NEW YORK STATE SENATE

THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

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3:18 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

SENATOR JOSEPH GRIFFO, Acting President

FRANCIS W. PATIENCE, Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The Senate will come to order.

I ask all present to please rise and join with me as we recite the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Today's invocation will be offered by the Reverend Gilbert Pickett, Sr., who is pastor of Mount Horeb Baptist Church in Corona.

Pastor?

REVEREND PICKETT: Let us pray.

Again, O God, we thank You for this day that You have allowed us to see and have our very being.

And as we have assembled here in this room, we're praying for every man and every woman of the Senate, that You will give them insight and foresight concerning the needs of the people of the State of New York.

We pray for our Governor, we pray for our government. And we ask, O God, that You allow individuals to come together on one accord

to work together in peace and harmony. We thank You for all the great things that You continue to provide for us by way of life, health and strength. We know that the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, and all of they who dwell within.

So just continue to bless our very being and allow them to deal with kingdom business as well as the business of this state. These things we ask now in the name of God, our Father and Creator; Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer; the Holy Ghost, our Power and Comforter. Amen.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The reading of the Journal.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Monday, March 19th, the Senate met pursuant to adjournment. The Journal of Sunday, March 18th, was read and approved. On motion, Senate adjourned.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Without objection, the Journal will stand approved as read.

Messages from the Assembly.

Messages from the Governor.

Reports of standing committees.

Reports of select committees.

Communications and reports of state officers.

Motions and resolutions.

Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: We have a resolution -- excuse me. Would you recognize Senator Gianaris, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Good day, Mr. President.

On behalf of Senator Benjamin, I move that the following bill be discharged from its respective committee and be recommitted with instructions to strike the enacting clause: Senate Bill 7934.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: It is so ordered.

Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Yes, there's a Resolution Calendar, and I move to adopt the Resolution Calendar, with the exception of 4210 and 4183.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: All in favor of adopting the Resolution Calendar, with the exception of Resolutions 4210 and 4183, signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Opposed?

(No response.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The Resolution Calendar is adopted.

Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Can we take up Resolution 4210, by Senator Ranzenhofer, read it in its entirety, and call on Senator Ranzenhofer to speak.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: I'd ask for some order in the house, please.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Legislative Resolution Number 4210, by Senator Ranzenhofer, mourning the death of Marcy M. Dandes, real estate agent, patron of the arts, and devoted member of her community.

"WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic

endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

"WHEREAS, Marcy M. Dandes of East Amherst, New York, died on Thursday, March 8, 2018, at the age of 66; and

"WHEREAS, The former Marcy M. Marong was born on June 7, 1951, in Lockport, New York; after graduating from Bishop Neumann High School in 1969, she earned her bachelor's degree from Canisius College; and

"WHEREAS, For more than 20 years, Marcy M. Dandes enjoyed a successful career in real estate; known for her warm and giving personality, she was consistently ranked one of the top producers of Hunt Real Estate; and

"WHEREAS, Marcy M. Dandes' commitment to excellence, and her spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

"WHEREAS, Devoted to both her children and her community, Marcy M. Dandes held the title of president of the Nichols School Parents' Council, and served as chair of the

Parent Division for the Annual Fund campaign; she was also a vital member of numerous committees which benefited numerous people; and

"WHEREAS, Marcy M. Dandes and her husband founded Nichols School's Big Green Athletic Dinner, and chaired the school's Derby Day Auction; and

"WHEREAS, After her daughter became involved in the local theater group, Marcy M. Dandes devoted her time and energy to supporting her and the arts as a longtime member of the board of directors of O'Connell & Company; in 2017, Marcy and her husband served as honorary cochairs of Curtain Up!, and for many years the couple were co-chairs of the ECMC Springfest Gala; and

"WHEREAS, For her steadfast and unremitting commitment to her community, Marcy M. Dandes was the recipient of the 2005 Mitchell Award; and

"WHEREAS, When she was not working or helping someone, Marcy M. Dandes enjoyed rooting for the Buffalo Bisons baseball team, and liked to spend time outdoors tending to her beautiful gardens; above all, she enjoyed

spending time with her beloved family; and

"WHEREAS, Predeceased by her stepfather, Jack Williams, and brother, James T. Marong, Marcy M. Dandes is survived by her husband of 35 years, Jonathan Dandes; one daughter, Arin Lee (Adam Yellen) Dandes; one son, Leo (Lissette) Dandes; one grandson, Luca Jonathan Dandes; her mother, Naidine C. Williams; and two brothers, Michael (Marilynn) Marong and Timothy (Sandra) Marong; and many nieces, nephews, and dear friend Lynn Slisz, all of whom will cherish her memory; and

"WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Marcy M. Dandes leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all she served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Marcy M. Dandes, real estate agent, patron of the arts, and devoted member of her community; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to

the family of Marcy M. Dandes."

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Ranzenhofer.

SENATOR RANZENHOFER: Yes, thank you, Mr. President.

As I rise today, it's with sadness but also with pride of a wonderful woman who we are going to memorialize today and also talk a little bit about her life. And I would like to add that I'm very happy that all of my colleagues from the Western New York region have signed onto this resolution.

A lot of her life was talked about in that resolution, but this was a woman who really gave a lot to her community, whether it was in her line of work, which was real estate; she was very active in the arts, as was spoken about; she was a great family member, a great wife, and a great mother for her children.

