NEW YORK STATE SENATE

THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

ALBANY, NEW YORK

March 28, 2018

4:05 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

SENATOR ROBERT ORTT, Acting President

FRANCIS W. PATIENCE, Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The Senate will come to order.

Please rise and stand with me for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: In the absence of clergy, we'll observe a moment of silence.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Reading of the Journal.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Tuesday, March 27th, the Senate met pursuant to adjournment. The Journal of Monday, March 26th, was read and approved. On motion, Senate adjourned.

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

Presentation of petitions.

Messages from the Assembly.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: On page 28,

Senator Murphy moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 7906 and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 5962, Third Reading Calendar 434.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The substitution is ordered.

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: Yes, Mr. President, can we take up previously adopted Resolution 3874, by Senator Murphy, read it in its entirety, and call on Senator Murphy to speak.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Legislative Resolution Number 3874, by Senator Murphy, recognizing March 29, 2018, as Vietnam Veterans Day.

"WHEREAS, The State of New York takes great pride in acknowledging days of observance of significant historic events; and

"WHEREAS, March 29, 2018, has been declared Vietnam Veterans Day; and

"WHEREAS, The United States carried out its first combat mission against the Viet Cong on January 12, 1962; in Operation Chopper, United States Army pilots lifted more than 1,000 South Vietnam service members over jungle and underbrush to capture a National Liberation Front stronghold near Saigon; and

"WHEREAS, The last American troops left Vietnam on March 29, 1973; and

"WHEREAS, During the 11-year war, Americans from different backgrounds, races, and creeds banded together to fight against the Viet Cong; and

"WHEREAS, More than 3 million Americans served their country, and more than 58,000 sacrificed their lives; the names of those lost are forever engraved in the black granite Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.; and

"WHEREAS, The Vietnam War era was a

tumultuous time in America; when our brave service members returned home, often with physical and emotional scars, the voices of those who opposed the war sadly overcame those who supported our troops; and

"WHEREAS, The State of New York wishes to show its Vietnam veterans the respect and appreciation they deserve, but did not always get when they returned home; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize March 29, 2018, as Vietnam Veterans Day, and to thank our brave Vietnam veterans for their honorable service to their country; and be it further

"RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Vietnam veteran organizations."

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Murphy on the resolution.

SENATOR MURPHY: Mr. President, thank you.

I rise today to acknowledge the brave men and women that served in our armed

forces during the Vietnam War. As the resolution indicates, there was 58,000 names on the Vietnam Memorial Wall. The men and women among us today are among the ones that actually made it home. For many of them, coming home was the hardest part of their service.

This Thursday, March 29th, is our third annual Vietnam Veterans Day in New York State. So today and tomorrow is about them. They volunteered and were drafted into the service. They wore the uniform. They were sent to a faraway place and saw what hell looks like. They came home to a broken country. They endured the dirty looks, the ugly comments, and much more worse.

The United States has never been a perfect country, but it is a great country and their service has made the contribution to the greatest country that we all live in. We can't thank you enough.

As far as I'm concerned, anybody who serves in the military for the United States of America and fights for our freedom, the red carpet should be rolled out for them when they come home. We should be doing the right things

as legislators in the great State of New York to make sure we take care of all of our veterans. The ones that are fighting over there now, let's not forget them. May they come home safe.

Mr. President, it is an honor and a privilege to have approximately 40 of our great men and women from the Vietnam veteran era here to be present in the great chamber right here. Thank you. Thank you all. God bless you. Thank you for your service to the great State of New York and the United States of America. It is a privilege to have you all here. I hope you had a wonderful day, and may God bless you and thank you for coming up here.

But before I stop, Mr. President, I would just like to acknowledge a few of our own members that serve each and every day right here in the New York State Senate that have served our country.

We have our U.S. Commander from the United States Army, Senator Tom Croci. Senator Croci, would you just mind standing?

SENATOR CROCI: I'm Navy.

SENATOR MURPHY: The Navy, I'm sorry.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR MURPHY: You're the Army. You're the Army. United States Navy commander.

We have Senator Robert Ortt, United States Army first lieutenant, presiding over the floor today.

We have U.S. Army Colonel Bill Larkin in the back there.

We have a captain from our Air Force, Senator DeFrancisco.

We have United States Army Infantry, Senator Marty Golden.

We have Senator James Sanders, United States Marine Corps, E-4 infantry.

Thank you all for your service. May God bless you.

Mr. President, I know we have a few other speakers here. Thank you all for your service. God bless.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Thank you, Senator Murphy.

Senator Kennedy on the resolution.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Thank you, Mr. President.

I rise simply to honor these brave

men and women who have served so nobly this great country and to say two simple words: Thank you. Thank you for your service. Thank you for your dedication. Thank you for your sacrifice.

Two words that this country sorely needs to continue to provide to you because, as mentioned by Senator Murphy, upon your return home decades ago, it was rare to hear those words of thanks.

And our country in so many different ways today is still suffering because of so many of the divisive issues that were dealt with as the war raged on the other side of the globe. We're still healing from that tumultuous time in our nation's history.

And I'll tell you, it was only recently that I learned as much as I did about your plight and your brothers' and sisters' plight in Vietnam. I was born in 1976, after the war was over. So for me coming up, hearing about the Vietnam War was a bit of an obscurity. It was just another war that had been fought before I was around, like World War Two and World War One and Korea.

