NEW YORK STATE SENATE

THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

ALBANY, NEW YORK

January 10, 2011

3:02 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ROBERT J. DUFFY, President

FRANCIS W. PATIENCE, Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

THE PRESIDENT: The Senate will come to order.

I ask everyone to please rise and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The invocation this afternoon will be given by The Venerable David J. Collum, who is the Archdeacon of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany and Dean of the Cathedral of All Saints.

ARCHDEACON COLLUM: I thank you for the privilege of being able to ask God's favor upon each of you and upon this session. I pray that my words will bring God's blessing upon you. As I pray to God, I do so not to proselytize you or to offend you, but to pray to God for you in the way that I understand God.

Almighty God, fountain of life and source of all goodness, You made all things and fill them with Your blessing. You created them to rejoice in the splendor of Your radiance, and You ordained men and women to

have charge over this, Your creation.

We thank You for calling men and women from around this state to serve others in governing. We thank You for putting us at tasks which demand our best. We thank You that You are faithful and that You hear the prayers of Your people. We thank You for the goodness and love which You have made known to us.

Almighty God, we come today seeking Your blessing upon our labors. Yet before seeking our own needs this day, we pray for those in our sister state of Arizona. Father, men and women who came to support democracy fell victim to violence. Amidst our shock and sadness, grant us a spirit of faith and courage that we may have the strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness, patience, and hope.

There are still those injured who cling to life. Guide those who care for them in their recovery. And we beseech You to stretch out Your healing hand of love upon them, especially the colleague of these my brothers and sisters, Congresswoman Gabrielle

Giffords.

Lord, six died in this senseless violence. Comfort their families that they may cast all their care on You and know the consolation of Your love. And for those who are no longer with us but on a distant shore, grant eternal rest to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

And now, Father, I ask that You bless these men and these women. I ask You, bless their lives and the lives of their families, watch over and protect them, keep them from harm and lead them into all truth. I ask You, bless their work. You are our God of order. Help them to order the affairs of this state, that their work may bring peace, prosperity and hope to the people they serve.

I ask You, bless their proceedings. So much lies before them. Grant them immeasurable wisdom to know which situations to address first. In each of these situations, there is so much complexity. Enhance their understanding so that they may truly see and know Your solution. Strengthen their perseverance to reach those solutions

and to overcome the obstacles which seek to create disunity and destroy their labors.

Finally, Almighty God, we ask You, by Your mercy, that You would lead disparate views and competing ideas into unity with charity.

O Lord our God, accept these our prayers. In the multitude of Your mercies, look with compassion upon us who now turn to You for help, for You are a gracious God. And to You we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

THE PRESIDENT: The reading of the Journal.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Sunday, January 9, the Senate met pursuant to adjournment. The Journal of Saturday, January 8, was read and approved. On motion, Senate adjourned.

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

Presentation of petitions.

Let the record show we are in receipt of the State of the State message from the Governor. I hand it down and ask that it be filed in the Journal.

Messages from the Assembly.

Reports of standing committees.

Reports of select committees.

Communications and reports from state officers.

Motions and resolutions.

Senator Libous.

SENATOR LIBOUS: Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, in consultation with Senator Sampson, I now hand up the following Minority committee assignments and ask that such assignments be filed into the Journal, please.

THE PRESIDENT: So ordered.

Senator Libous.

SENATOR LIBOUS: Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President and my colleagues, I too ask that we take a few moments here to certainly observe a moment of silence in

respect for the victims in Tucson. Certainly for Congresswoman Gifford, the 12 who were injured, the six that were murdered.

And if we could just all stand, Mr. President, as a body and pay our respects and certainly our silent prayer.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator.

All rise.

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

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Libous.

Senator Libous.

SENATOR LIBOUS: Thank you, Mr. President.

Is there any further business at the desk?

THE PRESIDENT: None.

SENATOR LIBOUS: There being no further business at the desk, Mr. President, I move that we adjourn until Tuesday, January 11, at 11:00 a.m.

THE PRESIDENT: On motion, the Senate stands adjourned until Tuesday,

January 11th, at 11:00 a.m.

(Whereupon, at 3:10 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)