

1 NEW YORK STATE SENATE

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3  
4 THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

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8  
9 ALBANY, NEW YORK

10 May 10, 2011

11 3:17 p.m.

12  
13  
14 REGULAR SESSION

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18 SENATOR TOM O'MARA, Acting President

19 FRANCIS W. PATIENCE, Secretary

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
3 house will come to order.

4 Please rise and join me in the  
5 Pledge of Allegiance.

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

8 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Joining  
9 us today for the invocation is Soulemaine  
10 Konate, Imam, Masjid Aqsa, of New York.

11 IMAM KONATE: [In Arabic] In the  
12 name of Allah, the most gracious, the most  
13 merciful.

14 O, Allah, our God, by You we beg  
15 and to You we direct ourselves. And You we  
16 ask and for only You we wanted. We beg You  
17 for nothing but You, our Lord, and we appeal  
18 it to You by the great myth and grandest  
19 virtue. There is no God but You, all one  
20 only, all eternal and absolute.

21 Bring peace and tranquility into  
22 our counties and our cities, and make our  
23 countries and cities a place of security and  
24 provide its leaders with the many blessings  
25 and protection, guidance and wisdom. You

1       alone we worship, and You alone we ask for  
2       help for each and everything.

3               O Lord of Abraham, Moses, Jesus and  
4       Mohammed, may peace be upon them all. You are  
5       possessor of the kingdom and power. You give  
6       kingdom and power to whom You will, and you  
7       take the kingdom and power from whom You will.  
8       And You endow with honor whom You will, and  
9       You humiliate whom You will. In Your hand is  
10      good. Verily, You are able to do all things.

11              Amen.

12              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
13      reading of the Journal.

14              THE SECRETARY:     In Senate,  
15      Monday, May 9th, the Senate met pursuant to  
16      adjournment. The Journal of Sunday, May 8th,  
17      was read and approved. On motion, Senate  
18      adjourned.

19              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Without  
20      objection, the Journal stands approved as  
21      read.

22              Presentation of petitions.

23              Messages from the Assembly.

24              The Secretary will read.

25              THE SECRETARY:     On page 28,

1 Senator LaValle moves to discharge, from the  
2 Committee on Environmental Conservation,  
3 Assembly Bill Number 5971 and substitute it  
4 for the identical Senate Bill Number 3771,  
5 Third Reading Calendar Number 434.

6 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:

7 Substitution ordered.

8 THE SECRETARY: On page 30,  
9 Senator Nozzolio moves to discharge, from the  
10 Committee on Judiciary, Assembly Bill Number  
11 6152 and substitute it for the identical  
12 Senate Bill Number 4666, Third Reading  
13 Calendar 449.

14 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:

15 Substitution ordered.

16 THE SECRETARY: And on page 30,  
17 Senator Valesky moves to discharge, from the  
18 Committee on Education, Assembly Bill Number  
19 5719 and substitute it for the identical  
20 Senate Bill Number 3776, Third Reading  
21 Calendar 455.

22 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:

23 Substitution ordered.

24 Messages from the Governor.

25 Reports of standing committees.

1                   The Secretary will read.

2                   THE SECRETARY:       Senator  
3                   DeFrancisco, from the Committee on Finance,  
4                   reports the following nomination.

5                   For the Commissioner of the Office  
6                   of General Services, RoAnn M. Destito, of  
7                   Rome.

8                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
9                   Libous.

10                  SENATOR LIBOUS:       Mr. President,  
11                  after we have the report of the standing  
12                  committees, before we do the next nomination,  
13                  could we please go to motions and resolutions,  
14                  and then we'll come back and do to the  
15                  nomination.

16                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Reports  
17                  of select committees.

18                  Communications and reports from  
19                  state officers.

20                  Motions and resolutions.

21                  Senator Libous.

22                  SENATOR LIBOUS:       Thank you,  
23                  Mr. President.

24                  I believe that Senator Breslin has  
25                  a resolution at the desk. He would like the

1 title read and if you would call on Senator  
2 Breslin, please.

3 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
4 Secretary will read.

5 THE SECRETARY: Legislative  
6 Resolution Number 1716, by Senator Breslin,  
7 honoring Youssoufou Bamba, the new Permanent  
8 Representative of Cote d'Ivoire to the United  
9 Nations, and extending a warm welcome to him  
10 upon the occasion of his visit to Albany,  
11 New York, on May 10, 2011.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
13 Breslin.

14 SENATOR BRESLIN: Thank you very  
15 much, Mr. President.

16 We are honored today to have the  
17 ambassador from the Ivory Coast to the  
18 United Nations with us. His Excellency, would  
19 you please stand.

20 And the Ivory Coast, as many of you  
21 know, has been in turmoil for the last couple  
22 of months after a very highly contested  
23 election. It once served as kind of the  
24 gateway in West Africa for the 16 nations  
25 there, and it will again. And we have

1 developed in the United States, and in  
2 particular in New York, a wonderful  
3 relationship with the Ivory Coast.

4 And the ambassador, his experience  
5 has been extraordinary. He has served in  
6 Korea, he has served in Austria, he has served  
7 in Japan and is really a well-known expert on  
8 world affairs.

9 And it should be noted that the new  
10 president is a Ph.D. from Penn State in the  
11 United States and is well aware of the  
12 friendship and the relationship that we have  
13 between the United States and the Ivory Coast.

14 And I welcome you here. I look  
15 forward to hearing your words. And I look  
16 forward to a very strong and warm relationship  
17 in the coming years.

18 Thank you, Mr. President.

19 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
20 Perkins.

21 SENATOR PERKINS: Thank you very  
22 much.

23 First I want to underscore the  
24 words that were shared by Senator Breslin in  
25 terms of the extraordinary presence that we

1       have here today in terms of the ambassador of  
2       the Ivory Coast.

3               I have the privilege of  
4       representing many of his constituents who are  
5       a part of my district in the Harlem, East  
6       Harlem, Upper West Side, Morningside Heights  
7       area.

8               But one of the things I've learned  
9       about the folks from the Ivory Coast is as  
10      great as the man is, so is the woman. And I  
11      want to acknowledge the wife of the ambassador  
12      as well, because I know that the kind of  
13      leadership that she has been providing, and  
14      support for him and for the country, is  
15      something that is well-deserved and I want to  
16      appreciate that. I've seen that kind of  
17      leadership in my neighborhood.

18              And I'm sure that the Ivory Coast  
19      is on its way to a great future for not only  
20      the folks in the Ivory Coast but for the  
21      region, as well as for those of us from this  
22      country. We need to make sure that we forge  
23      the kinds of economic development ties with  
24      the Ivory Coast that we see valuable in places  
25      all over the world.



1                   That is a place where its economy  
2                   is ripe for the kind of partnerships that will  
3                   benefit the folks from the Ivory Coast as well  
4                   as those of us in this country and in other  
5                   parts of the world as well.

6                   Thank you very much for the  
7                   opportunity to speak.

8                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
9                   Hassell-Thompson.

10                  SENATOR HASSELL-THOMPSON:     Thank  
11                  you, Mr. President.

12                  I would like to add my voice to  
13                  that of Senator Breslin and Senator Perkins as  
14                  we congratulate the ambassador as he has  
15                  accepted the responsibility as the permanent  
16                  representative, and say to him and to his  
17                  entourage: Akwaba. And certainly to Madam  
18                  Bamba, welcome.

19                  And it is with great pleasure that  
20                  I support this resolution and thank you,  
21                  Senator Breslin, for ensuring that we share in  
22                  this cultural experience and we lend support  
23                  to the growth and development of the new  
24                  government that is coming to the Ivory Coast.

25                  Thank you, Mr. President.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Thank  
2     you, Senator.

3                   Senator Smith.

4                   SENATOR SAMPSON:     Thank you very  
5     much, Mr. President.

6                   Ambassador Bamba, welcome to  
7     New York State. Welcome to your sister state  
8     with regard to our relationship with the Ivory  
9     Coast when it comes to economic development  
10    and education.

11                  To my colleagues here today, this  
12    is a very important day for us in this  
13    chamber. The ambassador has a wealth of  
14    experience, being a former ambassador to  
15    Austria, the United Kingdom, Japan, Ethiopia,  
16    Korea. He has a master's in economics.

17                  And you should understand that his  
18    purpose today was not one to just visit us but  
19    to also thank us as a state and as a country  
20    for the support that we've given to the Ivory  
21    Coast.

22                  I want to thank our leaders in this  
23    chamber: Senator Sampson, for the warm  
24    welcome and reception that he put forward for  
25    the ambassador. I also want to thank the

1 President of the Senate, Senator Dean Skelos,  
2 for the warm reception in allowing the  
3 ambassador to come forward and bring  
4 greetings.

5 But I also want to thank all of  
6 you, my colleagues, because you are here today  
7 on this floor allowing the ambassador to see  
8 one of the most prestigious chambers in these  
9 United States.

10 Ambassador, you are witnessing a  
11 chamber that has a history that is as rich as  
12 almost the country of the Ivory Coast.

13 So we want to thank you for being  
14 here. We congratulate you on your appointment  
15 as of December. And we look forward to a  
16 relationship as one that is not only rich with  
17 the exchange of our culture and our education,  
18 but one that continues to exchange our spirit,  
19 which is more important than anything that we  
20 do as human beings on this planet.

21 Thank you very much, Mr. President.

22 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Thank  
23 you, Senator Smith.

24 The question is on the resolution.  
25 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

1 (Response of "Aye.")

2 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Any  
3 opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
6 resolution is passed.

7 Senator Libous.

8 SENATOR LIBOUS: Thank you,  
9 Mr. President.

10 Mr. President, at this time could I  
11 ask a unanimous consent from the body to have  
12 Ambassador Bamba address the body.

13 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Yes,  
14 without objection.

15 SENATOR LIBOUS: Ambassador  
16 Bamba.

17 AMBASSADOR BAMBA: Senate  
18 Majority Leader Dean Skelos, honorable  
19 Senators, yes indeed it is a great honor for  
20 me -- through me, to my country -- to address  
21 this prestigious chamber.

22 Indeed, my country has emerged from  
23 a dire crisis. Over the past four months we  
24 have unfortunately witnessed a recorded 3,000  
25 people killed. Killed because of the madness

1 of men clinging to power. The incumbent  
2 president of Cote d'Ivoire has lost the  
3 election, but he has refused to step down.  
4 And the world has witnessed this crisis, which  
5 has concluded by the arrest of the former  
6 President Gbagbo.

7 I'm here today before you to extend  
8 to the American people, through you, the  
9 gratitude of the Ivorian people, the  
10 government people, the government of Cote  
11 d'Ivoire, for the supports you have given to  
12 us during this crisis. You have supported  
13 democracy. You have supported civilian  
14 population who have been slaughtered by a  
15 dictator. We praise you for that. We commend  
16 you. We will be eternally grateful to you for  
17 that.

18 I come before you today to invite  
19 you, through the Senate Majority Leader, to  
20 attend the inauguration of President Ouattara  
21 on the 21st of May in Yamoussoukro. I come  
22 before you today to invite this great nation,  
23 United States, the great nation of democracy,  
24 to help us, to help Cote d'Ivoire to foster  
25 democracy, the rule of law in our society.

1                   I come before you today to invite  
2           you to take part of the reconstruction of the  
3           nation of Cote d'Ivoire, to develop economic  
4           ties not only with Cote d'Ivoire but beyond,  
5           to the West African region, which comprises  
6           250 million people, 250 million consumers,  
7           larger than the United States market. I'm  
8           here before you to invite your business  
9           community to take part of the development,  
10          economic development of Cote d'Ivoire.

11                   I thank you for your attention.

12                   (Applause.)

