NEW YORK STATE SENATE

THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

ALBANY, NEW YORK

May 23, 2023

3:32 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

SENATOR ROXANNE J. PERSAUD, Acting President

ALEJANDRA N. PAULINO, ESQ., Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: 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 PERSAUD: Rabbi Dovid Bartfeld, of Khal Mevakshei Hashem, in Thiells, New York, will deliver today's invocation.

RABBI BARTFELD: Thank you, Senator Bill Weber, for the opportunity to deliver today's invocation.

As we gather in this esteemed Senate chamber, I, a Jewish rabbi who was born in Mexico -- saludos a mis compatriotas -- grew up in Canada, and was ordained in Israel, am deeply humbled and honored to offer today's invocation, reflecting upon the values of selfless service, diversity, and inclusivity that are the bedrock of this great state and nation.

The Torah teaches, in Deuteronomy Chapter 16: "Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof." "Justice, justice you shall pursue." These words remind us

of our profound responsibility to advocate for the marginalized, the oppressed, and the voiceless. It is a reminder that we must work tirelessly to create a society that embraces the beautiful tapestry of diversity and respects the inherent value of every individual.

I commend and appreciate the selfless work of the honorable Senators and their staff, who have dedicated themselves to the betterment of the people they represent. Your tireless efforts, rooted in a sincere desire to uplift the lives of your constituents, reflect the highest ideals of public service.

You are shining stars worthy of the verse in Daniel, Chapter 12: "Umatzdikei Harabim Kakochavim." "And those who extend righteousness for the masses shine like stars."

The great State of New York, a melting pot of cultures, religions and backgrounds, stands as a testament to the power of inclusion. From the bustling streets of Manhattan to the picturesque landscapes of upstate, this state celebrates the vibrant mosaic of its residents. In this great chamber, we honor the blessings that arise from the shared

experiences, talents, and perspectives that each individual brings. It is through the celebration of diversity that we achieve the loftiest goals of democracy.

In the words of the great Jewish Sage Hillel: "Im Ein Ani Li Mi Li, Uksheani Leatzmi Mo Ani." "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, what am I?"

As we stand united, may we strive for a just, equitable, and inclusive world where all voices are heard, where every person is respected, and where the rights and dignity of all humans are protected.

May the "Ribono Shel Olam," "The Master of the Universe," grant you wisdom, strength, and clarity as you carry out your sacred duty. May you be blessed with the courage to uplift the downtrodden, to champion the rights of the voiceless, and may the impact of your actions be felt far beyond the venerable walls of this chamber.

Amen.

(Response of "Amen.")

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Reading

of the Journal.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Monday, May 22, 2023, the Senate met pursuant to adjournment. The Journal of Sunday, May 21, 2023, was read and approved. On motion, the Senate adjourned.

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

Presentation of petitions.

Messages from the Assembly.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senator Addabbo moves to discharge, from the Committee on Environmental Conservation, Assembly Bill Number 4928 and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 2022, Third Reading Calendar 311.

Senator Stec moves to discharge, from the Committee on Budget and Revenue, Assembly Bill Number 4976A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 4072A, Third Reading Calendar 734.

Senator Oberacker moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 4946A and substitute it for the identical

Senate Bill 2199A, Third Reading Calendar 890.

Senator Stec moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 4881A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 2781A, Third Reading Calendar 892.

Senator May moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 3075A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 3535A, Third Reading Calendar 896.

Senator Stec moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 5339A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 4088A, Third Reading Calendar 899.

Senator Oberacker moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 5279A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 4593A, Third Reading Calendar 904.

Senator Stec moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 5340A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill

4735A, Third Reading Calendar 905.

Senator O'Mara moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 5008A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 4975A, Third Reading Calendar 906.

Senator Helming moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 4128A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 5002A, Third Reading Calendar 907.

Senator Helming moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 3645A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 5118A, Third Reading Calendar 909.

Senator Oberacker moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 3233A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 5501A, Third Reading Calendar 913.

Senator Breslin moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 5345A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill

5606A, Third Reading Calendar 915.

Senator O'Mara moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 4918A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 5610A, Third Reading Calendar 917.

Senator O'Mara moves to discharge, from the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Assembly Bill Number 4915A and substitute it for the identical Senate Bill 5612A, Third Reading Calendar 919.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: 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: Good afternoon, Madam President.

I move to adopt the Resolution Calendar with the exception of Resolutions 1008 and 1041.

(Pause.)

SENATOR GIANARIS: Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Correction. Let's move to adopt the Resolution Calendar with the exception of Resolution 1041 only.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: All those in favor of adopting the Resolution Calendar, with the exception of Resolution 1041, please signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Opposed, nay.

(No response.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Resolution Calendar is adopted.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Madam President, we're going to begin with an introduction by Senator Jackson. Please recognize him.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Jackson for an introduction.

SENATOR JACKSON: Thank you, Madam President.

My colleagues, I rise together in this space, the Senate chambers, to introduce to you parts of the Bangladeshi community to my left up there in the audience, a lively mosaic of diverse forces bound by the common purpose of embracing diversity and fostering understanding.

We welcome you in Albany with great joy as the New York State Legislature proudly stands shoulder to shoulder with the remarkable coalition of Bangladeshi Americans.

On this momentous occasion, we are truly thrilled to have you join us here in Albany as the New York State Legislature proudly stands united with the coalition under the leadership of Joynal Abeden and Shahana Masum, of the Bangladeshi American Group; Afaf Nashir Council on American-Islamic Relations, known as CAIR-NY; and the leadership of Mir Masum Ali and Tariqur Rahman of the New York Muslim Action Network. Together, we stand united to champion the priorities of the Bangladeshi American community.

We commend your unwavering commitment to improve the lives of Bangladeshi Americans. Your tireless efforts are truly

commendable, and we deeply appreciate your presence here in Albany.

They came up, two buses, and they lobbied both Senators and Assemblymembers in their respective offices.

But by sharing the unique perspective and experiences of this community, the Bangladeshi community, you play an indispensable role in shaping policies that will bring positive change.

And once again, a warm welcome to BAAG, the Bangladeshi American Advocacy Group. Thank you for your gracing us with your presence, and I eagerly anticipate the impactful work we will work together to achieve. Let us forge ahead, hand in hand, towards a brighter future for all Bangladeshi Americans. We will tirelessly work to create a better tomorrow.

Madam President, I ask you to please welcome them and give them all of the privileges of the house.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: To our guests, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extend to you the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Now let's move on to previously adopted Resolution 492, by Senator Sepúlveda.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senate Resolution 492, by Senator Sepúlveda, memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 23, 2023, as Taiwan Heritage Day in the State of New York.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Sepúlveda on the resolution.

SENATOR SEPÚLVEDA: Thank you, Madam President, for allowing me to speak on the resolution.

As you know, this country, this state, has a very close relationship with Taiwan. And we work very closely with TECO, the organization that does the work for Taiwan and has been very, very helpful to the State of New York.

