

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018

3:23 P.M.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The House will come to order.

In the absence of clergy, let us pause for a moment of silence.

(Whereupon, a moment of silence was held.)

Visitors are invited to join the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, Acting Speaker Aubry led visitors and members in the Pledge of Allegiance.)

A quorum being present, the Clerk will read the Journal of Monday, January 15th.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I move to

dispense with the further reading of the Journal of Monday, January 15th and ask that the same stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Without objection, so ordered.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker, colleagues. Before I give our schedule for the day, I did want to note that on this day in 1919, the 18th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which prohibited the manufacture, sale or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes was ratified and became law of the land. Prohibition lasted until 1933 when the 21st Amendment to the Constitution was passed and ratified. Today, the adult beverage industry has over 500 breweries, wineries, cideries and distilleries with more being added each year.

And under the heading of "Did you know," did you know that New Castle, New York, located in the 93rd Assembly District, which is Mr. Buchwald's district, is the home of Horace Greeley, who is the founder and editor of the *New York Tribune* which ran in print from 1841 to 1966. Mr. Greeley also served briefly as a Congressman from New York, and was the unsuccessful candidate of the new Liberal Republican Party - seems something of an oxymoron today - in the 1872 Presidential Election against incumbent President Ulysses S. Grant.

And with that, let me describe our work for the day today. Today we have, ladies and gentlemen, a main Calendar on

your desks and after any introductions and Housekeeping, we will continue our consent of that Calendar, beginning with Calendar No. 22 which is on page 5 of that main Calendar. I would note for members that we will be calling a number of Committees off the floor, in particular - and I'll do this momentarily - the Agricultural Committee, the Election Law Committee, Codes and Rules. These Committees will produce an A-Calendar which we will take up tomorrow in Session, and we may - and I'll have to consult with the -- with the Chairs and the members - we may also take up Environmental Conservation and Health this afternoon; I will keep member posted on that. So, if you're on any of those Committees, please stay within the Well of the House so that you can hear announcements when those Committees are called.

At the conclusion of our day, and as I noticed last week, we will take up a resolution to amend our Rules. Majority members should be aware that we will be having a Democratic Conference at the conclusion of Session. I'll consult with my colleagues on the other side as to whether or not they will have Conference needs at the conclusion of Session, as well. And finally, as we conclude our work on the floor today, we will take up an important resolution that memorializes the anniversary of the devastating earthquake that occurred in Haiti in 2010. I understand Ms. Solages, who is the author of that resolution, along with others will be speaking on that resolution.

So, Mr. Speaker, that's an idea of what our day looks

like, and I understand there are introductions and housekeeping. Now would be the appropriate time to take up those.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: We will start with an introduction from Mr. Sepulveda.

MR. SEPULVEDA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to make this introduction. As some of you know, recently a bipartisan group, both from the Assembly and the Chamber -- and the Senate's Chambers visited St. Petersburg, Moscow and the Republic in Tatarstan. The visit was primarily a cultural, an educational, and an attempt to bring investment at the local level between our countries, our State, and theirs. We let the Federal issues resolve themselves, but it was really a local event where we met many people, we made many friends and we are establishing exchanges. For example, Assemblywoman Paulin, while there, is trying to establish a student exchange program in her district. We're working with SUNY and some of the other universities, private universities, and we're trying to encourage investment.

While we were there, we -- we had an individual who joined us on the trip and I'm happy to say that he's here today with his lovely wife. We are with Robert Galiullin, who has been the Minister of Taxation for Russia, Minister of Regional Development, First Deputy Chief Executive of the Tatarstan Investment Development Agency. He is a lawyer from Moscow and currently he is the Trade Representative of the Russian Federation for the Republic of Tatarstan. With him today is his lovely wife, Nadezda Galiullin. So,

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to offer them the cordialities of the House.

Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Mr. Sepulveda, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly. We extend to you the privileges of the floor. We refer to this as the People's House, the New York State Assembly, holds proud the thought of representation that we provide in this State. We hope you enjoy the proceedings and hope you will come back and visit us again. Thank you.

(Applause)

Housekeeping.

On a motion by Mr. Englebright, page 86, Calendar No. 444, Assembly Bill A-6280, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mr. Thiele, page 88, Calendar No. 451, Bill No. A-6336, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mr. Cusick, page 73, Calendar No. 384, Bill No. A-5382, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mr. Lentol, page 83, Calendar No. 427, Bill No. A-5946, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Mr. Magnarelli, page 88, Calendar No. 454, Bill No. A-6367, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by Ms. Seawright, page 91, Calendar No. 470, Bill No. A-6732, amendments are received and adopted.

On a motion by the introducer, Mr. Cusick, the

following bills currently on Third Reading are committed to the following Committees: Bill No. 3052, Calendar No. 246, page 47, back to the Election Law Committee; Bill No. 8067, Calendar No. 578, Bill No. 117, back to the Election Law Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Weprin, the following bills currently on Third Reading are committed to the following Committee: Bill No. 4933-A, Calendar No. 352, page 68, to the Committee on Governmental Employees.

