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NEW YORK STATE SENATE

THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD

ALBANY, NEW YORK

March 25, 2026

3:39 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

SENATOR ROXANNE J. PERSAUD, Acting President

ALEJANDRA N. PAULINO, ESQ., Secretary

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

2 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The  
3 Senate will come to order.

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

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

8 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Rabbi  
9 Velvl Butman, of the Lubavitch Youth Organization  
10 of Brooklyn, New York, will deliver today's  
11 invocation.

12 Rabbi?

13 RABBI BUTMAN: Almighty God,  
14 Master of the Universe, bless the members of the  
15 New York State Senate to fulfill their divine and  
16 sacred mission to make the world a better place  
17 for all of humanity, to live by Your divine Will  
18 and divine Providence in unity, peace and  
19 harmony, with dignity and respect for every  
20 human being.

21 We are all created in Your image.  
22 Guide them to be living examples of goodness and  
23 kindness, inspired by the seven Noahide  
24 Commandments, which You gave to Adam and to Noah  
25 at the dawn of civilization.

1                   As recorded in Your Holy Bible, in  
2 the Book of Genesis:

3                   One, to worship you alone and not to  
4 worship idols;

5                   Two, not to commit adultery, incest,  
6 sodomy, or any other abomination;

7                   Three, not to murder; and

8                   Four, not to eat and not to be cruel  
9 to any living animal;

10                  Five, not to blasphemy Your holy  
11 name;

12                  Six, not to steal, not to lie or  
13 cheat; and

14                  Seven, that every society should be  
15 governed by just and moral laws, which are based  
16 on the recognition and the acknowledgment of You,  
17 O God, as the sovereign ruler of every  
18 human being, one nation under God.

19                  Grant us the members of the New York  
20 State Assembly and Senate to enact laws in the  
21 awareness of Your divine Providence, recognizing  
22 that in establishing just laws, they are  
23 fulfilling Your will.

24                  Bless the members of the New York  
25 State Senate with good health, clarity of mind,

1 wisdom, compassion, and good fellowship. And may  
2 they always recognize that in establishing just  
3 laws, they are fulfilling Your will.

4 Bless us to be successful leaders,  
5 to serve and to strengthen our New York  
6 communities.

7 Almighty God, we dedicate this  
8 prayer today in honor of the Rebbe and his  
9 birthday, on the 124th anniversary, and the  
10 85th anniversary of his miraculous escape from  
11 Nazi Europe and his arrival to New York in 1941  
12 with his wife, Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka Schneerson,  
13 of blessed memory.

14 From New York, the Rebbe established  
15 the world's largest Jewish global network, with  
16 thousands of centers worldwide, in more than  
17 100 countries, to welcome and to inspire all of  
18 humanity to prepare and to usher in a world of  
19 peace, unity and harmony, a world of redemption  
20 the Moshiach has prophesized in Your Holy Bible.

21 You, Almighty God, have created  
22 every human being regardless of race, color or  
23 creed, and endowed each person with a divine  
24 spark. Grant us the wisdom, leadership to ensure  
25 that every child is loved unconditionally and

1       educated with morality, faith and respect for all  
2       humanity.

3                       As it is written in our currency,  
4       "In God we trust," reminding us that there is an  
5       Eye that sees and an Ear that hears.

6                       The Rebbe asks to publicize the  
7       prophecy that Moshiach is on the way, and  
8       Moshiach is ready to come now and that we all  
9       have to do more acts of goodness and kindness.  
10       As Maimonides says, that every good deed could  
11       tip the global scale for the good.

12                      May we merit to see from  
13       Almighty God a world of redemption, a world of  
14       peace, divine knowledge, and a life of joy,  
15       happiness, and purpose. So may it be Your will,  
16       Almighty God.

17                      And together, let us all say: Amen.

18                      (Response of "Amen.")

19                      RABBI BUTMAN: Thank you.

20                      If I may, just for a moment, my  
21       father, of blessed memory, passed about 18 months  
22       ago. He would come here very often, Rabbi Shmuel  
23       Butman, once a year on behalf of the  
24       Lubavitch Youth Organization.

25                      And the Rebbe asked him to take a

1 dollar bill and put it into the charity box to  
2 inspire us all, that money is not only meant to  
3 take, but to give and to share.

4 As the dollar bill reads, "In God we  
5 trust," and there is an Eye that sees.

6 Thank you very much for your time.

7 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Reading  
8 of the Journal.

9 THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Tuesday,  
10 March 24, 2026, the Senate met pursuant to  
11 adjournment. The Journal of Monday, March 23,  
12 2026, was read and approved. On motion, the  
13 Senate adjourned.

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

16 May we have some order, please.

17 Presentation of petitions.

18 Messages from the Assembly.

19 The Secretary will read.

20 THE SECRETARY: Senator Salazar  
21 moves to discharge, from the Committee on  
22 Insurance, Assembly Bill Number 4677B and  
23 substitute it for the identical Senate Bill  
24 1670B, Third Reading Calendar 484.

25 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: So

1 ordered.

2 Messages from the Governor.

3 Reports of standing committees.

4 Report of select committees.

5 Communications and reports from  
6 state officers.

7 Motions and resolutions.

8 Senator Gianaris.

9 SENATOR GIANARIS: Good afternoon,  
10 Madam President.

11 We're going to begin by taking up  
12 some resolutions today.

13 First up is previously adopted  
14 Resolution 1410, by Senator Harckham. Please  
15 have its title read and call on Senator Harckham.

16 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The  
17 Secretary will read.

18 THE SECRETARY: Resolution 1410, by  
19 Senator Harckham, memorializing Governor Kathy  
20 Hochul to proclaim March 29, 2026, as  
21 Vietnam Veterans Day in the State of New York.

22 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator  
23 Harckham, one moment, please.

24 May we have some order, please?

25 (Pause.)

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:     Senator  
2 Harckham on the resolution.

3                   SENATOR HARCKHAM:     Thank you very  
4 much, Madam President.

5                   First I want to thank our Majority  
6 Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins, for bringing this  
7 resolution to the floor today and for her  
8 steadfast support of this event over the years.

9                   Today I'm proud to rise to celebrate  
10 truly amazing Americans and New Yorkers, our  
11 Vietnam veterans. On Saturday, March 29th, we  
12 will once again be observing National Vietnam  
13 Veterans Day. This will be the 14th anniversary  
14 of this recognition, which was first proclaimed  
15 by President Obama back in 2012.

16                   So accordingly, I would like to  
17 welcome all of the Vietnam veterans who are here  
18 with us in the chamber today, a number of whom  
19 are from Westchester and Putnam. And I will be  
20 introducing them all individually momentarily.

21                   I also want to thank my colleague in  
22 the Assembly, Assemblymember Matt Slater, for  
23 coordinating on the trip to bring folks up from  
24 our joint districts.

25                   More than 3 million Americans served

1 our nation during the Vietnam War, and more than  
2 58,000 sacrificed their lives. And today we pay  
3 homage to the brave men and women who served in  
4 the Vietnam War, knowing full well they served  
5 with tremendous courage and sacrifice.

6 And yet when they returned home,  
7 they were not welcomed back as veterans from past  
8 wars were. They were largely scorned and  
9 denigrated for their service. And today we  
10 acknowledge that as a moral failure by our  
11 society.

12 And many returned with physical and  
13 psychological scars which were exacerbated by the  
14 fact that they were not welcomed with open arms.

15 And yet as we honor the veterans of  
16 the Vietnam War, it's important to emphasize that  
17 for many of these veterans, their service to our  
18 nation and their fellow veterans has been  
19 never-ending. When they returned stateside, many  
20 Vietnam veterans became active in their  
21 communities, as first responders, in law  
22 enforcement, in education, elected officials, and  
23 business owners.

24 And how these men and women returned  
25 home and dedicated themselves to the selfless

1 care of their fellow servicemembers and other  
2 residents is truly inspirational.

3 And Vietnam veterans taught us that  
4 as individuals we should offer our respect to  
5 servicemembers even if we do not support the  
6 politics behind the war or the conflict in which  
7 they fight. We don't have to support the wars to  
8 support the warriors.

9 And most importantly, our Vietnam  
10 veterans determined that no generation of  
11 warriors should be treated as poorly as they were  
12 upon returning home from foreign conflict -- that  
13 those who wear the uniform will be treated with  
14 the respect and dignity and get the benefits and  
15 services that they deserve. And thankfully, this  
16 nation has heeded their call.

17 So among the many veterans here  
18 today from around New York State, I'm proud to  
19 introduce veterans here from Westchester and  
20 Putnam: Michael Bergin; Jerry Whitmore;  
21 Guy Hodges -- my next-door neighbor, by the way;  
22 Lu Caldara; Karl Rohde, the director of the  
23 Putnam Veterans Service Agency; Antonio Costella;  
24 Steve Seid; Michael Marx; Louis Ferrari;  
25 Liam Baker; Philip Fiederlein; Peter Van Scoy;

1 Al Roskosky; James Mecca; Robert Everett, Jr.;  
2 Melvin Satchell; Raphael Torres; Joe Hunt;  
3 Robert Finne; and Roy Ettere.

