

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022

2:00 P.M.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The House will come to order.

In the absence of clergy, let us pause for a moment of silence.

(Whereupon, a moment of silence was observed.)

Visitors are invited to join the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A quorum being present, the Clerk will read the Journal of Tuesday, May 24th.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

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

dispense with the further reading of the Journal of Tuesday, May the 24th and ask that the same stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Without objection, so ordered.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, sir.

Colleagues and guests that are in the Chambers, I want to share a quote with you today. This one is from Tupac Shakur. Some of you all you may know Tupac. He's widely considered one of the most influential rappers of all times. He's a best-selling music artist, having sold more than 75 million records worldwide. He left this life too early in 1996, but his words for us today: *Remember one thing. Through every dark night there's a bright day after that. No matter how hard you get it, stick your chest out, keep your head up and handle it.* Tupac Shakur.

Colleagues, you have on your desk a main Calendar as well as a debate list. We're going to begin our work today by taking up resolutions on page 3 of which some of our colleagues may like to speak. Then we're going to work off of the debate list by consenting a few bills from the debate list. That's Calendar No. 72 by Mr. Cahill; Calendar No. 107 by Mr. Cymbrowitz; Calendar No. 240 by Ms. Woerner; Calendar No. 276 by Ms. Woerner; Calendar No. 291 by Ms. Paulin; Calendar No. 499 by Ms. Rosenthal; Calendar No. 536 by Mr. Gottfried; and Calendar No. 581 by Ms. Paulin. And then we're going to take up the following bills that will actually be on

debate, Mr. Speaker. This is Calendar No. 423 by Mr. Dinowitz; Rules Report No. 227 by Mr. Gottfried; Rules Report No. 256 by Ms. Fernandez; Rules Report No. 264 by Mr. Cunningham; Rules Report No. 266 by Mr. Gibbs; and Calendar No. 560 by Ms. Rosenthal.

There may be a need for some additional floor work, Mr. Speaker. If so I will provide that information as soon as it's available. That's the general outline, that's where we're going today. If you have any introductions or housekeeping, now would be a great time, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly, Mrs. Peoples-Stokes. We do have housekeeping.

On a motion by Ms. Gallagher, page 49, Calendar No. 2 -- 628, Bill No. 9415-B, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mrs. Barrett, page 12, Calendar -- Rules Report No. 301, Bill No. 6755-B, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Ms. Pheffer Amato, page 9, Rules Report No. 270, Bill No. 10188, the amendments are received and adopted.

And we do have introductions. Ms. González-Rojas for the purpose of an introduction.

MS. GONZÁLEZ-ROJAS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a very special visitor today. So, I wear a necklace that says "Daughter and Immigrant", and I wear this necklace to remind me of the struggle that my family endured coming to this country from

Paraguay in order for me to be here today. So I am thrilled to welcome my father, Ramon González, Ramon Osvaldo González. He was born in Paraguay and came to this country to the best borough, the world's borough, Queens, in 1969 I believe, and went to high school with my -- another Assemblywoman, Deborah Glick at Martin Van Buren High School. He actually dropped out of high school because he didn't speak English and there was not adequate resources at that time. But, however, as someone who has consistently told me that education is the most critical thing in life, he went back when I was in high school to get his GED, then his associate's degree and then his bachelor's and then his master's, and now he is a professor of aviation at SUNY Farmingdale.

(Applause)

In fact, Assemblymember Vanel was one of his students at SUNY Farmingdale. So I hope we can extend the cordialities of the floor and welcome my father to the People's House.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of your daughter, the Speaker and all the members, Mr. González, welcome to the New York State Assembly. We extend to you the privileges of the floor. We know how proud you must be of your daughter. You appreciate her because of your lifelong relationship. We appreciate her for this short-term that she's shown to be an excellent legislator here in New York State. So we thank you so very much. And know that you are always welcome here. She is part of our family, as such so are you. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Mr. Dinowitz for the purposes of an introduction.

MR. DINOWITZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have three visitors from my district here today. And they are the lucky winners of an auction from PS24, which is a great school in my district. The auction was actually before the pandemic and their visit had to be postponed, and the prize was a trip to Albany. Yes, a trip to Albany. And it's actually a very good trip, by the way. But I would like to introduce my constituents Matt Adam, his daughter Stella and her friend Khloe Kisthart, residents of our community. And I would ask that you welcome them and give them the best introduction that you can.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Dinowitz, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly. Welcome to Albany. Congratulations on winning. We know that it is an opportunity to come here and be with us in the Capitol. We extend to you the privileges of the floor. Hope that you're going to have a great summer because I know summer is looming and a great time for young people. Please know that you're always welcome here, and again, we salute you for winning this contest. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Page 3, resolutions, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 997, Rules at the request of Ms. Rajkumar.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 28, 2022 as Nepali-American Heritage Day in the State of New York.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 998, Rules at the request of Ms. Giglio.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 21, 2022 as World Fish Migration Day in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Giglio on the resolution.

MS. GIGLIO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about an important issue for people across the planet. World Fish Migration Day is celebrated every two years by millions across the globe with the intent of raising awareness about migratory fish and the free-flowing rivers they depend on. Migratory fish, alewife, specifically on Long Island, travel from the ocean through the bays to freshwater. Free-flowing rivers and streams are therefore vital to the lifecycle of these species and their entire ecosystem. Not only does wildlife depend on healthy migratory fish populations, so do we. Billions of people across the world depend on healthy ecosystems for food, work and recreation. Unfortunately, manmade obstructions threaten the lifecycle of these fish and ultimately, we humans pay the

price. But there is hope. In my district, for example, the New York State DEC and local organizations have implemented innovative tools such as fish ladders and rock grounds which cross over dams and allow the alewife an ecologically-crucial migratory fish to return from the Peconic Estuary to the streams and rivers where they lay their eggs. This is but one example of many ways we can repair damage done and restore balance to the ecosystems on which we rely. We were made in God's image to be faithful stewards in his creation.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating World Fish Migration Day and embrace our sacred duty of environmental stewardship. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 999, Rules at the request of Mr. Sayegh.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 25, 2022 as Jordanian-American Heritage Day in the State of New York in conjunction with the 76th anniversary of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's independence.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Sayegh on the resolution.

