fact, they engaged our school board. They were able to get Eid holidays and prayer rooms for the Muslim students. We have people here from the Haitian community who have also been very active, in fact, with several of the Haitian Assemblypersons here. They've been active with them in -- in their communities. There are too many to name, so I just want to thank you all for -- for coming.

And Mr. Speaker, I ask you to please give them a warm welcome and please extend them all the privileges of the House.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Ramos, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. This is the People's House. We are so pleased that you've been

able to join us and that you have been such an active part of Mr. Ramos' Assembly District, making it better for people of all kinds. Thank you so very much. Continue to enjoy your day. Thank you.

(Applause)

And we do have some housekeeping to take care of.

At the request of Ms. Paulin, Calendar No. 97, Bill No. A.2232, Governmental Employees is -- the Committee is recommitted back to.

On behalf of Ms. Jaffee, Calendar No. 18, No. A.412-B, Way -- committed back to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Abbate, Calendar No. 283, Bill No. A.7624-A back to the Committee on Governmental Employees.

On a motion by Mr. Zebrowski, page 38, Calendar No. 181, Bill No. A.4752-B, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mr. Perry, page 48, Calendar No. 227, Bill No. A.6023-A, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mr. McDonough, page 62, Calendar No. 319, Bill No. A.8215, amendments are received and adopted.

Resolutions on page 3. The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 664, Mr. DeStefano.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 2020 as Thyroid Disease Awareness Month in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. DeStefano on the resolution.

MR. DESTEFANO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to speak on behalf of this resolution. An estimated 20 million Americans are affected by thyroid disease with many of them not even knowing they have the problem. The disease can develop in anyone, but tends to occur three times more in women than men. In New York State, approximately 1,000 men and 3,100 women are diagnosed each year with a mortality rate from thyroid cancer is unacceptable. Thyroid cases have been on the rise between 1975 and 2013. Cancer diagnoses have more than tripled each year, while advanced cases and deaths have also increased. In addition to cancer, thyroid disorders include Graves disease, Hashimoto's, goiter, nodules, both hypo and hypo -- hypothyroidism. Because 60 percent of people with thyroid cancer don't even know they have it, public awareness is critical to minimizing its devastating effects. This is why I'm sponsoring this resolution to designate January as Thyroid Disease Awareness Month in the State of New York. Let's encourage to reduce the risk of thyroid problems through awareness, regular checkups and preventative maintenance and preventative measures such as exercise and stopping smoking. If we save one New Yorker's life from the disturbing effects of thyroid disease, our efforts will be well worth it.

Thank you for the opportunity, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, Mr.

DeStefano.

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

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, if we can go to page 4 on our Calendar on consent.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00034-A, Calendar No. 1, Perry, Wright. An act to amend the Public Officers Law, in relation to the unauthorized release of sealed records.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00086, Calendar No. 2, Perry, Dickens, Taylor, Barron, Blake, Colton, Cook, Williams, D'Urso, Seawright. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to prohibiting an insurer from cancelling or refusing to renew or condition its renewal of automobile insurance policies in certain cases.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00108, Calendar No. 3, L. Rosenthal, Gottfried, Bronson, Seawright. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to requiring pre-admission notification of policies authorizing the refusal to follow directives in health care proxies that are contrary to a hospital's operating principles.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00119-A, Calendar No. 4, Buchwald, Galef, Paulin, Gottfried. An act to amend the Public

Officers Law, in relation to accessing records under the Freedom of Information Law.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

One minute for an announcement. The members of the Queens delegation, would you please proceed to the Speaker's Office immediately. Thank you.

Proceed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00154, Calendar No. 5, D'Urso, Cook, Galef, Williams, Fahy, Taylor, Morinello, Darling, Arroyo, Mikulin, DeStefano, Magnarelli. An act to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law, in relation to tire safety.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00168-A, Calendar No. 6, L. Rosenthal, Dinowitz, Gunther, Weprin, Buchwald, Jaffee, Fahy, D'Urso. An act in relation to establishing Brendan's Law; and to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to requiring cordless window coverings in child day care centers and certain other facilities.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00187, Calendar No. 7, D'Urso, Lentol, Arroyo, Gottfried. An act to amend the Penal Law, in relation to fines for corporations.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00222, Calendar No. 8, Paulin, Galef, Abinanti, Buchwald, Otis. An act to amend the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, in relation to voting requirements of