4 And to all of you I say, on behalf  
5 of a grateful nation and state: Welcome home.  
6 We thank you for your selflessness, your  
7 sacrifice, and your courage.

8 Madam President, today I offer into  
9 the record of our proceedings a resolution that  
10 the State of New York wishes to express to its  
11 Vietnam veterans the respect and appreciation  
12 they deserve but did not always get when they  
13 returned home.

14 So be it that this legislative body  
15 pause in our deliberations to recognize March 29,  
16 2024 -- or 2026, excuse me -- as Vietnam Veterans  
17 Day, and to thank our brave Vietnam veterans for  
18 their honorable service to our nation, to our  
19 communities, and to their brothers and sisters  
20 who did not return home.

21 I proudly vote aye.

22 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
23 you, Senator.

24 Senator Ashby on the resolution.

25 SENATOR ASHBY: Thank you,

1 Madam President.

2 I want to thank Senator Harckham for  
3 bringing this resolution to the floor.

4 And we are joined today by several  
5 Vietnam veterans and their families from the  
6 Capital Region, including Staff Sergeant  
7 David DeMarrais and his wife, Connie;  
8 Airman First Class Jim Wendt and his daughter,  
9 Carol Lichorowiec; Airman First Class  
10 Gene LoPorco; Sergeant Tom Marinello;  
11 Specialist 5th Class Weslie Boyea and his wife,  
12 Debra.

13 And it is important for us to  
14 remember that when our Vietnam veterans returned  
15 home, they experienced an alternate reality. And  
16 I think for many of us who have deployed and  
17 experienced combat, that in itself is a different  
18 reality.

19 And then to come back home and be  
20 treated the way that they were -- I cannot  
21 imagine the state of confusion, the frustration,  
22 the angst that they experienced.

23 But they continued to serve. They  
24 continue to serve each and every day, making sure  
25 that the future generations of veterans don't

1 experience what they had to endure and still  
2 endure today. Those memories that they continue  
3 to experience I'm sure is what fuels their drive  
4 and the opportunities that we have each and every  
5 day here.

6 I would also like to compliment OGS  
7 and our own Department of Veterans' Services on  
8 the recent display in the Abrams Building for --  
9 on the Mail Call, is what it's called. And it's  
10 correspondence of letters going back and forth to  
11 family members and veterans during Vietnam.

12 And there's one that I'd like to  
13 share today, Madam President, if you'll indulge  
14 me, that I think that we should remember during  
15 our times and deliberations here. It's from  
16 Tyrone S. Pannell to his daughter.

17 "Dear Tracy:

18 "I find it very hard to begin this  
19 letter. The things I want to say to you can  
20 never be fully expressed in words.

21 "I want so much to say the right  
22 things. I want to say the things that will make  
23 you understand how very much I love you.

24 "Before you were born I, like most  
25 men, wanted a son; but when I saw you for the

1 first time just a few minutes old, I knew I could  
2 never love a son the way I loved you. For a Son  
3 grows and becomes a man while a Daughter is  
4 always a child to be loved and cared for.

5 "More than anything I want you to  
6 know me and love me. I want the love that will  
7 grow between us to be one of understanding, just  
8 as the love that exists between your Mother and  
9 I.

10 "The next time I see you, you will  
11 be a little lady walking and talking. Learn how  
12 to say Daddy.

13 "I love you with all my heart.

14 "Love, Daddy"

15 On November 30, 1965, Tyrone Pannell  
16 was killed in action -- six months after his wife  
17 Marlene had given birth to their little girl, and  
18 the letter's recipient, Tracy Renee.

19 Thank you, Madam President.

20 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
21 you, Senator.

22 Senator Stec on the resolution.

23 SENATOR STEC: Thank you,  
24 Madam President.

25 I too would like to rise and thank

1 Senator Harckham for bringing this resolution  
2 forward to commemorate March 29th as Vietnam  
3 Veterans Day here in the State of New York.

4 As my colleagues have already said,  
5 we owe a great deal of debt and gratitude to all  
6 of our veterans, and especially those that were  
7 disrespected and their value wasn't shown to them  
8 upon their return from Vietnam.

9 I know a lot of Vietnam veterans,  
10 and I'm thankful for their leadership and their  
11 example and their service and their sacrifice.

12 And I'd be remiss if I didn't point  
13 out and thank a Vietnam veteran that's very, very  
14 special to me, my own father, who served in the  
15 Marine Corps in Vietnam.

16 And so, Dad, I love you, and thank  
17 you for your service and sacrifice. Thank you  
18 for your fatherhood and trying to make me into  
19 the person that I am.

20 And again, to all our Vietnam  
21 veterans, thank you for your service to our  
22 country.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
24 you, Senator.

25 Senator Zellner on the resolution.

1                   SENATOR ZELLNER:    Thank you,  
2   Madam President.

3                   Thank you, Senator Harckham and  
4   Leader Stewart-Cousins, for bringing this  
5   resolution forward.

6                   Today I rise to recognize  
7   Vietnam Veterans Day in New York and thank a  
8   generation of men and women whose service came at  
9   a complicated time in our nation's history, and  
10  whose impact is still felt today.

11                   We remember those who lost their  
12  lives, and we recognize those who came home and  
13  had to move forward, often without the support  
14  they deserved.  What they experienced didn't stay  
15  overseas, it became part of their lives and the  
16  lives of those around them.

17                   And what stands out is that they  
18  made sure no one else had to carry that  
19  experience.  That's what we see in  
20  Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 77 in  
21  Tonawanda, New York, led by President Tom  
22  Thompson, with more than 700 members, including  
23  my friend Councilmember Jim Shiesley and retired  
24  Detective Dan Brady.

25                   They've created a place where

1 veterans can rely on each other. They provide  
2 food, help connect veterans to resources, host  
3 events, and maintain a space where people can  
4 come together and stay connected, all through  
5 their own fundraising and commitment.

6           It's simple: People showing up for  
7 each other. I've seen how service carries  
8 through families. My own family served in the  
9 Army in Vietnam, my uncles Robert and  
10 Joseph Masich and my uncle Michael Zellner. Like  
11 so many families, that experience didn't end when  
12 they came home. It stayed with them and shaped  
13 the course of their lives in ways that were often  
14 heavy and complicated and deeply felt.

15           So today we recognize Vietnam  
16 veterans not just for their service, but for  
17 their lasting impact. And we affirm clearly and  
18 without question that they will never stand alone  
19 again.

20           And I want to thank organizations  
21 like VVA Chapter 77 for the work they do every  
22 day to take care of those who served.

23           Thank you.

24           ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
25 you, Senator.

1                   Senator Borrello on the resolution.

2                   SENATOR BORRELLO:    Thank you,  
3   Madam President.

4                   I'd also like to thank the sponsor  
5   for this resolution to honor our Vietnam veterans  
6   on Vietnam Veterans Day here in New York State.

7                   I rise as the son of a Vietnam  
8   veteran. My father, Anthony Borrello, and his  
9   only sibling, Frank Borrello, served in Vietnam.

10                  Prior to Vietnam, that would not  
11   have happened. They would never have taken the  
12   only two children. So obviously for my  
13   grandmother it was a disturbing couple of years  
14   with both of them being deployed in Vietnam.

15                  You know, this was a war fought by  
16   the working class, by people of color. This is  
17   who we sent there. And then when they came back,  
18   they did not get the respect that they deserved.

19                  They were the ones sent by our  
20   government to do this, and then they were treated  
21   like the ones that were, you know, responsible.  
22   And it was wrong. But it created a new era of  
23   respect following that, a new era of respect for  
24   those who serve, for our military, for the  
25   greatest fighting force in the world.

1                   But because of the fact that they  
2 were never welcomed home properly, to this day it  
3 is always appropriate to address a  
4 Vietnam veteran and say "Welcome home."

5                   So to our Vietnam veterans that are  
6 here today, welcome home.

7                   God bless my family, my father, my  
8 uncle -- my late uncle -- and God bless the  
9 United States of America.

10                  Thank you.

11                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Thank  
12 you, Senator.

13                  Senator Ryan on the resolution.

14                  SENATOR RYAN:    Thank you,  
15 Madam President.

16                  And Senator Harckham, thank you for  
17 bringing this resolution.

18                  I too want to thank all of our  
19 veterans, for those that served with the utmost  
20 bravery, ran into conflict, served in the war.  
21 But I also want to say thank you, a shout out to  
22 my hero at home, my father, Patrick J. Ryan, who  
23 served. He was a union electrician, drafted,  
24 went and served as a Navy Seabee.