MR. SAYEGH: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today, May 25th is the actual Independence Day in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. And in 2018 when I was elected to

the New York State Assembly, I didn't realize that I was the highest elected Jordanian-American in the country. So while it really took me to a role where developing United States Jordanian relationships was very crucial for me. And Jordan in the Middle East has been a country that's been a safe haven for refugees. When I looked at the population of Jordan nearly 25 years ago, it was around 3 million people. Today Jordan has a population of 11 million people. And most of us that know and understand the -- the problems that have taken place, the turmoil in the Middle East, know that Jordan has historically been a safe haven for refugees and merely took in individuals to allow them to have a life again. And today is very important for me because recently I had the pleasure of visiting with his Majesty King Abdullah of Jordan and Queen Rania. And they were celebrated for their role in interfaith protection not only in the Middle East but their role worldwide. Recently, the Holy See that coordinated the very important cause and event "The Path to Peace" honored King Abdullah.

So today in recognition of his work and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, I stand to celebrate Jordanian independence 76 years, but also to acknowledge a very growing Jordanian-American community in the U.S.A., especially in New York State, in my hometown of Yonkers, one of the largest Jordanian-American communities outside Jordan. And Jordanian-Americans, of course, like any other ethnic group value education, value hard work, work very hard to really raise their

families, educate their children and today play an extremely vital role in the success of their community at every level. And Jordan, if you haven't visited Jordan, really has some of the most historical sites in the world, especially Petra. It's one of the Seven Wonders of the World, engraved some 7,000 years ago, inhabited by Nabataeans, is really a major site to visit. And today I'm honored to recognize His Majesty King Abdullah and Queen Rania; the Jordanian Ambassador to the United States, Ambassador Dina Kavar; His Excellency Consulate General Ambassador Mahmoud Hmoud and to really celebrate the interfaith and the Path to Peace efforts and the role Jordan and Jordanian-Americans have played.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 1000, Rules at the request of Ms. Rosenthal.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 28, 2022 as Menstrual Hygiene Day in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Rosenthal on the resolution.

MS. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, on the resolution. Today we are adopting a resolution to proclaim May 28, 2022 as Menstrual Hygiene Day in the State of New York. Menstrual

Hygiene Day is a global initiative that aims to raise awareness of the stigma and shame that still surrounds menstrual cycles around the world. New York, we have taken groundbreaking steps towards menstrual equity through actions such as eliminating the tax on menstrual products and expanding access to these products in correctional facilities, schools and more. But much work remains to be done. While many are lucky enough to think of their period as a simple monthly routine, for millions worldwide it means missing days of work or school each month due to lack of access to menstrual products and isolation because of the stigma associated -- associated with menstruation. In many places where safe and hygienic products are not readily available, menstruating individuals often use makeshift items and risk illness and infection on a monthly basis. Despite the progress we have made in our mission of achieving menstrual equity, this biological process still holds countless menstruators back from achieving their full potential and carries an immense amount of shame and stigma. That is why the 2022 Menstrual Hygiene Day theme is "Making Menstruation a Normal Fact of Life by 2030." The goal is to create a world where no one is held back because they menstruate. By declaring May 28th as Menstrual Hygiene Day in the State of New York, we will uphold New York's position as a leader of this movement, encourage discussions around the topic of menstrual equity, empower individuals to speak out and ensure that menstruation or a lack of access to menstrual products no longer stands as a barrier to one's success.

Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 1001, Rules at the request of Mr. Cunningham.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim August 6, 2022 as Jamaican Flag Day in the State of New York.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 1002, Rules at the request of Mr. Zebrowski.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim August 14, 2022 as Model Aviation Day in the State of New York.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 1003, Rules at the request of Ms. Solages.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim August 2022 as Breastfeeding Awareness Month in the State of New York.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 1004, Rules at the request of Ms. Jean-Pierre.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 30-November 5, 2022 as Veterans Awareness Week in the State of New York.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 1005, Rules at the request of Mr. DeStefano.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim October 2022 as Pet Rescue Awareness Month in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. DeStefano on the resolution.

MR. DESTEFANO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to speak on this resolution. We appreciate all living creatures have value and we recognize the service and companionship, loyalty, unconditional love and happiness that animals bring into our lives. Millions of animals are brought to shelters each year. Some are reunited with their owners, and some find caring and loving homes. Sadly, some are euthanized because the shelters are too full and there

are not enough adoptive homes. As a longtime pet owner, I know how connected we can become to our dogs and cats and consider them to be part of the family. It is vital that we encourage empathy and compassion for our companion animals, that we provide a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves. Fortunately, the month of October, animal advocate supporters, pet owners and citizens come together in the State of New York to protect and acknowledge the contribution of all animals to our society. Therefore, I'm happy to see this legislation [sic] Body pause for its -- on its deliberations to recognize October as Pet Awareness -- Pet Rescue Awareness Month in the State of New York, a proclamation that will go a long way to helping creatures that bring such joy to our lives.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, sir.

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

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 1006, Rules at the request of Mr. Byrne.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim November 2022 as CRPS/RSD Awareness Month in the State of New York.

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

Page 24, Calendar No. 72, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A01393-B, Calendar No. 72, Cahill. An act to amend the Highway Law, in relation to designating a portion of the State highway system the "John "Jody" Rossitz Memorial Bridge."

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On a motion by Mr. Cahill, 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 AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote on Assembly -- Senate print 7255-A. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mr. Cahill to explain his vote.

