ALBANY, NEW YORK

December 3, 1996

2:05 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

LT. GOVERNOR BETSY McCAUGHEY ROSS, President

STEPHEN F. SLOAN, Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

THE PRESIDENT: The Senate will come to order. Would everyone please rise and join with me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(The assemblage repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. )

THE PRESIDENT: May we bow our heads in a moment of silence.

(A moment of silence was observed.)

THE PRESIDENT: The reading of the Journal.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Monday, December 2nd. The Senate met pursuant to adjournment. The Journal of Friday, November 29th, was read and approved. On motion, Senate adjourned.

THE PRESIDENT: Without objection, the Journal stands approved as read.

Presentation of petitions.

Messages from the Assembly.

Messages from the Governor.

Reports of standing committees.

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Madam President, there will be an immediate meeting of the Rules Committee in Room 328 of the Capitol. That's the small conference room right off of the Majority Leader's office.

THE PRESIDENT: There will be an immediate meeting of the Rules Committee in Room 328.

The Secretary will read. (Pause) The Secretary will read. Senator Stafford?

THE SECRETARY: Senator Stafford, from the Committee on Finance, offers up the following nomination: Commissioner of the Department of Correctional Services, Glenn S. Goord.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Stafford.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Before I yield to Senator Nozzolio, who will handle this as always with his sensitivity, ability and correctness, I just want to share with all of us

what a fine note for us to begin our deliberations here upon returning to Albany than to consider Glenn Goord for Commissioner of Correctional Services.

Those of us who know him know the job he has done and will do. I could go on and on about his abilities, as Senator Nozzolio so well will point out, but I would make one point here and emphasize that in doing his work since the time in the mid-Hudson area when he was in charge of grievances in certain facilities in our Department, from that time until the time he has become acting Commissioner of the Department of Correction, he has done his best -- he has done his best to be fair and, if you say that about a person, you don't have to say too much more and, with that, I compliment the Governor upon this fine appointment. I compliment the nominee and, with that it's a pleasure to yield to the Senator from the Finger Lakes.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Stafford. Senator Nozzolio.

SENATOR NOZZOLIO: Thank you,

Madam President, and thank you very much, Senator Stafford, distinguished Senator from the Adirondacks, our distinguished leader and chairman of the Finance Committee. It is a very difficult act to follow your lead, but I think it is certainly important for this body to recognize the quality appointment that Governor Pataki has presented -- that this body recognize the quality appointment that Senator Pataki has put before us in the nomination of Glenn S. Goord as Commissioner of Corrections.

Commissioner Goord -- and I call him "Commissioner" because he has been serving for the last number of months in this capacity, for all intents and purposes has run the day-to-day operations of the Department -- tried to implement -- has been doing a very good job in implementing the policy changes that we have put forth and is working in this capacity at this very trying time in our corrections history, a trying time but a time of great opportunity to do the right thing.

Governor Pataki has put forth

this appointment because of the confidence he has in Glenn Goord. Through Glenn's long history of working in the Department, serving as operating officer, Deputy Commissioner, Assist ant Commissioner for Operations, throughout his tenure which has been long in the Corrections Department, working his way up through the chairs in the various capacities of administra tion within the Department, Glenn has demon strated a commitment to field the best possible system we can have in this state.

He has also demonstrated consist ently his desire to work with the elected representatives of the state Legislature in fashioning the best possible system we can fashion. He's keen in his ability in labor relations, in dealing with complex management issues, in trying to fashion new ways that we can deal with the burgeoning corrections situation that we have and the need to develop an expansion program I think, is certainly in Glenn's -- within his jurisdiction and well within his talent, and we look to his

leadership.

I should also say that Glenn has from the top on down, and this is a compliment not just to Glenn, not just to his -- Glenn Goord's -- management style but also to the spirit Glenn Goord has put forth with our correction system from the administration on through the lines into the system we have which New Yorkers and this Legislature should be certainly proud of, and our corrections officers and all correctional personnel have been dealing under significantly trying times, significantly trying circumstances, during these past number of months and with the 25th anniversary of Attica with our system expanded to the limits, every one of those brave men and women who work in our correctional system need to be commended. They work hard. They have done much to put sensitivity into this system under some very trying circumstances and they are to be commended.