You know, I know about, I've spoken

about the relationship we have with Taiwan. They're one of New York State's greatest trading partners. In the State of New York they have over 300 businesses, companies running here, providing jobs and economic opportunities for people in the State of New York.

Now I rise and I speak today on this resolution to proclaim May 23, 2023, as Taiwan Heritage Day. I had the honor and privilege of visiting Taiwan in 2016, and I can tell you that I recommend it and encourage all of you to at least visit one time in your life.

They have universal healthcare. Crime is almost nonexistent there. For a very short period -- they became a democracy officially in 1996, and their democracy, the democratic principles in some cases have surpassed ours. Their current president is a female, and I believe their vice president. And I believe, unless I'm incorrect, that it's mandated by law that about 30 percent of their locally elected individuals have to be women. It may be higher, but I believe it's 30 percent.

You know, we had about $135.5 billion in bilateral trade with Taiwan in

2022.

To me, presenting this resolution as I've done over the years, I'm happy that Senator John Liu and Senator Chu are here now to essentially direct this effort, and they did a great job today. But I just want to announce some of the individuals that are here today.

We have of course our ambassador, Director General James Lee. We have our deputy director general, Hans Chunyu Chang. We have the director of the political division for TECO, Mr. Fuyuan Liu, not related to John Liu. And we have -- from the consular office we have Michelle Yi-yuan Chen.

There are other community leaders here. I'll allow John or Senator Chu to announce who they are.

But from my point of view here, I can tell you that one of the greatest countries I've ever visited was Taiwan. And I think that it's important that we recognize their contributions with this resolution and that we all look forward to working with the country, protecting their democratic principles. We know what's going on with the area, the geopolitics

there. But it is our responsibility as one of our closest allies, neighbors in that region, to make sure we do everything we can to cooperate with them and cooperate in the defense.

So it's an honor for me to present this resolution. And it's an honor for me to present the people that are here today. They're great friends.

And to close, I can tell you that every year, every year since I've been elected, since -- for the last 10 years, first in the Assembly and now in the Senate, I have represented the poorest districts in the state. And every year the biggest contributor of toys for the kids in my community, mostly poor children, has been TECO and Taiwan and the Taiwanese American organizations that are here in New York State.

So thank you for your generosity. Thank you for your help. Thank you for what you did for us during COVID -- they gave us a lot of face masks. They gave the City of New York over half a million on -- and other PPEs and things of that nature. So thank you always for looking out for the State of New York, looking out for the

Bronx and the people that I represent.

I vote proudly aye on this resolution. God bless.

(Applause from the galleries.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Chu on the resolution.

SENATOR CHU: Thank you, Madam President.

Happy Taiwan Heritage Day in the State of New York.

First I would like to thank Senator Sepúlveda for introducing this resolution, and to all my colleagues who made today's Taiwan Heritage Day reception successful.

This resolution highlights what makes New York so special. All of us here come from different backgrounds that make our perspective unique, and we are able to celebrate a variety of cultures, just like today, and understand how our individuality influences the work we do on this floor.

As the first Asian-American woman elected to the State Senate, I have to say I'm very proud that Taiwan raised me well. I came to this country 17 years ago. I was born and raised

in Taiwan in the past 27 years. So being a Taiwanese American, as an immigrant myself, it's like a marriage. You grew up in a family, and you married into a new family here. And all you want to do is to make sure you do everything you can to make your new family proud and make your old family, where you were from, proud.

I'm happy to be here to complete my dream in academics. And I was absolutely proud to be the one to be able to speak on the floor and also reflecting the value that the Taiwanese community also shares with our New York communities here. Because in Taiwan and New York, we share many democratic values and long-term social visions. My Taiwanese heritage definitely brings me a great benefit to my role as a state legislator of New York.

And this is why I would like to welcome our great guests -- Director General Mr. James Lee (in Chinese), the delegation, Raymond Tsang, from CCBA, and many community leaders -- to our chamber today. Thank you for traveling up to New York for this occasion. And I hope you enjoy the time here in New York.

And for this reason,

Madam President, I proudly vote aye. Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank you.

Senator Stavisky on the resolution.

SENATOR STAVISKY: Thank you. Thank you, Madam President.

Welcome to my friends from Taiwan.

I used to represent the Flushing area up until January. But I still have so many friends both in the government and in the community, and I really want to welcome all of you to the Capitol in Albany. You've come for many years. And especially Ambassador Lee, I thank you.

And I on two occasions visited Taiwan, the Republic of China, and I -- the most memorable experience, I must tell you, was the friendliness, the fact that I felt very much at home walking the streets of Taipei and other parts of Taiwan.

For example, I took the high-speed rail from Taipei down to Kaohsiung. That was an experience. It's something that we should replicate between here and Albany, I must tell you. I think we'd all be a lot happier if we did

have a high-speed rail, because you didn't realize you were moving that quickly until a train passed in the other direction.

And when we got to Kaohsiung -- and as you know, I chair the Committee on Higher Education -- I had the opportunity to visit the National University. Very much -- it reminded me very much of Kingsborough Community College. It was on the water, the students were active, and it was a great experience.

So I welcome you all, and hopefully we'll all come together again next year.

Thank you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank you.

Senator Liu on the resolution.

SENATOR LIU: Thank you, Madam President.

I agree with everything that my colleagues have said already on this particular resolution. And I will only add that, you know, Taiwan has in recent decades become a beacon of democracy and hope all across the world, even as Taiwan continues to face threats. It is really the purveyor of high technology, culture, great

food.

And, you know, we have a couple of other special imports -- Senator Chu herself.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR LIU: And, Madam President, you know what's stamped on the back of my neck here: "Made in Taiwan."

And that's what the pride is all about. It is about celebrating a democracy that we hold dear to our hearts, and I know many of our colleagues in this chamber do as well.

And so I join all of you in welcoming our guests from -- some from the Capitol area, mainly most from New York City. But nonetheless, we have a vibrant Taiwanese community all across the state.

Thank you, Ambassador Lee, as well as -- he's on that side. Oh. He's right there. Ambassador Lee --

(Laughter.)

SENATOR LIU: -- as well as our community leaders, many of whom have been mentioned. But not yet mentioned, Patsy Feng -- Patsy Fong, and also Tom Su and many others.

Madam President, I proudly vote yes

on this resolution.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: To our guests, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extend to you the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The resolution was previously adopted on March 9th.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Next up is Resolution 1041, by Senator Serrano. Please read its title and recognize Senator Serrano.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senate Resolution 1041, by Senator Serrano, mourning the death of Robin Dropkin, unwavering champion of public lands and environmental protection.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Serrano on the resolution.

SENATOR SERRANO: Thank you very much, Madam President.

I would like to thank the Senate and my colleagues for supporting this resolution

today honoring the life and many contributions of Robin Dropkin, a fierce advocate for our parks and open spaces, who passed away earlier this year.

Since 2001, Robin Dropkin was the executive director of Parks & Trails New York. Many of us knew her as a strong and consistent voice helping to shape New York's policy towards our beloved parks.