Recently I was educated by the

extraordinary documentary by Ken Burns, which was over 20 hours long, I believe 10 different episodes. And it showed in gory and graphic detail the horrors of war, specifically the horrors that you had to endure in Vietnam. And it opened my eyes to what could possibly happen if government is run roughshod, if government isn't run with transparency, if government isn't run with honor -- when the people of this great country are told lies, so many different sides.

And it is a reminder to us in government at every single level and in society, in this extraordinary unique and great United States of America that we live in -- that you fought for, that you sacrificed for, that you bled for and that many of your brothers and sisters died for -- that we have an obligation to this country and to the people that we serve to do so with honor and respect and dignity. And that is something that each and every one of us has to strive for every day.

I am absolutely in awe of each and every one of you Vietnam veterans, of your brothers and sisters that you fought with, of those that paid the ultimate sacrifice, and what

you did, how you did it, why you did it and what you dealt with not only while you were there, in country, but when you came home.

It is an honor to be in your presence, and I thank you for your service to the greatest country in the history of the world. Thank you, and God bless.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Larkin on the resolution.

SENATOR LARKIN: Thank you, Mr. President.

To my colleagues, wherever the hell you are in this building, you should be in this room right now. We're saying thank you to America's bravest.

There is no joy in combat. Murphy said that so many times today, I now remembered. But what are we saying? Those of us who were in World War Two and Korea, we thought we were finished, there was no more. And then came Vietnam. And people spit at us. People wouldn't talk to us. People threw stuff at us.

Yes, but they damn well didn't take the effort to raise their right hand and say "I'll go." But we went. We went for one reason.

We love this damn country of ours, and we're not going to let anybody take us away.

Just look at the ages. Anybody over there 80 years of age, stand up. So you want to call me an old man then, huh?

(Laughter.)

SENATOR LARKIN: I'm very proud of you. I know most of you. Some of us, we soldiered together. Some of us had a glass of water -- and we were in Brooklyn and Marty Golden gave us the water and it turned brown. But we didn't ruin it, we took good care of it.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, they are heroes. They're not just heroes, they're America's finest.

You know, when I hear people say, Well, I would have gone, but, you know, I had a -- my left toe was bothering me, I could look at them and say I remember the guy that was in basic training with me, 17 years old. He was old; I was 16. But when the first sergeant said Mitchell got his head blown off today, I cried. You're damn right I cried. Could have been me.

When I come home, I saw guys that said, Oh, I was in college, I was doing the best

I could to be a teacher. I said you know what? There's a lot of others taught. They taught people that we Americans are not going to be dictated by anybody. We're the greatest nation on this earth.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in thanking these dedicated men and women, the real heroes of our country.

Thank you very much.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Sanders on the resolution.

SENATOR SANDERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

First I want to thank the sponsor of this resolution, Senator Murphy, and my fellow vets. Job well done. I'm just having a little difficulty understanding why Senator Golden was giving out brown water. But short of that, I'm sure that that will come to me.

My brother, a Marine Corps scuba diver, had a problem when he heard that I was going to join the Marines. He said to me: "If you want to live, you'd better find you a grizzled sergeant, get to him and stick with

him." And that was some very, very good advice that he gave me. Because I discovered that that was a generation that came back, and they -- they really earned it. They understood that all gave some, and some gave all that there was to give.

I also understand that when we speak of war and peace, we should learn from this war and say that before we spill American blood or treasure, let us make sure that America's interests are under attack. If America's interests are under attack, we should fight quickly, expeditiously, and teach as many lessons as we can. But if they're not, then we should find other ways.

Gentlemen, you guys stood on the wall. You guarded it, you made sure that nobody was going to come across there who wanted to bring harm. It was lonely, it was cold, it was raining, it was muddy, it was all of that stuff. And then you had a hard time.

But you guarded that wall, and generations after you are guarding that wall, and people are still guarding that same wall.

To all of you, I really say thank you. And to the Marines, I say Urra, which is

what we do when we go and take care of a little business here and there.

I know this. Mr. President, I know that as long as America produces youth who will value freedom more than they will value life, then this noble experiment will continue. And it is an experiment, a very noble one, one that we are playing a part in every day that we do.

And part of our part, if you wish, is to make sure that gentlemen like these -- and ladies, I stand corrected -- are taken care of, that their needs are met. That we don't just love them in the theory, but we make sure that we meet their needs as they come home. As we do that, we make sure that we stand with those who are guarding the wall on some far-off soil.

So as long as America produces youth in the spirit of these men and women, then the noble experiment will continue. I congratulate you all. I congratulate you for coming up with this idea. It's an excellent idea. And to all of my colleagues in general, and to the veterans in particular, let us stand tall. We have a different wall to guard. Let's make sure that we guard it well every day.

Thank you very much, sir.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Marchione on the resolution.

SENATOR MARCHIONE: Thank you, Mr. President.

I first would like to thank Senator Murphy for bringing this forward. Thank you so very much for remembering our Vietnam veterans.

As what has been stated here today, it was a really -- not only a very tough war away, but it was very tough when they came home, and I remember that.