On a motion by Mr. Lentol as Chair of the Committee on Codes, the following bills currently on Third Reading are committed to the Committee on Codes: Bill No. 4239, Calendar No. 321, page 61; Bill No. 8170-B, Calendar No. 588, Bill No. 119.

On a motion by Mr. Abbate as Chair of the Committee on Governmental Employees, the following bills are currently on Third Reading are committed to the Committee on Governmental Employees: Bill No. 6233, Calendar No. 3 -- 439, page 85, Bill No. 7760; Calendar No. 548, page no. 107.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Before we go to resolutions on page 3 of the main Calendar, I'd like to ask members of the Committee on Agriculture to join the Chair, Mr. Magee, in the Speaker's Conference Room for a Committee on Agriculture.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Committee on Agriculture in the Speaker's Conference Room, Mr. Magee awaits

you. Thank you.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Yes, sir. And then if we could begin with Assembly Resolution No. 725 by Ms. Lupardo found on page 3 of the main Calendar.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 725, Ms. Lupardo. Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 2018 as Radon Awareness Month in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 726, Mr. Ra. Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 9, 2018 as Law Enforcement Appreciation Day in the New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Yes, sir. As I mentioned earlier, I would like to begin consent on page 5 of the main Calendar, beginning with Calendar No. 22 by Ms. Paulin.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00275, Calendar No. 22, Paulin, Gunther, L. Rosenthal, Jaffee, Englebright, Gottfried, Woerner, Skoufis, Fahy. An act to amend the Public Health Law and the Insurance Law, in relation to premium reduction for obstetric practitioners who complete a risk management strategies course.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00281, Calendar No. 23, Bichotte, Rodriguez, Walker, Blake. An act to amend the General Municipal Law, and the New York City Charter, in relation to opportunities for Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprises and emerging business enterprises.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00284-B, Calendar No. 24, Paulin, Cook, Zebrowski, Hooper, McDonough, L. Rosenthal, Murray, Abinanti, Seawright. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to the licensing and regulation of pet groomers.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00287, Calendar No. 25, Bichotte, Hyndman, Solages, Seawright, Jaffee, Hooper, Blake, Sepulveda, Gottfried, Jean-Pierre, Rozic, Walker. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to requirements of the annual report from the Division of Minority and Women's Business Development.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record

the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Thank you, sir. Colleagues, this is our first vote of the day so I'd ask you to cast your votes and those individuals who are around the Chamber and can hear the sounds of our voice and the proceedings should make their way in to cast their first vote of the day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: First vote of the day, members.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00290, Calendar No. 26, Jaffee, Lupardo, Simotas, Abinanti, Harris, Zebrowski, Peoples-Stokes, Williams, Simon, Hyndman, Buchwald, Gottfried, Mayer. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to implementing a cost estimation model for child care.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00292, Calendar No. 27, Jaffee, Abinanti, Williams, Rivera, Bichotte. An act to amend the Town Law, in relation to requiring an electronic version of a town clerk's sign-board on a town website.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00308, Calendar No. 28, Gantt, Barron. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to prohibiting discrimination in the issuance of renewal of homeowners' insurance policies and to the geographical location of risk of certain policies.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00313, Calendar No. 29, Bichotte, Gunther, Dilan, Skoufis, Steck, Weprin, L. Rosenthal, Galef, Gottfried, Jaffee, Cook, Lavine, Magnarelli, McDonough, Davila. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to authorizing expedited partner therapy for certain sexually transmitted infections.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00328-A, Calendar No. 30, Braunstein, Abinanti, Zebrowski, Colton, Jaffee, Steck, Weprin. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to the protection of private patient information by ambulance services.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 180th

day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Yes, thank you, sir, for allowing the brief interruption so that I can ask members of the Election Law Committee to make their way to the Speaker's Conference Room. Mr. Lavine is ready to lead them to the Speaker's Conference Room; Election Law.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Election Law, Speaker's Conference Room; Mr. Lavine will lead you there. Thank you, sir.