But here we are to thank Governor Pataki for putting Glenn Goord's name in

nomination. He will be a truly outstanding corrections commissioner. He already has, in my opinion, earned that distinction through his months of service and, as Senator Cook, I know, will be discussing more of a personal aspect in the fact that Senator Cook represents Glenn Goord, that certainly we all join Senator Stafford, Senator Cook and thank Governor Pataki for this excellent nomination.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Nozzolio. Senator Cook.

SENATOR COOK: Thank you, Madam President.

As Republicans, of course, having a new Governor for a couple of years, we've been very pleased to see the heads of departments that have changed and the philosophies that are changed, but the one place where there's been a very, very smooth transition and I think indicative of the professional qualities of the leadership of the Department, has been in Corrections, because we have indeed seen people

who have been active for a number of years who have continued in leadership capacities in that agency, and with good reason, because it is a well run agency. It is one that takes pride in what it does and in doing it well, an agency that is unfortunately confronted constantly with expanding requirements.

Glenn Goord is a person who has worked in the trenches in a variety of capacities, someone who has demonstrated time and again his leadership abilities and who comes into this position as Commissioner with a vast background of knowledge and understanding which I think could be unequaled by anyone else and in particular anyone brought from the outside. Of course, we're particularly produced as well that he does come from our part of the state.

I may have more prisons in my district than any other Senator, but I think maybe -- and we, of course, regard this as a very important function in state government as I indicated before, unfortunate that we do have to incarcerate so many people, but it's important

that the Commissioner, the leadership of that agency understand their function, understand why they're there and understand the job that needs to be done, and Glenn certainly fits all of those requirements.

He has the high personal qualities in addition that commend him for any leadership post, and I am very pleased to second his nomination.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Cook.

Senator Abate.

SENATOR ABATE: I, too, rise in support of Glenn Goord. There's no more difficult job than running a correction department. Most other managers get an occasional day off or a night off. Running a correction department the size of this state means you work seven days a week 24 hours a day and then some, so it requires the leadership of a very special kind of person, and I believe that Glenn Goord, over the course of 20 years, has demonstrated his commitment and knowledge

and his dedication to improving the state prison system. He enjoys support from within and without.

I've had the pleasure of working directly with Commissioner Goord. I think he is fair minded. He has the respect of his staff. He wants to look at improving not only security within the prison but also the treatment and services for the inmates. So he has a comprehensive view. He's a manager; he's a leader; he's done just about every job in the system which I think will put him in very good stead to meet the challenges of the next few years.

So it's with great pleasure that I look forward to working with Commissioner Goord, and I think he will do exceedingly well. Not only has he done so in the past but in the future he will do exceedingly well, and do honor to this position.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Abate.

Senator Waldon.

SENATOR WALDON: Thank you very much, Madam President. I rise also to second the nomination of Glenn Goord. I would like to hope that the kind of cooperation and access that I've experienced from my days as a Deputy Commissioner of Human Rights and a Commissioner of Investigation with Ben Ward and Tommy Cough lin and Commissioner Coombe will exist under his leadership as the, in fact, commissioner serving at the pleasure of Governor Pataki.

I agree with my colleagues that his job is a most difficult one. It is difficult not only because of the logistics of running such a large system, but it is difficult because if there's not a meaningful understanding and relationship between those who are imprisoned and those who are the guards, chaos ensues, and so it takes a high level of professionalism, a high level of sensitivity to cause those who are subordinate to the Commissioner to adopt his policy in terms of a sense of cooperation and fairness to get the job done.