I want just to reiterate a story to you. During the 50th anniversary, I brought the Vietnam monument to my community and the Town of Halfmoon. And one of the concerns I had was they said you needed to have at least 300 volunteers in order to be able to have the Vietnam Wall come in for a five-or-six-day period. And we said to ourselves, it's really a project we want to do, but can we get 300 people who would be willing to volunteer their time?

I want you to know we sent out a survey, as part of a regular survey that we do, and one of the questions was: If we brought in

the Vietnam Moving Wall, would you be willing to volunteer? And I want you to know in a week's time we had 750 volunteers who wanted to come pay their -- and do what they could so that the Vietnam Moving Wall could be brought into their community.

I think that speaks well that we are no longer this nation who didn't treat you as you needed to be treated, but we are a nation of people who care, who wanted to say thank you, who wanted to say welcome home.

So thank you so much for being here today. Thank you for what you have done for our country. We are so proud of you and so very grateful.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Akshar on the resolution.

SENATOR AKSHAR: Mr. President, thank you very much for your indulgence. On the resolution.

Senator Murphy, for your leadership on bringing forth this resolution. I said the other day my most favorite resolution of course was brought forth by Senator Marchione for World

Down Syndrome Day. Fellas, this is my second most favorite day in Albany.

Colonel Larkin spoke about us being the greatest nation on earth, and no truer words have been spoken. That is very true because of everything that you have done and the sacrifices that you have put forth.

All of our veterans deserve our debt of gratitude. But I'm here to say while the Vietnam era was much before my time, you all deserve our deepest debt of gratitude. And I say that because I think about -- and I said this earlier when we were together -- I think about the trials and tribulations that all of you went through specifically when you came home. I'll describe them as this. Uncalled for, disrespectful, and un-American. And I don't have a problem saying that. The way you were treated was un-American.

And unfortunately, I think people got caught up in the politics of the war and forgot what was truly important -- the men and women who were fighting for our freedom and for others' freedom, and you coming home.

But I want to say this again -- and

again, I said it earlier -- your sacrifice, all that you endured during that particular time coming home, I feel very comfortable saying that that has served as an edification for the rest of America today, because we're not seeing that happen. And we are in a much better position today, thanks to your sacrifice, in regards to the way that we treat the men and women who serve this country so selflessly.

So today I say thank you as well, along with my colleagues. Welcome home. And we do in fact live in the greatest nation on the face of this earth because of you. Thank you very much.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Brooks on the resolution.

SENATOR BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. President.

Thank you, Senator Murphy, for introducing this resolution.

To the veterans, we all still remember well how divided a nation we were during that war. We still remember well the welcome home you didn't receive.

As one veteran to another, I say thank you for your service, and welcome home.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Thank you, Senator Brooks.

Senator Golden on the resolution.

SENATOR GOLDEN: Thank you, Mr. President.

I rise to thank the Colonel and of course Senator Flanagan, our leader here, and of course Senator Murphy and all of my colleagues that are on this resolution across the aisle and here on this side of the aisle.

I will tell you this is a great day to be able to honor our great veterans. And I think the brown water comes from -- I won't go back to the Battle of Brooklyn, but I will go back to that we built the ships in World War One and World War Two and Korea that brought our troops to battle and brought them home.

And those that came home, not only did you see -- those that died with you and by your side, they came back through the Brooklyn Army Terminal. And if you were an Army recruit, you got inducted through Fort Hamilton Army Base,

and you left through Brooklyn.

And luckily many of you came back, and God sent you back. Many of you came back with war injuries, both physically and mental. And it's unfortunate to see how many of our soldiers had died, not only in Vietnam but through all of those wars. And then to come back here and see what they got and happened to them in this nation, and not able to get a job, and the suicide rate the highest that we've ever seen. It was so sad to lose your brother in war and then to come back here and see your brother dying in the street as well. No jobs for them, nobody reaching out to them.

Well, we've seen what's happened and we see what's going on today. But this conference here on both sides, both the Assembly and the Senate, we work for our American soldier, to make sure that we have credits for our veterans for jobs, to make sure we're there if they're sick, if they need help and housing, by making sure that we keep our VA hospitals open.

We're making sure that our forts are taken care of. They used to be camps many years ago -- Camp Smith, Camp Drum -- today they're

forts. And we're making sure that we're supplying money into those forts to keep those forts open, from the State Senate, from the State Assembly and from this Governor, because it's the right thing to do.

And our men and women are still dying from unfortunate suicide and opioid addiction, and we're reaching in there as well to make sure that we can help those men and women that are returning that need that help, making sure that they get the jobs, making sure that they get the education that you never got back when you came back here in the '60s and '70s.

It's a different world today. And we know what you've suffered, and we learned from it. We still have a lot more to learn. We still have a lot more to do. But I've got to say, without your service and the service of people like Colonel Larkin and the other members here that have served, we wouldn't be living in the greatest state in the greatest nation in the world. Because we are, because of your service and for the men and women that went before you and those that will come after you. That's why this is the greatest country in the world.

Thank you for your service. May God bless you. Thank you for being here.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Serino on the resolution.

SENATOR SERINO: Thank you, Mr. President.

And thank you, Senator Murphy. I recognize quite a few of our veterans here today. And I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart.