This past March, Parks & Trails New York held its annual Parks Advocacy Day here in Albany, and it was in-person for the first time in a number of years. As chair of the Senate Committee on Parks, this day is always one of my favorite days of the year. But this year's event was a tough one for many of us, because it was our first without Robin. For many years, on Parks day and beyond, Robin helped all of us to articulate the many reasons why parks are essential -- and indeed transformative in our lives.

During her many years of work and leadership at Parks & Trails New York, she influenced the public land movement in New York State and also touched so many people

individually. I recall back in May of 2010, budget constraints led to a proposal to close nearly 90 state parks across New York State. Many of us in the Legislature, in a rare display of bipartisanship, worked together to stop this plan. With Robin's unwavering support, and with the galvanized grassroots movement to save our parks, we were able to push back against that proposal and keep our parks open.

Ever since then, there has been a renewed focus on the value that New York's parks and public lands offer. This had led to record use as well as sustained year-over-year investment in our parks, trails and historic sites.

This evolution of thinking in how we view and how we support our public spaces is a testament to Robin's work and her calm, compassionate and unrelenting persistence on public park access and outdoor recreation. Indeed, I am so grateful to be chair of the Committee on Parks for a thousand reasons, but one of them being that it is the wonderful people that we meet in the world of parks advocacy, none greater than Robin Dropkin.

I would like to acknowledge Robin's family who are here to join us here in the Senate gallery today, as well as her Parks and Trails family. We are joined by Robin's husband Chip and her son Dan, friends and family, and the Parks & Trails New York team that continues fighting for public land and public spaces for all New Yorkers. Thank you so much. My condolences to the family.

Thank you so much, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: To our guests, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extend to you the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

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

(Response of "Aye.")

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Opposed, nay.

(No response.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The resolution is adopted.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Now let's move to previously adopted Resolution 1017, by Senator Ramos, read its title and recognize Senator Ramos.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senate Resolution 1017, by Senator Ramos, honoring the Lexington School for the Deaf upon the occasion of hosting its 26th annual Esther Lusting Memorial Basketball Classic vs. Assembly/Senate All-Stars on May 23, 2003.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Ramos on the resolution.

SENATOR RAMOS: Thank you, Madam President.

I'd like to welcome my friends and constituents from the Lexington School for the Deaf. This school is a true New York institution dating all the way back to 1864, when it started as lessons with a private tutor in a living room in downtown Manhattan. But in 1968, their student body grew so much that they needed a permanent home. So I'm very proud to say they

chose East Elmhurst, Queens, and have been an active part of our community ever since.

In addition to providing an excellent education to children from across the city, the Lexington School for the Deaf is the largest school for deaf children in the entire State of New York. In addition to providing classes for students from preschool through high school, they offer support classes for parents of deaf infants and toddlers, foreign language transition classes, special-needs classes, and a dormitory for students requiring additional academic support.

See, they're quickly filing in now.

Queens is very proud to have them as our neighbor. It was actually much to my dismay that the funding for the school had been cut in this year's Executive Budget, but I'm proud to say that we fully restored their funding in both the Senate one-house, of course, and the final enacted budget.

I care about this institution so much not only because they are a valued member of our community in Queens, but because they support -- because the support they provide is

actually very personal to me. My mother is partially deaf, and the support that the Lexington School provides to families like mine is invaluable.

I'm looking forward to tonight's baseball game, where I know that my neighbors will make all of us who are #seenin13 very proud. I'm very happy to have you guys here today.

Thank you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: To our guests, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extend to you the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The resolution was previously adopted on 5/16.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Previously adopted Resolution 182, by Senator Gallivan, please. Read its title and recognize Senator Gallivan.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senate Resolution

182, by Senator Gallivan, memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 14-20, 2023, as Police Week in the State of New York.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Gallivan on the resolution.

SENATOR GALLIVAN: Thank you, Madam President.

I'm proud to stand in support of Police Week in New York State and across the country.

Since 1962, a week in May has been set aside annually as a time to recognize those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. It's a reminder of the dangers these dedicated public servants confront on a daily basis. Last year alone, 226 police officers made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting citizens across the United States.

Just a couple of weeks ago, many of us gathered outside on the plaza as the names of 55 officers were added to the New York State Police Officers Memorial: Men and women from Long Island to Western New York who died in service to others. This includes officers who died from illnesses resulting from their service

at Ground Zero in the wake of 9/11.

As many of you know, I come from a family of law enforcement officers and proudly served as a New York State Trooper and the sheriff of Erie County. I know firsthand the sacrifices and dedication that these individuals make, and I have great respect and admiration for police officers who work every day to keep our communities safe.

We all know that a job in law enforcement is dangerous and difficult. Just this morning, in Saratoga County, two sheriff deputies were shot while executing a search warrant. To my knowledge, neither one of them suffered life-threatening injuries, but nonetheless an illustration just close by of the dangers that these police officers face.

We're fortunate that despite the risks and challenges, hundreds of thousands of dedicated officers are on the job every day across the country enforcing our laws and working to keep our communities safe.

As we honor those who have fallen, I think it's also important to thank those who serve. We are represented in the gallery, this

entire section in this back corner, by those who serve -- not only by those who serve, but they also serve organizations that represent nearly every police officer in New York State. The Police Conference of New York is represented. New York State Troopers PBA represented. New York City PBA represented. Sheriffs offices, among others, and local police departments represented as well.

And I thank them for their service, and I thank them in particular for standing up for police officers, to try to better their working conditions, standing up for their families in times of need. And in particular, there's two individuals in the gallery that I would like to thank for their dedication over the years, both retiring this year. First, Ritchie Wells from PCNY, culminating a 50-year career, the last 16 as president of the Police Conference of New York; and Pat Lynch, from the New York City PBA, who has served in that capacity, if I'm not mistaken, for the last 23 or 24 years.

I join my colleagues in calling on the Governor to proclaim this year's Police Week in the State of New York. I ask my colleagues to

support their local police agencies, to thank them for the work that they do, and to work together to try to help provide them the tools necessary to keep our communities safe.

And finally, Madam President, I very humbly and proudly vote yes on this resolution.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Rolison on the resolution.

SENATOR ROLISON: Thank you, Madam President.

I rise today to speak in favor of this resolution, together with my friend and colleague Senator Gallivan.

I cosponsored a resolution proclaiming the week of May 14 through 20th as Police Week here in the State of New York. The resolution coincided also with National Police Officer Memorial Day on May 15th, where we honor the sacrifice of those officers killed in the line of duty.

As many of you know, I was a police officer myself for over 26 years. My son is currently a police sergeant in Westchester County. I, as a former police officer and as a

father, recognize the sacrifices made by all of our law enforcement personnel and especially their families.

We can never fully repay them. They wake up every day to go to work not knowing if they may come home or not. But we can honor their legacy here in these chambers.