My concern is that in this state

as well as other states across the nation there's a disproportionate number of minorities in the prisons, and I'm not here to attack the reasons that they're there but I'm hoping that there will continue to be a sensitivity to those who speak Spanish, to those who have in their background the culture of the Caribbean, to those who are African-American, to those who are Muslims, so that their needs will be met as best as they can be in the setting that is a prison.

Now, I believe that if Commissioner Goord is able to relate to the accomplishments of his predecessors and to recognize that those of us -- that those of us here in the Legislature are going to be very supportive of his needs in terms of the finances in order to ensure that we don't have a revisitation to Attica and other such circumstances, that he will do very, very well.

I applaud the Governor in his choice. In reviewing his resume it seems as if he's eminently qualified for this position. I just hope that beyond the resume there will be a

sensitivity that is not always found in such positions as a Commissioner of Corrections where the power is ominous and absolute.

Thank you very much, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Waldon.

Senator Farley.

SENATOR FARLEY: Thank you, Madam President.

Let me just say that -- how pleased I am to second the nomination of Glenn Goord. You know, representing a lot of state workers, along with Senator Hoblock and Senator Bruno and myself, this gives a lot of satisfaction to a state employee who has come up through the ranks and really made it to the top and he's done it on his merit, he's done it on his abilities and certainly we're so very, very pleased for him to run our Department of Correctional Services which is unfortunately one of our growing areas in this state.

Many of us are -- have prisons,

and some people would like some more. We feel very deeply that the violent criminal should be locked up. There's a lot of problems in the correctional department, but if anybody can solve them and address them, it's going to be our new Commissioner, and I wish you well.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Farley.

Senator Markowitz.

SENATOR MARKOWITZ: Thank you very very much. I've had the pleasure in my term in the Senate to work with an outstanding Corrections Commissioner, Commissioner Coughlin, then Commissioner Phil Coombe, but throughout that time the one man that they depended upon to implement most of the policies of corrections was Glenn Goord, and so he's done it the old-fashioned way. He worked hard. He worked his way through the system, and he has merited this appointment by the Governor, and I can say that in speaking to his subordinates and colleagues today and yesterday that there's an enormous amount of respect from each of the

institutions, from here in the state Capitol and in my experience personally with him, I think he will be one of the finest Corrections Commissioners that New York State ever had.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Markowitz.

Senator Volker.

SENATOR VOLKER: Madam President, let me just say that when we had the -- the hearing before Crime and Corrections, I mentioned to Senator Nozzolio, I mentioned about the fact that back in the '70s we had a meeting or meetings on the election -- the nomination of a Commissioner of Corrections that went on for several months, and the nominee, in fact, had me investigated at the same time that we were investigating him and we had to tighten up security in the Capitol because there was so many people that came and created some havoc.

Obviously, with Glenn, there's a whole different -- a whole different situation because I think everybody in this chamber realizes that he's a professional, that he's

done a fine job as the Acting Commissioner and that he knows exactly what the Corrections Department, the prison system needs. In fact, let me just say quickly that I've travelled a little bit, not a great deal any more, but a little bit to some criminal justice conferences, but I traveled to one in Connecticut that I was very pleased to listen to several of the experts in the penology field tell about the innovations in the prison system in New York and what was being done and, of course, Glenn's name was one of those that was used, even though he was Acting Commissioner at the time.

He is a fine man. He is a - he's done a good job already, and I know he'll make a great Commissioner. I commend the Governor and I wish him the very best.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Volker.

Has everyone who wishes to speak on the nomination of Glenn Goord been heard?

The question is on the confirmation of Glenn S. Goord as Commissioner

of the Department of Correctional Services. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

Glenn S. Goord is hereby confirmed as Commissioner of the Department of Correctional Services.

(Applause)

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senator Lack, from the Committee on Judiciary, offers up the following nomination: As judge of the New York State Court of Claims, Leon Ruchelsman.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Lack.

SENATOR LACK: Thank you, Madam President.

