NEW YORK STATE SENATE

THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

ALBANY, NEW YORK

March 4, 2020

11:24 a.m.

REGULAR SESSION

SENATOR BRIAN A. BENJAMIN, Acting President

ALEJANDRA N. PAULINO, ESQ., Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The Senate will come to order.

I ask everyone present to please rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Rabbi Brian Leiken, of Temple Beth Shalom in New City, will deliver today's invocation.

RABBI LEIKEN: Sovereign of the universe, Who created all in love, teach us to love all that is good and beautiful in this world. Teach us to honor the dignity of difference, recognizing that one who is not in our image is nonetheless in Your image; never forgetting that the people not like us are still people -- like us.

At this fateful moment in the human story, bless us so that we may be a blessing to others. Guide the nations of the world to honor You by honoring one another, so that by reaching out in love we may turn enemies into friends and become Your family on earth as You are our parent in heaven.

Beloved God, bless the members of this New York State Senate. Guide their deliberations, that they may govern this great state with wisdom and justice, grace and compassion, bringing honor to Your name and Your blessing to all of humankind.

Amen.

(Response of "Amen.")

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Reading of the Journal.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Tuesday, March 3, 2020, the Senate met pursuant to adjournment. The Journal of Monday, March 2, 2020, was read and approved.

On motion, Senate adjourned.

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

Presentation of petitions.

Messages from the Assembly.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: On page 33, Senator Benjamin moves to discharge, from the Committee on Health, Assembly Bill Number 6987A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill Number 6662, Third Reading Calendar 478.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The substitution is so ordered.

THE SECRETARY: On page 33, Senator Benjamin moves to discharge, from the Committee on Women's Issues, Assembly Bill Number 6986A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill Number 6707, Third Reading Calendar 479.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The substitution is so ordered.

Messages from the Governor.

Reports of standing committees.

Reports of select committees.

Communications and reports from state officers.

Motions and resolutions.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Mr. President, please recognize Senator Martinez for an introduction.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Senator Martinez for an introduction.

SENATOR MARTINEZ: Good morning, Mr. President, and thank you.

First of all, I would like to take a moment to thank Senator Brooks for bringing light

to dyslexia through the Awareness Day today here in Albany. This is a disorder that many experience and a disorder that many don't realize exists -- or maybe they don't want to admit that it exists.

I am proud to have today in our chambers a young girl who has dyslexia, and she has made it her superpower. Not only is she a constituent of mine, but she has volunteered in my office, which has made her an honorary member of my team.

Her name is Olivia. She is a firecracker who lights up the room. She walks into a room and inspires everyone; she lights up the room as well. Every single person she comes in contact with, she puts a smile on their face. She is always eager to help the community by giving back, and she's always helping out those animals that need some help as well.

Nothing will stop this young little girl from changing the world, especially the world with dyslexia. And I for one cannot wait to see what the future holds for her.

And if you could all indulge me, but she has written a little bio about herself that I

would like to read to the chamber today. And it is titled "How to be Me."

"Hi, my name is Olivia Nicole Ekizian. I was born and raised on Long Island. I love my mommy, daddy, dog Joey and cats Fiona and Chloe. I am an athlete: I am a dancer, an equestrian, and I am on the swim team.

"I have dyslexia, which means I learn differently, I think differently, and it makes me special. It can help me in math. Instead of using graph paper, I can do it in my head. I am very good with my hands and electronics, like I like LEGOs. And I like bracelet-making and doing my hair and others' hair as well.

"I am in fourth grade at Sycamore Elementary School. Spelling and social studies are what comes hard to me the most. When I grow up, I want to be a judge, a horseback riding trainer, a hair designer, or a dance teacher. Or maybe all.

"I really like to help people and animals, especially those in need. I like to help animals and people in need; helping them is the right thing to do. I like helping any animal

and all the people around the world that need support."

Mr. President, Olivia's superpower is embracing who she is, which is why today I ask you to please recognize and acknowledge Olivia Ekizian to the chamber.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: To Olivia and her family, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extend to you all of the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Mr. President, let's take up the reading of the calendar, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 243, Senate Print 1951, by Senator Bailey, an act to amend the New York City Civil Court Act.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This

act shall take effect on the 180th day after it shall have become a law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 243, voting in the negative: Senator Akshar.

Ayes, 59. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 262, Senate Print 1795, by Senator Rivera, an act to amend the Public Health Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 293, Senate Print 5093, by Senator Stavisky, an act to amend the Education Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 396, Senate Print 7300B, by Senator Skoufis, an act to amend the Executive Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 429, Senate Print 2296A, by Senator Sanders, an act to amend the Urban Development Corporation Act.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect on the 90th day after it shall have become a law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 438, Senate Print 7364, by Senator Thomas, an act to amend Chapter 557 of the Laws of 2001.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 466, Senate Print 2176, by Senator Bailey, an act to amend the New York State Urban Development Corporation Act.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 466, voting in the negative: Senator Skoufis.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 478, substituted earlier by Assemblymember Solages, an act to amend the Public Health Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the 30th day after it shall have become a law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 479, Assembly Print Number 6986A, substituted earlier by Assemblymember Solages, an act to amend the Public Health Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the 30th day after it shall have become a law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 482, Senate Print 7647, by Senator Persaud, an act to amend the Education Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Call

the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 482, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Akshar and Ortt.

Ayes, 59. Nays, 2.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: The bill is passed.

Senator Gianaris, that completes the reading of today's calendar.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Mr. President, let me announce some housekeeping.

At the conclusion of session today, there will be simultaneously a meeting of the Aging Committee in Room 123, a meeting of the Consumers Committee in Room 124, and a meeting of the Majority Conference in the Majority Conference Room.

And with that, is there any further business at the desk?

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: There will be an immediate meeting of the Committee on Aging in Room 123; Consumers, Room 124; and the

Majority Conference in the Conference Room.

There is no further business at the desk.

SENATOR GIANARIS: I move to adjourn until Tuesday, March 10th, at 3:00 p.m., intervening days being legislative days.

ACTING PRESIDENT BENJAMIN: On motion, the Senate stands adjourned until Tuesday, March 10th, at 3:00 p.m., intervening days being legislative days.

(Whereupon, at 11:35 a.m., the Senate adjourned.)