

1 NEW YORK STATE SENATE

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3  
4 THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

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9 ALBANY, NEW YORK

10 March 9, 2026

11 3:16 p.m.

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13  
14 REGULAR SESSION

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18 SENATOR JAMAAL T. BAILEY, Acting President

19 ALEJANDRA N. PAULINO, ESQ., Secretary

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: 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 BAILEY: In the  
absence of clergy, let us bow our heads in a  
moment of silent reflection or prayer.

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

ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Reading  
of the Journal.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Friday,  
March 6, 2026, the Senate met pursuant to  
adjournment. The Journal of Thursday, March 5,  
2026, was read and approved. On motion, the  
Senate adjourned.

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

Presentation of petitions.

Messages from the Assembly.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Senator Gonzalez

1 moves to discharge, from the Committee on  
2 Internet and Technology, Assembly Bill  
3 Number 3411B and substitute it for the identical  
4 Senate Bill 934A, Third Reading Calendar 429.

5 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: So  
6 ordered.

7 Messages from the Governor.  
8 Reports of standing committees.  
9 Reports of select committees.  
10 Communications and reports from  
11 state officers.

12 Motions and resolutions.

13 Senator Gianaris.

14 SENATOR GIANARIS: Good afternoon,  
15 Mr. President.

16 We're going to go right into the  
17 reading of the calendar today.

18 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The  
19 Secretary will read.

20 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
21 104, Senate Print 4369, by Senator Comrie, an act  
22 to amend the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Read the  
24 last section.

25 THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This

1 act shall take effect immediately.

2 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Call the  
3 roll.

4 (The Secretary called the roll.)

5 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Announce  
6 the results.

7 THE SECRETARY: In relation to  
8 Calendar 104, voting in the negative are  
9 Senators Martinez and Walczyk.

10 Ayes, 56. Nays, 2.

11 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The bill  
12 is passed.

13 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
14 263, Senate Print 4995, by Senator Harckham, an  
15 act to amend the Environmental Conservation Law.

16 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Read the  
17 last section.

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

21 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Call the  
22 roll.

23 (The Secretary called the roll.)

24 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Announce  
25 the results.

1 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 58.

2 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The bill  
3 is passed.

4 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
5 335, Senate Print 349, by Senator Skoufis, an act  
6 to amend the Public Officers Law.

7 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Read the  
8 last section.

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

12 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Call the  
13 roll.

14 (The Secretary called the roll.)

15 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Announce  
16 the results.

17 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 58.

18 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The bill  
19 is passed.

20 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
21 339, Senate Print 2271, by Senator Krueger, an  
22 act to amend the Executive Law.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Read the  
24 last section.

25 THE SECRETARY: Section 2. This

1 act shall take effect on the first of January.

2 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Call the  
3 roll.

4 (The Secretary called the roll.)

5 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Announce  
6 the results.

7 THE SECRETARY: In relation to  
8 Calendar 339, voting in the negative are  
9 Senators Ashby, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Chan,  
10 Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Martins, Mattera,  
11 Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads,  
12 Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber and Weik.

13 Ayes, 39. Nays, 19.

14 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The bill  
15 is passed.

16 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
17 340, Senate Print 2304, by Senator Krueger, an  
18 act to amend the Legislative Law.

19 SENATOR LANZA: Lay it aside.

20 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Lay it  
21 aside.

22 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
23 347, Senate Print Number 6283, by  
24 Senator Scarcella-Spanton, an act to amend the  
25 Cannabis Law.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   Read the  
2   last section.

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

5                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   Call the  
6   roll.

7                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

8                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   Announce  
9   the results.

10                  THE SECRETARY:   Ayes, 59.

11                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   The bill  
12   is passed.

13                  THE SECRETARY:   Calendar Number  
14   359, Senate Print 2329, by Senator Rivera, an act  
15   to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

16                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   Read the  
17   last section.

18                  THE SECRETARY:   Section 4.  This  
19   act shall take effect on the 120th day after it  
20   shall have become a law.

21                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   Call the  
22   roll.

23                  (The Secretary called the roll.)

24                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   Senator  
25   Murray to explain his vote.

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

3                   I respect what the sponsor is trying  
4   to do with this. My concern is we're having the  
5   New York State Commissioner of the DMV decide on  
6   this with public input, but only for New York  
7   City.

8                   You know, this problem exists  
9   elsewhere as well. If we could expand this,  
10   maybe, I might consider it. But I'm not going to  
11   support something that leaves us out.

12                  So for that reason I'll be a no.

13                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   Senator  
14   Murray to be recorded in the negative.

15                  Announce the results. Excuse me,  
16   don't announce the results. Sorry.

17                  (Pause.)

18                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:   Announce  
19   the results.

20                  THE SECRETARY:    In relation to  
21   Calendar 359, voting in the negative are  
22   Senators Ashby, Borrello, Chan, Gallivan, Griffo,  
23   Lanza, Martins, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt,  
24   Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber and Weik.