But the sense of community and spirit that she had was unfortunately cut short too quickly. She will be missed.

And again, I'm just very happy that all of the members of the Western New York delegation signed onto the resolution, and I

believe that some of them would like to speak as well.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Thank you, Senator Ranzenhofer.

Senator Gallivan.

SENATOR GALLIVAN: Thank you, Mr. President.

I too rise to pay tribute to Marcy Dandes, and I thank Senator Ranzenhofer and my other colleagues from Western New York for bringing this forward and recognizing a woman who was incredible -- the type of citizen that all communities deserve, the type of citizen that we should all aspire to be.

She was involved in many, many things in her community. And whatever she got involved in, she threw herself wholeheartedly into. When her kids were involved in sports, she was their biggest backer and the sports teams' and leagues' biggest backer.

When her daughter got involved in the theater, she became the biggest backer of the theater in Western New York.

When her husband received a kidney

transplant, she became involved in transplant services and their organizations.

But you'd never know it, because the thing that was most important to her was how your day was and making others happy.

She leaves behind an incredible legacy. She left the earth much too soon. She was a dear friend to my family and to the entire Western New York community.

Her husband, in giving the eulogy, made mention of -- had two different things that he said that I think characterizes her. The first was that there was probably never a more giving, generous, loving, warm, caring person on the planet. And the other was that she was ever hopeful. And I would say for all good things, as we all should be.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Thank you, Senator Gallivan.

Senator Kennedy.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Thank you, Mr. President.

I rise to remember the great Western New Yorker Marcy Dandes, who passed away earlier

this month. I want to thank my colleagues from Western New York as well, in a bipartisan fashion, as we remember this wonderful woman in our community, Marcy, with her husband of 35 years.

Jon was a giant in the Buffalo philanthropic community. They cochaired the Erie County Medical Center Springfest Gala for year, cochaired the Curtain Up! festival last year, and also cochaired next month's Shea's Black Tie Gala, among many, many other endeavors in the community.

A proud parent to Leo and Arin Lee Dandes, she served as president of the Nichols School Parents' Council, for which she was honored with the Mitchell Award for outstanding volunteer service. On top of that, she served as the chair for the parent division of the school's annual fundraising campaign and cofounded the school's Big Green Athletic Dinner with her husband Jon.

In addition to all this, she served for many years on the board of directors for O'Connell and Company, one of the region's most well-respected resident theaters. And it was

that love of theater that continued with her Arin, who was cofounder of the Second Generation Theater Production Company.

While Marcy's husband Jon serves as president of the Buffalo Bisons, the local AAA baseball team, like many of us from Western New York there was a special place in Marcy's heart for the Buffalo Bills, with Jon recently saying that she was ever-hopeful about the team's chances. And like all of us, she was thrilled when the team, after 17 years, this season finally made the playoffs once again.

Marcy excelled in everything that she did. She spent more than 20 years as an agent with Hunt Real Estate, consistently distinguishing herself as one of the top producers at the firm.

Beyond her successes in the private and philanthropic sectors, however, Marcy was a dedicated mother and grandmother who loved nothing more than spending time with her children, her husband and her grandson Luca Jonathan Dandes.

To Jon and the entire Dandes family, we mourn with you. We are truly sorry for your

loss. It is a loss that our community in Western New York and our entire state share of such a remarkable citizen that gave so much to our great community and our great state. May Marcy Dandes rest in peace.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Thank you, Senator Kennedy.

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

(Response of "Aye.")

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Opposed?

(No response.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The resolution is adopted.

At the request of Senator Ranzenhofer, the resolution is open for cosponsorship. Should you choose to be a cosponsor, please notify the desk.

Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Mr. President, can we now take up previously adopted -- well, that last resolution is open for cosponsorship. Did you mention that?

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: I did.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Okay. Next time I'll pay attention.

Take up previously adopted Resolution 4140, if you would, by Senator Stavisky. Please read it in its entirety and call on Senator Stavisky to speak.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Legislative Resolution Number 4140, by Senator Stavisky, commemorating Queens Day, to be celebrated Tuesday, March 20, 2018, in the New York State Legislature.

"WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate those events of historical significance which add strength, vigor and inspiration to the cultural diversity and quality of life in the communities of the State of New York; and

"WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate Queens Day, to be celebrated Tuesday, March 20, 2018, in the New York State Legislature; and

"WHEREAS, On March 20, 2018, the best of the Borough of Queens will be on display at the Capitol in Albany, New York; and

"WHEREAS, This event is coordinated by the office of the Queens Borough President and the Queens Chamber of Commerce, which will put the spotlight on Queens and include an evening reception featuring foods and beverages as well as a display of Queens' favorite dining establishments; and

"WHEREAS, With 2.3 million people, the Borough of Queens is the most culturally diverse county in the United States, and has become a tourist destination for its many cultural attractions, including the arts, businesses, culinary delights, and the many charms this vibrant community has to offer; and

"WHEREAS, More than half of all Queens residents are foreign-born, a much greater concentration than any other borough in New York City, and many of the neighborhoods reflect the rich cultural heritage of its residents; and

"WHEREAS, Queens' residents come from more than 120 countries and speak more than 135 languages; and

"WHEREAS, The Lonely Planet travel magazine named Queens the "Top Travel Destination" in the country for 2015, because of its cultural and culinary diversity, stating that "Queens is quickly becoming its hippest" and reflects the true image of New York as the global melting pot; and

"WHEREAS, Although Queens is home to several large company headquarters, no single industry dominates its economy; in addition, two-thirds of all businesses in Queens employ between one and four people, making small businesses the cornerstone of the borough's economic vitality; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate Queens Day, to be celebrated Tuesday, March 20, 2018, in the New York State Legislature; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the office of the Queens Borough President, and the Queens Chamber of Commerce."