For the past few years I've been going to the Honor Flight at Stewart Air Force Base with Colonel Larkin, and it's been an amazing experience. In September of 2016, I was an honor guard for a Korean War veteran. But now, as you know because you've been there, they've opened it up to the Vietnam veterans. And I don't know what's more emotional, being there with our veterans from World War Two, Korean War veterans or our Vietnam veterans who, as the Colonel said, were treated horribly when each and every one of you came home.

So it's an amazing time. And anytime I speak about veterans or have veterans in the room, I feel that it is my job to tell

people to please try and attend these Honor Flights, thank our veterans. And it's the greatest experience in your lifetime, I promise you that.

So thank you from the bottom of my heart. Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Are there any other members who wish to be heard on the resolution? Seeing as there are none, Senator DeFrancisco to close.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Thank you, Senator Murphy, Colonel Larkin, and thank you for the veterans that are here today.

You know, I've been here 26 years, and I never thought of this before. And I don't know why I thought about it now, but I think it puts a different perspective on what you are and what you've done and what we've benefited from.

I've played baseball since I was a kid, a young kid. And on one of those teams way back when, there was a fellow on the team called David Doomis -- a little chubby guy, tough as nails, looked more like a football player. But David would always have a smile on his face, always being ready to joke about something that

usually wasn't funny, but he found laughter in everything.

So we played ball together up till I think we were 12 or 13 years old, we went our separate ways, separate schools. We still knew each other well during high school and the like. I went off to college, he enlisted in the Army and went to Vietnam.

He was wounded in battle twice before he was 21 years old, and kept going back. He served more than one tour of duty. And ultimately he was killed, at age 22.

And when I think back about since that time what I've been able to do and what benefits I receive from our military and David Doomis -- things that he never had a chance for. I married my high school sweetheart, we're going to be married 50 years this July. We've had three phenomenal children, eight grandchildren.

I've been able to go to college, to law school, served in the Air Force, fortunately not in combat. I've been able to have a political career besides a law practice. All the things that this country offers to those who get the opportunity and take up that opportunity.

And David never had that chance.

And so to me, that's what this day means and that's what veterans mean to me. Because there's a direct correlation of his sacrifice to what I've been able to do and what everyone in this room has been able to do.

So thank you for being here. It's important. Without you, this would not be a resolution that would be so important. And thank you for everything you've done.

And as we go forward, my only ask is this, to everybody that's maybe listening somewhere. And that is we have to unify as a country. No matter what our political differences are, we've got to say frequently, and believe it, that this is a great country. Diversity, differences of opinion -- but for crying out loud, we have a country that we should all be proud of. And it's because of the people, the men and women in this room, that serve.

So thank you, Mr. President, and God bless all of you.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Thank you, Senator DeFrancisco.

To the men and women, the veterans

who are here, thank you for your service, your sacrifice. And we extend all the privileges and the courtesies of this house to you. And we say, on behalf of a grateful state and a grateful nation, welcome home.

Please rise and be recognized).

(Extended standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Mr. President, I wish to call up Senate Print 7838, by Senator Ritchie, recalled from the Assembly, which is now at the desk.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The previous resolution is open for cosponsorship. All members will be listed as cosponsors. Any member who wishes not to be a cosponsor, please notify the desk.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 554, by Senator Ritchie, Senate Print 7838, an act to amend the Education Law.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Mr. President, I now move to reconsider the vote by which this bill was passed.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll on reconsideration.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 60.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is restored to its place on the Third Reading Calendar.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: I now offer the following amendments.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The amendments are received, and the bill shall retain its place on the Third Reading Calendar.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Can we now take up a privileged resolution, by Senator Phillips, read it in its entirety, and call on Senator Phillips to speak.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Legislative Resolution by Senator Phillips, paying tribute to the life and valiant service of Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson, who died on March 23, 2018.

"WHEREAS, Citizens across our state and nation are inspired by and indebted to our valiant firefighters who exhibit courage and

bravery every day in the course of their duties; and

"WHEREAS, Firefighters exemplify the power of human compassion and the strength of the American spirit through actions of the most heroic magnitude; their sacrifices and their selfless dedication merit tribute and recognition by all citizens of this great country; and

"WHEREAS, Lieutenant Michael Davidson of the New York City Fire Department heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection; and

"WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved this day to record the passing of Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson; while responding to an emergency call on March 23, 2018, he made the supreme sacrifice; leaving behind his beloved wife, Eileen, and their four precious children; and

"WHEREAS, Having served for Engine 69 like his father, Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson served for 15 years, having been cited four times for bravery life-saving actions; and

"WHEREAS, Lieutenant Michael R.

Davidson genuinely loved being a firefighter; he was a vital member of the Floral Park community as well as the Harlem-based Engine 69; he volunteered countless hours of service to not only his Floral Park neighbors, but to numerous lives in the State of New York; and

"WHEREAS, Known by many as a natural-born leader and one of the finest firefighters in the State of New York, Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson was a cherished member of the Fire Department of New York; and

"WHEREAS, Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson's engine team and neighbors feel truly blessed to have known and loved him; he was a devoted father and a beloved husband who dedicated his life to caring for his family; he will be remembered as a warm and caring friend who was always ready to lend a helping hand; and

"WHEREAS, Throughout his meritorious life, Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson touched many people through his kindness and commitment to service, and, as we recall the loss of this great man, we memorialize his remarkable life and the enormous impact he had on everyone with whom he came in contact; and

"WHEREAS, Having passed too soon, Michael R. Davidson has been posthumously raised to the esteemed ranking of Lieutenant; and

"WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to convey its grateful appreciation and heartfelt regret in recognition of a courageous firefighter who dedicated his purposeful life and career in faithful service to his family and community; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to the life and valiant service of Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson who died on March 23, 2018; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson."