MR. CAHILL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to explain my vote and briefly discuss the contributions of John "Jody" Rossitz to the people of the State of New York, in particular in the Catskill Mountain region. Jody was a volunteer in two fire -- in two ambulance companies, one that was nearest his home and then when he was at work he volunteered for the one in that town. So that's pretty much 24/7 he was volunteering in ambulance companies. He was also the chief of the fire department at Big Indian Oliverea Fire Department, and I got to the opportunity to go to that community

during the middle of Hurricane Irene when Oliverea, half of the community I just mentioned, was literally cut off from the rest of the world because bridges were literally washing away. We saw a bridge floating down the river. We saw another one removed from its moorings. Jody was there commandeering all of the efforts, both State and -- and local, taking charge and making sure that everybody was taken care of. Getting people to put backpacks on and travel across on a raft to get to the other side to take care of the elderly people in Oliverea who were stranded during this storm. What we are doing here today is naming one of the other bridges for him. This one didn't get swept away, it just got seriously damaged and was replaced after the storm. And if you ever go to Belleayre Mountain to ski, if you ever drink New York City water, you may have some connection with this bridge because it crosses over the Esopus Creek on Route 28 and introduces you to the communities that Jody served for all those years.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to stand here today to cast my vote in the affirmative and I withdraw my request.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Cahill in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A02519-A, Calendar No. 107, Cymbrowitz, Abbate, Bronson, Peoples-Stokes, Weprin,

Abinanti, Seawright, Bichotte Hermelyn, Hevesi, Ramos, Reyes, Gottfried, Walczyk, Wallace, Cruz, Jacobson, Sillitti. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to allowing victims of domestic violence the opportunity to designate an alternate address for health insurance claims or billing purposes.

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

Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote on Senate print 7263-A. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 35, Calendar No. 240, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07356-C, Calendar No. 240, Woerner, Abinanti, Walsh, Sayegh, Otis, Buttenschon, Santabarbara. An act to amend the Mental Hygiene Law, in relation to establishing a public awareness campaign to combat the stigma and stereotyping of individuals with developmental disabilities.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: 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 on the 60th day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote on Senate print 6300-C. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 37, Calendar No. 276 [sic], the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00266-A, Calendar No. 291, Paulin, Mitaynes. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to providing notice of certain scams when selling gift cards.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On a motion by Ms. Paulin, 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 AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote on Senate print 145-B.

(Pause)

Page 37, Calendar No. 276, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A07785, Calendar No. 276, Woerner, Stirpe. An act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to big-game hunting season.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: 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 AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote on Senate print 6510. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(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. A00266-A, Calendar No. 291, Paulin, Mitaynes. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to providing notice of certain scams when selling gift cards.

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 on Assembly print 266-A. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 44, Calendar No. 499, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Bill No. A05653-B, Calendar No. 499, L. Rosenthal, Barrett, Gottfried, Epstein, Weprin, González-Rojas, Simon, Jackson, Stern, Englebright, Tapia, Stirpe, Seawright, Dinowitz, Bronson, Kelles, Fahy, Sillitti, Griffin, Davila, Burke, Lavine, Santabarbara, J. Rivera, Paulin, Mamdani, McDonough, De Los Santos, Colton, Cunningham. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to prohibiting the sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

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

Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record

the vote on Senate print 4839-B. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, sir. When this bill first came through committee there were a number of questions that were raised. The obvious first question is if you're not testing the safety of cosmetics on animals, who are you testing it on? You're just going to test on people and see if they have an adverse reaction and then let the trial lawyers take care of the situation? The bill actually addresses some of those obvious issues by saying that no, this is not a complete ban. It's a partial ban. And so this bill would not apply, for example, if a cosmetic is being tested on an animal as a requirement of Federal or State law for safety reasons. If that type of testing is widespread and there's no alternative to ensuring that the product is safe, there's a specific harm to human health that the testing would address to make sure that our residents are safe when they use cosmetics. There's no other alternative method of testing or it's required from any other Federal or other nation as a condition of the manufacturer.

So with those qualifications I will be supporting it because I think the qualifications are reasonable and meet the appropriate balance between ensuring that our residents can look their best using cosmetics, but do so safely without risk of adverse reactions. Thank you, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Goodell in the affirmative.

Ms. Rosenthal to explain her vote.

MS. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, to explain my vote. With the passage of this legislation, New York State will become the ninth state in the nation to ban the sale of cosmetics tested on animals. It's often said that beauty is pain, but that should not be the case for innocent animals. The tests conducted on small -- small animals like mice, guinea pigs, rabbits and others for cosmetic products are as unnecessary as they are cruel. They subject innocent animals to painful medical procedures, often cause severe physical suffering and death. In 2008 we passed a law prohibiting unnecessary animal testing when humane alternatives exist. Now in 2022 there are so many humane alternatives to animal testing that use advanced computer modeling techniques and testing using human tissues and cells. These tests are often cheaper and more accurate, leaving no reason for animals to still be unnecessarily subjected to painful tests. Consumers themselves have been demanding cruelty-free cosmetics. In fact, in 2015 a Nielsen survey found that, quote, *Not tested on animals*, quote, was the most important packaging claim for consumers. By passing the New York Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Act we are saving countless animals from pain and suffering, and ushering a more human era.

I want to thank Cruelty-Free International, the New York State Animal Protection Federation, the Humane Society of the

United States, the Humane Society of New York, Voters for Animal Rights, the League of Humane Voters, NYCLASS and all of the other advocates who have helped to bring attention to this issue and pushed this bill forward. And I'd also like to thank Senator Phil Boyle for his advocacy on this bill and I vote in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Ms. Rosenthal in the affirmative.

Mr. Lawler.

MR. LAWLER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A few weeks ago I went around my school -- my district to visit several of the middle schools and met with the students to do "It Should Be A Law" and many of the students came back with this bill. They really believe that we should ban, prohibit cosmetic testing on animals and they found that to be one of the most critically important issues that they were concerned about. And so I think it is fitting today that we are passing this bill, and I'll be happy to bring back the news to -- to my school districts and let them know that something that was of concern to them has become law.

So I want to thank the -- the sponsor for putting this bill forward and I vote in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Lawler in the affirmative.

Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please record my colleague Mr. DiPietro in the negative. Thank you, sir.

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

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 44, Calendar No. 536, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Senate No. S05956-A, Calendar No. 536, Senator Rivera (A06056, Gottfried, Simon, Galef, Bronson, Jackson). An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to allowing physician assistants to serve as primary care practitioners for purposes of Medicaid managed care plans.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The Clerk will record the vote on S.5956-A. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Ms. Walsh.

MS. WALSH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would you please record Mr. Montesano in the negative on this bill? Thank you.

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

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 45, Calendar No. 581, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09883-A, Calendar No. 581, Paulin, Griffin, Norris. An act to amend the Public Authorities Law, in relation to information concerning services for human trafficking victims in service areas maintained by the Thruway Authority.

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

Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 60th day.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The Clerk will record the vote on Senate 8711-A. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 40, Calendar No. 423, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A01819-A, Calendar No. 423, Dinowitz, Gottfried, Galef, Carroll, Fernandez, Hevesi, Jacobson, L. Rosenthal, Glick, Abinanti, Kelles, Sayegh. An act to amend the Election Law, in relation to prohibition of State party

names; and to repeal subdivision 4 of Section 2-124 of such law relating thereto.

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

Read the -- read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The Clerk will record the vote on Senate 1851. This is a Party vote. Any member who wishes to be recorded as an exception to the Conference position is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader's Office at the numbers previously provided.

Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, sir. The Republican Conference is generally opposed to this legislation for the reasons I hope to explain in a minute. Those who support it can certainly do so by voting yes on the floor or by contacting the Minority Leader's Office.

Thank you, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, the Majority Conference is generally going to be in favor of this piece of legislation. However, there may be colleagues who would choose to be an exception. They can do so by contacting the Majority Leader's Office and we'll make sure that their vote is properly recorded.

Thank you, sir.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Goodell to explain his vote.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, sir. This bill would make it illegal for any party to use the word "independent" or "independence." You may recall for many, many years we had the Independence Party here in New York State. A couple years ago under pressure from the Governor we increased the threshold on the number of votes you need to have in a Governor's election in order to continue serving as or being recognized as a Statewide party. The Independence Party, even though it had been around for several years, failed to meet the new standard. There were some speculation that the Governor raised those standards to push for that raise because he wasn't getting the support he wanted from some of those parties. But in any event, regardless of the reason why, the Governor did his best to eliminate this party and other minor parties. Right now as there's a possibility that this Party might be reconstituted, and as you know, we look every two years in Statewide elections for the threshold. And if this Party is successful in reconstituting itself, in our opinion it ought to be able to use the name that it's used for many, many years. And for that reason we want to leave open the possibility that this Party in a matter of months will reach that voting threshold and once again be recognized as a Statewide party.

For that reason, I'm opposing this legislation and

recommend against it to my colleagues. Thank you, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Ra.

MR. RA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just quickly to explain my vote. And my colleague just made some of the points, but, you know, I know this bill was around a couple of years ago. The Independent Party ceased to exist after the last Statewide election. But I'm curious about the timing of this. We -- we know that one of the candidates, one of the Republican candidates for Governor, is out circulating petitions to create this ballot line and this would be, to me, the second time in very recent memory that we're taking action in this Chamber that seems to directly relate to this year's Governor's election. And it's very clear which side we're -- we're favoring as we're passing bills like the one we passed a few weeks ago to allow the former Lieutenant Governor off the ballot. And now here we are, trying to pass a bill that might impact another candidate. This is not an appropriate use of the Legislature to try to move things around. And just a reminder, a few months ago when we talked about gerrymandering and everything everybody said, *No, this is all -- all great*, and the Court of Appeals disagreed about what we did here. So while there's been some great voting and election reforms and modernization we've done in recent years, we've done -- and I mean that collectively, because many of us on this side of the aisle have not supported them -- but we've used our powers here in a very inappropriate way when it -- when it relates to our elections, when it -- when it benefitted the Party that's controlling our government.

I vote in the negative.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Jacobson

Mr. Jacobson to explain his vote?

MR. JACOBSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to commend the sponsor for this bill. Most of us in this room have circulated petitions for the so-called "Independence Party", and all of a sudden the experience of going to people's doors and telling them that, *Well, this is to get someone on the ballot* -- sometimes I've been endorsed, sometimes I haven't been -- and then you have to explain to them, they say, *No, I'm not in a party. I checked Independent.* And then you explain, *No, in New York State if you don't check any party you -- you're considered a blank, but that if you check Independence you're not. You're in a party.* And so this has really been a fraud on -- on the voters, really so many of the voters that they did not know they were in a party. And at least now there is a box when people register to vote that says, *I do not want to be in any party*, which is fine. But if you use the old forms -- as I do, I don't like to waste them -- people see it and they want to say, *Hey, I -- I don't want to be in any party. I want to check Independent.* So I think this will take less confusion or this will, should I say, eliminate confusion in -- in voting so that people could at least know when they're in a party, when they're not, and so that the next time someone wants to say they're Independent they really are.

So with that I'm happy to vote in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Jacobson in the

affirmative.

Mr. Dinowitz.

MR. DINOWITZ: Well said. The bill adds the words "Independence" and "Independent" to the existing list of words which the names of political parties in New York State may not include, and the existing list includes American, United States, National, New York State and Empire State. And it also would disallow any emblem that may have been used by a party that may have used the words "Independence" or "Independent." As was just said, most of the people who were registered in the Independence Party had no idea that they were registered in the Party. They thought they were independent. I'm not going to use the word "fraud", but people were misled or maybe they didn't read the form carefully. Whatever the reason is, people had no idea they were in a party, and this rectifies that situation. Now, also it was mentioned that the number -- the threshold to stay a political party was raised. Yes, it was raised from 50,000 to 130,000. The 50,000 threshold was instituted in the 1930s. Since the 1930s New York has grown in population, and going from 50- to 130,000 does not -- is not disproportionate to the amount of population growth. It was a reasonable number that was used. If the voters rejected that party in 2018, well, that's the breaks. They didn't get enough votes. Also, if you'll notice on the bill number there's a "A" next to the number. That means it's an amended version. And the bill does not take effect this year, specifically so it would not have an influence over this year's

elections. That means if somebody's on a petition and used the word "Independence", this year they can do that, assuming they get on the ballot and survive challenges. This will take effect next year. This will eliminate that -- that confusion that voters have had, and if somebody wants to run on an Independent Party they could -- or third-party they just come up with a different name. It's really not that hard. But this word will no longer be eligible to be used, and that's a very good thing for our democracy.