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Stavisky on the resolution.

SENATOR STAVISKY: Thank you, Mr. President.

And welcome to our borough president, Melinda Katz, who's a former Assemblymember and a former Councilmember, and to Tom Grech, who is the executive director of the Queens Chamber of Commerce, and to the people in the galleries, who came up this morning, from the Chamber of Commerce and their friends.

People love to refer to Queens as the "outer borough." Queens is more than just an airport to go someplace else. Queens is more than a place to get a good meal or to watch a sporting event. Queens is a diverse area, a place where people come from all over the world looking, very simply, for a better life. And as the resolution states, we maintain a very diverse economy. It is home to many educational institutions, of higher education in particular, and a place where people come as a destination.

Many of the people here brag about being a lifelong Queens resident. I'm a Queens resident by choice, not by birth. And Queens has provided the same kind of welcoming spirit to everybody. And in fact, I represent a

district -- I say it many times -- that is 80 percent Asian-American, and they are part of the community, as is every other person, wherever they were born.

It's interesting because if you ask somebody from New York City "Where are you from," they'll say, Well, I'm from Brooklyn or the Bronx -- I'm looking --

(Laughter.)

SENATOR STAVISKY: -- or Manhattan or Staten Island. And in Queens, we're different. They'll say, "I'm from Astoria" or "I'm from Jamaica" or "I'm from Flushing." And that's what separates people from the rest of the city.

In Queens we are a community of small businesses, and that is the backbone of our economy.

We celebrate today the theme I think best said by Borough President Melinda Katz's predecessor, Helen Marshall. She often said: "Come to Queens and see the world." And that's exactly what Queens is all about.

So again, I welcome our friends to Albany. And we invite you to join us at the Hart

Lounge, 5 o'clock this evening. I understand there are 47 restaurants and various establishments represented, so you can have literally a taste from around the world.

Again, I thank you for coming and open the resolution for sponsorship.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Thank you, Senator Stavisky.

(Applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Thank you, Mr. President.

I too want to welcome the delegation from the great County of Queens, led by our borough president, Melinda Katz, who herself is a veteran of the State Legislature. And it's good to have her back here in the Capitol.

Queens, as you heard my colleague Senator Stavisky mention, is the county that everyone has been through but far too few have stopped in to enjoy.

It is the most diverse place on the planet and has, without question, the best

restaurants anywhere in the world, because you can literally get a taste of any nation's cuisine -- and not just regular old cooking, but cooking that will be as good, if not better, than it is in their home countries.

Of course I'm partial to the Greek restaurants in Astoria. But depending on your neighborhood, you can find any of the over a hundred ethnicities represented in Queens, the type of food that they would enjoy there.

It is great that this day has been happening. Brooklyn's had their day here in Albany for quite some time, and now we are growing this Queens Day by the year. So I do encourage everyone to come sample our great fare, but also to enjoy all that Queens has to offer, the contributions that we have made to New York as well as the United States, and I daresay to my colleagues from the Bronx, the more fun baseball team to root for. It's right there in the middle of Queens.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR GIANARIS: Why is everyone laughing? I don't understand.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR GIANARIS: We can say that as Mets fans when the season is about to begin, that we have all the hopes in the world at our back, and hopefully this year will bring a great success to the New York Mets as well.

But for today I want to welcome everyone in the galleries. We have some great community leaders with us who I will refrain from naming because there's too many of them here, but we will see you all at the reception a little bit later. And welcome to the Capitol.

(Applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Peralta.

SENATOR PERALTA: Thank you, Mr. President.

I too want to welcome the Queens delegation with our great borough president, Melinda Katz, as well as Reverend Pickett, from Mount Horeb Baptist Church. I want to welcome him. He's one of the pastors of the clergy associations in East Elmhurst.

I also want to thank and welcome President Tom Grech of the Queens Chamber of Commerce. And all of you from Queens, welcome.

Welcome today. Welcome to the Senate chambers.

(Cheers, applause.)

SENATOR PERALTA: My colleagues, welcome to Queens Day. It is my great honor to represent New York's most diverse borough and the most ethnically diverse county in this nation. The 13th Senatorial District is the United Nations of all Senate districts.

I encourage those of you who haven't visited the borough of Queens to do so. I could speak all afternoon about the many wonders of Queens. And let me just say that if you're coming into New York, if you're flying from a different country or from a different state, you're going to land in Queens. Right? At one of the airports.

I want you to take a walk down Roosevelt Avenue in my district for foods from all over the world. Visit the Queens Museum, the New York Hall of Science, the Louie Armstrong Home Museum, the Museum of the Moving Image. See the world-famous Unisphere. Right? Catch a game at Citi Field. Right? And even though the season is about to start, as my colleagues pointed out, there's lots of hope. There's lots

of hope for the Mets this year. Play soccer, play soccer in Flushing Meadow Park.