It's my pleasure to rise as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee to move the nomination of Leon Ruchelsman as a judge of the New York State Court of Claims, and, Madam President, Judge Ruchelsman who is joining us is currently a judge of the Civil

Court of the city of New York, having been elected in 1992 and is still serving. He has been designated to Criminal Court where he has served with distinction.

He was an associate court attorney for ten years in the New York State Supreme Court, county of Kings, before assuming his elected judgeship in 1992. He has aided political asylum for Soviet and Iranian refug ees, skillfully negotiating with immigration officials.

As a practicing attorney, he's had over 20 criminal law opinions published in the New York Law Journal since he was elected some four years ago to the Civil Court.

Madam President, it is my pleasure and honor to move the nomination to the Court of Claims of Judge Leon Ruchelsman of the county of Kings.

THE PRESIDENT: Does anyone wish to be heard? Senator Kruger, I'm sorry.

SENATOR KRUGER: It is my distinct pleasure to rise today to second the

nomination of Judge Ruchelsman as a judge of the Court of Claims of the state of New York.

Judge Ruchelsman brings to the bench a distinguished record. More particularly he brings all of the attributes that one would associate with a fine justice. His compassion, his integrity, his caring, his commitment and his knowledge of the law makes him an excellent choice for this nomination. I wholeheartedly support his nomination and I would move that my colleagues join me in that support. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Does anyone - does anyone else wish to be heard on the nomination?

The question is on the confirmation of Leon Ruchelsman as justice of the Court of Claims. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

Leon Ruchelsman is hereby confirmed as judge of the Court of Claims.

Congratulations.

(Applause)

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senator Stafford, from the Committee on Finance, offers up the following nominations: Member of the State Commission of Correction, Alan J. Croce.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Stafford.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Madam President, it's a pleasure for me to emphasize that all of the appointments today we're considering are just excellent. Every one was unanimously approved, and it's a pleasure for me to now yield to the Senator from Suffolk County.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator LaValle.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Senator LaValle.

SENATOR LAVALLE: Thank you, Madam President.

I rise to move the nomination of Alan Croce, who is from Mattituck in Suffolk County. Today during the committee meeting of

Crime and Corrections and the Finance Committee Alan Croce demonstrated to both committees his background in the skills that he has for the job that the Governor has nominated him for.

We are very proud of Alan Croce who is our undersheriff in Suffolk County, and he has demonstrated that his standard was the standard that I believe I heard Senator Abate talk about that Corrections is a 7-day-a-week, 24-hour-a-day job. He has demonstrated that as the undersheriff and he has during the Crime and Corrections meeting, indicated that as his standard.

He has a very broad and comprehensive background not only in corrections but in criminal justice and his own personality as a communicator and a person who listens will bring to the policy-making process, I think, proper decisions to something that is very, very important and then many times a very volatile agency, and so it is with great pride that I rise to move Alan Croce's nomination as Commissioner of the Commission on Corrections.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator LaValle. Does anyone else wish to speak on the nomination?

SENATOR LACK: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator.

SENATOR LACK: Madam President, I stand to second the nomination of Alan Croce as a Commissioner of the Commission on Correction. I've known Alan for too many years, I think, for both of us to say as many years ago. As a former Assistant D.A. in Suffolk County, I'm aware of the work he's always done in the sheriff's office. As undersheriff of Suffolk County, he has been more than the underpinning of the department. He really is our -- is our sheriff's office. I'm sorry to see him retire but I'm happy for him in terms of his new post.

He is certainly a qualified appointment from the Governor. I'm happy for someone from Suffolk County. I'm even more happen it's for Alan. Hopefully it will bring him to Albany occasionally, so there might be a couple other things he might want to do while

he's here, more than he's been able to do in the past, and from the standpoint of family unity, I'm happy to see that, and so I'd like to just stand, Madam President, and offer my warmest congratulations both as a worthy opponent but because on a family level it helps to bring a family together.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator.

Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. President.

I'd just like to add my words of congratulations to Alan Croce on this nomination and certainly feel he's super-qualified, a very upstanding citizen, a person you can communicate very effectively with, I'm sure the residents of the facilities and the general public and the legislators, and I think it's a wonderful choice.