So I vote in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Dinowitz in the affirmative.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, would you please record our colleague Mr. Thiele in the negative on this one?

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

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 7, Rules Report No. 227, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A09397-A, Rules Report No. 227, Gottfried. An act to amend the Correction Law and the Social Services Law, in relation to the enrollment of incarcerated individuals in the Medical Assistance for Needy Persons Program.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: An explanation has been requested.

MR. GOTTFRIED: Yes, Mr. Speaker. This bill

would provide that for prison inmates at the State level and local in local correctional facilities that the Department of Corrections in the case of State and the local jail authorities in the case of a local correctional facility apply for Medicaid eligibility for inmates who are not already enrolled in Medicaid. It makes clear that this only applies to people who are eligible for Medicaid. It doesn't create any eligibility for -- for Medicaid, and of course under existing law they would not be -- Medicaid would not be paying for their healthcare while incarcerated. It -- although if they are hospitalized outside the facility, Medicaid could pay the hospital for the hospital care. It also provides for the Department of Correctional Services to be making an annual report on this program.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Byrne.

MR. BYRNE: Will the sponsor yield for some questions?

MR. GOTTFRIED: Yes.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The sponsor yields.

MR. BYRNE: Thank you for that explanation, Mr. Chairman. I just want to follow up on some of the questions that we discussed I believe in committee some time ago. Is there any funding provided in this legislation to support county governments that may have to use existing resources or add resources for whatever administrative costs they will incur?

MR. GOTTFRIED: No, it does not provide funding. I think the -- I think the cost to localities would be nominal. New

York has greatly simplified the mechanism for applying for Medicaid. It can all be done online at this point. So I don't think there would be a significant administrative burden on county correctional facilities. What it would do is help to make sure that when inmates return to the community they -- they have a little more stability in their lives, which I think is important not only for them but for the community as a whole because they are much less likely to re-offend if they're able to get the healthcare that they need, particularly if they're able to get mental healthcare that they need. So I -- I -- and if that involves a -- a -- a negligible cost at the county level, I think it's -- it's well worth it.

MR. BYRNE: Well, thank you for the answer. I think that's a concern that some of our colleagues certainly have. While some of the legislation we passed in this Chamber have good intentions, when we put more mandates or requirements on county government and we have public staff, public employees trying to implement those services there's obviously a cost that goes into that work.

Now, another section of the bill that I just wanted to ask you about to kind of further explain, and I'm just going to read a section of the bill where it talks about where an individual is found ineligible for the medical assistance program. Here we go. The Department shall make diligent efforts to determine whether the individual is eligible for any other medical insurance program, and if so, assist the individual in applying to the program for which they are eligible if they wish to enroll in such program. Any other medical

insurance program. So does this go beyond Medicaid benefits for these people that were previously incarcerated?

MR. GOTTFRIED: Yeah, it could apply -- in the case of a very young inmate it could -- it could relate for eligibility for Child Health Plus. It could relate to eligibility for the Essential Plan or for the Affordable Care Act coverage.

MR. BYRNE: And these are programs that you believe folks at DOCCS and in our county jails, when people are leaving the facility they're well-versed in these programs and have the ability right now to -- to walk these incarcerated individuals, soon-to-be-released individuals, into this program? They have the resources to go through not just Medicaid but these other programs? It seems pretty -- you know, our healthcare system in general is pretty complex with various different payors and programs. Do you believe they have the knowledge and the ability to do that now?

MR. GOTTFRIED: Well, I would say we expect rank-and-file New Yorkers who want that coverage to have that ability. It can all be done online today in a reasonably well-designed online portal, the New York State of Health website. This Legislature has funded various programs of community-based assistance for people enrolling. Local correctional facilities could certainly contact people from those programs if they needed guidance, but I think that would rarely be needed because our -- our computer base, our online systems, really guide you through the system. And of course the correctional officials are going to be doing this somewhat repetitively

and, you know, the first time they bump into a Child Health Plus application that might take some figuring out, but by the time they're doing their second or third it will be old hat.

MR. BYRNE: Now, this does not expand eligibility for Medicaid or the other programs, but you have the expectation or idea of increased participation in the program what that would do for cost to the State or to county governments from increased usage in Medicaid or any other programs?

MR. GOTTFRIED: Well, first of all, let me reemphasize your first point that this does not provide new eligibility for any program to any person. There may well be people who when they are released will have Medicaid coverage who without this kind of assistance it might take them quite some time to get Medicaid coverage. But the advantages of providing them that coverage right up front is that if they -- if they go to a hospital emergency room the bill will be paid for. If this helps them to get mental health or drug abuse services that they are entitled to that help to stabilize their life so that they do not re-offend, that will protect our constituents and will save our counties money by not having to reincarcerate them.

MR. BYRNE: Thank you, Mr. Sponsor.

On the -- thank you, Mr. Chairman.

On the bill, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: On the bill.