13                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
14          Libous.

15                   SENATOR LIBOUS:       Thank you,  
16          Ambassador Bamba. Certainly, on behalf of all  
17          the members in the chamber, it is an honor to  
18          have you with us here today, and we certainly  
19          appreciate your remarks. Thank you, sir.

20                   Mr. President, I believe that  
21          Senator Diaz has a resolution at the desk.  
22          Could we please read it in its entirety and  
23          then call on Senator Diaz.

24                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       The  
25          Secretary will read.

1                   THE SECRETARY:       Legislative  
2       Resolution Number 520, by Senator Diaz,  
3       commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the  
4       founding of the Republic of China.

5                   "WHEREAS, The Republic of China,  
6       which was founded by Dr. Sun Yat-Sen in 1912,  
7       was the first republic in Asia; and

8                   "WHEREAS, 2011 marks the 100th  
9       anniversary of the founding of the Republic of  
10      China; and

11                  "WHEREAS, For more than several  
12      decades, the Republic of China has worked to  
13      establish itself as a strong and successful  
14      model of democracy in Taiwan and remained a  
15      bright beacon of democracy in Asia and the  
16      world; and

17                  "WHEREAS, Through Cross-Strait  
18      dialogues, the establishment of the Economic  
19      Cooperation Framework Agreement with Mainland  
20      China and a policy of flexible diplomacy which  
21      are implemented by the government under  
22      President Ma Ying-Jeou, Taiwan has transformed  
23      itself to a cornerstone for peace and  
24      prosperity in East Asia; and

25                  "WHEREAS, Taiwan is the ninth

1 trading partner and one of the strongest  
2 democratic allies of the United States; and

3 "WHEREAS, The United States  
4 assisted Taiwan in participating in the World  
5 Health Assembly as an observer in May of 2009,  
6 and will continue supporting Taiwan's  
7 meaningful participation in other United  
8 Nations-affiliated organizations such as the  
9 International Civil Aviation Organization and  
10 the united nations framework convention on  
11 climate change; and

12 "WHEREAS, In order to further  
13 strengthen the relationship between the United  
14 States and the Republic of China, the  
15 government of the Republic of China has  
16 expressed its hope that the United States will  
17 sign a bilateral extradition treaty with  
18 Taiwan, include Taiwanese passport holders  
19 into the visa waiver program, resume  
20 negotiation on a trade and investment  
21 framework agreement, and sign a free trade  
22 agreement with Taiwan in the near future; and

23 "WHEREAS, The State of New York  
24 exported \$1.5 billion worth of products to  
25 Taiwan in 2010, making Taiwan the 15th largest



1 foreign market for New York State in 2010,  
2 strengthening our economic ties; and

3 "WHEREAS, Many of the United  
4 States' top 500 companies headquartered in  
5 New York have invested in Taiwan, including  
6 IBM, Pfizer, Corning, Citigroup, MetLife, J.P.  
7 Morgan and New York Life; and

8 "WHEREAS, The State of New York is  
9 home to a thriving overseas Taiwanese  
10 community. Both the government of Taiwan and  
11 Taiwanese Americans devote themselves to local  
12 community service in the State of New York.  
13 New York State has maintained a friendly and  
14 fruitful sister-state relationship with Taiwan  
15 for many years; now, therefore, be it

16 "RESOLVED, That this Legislative  
17 Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate  
18 the 100th anniversary of the founding of the  
19 Republic of China and to express and record  
20 its strong commitment to a closer economic  
21 partnership with Taiwan; and be it further

22 "RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
23 resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted  
24 to President Ma Ying-Jeou of the Republic of  
25 China through the Taipei Economic and Cultural

1 Office in New York."

2 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
3 Diaz on the resolution.

4 SENATOR DIAZ: Thank you,  
5 Mr. President.

6 Today I'm very honored and proud  
7 that we in the New York State Senate are  
8 commemorating the 100th anniversary of the  
9 founding of the Republic of China. This  
10 commemoration, Mr. President, is not only a  
11 personal celebration for the people of Taiwan  
12 but a celebration for democracy throughout the  
13 world.

14 Mr. President, I was struck by  
15 something that I read in the history of  
16 Taiwan. The people of Taiwan share a  
17 conviction that their future must be based on  
18 freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of  
19 law, and that only they have the right to  
20 decide their own future.

21 In just -- Mr. President and ladies  
22 and gentlemen, in just 100 short years Taiwan  
23 has accomplished the following: A literacy  
24 rate of almost 98 percent. 1.3 million  
25 students are enrolled in institutions of

1 higher education. In several categories  
2 relating to the global share of information  
3 technology, Taiwan ranks either first or  
4 second.

5 Taiwan is not only, ladies and  
6 gentlemen, an important economic partner of  
7 the United States, it is a strong economic  
8 partner for the State of New York as well. As  
9 we heard in the resolution, New York State  
10 exported \$1.5 billion worth of products to  
11 Taiwan, making it the 15th -- and I repeat,  
12 making it the 15th largest foreign market for  
13 New York State in 2010.

14 On a personal note, Mr. President,  
15 I have been blessed to be associated with the  
16 Taipei Economic and Cultural Council for more  
17 than 10 years. I have been especially moved  
18 by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Council's  
19 commitment to our children's education. This  
20 year, as in the past, they have generously  
21 donated backpacks filled with school supplies  
22 for the annual celebration of the Three Kings  
23 that I conduct in my district every year.

24 We deeply appreciate Ambassador  
25 Kao's efforts and the generosity of his

1 associates who donated more than 700 backpacks  
2 filled with school supplies to our underserved  
3 schoolchildren. As the children in the South  
4 Bronx returned to school in January, they had  
5 a little extra confidence with those gifts to  
6 succeed.

7 Mr. President and ladies and  
8 gentlemen, with us today to celebrate this  
9 important occasion are Ambassador Andrew J.C.  
10 Kao and Mr. David Chien, director of the  
11 Taipei Economic and Cultural Office.

12 I am pleased to welcome each of you  
13 today to the New York State Senate chamber,  
14 and I am privileged, I am privileged to  
15 consider you my friends.

16 Mr. President and ladies and  
17 gentlemen, in closing I want to once again  
18 offer my sincerest congratulations to the  
19 people of Taiwan as their beloved country  
20 reaches this important milestone. May it have  
21 many, many more.

22 Thank you, Mr. President.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Thank  
24 you, Senator.

25 Senator Stavisky on the resolution.

1                   SENATOR STAVISKY:     Yes, thank  
2     you, Mr. President.

3                   I too want to congratulate our  
4     friends from the Republic of China, Taiwan, on  
5     the 100th anniversary of its founding by  
6     Dr. Sun Yat-Sen in 1912.

7                   Taiwan is a democracy in a part of  
8     the world sorely lacking in democratic  
9     institutions and democratic ideals. And they  
10    have had leadership right now under  
11    President Ma where they have become an  
12    economic force, an economic engine in many  
13    parts of the world, but particularly in  
14    New York State and indeed in my district in  
15    Queens County.

16                  And I thank Senator Diaz for  
17    introducing this resolution, because we  
18    understand the importance of the Republic of  
19    China. The State of New York is a major  
20    exporter of goods to the Republic of China.  
21    And in return, they have come and made an  
22    investment in New York, and particularly in  
23    Queens County and in Flushing. In fact, I'm  
24    very proud to represent more than 100,000  
25    Asian-Americans living in Queens County in my

1 district.

2 And what is happening in Queens,  
3 for any of you who have been there recently,  
4 you see an economic resurgence, almost a  
5 renaissance of development. The economy is  
6 thriving. Buildings are going up, there's a  
7 lot of construction going on.

8 And in addition, they are  
9 contributing to the cultural and political  
10 infrastructure in our political system. The  
11 culture -- the music, the art, the art  
12 galleries -- so much is happening. And in  
13 fact, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office  
14 recently opened a district office for  
15 themselves in Flushing.

16 So I congratulate Ambassador Andrew  
17 Kao, his director of the Taipei Economic and  
18 Cultural Office, David Chien, and welcome them  
19 once again to Albany.

20 And let me add one other point.  
21 Senator Diaz spoke about the educational  
22 system. And I was very proud to visit one of  
23 their universities in Kaohsiung, in the  
24 southern part of Taiwan. They have a system  
25 of public higher education in their nation,

1 but they have sister relationships and  
2 programs throughout the world. And I'm very  
3 proud that some of these programs do exist in  
4 the State of New York.

5 So I welcome them once again, my  
6 friends from Taiwan, and wish them a very  
7 congratulatory year as we celebrate the  
8 hundredth anniversary of the founding of the  
9 republic of China. Zhe-zhay [ph].

10 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Thank  
11 you, Senator.

12 This resolution was previously  
13 adopted by the Senate on February 15th.

14 Senator Libous.

15 SENATOR LIBOUS: Thank you,  
16 Mr. President.

17 At this time could I ask my  
18 colleagues if we could have unanimous consent  
19 to have Ambassador J.C. Kao address the body.  
20 Mr. President, unanimous consent?

21 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Without  
22 objection.

23 Ambassador.

24 SENATOR LIBOUS: Thank you.

25 Ambassador Kao, would you at this

1           time address the Senate?

2                    AMBASSADOR KAO:       Mr. President  
3           and all the honorable Senators of the great  
4           State of New York, it is my great honor to  
5           accept this resolution which symbolize the  
6           close-bound and also the cordial relations  
7           between the two sister states New York and  
8           Taiwan.

9                    So on behalf of the government and  
10          also the people of Taiwan, I accept this  
11          resolution with great honor and pride and deep  
12          appreciation.

13                   It is my firm belief that with our  
14          joint efforts of both sides that we can  
15          further enhance the already close relations in  
16          the future.

17                   Thank you so much.

18                    (Appause.)

19                    ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
20          LaValle.

21                    SENATOR LaVALLE:       Mr. President,  
22          can we go back to reports of standing  
23          committees.

24                    ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:  
25          Returning to reports of standing committees.



1                   The Secretary will read.

2                   THE SECRETARY:       Senator  
3       DeFrancisco, from the Committee on Finance,  
4       reports the following nomination.

5                   As Commissioner of the Office of  
6       General Services, RoAnn M. Destito, of Rome.

7                   (Applause.)

8                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
9       DeFrancisco.

10                  SENATOR DeFRANCISCO:       Thank you  
11       for that round of applause. I've never gotten  
12       one before when I've moved a nomination, and  
13       it's really very nice of all of you.

14                  (Laughter.)

15                  SENATOR DeFRANCISCO:       I proudly  
16       stand to move the nomination of RoAnn Destito,  
17       who has been nominated by the Governor as  
18       commissioner of the New York State Office of  
19       General Services.

20                  This is again an outstanding  
21       appointment by the Governor. Her experience  
22       in the Assembly is second to none. She was  
23       chair of the Governmental Operations  
24       Committee, which gave her insight that will be  
25       extremely important for her in carrying out

1 her duties.

2 Another thing that's important to  
3 me is that she's a Central New Yorker, and the  
4 Governor recognizes that this part of the  
5 state does exist, with good strong people to  
6 do good things for the State of New York.

7 But the one thing I want to  
8 mention, and then I'll let others speak on her  
9 behalf, is not only her outstanding work in  
10 the Assembly but her character and her  
11 persistence in everything that she did while  
12 in the Assembly.

13 And lately both of our bodies, both  
14 the Assembly and the Senate, have been  
15 tarnished by a few scandals. And all of us,  
16 including the Assembly members and the members  
17 of the Senate, who try do the right thing are  
18 tarnished by that and we're painted with that  
19 same broad brush.