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00339, Calendar No. 31, Kim, Mosley, Jaffee, Sepulveda, Crespo, Steck, Fahy, Friend, Rozic, Harris, Jean-Pierre, Niou. An act to amend the Social Services Law, in relation to enacting the New York State Reuniting Families Act.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 90th day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00352, Calendar No. 32, Perry. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to requiring physicians and hospitals to obtain the name of the school attended by school-aged patients and to include this information in their admission registration forms.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00353, Calendar No. 33, Braunstein, Barron. An act to amend the Real Property Law, in relation to ground leases.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00381, Calendar No. 34, Nolan, Colton, Fahy, M.G. Miller, Sepulveda, Ortiz, Bronson, Jean-Pierre, Galef. An act to amend the Education Law, in relation to the collection of data regarding certain students attending career education programs.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00391, Calendar No. 35, Cahill, Cymbrowitz, Otis, Skoufis. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to requiring the superintendent of financial services to promulgate regulations which provide standardized definitions for commonly used terms and phrases in certain insurance policies.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00398, Calendar No. 36, Gunther, L. Rosenthal, Jaffee, Schimminger, Rivera, Perry, Braunstein, Mayer, Curran. An act to amend the Tax Law and the State Finance Law, in relation to ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) research and education.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00433, Calendar No. 37, L. Rosenthal, Lentol, Dinowitz, Gottfried, Colton, Titus, Ortiz, Benedetto, Hooper, Glick, Mosley, Zebrowski, Weprin, Davila, Pichardo, Bichotte, Mayer, Abinanti, Simon, Joyner, Quart, Rozic, Blake, Seawright, Walker, Richardson, De La Rosa, Barron. An act to amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York and the Emergency Tenant Protection Act of 1974, in relation to making conforming technical changes; and to repeal paragraph 13 of subdivision a of Section 5 of Section 4 of Chapter 576 of the Laws of

1974 constituting the Emergency Tenant Protection Act of 1974, paragraph (n) of subdivision 2 of Section 2 of Chapter 274 of the Laws of 1946, constituting the Emergency Housing Rent Control Law, and Section 26-504.2 and subparagraph (k) of paragraph 2 of subdivision e of Section 26-403 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, relating to vacancy decontrol.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00441, Calendar No. 38, Paulin, Galef, Englebright, Quart, Zebrowski, Cook, Abinanti, L. Rosenthal, Colton, Weprin, Otis, Dinowitz, Thiele, Harris, Sepulveda, Skartados, Simon. An act to amend the Public Health Law and Environmental Conservation Law, in relation to prohibiting the use of pesticides at children's overnight or summer day camp.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00463, Calendar No. 39, Abinanti, Paulin, Galef, Montesano, Otis, Jaffee, Colton. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to notifying local officials of the occurrence of certain emergency situations.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00465, Calendar No. 40, Paulin, Jaffee, Titone, L. Rosenthal, DiPietro, Cusick, Brindisi, Weprin, McDonald, Murray. An act to amend the Agriculture and Markets Law and the General Business Law, in relation to the definition of "pet dealer".

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00467, Calendar No. 41, Paulin, Englebright, L. Rosenthal, Buchwald, Mosley, Otis, Cook, Gottfried, Lifton, Steck, Hooper, Abinanti, Galef. An act to amend the Public Service Law, in relation to reporting of natural gas leaks by gas corporations.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On a motion by Ms. Paulin, page 8, Calendar No. 41, Bill No. A-467, amendments are received and adopted and the bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00498, Calendar No. 42, Perry, Colton. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to public notification of tracking return policy.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00537-A, Calendar No. 43, L. Rosenthal. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to food allergy awareness in food service establishments and online food ordering services.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00566-A, Calendar No. 544, Jaffee, Dinowitz, Cook, Galef, Gottfried, Cahill, Fahy, Titus, Mosley, Zebrowski, Pichardo, Simon, Steck, Brindisi, Mayer, Simotas, Arroyo, Joyner, Aubry, Seawright, Abinanti, Skoufis, Paulin, L. Rosenthal, Hunter, Harris, Bichotte, Jean-Pierre, Hyndman, De La Rosa, Blake, D'Urso, Carroll, Bronson. An act to amend the Labor Law, in relation to discrimination based on an employee's or a dependent's reproductive health decision making.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00582, Calendar No. 45, L. Rosenthal. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to adding dysmenorrhea to the list of conditions covered for lawful medical use of marihuana.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00588-A, Calendar No. 46, L. Rosenthal, Lupardo, Jenne, Pheffer Amato, Peoples-Stokes, Seawright, Jaffee, Simon, De La Rosa, Harris, Arroyo, Simotas, Jean-Pierre, Lifton, Wright, Titus, Richardson, Niou, Williams, Hooper, Joyner, Hunter, Davila, Gunther, Glick, Solages, Hyndman, Blake, Carroll, M.G. Miller, Brindisi, Crespo, Paulin, Rivera, Colton, Gottfried, Walker, Mayer, Weprin, Aubry, Steck, Quart. An act to amend the Correction Law, in relation to providing feminine hygiene products at no cost to individuals in correctional facilities.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00600, Calendar No. 47, Abinanti, Weprin. An act to amend the General Obligations Law,

in relation to genetically modified organisms.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Members of the Codes Committee should make their way to the Speaker's Conference Room. Mr. Lentol is there, and I understand Mr. Graf is no longer the Ranking Member, so that duty falls to Mr. Curran. So, we'd like to ask members of the Codes Committee to make their way to the Conference Committee.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Codes Committee, Speaker's Conference Room.