the board of certain corporations.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Colleagues, this is actually our -- not just our first vote of today, it's our first vote of 2020. So if you are in and around the Chambers, if you could take your vote as quickly as possible, we will be able to move forward.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: First vote of the... decade, actually. Thank you so very much.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed unanimously. First one of the decade altogether. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00225-A, Calendar No. 9, Paulin, Cook, Zebrowski, McDonough, L. Rosenthal, Abinanti, Seawright, Vanel, Ortiz, Gottfried. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to the registration and regulation of pet

groomers.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00263, Calendar No. 10, Cahill, Griffin. An act to amend the Tax Law, in relation to including certain independent contractors in the State Directory of New Hires to aid in the administration of the Child Support Enforcement Program.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00271, Calendar No. 11, Seawright, Fernandez, Weprin, Otis, Simotas, Wallace, L. Rosenthal, Abinanti, Lupardo, Cruz, Steck, Jaffee, Stern, Fall. Concurrent Resolution of the Senate and Assembly proposing an amendment to Section 11 of Article I of the Constitution in relation to equal rights for women.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00292-A, Calendar No. 12, Steck, Seawright. An act to amend the Civil Rights Law, in relation to the imposition of penalties and remedies in suits brought for the vindication of civil rights or human rights.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00306, Calendar No. 13, Steck. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to the fee charged for the issuance of birth and death certificates.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00318-A, Calendar No. 14, Paulin, Gottfried, Galef, Arroyo, Barron, Blake, Dickens, D'Urso, Colton, Cook, Epstein, Seawright, Taylor, Woerner, McDonough, Jean-Pierre, Fernandez, Walker, Hyndman, Wright, Buttenschon, Simotas, Jacobson, Griffin, Ashby, Simon. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to informing maternity patients about the risks associated with cesarean section.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00346, Calendar No. 15, Joyner, Simon, Barron, Gottfried, Fernandez, Wright. An act authorizing a study of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to study the treatment of aging prison populations and make recommendations for ensuring humane treatment of such populations.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00361-A, Calendar No. 16, Paulin, L. Rosenthal, Colton, Mosley. An act to amend the Civil Practice Law and Rules, in relation to limited liability of persons jointly liable.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00362, Calendar No. 17, Paulin, D'Urso, Galef, Lavine, Ortiz, D. Rosenthal, Seawright, Simon, McDonough. An act to direct the Department of State to study, evaluate and make recommendations concerning safety standards of -- at baseball stadiums.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00420-B, Calendar No. 19, Braunstein, Mosley, Jaffee, M.G. Miller, Arroyo, Gottfried, Zebrowski, Cook, Montesano, Finch, Seawright, Friend, Galef, Hevesi, Weprin, L. Rosenthal, Griffin. An act to amend the Public Health Law and the Civil Rights Law, in relation to prohibiting the making and/or broadcasting of visual images of individuals undergoing medical treatment without prior written consent.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00431, Calendar No. 20, Braunstein, Abinanti, Gunther, Mosley, Gottfried, Weprin, Montesano, L. Rosenthal, Colton, Jaffee, Cahill, O'Donnell, Peoples-Stokes, Steck, Perry, Simotas, Otis, Rodriguez, Blake, Simon, Buttenschon. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to the sale and use of employment information.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00436-A, Calendar No. 21, Paulin, Galef, Schimminger, Magnarelli, Jaffee, Lupardo, Englebright, M.G. Miller, Otis, Gottfried, Thiele, Jacobson, D'Urso. An act to amend the Town Law and the Village Law, in relation to requiring local building and planning regulations to accommodate the use of certain renewable and alternative energy sources.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00446, Calendar No. 22, Stirpe, Ryan, Arroyo, D'Urso, Burke, Colton, Carroll, Wallace, Reyes, Crespo, Cook, Nolan, Thiele, Zebrowski, Taylor, Ortiz, Gottfried, Griffin, Blake, Jaffee, DeStefano, Montesano, Ra, Glick, McDonough, Steck, Jacobson. An act to amend the Labor Law, in relation to the calculation of weekly employment insurance benefits for workers who are partially unemployed; and repealing certain provisions of such law relating thereto.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00452, Calendar No. 23, Steck, Jacobson, D'Urso. An act to amend the Election Law, in relation to specification of objections to designating petitions, independent nominating petitions, certificates of nomination or ballot access documents.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00459-A, Calendar