20 Well, it's truly refreshing for the  
21 Governor to pick out one of our finest to show  
22 that the Legislature of the State of New York  
23 does have good people that do good things and  
24 do them in the right way. And that's what  
25 RoAnn Destito symbolizes.

1                   The affection that she has by her  
2           members, the members of the Assembly, is well  
3           shown by all the Assembly members who are here  
4           today. There were more here earlier, but we  
5           had to conduct foreign relations first and  
6           they had to go back and actually have their  
7           own Assembly session.

8                   So with that said, I am very proud  
9           and pleased to move the nomination of RoAnn  
10          Destito, and I would call on Senator Griffo to  
11          second the nomination.

12                   Thank you.

13                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
14          Griffo.

15                   SENATOR GRIFFO:       Thank you,  
16          Mr. President.

17                   I want to welcome Assemblywoman  
18          Destito and her family and the friends who are  
19          with us today in the East Gallery. Also to  
20          the members of the Assembly who are with us  
21          today.

22                   RoAnn, you may have done another  
23          first. You've brought the entire Assembly  
24          into the Senate chamber, and we can have a  
25          joint session.

1 (Laughter.)

2 SENATOR GRIFFO: I know the  
3 Speaker was also here a little earlier.

4 And it is a day of mixed emotion,  
5 because there are many fond memories from a  
6 long and distinguished career in serving with  
7 the members of the Assembly in the  
8 Legislature, working with all of the Senate  
9 and the governors throughout her tenure.

10 So it's a day of mixed emotions  
11 remembering those fond memories and having a  
12 great understanding and appreciation for that,  
13 but also it's a time of excitement and renewal  
14 and opportunity to undertake new challenges  
15 and to embark upon a new path and to use her  
16 talent and skills to try to bring us in a  
17 direction that we all believe we can achieve  
18 greatness in the state again.

19 And that's why I want to thank the  
20 Governor, first and foremost, because the  
21 Governor made an excellent choice. He has an  
22 exceptional candidate here. And we need to  
23 give him our thanks and appreciation for his  
24 ability to select wisely.

25 And today, surrounded by the people

1       that she is with, her family and friends I  
2       think speak a lot about the individual, as  
3       Senator DeFrancisco said, an individual who  
4       has been well grounded throughout her entire  
5       life, who has a solid foundation on which to  
6       lean. That is where she I think got this  
7       great skill and interest in public service.

8               The daughter of a firefighter and a  
9       public health nurse, early on in life she  
10      understood the importance of public service  
11      and had a willingness, an interest and a  
12      desire to serve her community and to serve the  
13      people in her community.

14             So I think that is something that  
15      really was developed as a result of a good  
16      family and a good foundation. And I think we  
17      owe a lot of appreciation to the people that  
18      surround her today for what they did.

19             RoAnn has been somebody who the  
20      hallmark, in my opinion, of what she has been  
21      all about is her persona -- someone who is  
22      accessible, someone who is approachable,  
23      someone who has demonstrated compassion,  
24      someone who has reached out continually to  
25      various elements and segments of the community

1 and who's always conducted herself with  
2 dignity and integrity.

3 She undertook her responsibilities  
4 as a colleague, and many of us are assembled  
5 here today -- and the Speaker is with us  
6 again. Welcome, Mr. Speaker. And again, a  
7 testament to RoAnn's leadership. I know he  
8 doesn't want to lose her; right, Speaker?

9 But the fact here is that as a  
10 colleague of all of ours in government, what I  
11 always admired -- and I appreciate her  
12 mentorship and guidance, particularly as a new  
13 member of this Legislature -- is her energy,  
14 her enthusiasm, her dedication to ensure that  
15 she stayed focused and wanted to get the job  
16 done. Because she understands the importance  
17 and the significance of getting results for  
18 the people that we all serve.

19 She has been a tenacious advocate,  
20 someone who really understands and appreciates  
21 the importance of working together regardless  
22 of region or political affiliation. So I  
23 think that is something that I learned and a  
24 lesson that I believe we can all learn.

25 And she was also very smart. She

1 assembled a very talented staff, and they have  
2 served her well -- they are with her, I know,  
3 upstairs in the gallery today. So as a  
4 result, they had a good grasp of the issues,  
5 and they fought hard and they really focused  
6 on the issues that I think were important to  
7 all of us as a state: Improving our local  
8 economy, affordable and quality healthcare,  
9 enhancing education, both primary, secondary  
10 and higher.

11 These are the areas that RoAnn  
12 really wanted to make a difference in, as well  
13 as making state and local government more  
14 accountable. And I think that's where  
15 Governor Cuomo really saw some talent that he  
16 needed to tap.

17 So those are things, working with  
18 her, that I really appreciate, particularly  
19 the challenges that we've had to overcome from  
20 our community that we come from, some of the  
21 darkest days with economic challenges. But it  
22 was a resiliency, it was a determination, it  
23 was a willingness to say we can achieve good  
24 things if we continue to work together. And  
25 she was a real leader in those efforts, and I

1 really respect that and appreciate all of that  
2 hard work.

3 So I think one thing we can all say  
4 about RoAnn -- and we all know this -- that  
5 she's incapable of being stonewalled. So  
6 beware, bureaucracy. Because if she goes to  
7 the Office of General Services, a very  
8 significant department, she has pledged -- I  
9 know that she will follow up on this -- a  
10 willingness and a responsiveness to working  
11 with the Legislature and various segments and  
12 agencies across the State of New York. So we  
13 look forward to that.

14 In fact, for a long time you were  
15 used to taking the heat; now we need to turn  
16 to you to provide us some heat during those  
17 winter months. So we know -- because OGS has  
18 that responsibility to take care of our  
19 buildings. Somebody was going to applaud  
20 there, I think; that's good.

21 (Laughter.)

22 SENATOR GRIFFO: So the other  
23 thing is RoAnn has been extremely involved in  
24 the community as an important part of the  
25 community, as a person. And for that she has



1       been recognized and she has achieved and been  
2       given countless awards and citations, not only  
3       in our local community but across the state.  
4       And I think that is a recognition and tribute  
5       to the many things that she has done and the  
6       many things she means to so many different  
7       people. And I think that's another important  
8       thing to note today.

9               But I think, most importantly, is  
10       she takes another effort really as a pioneer,  
11       because she will be the first woman  
12       commissioner of the Office of General  
13       Services, the significant department that has  
14       all of these responsibilities in state  
15       government. I think that is something again  
16       to give kudos to the Governor, because when he  
17       selected, he selected well again in another  
18       pioneering way, that RoAnn Destito will be the  
19       first commissioner to take on that  
20       responsibility. I know she will do it with  
21       the same attitude, she will do it with the  
22       same approach and the same dignity and  
23       hard-fought and hardworking ethic that she  
24       possesses and will bring to the job at OGS.

25              And I think in the end what I would

1 say today, because I know a lot of members  
2 want to say something, is in the end it comes  
3 down to balance. And she has been able to  
4 achieve great balance in her life, because she  
5 not only fulfilled the professional demands  
6 and responsibilities of elective office, but  
7 she had to balance that with taking care of  
8 her family and did it in a way which really  
9 exudes class.

10 And that is something I know that's  
11 so important. That's why so many people are  
12 here to support her today. She was a great  
13 daughter, sister, wife and mother. And today  
14 with her is her mom, her brother and her son,  
15 as well as many other extended members of the  
16 family and friends who are here today. And I  
17 know today Chris and her dad Maurice are  
18 smiling.

19 Congratulations, and I second the  
20 nomination.

21 (Applause.)

22 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
23 Nozzolio on the nomination.

24 SENATOR NOZZOLIO: Mr. President,  
25 on the nomination.

1                   Mr. President and my colleagues,  
2           since the nomination of RoAnn Destito to head  
3           the Office of General Services was made  
4           public, I looked forward to this moment when I  
5           could rise and stand and support this  
6           nomination and compliment Governor Cuomo on  
7           the wisdom of his choice.

8                   I stand because I have had the  
9           honor of working with RoAnn in the Assembly  
10          and in the Senate in a lot of different ways.  
11          And that clearly she was, and is, always  
12          helpful, always trying to find the solution,  
13          always looking to be supportive of what's  
14          important to upstate New York and particularly  
15          the Central New York region.

16                  I also have always been impressed  
17          and admired how RoAnn worked in a bipartisan  
18          fashion, never giving care to politics or the  
19          political edge, always willing to lend a hand  
20          and to fight for something that she believed  
21          in and that members of the region believed in.

22                  I particularly was honored to serve  
23          with RoAnn on the joint conference committees  
24          in the areas of public protection. I see the  
25          cochair of the public protection committee,

1       the joint budget conference committee,  
2       Assemblyman Lentol, is here. And although he  
3       was the chair, along with Senator Volker, they  
4       could never explain the 911 system and the  
5       complexities of the public protection  
6       emergency services system. As a matter of  
7       fact, Senator Volker tried to explain it.  
8       Assemblyman Lentol was smart enough just to  
9       say: "RoAnn, would you please explain it for  
10      us?" Because year after year there's no one  
11      who has been able to grasp the complexities of  
12      that particular project more than she.

13               And that this nominee -- if this  
14      nominee can understand that system, the rest  
15      of the complexities of state government will  
16      be easy for her as she now is in this new  
17      important position.

18               I rise not for any reason other  
19      than to thank RoAnn Destito for her service in  
20      such a kind, supportive, nonpartisan fashion  
21      in working for legislative solutions. And  
22      that I only believe that this quality person  
23      will make a quality commissioner, and as such  
24      am proud to stand in support of this wonderful  
25      nomination.

1 Thank you, Mr. President.

2 (Applause.)

3 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
4 Maziarz on the nomination.

5 SENATOR MAZIARZ: Thank you very  
6 much, Mr. President.

7 It's great to see so many members  
8 of the Assembly here. Mr. Speaker, it's great  
9 to see you here. I said that when you all  
10 leave, if you want to take Senator Gianaris  
11 back with you, and Senator Peralta, feel free.  
12 Feel free. We won't miss them.

13 (Laughter.)

14 SENATOR MAZIARZ: You know,  
15 RoAnn, we've been here for a lot of years,  
16 many of us have been here for a lot of years,  
17 and never have we seen this outpouring from  
18 the other house.

19 And we always speak so highly of  
20 all of you over here, by the way.

21 (Laughter.)

22 SENATOR MAZIARZ: We've never  
23 seen the Speaker and so many members come over  
24 here. And it's indicative of the respect and  
25 admiration and love that they have for you,

1       RoAnn.

2                   When I picked up that newspaper and  
3       I saw that the Governor had nominated you, I  
4       said to my wife, I said, "One of the good  
5       people got a great appointment here."

6                   You will do an excellent job. I  
7       think all 62 members here are going to speak  
8       up on what a great appointment this is, RoAnn.  
9       Senator Alesi asked me to tell you that he  
10      needs new paper and a desk and all this other  
11      stuff. But --

12                   (Laughter.)

13                   SENATOR MAZIARZ:       So you'll be  
14      getting a lot of calls from us.

15                   But congratulations to you and to  
16      your family that's here. This is a great  
17      person. We are going to miss her in this  
18      area. But we know she's going to do a great  
19      job for all the people all over the State of  
20      New York.

21                   Congratulations, RoAnn, and good  
22      luck to you.

23                   (Applause.)

24                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
25      Marcellino.

1                   SENATOR MARCELLINO:     Thank you,  
2     Mr. President.

3                   RoAnn, you've made history here  
4     today. I don't think any of us have ever  
5     heard Senator Joe Griffo talk as long on any  
6     issue before the State Senate. So there's got  
7     to be something going on here.

8                   Now, Senator Maziarz made mention  
9     of the fact that there will be some requests  
10    from some of the members as to your new  
11    position. I personally have a small list.