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Phillips on the resolution.

SENATOR PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. President.

So today we're here not only to honor the heroes that are here in this Senate chamber today, but also to honor a hero who last Thursday evening gave his life.

And I first want to thank my Senate colleagues for yesterday taking that moment of silence.

As we discussed yesterday, at 10 o'clock yesterday morning, firefighters from across the United States came to pay their tribute to Lieutenant Michael Davidson, who was a 15-year veteran of the Fire Department, a --

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Can we have some order in the house, please.

SENATOR PHILLIPS: Thank you.

-- a 15-year veteran, a resident of the Village of Floral Park.

As the resolution so clearly says, he was beyond that, though. He was a husband, he was a son from a fire-fighting family. His father worked in the same -- up in Harlem, as with him. His brother is a current firefighter. Husband to Eileen, and a father to four children, ages 7, 6, 3 and 1.

And I know I can speak for every person in this Senate chamber today. But can you imagine, can you imagine not having the opportunity to watch these children grow? I can't.

So Michael Davidson, a true hero, just like the men and the women here in this audience. Thank you for coming today. And we owe so much dedication and respect to Michael, because he truly is the American hero. We will all mourn his loss. May he rest in peace.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Golden on the resolution.

SENATOR GOLDEN: I rise to thank Senator Phillips for bringing this resolution to the floor.

We spoke about our military units, and now we're speaking about our paramilitary units. And many of the military men and women that returned went into paramilitary units.

The Fire Department had a tough time last week; they lost two men in a helicopter accident in Iraq. We had another one die from 9/11 that went -- he was the guy that took the boat and took the people off the island and took them to safety on 9/11. And he died from 9/11 cancers in Brooklyn this past week. And now we're talking about Michael. Michael, who went -- as every morning, gets up and goes to

work, and his wife never knew, he would never know if he'd never come home. You always have that fear, if you're a police officer or a fireman, that someday you may be called and you may not return. Or you'll come back with injuries that are life-threatening and last a lifetime.

In this particular case, this young man, four kids, as Senator Phillips has said -- his wife fought two battles of cancer, just getting over breast cancer. This family has been pushed right to the very end. And they've never lost their faith, as you could see in St. Patrick's Cathedral, the thousands that came out for this young man.

Mike Long, many of you that know him, his son, that was his hose man. They worked together, they were best friends.

He's not only a great loss to his family, he's a great loss to his friends, he's a great loss to the fire department, the family of the New York City Fire Department. We lost a great man.

We keep him in our prayers. We thank him for his service. And may his life

never be forgotten. And this resolution allows him to enter into the history books forever for his service for his city, for his state, for his nation.

May God bless him. May God bless his family. And may God bless the City of New York in this tragic loss.

Thank you, Senator Phillips. Thank you, my colleagues.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Thank you, Senator Golden.

Senator Marchione on the resolution.

SENATOR MARCHIONE: Thank you, Mr. President.

I'd also like to thank Senator Phillips for bringing this resolution.

When I first read about this terrible tragedy, I immediately put it out on my Facebook page. Michael is not in my district, but he a fireman who risked his life and lost his life in service to his community. That is something that we should say thank you for no matter where you live, no matter where you come from.

I had a brother-in-law who was a

firefighter his entire life. And it was during the time when you fought fires from inside the building, and he lost his life tragically at 54 to lung disease. He gave his life for his community as this young man did.

And I just wanted to rise today to say thank you to him, thank you to the sacrifice that his wife and his family have made, and to wish them Godspeed. Because this is a very difficult tragedy, and I just wanted to express my sincere sorrow.

Thank you again, Senator.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Are there any other Senators who wish to be heard on the resolution?

Senator Benjamin.

SENATOR BENJAMIN: I want to rise to thank Senator Phillips for bringing this resolution.

Firefighter Davidson was serving in my district. And I learned about him after this tragedy, found out that he had been cited for bravery four times. This young man was 37 years old, and I'm just -- I'm 41.

But he is another American hero for

the work that he has done. He was serving people in my district, people who I'm sure he didn't know. He was there because there was a film that was being taped, and a fire broke out. And he represented Engine 69, and he just came out because that's what he did. From what I understand, he was the first to arrive. And I'm sure in a number of other cases he was always the first to arrive.

And I just want to say, on behalf of my residents and my district, that we thank him for his service, condolences to his family, and may he rest in peace, but know that he did a lot of good while he was here.

And so I want to thank Senator Phillips for bringing this to the floor, and I want to thank Firefighter Davidson for his bravery and heroics that has helped a lot of people's lives.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Brooks on the resolution.

SENATOR BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. President.

Thank you to Senator Phillips for

bringing this resolution.