He's spoken to a lot of them, communicated effectively with them, yes, and I want to associate myself with some of the

extraneous remarks of Senator Lack just to say he's an outstanding appointment, a tribute to the Governor and Suffolk County for bringing forward such a wonderful nominee. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Johnson.

The question is on the nomination of Alan Croce as a member of the state Commission of Corrections. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

Alan Croce is hereby confirmed as a member of the state Commission of Corrections. Congratulations. (Applause).

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Commissioners of the Tax Appeals Tribunal, Donald DeWitt, Carroll R. Jenkins, Joseph W. Pinto.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Stafford.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Mr. President,

we're very pleased again to point out that Mr. DeWitt, together with all, was unanimously approved and I believe that Senator Farley is neighboring to Mr. DeWitt. I would also point out that I believe this is a reappointment and he is chairman of the tribunal, is president - excuse me, president, and has done an excellent job. Anyone who can deal with taxes and be - come out of the committee unanimous, we've got to -- I guess two others did too, but who has also served and is being reappointed certainly is to be complimented.

On a real serious note, Mr. DeWitt understands the subject. He handles his position with a tremendous amount of ability, with dignity and sensitivity, and it's a pleasure for me to move his nomination.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Stafford.

Senator Farley.

SENATOR FARLEY: Yeah, I'd rise to second Don DeWitt's nomination. He's well qualified, and I applaud the Governor for doing

that. He's a former Marine and a graduate of Albany State which is -- is where I teach, and I don't think you were one of my students but I know that he's eminently qualified, and it's with pleasure that I second his nomination.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Any other Senators wish to speak on the nomination? The question is on the nomination of Donald DeWitt, Carroll R. Jenkins and Joseph W. Pinto as Commissioners of the Tax Appeal Tribunal.

I'm sorry. Senator Farley.

SENATOR FARLEY: Yeah, as long as we're going to do all three of them, I would like to speak on behalf of Carroll Roger Jenkins who is my constituent from Schenectady. He's had a long history of being involved with Taxation and Finance. He again is eminently qualified. He's been a distinguished attorney in the practice of law in Schenectady and he's also a former member of the legislative family, having served as a counsel to "Rap" Rappleyea in the Assembly and he comes very highly recom mended and is -- I've forgotten, Senator Volker

mentioned he also has studied the Russian language and a very, very interesting candidate and somebody that we're very proud of, and I'm pleased to move his nomination.

And as long as we're doing all three, and I don't see Senator Bruno here from my -- I'd like to move the nomination of Joseph Pinto, who's also with us from Clifton Park, a neighboring community to me. I share Saratoga County with Senator Bruno and I know that Joe Pinto is a respected lawyer and a person that has served in the community as a member of the board of education of the Shenendehowa Central School and has been an outstanding citizen. He's a graduate of the Notre Dame University and the Vermont Law School and somebody that I'm confident will be a real credit to the Governor in this appointment and I'd also like to move his nomination.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Thank you, Senator.

Any other Senators wishing to speak on any one of the three nominations?

The question is on the nominations of Donald DeWitt, Carroll R. Jenkins and Joseph W. Pinto as Commissioners of the Tax Appeals Tribunal. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed.

(There was no response. )

Donald DeWitt, Carroll R. Jenkins and Joseph W. Pinto are hereby confirmed as Commissioners of the Tax Appeals Tribunal. Congratulations.

(Applause)

Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Member of the Public Employee Relations Board, Joseph Farnetti.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Senator Stafford.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Mr. President, it's a pleasure to move it, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: The question is on the nomination of Joseph Farnetti

as a member of the Public Employment Relations Board. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed.

(There was no response.)

Joseph Farnetti is hereby confirmed as a member of the Public Employment Relations Board.

Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Members of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Alan B. Friedberg, Lawrence H. Silverman.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Move it, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Question is on the nomination of Alan B. Friedberg as a member of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Lawrence H. Silverman as a non-voting member of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. All in favor?