12                   (Laughter.)

13                   SENATOR MARCELLINO:     But I  
14    wouldn't dream of presuming upon you to do  
15    that, so I'll wait until about 5 o'clock when  
16    you're in your new offices, and I'll send you  
17    my list of needs for our offices.

18                   (Laughter.)

19                   SENATOR MARCELLINO:     RoAnn,  
20    congratulations. You're a good person. I  
21    know your family knows that, and I know your  
22    colleagues who have shown up and are here  
23    today to speak on your behalf.

24                   It was a pleasure working with you  
25    in the Italian-American Legislators group. I

1 look forward to your continued attendance at  
2 those meetings. We could use the food.

3 And I appreciate, again, if you  
4 put -- I appreciate your work ethic, because  
5 if you put one-tenth of the effort in this new  
6 job that you did in working for the  
7 Italian-American Legislators and in your  
8 position as an Assemblywoman, this place is  
9 going to be spick-and-span and running like  
10 Topsy in no time.

11 So thank you, God bless you. And  
12 Godspeed.

13 (Applause.)

14 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
15 Breslin.

16 SENATOR BRESLIN: Thank you,  
17 Mr. President.

18 A couple of my colleagues on the  
19 other side, Senator Maziarz and Senator  
20 Griffo, keep talking about the Assembly  
21 members being here. I'd suggest that -- and  
22 Senator Griffo, how many of them are together.  
23 And, you know, we meet once a year for  
24 Regents. I'd suggest there's more combined  
25 members here than there ever was for a Regents



1 vote.

2 And Senator Maziarz suggesting that  
3 maybe you would be responsible for bringing  
4 some Senators like Senator Gianaris back to  
5 the Assembly -- I won't individually point out  
6 on the other side those people who come from  
7 the Assembly, but there's a few that we'd  
8 consider sending back as well.

9 (Laughter.)

10 SENATOR BRESLIN: And I'd be glad  
11 to provide Senator Libous with that list  
12 immediately after session.

13 But the serious matter is that --  
14 and again, to concentrate on the other side,  
15 there's a story that I think shows you what  
16 RoAnn Destito is about.

17 When I first got to the Senate 15  
18 years ago, I had a long chat with RoAnn and we  
19 talked about some of the people in this house  
20 and that house. And I'd heard the Senator in  
21 her area was Ray Meier, who I at that time did  
22 not know. And I asked RoAnn about Ray Meier.  
23 And she proceeded not to say anything about  
24 Democratic, Republican. She talked about Ray  
25 as being a very bright, caring, good on the

1 issues, does his homework and a wonderfully  
2 nice guy. And that's exactly who Ray Meier  
3 is. And he became a very good friend of mine.

4 But it showed the nonpartisan part  
5 of RoAnn Destito. And not to say, rightfully,  
6 that RoAnn can't be partisan, because I admire  
7 that part of her as well.

8 But most of all, I admire the  
9 combination of her attributes -- her decency,  
10 her honesty, her work ethic, her involvement  
11 in everything. And the discussion has been on  
12 education, it's been on healthcare, it's been  
13 on constituent services, it's been on 9/11.  
14 And all of those are true. And there's  
15 nothing that RoAnn Destito can't do.

16 And this Governor has again  
17 provided just a wonderful appointment, a  
18 wonderful appointment that OGS will -- it will  
19 be a challenge, but not a tremendous challenge  
20 for someone with the qualities and abilities  
21 of RoAnn Destito.

22 I wish her every success, and I  
23 know she'll have them and she'll continue to  
24 have more. Congratulations.

25 (Applause.)

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Senator  
2     Libous.

3                   SENATOR LIBOUS:     Thank you,  
4     Mr. President. I too want to rise with my  
5     colleagues and second this great nomination.

6                   And RoAnn, I'm a little nervous  
7     because the Speaker is sitting right here and  
8     I want to make sure I do the right thing. And  
9     he'll let me know if I do the wrong thing, I'm  
10    sure.

11                  (Laughter.)

12                  SENATOR LIBOUS:     You know, all of  
13     my colleagues have mentioned your diligence as  
14     an outstanding Assemblyperson, one who serves  
15     the public, one who cares about people. I had  
16     to do some checking on my own.

17                  You know, in 1997 I had the  
18     pleasure of going to Italy with RoAnn. And we  
19     went to Italy and had a great time. And  
20     during the trip we saw some good things and  
21     ate some good food. And if anyone from the  
22     Italian government was here today and I told  
23     them that the -- as we met with those many  
24     leaders, if I told them that Governor Cuomo  
25     had appointed you, they would say "Molto

1       bene" -- very good, very good.

2                   And, you know, my family is from  
3       the Utica area. And certainly they have said,  
4       over the years, the commitment that you've  
5       made, the work -- and they're all Republicans,  
6       and they like you. And they supported you.

7                   (Laughter.)

8                   SENATOR LIBOUS:       So it is indeed  
9       a pleasure to have you go into this very  
10      important position. I just want you to know  
11      that I had the Million-Dollar Staircase  
12      cleaned for your arrival today.

13                  (Laughter.)

14                  SENATOR LIBOUS:       I met with  
15      Deputy Commissioner Hill, who probably does  
16      not like me, and we went through the building  
17      a couple of weeks ago. And I said, "You know,  
18      Assemblywoman Destito is going to become the  
19      new commissioner, we have to make sure that  
20      this building is in good shape for her."

21                  So I wish you the very best, look  
22      forward to working with you in your new role.  
23      The people up in the Utica-Rome area are going  
24      to miss you because you're an outstanding  
25      representative. And God bless you.

1 (Applause.)

2 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
3 Smith.

4 SENATOR SMITH: Thank you very  
5 much, Mr. President. On the nomination. I  
6 rise to second that nomination.

7 RoAnn, I just want you to know, my  
8 office is 808 in the LOB. So when in fact the  
9 time comes and I need a little polish or  
10 anything done, just don't forget me.

11 But let me also say to the Assembly  
12 colleagues that are here, it's really nice to  
13 see you. It really says a lot to see so many  
14 of you standing around here. I'm looking  
15 at -- now for some reason, all of the ladies  
16 are sitting down against the wall. Does that  
17 mean that in the Assembly chivalry is not  
18 dead, Mr. Speaker? Well, that's an important  
19 thing.

20 And to my Assemblywoman, Audrey  
21 Pheffer, and also Michele Titus, I will have  
22 you know that the Assemblyperson that I met  
23 after the two of you gave me my key to the  
24 bathroom when I first got elected was RoAnn,  
25 who was the young lady who said, "You got

1       elected to the Senate, you look like a kid,  
2       but you'll do all right here." And never did  
3       I realize at that moment that I'd end up  
4       rising to be the president of the Senate one  
5       day.

6                So I want to attribute some of that  
7       to you, RoAnn, because you told me, very much  
8       so, you should try to aim as high as you want  
9       to.

10              Let me say to the Governor, this  
11       was a tremendous selection. There are certain  
12       things that you do on this floor in the Senate  
13       that makes you feel good. Sometimes it's  
14       talking about someone that you know who has  
15       done a good deed and you do a resolution for  
16       them; sometimes it's a bill that you pass that  
17       you worked on for years.

18              Today, being able to stand up and  
19       talk about RoAnn is a good thing. It's just a  
20       nice thing. We feel good about it. We can  
21       sleep good tonight about it knowing that the  
22       Governor has put a commissioner in charge of  
23       an agency that is probably one of the most  
24       challenging agencies to run from the  
25       governmental operations side, where she was

1 chair. Understand, colleagues, this is a very  
2 difficult operation to manage.

3 So the Governor -- and we all know  
4 how the Governor deliberates in his selection  
5 of individuals to work in his operation. It  
6 took time for the selection. While we are  
7 sharing a lot of pleasantries today, and I  
8 know we're happy about RoAnn, think about the  
9 caliber of the individual that is being  
10 appointed. The Governor is a very discerning  
11 person. He goes through a great deal of  
12 deliberation before he selects the individual  
13 that he places in the authority to run an  
14 operation that requires a tremendous amount of  
15 intellect and skill.

16 What he has done today is selected  
17 skill and intellect first. And so for you,  
18 Mom, for all the effort that you've put into  
19 raising this fabulous young lady, I  
20 congratulate you. Because for all the things  
21 that you told her when she was growing up that  
22 she may have disagreed with you on, she now  
23 recognizes that you were right.

24 (Laughter.)

25 SENATOR SMITH: And so,

1       Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that  
2       I stand on this floor of the Senate on this  
3       tenth day of May in 2011, at five minutes  
4       after 4:00, to be one of the individuals that  
5       will be able to go down in history saying that  
6       I had the opportunity to second the nomination  
7       of the first woman ever to be appointed by a  
8       Governor who we all recognize has used a  
9       tremendous amount of discernment when he  
10      selects somebody. It is a tremendous pleasure  
11      for me to stand here and second this  
12      nomination, Mr. President.

13               And to my colleagues, you might be  
14      losing a very talented young lady, but you are  
15      gaining a commissioner that you will have no  
16      worries about when it comes to managing the  
17      operations of this great state and the  
18      buildings in one of the greatest states in  
19      this country.

20               Congratulations to you.

21               (Applause.)

22               ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
23      Valesky.

24               SENATOR VALESKY:       Thank you very  
25      much, Mr. President.



1           I too am very happy to be able to  
2           stand and second the nomination of RoAnn  
3           Destito as commissioner of the Office of  
4           General Services.

5           First, I want to also thank  
6           Governor Cuomo for this nominee. And, you  
7           know, when this session concludes and we look  
8           back at the highlights of this legislative  
9           session, I doubt many reporters will write  
10          about the nominees that the Governor has sent  
11          to this Senate for confirmation. But they  
12          should. Because the quality and caliber of  
13          nominees that Governor Cuomo has sent to this  
14          State Senate this session has been nothing  
15          less than remarkable. And RoAnn Destito  
16          certainly tops that list.

17          Each member of this house and those  
18          members of the Assembly who are here I'm sure  
19          have a story or an experience or something to  
20          reflect on in terms of their working  
21          relationship as a fellow legislator with you,  
22          RoAnn, whether that be in your role as chair  
23          of the Assembly Governmental Operations  
24          Committee or the whole host of issues that you  
25          have been concerned about. And most

1 particularly, I know how important education  
2 is to you. And every year when we would  
3 gather in the Speaker's conference room with  
4 superintendents to talk about support for our  
5 public schools in the Mohawk Valley and  
6 throughout Central New York, how critical and  
7 important that is. And we all have those  
8 experiences, and we're thankful for those  
9 experiences in working with RoAnn.

10 But I think more than that, Senator  
11 Griffo and I are two very fortunate Senators,  
12 because only he and I have the good fortune of  
13 sharing constituents with soon-to-be-former  
14 Assemblywoman Destito. And as a result,  
15 Senator Griffo and I have the pleasure of  
16 working not only here in Albany but where it's  
17 really important, back home, back in the  
18 district.

19 And as I have had that opportunity  
20 over the years, RoAnn -- and you know, we all  
21 as elected officials hope that the actions we  
22 take and the words we say and the things we do  
23 engender a respect for each and every one of  
24 us based on the work we do. But I want the  
25 members to know here that when you watch RoAnn

1 represent her constituents and you see the  
2 kind of love and affection that her  
3 constituents feel for her, that's something  
4 very special. You know, and that's not  
5 something that we all have. It's something we  
6 all would hope to have, perhaps, and it's  
7 something we might strive to achieve, but that  
8 is an indication to me of a public servant who  
9 is truly, truly special in the eyes of the  
10 people that she serves.