On May 9th we had the Police Officers Memorial event right here on the plaza. Many of our colleagues were there. And sadly, as Senator Gallivan has said, 55 additional names were added in 2023 to that memorial on Empire State Plaza. Today that memorial recognizes 1,772 men and women from 150 different police departments, from the State Police, sheriff's office, local municipal jobs, and federal agencies.

And engraved on that memorial are the haunting words of Colleen Dillon Bergman. She was the daughter, she is the daughter of Emerson Dillon Jr. He was a 16-year veteran of the New York State Police who was killed in the line of duty in 1974.

And what she said was this: "It doesn't matter from which department they came,

the feeling of loss is experienced the same." So in this increasingly dangerous time for members of law enforcement, Ms. Bergman's statement is worth remembering.

And something that everyone can do, no matter if you have a police officer in your family or not, you know, it's just giving a simple statement to a police officer to say thanks next time you see one, saying thank you for your service or just thanks for keeping us safe. You know, it doesn't seem like much, but believe me, it does go a long way with the men and women on the job.

You know, every day we're learning about more innovative ways to keep our communities safe, build community trust. In the City of Poughkeepsie, where I had the honor to be mayor for seven years, we continually strived to be innovative in that approach, to keeping our community safe but at the same time listening to the community, what they wanted, and knowing that a community's trust is the key to long-term success in public safety.

I hope to never have to stand before this chamber and announce that we've added more

names to that memorial, but we probably will. So much have sacrificed too much. But if I must address the issue, I'll finish Police Week the way I began: God bless you for your service, your sacrifice and commitment to this community.

Madam President, through you, I'd like to acknowledge our law enforcement members here today, and organizations, from the 39th District: My good friend and former classmate at Marist College in 1980, Sheriff Kevin McConville of Putnam County. Sheriff Paul Arteta of Orange County, and he's joined today by Undersheriffs Evelyn Mallard and Wilfredo Garcia. The Troop K commander, headquartered in Dutchess County, of the New York State Police, Major Kathryne Rohde. The chief of the Town of Poughkeepsie PD, where I worked for 26 years, Joe Cavaliere.

And as Senator Gallivan mentioned, Richard Wells of PCNY, who helped me when I was union president for 10 years in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Thank you, Richard, for all that help.

And of course to Pat Lynch, the PBA president of the New York City PBA.

Madam President, I would ask you if you could extend the courtesy of the house to all our guests. Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Scarcella-Spanton on the resolution.

SENATOR SCARCELLA-SPANTON: Thank you, Madam President.

I just wanted to take a minute to commemorate National Police Week and thank Senator Gallivan for introducing this this week.

I actually come from a family of first responders, both cops, both firefighters, so I have a tremendous amount of respect for the profession and the work that they do to keep our communities safe.

I most importantly wanted to highlight that just a few days ago we had our memorial service for those we've lost, either in the line of duty or due to 9/11-related illnesses. So we see the repercussions of the work that they do. From the last 20-plus years since 9/11, we see those effects.

My uncle passed away due to a 9/11-related cancer. He was in the FDNY. My other uncle, Tommy Sullivan, who is proudly

retired from ESU, still suffers from illnesses due to 9/11-related health issues.

So I'm really happy to stand here on the floor to support this, and I proudly vote aye. Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Mayer on the resolution.

SENATOR MAYER: Thank you, Madam President.

I also rise and thank Senator Gallivan for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor for National Police Week.

You know, I've been very proud working with my colleagues in our conference to ensure that our conversations with the police department, whatever our agreements and disagreements, reflected our profound respect and admiration and deep sense of gratitude for the work they have done and the work they continue to do.

I know a number of my friends and colleagues that I've worked with are up in the gallery, and I want to commend them. Because it is a commitment to our society of laws and justice that propels so many of these men and

women to take on this most difficult occupation. They put themselves in harm's way, and they understand the goals of public safety and reassurance of the public are compatible with the principles of justice. And they do their very best to ensure that both of these principles are carried out while they put themselves in harm's way.

We're incredibly grateful to them for their commitment, for their service, for their sacrifice. I know some members of my great Yonkers Police Department are here today. But for all the police departments across New York State that have brought young men and women into this profession in a most difficult time, and done so with intelligence and thoughtfulness and a commitment to our society of law and justice, today we commend them and we honor them and honor National Police Week.

Thank you very much.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Weik on the resolution.

SENATOR WEIK: Thank you, Madam President.

Today I rise to acknowledge Police

Week, which has always been a really big week in my family, of course being a family of police officers -- my husband a recently retired Suffolk County police officer, and my son is a New York State Trooper. And we're very proud of the work that they do.

Every day they put on their uniform and we as a family know that we may or may not see them later on in the day. And that's a risk that they take willingly. And it's a risk that the family understands well. And every night when I hear the ripping of the Velcro of that bulletproof vest coming off, that's the happiest sound I know.

And for that I want to thank all of our police officers who take that risk on a regular basis, no matter what the atmosphere in our country and in our state.

And I now have the great privilege of being able to represent not just Suffolk County police, but also Nassau County police. I know many of them are here today. And I want to say thank you so much for all that you do to protect us every single day.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: To our guests, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extend to you the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The resolution was previously adopted on 1/24.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Next up is previously adopted Resolution 806, by Senator Rhoads. Please read that resolution's title and recognize Senator Rhoads.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senate Resolution 806, by Senator Rhoads, celebrating the life and accomplishments of John P. Kilbride, veteran, police officer and devoted member of his community.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Rhoads on the resolution.

SENATOR RHOADS: Thank you, Madam President.

And thank you for pausing in our

deliberations today to recognize our heroes up in the gallery.

I also wanted to recognize -- I see -- limited by my eyesight, I see that we have -- I know Pete Paterson and Kevin Mullick are here from our Nassau County PBA. I see Junior Perkins and Jeff Gross. Jeff is our president of the DAI in Nassau County. Welcome, certainly.

And I rise in grateful recognition of the life of another true American hero, and that is John Kilbride.

We're blessed -- and I know that I've said this before -- that we have men and women such as the men and women in our gallery and such as John Kilbride, who are willing to devote their lives to making sure that we are safe. Whether we talk about the safety of our communities or we talk about the safety of our country, the fact that young men and women are willing to risk everything because their lives are less important than ours, their lives are less significant, and they're willing to put their lives at risk to protect ours, our communities and our country.

Now, John or Jack, as he was affectionately known -- "Crazy Jack," as he was affectionately known -- was called home to the Lord. And it's interesting that Jack's nephew, named after him, remarked in his eulogy the famous quote of Winston Churchill, that "I am prepared to meet my maker. Whether my maker is prepared for the ordeal of meeting me is another matter."

But he is an individual who was devoted to service. Growing up in the community of Levittown -- and for anyone that's familiar at all with Nassau County, Levittown is known as the first American suburb, America's first suburb, celebrating its 75th anniversary. It was born as a community for veterans in the aftermath of World War 2. And as the son, one of six children of Major John and Agnes Kilbride, he grew up in the Levittown community, going to Division Avenue High School, graduating in 1967, involved in football and wrestling and lacrosse.