The fire service, in the end, is a band of brothers. The flag at my home is at half-staff right now, and has been. We all recognize the risks that we take when we get on a truck and go into a fire. And as brothers, we pause to remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

There are no real words to say and to recognize in this particular incident where he was on the nozzle and got separated. It's a tough situation, a fire is not a comfortable situation to be in. And to get lost in a building is hard.

But I want to extend my condolences to the family and to his brother firefighters and mourn the loss of my brother, a fellow firefighter.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Any other members who wish to be heard on the resolution?

Seeing as there are none, the question is on the resolution. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Opposed, nay.

(No response.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The resolution is adopted.

Mr. Floor Leader.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Yes, can we now take up previously adopted Resolution 3773, by Senator Murphy, read it in its entirety, and call on Senator Croci to speak.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The previous resolution is open for cosponsorship. If you would like to be a cosponsor, please notify the desk.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Legislative Resolution Number 3873, by Senator Murphy recognizing March 30, 2018, as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.

"Whereas, the State of New York takes great pride in commemorating days of recognition for significant historical events; and

"WHEREAS, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day will be commemorated on March 30,

2018; and

"WHEREAS, From 1961 until 1975, in the Republic of South Vietnam, North Vietnamese regular forces and Viet Cong guerilla forces waged an armed conflict with United States armed forces and the army of the Republic of Vietnam; and

"WHEREAS, Members of the United States armed forces began serving in an advisory role to the government of the Republic of South Vietnam in 1961; and

"WHEREAS, Following the Gulf of Tonkin incidents on August 2nd and 4th of 1965, the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution authorized the president of the United States to pursue war against North Vietnam; and

"WHEREAS, American ground combat units arrived in Vietnam in 1965; by 1969, there were approximately 543,000 troops; and

"WHEREAS, The Treaty of Paris was signed on January 27, 1973, requiring the release of all American prisoners of war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of United States armed forces from South Vietnam; withdrawal was completed on March 30, 1973; and

"WHEREAS, Due to the controversy of the war and division in our country, Vietnam veterans did not receive the respect they deserved upon returning home; Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day is just one way that a grateful nation is showing its appreciation; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize March 30, 2018, as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Vietnam veterans' organizations."

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Croci on the resolution.

SENATOR CROCI: Thank you, Mr. President.

And once again, Senator Murphy, thank you for introducing this resolution. I'm very proud to be able to speak on it today on your behalf.

First, I must start with an apology to Senator Brooks. I provided the list of our veterans in this chamber to Senator Murphy, and

I'd forgotten that Senator Brooks had served as well. So I wanted to make sure Senator Brooks knew that because, Mr. President, these are the days that I am proudest to be a member of this body and in elected office in the Senate, when this chamber shrinks and it doesn't feel so big anymore and it doesn't feel like there are very many differences.

Because I believe, and Senator Addabbo believes, as the ranker on the Veterans Committee, that there are some issues that should transcend. Even in these tough times, there are some things that should transcend. And certainly our veterans and the service and recognition of those who served in the Vietnam conflict is one of those things.

It's very important, I think, as we talk about what Welcome Home Day should mean, to recognize that there are still many veterans in that conflict and in current conflicts who don't get welcome homes because they deploy in the middle of the night, they deploy their intelligence professionals, their civilians, their military -- and they don't get a welcome home and they know they're never going to get a

welcome home.

But to our men and women who go overseas in uniform to do the job, we have every generation of warrior in this chamber today, from World War Two and Korea to Vietnam to Afghanistan, the Cold War. Everybody -- all those generations are represented in this chamber today.

And the concept of home is one of the reasons that all of us serve. Yes, it's for the Constitution of the United States, of course. Yes, it's for the greatest republic the world has ever known, of course. But for those who have served, they know too well that it is also for your brother to your right and your sister to your left and your family at home and that concept of community.

And in this chamber, I've learned a lot about community. We have some communities, some Senate districts that take six hours to drive across, and there are some that it's six minutes on two subway stops. And that's -- that's what I've learned in this chamber about community.

So when the welcome home comes from

your community, it means a lot. There was a commercial many years ago, I don't remember what company did it -- I think it was around the Super Bowl -- where there's a couple of soldiers walking through the airport and they're in their uniform, they've just come home from the deployment, and that 1980s slow clap starts for them. And pretty much the entire airport then erupts into applause for returning soldiers.

I don't know about you, but that's the kind of thing that chokes me up and motivates me. These gentlemen didn't get that. And there probably are a lot of really heartfelt reasons why people thought that the men and women who are on the pointy edge of the spear were somehow responsible for it. But as we know from the Vietnam conflict, which the first troops went in under one president and four presidents later, there were still men and women going to serve in Vietnam -- none of those men ever sat in the National Security Council and determined what to do with regard to sending, committing forces into Southeast Asia. Their job was to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States with their very lives, to volunteer in some cases, to

be volun-told, in other cases, as it was with the draft. But they went.

And I am gratified that in every generation since the Revolutionary War, including the American Civil War, our bloodiest and most costly war, that men and women have raised their right hand, have taken the oath and have gone off to fight.