25                  And he was -- fun fact -- well, not

1 a fun fact, but honorable -- he was in the Tet  
2 offensive. So I just want to give him a shout  
3 out at home. If you're there, if you're  
4 watching, which -- a 100 percent chance you're  
5 not --

6 (Laughter.)

7 SENATOR RYAN: -- I just want to  
8 say: Thanks, Dad. Thank you for your service.  
9 I'm honored to be your son.

10 Thank you.

11 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
12 you.

13 Senator Addabbo on the resolution.

14 SENATOR ADDABBO: Thank you very  
15 much, Madam President.

16 I'd like to join my colleagues in  
17 acknowledging and thanking the courage and  
18 sacrifice of our Vietnam veterans today. You  
19 know, and thank Senator Harckham for giving us  
20 the moment to do so.

21 We have heard it, that they've  
22 answered the call our country gave them, and  
23 unfortunately when they came back, it wasn't such  
24 a pleasant welcome.

25 You know, we can say thank you. We

1 can say thank you, we can acknowledge it. But to  
2 me, actions speaker louder than words. A  
3 resolution is one way.

4 But this body can put politics  
5 aside -- you know, I love to be on the  
6 Veterans Committee, because that's what we do.  
7 We can put politics aside. And now is our  
8 moment, as legislators, to shine and show the  
9 respect during the budget process and during the  
10 legislative process.

11 So I really hope that when the  
12 budget dust settles, we have done what we could  
13 for our veterans, all veterans -- today, it's  
14 Vietnam veterans -- and certainly during the  
15 legislative process.

16 In my little neck of the woods in  
17 Queens County, we have one of the largest  
18 populations of veterans in the city, roughly  
19 40,000. And a third of those are  
20 Vietnam veterans.

21 So again, to understand that  
22 Veterans Day is not just one day of the year. In  
23 my opinion, it's every day of the year. We thank  
24 our veterans each and every day, and today we  
25 acknowledge and thank our Vietnam veterans.

1                   Thank you very much,  
2 Madam President. I'll be voting yes.

3                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
4 you, Senator.

5                   Senator Chan on the resolution.

6                   SENATOR CHAN: Thank you,  
7 Madam President.

8                   I would not be a United States  
9 Marine if I didn't rise today to thank my  
10 predecessors, whom I have known many of in the  
11 United States Marines. I spent about three and a  
12 half years in the Marine Corps, Air Station  
13 New River, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. I spent  
14 several months on the United States vessel  
15 USS Guadalcanal as well as the USS Austin.

16                   And I want to thank our Vietnam  
17 veterans for teaching me my trade, because I  
18 learned a lot from you. I learned to be that  
19 rough and tough United States Marine, that guy, a  
20 force in readiness, from guys like you.

21                   So I just want to extend to you guys  
22 my personal thanks.

23                   Thank you very much.

24                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
25 you, Senator.

1                   Senator Comrie on the resolution.

2                   SENATOR COMRIE:    I rise today to  
3                   thank Senator Harckham for continuing a tradition  
4                   that's important in our Senate and important in  
5                   this country, that we recognize our Vietnam  
6                   veterans for their service, that we acknowledge  
7                   the mistakes that were made when they returned  
8                   home.

9                   And, as Senator Addabbo said, that  
10                  we do everything we can as legislators to ensure  
11                  that the veterans are now getting the services  
12                  and resources that they need.

13                  One of which is restoring and  
14                  helping to restore some of the VA centers and  
15                  posts that are in desperate need of repair, some  
16                  of which go back to not having been repaired  
17                  since the '70s.

18                  So I hope, as Senator Addabbo said,  
19                  we can put actions to words, but we need to put  
20                  actions to deeds as well by making sure that our  
21                  veterans, in the twilight of their years, can  
22                  have the best of their years by having facilities  
23                  that are worthy of their service, worthy of their  
24                  time.

25                  You know, I just missed the draft.

1 I graduated from school just as the draft was  
2 ending. That was one of the happiest times of my  
3 life, to tell you the truth; I didn't have to go.

4 But I have to salute all of the men  
5 and women that went, that sacrificed their lives  
6 and are still sacrificing their lives today. So  
7 we must do what we can to honor our veterans.

8 I say aye to the resolution.

9 Thank you, Madam President.

10 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
11 you, Senator.

12 Senator Bailey on the resolution.

13 SENATOR BAILEY: Thank you,  
14 Madam President.

15 Thank you, Senator Harckham, for  
16 this really important resolution. This is one of  
17 these nice moments in this chamber when there's  
18 not a partisan bone in here. We get to speak  
19 about heroes.

20 And thank you for doing what you  
21 did, signing up to save people that you never  
22 met, that you didn't know and would never know,  
23 but you signed up anyway, and you saved them.  
24 And you saved our country during that.

25 So I want to thank you for that. I

1 want to thank you for never forgetting what this  
2 country is supposed to be, and those ideals. And  
3 you carry it out every single day.

4 So I just want to say, from the  
5 bottom of my heart, thank you. We can't forget  
6 you.

7 And Senator Harckham and also  
8 Senator Scarcella-Spanton and Assemblymember Dais  
9 over in the other chamber have spoken about a  
10 campaign to end veteran poverty. And so many of  
11 our vets live in poverty. So many of our vets  
12 can't make ends meet. And I think that's  
13 atrocious for people who literally have laid  
14 their lives down for strangers.

15 So we have to do better, not just in  
16 this chamber but in every statehouse around the  
17 country to make sure that people who have paid  
18 the ultimate sacrifice, and their families, are  
19 able to be taken care of.

20 Thank you for your service. Thank  
21 you for your existence. And thank you for your  
22 bravery.

23 I vote aye on the resolution,  
24 Madam President.

25 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank

1 you.

2 Senator Tedisco on the resolution.

3 SENATOR TEDISCO: Thank you,  
4 Madam President.

5 Today, as we salute our Vietnam  
6 veterans, I think by extension we have to  
7 remember all the men and women: I call them the  
8 best, the brightest, the most courageous fighting  
9 force for good in the world, the men and women of  
10 the United States armed forces.

11 And we've talked about our heroes.  
12 The men and women here are our heroes. And I  
13 think of my dad, who was Tech Sergeant Nicholas  
14 Tedisco, who served in Helleni {ph}, New Guinea,  
15 in World War II.

16 And today I also had the opportunity  
17 to thank one of my constituents. He's from the  
18 44th Senatorial District. He's Airman  
19 First Class Jim Wendt. And we had a nice  
20 discussion about his service, and I thanked him  
21 and showed him appreciation.

22 But we also talked about the fact --  
23 and it has been mentioned here -- it seems two  
24 different camps grow in any war or battle: This  
25 is a good war, or this is a bad war. And I think

1 we'll agree there are no good wars. People die  
2 in war. Americans die in war. Our enemies die  
3 in war.

4                   So when they came back and they said  
5 this was a bad war, well, there may be  
6 necessities for wars. And we can debate the  
7 necessity for a war. But we can never say our  
8 men and women served and put their lives on the  
9 line and left their families because it was a  
10 good war or a bad war.

11                   They didn't cut and run. They  
12 didn't cut and run. Their country said our  
13 freedom and liberty in some way, or those of  
14 others that we respect so much, is on the line.  
15 And they served. Now, in the back of their mind  
16 they may have thought, I don't think I should be  
17 here. I don't think this is a necessity.

18                   But the United States of America and  
19 what it stands for, and what we fought to build  
20 here from the very beginning of our  
21 Founding Fathers, they believed in so much that  
22 they said, Those who are in our government who  
23 sent us here, we're going to go to protect this  
24 great nation and to protect freedom and liberty.

25                   And I think we have to show

1 tremendous respect for that, because that's why  
2 we have and live in the greatest and freest  
3 nation in the world.

4 A lot of other countries who were  
5 born with these inalienable rights, maybe they  
6 have a great document there, they have their own  
7 constitution, they have their own type of  
8 declaration of independence -- but they don't  
9 live the freedoms and liberties we do in this  
10 nation at the highest level of I believe any  
11 group of individuals in any part of the world.

12 So today I thank Airman First Class  
13 Jim Wendt. I thank all those Vietnam veterans  
14 here who said, I can make any decision I want  
15 about that, but my country and what it stands for  
16 is something I'm willing to put my life on the  
17 line for.

18 And I thank you all -- past, present  
19 and future -- and if Dad is watching, I thank him  
20 for giving me the life I've had here. And I show  
21 the appreciation for all you've done for us.

22 Thank you, Madam President.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
24 you, Senator.

25 Senator Fahy on the resolution.

1                   SENATOR FAHY:    Thank you,  
2    Madam President.

3                   I see a couple of old friends up in  
4    the gallery, so I just want to join my colleagues  
5    in paying this extraordinary tribute to such  
6    extraordinary, extraordinary men and women that  
7    I've had the privilege of getting to know over  
8    the last good few years.