Read the last section -- excuse me -- the Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00608, Calendar No. 48, Paulin, Arroyo, Cook, Gottfried, Galef, Steck, Otis. An act to amend the Executive Law, in relation to direct dialing to public service answering points.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 90th day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00612, Calendar No. 49, L. Rosenthal, DenDekker, Crespo, Davila, Barron, McDonald, Sepulveda. An act to amend the Mental Hygiene Law, in relation to establishing the Sober Living Task Force; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00628, Calendar No. 50, L. Rosenthal, Mosley, Gottfried, Otis, Weprin, Hooper, Ortiz, Perry, Davila, Dinowitz, Simon, M.G. Miller, Lifton, Barron, Seawright, Richardson, Benedetto, Steck, Bronson, Mayer, Crespo, Hunter, Jenne, Sepulveda, Rozic, Skoufis, Harris. An act to amend the Lien Law, in relation to employee liens; to amend the Labor Law, in relation to employee complaints; to amend the Civil Practice Law and Rules, in relation to grounds for attachment; to amend the Business Corporation Law, in relation to streamlining procedures where employees may hold shareholders of non-publicly traded corporations personally liable for wage theft; and to amend the

Limited Liability Company Law, in relation to creating a right for victims of wage theft to hold the 10 members with the largest ownership interests in a company personally liable for wage theft.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00635, Calendar No. 51, Perry. An act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to prohibiting an insurer from cancelling or refusing to renew or condition its renewal of automobile insurance policies in certain cases.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00643, Calendar No. 52, Rodriguez, Blake, Crespo, Barron, Colton, Mosley, Davila, Dilan, Hyndman, Gottfried, Walker, De La Rosa. An act to amend the Criminal Procedure Law, in relation to requiring the court, prior to accepting a plea to a misdemeanor or violation, to advise the defendant of the risk of deportation if he or she is not a citizen.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00655, Calendar No. 53, Rodriguez. An act to amend the Public Service Law, in relation to the collection of charges for residential utility service deemed to be rent.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00658, Calendar No. 54, L. Rosenthal, Jaffee, Paulin, Gottfried, Galef, Weprin, Hevesi, Englebright, Skoufis, Crespo, Steck, Skartados, Stirpe, Solages, Otis, Walker, Colton, M.G. Miller, Jenne, Seawright, Niou, Blake, Ortiz.

An act to amend the Civil Service Law, in relation to implementing a State policy of setting salaries on the basis of equivalent value of work.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00682-A, Calendar No. 55, Magnarelli, M.G. Miller, Hunter, Peoples-Stokes, Sepulveda, Otis. An act to amend the General Municipal Law, in relation to ordinances to regulate taxicabs, limousines, and livery vehicles.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask members of the Committee on Rules to make their way to the Speaker's Conference Room. Committee on Rules in the Speaker's Conference Room.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Committee on Rules, Speaker's Conference Room.

The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00702, Calendar No.

56, Rodriguez, Blake, Barron, Cook, Hyndman, Peoples-Stokes, Simotas, Walker, Bichotte, Seawright, Jaffee. An act to amend the Executive Law and the State Finance Law, in relation to Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprises post completion certification, duties of the director and creating the Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprise Fund.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

ACTING SPEAKER ROZIC: Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A00724-A, Calendar No. 57, Gunther, Ortiz, Zebrowski, Hooper, Wallace, Williams, Glick, Montesano, Galef, D'Urso, Blake, Santabarbara. An act to amend the General Business Law, in relation to the use of voice recognition features.

ACTING SPEAKER ROZIC: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect in 120 days.

ACTING SPEAKER ROZIC: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The -- I just wanted to give notice to the members on the Environmental Committee -- Conservation Committee and the Health Committee that while we have additional work to be done here on the floor this afternoon, that we will put those Committees and deal with them off the floor tomorrow in Session. So, Environmental Conservation and Health Committee members should be aware that we will do those Committees off the floor.

And with that, Ms. Speaker, I gave notice last week and indicated earlier today we will now be offering a resolution to amend the Rules of the House and, specifically, if I just can take a moment to describe the resolution on the floor. This accomplishes two goals: The first is we conform our Rules to our current practice, which we adopted last Session, of time limitations on resolutions and the introduction of guests in the Assembly Chamber and, specifically, limiting the time for speaking on privileged resolutions to no more than five minutes, and we further limit recognition for one member to introduce an individual guest or group to no more than two minutes. As I said, that conforms with our most recent practices.

Secondly, the Rules were providing a technical change in the way that we produce and publish our Session Calendars,

and these changes in no way alter the flow of the legislative process. Members and the public should be aware that the current practice of creating and publishing Calendars will remain the same; however, these changes simply provide clarity in our Rules to conform existing practices and help continue with the progress we've made to our floor operations, progress, which I might add, everyone here has been very helpful and cooperative in doing.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I ask that the resolution be adopted.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, the Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The resolution is adopted.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do want to ask you about housekeeping and resolutions, but I want to remind the members that we have a privileged resolution today memorializing the victims of the 2010 Haitian earthquake, and I know there are a number of members, including Ms. Solages, who offers the resolution, wish to be heard. So, I want to make clear that members should be prepared for that.