I don't know if all of you have had the opportunity to get a welcome home in an airport subsequently. There are many trips now where charities and government are taking Vietnam veterans to Vietnam. And as they come home, veterans groups will meet them at the airport and welcome them home. Today this is your welcome home.

The last thing I just want to compliment this generation of warrior on is regardless of the treatment that they received when they returned home, they have pledged that no generation subsequently will ever face that. And that no veteran who served will ever go without the honor and recognition that they deserve.

And we see that in their services at

funerals for our veterans. We see that as they counsel and work with our prison population, the Vietnam Veterans of America are working with our prisoners today, in jail, helping veterans who have posttraumatic stress disorder. Regardless of the treatment, you decided that it was your mission to give back and to make sure that never happened again.

Welcome Home day is for you. Not just your welcome home from service, but a great debt of gratitude that we owe you for paying forward what you never received.

So, Mr. President, I'm so privileged to be able to speak on Senator Murphy's behalf on this resolution. I want to thank every member in this chamber for the way that you embrace veterans and the way sometimes we forget about elections and we think more about the Constitution and the system of government that allows us to have those elections every year.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Are there any other members who wish to speak on the resolution?

Seeing as there are none, Senator

DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Can we open it open up for cosponsorship, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The Resolution is open for cosponsorship. Any member wishing to be a cosponsor will notify the desk.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Can we now take up previously adopted Resolution 4296, by Senator Boyle, read the title only, and call on Senator Boyle to speak.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Legislative Resolution Number 4296, by Senator Boyle, commending the New York State Ancient Order of Hibernians and the New York State Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians upon the occasion of honoring Ireland's 1918 Freedom Mandate, in remembrance of the 1916 Easter Rising.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Boyle on the resolution.

SENATOR BOYLE: Thank you, Mr. President.

I rise to briefly commemorate this resolution and to thank the New York State

Ancient Order of Hibernians, its president Vic Vogel, and women's president, Jacqueline Clute.

It names April 24, 2018, as the hundredth anniversary of the Freedom Mandate in Ireland. Ireland in 1918 was not a free country but was ruled by the British. Two years earlier, in 1916, a group of Irish nationalists staged a rebellion for the establishment of the Irish Republic. It's known by many of us as the Easter Rebellion, the Easter Rising, in 1916.

The very idea at the time of Ireland becoming a free country did not have popular support, even by the politicians. That's what people thought. However, in 1918, in a British general election, Ireland voted the Mandate for Freedom by electing an overwhelming majority of representatives who pledged to go to the free Irish Parliament, the Dail Eireann, rather than go to Westminster.

They elected candidates, many of whom were arrested and imprisoned in establishment of the first Dail Eireann, and issued Ireland's first declaration of independence.

The vote of 1918 was historic

because Irish people voted by popular mandate for freedom and independence. This led, within a few years, to Ireland's independence. That is why we rise today to commemorate the 1918 Freedom Mandate and to thank the Ancient Hibernians for championing it.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator Kennedy on the resolution.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Thank you, Mr. President.

First of all, let me thank my colleague Senator Boyle for bringing this important resolution to the floor today honoring the New York State Ancient Order of Hibernians and the New York State Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians on the 100th anniversary of Ireland's 1918 Freedom Mandate.

As mentioned, the history of Ireland is a difficult one. And for centuries the oppression from the British ultimately culminated in many, many different rebellions and uprisings, including one just over a hundred years ago on Easter Monday, 1916, at the General Post Office -- to which, I may add, a flag that flew

over the GPO on that fateful day during that battle is located now at the American Irish Historical Society on Park and 85th, across from the Met.

Now, that battle ultimately had been criticized by the populace in Ireland they said here we go again, another rebellion. But shortly thereafter, when the rebels were jailed and surrendered in prison and ultimately executed by the Crown, it galvanized the Irish people, resulting, in 1918, in the historic election calling for freedom and independence once and for all.

And one cannot understand today's freedoms that the Irish have and the Brexit vote that ensued in the North and in Western Europe and the difficulties that the countries face today, based upon many different votes, without understanding the significance of that vote a hundred years ago this year.

And so much has been done, so many lives were lost, so much blood was shed. But ultimately freedom, independence and democracy has prevailed.

In 1916 when Patrick Pearse, on the

steps of the GPO, read the Irish Proclamation, there was one country other than Ireland itself that was mentioned, and that was the United States of America. And the freedoms that are established in Ireland today are a result, unquestionably, of the unique relationship between not only the United States and Ireland, but also, especially uniquely, New York State and Ireland. James Connolly, one of the Irish rebels who was put to death following the uprising, resided right here in our state's capital. So many others not only spent time here in the capital, but in the great City of New York as well, galvanizing the Irish people that had fled the bloodshed and the oppression to seek a better life in our nation.

So once again, we honor the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians on all of their great work on keeping the stories, the history, and of course the great Irish culture alive each and every day throughout the years.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Thank you, Senator Kennedy.

Senator Golden on the resolution.

SENATOR GOLDEN: I want to thank Senator Boyle and Senator Kennedy for their oratory on this great, great issue and the similarities between this great nation and the great nation of Ireland.