11 So, RoAnn, I know that back home,  
12 you know, your constituents, some might be a  
13 little sad to be losing you in providing  
14 representation for them in the State Assembly.  
15 But I know and Senator Griffo knows that the  
16 19.5 million New Yorkers are the ones who are  
17 gaining so much as we confirm you here today  
18 on the floor of this State Senate as  
19 commissioner of the Office of General  
20 Services.

21 Congratulations.

22 (Applause.)

23 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
24 Seward.

25 SENATOR SEWARD: Thank you,

1 Mr. President.

2 I'm delighted to join my colleagues  
3 in rising to support the confirmation of RoAnn  
4 Destito as our next commissioner of the Office  
5 of General Services.

6 And to our colleagues from the  
7 Assembly and the many guests in the gallery, I  
8 just want to say welcome to RoAnn Destito Day  
9 in the State Senate.

10 (Laughter.)

11 SENATOR SEWARD: It certainly has  
12 proven to be that, and appropriately so.

13 You know, following up on Senator  
14 Valesky's comments, even though I do not  
15 actually share constituents with RoAnn,  
16 because part of my Senate district,  
17 particularly Herkimer County, is part of the  
18 Mohawk Valley I have had the good fortune of  
19 being a member of the Mohawk Valley delegation  
20 here in Albany. And RoAnn and I and of course  
21 a number of our colleagues have served  
22 together, working together in a bipartisan way  
23 on behalf of the people of our region of the  
24 state.

25 And I have witnessed firsthand how

1 hard and tirelessly RoAnn has worked on behalf  
2 of our region, whether it is working to bring  
3 good jobs to the Mohawk Valley, fighting for  
4 our schools and our educational system,  
5 fighting for good quality healthcare and  
6 daycare for our region, and of course working  
7 to bring transparency and accountability to  
8 government, both the state and local  
9 governments.

10 RoAnn has been a tireless and  
11 effective advocate for her constituents in our  
12 region of the state. When I think of RoAnn  
13 Destito, I would have to say that she is the  
14 consummate public servant. And the people of  
15 the Mohawk Valley have benefited greatly  
16 because of her service over the years in the  
17 Assembly.

18 And now the people throughout the  
19 state will benefit from her talents and her  
20 energy. She will be a member of the  
21 Governor's cabinet and our commissioner of the  
22 Office of General Services.

23 So I'm delighted, RoAnn, to stand  
24 here to congratulate Governor Cuomo on an  
25 outstanding nomination, to congratulate you

1 personally and your many family and friends  
2 who are joining you here today. I know that  
3 you are going to be an outstanding  
4 commissioner, based on your record, and I wish  
5 you all the best and Godspeed.

6 (Applause.)

7 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
8 Skelos.

9 SENATOR SKELOS: Thank you,  
10 Mr. President.

11 I too would like to join my  
12 colleagues in supporting your confirmation,  
13 RoAnn.

14 I'd like to start off by welcoming  
15 the Speaker to our chamber. Welcome to all of  
16 our Assembly colleagues and friends. When I  
17 walked in before, I thought we were going to  
18 be doing a Regents confirmation with all the  
19 Assembly people here.

20 (Laughter.)

21 SENATOR SKELOS: But, RoAnn,  
22 you've been an outstanding public official in  
23 the Assembly -- always greeting people with a  
24 smile, the fact that you work so diligently on  
25 behalf of your constituents. And I know that

1 the Governor has made a wonderful appointment.

2 I know also you must be having some  
3 mixed emotions here because you see the love  
4 and affection that your colleagues have for  
5 you, certainly in the Assembly where you've  
6 served with them for so many years. But  
7 remember, you have an awful lot of people in  
8 the State Senate here that also have a  
9 tremendous amount of respect for you.

10 And we know that you're going to be  
11 an outstanding commissioner and that our work  
12 with you will continue, just in a little  
13 different vein. So congratulations to you.

14 (Applause.)

15 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
16 Fuschillo.

17 SENATOR FUSCHILLO: Thank you  
18 very much, Mr. President.

19 I too rise, really out of fear that  
20 if I don't say anything nice about her, she'll  
21 call me tomorrow and say, "What the heck's the  
22 matter with you, you couldn't get up and talk  
23 about me?"

24 (Laughter.)

25 SENATOR FUSCHILLO: I rise for no

1 other reason -- I share no constituent  
2 stories, we represent districts on opposite  
3 sides of the state. But I rise because over  
4 my more than 13 years in the Legislature now,  
5 I've got to know a lady who is just terrific.  
6 Has a lot of class.

7 She's not shy. She came to my  
8 office last year and said, "Why is your door  
9 shut? If you're going to keep it shut, put a  
10 sign on it that says 'Open. Please come in.'"  
11 I didn't do it, and one day she came back and  
12 she yelled at me, "Where's your sign?" So on  
13 the third day, I had that sign up there.

14 You know, you've always carried  
15 yourself with such grace and dignity and class  
16 and compassion. You're very considerate. And  
17 I made you cry in the Senate Finance, and I  
18 apologize for that.

19 But this is a new chapter in your  
20 life and one that is certainly worthwhile, and  
21 you've earned it. And while you have your  
22 family and friends here, and so many loved  
23 ones here, and the Speaker in the Senate  
24 chambers, I know that those that aren't here  
25 are looking down upon you and they're smiling



1       because this is a great day for you. And it's  
2       just another extension of your life.

3               I wish you the best, and I know  
4       we'll see each other soon. I proudly vote aye  
5       on this nomination, Mr. President.

6               (Applause.)

7               ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
8       Klein.

9               SENATOR KLEIN:       Thank you,  
10       Mr. President.

11              I too rise and congratulate our  
12       Governor on this very important appointment of  
13       RoAnn Destito as the next commissioner of  
14       Office of General Services.

15              I've had the privilege of serving  
16       with RoAnn in the Assembly for 10 years. And  
17       when you serve in a legislative body, and  
18       especially when you're new to that legislative  
19       body, you sort of, you know, look to other  
20       members. And you sort of learn some of the  
21       good things that they do. And certainly RoAnn  
22       was that person -- her intelligence, her work  
23       ethic, and most importantly, I think, her  
24       dedication to the residents of her district  
25       and to the residents of the State of New York.

1                   She was someone who cared deeply  
2           about public service and fought hard for the  
3           people that she served. I remember when  
4           Griffiss Air Force Base closed in her  
5           district, it was the federal government that  
6           did this. A member of Congress should have  
7           stood up and, you know, fought it or tried to  
8           get something there in its place, but not  
9           RoAnn. RoAnn stood up, took it upon herself,  
10          shouldered the burden.

11                   I remember traveling to Israel with  
12          Speaker Silver and RoAnn where she actually  
13          single-handedly managed to get an Israeli  
14          helicopter company to locate at Griffiss Air  
15          Force Base, thus not only saving jobs but  
16          creating jobs.

17                   These are the types of things that  
18          unfortunately most elected officials don't do.  
19          They take their job not as personal,  
20          sometimes, as RoAnn did. But RoAnn, I think,  
21          when she saw that air force base close, she  
22          felt very personal about it. She knew the  
23          people that worked there. She knew it meant  
24          jobs to her community. And she knew she had  
25          to do something for the community that she

1       loved.

2                   And I know she's going to take her  
3       intelligence, her work ethic, and I think her  
4       zest for public service and make an  
5       outstanding commissioner.

6                   It's my pleasure, Mr. President, to  
7       second this nomination.

8                   (Applause.)

9                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
10      Gianaris.

11                  SENATOR GIANARIS:       Thank you.

12                  Mr. President, I'm very proud to be  
13      a member of the State Senate. I enjoy greatly  
14      serving with my colleagues. I can tell from  
15      listening to Senator Maziarz earlier that they  
16      enjoy serving with me as well.

17                  (Laughter.)

18                  SENATOR GIANARIS:       But the fact  
19      is that my arrival here was bittersweet for me  
20      because I was leaving a lot of friends behind  
21      in the Assembly. So it's so good to see so  
22      many of them here joining us today.

23                  And what's making the move just a  
24      little bit easier for me is that one of the  
25      people who I missed the most in the Assembly

1 will no longer be serving there, because we're  
2 confirming her today to be the commissioner of  
3 the Office of General Services.

4 RoAnn Destito, for many of us, was  
5 a role model in the Assembly. We deal with a  
6 lot of difficult and controversial decisions  
7 in the Legislature, as everybody here knows.  
8 And one of the things that always swayed me on  
9 those moments was asking myself the question  
10 or asking RoAnn the question what is she doing  
11 on this issue. She is a person who is a  
12 barometer, and has been, of doing the right  
13 thing.

14 And, for me, someone with such  
15 integrity, with such intelligence to be  
16 serving in this role could not be a more  
17 perfect pick for this administration. The  
18 Legislature's loss in this case will be the  
19 Governor's gain. But I know we all look  
20 forward to working with her in a new capacity  
21 and helping her be every bit of the success  
22 that we know she will become.

23 So congratulations to RoAnn  
24 Destito, and I urge everyone to vote in favor  
25 of the confirmation.

1 (Applause.)

2 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Thank  
3 you, Senator.

4 Senator Hassell-Thompson.

5 SENATOR HASSELL-THOMPSON: Thank  
6 you, Mr. President.

7 I, like many in this chamber, did  
8 not serve with RoAnn Destito in the Assembly.  
9 But I can tell you that in the women's caucus  
10 and on the issues of MWBE, we could not have  
11 done without her.

12 She's a contradiction in terms.  
13 There's a calmness, but there's such a  
14 strength behind the way she deliberates. And  
15 when it got real hot and furious in the  
16 women's caucus at times, she'd say, "Well, why  
17 don't we take a look at this." And it was the  
18 calmness that she brought to situations.

19 And believe me, in state government  
20 we need that kind of calmness. We need  
21 somebody who is going to look at the big  
22 picture and to ensure that we don't become  
23 parochial in the way that we run OGS. And I  
24 can depend upon her to know that.

25 I'm going to miss her as somebody

1       who I've come to respect and admire in this  
2       position. But I'm also glad that she's only a  
3       phone-call-extension away in terms of still  
4       being there for us. I think that we all know  
5       she will always be there when we need her to  
6       be. She's changed capacities, which is  
7       wonderful for her and certainly is going to be  
8       wonderful for the State of New York.

9               We're going to miss you greatly.  
10       Congratulations to you personally. Thank you.  
11       Thank you, Mr. President.

12               (Applause.)

13               ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
14       Peralta.

15               SENATOR PERALTA:       Thank you,  
16       Mr. President.

17               I rise today to also commend the  
18       Governor for a great choice in RoAnn Destito.  
19       It is truly evident to see that RoAnn Destito  
20       is a great choice because you have so many  
21       Senators from both sides of the aisle stand up  
22       and praise RoAnn Destito.

23               RoAnn Destito represented her  
24       constituents of the 116th Assembly District  
25       with dignity, respect and professionalism.

1 And I know she is going to bring the same type  
2 of passion, the same type of integrity, the  
3 same type of sincerity and warmth that she  
4 brought to her district to OGS.

5 RoAnn Destito epitomizes work  
6 ethic, commitment, dedication. And she  
7 understands, she has a true understanding of  
8 the State Legislature.

9 She is so popular, at one point she  
10 was so popular that when there was a vacancy  
11 for the Secretary of State and they were  
12 looking for a Latino, we recommended that she  
13 change her name to RoAnn Destito Sanchez.

14 (Laughter.)

15 SENATOR PERALTA: That didn't  
16 quite work out. But the Governor actually, I  
17 think, got the message and he nominated her  
18 for commissioner of OGS.