And with that, if there are other housekeeping or resolutions to take up before we take up that privileged resolution.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly, Mr. Morelle.

On a motion by Mr. Perry, page 72, Calendar No. 376, Bill No. A-5285-B, the amendment are adopted.

On a motion by Mrs. Barrett, page 43, Calendar No. 225, Bill No. A-2809, amendments are received and adopted.

We have numerous fine resolutions, we will take them up with one vote. On the resolutions, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolutions are adopted.

(Whereupon, Assembly Resolution Nos. 728-740, 742-743 were unanimously approved.)

The Clerk will read the privileged resolution.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 727. Legislative resolution remembering the victims of the Haitian earthquake of January 12, 2010.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, Ms. Solages.

MS. SOLAGES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. January 12, 2010, a catastrophic earthquake hit Haiti. We pause today to remember the hundreds of thousands of people that perished, and we also remember the three million people that were affected. I thank my colleagues for pausing today and remembering those individuals. I also want to highlight the 5,200 people here in New York who are Haitian nationals who come here, who we took under temporary protective status, TPS. These individuals left horrors in Haiti and they

came to America, specifically New York, to change their life, to recoup, and to be a part of the American Dream.

I am not my parents' child, nor am I my grandparents' child; I am the child of my ancestors. I am the child of the Haitian community. And when I hear and see the vile things that are going on on the Federal level where we're going to tear apart families and we're going to hurt 5,200 New Yorkers, it breaks my heart. This is not our State. We are the progressive State. We have Lady Liberty in our Harbor. And so, I stand here remembering the victims, remembering my ancestors, denouncing hate, racism, bigotry and embracing those 5,200 TPS holders and begging that our Federal representatives, our Congressional leaders, our Senators protect those individuals. We remember our ancestors and we hold them high.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Hooper on the resolution.

MS. HOOPER: I want to first thank my colleague for bringing this very serious and painful event to our attention, which is more than right and overdue. And I understand I only have two minutes to speak to this - am I correct -- five, thank you - because it's impossible to summarize and to really explore and to explain the pain that this particular community has experienced, is experiencing and just might experience even more.

When this earthquake occurred in 2010, in my community we had several -- many Haitians who not only had come

to this nation before the earthquake, but they also had family members and loved ones who were there and were experiencing this horrible natural disaster. And so, we found it necessary in the Nassau County community, especially the 18th Assembly District, to address the problems that were being felt and the pain that was being -- emanating from those persons who were here. So, we set up social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists to deal with the pain that that community was experiencing. We also set up law clinics so that they could understand exactly what -- to what they were entitled.

But I just wanted to go a little farther in reference to the issue of the Haitian community. When a Haitian attempts to come to enjoy what was inferred - Lady Liberty in the Harbor - they don't have an opportunity to see labor -- Lady Liberty because their boats are intercepted and they are turned back into shark-infested waters before they even have a chance to put one foot on the sand of this great nation, as are the Cubans. And for some reason or another, it seems the browning or the blacking of the immigrants who are coming here are treated differently. There is very little, if anything, that the President of this country can say that I agree -- to which I agree. And the scurrilous remarks that he allegedly stated over the weekend, he indicated that what he is saying is what most -- many people think, but don't want to say. I agree with that, because this nation has changed in terms of what is an immigrant. It seems the only immigrant that this particular -- Number 45 who is the President, wants to embrace is either from Norway or Slovenia. And I think it's a disgrace and it's

a mockery what happens in this nation.

I am nowhere not to get into the issue as it related to the DR - Dominican Republic - removing my Haitian brothers and sisters from their country and putting them into a no man's land, but we, in this House, need to remember that if we don't stick together, individually we will all be annihilated collectively. And when we talk about DACA, we need to remember that DACA also includes these children, these kids who came here when they were babies and have no idea what it is to be sent back to a place of which they have no knowledge. If someone were to ask me from where did my ancestors come, some came from Africa, some came from Scotland, and some came from this country who were slave masters. But if someone were to ask me to go back to Africa, I would not even know what country to choose, much less because Africa is not a country. It's a continent. I wouldn't know whether to choose Nigeria, South Africa, Nisia, Sudan, I would not know. And if you were to send me there, I would be just as lost as if you were to send me to Russia.

So on that, I stand to support this resolution and I thank my colleagues who understand that the pain that the Haitians are experiencing, especially with this temporary status, permanent -- temporary status, we need to remember that if it's not they, it will be us. Thank you so much for the opportunity to speak, and this is just beginning.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Jean-Pierre.