9                   I'm also old enough to remember when  
10   our country did not give the welcoming,  
11   especially to our Vietnam veterans.  And so I do  
12   think it is so important that we continue to show  
13   our extraordinary gratitude, to make amends, if  
14   you will, for the times when we didn't show that  
15   extraordinary gratitude.

16                  So it's wonderful to see  
17   Servicemen Marinello and LoPorco.  And I just  
18   need to add the -- what's so remarkable about  
19   them as well as so many other veterans is that  
20   they come back and they keep serving.  So it is  
21   embodied in their very being, this service before  
22   self.

23                  And it's something that I'm so glad  
24   that we are honoring here today, because I think  
25   it's something that all of us need to be reminded

1 of. That what has made this country what it is  
2 is because of those who have served in such an  
3 incredibly selfless way, but they really embody  
4 this spirit of service before self. And they  
5 come back and continue to serve the community in  
6 such an extraordinary variety of ways.

7 So I too am in their debt and do  
8 stand here with deep, deep, appreciation.

9 I thank our colleague  
10 Senator Harckham for bringing this resolution to  
11 the floor.

12 Thank you. With that, I'm in  
13 support, Madam President.

14 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
15 you.

16 Senator Lanza on the resolution.

17 SENATOR LANZA: Thank you,  
18 Madam President.

19 First let me thank Senator Harckham  
20 for continuing this what I believe to be very  
21 important tradition, especially here in the  
22 New York State Senate.

23 Senator Bailey talked about the fact  
24 that today we're all together, and we ought to be  
25 proud. And he's right. I'm going to remind you

1 of a few more reasons why every member in this  
2 Senate should have special pride in this day.  
3 And why New Yorkers should be especially proud of  
4 Vietnam Veterans Day.

5           When I was first elected here, I was  
6 approached by a Staten Island Vietnam veteran  
7 named Lester Modelowitz. He came to me and said,  
8 "We're trying to establish Vietnam Veterans Day  
9 here in New York and across the nation, and we're  
10 meeting a lot of resistance. Would you write the  
11 bill?"

12           And of course I did. I came in --  
13 I'm not sure if everyone's aware, I came in -- my  
14 class, if you will, I had the privilege of coming  
15 in with Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins and my  
16 brother Senator Griffo.

17           And as Senator Bailey alluded, when  
18 we wrote this bill we came together immediately,  
19 and we worked together. And we lobbied our  
20 colleagues in this body, and it wasn't hard to  
21 do. We talked to our friend in the Assembly.  
22 Assemblyman Matt Titone carried the bill there.

23           We spoke to the Governor,  
24 then-Governor Paterson, and we convinced him.  
25 And we did it together. There were no

1       Republicans, there were no Democrats. There were  
2       friends, there were colleagues, there were people  
3       who recognized that a wrong was done and we  
4       needed to do something about it.

5                       So as you know, on March 29, 1973 --  
6       just a little background, why did we do it this  
7       way -- the last combat troops came home from  
8       Vietnam. And as has been said -- it's an  
9       understatement to say they weren't treated well.  
10      They were treated horribly. What happened at  
11      that moment and thereafter was shameful on behalf  
12      of the so many in this country that just were  
13      lost in the way they treated them.

14                      So we wrote that law, it was passed  
15      here, passed in the Assembly, Governor Paterson  
16      signed it, and the following year, in 2009, the  
17      first Vietnam veterans celebration occurred on  
18      Staten Island. We then, this body, many who are  
19      not here anymore, a few of us are, we then  
20      lobbied other states to do the same. We had  
21      Rolling Thunder assist us. Legislative bodies  
22      from around the country reached out to us to talk  
23      about it. And one by one, states across the land  
24      did the same thing.

25                      Finally, on March 28, 2017,

1 President Trump signed the Vietnam War Veterans  
2 Recognition Act. And so now it is the law of the  
3 land in America.

4 You know, 2.7 million U.S. soldiers  
5 served in-country during the war. More than  
6 6 million served in other capacities. More than  
7 60,000 U.S. soldiers lost their lives. I mean,  
8 think about that number: 60,000 U.S. soldiers  
9 lost their lives.

10 I do an event every year on  
11 Staten Island, we do a collage of the  
12 Staten Islanders who lost their lives. And as I  
13 get older, the photos get younger.

14 And what you see is that the people  
15 who fought for us -- remember, put the politics  
16 aside, put the war aside, even. Those Americans  
17 sacrificed and lost their lives to stand up for  
18 that flag and everything it represents.

19 And when we do this ceremony and I  
20 look at this video that my staff prepares, with  
21 the help of the Vietnam Veterans Chapter of  
22 Staten Island, they were 18 years old,  
23 Majority Leader -- eighteen-year-old dare I say  
24 kids. I'm old, I can say it.

25 When I was young and being taught

1 about the Vietnam veterans' war by the adults  
2 that had the responsibility to do it, I didn't  
3 hear anything good about the veterans. I didn't.  
4 I'm a child of the '70s. In fact, I heard  
5 everything bad. You would have thought that  
6 we -- they didn't serve honorably, courageously,  
7 bravely, effectively, successfully. And that's a  
8 lie.

9                   We all know the major battles -- the  
10 Battle of Ia Drang, the Battle of Khe Sanh, the  
11 Tet offensive, Hamburger Hill, Easter offensive.  
12 You know what they all have in common? The  
13 American soldiers won every single battle, the  
14 major battles and the minor battles. They won  
15 every battle they were sent in to fight.

16                   You know, President Kennedy sent the  
17 first troops in, we now know he had no mind to  
18 escalate. Nixon ultimately ended it. Johnson,  
19 President Johnson escalated it. In my opinion,  
20 mismanaged it. But none of those, whether you  
21 liked the president, didn't like the president,  
22 liked the war, didn't like the war, none of those  
23 things were ever legitimate, honest excuses to  
24 hate the troops. And that's what happened.

25                   So Madam Leader, Majority Leader,

1 why did we do this? You remember. People came  
2 to us and said, Well, we have Veterans Day.  
3 Newspaper outlets said, Why do we need this day?

4 The answer was simple. Something  
5 different and shameful happened to these troops  
6 when they came home. We've all talked about it.  
7 Thanks to whatever. The craziness of the time,  
8 craziness which we see revisiting.

9 We had Hollywood elites, it's easy  
10 from their towers to say what they said at the  
11 time. You had warped, in my opinion, politicians  
12 not saying the right things. You had scurrilous  
13 members of academia really preaching the hate.  
14 You can go back, you can read all about it. You  
15 could see it.

16 I remember as a kid seeing  
17 Jane Fonda on an anti-aircraft gun pointed up in  
18 the sky meant to shoot 21-year-old American  
19 flyers out of the sky. It's hard to believe, but  
20 then again, you look out the window today, it's  
21 easy to believe.

22 So we did it because something  
23 different happened, and we needed to do something  
24 about it. My faith teaches me that when you do  
25 something wrong, you should have contrition, that

1 you should resurrect good from darkness. And I  
2 think that's what this does.

3 I think we need to educate. By  
4 having this day, we remind our fellow Americans,  
5 especially our young fellow Americans, this  
6 should never happen again. And we do that a lot  
7 in this chamber with various things.

8 And I think, most of all, it allows  
9 us every single year to say thank you. Thank you  
10 for your sacrifice. Thank you to our troops.  
11 Thank you to our veterans.

12 And as Senator Harckham and my  
13 colleagues have already said: Welcome home,  
14 welcome home, welcome home.

15 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
16 you, Senator.

17 Leader Stewart-Cousins to close.

18 SENATOR STEWART-COUSINS: Thank you  
19 so much, Madam President.

20 And, you know, when I came out there  
21 were maybe two or three names on the list who  
22 were going to speak about the Vietnam War  
23 veterans and what they mean to us and to this  
24 chamber.

25 And of course as people got up and

1 spoke, more and more wanted to make sure that  
2 there was no question about how we as a  
3 chamber -- we who are the beneficiaries of your  
4 sacrifice, your bravery and your courage -- feel  
5 about you and what you've sacrificed.

6           So I am glad that you've taken the  
7 time out of your busy schedule to indulge us as  
8 we thank you, welcome you back, and let you know  
9 that the history of what you fought for, who you  
10 fought for, and how you were treated is  
11 acknowledged by the people who, again, sit in  
12 these chambers because of your courage.

13           Last week we had cadets from  
14 West Point, and it's hard to look at these young  
15 people, knowing that who knows what battle  
16 they'll go into, especially at a time like this,  
17 and not think about what we already know to be  
18 true. War is hell. It's ugly. A lot of times  
19 people sent people to do things that they think  
20 might be a good idea, and people like you are  
21 left to bring the valor, to put everything on the  
22 line, and hope you survive.