MR. BYRNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the sponsor's latter points regarding the desire to help people be

reacclimated to the community and society, and if there's opportunities to reduce recidivism by getting them the help they need I understand and I appreciate that. But it is worth noting that while we talk about -- and the Chair himself, the sponsor, talked about how -- how every day people go on online portals to access this. We're talking about increasing another layer of work at our county governments and our county correctional facilities when people that are previously incarcerated are released. We'll work for them at a cost to our local -- local property taxpayers, to our county governments. We're talking about perhaps not increased eligibility, but certainly enabling more participation in government programs. And I think it's just worth noting that we do have a very large Medicaid program in the State of New York. There's a lot of really important things like take care of our most vulnerable, our disabled, but I believe it's our second-largest budget item in the State. It is more than almost every other state in the country combined. It is a very costly program. It's a very generous Medicaid program when you compare it to other states in the country, and -- and here we are, trying to make it easier for folks who are incarcerated. Thankfully they're -- they're leaving, hopefully paid their full debt to society, coming back to our communities. But we're going to put this cost back on county governments with what is an unfunded mandate because there's no funding attached to this bill.

So I will be voting in the negative and encourage my colleagues to do the same. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, sir.

On the bill.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: On the bill.

MR. GOODELL: When -- when inmates are released from prison we obviously hope that they can reintegrate into society and be productive members and move forward with their lives. Part of the challenge we have with the Medicaid program, as my colleague mentioned, is it's so incredibly expensive that our Medicaid bill is larger than Texas and California combined. Each one of those states is larger than us, and combined they spend less than us on Medicaid. And the reason our Medicaid expense is so huge is because the benefits we provide under Medicaid exceed almost every other state. And, unfortunately, those benefits also exceed what's generally available in the private sector. So we have a unique situation where our taxpayers are spending billions of dollars to provide a healthcare package that's broader in coverage with little or no deductibles or co-pays than their own insurance. And the unintended consequence is that when somebody goes out of prison and they're signed up for Medicaid, as soon as they get a private sector job that puts them on private insurance they lose healthcare coverage. So rather than help people become integrated it's actually a financial barrier. So while I appreciate my colleague's desire to ensure that everyone has Medicaid coverage as soon as they're released from prison, I think we ought to look at some point the broader issue of how we bring healthcare costs

under control, and how do we make sure that those who are receiving taxpayer-funded healthcare aren't receiving a benefit that's significantly higher than what the taxpayers themselves are receiving with privately-funded insurance. The two should mesh so that we don't use tax dollars to trap people in poverty by making it impossible for them to leave the welfare rolls and Medicaid rolls and take a private sector job with private sector insurance coverage.

For that reason I'll be voting no and recommend the same to my colleagues. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Read the last section.

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

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The Clerk will record the vote on A.97 -- A.9397-A. This is a Party vote. Any member who wishes to be recorded as an exception to the Conference position is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, sir. The Republican Conference is generally opposed to this bill. Those who support it can certainly vote yes on the floor or by contacting the Minority Leader.

Thank you, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, the Majority Conference is generally in favor of this piece of legislation.

However, there may be colleagues who would choose to be an exception. They should feel free to contact the Majority Leader's Office. We will assure their vote is properly recorded.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mrs. Peoples-Stokes to explain her vote.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to explain my vote. I want to commend the sponsor of this legislation. Clearly, it's important that we want people to get back into society and be contributing members and they both have to have access to healthcare as well as access to opportunities for training and employment. And I do want to remind colleagues that, you know, it was some many, many years ago when Medicaid was put in place and it was put there to provide medical services, health services to people who couldn't afford it on their own. But as it turns out, now more than just individual single people being on Medicaid it's more of a senior program. And I don't think that, you know, there's any desire for anyone not to have it, but let's be clear about where the numbers keep growing at. They do not grow in the single independent -- individual perspective or necessarily in inner-city communities. They grow in our senior population and it shouldn't matter about that but I think it's important to make note of it.

So again, I want to commend the sponsor on this piece of legislation.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Are there any other

votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 8, Rules Report No. 256, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A10078, Rules Report No. 256, Fernandez, Gottfried, Simon. An act to amend the Workers' Compensation Law, in relation to the issuance of policies by the State Insurance Fund where a balance is due on a prior policy issued by such Fund.

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

An explanation has been requested.

MS. FERNANDEZ: Thank you. This bill would provide authorities of the New York State Insurance Fund to issue a policy to a former policyholder with an unpaid balance due to a prior policy if there is sufficient showing that the former policyholder can meet certain conditions regarding the payment of the balance on the old policy by installments under the new policy. Got that?

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you. Would the sponsor yield?

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Will the sponsor yield?

MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The sponsor yields.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you very much, Ms.

Fernandez. Just a couple of questions to clarify this. A concern has been raised about whether it makes good sense for the State to allow someone who hasn't paid the State for their unemployment to sign up and get a new policy. A lot of private sector businesses say, you know, *Before we extend you new credit you have to bring your old account up*. Would you address that issue and why are -- are you recommending that we allow a company that hasn't paid in the past to get a new policy when they haven't paid for the old one yet?

MS. FERNANDEZ: I hear you there, and luckily for us this bill is supported by the New York State Insurance Fund. And there are requirements, so it's not like we're just letting people start new policies without paying the old policy. But there is a list and I can read it to you, as to what would allow somebody to start a new policy. Would you like me to read that list?

MR. GOODELL: No, I -- I think I'm actually aware of those.

MS. FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. GOODELL: And so is it your view that this only authorizes, it doesn't mandate them, to -- to give a new policy and it gives them the discretion based on a review of the credit history in the past, the likelihood they can make the payment in the future, the likelihood that they can make the extra payment to pay it off, an obligation that's paid within 12 months and brings their account

up-to-date; is that correct?

MS. FERNANDEZ: That is correct.

MR. GOODELL: And is it your view that with those provisions in place the likelihood they'll default on the second policy is minimized?

MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes, that is correct.

MR. GOODELL: And is this bill intended to help those businesses that may have fallen behind because of COVID and the related fallout?

MS. FERNANDEZ: Yes, it is. As the world has changed, we've got to change policies.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you very much. I appreciate your comments and clarification.