19 RoAnn is loved, as you can see, by  
20 so many of the Assembly members that are here  
21 today that come here to pay her tribute. But  
22 she's also going to be missed. And I know  
23 that she's going to be hearing from many of  
24 her colleagues in the Assembly as well from  
25 many of us in the Senate. And there's already

1 a list that's growing.

2 But I want to congratulate the  
3 Governor. I want to congratulate RoAnn  
4 Destito for accepting this commissionership,  
5 because I know you're going to do a great job,  
6 RoAnn. Thank you so much for all you've done  
7 for all of us. And I know you're going to do  
8 a great job as commissioner of OGS.

9 I second the nomination,  
10 Mr. President.

11 (Applause.)

12 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Thank  
13 you, Senator.

14 Senator Larkin.

15 SENATOR LARKIN: Thank you,  
16 Mr. President. It was a long wait, but I'm  
17 glad.

18 You know, Ro, your mother's sitting  
19 there. Joe and I were talking, and Tommy,  
20 about our trip to Italy. And when the Pope  
21 said to you -- the Pope looked at you and your  
22 mother and he said, "Where are you from?" And  
23 Ro was a typical New Yorker: "I'm from Rome."  
24 He said, "You didn't have far to come, did  
25 you?"



1 (Laughter.)

2 SENATOR LARKIN: You know, I go  
3 back, bills that we've worked on, things that  
4 we've done in your area, in mine. My proudest  
5 moment was the fact that whether it was  
6 somebody in Ulster, somebody in Orange that  
7 had an issue that you could help address, you  
8 did it wholeheartedly. You gave it every bit  
9 of your knowledge, your honesty, and your  
10 integrity.

11 I just want to tell you something.  
12 A few days after she got appointed, you know,  
13 a smart Irish Catholic, I call her up and say,  
14 "I have a constituent that he has a problem  
15 and an idea." And she said, "Where are you?"  
16 And I told her. She said, "Would you believe  
17 I'm on the Canadian border?" I said, "Would  
18 you take this message?" She said, "No, give  
19 me his number and I'll call him."

20 Two hours later he called me back  
21 and he said, "I just met on the phone one of  
22 the nicest human beings in public service."  
23 And I said, "I told you."

24 She followed up it with Steve and  
25 everything else. We have a constituent that

1       was ready to go to Connecticut, and because of  
2       you he's going to stay here. But that's a  
3       mark of all your service. You always put  
4       those that need assistance before yourself.

5               But I just want to tell you that if  
6       you think you're going far away, you're not.  
7       We all know John Egan's old number, and we  
8       were told it's yours now. So we will get to  
9       you.

10              (Laughter.)

11              SENATOR LARKIN:     I wish you the  
12       best. I've seen some nominations come here in  
13       the 31 years that I've been here. But this is  
14       a nomination that I'm very proud of.

15              But I have to tell you some bad  
16       news. I talked to your mother before, and she  
17       said, "I told her 'You're still going to have  
18       to take out the garbage and make the beds.'"

19              (Laughter.)

20              SENATOR LARKIN:     Good night, and  
21       God bless you.

22              (Applause.)

23              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Senator  
24       Flanagan.

25              SENATOR FLANAGAN:     Thank you,

1 Mr. President.

2 RoAnn, everybody keeps talking  
3 about how great the Governor is doing. I  
4 think he's probably in his office saying  
5 "Thank God she said yes." For starters.

6 (Laughter.)

7 SENATOR FLANAGAN: But I listened  
8 to all the comments, and I want to echo some  
9 of them.

10 One, I think you are an intensely  
11 loyal Democrat but an extraordinarily  
12 bipartisan legislator. And you can be both,  
13 and I think the Speaker could attest to that.  
14 Your longevity and your service to your  
15 conference is something that shouldn't be  
16 overlooked.

17 And I think that, to echo what a  
18 number of people said, in my opinion you  
19 embody all the qualities that we should look  
20 for and hope for in our public servants, not  
21 only in the short term but in the long term.  
22 And simply put, you represent all the positive  
23 facets of what it means to be a lady, in every  
24 sense and respect of the word.

25 But I want to take a slightly

1 different tack. A lot of people are talking  
2 about your legislative accomplishments. And  
3 sometimes we don't realize how we can learn  
4 from people, and sometimes people don't  
5 realize how we learn from them. And I'm going  
6 to tell you why I've admired you and why I  
7 think you will continue to do an outstanding  
8 job as a public servant. Because you're real  
9 people. There's no airs, you don't put  
10 anything on out there. What you see is what  
11 you get and who you see is who you get.

12 And I feel like you have been a  
13 very strong example, and I hope your son could  
14 attest to this, about life and balance. Being  
15 a mother and being involved in politics and  
16 having your children grow up and watch your  
17 political career -- because I've had the same  
18 thing -- I still think in many respects it's  
19 more challenging for a mother to fill that  
20 role.

21 And from a personal standpoint, a  
22 professional standpoint, you've helped me keep  
23 balance in my own life and you never even knew  
24 it. And I think that you do that for many  
25 people in ways that they don't even

1 understand.

2 So I only wish you the best. And  
3 your ascension is good for you; more  
4 importantly -- and equally as important, I  
5 should say -- it's very good for the people of  
6 the State of New York. Congratulations.

7 (Applause.)

8 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
9 Savino.

10 SENATOR SAVINO: Thank you,  
11 Mr. President.

12 I too want to stand and  
13 congratulate Governor Cuomo on this nomination  
14 and congratulate Assemblywoman RoAnn Destito.

15 A lot has been said about her by  
16 people who served with her in her area, in her  
17 part of the state, about how she has been a  
18 wonderful representative in providing  
19 constituent services. We've heard how she's  
20 been critically important in identifying waste  
21 and transparency in government. And I myself  
22 had the opportunity to work with her on an  
23 issue she was in the forefront on, which was  
24 identifying savings on IT insourcing, and as a  
25 result of it the State of New York is saving

1 money as we speak and creating a career path  
2 for hundreds of people right now. I know  
3 she's going to take that type of commitment  
4 into the Office of General Services.

5 But I'm also a little bittersweet  
6 about losing RoAnn -- not just because she  
7 worked very closely with me when I took over  
8 the conference of Italian-American  
9 Legislators -- and we are so happy that you're  
10 going to stay involved. Your commitment to  
11 the Italian-American community is noteworthy,  
12 and we would be lost without you -- but also  
13 because we're going to lose a female member of  
14 the Legislature. We don't have enough of  
15 them.

16 And she's been a role model for so  
17 many of us of what a legislator should be.  
18 And I know I'm going to miss her, and I know  
19 many of the other women in the Assembly who  
20 are sitting over there patiently waiting for  
21 this moment are going to miss her, because she  
22 is the epitome of an elected official.

23 And most importantly -- I think  
24 Billy Larkin and John Flanagan said it best --  
25 she's one of the nicest people in this

1 building, and she's a real person. And that  
2 can't be said for a lot of us.

3 (Laughter.)

4 SENATOR SAVINO: So  
5 congratulations, RoAnn, congratulations to  
6 your family, and congratulations to the  
7 Governor.

8 (Laughter; applause.)

9 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
10 Young.

11 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
12 Mr. President.

13 I too rise to give my sincere  
14 congratulations to RoAnn Destito. And I  
15 welcome the Speaker and my former colleagues  
16 from the New York State Assembly.

17 I had the great privilege of  
18 serving in the Assembly for six and a half  
19 years, and I think of all of my colleagues  
20 there with great affection. But there are  
21 people who really stand out. And RoAnn,  
22 you're one of those people who really stands  
23 out. Because of your hard work ethic, because  
24 you were so willing to listen to others,  
25 because you have a passion for public service.

1                   And when you think about 19 years  
2                   of service and all of the lives that you've  
3                   touched during that time. And you know you  
4                   worked on the macro issues, the state budget,  
5                   solving issues with the budget, solving issues  
6                   legislatively.

7                   But I think that as you look back  
8                   on your public service you'll also remember  
9                   all of the individuals in your district who  
10                  you have helped -- the children, the seniors,  
11                  the people who needed a job, the families who  
12                  needed something from the state. And I know  
13                  you were so diligent, you have been so  
14                  diligent about meeting those needs. And you  
15                  have so many special memories from that.

16                  So as you look back at your career,  
17                  I think you should think about those people  
18                  but also think about those people from the  
19                  standpoint that as you have helped them, they  
20                  have gone out and helped others and touched  
21                  others' lives, so it's grown exponentially as  
22                  they've gone forward.

23                  And that's really the legacy of  
24                  your work in the State Assembly, because it's  
25                  like ripples on a pond. You've touched their



1 lives, and they've gone out and touched  
2 others. And you have so much to be proud of  
3 because of that fact.

4 So I want to congratulate you. I  
5 also want to ask you a special favor. As you  
6 know, we were out on the staircase and Audrey  
7 also is leaving, so the Legislative Women's  
8 Caucus was taking a picture together as a  
9 commemoration of this day. And if you serve  
10 in the Assembly, you'll know what I'm talking  
11 about. But if you serve in the Assembly you  
12 have a special place in your heart for Wayne  
13 Jackson, the Sergeant-at-Arms. And I can tell  
14 that Wayne is very, very sad at losing.

15 So the special favor that I would  
16 ask is that every once in a while you pick up  
17 the phone and give Wayne a call to see how  
18 he's doing, because I know it would really  
19 make his day.

20 So again, congratulations. Best  
21 wishes. I so look forward to working with you  
22 in a new capacity. I know you're going to be  
23 excellent at what you do, just like you've  
24 been in the past. So again.

25 And thank you, Mr. President.

1 (Applause.)

2 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
3 Liz Krueger.

4 SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you.

5 Well, Commissioner, pretty much  
6 everything has been said. So I want to say  
7 wow, you have a lot of friends. I want to  
8 congratulate Governor Cuomo on the excellent  
9 nomination, but I want to mention it looks  
10 like you might be more popular. So maybe  
11 you'll think of other career paths also.

12 You are a great public servant. We  
13 are proud of you as women, as legislators.  
14 And we look forward to seeing you as going  
15 down in history as a great commissioner.  
16 Congratulations.

17 Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Any  
20 other Senator wishing to be heard? If there  
21 is any that hasn't been heard yet.

22 Thank you. Congratulations, RoAnn.  
23 It's a pleasure to be presiding today over  
24 your nomination. And it was a pleasure and an  
25 honor serving with you in the Assembly for the

1       years that I was there.

2                   And I welcome, again, all my  
3       Assembly colleagues here, Speaker Silver to  
4       the chamber today to participate in this.  
5       While I haven't been here very long, this is  
6       the most speakers that I've seen so far for  
7       any nomination here in the year that I've been  
8       here. And it kind of feels the way that it  
9       does when Tom DiNapoli shows up in the  
10      Assembly with the cheering section that he  
11      has.

12                   (Laughter.)

13                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       So my  
14      congratulations to you, RoAnn.

15                   Without any further Senators  
16      wishing to be heard, the question is on the  
17      nomination of RoAnn Destito as commissioner of  
18      the New York State Office of General Services.  
19      All in favor signify by saying aye.

20                   (Response of "Aye.")

21                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:  
22      Opposed, nay.

23                   (No response.)

24                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       RoAnn  
25      Destito is hereby confirmed as commissioner of

1 the New York State Office of General Services.

2 Congratulations.

3 (Cheers; extended standing  
4 ovation.)

5 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: I would  
6 like to just take a moment to recognize some  
7 of the family that RoAnn has with her today.

8 Her mother, Rose Maggiolino.

9 (Applause.)

10 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Her  
11 son, Christopher Destito.

12 (Applause.)

13 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: RoAnn's  
14 brother and sister-in-law, Maurice and Janet  
15 Maggiolino.

16 (Applause.)