23           I want to thank Senator Lanza for  
24 bringing back the history of how this day came.  
25 And yes, we were in the same class together. And

1 it was an easy vote for everyone. And it was  
2 easy for me because I have had the privilege of  
3 being a child in a military family.

4 My dad was a World War II veteran:  
5 Purple Heart, Bronze Star. And again, he served  
6 in a segregated Army. And when he came home, he  
7 came back to a segregated country. He wasn't  
8 thanked. He didn't care. He knew that his  
9 service was important.

10 My brother is a Vietnam War vet,  
11 Marine. And he came back, he wasn't welcomed  
12 back either.

13 So it is a privilege to be part of a  
14 body that recognizes how important it is that we  
15 have people in this country who, despite what the  
16 chattering classes say, despite what the masses  
17 might say, still have enough fidelity to this  
18 country and its ideals to show up. And I thank  
19 you for that.

20 I want to thank Senator Harckham for  
21 always sponsoring this day and bringing this  
22 resolution forward. And I also want to give a  
23 shout out to the chair of our Veterans Committee,  
24 Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton, to who also is  
25 the ranker, Senator Ashby, and all of the

1 veterans here, and say especially to our  
2 Vietnam veterans -- I know there's many from  
3 Yonkers. You know, Raise your hand, let me know.  
4 Yonkers in the house? No? Yes? Over there.  
5 There you go. Oh, thank you.

6 But I know that you represent so  
7 many who couldn't be here for all those reasons.  
8 If you're like my brother, you're not looking for  
9 accolades. He's like, I know, so many people --  
10 the 60,000 that Senator Lanza referred to, so  
11 many were his friends. He served with them. The  
12 fact that he survived was almost good enough for  
13 him.

14 And I know the humility of those who  
15 serve. The fact that you survived, the fact that  
16 you're here, the fact that you could enjoy days  
17 with your loved ones, serving your community,  
18 that's almost enough gratitude.

19 But we are here to tell you that we  
20 know that it's never enough. And the commitment  
21 to continue to honor our servicemen and -women is  
22 alive and well in this chamber.

23 You will always be welcome here.  
24 You will always be welcome back. And we will  
25 continue to push forward the policies that allow

1 not only you, but the next generation of those  
2 who would devote the full measure to our  
3 liberation and our freedom as Americans, to also  
4 enjoy the same.

5 Welcome back. And thank you so much  
6 for being here.

7 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
8 you, Leader Stewart-Cousins.

9 To our Vietnam veterans, thank you  
10 for your service. Thank you for your sacrifice.  
11 We appreciate you. We say welcome home.

12 On behalf of the Senate, we extend  
13 to you the privileges and courtesies of this  
14 house. Please rise and be recognized.

15 Welcome home.

16 (Extended standing ovation; cheers.)

17 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator  
18 Gianaris.

19 SENATOR GIANARIS: Madam President,  
20 I believe that resolution was previously adopted.

21 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The  
22 resolution was previously adopted on  
23 January 21st.

24 SENATOR GIANARIS: Let's move on to  
25 another previously adopted resolution,

1 Resolution 1555, by Senator O'Mara. Please read  
2 that resolution's title and recognize  
3 Senator O'Mara.

4 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The  
5 Secretary will read.

6 THE SECRETARY: Resolution 1555, by  
7 Senator O'Mara, honoring Investigator Michael  
8 Theetge of the Chemung County Sheriff's Office  
9 upon the occasion of his designation as recipient  
10 of the Order of the Blue Heart Award from  
11 Wounded Blue.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator  
13 O'Mara on the resolution.

14 SENATOR O'MARA: Thank you,  
15 Madam President.

16 I rise today to honor Investigator  
17 Michael Theetge of the Chemung County Sheriff's  
18 Department, Criminal Investigation Division.

19 In keeping with our longstanding  
20 tradition of recognizing exceptional service,  
21 this legislative body is proud to honor  
22 Investigator Theetge as the recipient of the  
23 Order of the Blue Heart Award from Wounded Blue,  
24 the national organization supporting  
25 law enforcement officers injured or disabled on

1 the job.

2 He was also presented earlier today  
3 with the 2026 New York State Senate Commendation  
4 Award for his courage and dedication to our  
5 community.

6 Investigator Theetge has served with  
7 distinction for more than 14 years, exemplifying  
8 courage, professionalism, and an unwavering  
9 commitment to public safety.

10 Tragically, two years ago, on  
11 March 29th, he sustained a severe  
12 near-life-ending on-duty injury while  
13 apprehending a suspect.

14 Chasing the suspect across a parking  
15 lot, a getaway car pulled up. Investigator  
16 Theetge tackled the perpetrator onto the hood of  
17 that vehicle. The driver accelerated across the  
18 parking lot and turned sharply, throwing  
19 Investigator Theetge and the perpetrator to the  
20 pavement of the parking lot.

21 He ended up with a fractured skull,  
22 a brain bleed, and multiple injuries and  
23 fractures to virtually every section of his  
24 spine -- cervical, thoracic, and lumbar.

25 He required extensive

1 hospitalization and rehabilitation, and in fact  
2 just recently has undergone several spine  
3 surgeries to get him to where he is today.

4 Investigator, please rise. The  
5 investigator is joined here by his wife Patrice.  
6 They are the parents of two boys, four and seven.

7 The evening of this injury, Patrice  
8 was told by the doctors, "Say goodbye." Well, he  
9 survived. And about a week later, started coming  
10 out of a coma. And at that point the doctors  
11 told Patrice, "He's never going to walk. Be  
12 prepared for that."

13 He's walking today. He's amongst  
14 us, and he wants to return to the job that he  
15 loves. And currently on a 207C disability, he  
16 still wants to come back, when he's able, to  
17 this, with his injuries.

18 Beyond his role in investigation, he  
19 served as commander of the Chemung County SWAT  
20 Team, providing leadership for high-risk  
21 operations. He's been an instructor, training  
22 the next generation of law enforcement officers.  
23 And he was the first drug recognition expert in  
24 his department, earning the highest grade-point  
25 average in his training class.

1                   He served on the New York State  
2 Threat Assessment Management System Team, helping  
3 to safeguard schools and local businesses. As  
4 president of the Deputy Sheriffs Union, elected  
5 by his peers, he has earned the respect and  
6 confidence of all who served alongside him.

7                   Therefore, Madam President, as  
8 Investigator Theetge embodies integrity, courage  
9 and selfless service, his dedication has left an  
10 enduring impact on the Chemung County Sheriff's  
11 Office, our community, and the people of this  
12 great state.

13                   It is my honor to ask this  
14 legislative body to pause in its deliberations to  
15 commend Investigator Michael Theetge for his  
16 outstanding service, leadership, and commitment  
17 to public safety, and to extend him all the  
18 courtesies and privileges of the house.

19                   Thank you, Madam President.

20                   And thank you, Investigator Theetge.

21                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
22 you, Senator.

23                   Senator Chan on the resolution.

24                   SENATOR CHAN: Thank you,  
25 Madam President.

1                   And thank you, Senator O'Mara, for  
2 bringing forth this resolution.

3                   To Investigator Theetge, I think I  
4 told you earlier that I'm also a retired  
5 law enforcement agent with the NYPD, of 27 years.  
6 I feel compelled to stand up here and thank you  
7 for laying down the sacrifices that you did.

8                   And that's all I wanted to say. I  
9 know how fast things can turn south out on the  
10 street, and I thank you from the bottom of my  
11 heart.

12                   Thank you very much.

13                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
14 you, Senator.

15                   To Investigator Theetge, thank you  
16 for your service. We wish you the very best of  
17 health.

18                   I welcome you on behalf of the  
19 Senate. We extend to you the privileges and  
20 courtesies of this house.

21                   Please continue standing and be  
22 recognized.

23                   (Standing ovation.)

24                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The  
25 resolution was adopted on February 10th.

1 Senator Gianaris.

2 SENATOR GIANARIS: Next up is  
3 previously adopted Resolution 1794, by  
4 Senator Ramos. Please read that title and  
5 recognize Senator Ramos.

6 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The  
7 Secretary will read.

8 THE SECRETARY: Resolution 1794, by  
9 Senator Ramos, commemorating the  
10 115th Anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist  
11 Factory Fire on March 25, 2026.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator  
13 Ramos on the resolution.

14 SENATOR RAMOS: Thank you,  
15 Madam President.

16 When we talk about New York, we  
17 often talk about its skyline, its energy, and its  
18 promise. And all of that is made possible by  
19 workers.

20 On March 25, 1911, New York was  
21 forced to confront what happens when those  
22 workers are treated as disposable. A hundred and  
23 forty-six people lost their lives at the  
24 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire, mostly young  
25 immigrant women, seamstresses, workers who showed

1 up to do their jobs and never made it home.