No. 24, Paulin, Mosley, M.G. Miller, Crouch, Gottfried, Pichardo. An act to amend the Executive Law and the Criminal Procedure Law, in relation to the definition of designated offender.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00570, Calendar No. 25, Jaffee, Wright, DenDekker, D'Urso, Cook, Cruz, Dickens, Crespo, Mosley, Blake, Abbate, Hunter, Schmitt, Glick, Hyndman, Simon, Abinanti, McDonough, Fall, Darling, M.L. Miller, Fernandez, Ashby, Barnwell. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to requiring agencies to provide potential adoptive parents with information concerning State-funded benefits or services received by a foster child that expire upon adoption.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00574, Calendar No. 26, Braunstein, Lupardo, Crespo, Woerner, Steck, Bronson, Paulin, McDonald, Stern, Walczyk, Griffin. An act to amend the State Finance Law and the General Municipal Law, in relation to requiring

full payment for delivered and accepted materials pertaining to public work projects; and to amend the General Business Law, in relation to prohibiting the retention of any payment due and owing a material supplier for a construction project.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00587-B, Calendar No. 27, Rozic, Aubry, Blake, De La Rosa, D'Urso, Galef, Jaffee, Jean-Pierre, Nolan, Seawright, Epstein, Rodriguez, Taylor, Cruz, Simon, Griffin, Pichardo, Ortiz, Dickens, Arroyo, Cook, Fernandez. An act to amend the Public Authorities Law, in relation to gender balance in the State and local public authorities; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00590-A, Calendar No. 28, L. Rosenthal, Stirpe. An act to amend the Mental Hygiene Law, in relation to establishing the Problem Gambling Advisory Council.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00629, Calendar No. 29, Rozic, Wallace, Mosley, Magnarelli, Ortiz, Simon, Jean-Pierre, Walker, Benedetto, Crespo, Glick, De La Rosa, D'Urso, Pheffer Amato, Hyndman, Gottfried, Blake, Rivera, Dickens, Seawright, Weprin, Rosenthal, Colton, Solages, Montesano, Griffin, Stirpe, Williams, Cruz, Fernandez, Reyes. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to prohibiting businesses from charging a price for goods on the basis of gender.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00652, Calendar No. 30, Bronson, Johns. An act to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law, in relation to the operation of a motor vehicle by deaf or hard-of-hearing drivers.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

Members, will you please take your seats and cease conversations, please? That's those in the back. If you are staff,

please go sit in the rear. Don't stand by the member.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. Last week we introduced a resolution to amend the Assembly Rules. Contained in this resolution are several technical changes to conform to our current practices. As members, we are aware that we have modified our Session calendar. As such, it is necessary that we change the current Assembly Rules that need to be updated so that they will specifically focus on our date changes. So with respect to the timeline for the unlimited introduction of bills and resolutions, our Rules currently provide for such unlimited introduction until the last Tuesday in May of the second year. This Rule change will make it -- make that date be four weeks prior to the schedule of the end of Session, this year being May the 4th. With respect to bills referred to Rules Committee, our current Rules provide for such referencing beginning the first legislative day in June. This Rule change will make that date three weeks prior to the scheduled end of Session, this year being May the 11th. This Rule change also makes a technical change to allow the Clerk to ascertain the presence of quorum electronically rather than through the manual calling of the roll. As stated earlier, Mr. Speaker, these changes are meant to conform with our Rules to the current practices while reflecting the modified Session calendar.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would move its approval.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution --

on the resolution, 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 resolution is adopted.

Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hereby give notice, general notice, of the Minority's intention to offer several thoughtful amendments to our Rules to improve our procedures and our operations. And we'll provide more specific details in the near future.

Thank you, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, sir.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

Members, please take your seats for the purposes of an introduction.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of our colleagues Ms. Fahy and Mr. McDonald to welcome Coach Colleen Mullen and her team of the University of Albany Women's Basketball Team to the People's House. We are proud to have them here with us today coming off of a season where they finished seven -- 9-7 in the Eastern Conference. Since 2012, Mr. Speaker, the team has qualified for the NCAA Division 1 Tournament, better known as March Mad -- Mad -- Madness tournament at least six times, and for the first time in

their history. Thank you for having this opportunity -- for having them join us, members. And please let me just give you their names because these are not just athletes, Mr. Speaker, these are scholars as well. So we have Izzy Om, Kyara Frames, Khepera Stokes, Patricia Conroy, Lucia Decortes, Amanda Kantzy, Morgan Haney, Kumsal Aslan, Helene Haegerstrand, Taniya Hanner, Maky Johnson, Alexi Schecter and Abby Robinson. Again, the head coach is Colleen Mullen.