But 1967, as we know, was the height of the Vietnam War. And upon his graduation, he volunteered to become a member of the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to

Da Nang.

He served two tours in Vietnam, 1967 through 1969, and during that time he received two Purple Hearts -- he earned two Purple Hearts, one at the Battle of Hill 881 and the second at the Battle of Khe Sanh, where he was wounded and was lifted off the hill via a medevac helicopter which was then blown out on one side of the helicopter. And he survived.

He was dedicated to public service, becoming a member of the Freeport Police Department in Nassau County, where he served for 18 years, serving eight of those years as president of the Freeport Police Benevolent Association, continuing his life of service and protecting our community.

He returned to Vietnam in 1983. He was part of the POW-MIA Commission that returned in the mid-1980s for those that were not able to come home. And he remained committed to those efforts throughout his life because, in his words, it was the right thing for him to do as a loyal brother. And he continued to advocate and work for those who were left behind, our POWs and MIAs in Vietnam, and those who suffered continual

effects of Agent Orange, throughout the remainder of his 73 years of life.

He then worked as a military congressional aide to Congressman Peter King, where he served as an advisor. His life was a life of service.

And in that time he also had a beautiful family. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; he has a son, Michael Kilbride, his wife Jodi; Kelly Gaspari and her husband James; and Kristin Ciejka and her husband William, who we are blessed to have with us here in our chamber today. And I certainly want to welcome you and thank you for being here.

His brother, by the way, Chuck Kilbride, who himself is a Marine Corps veteran and a major, also is the chairman of the National U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. And by the way, he's watching on video. And he sent me a text message to remind Kristin to smile.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR RHOADS: But Chuck is an amazing person, but his brother John really is a tremendous American story of service, of joining

the family business of serving others. And when you join what they call a warrior tribe like the Kilbride family, that was certainly one to be expected.

But his remarkable life is one that we should certainly celebrate. And I want to -- somebody far smarter than me once said that you may be remembered for your power or for your fame, but you will be loved for the way you make people feel and the contributions that you make to others.

And the way Jack made people feel made them feel love, made them feel respect, made them feel value, and made them feel safety under the blanket of freedom and security that he provided.

I want to thank my colleagues here in the State Senate and over in the State Assembly for passing a concurrent resolution recognizing this remarkable accomplishment and celebrating in grateful appreciation for the amazing life of Jack Kilbride.

And I would ask you, Madam President, if you would do us the honor of acknowledging Kristin and William, his daughter

and son-in-law, welcome them to the chamber and please extend to them all of the privileges and courtesies of the house.

Thank you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: To our guests, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extend to you the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The resolution was previously adopted on 4/25.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Madam President, please recognize Senator Hoylman-Sigal for an introduction.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Hoylman-Sigal for an introduction.

SENATOR HOYLMAN-SIGAL: Thank you, Madam President.

I rise to welcome some guests to this august chamber from the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. You know the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, founded, of course, by Michael J. Fox,

the Emmy award-winning actor -- Alex P. Keaton, Marty McFly -- we have a few of those in this chamber, I think.

(Laughter.)

SENATOR HOYLMAN-SIGAL: Of course the most recent iteration of Michael J. Fox's public persona is based around his living with Parkinson's disease. Parkinson's disease I think you know, Madam President, is a chronic progressive neurological disease, the second-most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States.

And Michael J. Fox started this foundation in the year 2000, and since then it's become the largest nonprofit for Parkinson's disease research in the world, raising close to a billion dollars of research in projects to date.

And our guests are here to advocate for greater research for this disease. It's estimated that 90,000 individuals are diagnosed annually with Parkinson's in North America, 50 percent higher than the 60,000 annual diagnoses that research had previously suggested. Which is why the Michael J. Fox Foundation exists, to uncover this data. There are 65,000

New Yorkers living with Parkinson's.

And our guests here are advocating for a statewide registry that will contribute to research and data to help patients and families with Parkinson's and ultimately research for a cure. So I wanted to acknowledge them.

First we have Julia Pitcher, which is the director of state government relations for the Michael J. Fox Foundation. Zach Hardy, who's the state government relations officer. Their colleagues who are working here, Ginger Landy and Liv Marfleet.

And Barbara Zimmerman, who is a caretaker to her husband Jim, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's 17 years ago. As well as being an advocate for Parkinson's, she's a retired nurse and native of Rochester. She's joined here by her daughter Amy and her granddaughter Olivia -- three generations of New Yorkers impacted by Parkinson's disease.

I welcome them to the chamber.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: To our guests, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extended to you the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Now Senator Mayer for another introduction, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Mayer for an introduction.

SENATOR MAYER: Thank you, Madam President.

I'm very proud to acknowledge and introduce students -- high school students from across New York State who are here today to attend the 23rd Annual Students Inside Albany Conference sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation.

And I think many of us have been very fortunate to have these students so-called shadow us today and be part of this process and learn a great deal about what we do, and hear such really powerful words today from my colleagues about a range of issues that affect both our districts and the state at large.

These students are here for a number of days to observe the Senate and Assembly in

action, to meet with us, and to actually get a sense of what a day is like in the life of a legislator.

I know that I have a number of students here from Mamaroneck High School, Port Chester High School, New Rochelle High School, Scarsdale High School. And yet -- and my colleagues have students from many schools in their district.

We are very fortunate to have this opportunity to have these young people join us, get a sense of how dignified and special the experience of being in this chamber is, and learning firsthand how important their civil participation is and will be. We need their voices to be heard. We need them to step into this process. And today they get a firsthand glimpse of what it's like to be a Senator or to be an Assemblymember.

I hope that you will welcome them to the Senate chamber, give them the privileges and courtesies of the house, and acknowledge their presence here today. They are a very welcome sight for us.

Thank you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank you.

To our guests, I welcome you on behalf of the Senate. We extend to you the privileges and courtesies of this house.

Please rise and be recognized.

(Standing ovation.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Madam President, all of the resolutions we took up today are open for cosponsorship.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: At the request of the sponsors, all of the resolutions are open for cosponsorship. Should you choose not to cosponsor the resolutions, please notify the desk.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Going back to motions for a moment, amendments are offered to the following Third Reading Calendar bills:

By Senator Kavanagh, page 34, Calendar Number 782, Senate Print 5984;

By Senator Hinchey, page 42, Calendar Number 885, Senate Print 1684.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The amendments are received, and the bills will retain their place on the Third Reading Calendar.

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: I also wish to call up the following bills, which were recalled from the Assembly and are now at the desk:

Senate Print Numbers 1839, 4097A, and 1066A.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 520, Senate Print 1839, by Senator Sanders, an act to amend the Public Health Law.

Calendar Number 606, Senate Print 4097A, by Senator Gounardes, an act to amend the Civil Service Law.

Calendar Number 154, Senate Print 1066A, by Senator Mayer, an act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Move to reconsider the vote by which these bills were passed.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bills are restored to their place on the Third Reading Calendar.