On the bill, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: On the bill.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you. This is an interesting bill because normally if you don't pay a bill to a supplier, for example, or -- or anyone that you owe money to they don't extend more credit to you. I mean, can you imagine you default on your mortgage and go to the bank and say, *Hey, sorry I haven't paid the first mortgage, can I have a second one* and they say, *Uh, no*. Or, you know, you order some propane to fill up your tank and say, *Yeah, I haven't paid you for the last delivery but can I have more?* And the normal answer is no. The typical response is COD. You know, cash on delivery. But these are unusual circumstances that we're facing here in New York State

where many of our businesses suffered horrifically at the hands of the former Governor who shut down our businesses across the State with one fell swoop in an emergency declaration. And I know all the businesses and manufacturers and retail stores all across, not all of them, but many of them all across New York State were shut down at the beginning of the pandemic even though there were no reported cases in much of Upstate. I mean, it was amazing. There was a problem in New York City and 400 miles away the Governor is shutting down every business. And that happened to me. I mean, to put it in perspective, Richmond, Virginia is closer to me than New York City. Can you imagine shutting down my county and all the business in it because they have a problem in Richmond, Virginia? But that's what the Governor did. And so many of these companies simply were put out of business for an extended time period through government edict which, in my opinion, was too broad and devastating on much of our economy. So this gives the ability for the Workers' Comp Fund to recognize that these businesses that were hurt so much by the former Governor may need a little bit more time to recover and allows them, but doesn't mandate, allows them to issue a new policy to keep those businesses in business and to give them a little bit of breathing room while they pay off their old balance while still stay -- while staying in business.

And for that reason I will support it and recommend it to my colleagues. And again, thank you to my colleague for clarifying those issues.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The Clerk will record the vote on Senate 9096. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Ms. Fernandez to explain her vote.

MS. FERNANDEZ: Thank you. I want to thank this Body for unanimously voting for this bill. I think every single one of us in every district in this State have suffered from the effects of COVID and our businesses have suffered. And as Mr. Goodell said, this is a great opportunity and the opportunity to make sure that businesses can continue to restart. If they had to close down during the pandemic - right now we're still in it - but if they had to close down before, we want to make sure they can get back on their feet and making sure that they have insurance coverage at all times is highly important.

So thank you for supporting this bill and thank you for supporting our small businesses and anyone that would be affected. Thank you. And I vote in the affirmative.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Ms. Fernandez in the affirmative.

Mr. Brown to explain his vote.

MR. A. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the

bill. I want to thank the sponsor for putting this bill together. There's another issue at hand that you may not have realized that you've covered. These Workers' Comp policies, for instance, in the construction business a contractor can be ordered it three or four times a year and that's routine. And what happens is you're going through an audit, they could bill you for -- arbitrarily, you know, like I just told Mr. Goodell, they shoot first and aim later. They give you a bill for a couple of hundred grand, you're fighting it out, your policy's about to expire. What do you do? This bill would take care of that major issue in the construction industry, so I want to thank you for this. It really is a good bill and of course I'm voting in the affirmative. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Brown in the affirmative.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 8, Rules Report No. 264, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A10151, Rules Report No. 264, Committee on Rules, Cunningham. An act to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law, in relation to eliminating noting an address change on driver licenses and non-driver identification cards.

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

An explanation has been requested.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: This bill would repeal the provision of the law which requires non-driver's license and driver's license of any residents to change on the back of their license their address.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you. Would the sponsor yield?

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Will the sponsor yield?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Absolutely.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The sponsor yields.

MR. GOODELL: Sorry I'm talking behind your back, but you are right in front of me.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: I'll turn a little bit.

MR. GOODELL: Just to be clear, this does not remove the requirement that if you change your address you have to notify DMV right away, correct?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Correct. You would still notify the DMV within ten days of the change. You would no longer have to write on the back of the license. This is pretty archaic in terms of your previous license was paper, this is a plastic license and it's hard to write on those licenses those changes.

MR. GOODELL: So it's really just designed as a convenience for the driver?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: It's a -- it's a convenience for

the DMV. When you actually write with a plastic it eliminates it. So an officer or anyone who presents that identification would not be able to see anything because it would smear off due to the laminate on the plastic.

MR. GOODELL: I see. The question I have is -- is a simple one. If -- now this wouldn't happen to you, but it might happen to me. If you're stopped by an officer, say a routine stop, right, and they ask to see your license, without this the address on your license would be different from what they have in the DMV database, correct?

MR. CUNNINGHAM: That is -- in terms of what they see on the license, yes. In terms of the technology used on licenses now with some of the bar coding and scanning it is much easier to identify who a person is. In fact, if an officer does stop you, which has happened to me when I've left my wallet at home, when you run the number of license you actually can identify all the information on a person.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you very much, Mr. Cunningham.

On the bill, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: On the bill.

MR. GOODELL: I -- I smiled a little bit when I saw this bill because about a year ago I applied to DMV for an enhanced license. And in order to get an enhanced license you have to bring all this identification with you. You know, you have to bring like a

passport, you have to give utility bills, a tax bill and you're bringing all this identification to prove that, A, you are alive, you were born at some point in your life and that you live in a particular location. And so I brought all this information into my friendly DMV office, and they're very friendly and very helpful. Then about six weeks later I received this enhanced driver's license. And when I looked at it, it had as my address my wife's former address that was never, ever mine. It was amazing. I bring in all this documentation, I prove I never even lived there, and for whatever administrative snafu I end up with a license with the wrong address. So I took it to the DMV and said, *Uh, what can we do about this?* And they said, *Well, for a modest fee -- I don't remember what it was, you know, \$75 to \$100 -- we can issue you a license* or I can fix it for free. I said, you know, being a Republican, *Free is good*. Not as good as a free lunch or a free college education, but free is good. So I said, *Fix it for free*, and so they took a little sticker and they put it on the back of my license. And in longhand they wrote my proper address on it. So when this bill came along I just laughed. Sometimes it's amazing what -- what can be accomplished for free, and that's one of the free things.