I am proud to live in Queens. I'm proud to have grown up in Queens. I played in its park, it's been my backyard for many, many years. I attended elementary school, middle school, high school and college in Queens. I dine and shop in Queens. I ride the 7 train in Queens. Riding the 7 train is like traveling around the world. You can actually literally see anyone from any different country right there sitting next to you.

Queens is my life. We speak over 160 different languages in a borough of about 2.3 million people. Now, Brooklyn claims that it is the largest borough, but we're about to beat that this census. I know that we will. All right? So that's a challenge.

At least one in two neighbors that you encounter on the streets, in a classroom, in a church, in a supermarket, in a playground, in a restaurant or store, is foreign-born. This makes us unique. We are the heart that pumps blood into the tired city and state.

And this does not go unnoticed.

Ladies and gentlemen, the world-known tourist guide Lonely Planet named Queens as the best travel destination of the United States.

And today I want to welcome all of you, and I want you to participate in Queens Day. Because Queens Day, although we have the Bronx Night, we've had Brooklyn Night, but I'm pretty sure you're not going to forget Queens Day. So enjoy, and welcome.

(Applause from galleries.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Comrie.

SENATOR COMRIE: Thank you, Mr. President.

I rise to thank Senator Stavisky for carrying this resolution and to continue a tradition that we started last year, and that's welcoming Queens to Albany. I'm glad to --

(Applause.)

SENATOR COMRIE: It's the borough that I'm proud to call home. It's the borough that raised me and taught me what public service is all about. Because there are many residents in Queens, there are many residents here today that are truly stalwarts of public service,

people that you can depend on to be at community meetings, people you can depend on to take issues and do everything they can to make sure that their community and their neighborhoods are protected.

As Senator Stavisky said, Queens is about neighborhoods. We represent St. Albans, the Rockaways, Forest Hills, Woodside. You know, you don't say you're from Queens, as they said. You know, you're from a neighborhood. And I know that there are many members that are here that started in Queens. I won't name names, but of people that are working on even the other side of the aisle that were born in Queens.

And Queens is such a home for so many people that, you know, we -- as they said, we're the most diverse borough. We have so many restaurants, so many opportunities in Queens, so many things for people to do while they're here. It's a family borough, it's the borough that people want to move to. When they want to leave the other B's and really have a good life, they come to Queens.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR COMRIE: When they want to

leave the other boroughs and really understand how to raise a family, you come to Queens. When you want to learn how to do things the right way and perfect certain things -- because they say hip-hop was created in some other borough, but it was perfected in Queens. It was perfect in Queens.

(Laughter; applause.)

SENATOR COMRIE: I know I'm starting a little trouble, but why not. Why not.

We do things well in Queens, and we do things to make sure that after everything else, Queens residents are protected, Queens residents look out for each other. We have a great borough president who is here who I'm proud to have worked with in the City Council. I'm proud to have worked with her for a year in her first year as borough president till she kicked me out and sent me up here.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR COMRIE: And that's our Borough President Melinda Katz.

I want to thank Thomas Grech and the Queens Chamber of Commerce, who are well-represented here today, businesspeople,

professionals, civic people, culturals that are all up here today to show how proud we are as Queens residents.

I would invite you to come to the Hart Lounge this evening and enjoy with us and also talk with us. Because the residents are not just up here to show how proud we are of our borough, but they're also up here to fight for some critical issues. Congestion pricing is something that hurts Queens residents. Dealing with the Cross Bay Bridge and dealing with redevelopment issues in the borough, our members are up here also to fight for services and things and let people know the Queens perspective on the budget as well.

So I want to thank you for taking time to come up on the buses today. I want to thank you for your activism in the halls today. I want to thank you for your continued support of all of us Queens legislators and being the stalwarts in the community that you are.

I represent Queens. Thank you, Mr. President.

(Applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator

Sanders.

SENATOR SANDERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

I believe that my colleague was a little bit too modest on the achievements of Queens.

I want to thank our borough president, Melinda Katz. I want to thank the Reverend Dr. and Moderator Pickett. I want to thank the Chamber of Commerce. And mostly I want to thank all of you who made the pilgrimage -- in front of me, in back of me -- to Queens.

You see, to the rest of my colleagues, when you welcome Queens, you welcome the world. You can speak to anybody -- any language that you want, you can do it in Queens. In fact, you could even speak languages that no one understands.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR SANDERS: We won't understand you either, but that's all right. We love you.

Queens is known as perhaps the most laid-back borough. You know, all of the other boroughs are a little hyper. They close

themselves in, they do all kinds of stuff. But we're really laid back in Queens. We like it.

Now, if Queens is a ship -- now, picture this. If Queens is a ship -- Madam Borough President, there's a marketing tool for you. If Queens is a ship, the Rockaways is the rudder. So somehow we're going to steer this ship from there.

Queens is a ship, my friends. We're going someplace, and we're going someplace quick. So I encourage all of us to get on board, because Queens is not just a great place to live, but it's the borough of business. We take care of business in Queens, whether it be the $4 billion from LaGuardia or the $10 billion in JFK or the billions in the middle. We encourage the world to come and invest here, because this is the best place and the safest place to invest.