SENATOR GIANARIS: I offer the following amendments.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The amendments are received, and the bills will retain their place on the Third Reading Calendar.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Please recognize Senator Lanza.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Lanza.

SENATOR LANZA: Madam President, on behalf of Senator Stec, on page 30 I offer the following amendments to Calendar Number 701, Senate Print 5608, and ask that said bill retain its place on Third Reading Calendar.

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

Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Let's take up the reading of the calendar, please.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 311, Assembly Print Number 4928, by Assemblymember Rajkumar, an act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the 90th day after it shall have become a law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 311, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Borrello, O'Mara, Stec and Walczyk.

Ayes, 57. Nays, 4.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 420, Senate Print 205, by Senator Cleare, an act

to amend the Banking Law.

SENATOR LANZA: Lay it aside.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Lay it aside.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 734, Assembly Bill 4976A, by Assemblymember Simpson, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There is a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 734, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 890, Assembly Print 4946A, by Assemblymember Tague, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There is a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 890, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 892, Assembly Print Number 4881A, by Assemblymember Simpson, an act to amend Chapter 368 of the Laws of 2008.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 892, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 896, Assembly Print Number 3075A, by Assemblymember Magnarelli, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There is a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 896, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 897, Senate Print 4068A, by Senator Borrello, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 897, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 899, Assembly Print Number 5339A, by Assemblymember Jones, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There is a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 899, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 902, Senate Print 4567A, by Senator Stec, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There is a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 902, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and

Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 903, Senate Print 4585A, by Senator Oberacker, an act to amend Chapter 333 of the Laws of 2006.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 903, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 904, Assembly Print Number 5279A, by

Assemblymember Tague, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There is a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 904, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 905, Assembly Print Number 5340A, by Assemblymember Jones, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There is

a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 905, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 906, Assembly Print Number 5008A, by Assemblymember Gallahan, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This

act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 906, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 907, Assembly Print Number 4128A, by Assemblymember Gallahan, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 907, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 908, Senate Print 5023A, by Senator Borrello, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There is a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to

Calendar 908, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 909, Assembly Print Number 3645A, by Assemblymember Manktelow, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 909, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and

Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 910, Senate Print 5119A, by Senator Helming, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 910, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 911, Senate Print 5183, by Senator Ortt, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 911, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 912, Senate Print 5348A, by Senator Harckham, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's

a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 912, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 913, Assembly Print Number 3233A, by Assemblymember Gunther, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This

act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 913, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 914, Senate Print 5535A, by Senator Oberacker, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: May we have some order in the house, please.

Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 914, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 915, Assembly Print Number 5345A, by Assemblymember Santabarbara, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 915, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 916, Senate Print 5609A, by Senator O'Mara, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 916, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and

Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 917, Assembly Print Number 4918A, by Assemblymember Palmesano, an act to amend Chapter 365 of the Laws of 2005.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 917, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill

is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 918, Senate Print 5611A, by Senator O'Mara, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 918, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 919, Assembly Print Number 4915A, by Assemblymember Palmesano, an act to amend Chapter 366 of the Laws of 2005.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 919, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 951, Senate Print 6444, by Senator Thomas, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: There's a home-rule message at the desk.

Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 5. This

act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 951, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 952, Senate Print 6446, by Senator Hinchey, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce

the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 952, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Mattera, Murray, Palumbo, Skoufis, Stec, Webb and Weik.

Ayes, 49. Nays, 12.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 953, Senate Print 6447, by Senator Hinchey, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 953, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick,

Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Murray, Palumbo, Skoufis and Webb. Also Senator Mattera.

Ayes, 52. Nays, 9.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 954, Senate Print 6448, by Senator Hinchey, an act to amend Chapter 556 of the Laws of 2007.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 954, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Murray, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 955, Senate Print 6449, by Senator Hinchey, an act to amend Chapter 218 of the Laws of 2009.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 955, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 55. Nays, 6.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 956, Senate Print 6450, by Senator Hinchey, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This

act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 956, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 55. Nays, 6.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 957, Senate Print 6475, by Senator Kennedy, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 957, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 958, Senate Print 6505, by Senator Mannion, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 958, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 55. Nays, 6.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 977, Senate Print 6821, by Senator Stewart-Cousins, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 977, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 978, Senate Print 6822, by Senator Stewart-Cousins, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 978, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 979, Senate Print 6823A, by Senator Mayer, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the

roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 979, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 980, Senate Print 6825, by Senator Stewart-Cousins, an act to amend the Tax Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to

Calendar 980, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Hinchey, Lanza, Mannion, Martinez, Skoufis and Webb.

Ayes, 54. Nays, 7.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1058, Senate Print 5486, by Senator Jackson, an act to amend the Civil Service Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Jackson to explain his vote.

SENATOR JACKSON: Thank you, Madam President.

I rise to speak in support of my bill, S5486. Today I stand before you to advocate for a crucial piece of legislation that aims to bridge the gap between job seekers and

public-sector employment opportunities.

The bill at hand, Madam President, an act to amend the Civil Service Law, focuses on expanding the reach of civil service examination announcements. You may ask -- why is this so important, you may ask. The answer lies in the current staffing shortages faced by the state and local governments across our nation. These shortages have directly impacted the efficiency and effectiveness of public services, resulting in long wait times for essential care and assistance for New Yorkers.

However, the root cause of these staffing shortages often goes unnoticed. Many New Yorkers are unaware that jobs within the state and local governments exist. The civil service process remains a mystery to them, making finding job opportunities in this sector difficult.

This legislation seeks to change that requirement, requiring the State Department of Civil Service and municipal civil service commissions to disseminate notices of competitive examinations more broadly. By doing so, we can increase the awareness of these employment

opportunities among the general public, providing more New Yorkers with the chance to take the examination and pursue rewarding careers in the public sector.

But it doesn't stop there, Madam President. This bill also has another crucial aspect: Promoting diversity within our public workforce. By expanding the reach of these examination announcements, we can ensure that communities traditionally underrepresented in state and local governments are given a fair chance to join the public sector.

We have a duty to create a workforce that reflects the diversity of our state, and this legislation is a step towards achieving that goal.

It is important to note that the that bill has garnered significant support. The New York State Public Employees Federation, PEF, representing 50,000 professional, scientific and technical workers, firmly stands behind this legislation. Additionally, Madam President, the Civil Service Employees Association, CSEA, representing over 300,000 active and retired public and private employees across New York

State, strongly urges the passage of this bill.

So I urge my colleagues to stand with me in support of this bill. By increasing the awareness of diversifying our public workforce, we can provide better service to our fellow New Yorkers. Let's bridge the information gap and empower job seekers, create a more inclusive and efficient public sector, and build a brighter future for all New Yorkers.

Thank you, Madam President. I vote aye.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Jackson to be recorded in the affirmative.

Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1083, Senate Print 2737, by Senator Comrie, an act to amend the Executive Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the

roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 61.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number -- excuse me.

In relation to Calendar Number 1083, voting in the negative: Senator Walczyk.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1106, Senate Print 5775, by Senator Kennedy, an act to amend the Railroad Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This act shall take effect on the 30th day after it shall have become a law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Kennedy to explain his vote.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Thank you, Madam President.