I am a card-carrying member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. And I've got to tell you, they are a strong group, a great group. My brother is the Golden School of Irish Dance, my sister plays with Cherish the Ladies, an Irish group. And my parents, when they came to this country, brought that Irish culture and that Irish tradition here. And the two organizations that we were brought up to actually join was the Holy Name, the Knights of Columbus, and a third organization, the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Eight of us born in 10 years. Every one of us had to play some type of an Irish instrument or do the Irish dances.

I will tell you that the Ancient Order of Hibernians today -- I will be honoring them this Saturday in Garrison Beach at their parade, for the great works that they've been able to do in helping to build communities. And

they've helped build this great city to what it is, the great City of New York, this great state and this great nation. And the similarities between this country and how we fled England, and we created this great country, one great country under God -- that's what we did here, and that's what Ireland did, under God and under freedom of their country.

And the Ancient Order of Hibernians have very strongly fought for those causes. And today, regardless of what culture or where you come from, we still live in the greatest nation in the world, where the contributions that the Irish have given to this nation could never be forgotten.

And for that I thank Senator Boyle and I thank Senator Kennedy and all of my colleagues for that resolution today honoring the great Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Seeing as there are no other members wishing to be heard on the resolution, Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Yes, it was

previously adopted. Could you please open it up for cosponsorship?

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The resolution is open for cosponsorship. If you want to be a cosponsor, please notify the desk.

Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Now can we take up the noncontroversial reading of the calendar, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 403, by Senator Serino, Senate Print 7171, an act to amend the Mental Hygiene Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Announce the result.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is

passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 434, substituted earlier by Member of the Assembly Schimminger, Assembly Print 7906, an act to amend Chapter 297 of the Laws of 2016.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Announce the result.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 474, by Senator Griffo, Senate Print 2728, an act to amend the Penal Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the

roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator DeFrancisco to explain his vote.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Yes, I have nothing against an employee of a secure or limited secure residential facility licensed, certified or operated by the Office of Children and Family Services. Nor do I have anything against the sponsors, Senator Griffo or Senator Avella.

But basically what the bill does is add another group in that when an assault takes place, it would go from Assault 3 to an Assault 2. Let me list some of the members of the group. Just so you know, the group is almost already encompassing the whole population of the State of New York and I think we just need to change the statute for everybody, not have special categories.

An assault goes from an Assault 3 to an Assault 2 -- I can understand registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, public health sanitarian, New York City public health sanitarian, sanitation enforcement agent,

New York City sanitation worker, and it goes on and on and on.

I'm sure there's many people in the state that are just as valuable as the people that we're trying to add onto this increase in penalty. And I think why don't we just increase the penalty rather than keep adding people to a protected class, especially when the people in the protected class are going to be the entire population before I retire.

So I'm going to vote no for that reason.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Senator DeFrancisco to be recorded in the negative.

Senator Krueger to explain her vote.

SENATOR KRUEGER: Thank you.

I appreciated Senator DeFrancisco's explanation of his no vote.

I'm also voting no, but I just want to add another reason I'm voting no. It actually takes young people who are in OCFS facilities and moves them to a status where they could be found guilty of a felony and moved to adult prison.

And I think it's been clear for many years that the direction the state should

continue to go in is to not continue to incarcerate more and more young people in our adult prisons. So clearly there is a problem sometimes in these facilities for troubled young people. But a bill that expands the category of assault to a felony and risks moving people, young people out of a juvenile detention system into an adult prison system is not justified in these situations.

So there are two different reasons people can choose to vote no today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Thank you, Senator Krueger.

Senator Krueger to be recorded in the negative.

Announce the result.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 474, those recorded in the negative are Senators Benjamin, Breslin, Comrie, DeFrancisco, Gianaris, Hoylman, Kavanagh, Krueger, Montgomery, Parker and Sanders. Also Senator Rivera.

Ayes, 49. Nays, 12.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 560, by Senator DeFrancisco, Senate Print 3136, an act to amend the Real Property Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 4. This act shall take effect on the first of January.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 573, by Senator Avella, Senate Print 1428, an act to establish.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Announce

the result.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59. Nays, 2. Senators Akshar and Funke recorded in the negative.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 598, by Senator Marchione, Senate Print 7751, an act to amend the Real Property Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 612, by Senator Boyle, Senate Print 3945A, an act to amend the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Lay the bill

aside for the day.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is laid aside for the day.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 678, by Senator Valesky, Senate Print 3849, an act to amend the Local Finance Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Can we have some order in the chamber, please.

The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 690, by Senator Marcellino, Senate Print 6090, an act to amend the Education Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This

act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Announce the result.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 711, by Senator Phillips, Senate Print 3632A, an act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: Announce the result.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 711, those recorded in the negative are Senators Bailey, Dilan, Hoylman, Kavanagh,

Krueger, Montgomery, Parker, Rivera and Sanders.

Ayes, 52. Nays, 9.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: The bill is passed.

That completes the noncontroversial reading of the calendar.

Senator DeFrancisco.

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: Thank you, Mr. President.

Is there any further business at the desk?

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

SENATOR DeFRANCISCO: That being the case, I move to adjourn until Thursday, March 29th, at 12:00 noon.

And conference for the Republicans will be at 11:00 a.m. and also immediately following session this evening.

ACTING PRESIDENT ORTT: On motion, the Senate stands adjourned until Thursday, March 29th, at 12:00 noon.

(Whereupon, at 5:17 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)