17 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Her  
18 aunt and uncle Bernard and Antoinette Turi.

19 (Applause.)

20 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Her  
21 aunt Victoria Balzano.

22 (Applause.)

23 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Her  
24 cousin the Honorable Supreme Court Judge  
25 Bernadette Clark and her husband Tom Clark.

1 (Applause.)

2 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Cousin  
3 Mary Rose and Dan Behan.

4 (Applause.)

5 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: And  
6 cousin Joseph "Bud" Gigliotti.

7 Welcome to all of you being here  
8 today.

9 (Applause.)

10 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
11 Libous.

12 SENATOR LIBOUS: Thank you,  
13 Mr. President.

14 Mr. President, that was not bad for  
15 an Irish kid, pronouncing all those names.

16 (Laughter.)

17 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Trust  
18 me, you put the wrong guy up here today for  
19 that.

20 SENATOR LIBOUS: Mr. President,  
21 why don't we just take a moment and pause  
22 while the Assembly members go back to the  
23 Assembly. I don't want anybody to move. And  
24 then we're going to go to motions and  
25 resolutions.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Senator  
2     Libous [gaveling].

3                   SENATOR LIBOUS:     Thank you,  
4     Mr. President. Can we return to motions and  
5     resolutions, please.

6                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:  
7     Returning to the order of motions and  
8     resolutions.

9                   SENATOR LIBOUS:     Thank you,  
10    Mr. President.

11                   At this time can we adopt the  
12    Resolution Calendar, with the exception of  
13    Resolution Numbers 1678, 1716, 1726, and 1736.

14                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     All in  
15    favor of adopting the Resolution Calendar,  
16    with the exception of resolutions 1678, 1716,  
17    1726 and 1736 signify by saying aye.

18                   (Response of "Aye.")

19                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:  
20    Opposed, nay.

21                   (No response.)

22                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
23    Resolution Calendar is adopted.

24                   Senator Libous.

25                   SENATOR LIBOUS:     Mr. President,

1 Senator Peralta has a resolution before the  
2 body. Could we have its title read and then  
3 call on Senator Peralta, please.

4 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
5 Secretary will read.

6 THE SECRETARY: Legislative  
7 Resolution Number 1726, by Senator Peralta,  
8 welcoming the students and faculty of the  
9 Lexington School for the Deaf/Center for the  
10 Deaf as they visit Albany, New York, on  
11 May 10, 2011.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
13 Peralta.

14 SENATOR PERALTA: Thank you,  
15 Mr. President.

16 I want to congratulate the  
17 Lexington School for the Deaf/Center for the  
18 Deaf, and I want to welcome them here today.

19 The School for the Deaf is a  
20 New York institution that has been serving the  
21 deaf and hard of hearing communities in  
22 New York for nearly 150 years. Its special  
23 emphases are in helping the deaf and hard of  
24 hearing to realize their full potential in  
25 both the deaf and hard of hearing worlds,

1 ensuring mastery of expressive and receptive  
2 communication skills, designing, constructing  
3 and using evolving communication technologies,  
4 being a leading advocate for the deaf and hard  
5 of hearing communities.

6 The needs of Lexington's students  
7 and clients increasingly reflect the  
8 challenges posed by society, with many living  
9 in poverty and facing significant obstacles to  
10 accessing healthcare and obtaining decent  
11 employment. Many are recent immigrants for  
12 whom the complex adjustment to life in the  
13 United States is made more difficult because  
14 of deafness.

15 Since its founding as a school,  
16 Lexington has evolved to offer vital services  
17 in a wide range of important areas. They have  
18 a Lexington Center for Mental Health Services,  
19 the Lexington Vocational Services Center.  
20 They have three Lexington early-intervention  
21 programs. They also have a Lexington licensed  
22 childcare and universal pre-K center that  
23 provides full daycare for children ages  
24 12 months through pre-K. And there's also the  
25 Ralph and Ricky Lauren Center for the



1 Performing Arts.

2 So for all the wonderful work that  
3 the school has done and the center has done,  
4 please accept our sincere thanks for an  
5 important and extraordinary job well done that  
6 the center has done throughout its many years.

7 And every year the kids from the  
8 center come to Albany and they have a very  
9 important basketball game. They play against  
10 the members of the Assembly and the members of  
11 the Senate. This year I won't be playing, but  
12 I just would ask of them please go easy on our  
13 members.

14 (Laughter.)

15 SENATOR PERALTA: Because every  
16 year it seems, since I'm no longer playing --  
17 I haven't played for the last three or four  
18 years. But every year since then, you have  
19 really, really beat us. So please go easy on  
20 our members tonight and enjoy the game.

21 Mr. President, I would like to  
22 welcome the School for the Deaf/Center for the  
23 Deaf here today in the Senate chambers.

24 (Applause.)

25 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Thank

1       you, Senator Peralta.

2                   Senator Adams.

3                   SENATOR ADAMS:     I just want to  
4       join my colleague Senator Peralta and thank  
5       him. And I also want to thank this body that  
6       we reinstated funding to many of these  
7       schools, St. Francis School in my district.

8                   And all these young people ask is  
9       for an opportunity. And I think it's  
10      important that we give them the opportunity.  
11      Even with the physical impediments that they  
12      have to overcome, they do not sit back and  
13      look for someone to give them a handout. They  
14      just want the opportunity to receive the same  
15      level of quality education that all of our  
16      children would like to have.

17                  And I think that when Senator  
18      Peralta invites the school up, it gives us an  
19      opportunity to interact with these young  
20      people, so they cannot be leaders of tomorrow  
21      but they can be leaders of today to ensure  
22      that we live in a society that is tolerant of  
23      all individuals regardless of whatever  
24      obstacles they physically must overcome, that  
25      they should have the opportunities to thrive

1           and to achieve whatever levels they desire.

2           So I thank you, Senator Peralta.

3                       And I hope that we all understand  
4           that children who are in the same level of  
5           educational challenges as these young people  
6           should be given those opportunities as those  
7           schools in my district and I'm pretty sure  
8           other districts throughout the State of  
9           New York.

10                      Thank you, Mr. President.

11                      ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Thank  
12           you, Senator.

13                      (Applause.)

14                      ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       The  
15           question is on the resolution. All those in  
16           favor signify by saying aye.

17                      (Response of "Aye.")

18                      ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:  
19           Opposed?

20                      (No response.)

21                      ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       The  
22           resolution is adopted.

23                      Senator Libous.

24                      SENATOR LIBOUS:       Thank you,  
25           Mr. President.

1                   Senator Little has a resolution  
2                   that was previously adopted. It's Number  
3                   1539. Could we have the title read and then  
4                   please call on Senator Little at this time.

5                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       The  
6                   Secretary will read.

7                   THE SECRETARY:       Legislative  
8                   Resolution Number 1539, memorializing Governor  
9                   Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May 9-15, 2011, as  
10                  Fibromyalgia Awareness Week in the State of  
11                  New York.

12                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Senator  
13                  Little.

14                  SENATOR LITTLE:       Thank you,  
15                  Mr. President.

16                  And thank you to my colleagues as  
17                  you join me and the Governor as we proclaim  
18                  March 9th to 15th as Fibromyalgia Awareness  
19                  Week.

20                  An estimated 10 million people in  
21                  the United States and millions of people  
22                  worldwide have been affected by fibromyalgia,  
23                  which is an illness that causes debilitating  
24                  fatigue and chronic pain in women, men and  
25                  children of all ethnicities.

1                   Fibromyalgia is also a disease that  
2                   frequently takes up to five years to get a  
3                   good diagnosis and a good handle on what you  
4                   actually have. It is also a disease for which  
5                   there is no known cure, so people with  
6                   fibromyalgia have to learn to live with it.

7                   This resolution and our purpose  
8                   here today is to increase awareness and to  
9                   expand knowledge of the realities of life with  
10                  fibromyalgia, which will allow the community  
11                  at large to better support people who struggle  
12                  with this disease and the challenges that this  
13                  chronic pain disorder affects.

14                 The National Fibromyalgia  
15                 Association has joined together with the  
16                 International Institute for Human Empowerment,  
17                 which is based in New York State, to promote  
18                 awareness and support of fibromyalgia and to  
19                 include improved education, diagnosis,  
20                 research and treatment.

21                 And in our own area, the  
22                 Neurosciences Department of Albany Medical  
23                 Center conducts medical research and provides  
24                 continuing medical education for physicians  
25                 and other healthcare providers, patients and

1       caregivers in fibromyalgia.

2               We are joined today by several  
3       doctors and staff members from Albany Medical  
4       Center, the Department of Neurosciences:  
5       Doctors Charles Argoff, James Wymer, Frank  
6       Rice, Phil Albrecht, Margaret Czerwinski, the  
7       nurse research coordinator, Katy Reagan,  
8       office manager, and Jennifer Price, director  
9       of continuing medical education.

10              And from the International  
11       Institute for Human Empowerment, which is  
12       based in Albany: Sue Shipe, executive  
13       director; Jonathan Cooper, medical advisor to  
14       the institute; and Ira Mendleson III, who is  
15       the Social Security disability attorney.

16              It is our hope today that this  
17       resolution will increase awareness and thereby  
18       help people support and recognize those who  
19       have been afflicted by fibromyalgia, to try to  
20       make their lives more comfortable and  
21       certainly to improve on the research and  
22       education that is needed for this disease.

23              Thank you very much for joining me.

24              (Applause.)

25              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       This

1 resolution was previously adopted by the  
2 Senate on May 3rd.

3 Senator Young.

4 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
5 Mr. President.

6 There is a resolution at the desk,  
7 Number 1678, by Senator McDonald. May we  
8 please have the title read and move for its  
9 immediate adoption.

10 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
11 Secretary will read.

12 THE SECRETARY: Legislative  
13 Resolution Number 1678, honoring The Garafalo  
14 Family upon the occasion of being selected as  
15 the 2011 March of Dimes-Northeastern New York  
16 Division Ambassador Family.

17 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Senator  
18 McDonald on the resolution.

19 SENATOR McDONALD: Thank you,  
20 Mr. President.

21 We have an amazing story here today  
22 about the March of Dimes and a miracle. We're  
23 honoring a family from my community, Saratoga  
24 Springs: Elizabeth and Greg Garafalo, as the  
25 Northeast March of Dimes family ambassador.

1                   In 2005, they had something  
2                   terrible and unique happen to them. They had  
3                   a premature baby that weighed one pound and  
4                   two ounces. They turned for help, and the  
5                   March of Dimes was there.

6                   And they're here today, after  
7                   several operations and several traumatic  
8                   points in their life, to say that things do  
9                   work out, there is hope. There are  
10                  organizations out there who care, and  
11                  sometimes they go that extra mile when they're  
12                  supported, when they're funded. And the March  
13                  of Dimes did that for my family in Saratoga  
14                  County.

15                 This family stood tall, and they  
16                 want to share that with everybody. And the  
17                 Northeast March of Dimes Division made them a  
18                 family ambassador. Think about it: 1 pound,  
19                 2 ounces. Many of us are parents and  
20                 grandparents, nieces and nephews. The fear,  
21                 the sadness.

22                 With us today from the March of  
23                 Dimes: Tony Vecchiotti, who is the chairman  
24                 of the March of Dimes Public Affairs  
25                 Committee; Frank DeMeo, New York State



1 director of the March of Dimes; Aisha Tator,  
2 state director for the March of Dimes Public  
3 Affairs; and last but not least, Elizabeth and  
4 Greg Garafalo. God bless you.

5 (Applause.)

6 SENATOR McDONALD: Miracles do  
7 happen, sir. Thank you.

8 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Thank  
9 you, Senator. The question is on the  
10 resolution. All those in favor signify by  
11 saying aye.