First of all, I want to thank our Majority Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins, for bringing this package of bills to the floor here today, and my colleagues for putting this package of 10 bills together that is passing to strengthen and advance freight rail safety across New York State at a time when we know it's desperately needed.

We know as New York State goes, so goes the rest of the nation. And we recognize that rail safety is of utmost importance, where the disaster that happened in East Palestine, Ohio, several months ago really heightened the awareness to rail safety.

What I can tell you is that there are 1100-plus derailments in this nation every single year. That averages three a day. And it's incumbent that we do our part to promote rail safety here in the great State of New York.

The NTSB called that derailment in East Palestine 100 percent preventable. And we

know that our federal partners are doing their work to promote rail safety, but we have an obligation to act here in the State of New York.

Where do freight rails go here in the state? Everywhere. Through every city, through every town, through every suburban, rural community. Everyone has rail. And we need to make sure that that rail is as safe as possible.

We also know that we can't wait for Washington to act, so we need to take action here in this state. So our Majority Leader advanced this legislation, along with my colleagues. Senator Chu, Senator Webb, Senator Hinchey, Senator Skoufis, Senator Comrie, Senator Mannion and Senator Martinez put together a package of bills that will put New York State at the forefront for rail safety in this nation.

This particular bill requires a two-person crew on the railroads. The other bills require rail corporations to inform the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, the DEC and the DOT when hazardous waste is going through a community; limits the length trains can be to minimize the risk of derailments; mandates quarterly inspection

reports to the DOT, and requires comprehensive safety inspections as well as follow-up freight train inspections; requires the installation of heat safety gauges on freight rail tracks; creates a central freight train registry to house reports, audits, plans and public inspections regarding freight rail operators; authorizes the Office of Homeland Security to conduct an analysis of security at rail yards; and establishes a freight rail safety task force to review the state of freight rail safety in New York State and make policy and budgetary recommendations moving forward.

We are taking significant steps to better protect communities across New York from future freight disasters. And I'm proud, with the Democratic Conference leadership, we were able to secure an additional 10 rail safety inspectors in this year's budget. And I believe that this package of legislation that we're talking about today is taking significant steps to build on that and to strengthen rail safety here in New York State.

I'm proud, as the chair of the Transportation Committee, to have worked with my

colleagues to make this a priority, and I'm looking forward to advancing this through the process in the Assembly and on to the Governor's desk for her signature on this package of bills.

With that, Madam President, I vote aye.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Kennedy to be recorded in the affirmative.

Senator Oberacker to explain his vote.

SENATOR OBERACKER: Thank you, Madam President.

You know, as someone who utilizes a lot of the rail freight here in my business, I can see where this piece of legislation -- although I think thought out to be one that would be a positive, I could see where someone such as myself, this could be actually a negative in either slowing down and/or impeding the movement of freight.

Our products that come into the West Coast are then put on rail and moved to the center of the country. And we all know, I think, Madam President, we've seen the challenges that we've had with supply chains moving forward.

Although again, I go back to I think this piece of legislation is intended, for all the good I can see, where this could be a huge negative, workforce issues being what they are, moving product as expeditiously as possible.

And I could see if there was an adjustment to this bill, Madam President, where if we were to tie those trains with chemicals that we have seen that would disrupt our local environments, I could see where then having more people on these trains in safety would be, I think, a well-thought-out and sought measure.

For that reason, Madam President, if the adjustment was made, I could vote in the aye. But unfortunately I will be voting in the negative on this. I would like to see -- out of all the bills that we put forth, I think they were great. This is the one I wish we had a little bit more definition on, and I will be voting in the negative.

Thank you.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Oberacker to be recorded in the negative.

Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to

Calendar Number 1106, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Griffo, Helming, Oberacker, Ortt, Walczyk and Weik.

Ayes, 55. Nays, 6.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1120, Senate Print 6921, by Senator Chu, an act to amend the Railroad Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect on the 90th day after it shall have become a law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 1120, voting in the negative: Senator Walczyk.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1121, Senate Print 6922, by Senator Webb, an act to amend the Transportation Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: 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 PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Webb to explain her vote.

SENATOR WEBB: Thank you, Madam President.

In the aftermath of the derailment of the freight train in East Palestine, Ohio, as Senator Kennedy alluded to, my bill is simply a bill to help for more transparency and giving information to the community. And so that unfortunate experience has made it even more clear that we must do more, and our communities deserve more, as it pertains to transparency regarding freight rail safety.

This bill would help address that

need by assembling a central database where any reports, audits and public inspections that are accessible by the Department of Transportation would simply be made publicly available.

I am proud to sponsor this legislation to, again, continue to foster and bring a sense of safety and security to our communities. And I also want to thank the Majority Leader for bringing this important package of bills to the floor.

I vote aye, and I encourage any colleagues to do the same.

Thank you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Webb to be recorded in the affirmative.

Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 1121, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Helming, Walczyk and Weik.

Ayes, 58. Nays, 3.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1122, Senate Print 6923, by Senator Hinchey, an act to amend the Railroad Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: 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 PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Hinchey to explain her vote.

SENATOR HINCHEY: Thank you, Madam President.

The communities that I represent in the Hudson Valley are some of the most beautiful I think in not just our state, but across the globe. And across most of our communities we have freight rail lines running either directly through our downtowns or right along the Hudson River.

About a year and a half ago I was invited by Riverkeeper to actually take a boat out into the middle of the Hudson to review some of these small bridges that the freight rails were using to transport not just goods but also often toxic and hazardous chemicals. And from

our perspective in looking at some of these lines, they looked quite frail.

And flash forward to the tragic train derailment in Ohio and subsequent train derailments that happened across the country. It is imperative that here in New York we do everything we can to keep our communities safe and make sure that the trains that are running through our communities are as safe as possible so that the residents who live there can go about their daily lives without fear of some type of explosion.

I'm incredibly proud to have a bill in this package to require comprehensive in-person safety assessments before a freight train leaves a New York rail yard. Right now those are being done via video. We have to make sure that people are inspecting and checking our trains to keep people safe, not just across New York State but across our country.

I want to thank the leader for bringing this package forward and our chair of Transportation, Senator Kennedy, for his leadership in this package.

Again, I'm incredibly proud to be a

part of this, to be leading the country in train safety, and for that I vote aye.

Thank you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Hinchey to be recorded in the affirmative.

Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 1122, voting in the negative: Senator Walczyk.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1123, Senate Print 6924, by Senator Skoufis, an act to amend the Railroad Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 1123, voting in the negative: Senator Walczyk.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1124, Senate Print 6925, by Senator Kennedy, an act to amend the Railroad Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This act shall take effect 90 days after it shall have become a law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 1124, voting in the negative: Senator Walczyk.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1125, Senate Print 6926, by Senator Mannion, an act to amend the Transportation Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: 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 PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 1125, voting in the negative: Senator Walczyk.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1126, Senate Print 6934, by Senator Kennedy, an act to amend the Transportation Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This

act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 1126, voting in the negative: Senator Walczyk.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 1127, Senate Print 6935, by Senator Martinez, an act in relation to establishing a freight rail safety task force.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar Number 1127, voting in the negative: Senator Walczyk.