2           They were trapped, doors were  
3 locked, safety was ignored, and profit was placed  
4 above people.

5           That tragedy was not inevitable. It  
6 was a failure of responsibility. But what  
7 followed matters just as much. Workers  
8 organized, families demanded accountability, and  
9 this state made a choice. We passed laws. We  
10 strengthened protections. We began to say  
11 clearly that the dignity of work is not  
12 negotiable.

13           That is the legacy of the  
14 Triangle Fire -- not just what happened, but what  
15 we chose to do about it. Because history does  
16 not move on its own. It moves when people decide  
17 that things must change and that responsibility  
18 now belongs to us.

19           Today, the details may look  
20 different, but the question is the same. Today  
21 many of the workers most vulnerable to  
22 exploitation are still immigrants. The Irish and  
23 Eastern European immigrants of that era are the  
24 Central American, South American, and  
25 African immigrants of today: People who come

1 here to work, to build, to care for their  
2 families and who too often are made to feel  
3 invisible or afraid to speak up when something is  
4 wrong.

5           The conditions may look different  
6 than they did in 1911, but the underlying  
7 question has not changed. Who is protected and  
8 who is left exposed?

9           Honoring those workers means more  
10 than remembrance. It means doing the work,  
11 enforcing our labor laws, strengthening safety  
12 standards, protecting immigrant workers, making  
13 sure that no one has to choose between their  
14 livelihood and their life.

15           Because the promise of New York has  
16 never been abstract. It is that if you work  
17 hard, you can live with dignity. And that  
18 promise only holds true if we are willing to  
19 uphold it.

20           Today we remember those 146 workers  
21 and we recommit ourselves to the responsibility  
22 their lives demand of us, to make sure no worker  
23 in New York is ever treated as expendable again.

24           Thank you, Madam President. I vote  
25 aye.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Thank  
2    you, Senator.

3                   Senator Jackson on the resolution.

4                   SENATOR JACKSON:    Thank you,  
5    Madam President.

6                   Today we must mark a solemn  
7    anniversary, one that continues to demand our  
8    conscience and our actions.  And though we gather  
9    here in Albany, the echos of that day in 1911  
10   still reach us, reminding us that what happened  
11   in a factory in New York City was not distant  
12   from government, but a failure of it.

13                  Young immigrant women, workers  
14   whose labor powered a growing city, were met not  
15   with protection but with peril.  Locked out doors  
16   became death sentences.  Smoke became testimony.  
17   And from the horror rose a demand this nation  
18   could no longer ignore, that workers are not  
19   disposable, that women are not invincible, and  
20   that immigrants are no strangers to the American  
21   story -- they are central to it.

22                  And this tragedy forced the country  
23   to confront the brutal costs of exploitation.  It  
24   awakened a conscience that helped shape labor  
25   protections we now consider fundamental.  First,

1 a safer workplace. The right to organize. The  
2 dignity of the weekend. The promise of  
3 Social Security. These were not gifts, they were  
4 victories carved from grief, courage, and  
5 collective struggle.

6           And so this resolution is not only  
7 about remembrance, it is about responsibility.  
8 At a time when immigrants are still vilified,  
9 where labor is too often devalued, and when  
10 hard-won protections are treated as negotiable,  
11 we are reminded that progress is never permanent  
12 unless we defend it.

13           To honor the Triangle workers is not  
14 a look back, but is a stand-guard to ensure that  
15 no workers are ever trapped between a paycheck  
16 and their safety, and that no doors are ever  
17 locked against justice again.

18           Memory is not passive, it is a  
19 mandate from those who perished -- for the  
20 movement they ignited, and for the future we are  
21 duty-bound to protect.

22           I vote aye on this resolution.

23           Thank you, Madam President.

24           ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
25 you, Senator.

1                   Senator Bailey on the resolution.

2                   SENATOR BAILEY:    Thank you,  
3   Madam President.

4                   Thank you to Senator Ramos for this  
5   important resolution.

6                   I'm going to look at this through a  
7   different lens.  And I often speak about how I'll  
8   look at things through the lens of my children.  
9   And this past weekend my daughter, my oldest  
10   daughter, Giada, we were speaking about this  
11   because she's learning about this in school.

12                  And so when I realized this  
13   resolution was coming on today, I sent her a  
14   message and I said, Hey, can you tell me what is  
15   it that you got from there?

16                  And she gave me some facts that she  
17   sent.  This is my 11-year-old daughter, and these  
18   are her exact words:  The fire killed 146 people  
19   and was one of the deadliest workplace accidents  
20   in the history of New York City.  All but 17 of  
21   the dead people were women, most of them  
22   immigrants looking for a better life in the  
23   Gilded Age.

24                  I'll stop right there for a second,  
25   and see the parallel of people coming to this

1 country to seek prosperity, to seek positivity.  
2 And by virtue of unfair and unethical working  
3 conditions, their lives were taken.

4 This fire started on the 8th floor,  
5 and people were oblivious to the fire because of  
6 the loud equipment. And due to the poor working  
7 conditions, there was no way of escaping.

8 After the fire, the Factory  
9 Investigating Commission was created and held 59  
10 public hearings, listened to 472 witnesses, and  
11 the information in storage filled over  
12 7,000 pages.

13 It's really important that sometimes  
14 we don't realize the gravity of what we do and  
15 how like history in the context of what we do is  
16 really important. Yes, it's my -- I'm speaking  
17 about my 11-year-old daughter, who I'm incredibly  
18 proud is learning about the labor movement and  
19 social equity and social justice.

20 But what we do on this floor and  
21 what we do for the people of the great State of  
22 New York, we should always be proud of it, that  
23 these are things that will stand the test of  
24 time. And we have to make sure that people  
25 understand how that happened, why it happened,

1 and be resolved that we never permit this to  
2 happen again.

3 Workers' rights are incredibly, you  
4 know, important. They're crucial. And we need  
5 to let people have decent lives, we need to be  
6 able to let people work in respect, decency, and  
7 to have them have great working conditions.

8 So for those reasons, I support this  
9 resolution. And I'm thankful to my daughter  
10 Gkiada for having, you know, the prescience, so  
11 to speak, to be able to have had this lesson.

12 Thank you, Madam President.

13 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
14 you, Senator.

15 Senator Ryan on the resolution.

16 SENATOR RYAN: Thank you,  
17 Madam President.

18 And thank you to Senator Ramos for  
19 bringing this up, our esteemed Labor chair.  
20 Thank you.

21 So I just want to make -- today we  
22 remember those 146 workers, but I want to make  
23 sure that we all know that this fire and this  
24 tragedy did not go without not just consequence,  
25 and make sure that their sacrifice wasn't just in

1     vain, and it became a real turning point in a  
2     fight for workers and workplace safety.

3             The Triangle Fire exposed the  
4     dangerous conditions faced by workers in the  
5     early 20th century. We heard of locked doors,  
6     unsafe exits -- they didn't even have fire  
7     escapes -- overcrowded factories.

8             But this tragedy led to the outrage  
9     that led to reforms, including stronger workplace  
10    safety standards, fire codes, and labor  
11    protections.

12            The Triangle factory tragedy  
13    directly impacted the creation of workers' rights  
14    organizations, labor laws that paved the way for  
15    OSHA, Occupational Safety and Health  
16    Administration.

17            In response to the tragedy, New York  
18    State launched a Factory Investigation Commission  
19    which conducted an in-depth inspections of  
20    industrial workplaces. Their findings led to at  
21    least 30 new labor laws, setting a precedent for  
22    state and federal reforms.

23            You know, the fire also helped fuel  
24    momentum for child labor laws, setting minimum  
25    work ages, and set minimums or maximums for young

1 workers and their hours.

2           You know, although we have made  
3 great strides in workplace safety, unfortunately  
4 today, more than ever, labor rights are under  
5 threat. As a 28-year card-carrying union member,  
6 labor advocate, labor leader, you know, you have  
7 to understand that these fights and these issues  
8 are not behind us.

9           As a lawmaker, I believe we have a  
10 responsibility to always stand with workers, not  
11 corporations that put profits over safety. We  
12 must ensure as lawmakers that history does not  
13 repeat itself in the manner that this tragedy  
14 happened.

15           No worker -- Senator Ramos said it,  
16 no worker should ever have to risk their life to  
17 earn a living.

18           So on this 115th anniversary, I want  
19 to reaffirm my commitment to protecting workers,  
20 ensuring safe workplaces, and strengthening labor  
21 laws. And I certainly invite my colleagues to do  
22 the same.

23           Thank you very much. I vote aye.

24           ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
25 you.

1                   Senator Mayer on the resolution.

2                   SENATOR MAYER:    Thank you,  
3   Madam President.

4                   And thank you, Senator Ramos, for  
5   introducing this resolution.

6                   I rise to support it, to commemorate  
7   the 115th anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist  
8   Factory Fire, and to honor the individuals,  
9   146 workers, whose lives were lost, most of them  
10   young women and girls, largely Italian and  
11   Jewish immigrants.