Again, nobody loves Queens more than I do, with the possible exception of Senators Addabbo, Avella, Comrie, Gianaris, Peralta and Stavisky. But having said that, again, no one loves Queens more than I do.

And, Mr. President, I thank you. By the powers invested in me {gesturing}, you are

temporarily a Queens guy.

(Laughter; applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Thank you, Senator Sanders. I'll claim Hollis.

(Laughter.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Marcellino.

SENATOR MARCELLINO: Thank you, Mr. President.

I just want to set the record clear that not only Democrats come from Queens.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR MARCELLINO: I was born in Queens, raised in Queens -- St. Albans, Flushing, went to Flushing High School -- went to Bayside High School, by the way. Met my wife at Bayside High School, a social studies teacher there, taught there for 20 years. Great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Beautiful borough, deserving of everything that we're doing today and the honor we're giving it today. And I just wish to say that Far Rockaway, spent a lot of summers down in Far Rockaway, on the beach. Learned to swim down there, learned to do a lot. Water skiing. All

in Queens.

So to the borough, thank you. To the ladies and gentlemen who come from there, to our borough president, God bless you. Welcome to Albany, and hope you have a great day.

(Applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Savino.

SENATOR SAVINO: Thank you, Mr. President.

So what does a little girl from Staten Island have to say about Queens? Well, to me, Queens is home. I was born and raised in Queens, like Senator Marcellino. And sadly, I was forced to leave the Borough of Queens to buy a house, because the community that I grew up in had become so popular by the time I decided to buy a house, it was well beyond my means.

But Queens was the best place to grow up in. I grew up in Astoria, I lived in Jackson Heights, as Senator Peralta represents now. I will tell you, the food there is amazing. I agree with Senator Gianaris, though, there is no better place for Greek food than Astoria.

Every two weeks, I go back to the

Borough of Queens to get my nails done, because they have the best manicurists. But it gives me the opportunity to go back to the borough of my home and see the community and see how much it's changed. And as a Staten Islander now, Staten Island is kind of like the Queens that I grew up in; it's about 30 years behind. And we have such potential too. What we need is some of the drive and some of the spirit and some of the determination that the leaders of Queens have brought to the growth of Queens.

It's a completely different place than the one I grew up in, but it's definitely heading in the right direction. I see our wonderful borough president, Melinda Katz, over there. And all of you, maybe you can come out to Staten Island and give us some tips on how to redevelop the waterfront, how to do it right, how to bring economic opportunity into Staten Island in a way that balances the old and the new.

So I welcome any of you who want to come and help us out, we're willing to listen. congratulations to everyone on Queens Day, and congratulations to the people of Queens.

(Applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Bailey.

SENATOR BAILEY: Thank you, Mr. President.

You know, I was going to keep quiet on this one, just being a humble mainlander -- you know, us Bronx folks, right? But Senator Comrie said 99 percent of great things and this one thing about hip-hop -- and I'll get to that later, but I first just want to commend Borough President Melinda Katz for coming up, the Queens delegation in this amazing body. You are amazing.

I owe Queens a lot. I am someone who loves Queens -- not as much as you, but I do love Queens. I met my wife in Queens. Got a law degree in Queens. I am a Met fan, despite being from the Bronx. So yes, there is hope.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR BAILEY: I went to Bronx Science, where a lot of the classmates I had were from Queens. And that was my first experience with so many folks from Queens. And one of my favorite movies is Coming to America, which is based in Queens. Jackson Heights' own, Mr. Randy

Watson.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR BAILEY: That one's good.

But Queens is such a great place. It is such a diverse borough. I have staff members from Queens who take the trek across the bridge to come work in the Bronx each day.

And I'm appreciative of everything in your borough except the claim that you are the home of hip-hop.

SENATOR COMRIE: I didn't say home.

SENATOR BAILEY: Excuse me, the birthplace of hip-hop. I just want to make sure we get that clear. At 1520 Sedgwick Avenue in Senator Serrano's district was the birthplace of hip-hop. But you have made hip-hop your own thanks to Run-D.M.C. and Nas and so many other luminaries in Queens -- A Tribe Called Quest and Mobb Deep and 50 Cent and Nicki Minaj. Remy Ma had something to say about that last year, but --

I salute my friends and colleagues from the Borough of Queens. And what I say is many more wonderful days and World Series championships for our New York Mets.

(Applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Benjamin.

SENATOR BENJAMIN: I'll be very brief, Mr. President. But it occurred to me, being that my mom lives in Senator Comrie's district, that there might be scenario in which he would put this piece on his mailings and my mom will know that there was a Queens Day and her son didn't say something. So I wanted to say something real quick, if you don't mind.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR BENJAMIN: I actually first encountered Queens when I was 13. My parents, we moved to Queens, bought a house in Queens Village, and I attended Archbishop Molloy High School, which is a great all-boys school in Briarwood, Queens.

And I just want to say, speaking of hip-hop folks, a little bit of trivia. The house that my parents bought in Queens used to be the home of Young MC. I'm not sure how many of you are familiar with "Bust a Move" or any of his great songs that he had. But -- yeah, just "Bust a Move," I'm sorry.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR BENJAMIN: But no, I really -- you know, my whole -- my experience preparing for college was in Queens. I love Queens. And Queens is still home to some degree. Obviously, I'm a Harlemite, but Queens is still home to some degree because my parents are there. And whenever I go to 211th Street and 109th Avenue, I feel like I'm coming home. And the food is always right, and so I always love that.