Ayes, 60. Nays, 1.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

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

SENATOR GIANARIS: Can we please move to the controversial calendar.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Secretary will ring the bell.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number 420, Senate Print 205, by Senator Cleare, an act to amend the Banking Law.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Borrello, why do you rise?

SENATOR BORRELLO: Thank you, Madam President. If the sponsor will yield for a question.

SENATOR CLEARE: Yes. Through you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Senator yields.

SENATOR BORRELLO: Thank you. Through you, Madam President. Thank you, Senator Cleare.

If private prisons are already not allowed in New York State, why is this bill necessary?

SENATOR CLEARE: I think that was due to advocacy and whether or not the institutions wanted to follow that or not. We want to make sure that this is the law, so that we don't have to rely on whether or not institutions want to do that or not.

SENATOR BORRELLO: Madam President, will the sponsor continue to yield.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Will the sponsor yield?

SENATOR CLEARE: Through you, Madam President, yes.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The Senator yields.

SENATOR BORRELLO: So I just want to make sure we're clear that this is not allowed in New York State, private prisons are not allowed in New York State.

So this bill would really impact

New York firms investing in private prisons outside of New York State, is that correct?

SENATOR CLEARE: Yes. Through you, Madam President, yes.

SENATOR BORRELLO: Through you, Madam President, will the sponsor continue to yield.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Will the sponsor yield?

SENATOR CLEARE: Yes, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The sponsor yields.

SENATOR BORRELLO: So what is New York State's interest in something outside of New York when it comes to, you know, regulating government contractors operating outside of New York State?

SENATOR CLEARE: We want to make sure that we are not investing in private prisons outside of New York State, due to some of the conditions that we feel are happening. If we banned it here in this state, why are our banks investing in those prisons? If it's not right here, it's not right anywhere else.

SENATOR BORRELLO: Madam President, will the sponsor continue to yield.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Does the sponsor yield?

SENATOR CLEARE: Yes, I yield.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The sponsor yields.

SENATOR BORRELLO: So basically we're saying to New York firms that we don't want them investing in companies that are operating private prisons outside New York State. Where else do we prohibit the banks' investments in other states?

SENATOR CLEARE: I don't know.

But I'm -- I'm concerned about private prisons, which are banned in New York State, and we don't want our institutions investing in those prisons anywhere else.

SENATOR BORRELLO: Madam President, on the bill.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Borrello on the bill.

SENATOR BORRELLO: Senator Cleare, thank you very much.

You know, I want to compliment

Senator Cleare, because before she was a Senator she did advocate and did indeed get major nationally chartered banks -- which would not be impacted by this legislation -- to stop investing in private prisons.

She and her predecessor were strong advocates for that. I commend you for that. That, to me, is the way to do this, is to advocate and to say we don't like this, we want you to stop doing it. That, to me, is a stronger foil. Because in the end, this bill only impacts state-chartered banks, which unfortunately now are in the minority in New York State, so it's really not going to have as much of an impact.

But it does set a dangerous precedent, that we are going to take our political views and impose them on businesses in New York State, particularly those that provide financing, like our banks. And in the end, they have an easy out. They just don't have to be state-chartered banks anymore.

This is the fight I fight all the time in the Banks Committee, that we are really only regulating those community banks, those people that make decisions locally, with local

ownership, local decisionmakers. And we're having less and less and less of those.

So as we take a political stand, we are also having the unintended consequence of harming those communities that rely on those state-chartered banks, our local community banks.

So while I appreciate the advocacy and commend her for it, I can't support this bill, and I strongly will oppose it.

So thank you, Madam President.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Are there any other Senators wishing to be heard?

Seeing and hearing none, debate is closed. The Secretary will ring the bell.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Gianaris.

SENATOR GIANARIS: Madam President, we will be restoring this to the noncontroversial calendar.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is restored to the noncontroversial calendar.

Read the last section.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll.)

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Cleare to explain her vote.

SENATOR CLEARE: Thank you, Madam President.

This bill sets a very clear moral and policy principle which follows upon the fact that we already prohibit the operation of private prisons in New York State. Senate Bill 205 extends this principle further by prohibiting any state-chartered banking institution from providing financing or investing in the stocks, securities or other obligations of an entity that owns or operates a private correctional facility.

New York has been wise enough to ban the very existence of private prisons in the state, and thus it is completely logical to prohibit banks chartered by the very same state from investing in an activity that we have declared is not only prohibited but morally unpalatable.

As we stand here today, over 115,000 people in this country are in private prisons, and the number being detained by ICE only adds to this alarming figure.

In my public service career I have helped numerous constituents who have had family members in private prisons, and the experience was horrendous. It is often impossible to make contact with your loved one, set up visits or perform any kind of wellness check. There's no accountability, no care or compassion. No one to even answer the phone, in some cases.

Given the fact that private prisons are a moral, ethical and policy scourge filled with lax safety standards for incarcerated individuals and employees, perverse initiatives to keep people incarcerated longer, and long histories of corruption, this bill makes complete sense. New York banks should not be allowed to profit from institutions that the state itself deems impermissible to even exist, plain and simple.

And I proudly vote aye.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Cleare to be recorded in the affirmative.

Senator Rivera to explain his vote.

SENATOR RIVERA: Thank you, Madam President.

I want to thank Senator Cleare for bringing this piece of legislation forward.

And I want to remind everybody of what we're talking about here. We are taking a political stand. We are. We are. And the political stand that we're taking should not be a controversial one. For-profit prisons -- let's be clear what that is, Madam President. That means that people are profiting from putting people in prison, from keeping them there, are encouraged to drive profits and get, you know, their stock prices up by taking what is mostly Black and brown poor people across the country and just shoving them in a box.

I think that's a good political position to take, that such a thing is immoral, reprehensible. And the fact that if we get this bill passed and signed into law, that the institutions in our state will no longer be able to profit from that, will not be able to make -- you know, that is a positive thing.

So yes, we are making a political

decision here. And we are taking a moral stand against something that is incredibly reprehensible, immoral, and the wrong thing to do.

Thank you, Senator Cleare. I vote in the affirmative.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator Rivera to be recorded in the affirmative.

Announce the results.

THE SECRETARY: In relation to Calendar 420, those Senators voting in the negative are Senators Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber and Weik.

Ayes, 40. Nays, 21.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill is passed.

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

SENATOR GIANARIS: Madam President, is there any further business at the desk?

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

SENATOR GIANARIS: Move to adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 24th, at 11:00 a.m.

ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: On motion, the Senate stands adjourned until Wednesday, May 24th, at 11:00 a.m.

And I just want to remind everyone that the 28th is Dorothy's birthday.

(Cheers; applause.)

(Whereupon, at 5:22 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)