Mr. Speaker, would you please welcome these scholar athletes to our Chambers.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mrs. Peoples-Stokes, Ms. Fahy, Mr. McDonald, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. Our congratulations on past seasons, our expectations for a great season this year. We will look forward to watching you and celebrating your victories. Thank you so much for being here. Good luck. And we hope this leads to a long and strong life that you will have because you've participated in competitive sports and been successful. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, do we have any further housekeeping and/or resolutions? I know there is a reso by Ms. Solages which some of our colleagues would like to be heard on.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Yes, we have first resolutions, then we will go to Ms. Solages.

On a motion by Mr. Gottfried, page 28, Calendar No. 124, Bill No. A.2983, the amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Ms. Fahy, page 38, Calendar No. 179, Bill A.4739-A, amendments are received and adopted.

The Clerk will read the title of the resolution.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 647, Ms. Solages.

Legislative Resolution remembering the victims -- victims of the Haitian earthquake of January 12th, 2010.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Solages on the resolution.

MS. SOLAGES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues for allowing us to pause the proceedings for the purpose of this resolution. On January 12th, 2010, Haiti was devastated by a massive earthquake. The tremor was felt as far away as Cuba and Venezuela. But the epicenter of the 7.0 magnitude quake was just 16 miles away from Port-au-Prince. The quake shock lasted 30 seconds. A decade later, Haiti continues to face multiple crises, including the greatest tragedy of billions of dollars of aid wasted. January 12th was a day to forget, but we must always remember. We pray for the hundreds of thousands of people, our brothers and sisters who perished. May God rest their souls in peace. We uplift the survivors and our TPS recipients that to this day are struggling to fight for

stability. Today we thank all the individuals and the organizations in New York and abroad that are rebuilding Haiti. May the next decade bring opportunity, prosperity and good fortune to our historic homeland. And we also send our thoughts and prayers to the people of Albania and in Puerto Rico.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

Ms. Bichotte on the resolution.

MS. BICHOTTE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to speak on this resolution. Today is the 10th anniversary of the devastating earthquake that happened in Haiti. Nothing like it many of us have witnessed. People are still in famine. People are still homeless. We still have economic and government struggles. And what we ask for from everyone is continuous prayer. Continuous prayer for the country who was the first black slave revolt. The first country who gained its independence and who led the way for so many other countries to be independent as well. I also give my prayers to Puerto Rico and Albania for the recent earthquakes.

Mr. Speaker, thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, ma'am.

Ms. Frontus.

MS. FRONTUS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for allowing me to speak on this resolution. Today we remember the victims of the devastating magnitude 7 earthquake that struck our beloved Haiti just ten years ago, causing massive loss of life and

untold damage. The epicenter was located just miles from the densely-populated capital city of Port-au-Prince, but the effects were felt far and wide, even here in New York City, which boast -- well, we're not in New York City, but in my district in New York City which boasts the second-largest population of Haitians in the country. A population that has swelled in the aftermath of the destruction. You will not find a member of the Haitian community whether in Flatbush, in East Flatbush, Spring Gardens, Coney Island or throughout the State of New York who has not been touched and has not been personally affected by this earthquake and who is not still feeling the emotional aftershocks. Indeed, today is a day of prayer. It is a day of mourning and a day of remembrance. May I say that it is also a day that we stand proudly as Haitians and with all Haitians whether they are in Haiti, whether they are part of the diaspora, anywhere here in the great State of New York. We do celebrate the resilience of a people who over the years have suffered a lifetime of colonization and the ravages of national destruction, but whose lights will never be extinguished.

Thank you so much.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, ma'am.

Mr. Barron.

MR. BARRON: To my Haitian brothers and sisters, I say Sak Pase. And I say that as we annually remember the earthquake, we also have to remember the human beings, the human disaster of France still taking money after colonizing Haiti, of America who