12 (Response of "Aye.")

13 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:  
14 Opposed, nay.

15 (No response.)

16 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
17 resolution is adopted.  
18 Senator Young.

19 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
20 Mr. President.

21 May we please take up Resolution  
22 Number 1736, by Senator Fuschillo. May we  
23 please have the title read and move for its  
24 immediate adoption.

25 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The

1 Secretary will read.

2 THE SECRETARY: Legislative  
3 Resolution Number 1736, memorializing Governor  
4 Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim May of 2011 as  
5 Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month in  
6 the State of New York.

7 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
8 question is on the resolution. All those in  
9 favor signify by saying aye.

10 (Response of "Aye.")

11 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:  
12 Opposed, nay.

13 (No response.)

14 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
15 resolution is adopted.

16 Senator Young.

17 SENATOR YOUNG: Mr. President, I  
18 wanted to let you know that Senator Fuschillo  
19 has asked that if anyone would like to be a  
20 cosponsor, we'll put them on. Basically what  
21 we'll do is if anybody doesn't want to be a  
22 cosponsor, just let the desk know.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Thank  
24 you, Senator Young.

25 Senator Young.

1                   SENATOR YOUNG:     Mr. President, on  
2     page number 24 I offer the following  
3     amendments to Calendar Number 396, Senate  
4     Print Number 2399A, and ask that the bill  
5     retain its place on the Third Reading  
6     Calendar.

7                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
8     amendments are received and adopted, and the  
9     bill retain its place on the Third Reading  
10    Calendar.

11                  SENATOR YOUNG:     Thank you,  
12    Mr. President.

13                  On page number 32 I offer the  
14    following amendments to Calendar Number 477,  
15    Senate Print Number 3996, and ask that the  
16    bill retain its place on the Third Reading  
17    Calendar.

18                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
19    amendments are received and adopted, and the  
20    bill retain its place on the Third Reading  
21    Calendar.

22                  SENATOR YOUNG:     Thank you,  
23    Mr. President.

24                  On page number 16 I offer the  
25    following amendments to Calendar Number 260,

1 Senate Print Number 4054, and ask that said  
2 bill retain its place on the Third Reading  
3 Calendar.

4 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
5 amendments are received and adopted, and the  
6 bill retain its place on the Third Reading  
7 Calendar.

8 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
9 Mr. President.

10 I move to commit Senate Print  
11 Number 4268, Calendar Number 512 on order of  
12 third reading, to the Committee on Finance.

13 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: So  
14 ordered.

15 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
16 Mr. President.

17 I move that the following bill be  
18 discharged from its respective committee and  
19 be recommitted with instructions to strike the  
20 enacting clause: Senate Number 5011.

21 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: So  
22 ordered.

23 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
24 Mr. President.

25 I move that the following bill be

1 discharged from its respective committee and  
2 be recommitted with instructions to strike the  
3 enacting clause. And that's Senate Number  
4 4853.

5 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: So  
6 ordered.

7 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
8 Mr. President. We're getting toward the end  
9 here.

10 On page number 30 I offer the  
11 following amendments to Calendar Number 450,  
12 Senate Print Number 592, and ask that said  
13 bill retain its place on the Third Reading  
14 Calendar.

15 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
16 amendments are received and adopted, and the  
17 bill will retain its place on the Third  
18 Reading Calendar.

19 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
20 Mr. President.

21 At this time may we please take up  
22 the noncontroversial reading of the calendar.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
24 Secretary will read.

25 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number

1       264, by Senator Alesi, Senate Print 3736A, an  
2       act to amend the Economic Development Law.

3               SENATOR YOUNG:       Lay it aside for  
4       the day.

5               ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       The  
6       bill is laid aside for the day.

7               THE SECRETARY:       Calendar Number  
8       353, by Senator Flanagan, Senate Print 4396,  
9       an act to amend the Penal Law.

10              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Read  
11       the last section.

12              THE SECRETARY:       Section 2. This  
13       act shall take effect on the 90th day.

14              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Call  
15       the roll.

16              (The Secretary called the roll.)

17              THE SECRETARY:       Ayes, 60. Nays,  
18       1. Senator Duane recorded in the negative.

19              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       The  
20       bill is passed.

21              THE SECRETARY:       Calendar Number  
22       432, by Senator Young, Senate Print 2775, an  
23       act to amend the Environmental Conservation  
24       Law.

25              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:       Read

1 the last section.

2 THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This  
3 act shall take effect immediately.

4 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Call  
5 the roll.

6 (The Secretary called the roll.)

7 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

8 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
9 bill is passed.

10 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
11 433, by Senator Farley, Senate Print 3244, an  
12 act to amend the Environmental Conservation  
13 Law.

14 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Read  
15 the last section.

16 THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This  
17 act shall take effect immediately.

18 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Call  
19 the roll.

20 (The Secretary called the roll.)

21 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 58. Nays,  
22 3. Senators Duane, Parker and Perkins  
23 recorded in the negative.

24 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
25 bill is passed.

1                   THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
2     434, substituted earlier today by Member of  
3     the Assembly Sweeney, Assembly Print 5971, an  
4     act to amend Chapter 690 of the Laws of 1988.

5                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
6     the last section.

7                   THE SECRETARY:     Section 6. This  
8     act shall take effect upon the enactment.

9                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
10    the roll.

11                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

12                   THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 61.

13                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
14    bill is passed.

15                   THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
16    436, by Senator Grisanti, Senate Print 4323,  
17    an act to amend the Environmental Conservation  
18    Law.

19                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
20    the last section.

21                   THE SECRETARY:     Section 2. This  
22    act shall take effect immediately.

23                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
24    the roll.

25                   (The Secretary called the roll.)



1 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 60. Nays,  
2 1. Senator Duane recorded in the negative.

3 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
4 bill is passed.

5 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
6 440, by Senator Ritchie, Senate Print 4415, an  
7 act to amend the Judiciary Law.

8 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Read  
9 the last section.

10 THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This  
11 act shall take effect immediately.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Call  
13 the roll.

14 (The Secretary called the roll.)

15 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

16 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
17 bill is passed.

18 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
19 449, substituted earlier today by Member of  
20 the Assembly Bronson, Assembly Print 6152, an  
21 act to amend Chapter 219 of the Laws of 2002.

22 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Read  
23 the last section.

24 THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This  
25 act shall take effect immediately.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
2     the roll.

3                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

4                   THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 61.

5                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
6     bill is passed.

7                   THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
8     451, by Senator Diaz, Senate Print 1313A, an  
9     act to amend the Penal Law.

10                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
11     the last section.

12                  THE SECRETARY:     Section 3. This  
13     act shall take effect on the first of  
14     November.

15                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
16     the roll.

17                  (The Secretary called the roll.)

18                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Senator  
19     Diaz.

20                  SENATOR DIAZ:     Yes,  
21     Mr. President. I just would like to express  
22     my appreciation to Senator Skelos and to this  
23     chamber.

24                         On January 2nd there was an article  
25     in the New York Times about the condition of

1 prostitution near a school. The article said:  
2 "At all hours of the day, prostitutes roam the  
3 streets around the school waiting for cars  
4 entering and leaving the Cross-Bronx  
5 Expressway. They bend over car windows and  
6 climb inside in plain view of students walking  
7 to and from the school.

8 "The prostitutes also have sex  
9 inside a tent on top of a boulder directly  
10 below the school. Students, from  
11 prekindergarten to fifth graders, can see  
12 mattresses, cushions and sheets strewn about  
13 the rock. Custodians often have to sweep  
14 condoms and hypodermic needles from the school  
15 grounds."

16 That was January 2nd. On  
17 January 7th, the Daily News also wrote about  
18 the condition.

19 When I read about it, I came to  
20 Senator Skelos and I met with him and I asked  
21 him for his help in moving this bill. And  
22 today I'm proud that this bill is being made a  
23 reality, and I express my appreciation to all  
24 of you.

25 And I hope that the other chamber,

1       the Assembly -- and the one that carries the  
2       bill in the Assembly is Assemblyman Michael  
3       Crespo -- and that the Speaker and the other  
4       house move this bill and that the Governor  
5       signs it. Because this is a serious  
6       condition.

7               And I thank all of you and  
8       especially Senator Skelos for his help in  
9       moving this bill.

10              Thank you.

11              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Senator  
12       Diaz will be recorded in the affirmative.

13              Announce the results.

14              THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 59. Nays,  
15       2. Senators Duane and Parker recorded in the  
16       negative.

17              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
18       bill is passed.

19              THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
20       453, by Senator Golden, Senate Print 3401, an  
21       act to amend the Education Law.

22              ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
23       the last section.

24              THE SECRETARY:     Section 2. This  
25       act shall take effect immediately.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
2     the roll.

3                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

4                   THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 61.

5                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
6     bill is passed.

7                   THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
8     455, substituted earlier today by Member of  
9     the Assembly Magee, Assembly Print 5719, an  
10    act to amend Chapter 335 of the Laws of 2005.

11                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
12    the last section.

13                  THE SECRETARY:     Section 2. This  
14    act shall take effect immediately.

15                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
16    the roll.

17                  (The Secretary called the roll.)

18                  THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 61.

19                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
20    bill is passed.

21                  THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
22    456, by Senator Lanza, Senate Print 3803, an  
23    act to amend the Education Law.

24                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
25    the last section.

1                   SENATOR YOUNG:     Lay it aside for  
2     the day.

3                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
4     bill is laid aside for the day.

5                   THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
6     514, by Senator Saland, Senate Print 698, an  
7     act to amend the Highway Law.

8                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
9     the last section.

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

12                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
13     the roll.

14                         (The Secretary called the roll.)

15                  THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 60. Nays,  
16     1. Senator Perkins recorded in the negative.

17                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
18     bill is passed.

19                  THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
20     517, by Senator Lanza, Senate Print 4659, an  
21     act to amend Chapter 468 of the Laws of 2006.

22                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
23     the last section.

24                  THE SECRETARY:     Section 2. This  
25     act shall take effect immediately.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
2     the roll.

3                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

4                   THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 61.

5                   ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
6     bill is passed.

7                   THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
8     521, by Senator LaValle, Senate Print 1457, an  
9     act to amend the Public Health Law.

10                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read  
11     the last section.

12                  THE SECRETARY:     Section 3. This  
13     act shall take effect immediately.

14                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Call  
15     the roll.

16                  (The Secretary called the roll.)

17                  THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 56. Nays,  
18     5. Senators Farley, Griffo, Little, Maziarz  
19     and Ritchie recorded in the negative.

20                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     The  
21     bill is passed.

22                  THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
23     535, by Senator Flanagan, Senate Print 4393,  
24     an act to amend the Executive Law.

25                  ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA:     Read

1 the last section.

2 THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This  
3 act shall take effect immediately.

4 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: Call  
5 the roll.

6 (The Secretary called the roll.)

7 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59. Nays,  
8 2. Senators Duane and Montgomery recorded in  
9 the negative.

10 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: The  
11 bill is passed.

12 Senator Young, that completes the  
13 noncontroversial reading of the calendar.

14 SENATOR YOUNG: Thank you,  
15 Mr. President.

16 Is there any other business at the  
17 desk?

18 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: There  
19 is none.

20 SENATOR YOUNG: Mr. President,  
21 there being no further business to come before  
22 the Senate, I move we adjourn until Wednesday,  
23 May 11th, at 11:00 a.m.

24 ACTING PRESIDENT O'MARA: On  
25 motion, the Senate stands adjourned until



1           Wednesday, May 11th, at 11:00 a.m.

2                           (Whereupon, at 5:04 p.m., the  
3       Senate adjourned.)

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