I remind you that there is a five minute limit on --

MS. JEAN-PIERRE: I'll be less than that.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

MS. JEAN-PIERRE: Good afternoon. Today's resolution marks the 8th anniversary of the devastating 2010 earthquake in Haiti that killed more than 220,000 people, including 122 Americans, and left over one million people without homes. This resolution is important to me, especially as -- as -- as a daughter of Haitian immigrants. This past October I visited Haiti with members from both Houses, the Assembly and the Senate, and today in 2008 (sic), Haiti continues to rebuild and recover, but millions of people still lack the basic necessities like shelter and water, all while continuing to live under the fear of more destruction from natural disasters, such as Hurricane Maria we had just last year.

It saddens me that today this -- it saddens me that today's resolution comes at a time when the Federal administration is removing TPS for Haitian immigrants, many of whom fled from the 2010 earthquake and is making comments more about the time - excuse me - for Haitian immigrants and many of whom had fled the earthquake in 2010 and is making comments about them that show an unimaginable level of disrespect, ignorance and hate.

There are over 50,000 Haitian immigrants right here in this country who own businesses, pay taxes, contribute to our communities and, obviously, who are legislators of this House, by without the renewal of TPS, thousands of Haitian nationals now face deportation. These hard-working families have suffered enough and

don't deserve to have their entire lives unproofed -- un-rooted because of the xenophobia Federal Administration.

While we pause to remember the terrible hardships experienced by Haitians in the aftermath of the earthquake, we must continue to move forward and doing all we can to protect them. America has always been a beacon of hope for generations of immigrants and refugees and I'll continue standing up for those who made America their home. America is -- America is a place of diversity. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Vanel.

MR. VANEL: Have you ever seen the hand of God? On January 10, 2010, Haiti experienced a devastating earthquake, 7.0 on the Richter Scale. I remember where I was that day. I was testifying before a school community to keep a school open and my phone was blowing up, people were telling me, *Go watch the news about what's going on with this earthquake*. So I rushed to my mother's house not too far from there and the images that I saw on CNN, I saw people buried alive. We saw people whose limbs were crushed, my mother was trying to call different family members and we couldn't get through to them. Imagine seeing your people in that situation. Imagine seeing that happen, how helpless you feel.

So, I rushed to JFK to get the new -- the next flight to Haiti. Obviously, I couldn't get there so I flew to our neighboring country, the Dominican Republic. When I got there the next day, have you ever seen the hand of God move between people? I saw a

young boy no more than 10-years-old carry a man on his back whose legs were crushed. I saw a community helping a child dig their mother from rubble, no Caterpillar, no earth excavating machine, people digging people out with their hands. Have you ever seen God move between people?

What's interesting and ironic is in the worst tragedies, you find the best of human spirit; you find what unites us, you find beauty. America must humble itself. We are not greater than God, this can happen to us. We're still recovering from Superstorm Sandy in New York, we see what's happening to Puerto Rico. This is a time for us to stand together as citizens of the world. Have you seen God's hand move through people? We have to learn from this. We have to stand with the people of Haiti. We have to stand with the people of the world that deal with natural disasters. As a country, as a State, we have to work together through these times. This is a lesson that we will learn over and over again.

So, New York, humble yourself. America, humble yourself. Have you ever seen the hand of God work through people? I have when I was in Haiti. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Ramos.

MR. RAMOS: Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of this bill and I thank the -- the sponsor and I stand united with many of my colleagues here who also support this initiative and this declaration, speaking about the earthquake and the Haitian victims, many of which who ended up in my district after this catastrophe happened in Haiti.

So, I got to see the real face of it and -- and the effect of it. And I also got to see a new group come to our community and start to build that American Dream and be part of all facets of life and work and start to raise families and pay taxes and do everything that the American Dream is part of.

I think we have an obligation not only to pass this resolution, but to stand up for the Haitian community in this State and in this country and defend them against policies that are coming from our Federal government. It's become very clear what our President's position is in that he prefers immigrants from Norway and wants to discourage immigrants from Haiti. And, you know, it's so sad and -- in the defense of those words of what was said, it's so sad that the defense of it has become almost psychotic in -- in the way that they defend it. You know, some say, *Well, you know, this is because he's talking about merit, merit-based immigration.* Merit-based? Well, if it was merit-based, then we would say, *Okay, we should bring people with education from Haiti and from Norway and from everywhere, and bring the best of everywhere.* That -- that would be a logical argument for somebody who wants to take that position, but that wasn't what was said. What was said is, *We shouldn't take them from Haiti, we should take them from Norway.* And the defense of that is -- is -- is something that we, as a Body, must stand up for. We not have to provide clarity on -- on what is said at a Federal level, it's maddening because behind this -- these policies, behind that divisive rhetoric, behind that racism are real people who have to suffer through

this. It is regretful.