25                  Ayes, 43.   Nays, 16.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    The bill  
2   is passed.

3                   THE SECRETARY:    Calendar Number  
4   363, Senate Print 205, by Senator Martinez, an  
5   act to amend the Penal Law.

6                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Read the  
7   last section.

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

10                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Call the  
11   roll.

12                  (The Secretary called the roll.)

13                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Announce  
14   the results.

15                  THE SECRETARY:    Ayes, 59.

16                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    The bill  
17   is passed.

18                  THE SECRETARY:    Calendar Number  
19   373, Senate Print 4478, by Senator Ramos, an act  
20   to amend the Labor Law.

21                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Read the  
22   last section.

23                  THE SECRETARY:    Section 3.  This  
24   act shall take effect on the 60th day after it  
25   shall have become a law.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Call the  
2    roll.

3                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

4                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Announce  
5    the results.

6                   THE SECRETARY:    In relation to  
7    Calendar 373, voting in the negative:  
8    Senator Borrello.

9                   Ayes, 58.   Nays, 1.

10                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    The bill  
11    is passed.

12                  THE SECRETARY:    Calendar Number  
13    387, Senate Print 1855, by Senator Rivera, an act  
14    to amend the Public Health Law.

15                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Read the  
16    last section.

17                  THE SECRETARY:    Section 9.   This  
18    act shall take effect on the 90th day after it  
19    shall have become a law.

20                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Call the  
21    roll.

22                  (The Secretary called the roll.)

23                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Announce  
24    the results.

25                  THE SECRETARY:    Ayes, 59.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    The bill  
2    is passed.

3                   THE SECRETARY:    Calendar Number  
4    401, Senate Print 1615, by Senator Brisport, an  
5    act to amend the Real Property Actions and  
6    Proceedings Law.

7                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Read the  
8    last section.

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

11                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Call the  
12   roll.

13                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

14                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Announce  
15   the results.

16                   THE SECRETARY:    In relation to  
17   Calendar 401, voting in the negative are  
18   Senators Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick,  
19   Chan, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins,  
20   Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt,  
21   Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk,  
22   Weber and Weik.

23                   Ayes, 37.  Nays, 22.

24                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    The bill  
25   is passed.

1 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
2 414, Senate Print 5257B, by Senator Hinchey, an  
3 act to amend the General Business Law.

4 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Read the  
5 last section.

6 THE SECRETARY: Section 4. This  
7 act shall take effect on the 180th day after it  
8 shall have become a law.

9 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Call the  
10 roll.

11 (The Secretary called the roll.)

12 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Announce  
13 the results.

14 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59.

15 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The bill  
16 is passed.

17 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
18 419, Senate Print 3277, by Senator Skoufis, an  
19 act to amend the Agriculture and Markets Law.

20 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Read the  
21 last section.

22 THE SECRETARY: Section 3. This  
23 act shall take effect on the first of January.

24 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Call the  
25 roll.

1 (The Secretary called the roll.)

2 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Announce  
3 the results.

4 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59.

5 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The bill  
6 is passed.

7 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
8 429, Assembly Bill Number 3411B, by  
9 Assemblymember Vanel, an act to amend the  
10 General Business Law.

11 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Read the  
12 last section.

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

16 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Call the  
17 roll.

18 (The Secretary called the roll.)

19 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Announce  
20 the results.

21 THE SECRETARY: In relation to  
22 Calendar 429, voting in the negative are  
23 Senators Walczyk and Weik.

24 Ayes, 57. Nays, 2.

25 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The bill

1 is passed.

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

4 SENATOR GIANARIS: Please go to the  
5 reading of the controversial calendar.

6 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The  
7 Secretary will ring the bell.

8 The Secretary will read.

9 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
10 340, Senate Print 2304, by Senator Krueger, an  
11 act to amend the Legislative Law.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Senator  
13 Lanza, why do you rise?

14 SENATOR LANZA: Mr. President, I  
15 believe there's an amendment at the desk. I  
16 waive the reading of that amendment and ask that  
17 Senator Rolison be recognized.

18 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Thank  
19 you, Senator Lanza.

20 Upon review of the amendment, in  
21 accordance with Rule 6, Section 4B, I rule it  
22 nongermane and out of order at this time.

23 SENATOR LANZA: Accordingly,  
24 Mr. President, I appeal the ruling of the chair  
25 and ask that Senator Rolison be heard on that

1 appeal.

2 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The  
3 appeal has been made and reoli -- the appeal has  
4 been made and recognized -- new word -- and  
5 Senator Rolison may be heard.

6 Senator Rolison.

7 SENATOR ROLISON: Good afternoon,  
8 Mr. President.

9 This amendment is germane to the  
10 bill-in-chief because the bill-in-chief deals  
11 with the legislative process of passing a bill  
12 through the State Legislature, and this amendment  
13 is a bill that I carry, Senate Bill 8463, that  
14 I'm hoping will pass today and, if not, then  
15 sometime this session.