And I really want to give a shout out to Queens Borough President Melinda Katz and the entire Queens delegation and say that while Harlem is always in my blood, I do have a little bit of love for Queens.

(Applause from galleries.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: I was in Queens on Sunday.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: That's all I had to say.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: There was a

political event at Antun's.

(Reaction from galleries.)

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: See, I can prove it. I can prove it. I can prove it. And I hope to represent Queens someday.

(Laughter; applause.)

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: And I welcome all of you here, and I'm going to try to get to your event.

But I have a report to make from Queens. At that event was long-time State Senator Frank Padavan, who I hadn't seen in ages. Retirement is great for him. He's obviously been eating the Queens food, and he looks terrific, rested and the like. Which we all look when we retire, hopefully.

So I just want to let everybody know that Frank was there. He's healthy, doing well, and it was wonderful seeing him. And hopefully I'll be in Queens many, many more times before November.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Kaminsky.

SENATOR KAMINSKY: Thank you.

So from 2004 to 2008, Mr. President, I got to be an assistant district attorney in Queens. And I have a complaint to make. We would get like a beeper then that would tell us in the middle of the night where to respond, and I found out the hard way that there's a 71st Road, a 71st Drive, and a 71st Avenue. And they weren't even like play and place. And I thought I was the first one to show up, so I'm like, Oh, I beat the cops to the scene -- I was just in the wrong place like a lot of the time.

So Queens is a great place, with all the languages, and the people that move there really make it the most vibrant place. I learned a ton there. It's a great county. Just fix those roads. Thank you.

(Laughter; applause.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The resolution was adopted on March 13th of this year.

We want to welcome Borough President Katz to the chamber today, all of our special guests from Queens that are here today. We thank you for the many and varied contributions to the

City of New York and the State of New York. We extend all the privileges and the courtesies of the house.

Please stand be and recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Stavisky has opened the resolution for cosponsorship. And based on everything I've heard, Senator DeFrancisco, if a member would like to be a cosponsor, they should notify the desk, but I think most of them have already expressed that.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Thank you. I think in this case we should indicate that if you don't want to be on the resolution, go to the desk, because I think everybody would like to.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: It's so directed.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Mr. President, can we now take up the noncontroversial reading of the calendar.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 77, by Senator Akshar, Senate Print 1114A, an act to

amend the Penal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Akshar to explain his vote.

Can I have some order in the house, please.

SENATOR AKSHAR: Mr. President, thank you. I rise to explain my vote on the Community Heroes Protection Act.

Of course many of you know that I had the pleasure of serving as a member of law enforcement before I was elected to this great body. And as you contemplate your vote -- which I see some of you are not contemplating, you've already made up your mind, which is perfectly fine -- I want you to remember the countless men and women who selflessly serve the communities that they love.

And unfortunately, we are living in

a time in which targeted crimes against first responders are on the rise. And first responders are being specifically targeted because of the uniform that they wear.

I want to make a very important point about this particular piece of legislation and where I'm coming from, that I am in no way attempting to diminish the original intent of the Hate Crimes Statute. However, I think that times are changing and that we need to react appropriately. I don't think that we should be sitting silent while our first responders are serving selflessly. I'm a realist, I'm certainly not naive, and I understand that stiffer penalties won't single-handedly protect all of our first responders.

My hope is that this statute will deter future crimes. And my hope is that this statute will hold those accountable who conduct themselves in such a heinous manner.

And just a closing thought. Regardless of how you feel about this particular piece of legislation, I think it's incumbent upon all of us, no matter what side of the uniform that we're on or which side of the aisle that we

sit on, it's time that we talk to one another. It is time that we become involved in each other's lives. And I think it's important that we make an effort to understand one another.

So I'm encouraging everyone to support this legislation. Mr. President, I vote aye.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Akshar to be recorded in the affirmative.

Senator Bailey to explain his vote.

SENATOR BAILEY: Thank you, Mr. President.

Senator Akshar started out on the tone that I'm going to take today, and I commend the sponsor for being a good and decent man and a very good public servant, and introducing this legislation, which is well-intentioned.

As I've mentioned in the Codes Committee, my issues with the bill are not the desire to protect men and women in law enforcement; I stand with Senator Akshar in that regard. I have sponsored many events in my district to bring the community and police closer together, knowing that there are issues and concerns.

My main and chief concern is that putting the immutable characteristics of a hate crime on par with law enforcement in a uniform is something that I have problems with. It is not having problems with law enforcement. It's not making sure that our men and women in blue who have served in the past are not protected. That is not my no vote today. It is simply to continue the dialogue that we must continue.

And for today, I vote no, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Bailey to be recorded in the negative.

Senator Hoylman to explain his vote.

SENATOR HOYLMAN: Thank you, Mr. President.

I also join in thanking the sponsor for his well-intentioned bill to protect first responders from hate crimes.

I am voting against this bill because I believe the intention of the hate crimes law is to protect New Yorkers who are targeted for hate crimes because of immutable characteristics. It might be an immutable characteristic that you are a uniformed officer,

given some long service of families in that area, but the real purpose is to protect those inborn characteristics.

And I wanted to point out that in this chamber we have yet to take up the legislation called the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act, which would protect transgender individuals from hate crimes -- transgender individuals in New York, who are targeted as the victims of hate crimes more than any other subpopulation in the country, especially since January of last year.