You know, it's so misguided to think that only immigrants who are the "cream of the crop" and have certain qualities and have certain levels of -- of economic viability should be the ones who come to this country. This country was not built by rich immigrants. It was built by people who faced persecution, people who had nothing -- I guarantee you if I go around this room, there will be dozens of people who talk about their great-grandfather who came here and only had \$20 in his pocket and lifted himself up by the bootstraps. And then they'll say, you know, why can't new immigrants go by the same rules? Twenty-four million immigrants from Europe in the early 1900's came here did not need a Visa; the rules were different. And this country was also built not only by poor immigrants, but by the slave labor that didn't have to be paid for. And what is even more infuriating is that they were good enough, Africans were good enough to be chained to the bottom of ships, many to die in their own excrement, to come here to work in slavery and build this country and build the economy, but they are not worthy of immigrating to this country in pursuit of happiness and the American Dream for their families. That is truly a double-standard. And outrageous to hear that -- that mentality and attempt to translate that mentality into policy of our country.

So, we need to stand together and do all that we can at the State level. We need to come together and protect from -- this group of people who have come here for the same reason everybody

else has. We can't allow the country that is a beacon of freedom to become a beacon of hate, especially in New York that has that majestic lady in New York Harbor and has always been a symbol of that. I ask my colleagues to all please vote yes on this resolution and to stand united with the Haitian community.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Taylor.

MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Speaker, thank you. I stand to join with my colleagues. Eight years ago today, I was in Haiti. I arrived six days after the earthquake and the devastation that I saw, the stench that I smelled and the families that couldn't get their families from out of those buildings that had caved it, it was like a war had taken place there. But least we forget in the summer of 1942, there were some folks that tried to come to America and they was turned back because they thought they were Nazi spies and they went to their death. For so long, Haiti has been demonized. From the early '80s, the boat people were turned around and sent back. And I think if we're not careful, we're subject to give ourselves to fear and not do that which is right.

I went to Haiti with the idea that I wanted to serve and help and I had an idea of how this America man was going to serve. I was broken, I cried a lot because the resiliency of the Haitian people that I saw with the dignity that they had and the water that they could get, presented themselves in the best manner. They worked, they loved on us. I found that they offered me more hope than I was giving them.

So, I join with my colleagues today to say that as America, as America, the melting pot of America is New York City. And for Number 45 to pontificate anything other than that when it comes to people with a tan is ridiculous. And I think Dr. King said that something to the point where, you know, it's not that bad people do things, it's when good people do nothing and let bad people get away with it, something along that line. We must all stand united when our government speaks like that because that's hate and I just want to stand with everyone. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. (sic) Bichotte.
Ms. Bichotte.

MS. BICHOTTE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, on this resolution. As a proud daughter of Haitian immigrants, I rise today to commemorate and express a -- a deep sense of loss in a place that planted seeds in my upbringing, my lineage, my fellow Americans and many of the constituents in Haiti.

Eight years ago the world was shaken by 30 seconds of the trembling that led to 300,000 of lives who died, and over a million injured and displaced. Today, as we remember Haiti, who is a country that can probably withstand anything that comes at her, whether combatting natural disasters over natural disasters, combatting diseases like cholera epidemic, human trafficking, exploitation, political instability that continues to rock the Haitians to their core. Let us not forget Haiti still needs help. With the many organizations and countries that came to help, even more

organizations came to exploit, especially those who said we created AIDS in 1990, those were the same organizations that banked on our backs 20 years later in 2010.

Now, the recent derogatory and ignorant remarks from Number 45 and his decision to turn the many taxpaying Haitian immigrants to Haiti not only has been seen as insulting, but very insensitive. And it created another type of earthquake, an earthquake of bigotry and hate. Furthermore, the Department Homeland Security terminated the TPS with the notion that Haiti can receive 60,000 people back into its land. But let me give you some -- some data. After the earthquake on January 12, 2010, 3.5 million people were severely affected. About 300,000 people died. Another 300,000 were injured. Over 188,000 houses badly damaged and 105,000 destroyed with 1.5 million homeless. Nineteen million cubic meters of rubble and debris in Port-au-Prince, enough to fill a line of shipping containers stretching end-to-end from London to Beirut. Four thousands schools damaged or destroyed; 25,000 of civil servants in Port-au-Prince died; 60 percent of government and administrative buildings; 80 percent of schools in Port-au-Prince and 60 percent of schools in the south and west departments were destroyed or damaged. Over 600,000 people left their homes and mostly stayed with their host family. \$14 billion in damages according to the inter-American Development Bank. And at its peak, 1.5 million people were living in the camps, including over 100,000 in critical risk from storms and flooding.