16 The amendment, which is the same  
17 language from my bill, S8463, provides a one-year  
18 utility bill tax and surcharge holiday and a  
19 two-year green energy tax holiday. The tax and  
20 surcharge holidays would provide much-needed  
21 financial relief to residents and small  
22 businesses around this state that are dealing  
23 with crushing utility bills.

24 The bill does not come without  
25 precedent. In 2022, Mr. President, when gas

1 prices were over \$5 a gallon, we implemented a  
2 gas tax holiday. This bill would provide the  
3 same relief.

4 It is estimated that about one-third  
5 of utility bills are government taxes,  
6 surcharges, and government mandates. Now, I  
7 would say, Mr. President, the quickest and most  
8 effective way the government can provide  
9 immediate and real relief to ratepayers is to  
10 suspend some of these taxes and surcharges.

11 Now, this bill would suspend the  
12 gross receipts tax, the sales tax, the systems  
13 benefit charge, the temporary state  
14 assessment/incremental state assessment charge,  
15 and the renewable portfolio standard charge for  
16 one year.

17 Now, I would daresay, Mr. President,  
18 that most people don't even know that these taxes  
19 and surcharges are part of their bill. But they  
20 are partially what is driving up their bills.

21 It would also suspend any tariff or  
22 surcharge on a utility bill associated with the  
23 construction of a renewable energy system or  
24 EV charging stations for two years.

25 I encourage all of my fellow

1 Senators to support this amendment.

2 Thank you, Mr. President.

3 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Thank you  
4 Senator Rolison.

5 I want to remind the house that the  
6 vote is on the procedures of the house and the  
7 ruling of the chair.

8 Those in favor of overruling the  
9 chair please signify by saying aye.

10 (Response of "Aye.")

11 SENATOR LANZA: Show of hands.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: A show of  
13 hands has been requested and so ordered.

14 Announce the results.

15 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 22.

16 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The  
17 ruling of the chair stands, and the bill-in-chief  
18 is before the house.

19 Senator Gianaris.

20 SENATOR GIANARIS: Mr. President,  
21 we've agreed to restore this bill to the  
22 noncontroversial calendar.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Upon  
24 consent, this bill is restored to the  
25 noncontroversial calendar.

1 Read the last section.

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

4 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Call the  
5 roll.

6 (The Secretary called the roll.)

7 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: Senator  
8 May to explain her vote.

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

11 I want to thank Senator Krueger for  
12 this bill. When I first came into the Senate, I  
13 was shocked to discover that we don't already do  
14 this.

15 In the Congress, if a bill is -- in  
16 the House of Representatives and the Senate are  
17 slightly different, there is a simple procedure  
18 for them to come to an agreement about them.

19 But here we have to amend the bill,  
20 repass it. It's a very cumbersome process even  
21 sometimes just to change one word or even a  
22 comma.

23 So I think this is just smart  
24 policy. I'm pleased that we're passing it. And  
25 I vote aye.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Senator  
2   May to be recorded in the affirmative.

3                   Senator Krueger to explain her vote.

4                   SENATOR KRUEGER:    Thank you.   Good  
5   afternoon, Mr. President.

6                   So despite our disagreement on the  
7   hostile amendment that just did not move as  
8   nongermane -- which it wasn't, actually -- I do  
9   hope my colleagues will join me in voting for  
10   this bill because of what Rachel May just said.

11                  Congress does this.  They get their  
12   bills negotiated far more quickly.  You don't end  
13   up at the end of a session going, Huh, we passed  
14   sometimes not just two bills in the two houses,  
15   but four bills in the two houses which, if they  
16   had just been talking to each other, would have  
17   been one commonsense bill everyone agreed with  
18   that could much more likely move forward to the  
19   Governor and hopefully be passed.

20                  And it's not that complicated to  
21   understand.  And I think we would all be happier  
22   at the end of the day.  Maybe not.  So I do hope  
23   people will vote for the bill.

24                  Thank you, Mr. President.

25                  ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY:    Senator

1 Krueger to be recorded in the affirmative.

2 Announce the results.

3 THE SECRETARY: In relation to  
4 Calendar 340, voting in the negative are  
5 Senators Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick,  
6 Chan, Gallivan, Helming, Martins, Mattera,  
7 Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec,  
8 Tedisco, Walczyk and Weik.

9 Ayes, 42. Nays, 17.

10 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: The bill  
11 is passed.

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

14 SENATOR GIANARIS: Is there any  
15 further business at the desk?

16 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: There is  
17 no further business at the desk.

18 SENATOR GIANARIS: I move to  
19 adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 10th, at  
20 3:00 p.m.

21 ACTING PRESIDENT BAILEY: On  
22 motion, the Senate stands adjourned until  
23 Tuesday, March 10th, at 3:00 p.m.

24 (Whereupon, at 3:30 p.m., the Senate  
25 adjourned.)