supported Duvalier and other dictators, exploiters of Haiti. Haiti is not a poor nation. It is a rich nation. Rich in spirit, rich in culture, rich in national resources. It is poor because of capitalistic and imperialistic exploitation. And while billions of dollars went into Haiti, no one should be without a house. All that money that went into Haiti. No one should be without food or shelter. They're being ripped off. And the American government and the government of France and some of these independent fundraising international agencies are allowing the continuing rip-off of Haiti. There are those who are raising billions of dollars for Haiti but it's not getting to the people of Haiti. It's not getting to the victims of the earthquake. So we have to pay homage to that country that brought revolution to the Western hemisphere for enslaved Africans. As a matter of fact, the Louisiana Purchase happened because Haiti was beating Napoleon and America had to purchase or sell Louisiana so that they can get -- or the French had to sell Louisiana to the Americans to expand this nation so that they could get money to try to beat Napoleon, and they lost anyway. So let's not forget this history of colonialism, this history of imperialism and exploitation to go with a natural disaster. And then when you fight for relief money, it doesn't go to the people of Haiti, it goes to greedy capitalists that continue to exploit. I say to the Haitian people keep up the spirit, the spirit of Boukman and the spirit of Dessalines and the spirit of Toussaint Louverture and Henri Christophe. It is that fighting spirit that's in the people of Haiti, the resilient people of Haiti. Haiti will rise again. And when they do, we're going to remember

those who treated them with despair when they were down.

Straight ahead. Rise up, Haiti.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Vanel.

MR. VANEL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to -- the opportunity to speak on this resolution. I'd also like to thank the introducer for introducing this -- this resolution. On January 12, 2010, just a decade ago, we -- we all understand the -- that Haiti experienced a devastating earthquake where hundreds of thousands were perished. Hundreds of thousands of lives lost. Millions affected. This tragedy happened where there was unspeakable reactions. Unspeakable things happened to folks in Haiti. As a matter of fact, I was there the day after the earthquake. But I want to talk about the hope that's happening in Haiti. I want to talk about the resilience of the people in Haiti. I want to talk about the resilience of people. You know, natural disaster, no country has a monopoly on that. Right now we're talking about -- we're -- we're making sure that we can help Puerto Rico with this recent earthquake. As a matter of fact, in New York, in North Country there was an earthquake this weekend. None of us, none of us are excused from having natural disaster. We must stand in solidarity, we must stand together. We have to understand that there are going to be more natural disasters around the world. But we must stand together. Haiti is not by itself with respect to these kinds of natural disasters. We're going to get hit also. As a matter of fact, our -- my beloved Queens is still suffering from Hurricane Sandy. But we have to make sure that we understand we need each other's

help, we need to stand together, and that we are resilient people across the world and we stand to look at the positive things that are happening in Haiti and all the hopefulness that are happening in Haiti. Given its challenges, we must continue to stand with Haiti just like we can stand with Puerto Rico, just like we stand with North Country, just like we stand with folks around the world that deal with these natural disasters.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, sir.

Mr. D'Urso.

MR. D'URSO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to say a few words about the devastation of the earthquake of January 12th, 2010. Myself and a priest and three nuns from Croatia, we went there within a month and we started a little orphanage and we -- we have provided these children with shelter, with clothing, with food, with medical care and with education. But it got so dangerous lately because there's a lot of civil unrest and there's a lot of governmental, you know, crisis going on that's very unsafe for us to go there. But I want to speak a little bit about the aid that was promised by -- by two past presidents, that was Clinton and George W. Bush. \$11 billion, if you remember. I don't know how much of that money has been released. I don't think very much of it. And I also want to remind you that there's a lot of animosity against the NGOs because most of the money funding that goes there to repair the devastation of the earthquake goes to the NGOs, not to the people there. And there's

a lot of friction between the two parties. So I hope that things calm down again and I'll be able to go back and do my missionary work.

Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, sir.

Mr. Taylor.

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to share my voice and thank the presenter of this resolution. Myself and three of my buddies went down and we arrived six days after the earthquake in Port-au-Prince. And one of the things that stood out to me was in one category they were referred to as looters when, in fact, people were just trying to find substance to stay alive. And in another market they were called scroungers looking for food. And I think the narrative is that Haiti was demonized, is demonized. And I went there with the idea that we could really do some work. But the resiliency of the people in Haiti -- when we arrived that night it was Martin Luther King night, and the survival and the integrity in how they carried themselves gave me more hope, I think, than I gave them. So, I stand to say that Haiti will survive, is surviving. And to my colleague's point, one of the things that I found frustrating was that the NGOs were starting to cut deals with people in various communities so people that were furthest away couldn't get the relief that they needed because people couldn't get into those territories.

But again, I want to stand and compliment and stand with my colleagues in supporting this resolution and I look forward to that brighter day when Haiti will prevail. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Rivera.

MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For those of us who know a little bit of history, we know about the role that was played by the Haitian people in the 1800s as they set out to be free from any kind of oppression, any kind of control by whatever foreign country held over them. And as soon as they felt they were free enough, they set out on a mission to cry out for freedom for Cuba, Puerto Rico and the rest of Latin America began to fight for their freedom. So we know the role that the Haitian community and the Republic of Haiti play in the Caribbean. I recall visiting some ten years ago Haiti with the Reverend Al Sharpton. And we brought a generator there. And if you don't believe me I probably can go into my video and I'll show it to you. But here we are today, exactly ten years later. Now I can understand why the people of Puerto Rico are so terrified, because ten years ago the island of Puerto Rico set out to help the people in Haiti in their time of need. Now look. Now I can understand why Puerto Rico is so terrified. I never, ever heard or recall a hurricane in Puerto Rico. I don't know what's going on. Now we -- we're having this hurricane every single day. And half of the island is practically in ruins. So what the economy that is not controlled by the Puerto Rican people dictates that we are beholding. And if that's not enough, then the hur -- then Maria came along and that practically destroyed the whole island. But this is worse than what Maria did. To actually see every single day in the news report houses that we thought were built to withstand hurricanes are being

torn apart. And the first building to come down was one of the building, a historical building, a church. My God, not even a church can we come in and try to save. Total ruins that thousands of people moving to help Puerto Rico. I am proud that this young man sitting in front of me - his name is Marco Crespo, if I'm allowed to mention his name - and Phil Ramos put together a delegation to go this week to Puerto Rico to let them know that they're not alone. That we're mobilizing here in all our cities, in all our neighborhood to help Puerto Rico in time of need. So we know what an earthquake can do to a country. I am saying thank you to the Second Floor. Andrew Cuomo will be going there this Wednesday like he did for Hurricane Maria. So in other words, we are representing -- and I believe that's the case everyone that's here, everyone that is here, because today these earthquakes, these hurricane, tomorrow it could be disastrous flooding Upstate New York that could destroy our farmland. When does it end? So I am saying thank you for the opportunity that our colleague brought up what happened ten years ago to Haiti.

So I rise in support and identify with the struggle of the Haiti -- Haitian people then and the Haitian people now. And Ms. Bichotte [sic], congratulations.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Jaffee.

MS. JAFFEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Going back to that time, that terrible time, so many of the residents in my community, Haitian community, had to deal with family members who were struggling, who were victims of this terrible earthquake. But

their strength was incredible. They stood together. They cared for each other. They cared for the members, their family and friends who were in Haiti at the time of this horror earthquake. And they were very impressive in their ability to be able to stay strong, to be able to be of assistance, to be able to share their concerns and to be able to provide the kind of support that was so necessary for so many victims of the Haitian earthquake. And I want to thank Assemblywoman Solages for moving forward on and providing this resolution because we need to continue to stand together to support those who face horrors just like the Haitians did. And I have great respect for the community who stood together and really worked together to support those who faced a terrible, terrible situation in Haiti.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

Ms. Jean-Pierre to close.

MS. JEAN-PIERRE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On January 12th of 2010 it was just shy away of ten days as the country celebrated its independence and to have a devastation. I really want to thank all of the -- all of my colleagues who spoke before me and to the -- to my colleague who introduced the resolution for -- for -- for being a great New Yorker. Because on January 12th of 2010, New York -- New York really came out for the people of Haiti. I remember on Long Island when we had our local residents, our local business -- business people come out and support the people of Haiti and continue to support people of Haiti. Just two years ago I traveled to Haiti with some of my colleagues here in both Houses, and Haiti has come a long

way but still has to come a long way. And the people remain strong, resilient, and pride runs heavy through the communities of Haiti. And just keep -- continue to keep Haiti in your prayers, and as I will keep my brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico and Albania. Thank you.

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

We have numerous other resolutions which we will take up with one vote.

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

(Whereupon, Assembly Resolution Nos. 645-663 were unanimously adopted.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, could you please call on Mr. Crouch for an announcement?

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Crouch for the purposes of an announcement.

MR. CROUCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There will be a Republican conference in the Parlor tomorrow at 11:30.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Republican conference in the Parlor tomorrow at 11:30.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: I now move that the Assembly stand adjourned until 12:00 noon, Tuesday, January

the 14th, tomorrow being a Session day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Assembly stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 4:38 p.m. the Assembly stood adjourned until Tuesday, January 14th at 12:00 noon, that being a Session day.)