I would recommend my colleagues go ahead and approve this, although I will share with you that in some communities you need to know not only the person that's named, but their middle name and where they live in order to identify them. And so in my community where we have a lot of Swedish people, you need to know not only that their last name is Nelson, Swanson, Anderson, Carlson

or some other "son", but you have to know their first name, their middle initial and where they live or you won't be able to identify them and then it will create a little bit of an identification issue for some of our law enforcement (inaudible) trust. That is as long as all my Swedish friends drive carefully they won't have a problem.

Thank you, sir.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The Clerk will record the vote on Senate 6887. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Page 8, Rules Report No. 266, the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A10154, Rules Report No. 266, Committee on Rules, Gibbs. An act to amend Chapter 297 of the Laws of 2020 relating to requiring the Department of Labor to produce a report regarding Summer Youth Employment Programs funded by State, Federal and local appropriations, in relation to expanding the reporting requirements; and in relation to extending the effectiveness of such chapter.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: An explanation has

been requested.

MR. GIBBS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This bill would extend the date by one year that the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance must produce a report regarding New York State Summer Youth Employment Program funded by State, Federal and local appropriations.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you. Would the sponsor yield?

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Will the sponsor yield?

MR. GIBBS: I yield for pedestrians, I certainly could yield for my colleague Mr. Goodell. Yes.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The sponsor yields.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Gibbs. This bill originally called for a report to be produced in six months, which seemed at the time to be reasonable because we all unanimously approved it. They then came back and asked for an additional 18 months, which would make it -- I'm sorry, an additional year which would make it a year-and-a-half to produce this report, and now they're coming back and asking for an additional year. So it's a study that we hoped to have done in six months is now has a deadline of two-and-a-half years. Why should we extend this deadline rather than just say, *Hey, get us the report we want?*

MR. GIBBS: It's a good question. Under the existing

law the report would have been due this year and would exam -- would examine the program's use, efficacy and funding between the years 2016 and 2022. However, due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the disruption it caused, the data would have been greatly skewed. So, you know, it would have been all over the place, the programs would shut down. So extending the time for the report to be completed would allow for a more representative data that better reflects the regression of the program.

MR. GOODELL: So your hope is that by extending this we'll get more accurate and more useful data that won't be distorted by the impact of COVID; is that correct?

MR. GIBBS: Certainly.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you very much for that explanation.

Sir, on the bill.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: On the bill.

MR. GOODELL: All of us who are parents are sometimes faced with that question from an inpatient child, *I want an answer right now*. And I know that I told my kids, *I can give you a quick answer right now or if you want I'll think about this and give you a more measured response*, and they understood that the quick answer was likely to be a short answer like N-O. And it's a little bit like what we're experiencing here. Our agency is saying, you know, *We can produce a report but the report won't be helpful because all the data will be skewed because of COVID*. And I agree with the

sponsor, it's better to have a report that's helpful than a report that's misleading.

And for that reason I'll support it and recommend it to my colleagues. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Mr. Gibbs.

MR. GIBBS: Thank you, sir -- Speaker. The Summer Youth Program has a very real impact on our communities setting up the next generation for success by providing academically, socially, emotionally and economically-beneficial opportunities. When school curricula are at times not focused on preparing students for the 21st Century economy, this program could fill that gap by introducing them to various careers in both the public and private sector -- sectors. It keeps young people off the streets and contributing to our neighborhoods by allowing them to enhance their workplace skills and further their interests. Programs like this were crucial in the development of all of my three kids, as they are in the development of kids all across New York. We must ensure that these vital programs are as effective as possible. This bill would extend the time the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance has to produce a report so it's more accurate in evaluating the efficacy of the program and the barriers of the program availability. It would also ensure that funds are being utilized responsibly and to their full potential. Under the existing law the report would have been due this year and it would examine the program's use and efficacy and funding between years 2016 and 2022. However, like I said before, due to the onset of

COVID-19 and the disruption it caused, the data is greatly skewed and the Office cannot at all be rushed in reporting this process, especially when we are looking to expand the future and availability of the program because young people are our future and we need to get it right when we invest in their development.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote on A.10154. This is a fast roll call. Any member who wishes to be recorded in the negative is reminded to contact the Majority or Minority Leader at the numbers previously provided.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes. No? Okay.

(Pause)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

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

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: We have both.

On a motion by Ms. Joyner, page 41, Calendar No. 430, Bill No. 6529, the amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Ms. Bichotte Hermelyn, page 29,

Calendar No. 160, Bill No. 4947-A, the amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Ms. Buttenschon, page 10, Rules Report No. 289, Bill No. 1940-D, the amendments are received and adopted.

On behalf of Mrs. Gunther, Assembly Bill 267-A, Assembly bill recalled from the Senate. The Clerk will record [sic] the title of the bill.

THE CLERK: An act to amend the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill passed the House. The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

The Clerk will announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is before the House and the amendments are received and adopted.

On behalf of Mr. Magnarelli, Bill No. 354-A, Assembly bill recalled from the Senate. The Clerk will record [sic] the title of the bill.

THE CLERK: An act to amend the Real Property Actions and Proceedings Law.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill passed the House. The Clerk will record the

vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

The Clerk will announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is before the House and the amendments are received and adopted.

On behalf of Ms. Lupardo, Bill No. 328-A -- oh, 9328-A, Assembly bill recalled from the Senate. The Clerk will read the title of the bill.

THE CLERK: An act to amend the Executive Law and the State Finance Law.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: Motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill passed the House. The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

The Clerk will announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is before the House and the amendments are received and adopted.

We have a number of fine resolutions that we will take up with one vote.

On the resolutions, all those in favor signify by saying aye; all those opposed. The resolutions are adopted.

(Whereupon, Assembly Resolution Nos. 1007-1016 were unanimously adopted.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, I now move that the Assembly stand adjourned until Thursday, May the 26th, tomorrow being a legislative day and that we reconvene at 12:30, May the 31st, Tuesday being a Session day.

ACTING SPEAKER CUSICK: The House is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 3:43 p.m., the House stood adjourned until Thursday, May 26th, that being a legislative day, and to reconvene on Tuesday, May 31st at 12:30 p.m., that being a Session day.)