NEW YORK STATE SENATE

THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

ALBANY, NEW YORK

June 25, 2009

3:06 p.m.

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

SENATOR ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS, Acting President

ANGELO J. APONTE, Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: The Senate will please come to order.

I ask everyone present to rise and recite with me the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

(Whereupon, the assemblage recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.)

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: In the absence of clergy, may we all bow our heads for a moment of silence.

(Whereupon, the assemblage respected a moment of silence.)

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Thank you.

Senator Smith, I have at the desk here a proclamation which I'm handing down to the Secretary at this time.

SENATOR SMITH: Read the proclamation, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: "Pursuant to the power vested in me by Article IV, Section 3 of

the Constitution, I hereby convene the Senate of the State of New York in Extraordinary Session at the Capitol, in the City of Albany, on the twenty-fifth day of June, two thousand nine, at three o'clock, for the purpose of considering legislation that nominations I will submit with respect to various subjects, and for the consideration of legislation with respect to such other subjects as I may recommend.

"Given under my hand and the privy seal of the State, in the City of Albany, this twenty-fourth day of June in the year two thousand nine, by the Governor, David A. Paterson."

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: The proclamation having been read, the session is in an extraordinary session.

Before we go on, Senator Smith, I'd like to recognize Senator Craig Johnson for a moment.

SENATOR CRAIG JOHNSON: Thank you very much, Madam President.

I just want to recognize that today

happens to be the 15th yahrtzeit, the anniversary of the death of Rabbi Menachem Schneerson.

For those of you who may not know, the Rebbe, Rabbi Schneerson, was one of the greatest spiritual leaders over the past century. And one of the important things that the Rebbe taught was about bringing goodness and kindness to all people throughout the world.

And I think, as we see these days here in Albany and all across our great state, if we can just take a moment of silence for prayers for him and his family and to take in the words that he taught and taught so many. So if I could just ask for people to rise for that moment of silence for the Rebbe, I would appreciate it.

(Whereupon, the assemblage respected a moment of silence.)

SENATOR CRAIG JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, Madam President. Thank you for recognizing our colleague Senator Craig Johnson for that brief statement which is so important to us.

But, Madam President, in light of the fact that the Governor has still neglected to bring the Assembly into Extraordinary Session Number 3 with us, I have to move that we do not take up any legislative activity today and we adjourn the special session sine die.

ACTING PRESIDENT STEWART-COUSINS: Thank you, Senator Smith. On motion, this third extraordinary session is adjourned sine die.

(Whereupon, at 3:09 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)