So, Mr. President, while I appreciate the good intentions here, I'll be voting no and urging this chamber to take up legislation that will protect transgender people against hate crimes.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Hoylman to be recorded in the negative.

Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 77, those recorded in the negative are Senators Bailey, Benjamin, Dilan, Gianaris, Hamilton, Hoylman, Kavanagh, Krueger, Montgomery,

Parker, Peralta, Rivera, Sanders and Serrano.

Ayes, 47. Nays, 14.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 180, by Senator Savino, Senate Print 3756, an act to amend the Banking Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the 60th day.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 180, those recorded in the negative are Senators Bailey, Benjamin, Brooks, Gianaris, Kavanagh, Krueger, Montgomery, Parker, Rivera, Sanders and Stewart-Cousins.

Ayes, 50. Nays, 11.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number

223, by Senator Croci, Senate Print 953, an act to amend the Penal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the first of November.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Kavanagh to explain his vote.

SENATOR KAVANAGH: Thank you, Mr. President.

I won't belabor this; we've had this conversation in this chamber a few times recently. But once again, this is a bill that in a no doubt well-intentioned effort to expand our understanding of terrorism -- in this case, cyber terrorism -- causes actions that -- on the one hand it talks about actions using a computer to cause widespread financial harm, which we might legitimately think of as terrorism.

But it also includes any -- committing larceny at any level against 10 people. Which means if -- again, last week we

talked about a bill that has been now passed by this majority twice that would make almost any discharge of a weapon anywhere in the state terrorism.

This bill would make stealing a dollar apiece from, you know, 10 of your high school classmates, you know, using text messages, into cyber terrorism. It's greatly overbroad and, again, diminishes our very understanding of what terrorism is.

So I'll be voting in the negative.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Kavanagh to be recorded in the negative.

Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 223, those recorded in the negative are Senators Kavanagh, Krueger and Sanders.

Ayes, 58. Nays, 3.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 224, by Senator Croci, Senate Print 956, an act to amend the Penal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the first of November.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 225, by Senator Gallivan, Senate Print 1984, an act to amend the Penal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the first of November.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 225, those recorded in the negative are Senators Bailey, Comrie, Hoylman, Krueger, Montgomery, Parker, Persaud, Rivera and Sanders.

Ayes, 52. Nays, 9.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 397, by Senator Golden, Senate Print 6898B, an act to amend the General Municipal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 8. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Golden to explain his vote.

SENATOR GOLDEN: Thank you, Mr. President.

We all remember September 11, 2001. Three thousand Americans lost their lives that day, and since that day thousands more have given their lives.

We lost many good men and women that day. Since that day, we have lost many first responders to cancer and other illnesses that were caused by the exposure to carcinogens and toxic fumes that surrounded that World Trade

Center site.

Today we mourn a firefighter in Brooklyn, New York, that was the ferry captain that took many people out of harm's way that day: Tommy Phelan. And I asked our conference to keep him and the rest that lost their lives in their prayers.

Last year we enacted a law that gives World Trade Center first responders who are suffering from the qualifying World Trade Center conditions, and still on the job, line-of-duty sick leave. Line-of-duty sick leave is to be used by these first responders for doctor's appointments, medical treatments, and their qualifying World Trade Center condition.

This sick leave is not granted prospectively, it is to be retroactively granted to the World Trade Center responders for their past doctor appointments and medical treatments. When they go to work in other localities, the local governments are supposed to provide line-of-duty sick leave to these employees. The state is supposed to reimburse the local governments for the costs of this sick leave. Right now, that reimbursement mechanism is

missing from the law.

These first responders put their lives on the line for us when they participated in the World Trade Center rescue, recovery and cleanup. Even now, after they have been diagnosed with cancer and other World Trade Center illnesses, those first responders are still putting their lives on the line to protect us across our state in other counties. They need our help to be able to stay on the job and manage their medical appointments. This bill would provide them with that help that they need.

I vote aye.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Golden to be recorded in the affirmative.

Senator Kaminsky to explain his vote.

SENATOR KAMINSKY: Thank you.

Colleagues, on the last day of session last year we did a very important and momentous thing by passing a law that allows the responders working now in other departments, who had served on the pile on the day of and after 9/11, to get their sick leave covered.

Men would come to my office, they

would talk about their latest surgery or about their friend who wasn't as fortunate to be back up on the job, and they would say that when they went to their current job to take a sick day, they were told "You were not injured in the line of duty in our job, you didn't work for us back on 9/11." And then when they'd go back to the city, the city would tell them: "Well, you don't work for us anymore." And they were caught in this unfortunate space.

And we acted in a bipartisan manner last year that I was so proud of -- because it wasn't about us and it wasn't about party, it was about doing the right thing for the heroes who sacrificed their health for the country and for our state on the day of and in the moments and the days after 9/11.

These men are still getting sick, more and more each year, and the fact that they had to reach into their own pockets to pay for sick time was a shame. And it's something we together rectified and that the Governor, to his credit, signed.

But the mechanism by which localities are able to put in for reimbursement

for those sick days was not detailed, and was not there, and they've been having trouble figuring this out.