12                  This past January I had the honor of  
13   receiving the Clara Lemlich Public Service Award  
14   from the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire  
15   Memorial, a scholarship fund which provides  
16   scholarships to the children of workers who are  
17   killed or injured on the job.

18                  An award carrying the legacy of  
19   Clara Lemlich, a fearless labor leader and a  
20   woman, I would note, who organized garment  
21   workers and demanded fair wages and humane  
22   working conditions, despite physical attacks,  
23   intimidation, and attempts to silence her by  
24   factory owners, she persisted.  And in 1909,  
25   ironically, she inspired 20,000 garment workers

1 to go on strike, which lasted till 1910 and  
2 resulted in better wages and working conditions  
3 for the members of ILGWU.

4 But unfortunately and tragically,  
5 the owners of the factory for the Triangle Fire  
6 did not participate in the industry agreement.  
7 And as a result, in 1911 those 146 people died.

8 I think there's a lesson to be  
9 learned there. We enact laws in response to  
10 this, as my colleagues have said. But we demand  
11 that employers follow these laws. And whether  
12 it's a voluntary agreement or a requirement by  
13 statute, we are here today to say these are not  
14 optional, as my colleagues have said. These are  
15 not "if you can." These are mandatory  
16 requirements that they are followed to protect  
17 our neighbors, our workers, and so many of our  
18 immigrant workers in this moment as they were not  
19 followed then.

20 Thank you. I vote aye.

21 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
22 you.

23 Senator Rhoads on the resolution.

24 SENATOR RHOADS: Thank you,  
25 Madam President.

1                   As the ranker on the Senate Labor  
2 Committee, I rise in support of the resolution.  
3 It is incredibly important to recognize the  
4 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire was a seminal  
5 moment, not just in the history of New York State  
6 but in the history of this country.

7                   For those who are unfamiliar with  
8 the story, though I think most in this room are,  
9 the fire in the shirtwaist factory occupied the  
10 8th to 10th floors of that building. Exit doors  
11 were locked to prevent workers from taking  
12 unauthorized breaks and prevent theft. There  
13 were no sprinklers in the building. The fire  
14 escape, the one fire escape that they had -- and  
15 there was a question as to whether it was  
16 properly secured to the building or not --  
17 twisted in the heat of the fire, making sure that  
18 that could not be used as an escape route.

19                   And unable to escape the growing  
20 inferno, people resorted to trying to climb down  
21 elevator shafts, only to fall to their deaths in  
22 those shafts. People jumped out windows, falling  
23 to their deaths. In total, 146 victims, ranking  
24 in age from 14 to 43 years old, lost their lives.

25                   But the response was incredibly

1 important. The response prompted not only the  
2 modern labor movement, but the response prompted  
3 so many legislative changes that brought  
4 attention to the plight of workers and the safety  
5 of workers, but also brought actual, tangible  
6 results.

7                   Frances Perkins, who was a witness  
8 to the fire, actually advanced legislation as  
9 part of the ILGWU and the Committee on Public  
10 Safety that they formed, which actually created  
11 the 54-hour bill limiting the number of work  
12 hours that could be worked in a week, was  
13 instrumental in the New York State Legislature's  
14 creation of the Factory Investigating Committee.

15                   And they started with the issue of  
16 fire safety. That committee produced 64 bills  
17 recommendations, 60 of which were actually  
18 enacted by this body. Everything that we take  
19 for granted today, from modern labor laws to  
20 building access and egress, fireproofing  
21 requirements, availability of fire extinguishers,  
22 the installation of alarm systems, automatic  
23 sprinkler systems, were all the result,  
24 ultimately, of this particular fire.

25                   Unions fought for better working

1 conditions. Ultimately it led to the creation of  
2 elevator regulations, modern fire codes, the  
3 modern New York State industrial code, and  
4 ultimately OSHA regulations. As Frances Perkins  
5 became the commissioner of labor here in New York  
6 State, enacting that first industrial code, under  
7 the Roosevelt administration, and then wound up  
8 becoming the first female cabinet secretary in  
9 the history of the United States, as the  
10 United States commissioner of labor, enacting  
11 those first OSHA standards.

12 Today is not only a day to remember  
13 the 146 lives that were lost, but it's also an  
14 opportunity to recognize that those lives were  
15 not lost in vain, and that the fight does  
16 continue.

17 We have a responsibility in this  
18 chamber and across our country to ensure that  
19 workplace safety, not only in private industry,  
20 but even in our own state facilities, is  
21 paramount. And let's use this as an opportunity  
22 to recommitt ourselves to that effort.

23 Thank you, Madam President. And I  
24 vote aye.

25 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank

1 you, Senator.

2 Senator Fernandez on the resolution.

3 SENATOR FERNANDEZ: Thank you,  
4 Madam President.

5 And thank you to Senator Ramos for  
6 this truly important resolution.

7 One hundred fifteen years ago, this  
8 tragedy happened. But the feelings that we have  
9 retelling the stories, the emotions that we exude  
10 in putting ourselves in that place, it's -- it  
11 really is a lot. And it can make you emotional.  
12 It should make you emotional. And it should make  
13 you determined to make sure it never happens  
14 again.

15 And everyone had said a great piece  
16 about the changes that we did. And  
17 Senator Ramos, even after her speech, shared that  
18 our fire trucks, now the ladders had to extend to  
19 certain heights because during that fire they  
20 could only get to the second floor and they  
21 couldn't get into the building to save the  
22 people.

23 So on this 115th anniversary, I too  
24 recommit myself. Because still workers are  
25 working in dangerous conditions. Still we don't

1 have the the proper safety measures. And still  
2 dignity is being fought to make sure that every  
3 worker can survive in their job and continue to  
4 live dignified lives.

5 So I'm truly grateful for this  
6 resolution, and I thank Senator Ramos for  
7 bringing it to the floor today.

8 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
9 you, Senator.

10 The resolution was adopted on  
11 March 24th.

12 Senator Gianaris.

13 SENATOR GIANARIS: Now let's move  
14 on to previously adopted Resolution 1664, by  
15 Senators Gallivan and Zellner, read its title,  
16 and begin by calling on Senator Gallivan, please.

17 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The  
18 Secretary will read.

19 THE SECRETARY: Resolution 1664,  
20 by Senator Gallivan, mourning the death of  
21 Jonathan A. Dandes, president of Rich Baseball  
22 Operations, inductee of the Buffalo Baseball Hall  
23 of Fame, and devoted member of his community.

24 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Senator  
25 Gallivan on the resolution.

1                   SENATOR GALLIVAN:    I rise,  
2   Madam President, to honor the extraordinary life  
3   and legacy of Jonathan A. Dandes, a man who  
4   touched countless lives in Western New York and  
5   whose spirit continues to inspire.

6                   Born in Queens, he chose Buffalo as  
7   his home over 50 years ago, and was a person  
8   whose commitment to excellence, compassion for  
9   others, and unwavering integrity set him apart as  
10  a true leader and friend.

11                  His dedication to his work, his  
12  community, and his family -- Marcy, Leo and  
13  Lisette, Arin and Adam, Luca and Lief, was  
14  evident in everything he did. John approached  
15  every challenge with humility and determination,  
16  always seeking to lift those around him.

17                  His kindness knew no bounds.  
18  Whether mentoring, volunteering, or befriending,  
19  he showed us the power of empathy, generosity,  
20  and community mindedness. Countless people in  
21  Western New York have been the beneficiary of  
22  John's good deeds and are forever grateful for  
23  the ways he enriched their lives and our  
24  community.

25                  John was a Buffalo Baseball

1 Hall of Famer and long-time president of  
2 Rich Baseball Operations. He was instrumental in  
3 the design and opening of then Pilot, now  
4 Sahlen Field.

5 His community services were vast.  
6 He served as the chair of numerous organizations,  
7 including the Ralph C. Wilson & More Children's  
8 Museum, the Shea's Performing Arts Center, the  
9 Buffalo Niagara Partnership, the Buffalo Zoo, the  
10 Erie County Medical Center, Visit Buffalo  
11 Niagara, and the Upstate New York Transplant  
12 Services Foundation. He was also a past  
13 president of the New York State Restaurant  
14 Association.

15 A long-surviving kidney transplant  
16 recipient, he was the director of the  
17 National Kidney Foundation. And as a  
18 1974 University of Buffalo graduate, he was the  
19 longest-serving member of the UB Council. In  
20 2017, the Buffalo News named John an outstanding  
21 citizen of Western New York.

22 John had an uncanny ability to bring  
23 people together, to forge bonds and to remind us  
24 all, through his good example, of the importance  
25 of community. His legacy is not only in the work

1 he accomplished, but in the hearts he touched and  
2 the lives he changed.