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed.

(There was no response. )

The nominees are confirmed.

Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Member of the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority, the Reverend Monsignor Robert J. Giroux.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Move confirmation.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: The question is on the nomination of the Reverend Monsignor Robert J. Giroux as a member of the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority. All in favor significant by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

Reverend Monsignor Robert J. Giroux is hereby confirmed as a member of the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority.

Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Member of the New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority, Jack Shea.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Move confirmation.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: The question is on the confirmation of Jack Shea as a member of the New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

Jack Shea is hereby confirmed as a member of the New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority.

Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Member of the State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission for the city of New York, Seema E. Goldstein.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Move confirmation.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Senator Marcellino.

SENATOR MARCELLINO: I don't want

to interrupt if you want to complete the appointment. I just want to get up and speak on a prior appointment.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: The question is on the nomination of Seema E. Goldstein as a member of the State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission for the city of New York. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response.)

Seema Goldstein is hereby confirmed as a member of the State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission of the city of New York.

Senator Marcellino.

SENATOR MARCELLINO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I thank you very much for allowing me to speak on the appointment of Lawrence Silverman as the alternate non-voting member for the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

Mr. Silverman is a resident of my

district and represents the riders of the Long Island Rail Road and all the commuter railroads and in that capacity he has done yeoman's work in speaking out for the concerns and the needs of the ridership of these commuter rails, and it's a very difficult job and, of course, he's done it on a volunteer basis without any remuneration and he's to be commended for his effort and his ability to vocalize their concerns in a very concise way.

I feel his appointment to this particular council even as a non-voting member would be a plus and he will serve the people of the state of New York very well, and I commend and recommend his appointment highly.

Thank you, sir.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Thank you.

Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Member of the Finger Lakes State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission, Linda Jackson.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Move

confirmation, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: The question is on the nomination of Linda Jackson as a member of the Finger Lakes State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response.)

Linda Jackson is hereby confirmed as a member of the Finger Lakes State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission.

Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Member of the Saratoga-Capital District State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission, Katharine Tomasi.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Move confirmation.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Yes. The question is on the confirmation of Katharine Tomasi as a member of the Saratoga-Capital

District State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

Katharine Tomasi is confirmed as a member of the Saratoga-Capital District State Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commission.

Reports of select committees.

Communications and reports from state officers.

Motions and resolutions.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President, move we adopt the Resolution Calendar in its entirety.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: At this -- all in favor of adopting the Resolution Calendar signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response.)

The report is adopted. Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President, at this time, if we could return to reports of standing committees. I believe there is a report from the Rules Committee.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senator Bruno, from the Committee on Rules, reports the following bill directly for Third Reading: Assembly Print Number 11324, Court of Claims Act, in relation to additional judges.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President, I move that we accept the report of the Rules Committee.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: All in favor of accepting the report of the Rules Committee signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

Opposed nay.

(There was no response. )

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President, at this time could we have the third reading of the Rules report.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1807, from the Committee on Rules, Assembly Print 11324, an act to amend the Court of Claims Act, in relation to additional judges.

THE PRESIDENT: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

THE PRESIDENT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll. )

THE SECRETARY: Ayes 53.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: The bill is passed.

SENATOR DOLLINGER: Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Dollinger.

SENATOR DOLLINGER: What was the bill number we just did?

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ:

11324.

SENATOR DOLLINGER: This is the Assembly bill?

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: The Assembly bill.

SENATOR DOLLINGER: May I be recorded in the negative, Mr. President?

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: Senator Dollinger will be recorded in the negative.

Senator Skelos.

SENATOR SKELOS: Mr. President, there being no further business, I move we adjourn until the call of the Majority Leader, intervening days to be legislative days.

ACTING PRESIDENT MAZIARZ: By motion, the Senate stands adjourned to the call of the Majority Leader, intervening days to be legislative days.

(Whereupon at 2:47 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)