Today we're going to begin that process, maybe in the budget as well, of fixing that. And I think it's a necessary and important step to finish the great work that we've done across the aisle for the heroes who deserve nothing less. I vote in the affirmative.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Kaminsky to be recorded in the affirmative.

Senator Kavanagh to explain his vote.

SENATOR KAVANAGH: Yeah, I just rise briefly, Mr. President, to commend the sponsor for bringing this bill forth and everybody who has worked on it in both chambers.

I was proud to vote in favor of the underlying bill last year in the Assembly. And as the representative of the World Trade Center, I represent many people who are still to this day very, very grateful for the extraordinary bravery of people who responded without concern for their own well-being, but simply to do their jobs in

the midst of a terrible emergency.

We are still dealing with the ramifications of that period and that terrible event -- not just the immediate loss of life, but the ongoing tragedy of people who were exposed to some very toxic substances in that period, most certainly our first responders and others who are covered by this bill.

We are also still in the process locally of notifying people of their rights to have themselves tested for some very terrible diseases that are resulting from that and their eligibility for healthcare costs to be covered. And that includes not just first responders, but also people who lived and worked in the area.

It's a terrible thing that we're still dealing with this, but it's a very important and proud moment for this chamber and for our state government to be addressing it in this way, and I'll be voting in the affirmative.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Kavanagh to be recorded in the affirmative.

Senator Murphy to explain his vote.

SENATOR MURPHY: Thank you, Mr. President.

I would just like to thank Senator Golden. Great bill. We have seen the cancer rate skyrocket from all these first responders that came to our rescue when 9/11 happened.

The comorbidities that have happened from 9/11 -- and we've gone around personally, both of us -- the thyroid cancer has gone through the roof, has gone through the roof. The cancers that -- we did a test, it was 77 first responders, and if you get one out of there, you would have been unfortunate. We had seven people test positive for these nodulars that are coming out of nowhere, so to speak.

But they've all had one thing in common, being on that pile. Being on that pile to come to our rescue during 9/11.

Senator Golden, great bill. I vote aye.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Murphy to be recorded in the affirmative.

Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number

469, by Senator Avella, Senate Print 1302, an act to amend the Penal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 469, those recorded in the negative are Senators Bailey, Benjamin, Comrie, Gianaris, Kavanagh, Krueger, Montgomery, Parker, Rivera and Sanders.

Ayes, 51. Nays, 10.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 471, by Senator Gallivan, Senate Print 2512, an act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This

act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 471, those recorded in the negative are Senators Benjamin, Hoylman, Kavanagh, Krueger, Montgomery and Parker. Also Senator Sanders.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 518, by Senator Ritchie, Senate Print 2125, an act to amend the Correction Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill

is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 523, by Senator Murphy, Senate Print 7552, an act to amend the Public Housing Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 529, by Senator Hannon, Senate Print 5337, an act to amend the Public Health Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the 120th day.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

Senator Hoylman recorded in the negative.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

Can we have some order in the house, please.

The Secretary will continue.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 618, by Senator Croci, Senate Print 925, an act to amend the Penal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

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

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 621, by Senator Golden, Senate Print 1747, an act to amend the Penal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect on the 90th day.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 621, those recorded in the negative are Senators Montgomery, Parker and Sanders. Also Senator Bailey.

Ayes, 57. Nays, 4.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The bill is passed.

Senator DeFrancisco, that completes the noncontroversial reading of today's active-list calendar.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Mr. President, we have one more resolution. That is Resolution 4183, by Senator Alcantara. Title only, and please call on the Senator to speak.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Legislative Resolution Number 4183, by Senator Alcantara, commemorating the 52nd anniversary of the Dominican Cultural and Sports Center of New York,

Inc., on March 22, 2018.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Senator Alcantara.

SENATOR ALCANTARA: Thank you.

Today is the anniversary of the founding of the Dominican-American Social Club, called Deportivo Dominicano, located in Upper Manhattan at the club you can play -- like any good Dominican, you can play softball, baseball, ping pong, bowling. And it's also a place where people can go and talk about issues and get connected to their home country.

But it's very interesting that on the anniversary of -- the 50th anniversary of the El Club Deportivo, it's also the anniversary of when the great Roberto Clemente was voted to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame, being the first Caribbean man and the first Latino inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

So I want to take this opportunity to congratulate and remember the great Roberto Clemente and to congratulate El Club Deportivo of Upper Manhattan, located in Little Dominican Heights in Washington Heights, New York.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The question is on the resolution. All in favor of the resolution signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Opposed?

(No response.)

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: The resolution is adopted.

And Senator Alcantara has offered the resolution up for cosponsorship. Should you choose to be a cosponsor, please notify the desk.

Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Yes, a couple of announcements.

First of all, is there any further business at the desk?

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: There is no further business currently at the desk.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Immediately following this session there will be a Codes meeting in Room 124 of the Capitol.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Immediately following the session, there will be a meeting of the Codes Committee in Room 124 of the Capitol.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: And tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. there will be a Republican conference in Room 332. That's 1:00 p.m.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: There will be a Republican conference tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. in Room 332.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: And there being no further business, I move to adjourn until Wednesday, March 21st, at 3:00 p.m.

ACTING PRESIDENT GRIFFO: Upon motion, the Senate will stand adjourned until Wednesday, March 21st, at 3:00 p.m.

The Senate stands adjourned this first day of spring.

(Whereupon, at 4:21 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)