3 As John's daughter Arin recently  
4 said, "If he made memories at the Bisons,  
5 Canalside, Outer Harbor, Shea's, Explore & More,  
6 and more, then he touched your life in some way."

7 As we celebrate and honor the  
8 remarkable life of a true community leader, we  
9 would all do well to carry forward his values and  
10 honor him by striving to emulate his good  
11 example.

12 It is my great privilege,  
13 Madam President, to present and support this  
14 resolution honoring one of the finest people  
15 Western New York has ever seen, my dear friend  
16 Jonathan A. Dandes.

17 Thank you.

18 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Thank  
19 you, Senator.

20 Senator Zellner on the resolution.

21 SENATOR ZELLNER: Thank you,  
22 Madam President.

23 Thank you, Senator Gallivan.

24 Unlike Senator Ryan's father, I'm  
25 pretty sure John's family is watching this right

1 now. I want to thank them for all they've done  
2 for our community in loaning him to us.

3 This resolution is about the kind of  
4 impact one person can have on a community over  
5 time. And Senator Gallivan has already said a  
6 lot about John's contributions to our community.

7 But what stands out to me is how  
8 people in Buffalo experienced that impact -- not  
9 through the titles he had, but through what he  
10 helped create, a downtown ballpark that brought  
11 life back into a city, a place where families  
12 gather, where memories are made, and where you  
13 feel a sense of pride in our city.

14 And beyond that, he showed up,  
15 across our cultural institutions and across our  
16 healthcare systems and organizations. He stayed  
17 involved, and he stayed committed. And that  
18 matters, especially for his family. Because we  
19 think about his family, especially Leo and Arin  
20 and his grandchildren.

21 His legacy is something that our  
22 entire community can see and feel. It's in  
23 Buffalo, it's in the places he helped build, in  
24 the community he helped strengthen. That's  
25 something lasting, and that's something

1 meaningful.

2                   And I join my colleagues in  
3 extending my condolences to his family and vote  
4 aye on this resolution.

5                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Thank  
6 you, Senator.

7                   The resolution was adopted on  
8 March 5th.

9                   Senator Gianaris.

10                  SENATOR GIANARIS:    Madam President,  
11 let's open today's resolutions for cosponsorship.

12                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    The  
13 resolutions are open for cosponsorship.  Should  
14 you choose not to be a cosponsor, please notify  
15 the desk.

16                  Senator Gianaris.

17                  SENATOR GIANARIS:    I have a motion  
18 here.

19                  On behalf of Senator Harckham, on  
20 page 29 I offer the following amendments to  
21 Calendar 532, Senate Print 9020B, and ask that  
22 said bill retain its place on Third Reading  
23 Calendar.

24                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    The  
25 amendments are received, and the bill will retain

1 its place on the Third Reading Calendar.

2 Senator Gianaris.

3 SENATOR GIANARIS: Please take up  
4 the calendar.

5 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The  
6 Secretary will read.

7 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
8 116, Senate Print 3443, by Senator Harckham, an  
9 act to amend the Executive Law.

10 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the  
11 last section.

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

14 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the  
15 roll.

16 (The Secretary called the roll.)

17 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce  
18 the results.

19 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59.

20 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
21 is passed.

22 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
23 327, Senate Print 3758, by Senator Cleare, an act  
24 to amend the General Business Law.

25 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the

1 last section.

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

4 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the  
5 roll.

6 (The Secretary called the roll.)

7 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce  
8 the results.

9 THE SECRETARY: In relation to  
10 Calendar 327, voting in the negative are  
11 Senators Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick,  
12 Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera,  
13 Murray, Ortt, Rhoads, Walczyk, Weber and Weik.

14 Ayes, 46. Nays, 13.

15 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
16 is passed.

17 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
18 330, Senate Print 6475, by Senator Cleare, an act  
19 to amend the Public Housing Law.

20 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the  
21 last section.

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

25 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the

1 roll.

2 (The Secretary called the roll.)

3 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce  
4 the results.

5 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59.

6 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
7 is passed.

8 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
9 333, Senate Print 6970, by Senator Addabbo, an  
10 act to amend the Tax Law.

11 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the  
12 last section.

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

15 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the  
16 roll.

17 (The Secretary called the roll.)

18 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce  
19 the results.

20 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59.

21 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
22 is passed.

23 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
24 348, Senate Print 8276, by Senator Harckham, an  
25 act to amend the Public Officers Law.

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Read the  
2    last section.

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

5                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Call the  
6    roll.

7                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

8                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Announce  
9    the results.

10                  THE SECRETARY:    In relation to  
11    Calendar 348, voting in the negative:  
12    Senator Weik.

13                  Ayes, 58.  Nays, 1.

14                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    The bill  
15    is passed.

16                  THE SECRETARY:    Calendar Number  
17    438, Senate Print 70, by Senator Kavanagh, an act  
18    to amend the Banking Law.

19                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Read the  
20    last section.

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

24                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Call the  
25    roll.

1 (The Secretary called the roll.)

2 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce  
3 the results.

4 THE SECRETARY: In relation to  
5 Calendar 438, voting in the negative  
6 are Senators Ashby, Borrello,  
7 Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Chan, Gallivan, Griffio,  
8 Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Ortt,  
9 Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk,  
10 Weber and Weik.

11 Ayes, 39. Nays, 20.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
13 is passed.

14 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
15 468, Senate Print 5177, by Senator Comrie, an act  
16 to amend the Executive Law.

17 SENATOR GIANARIS: Lay it aside for  
18 the day, please.

19 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
20 will be laid aside for the day.

21 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
22 470, Senate Print 8357, by Senator Sanders, an  
23 act to amend the State Finance Law.

24 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the  
25 last section.

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

3 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the  
4 roll.

5 (The Secretary called the roll.)

6 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce  
7 the results.

8 THE SECRETARY: In relation to  
9 Calendar 470, voting in the negative:  
10 Senator Walczyk.

11 Ayes, 58. Nays, 1.

12 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
13 is passed.

14 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
15 471, Senate Print 3518, by Senator  
16 Scarcella-Spanton, an act in relation to  
17 establishing the Fentanyl Abuse and Overdose  
18 Prevention Task Force.

19 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the  
20 last section.

21 THE SECRETARY: Section 7. This  
22 act shall take effect immediately.

23 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the  
24 roll.

25 (The Secretary called the roll.)

1                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Announce  
2   the results.

3                   THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 59.

4                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    The bill  
5   is passed.

6                   THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
7   484, Assembly Bill Number 4677B, by  
8   Assemblymember Jackson, an act to amend the  
9   Insurance Law.

10                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Read the  
11   last section.

12                  THE SECRETARY:     Section 4.  This  
13   act shall take effect January 1, 2028.

14                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Call the  
15   roll.

16                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Announce  
17   the results.

18                  THE SECRETARY:     Ayes, 59.

19                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    The bill  
20   is passed.

21                  THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
22   497, Senate Print 900, by Senator Martinez, an  
23   act to amend the Local Finance Law.

24                  ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Read the  
25   last section.

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

3 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the  
4 roll.

5 (The Secretary called the roll.)

6 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce  
7 the results.

8 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59.

9 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
10 is passed.

11 THE SECRETARY: Calendar Number  
12 502, Senate Print 7677A, by Senator Skoufis, an  
13 act to amend the Town Law.

14 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Read the  
15 last section.

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

18 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Call the  
19 roll.

20 (The Secretary called the roll.)

21 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: Announce  
22 the results.

23 THE SECRETARY: Ayes, 59.

24 ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD: The bill  
25 is passed.

1                   THE SECRETARY:     Calendar Number  
2     566, Senate Print 413, by Senator Gounardes, an  
3     act to amend the General Obligations Law.

4                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:     Read the  
5     last section.

6                   THE SECRETARY:     Section 2. This  
7     act shall take effect on the 60th day after it  
8     shall have become a law.

9                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:     Call the  
10    roll.

11                   (The Secretary called the roll.)

12                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:     Announce  
13    the results.

14                   THE SECRETARY:     In relation to  
15    Calendar 566, voting in the negative are  
16    Senators Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Chan,  
17    Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins,  
18    Mattera, Murray, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison,  
19    Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber and Weik. Also  
20    Senator Ashby.

21                   Ayes, 39. Nays, 20.

22                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:     The bill  
23    is passed.

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

1                   SENATOR GIANARIS:    Is there any  
2 further business at the desk?

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

5                   SENATOR GIANARIS:    I move to  
6 adjourn until tomorrow, Baseball Opening Day,  
7 Thursday, March 26th, at 11:00 a.m.

8                   ACTING PRESIDENT PERSAUD:    Let's  
9 go, Mets!

10                   On motion, the Senate stands  
11 adjourned until Thursday, March 26th, at  
12 11:00 a.m.

13                   (Whereupon, the Senate adjourned at  
14 5:02 p.m.)

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