So today, we call to action that these Haitian immigrants who are residing here in the United States with temporary prospective status, with DACA status, need to be part of the immigration deal that's at discussion so that there is a pathway for them to citizenship. And today, I also want to call on my ancestors, my ancestors who will continue to shield us, the spirit to shield us from the many blows that we've been continuously getting. I call on the six Haitian Tuskegee Airmen who fought in World War II, Ludovic Audant, Philippe Célestin, Raymond Cassagnol, Eberle Guilbaud, Nicolas Pelissier, Alix Pasquet. I call on Jean-Baptist-Point Du Sable, who founded Chicago. I call on Dutty Boukman, a Jamaican Revolutionist who rebelled in the high -- Haitian mountains. I call on Henri Christophe, a Grenadian, who was named King of Haiti and led to the Haitian Revolution. I call on Toussaint L'Ouverture, who was the leader of the black population of Haiti. I call on my great-grandfather, Jean-Jacques Dessalines, who led Haiti to its victory, making Haiti the first Black Republic in 1804.

Let us rise, let us rise, let us rise, Oh, God, let us rise. Let us know that this is not a Haitian issue, this is not an El Salvador issue, this is not an African issue, this is an American issue. We have to recognize who we are. We have to reclaim our American values. Are we going to be the America that welcomes the tired and the poor and the huddle mass, yearning to be -- to breathe free? Or are we going to be the America of bigotry? Let us rise. Let us rise. Let us rise. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Weinstein.

MS. WEINSTEIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased and honored to join with so many of my colleagues who have spoken and those who will be supporting -- all of us I assume who will be supporting this resolution commemorating the earthquake in -- in Haiti. It's almost hard to believe that it's eight years since this devastation hit the -- the shores of Haiti. So many of our constituents, particularly those who live in Brooklyn, have roots that go back to -- to Haiti and when the earthquake hit, the community was devastated. So many of the elected officials and local organizations immediately started drives to collect -- collect supplies. We did so again after the earthquake; somewhere down in Haiti, I think someone's wearing my dad's shoes and hopefully they've come to good use.

What is particularly disturbing at this time is, over the years, we've fought for the continuation of the TPS status and at a time that we were happy to have the TPS status renewed, we also were fighting for family reunification and, instead, now, so many of the people who were victims of the earthquake are finding themselves maybe trying to plan their future when 18 months -- or I guess about now it's probably about 16 months happens and they face the possibility of, not without any further action of having to return to -- to Haiti.

I think that it's important that we commemorate this day and that we continue - as many of my colleagues have mentioned - to welcome the -- those who have come to this country and to

support their -- their efforts here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Rivera.

MR. RIVERA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My first experience with the Haitian community took place in 1981. There was a lot of news about people arriving in the shores of Miami, Florida. Not alive, but they arrived as dead as a result of drowning trying to come to America. But those who survived in 1981 was sent to a military concentration camp in Puerto Rico, in the mountains of Puerto Rico. We were very upset. Puerto Ricans in New York City and throughout this country were very upset. We were not allowed in our island.

I traveled with the late Senator Joseph Galiber from the Bronx and the U.S. Senator Patrick Moynihan to Puerto Rico and we witnessed the condition that they were subjected to. And after we found and saw what we saw, a demonstration took place of about 50,000 Puerto Ricans that were angry, we're not going to allow our little island to be used in that fashion.

Now, that was my first experience. I wanted to learn more about the Haitian people. You talk about the earthquake? Well, let's talk about not only do they suffer earthquake, but I recall my other experience was traveling as a member of the City Council with then-State Senator Efrain Gonzalez and Al Sharpton. We went to Haiti and we brought generators, we brought help to the victims at that time. And we didn't stop there. We went over to the Dominican Republic, because on that particular year, Haiti, Dominican Republic

and Puerto Rico was hit with a hurricane. So, we traveled the three.

All right. Now, I stand here grateful because after I found out who the Haitian people were who dared to be the first ones in this continent, to dare in 1804 to say, *We are going to be free*. They were free. So they thought. The worst thing that probably happened to them, because they dared to stand up for freedom and because they did that, it paved the way for Cuba to eventually free itself from Spain. Puerto Rico, still a colony. We're not free from nobody. We're abused by a lot of people, by many -- those in corporate America. But, that's another issue.

So here we are. I am proud that on a day like yesterday that I participated in the rally remembering the struggle, the sacrifices of Martin Luther King. Now, they were wondering how come I was not among that delegation from this Body who stood on the platform and -- to speak on what is happening to them and to others like the people from El Salvador who, over 200,000 of them are in this country, they are being told that they got to go back. It's not right. Something is wrong today with America. And my brother, Charles Barron, said, and my wife reminded me yesterday, silence is a betrayal. I don't know if I'm quoting Martin Luther King correctly, but to stand by and allow what's happening in this country today and be silent, it's a betrayal to what we are supposed to stand for. We are all Americans, regardless of where you come from. And let me tell you something, my Haitian friends, when I found out that there's over 100,000 Haitians in Puerto Rico, they set up business, we welcome

you, we love the culture. So what is wrong? We all look to try to better our lives wherever, whether in Puerto Rico or any other place, and this country - we all come to this country. What's going on?

So, what happened yesterday and what is happening here is that there is a call for people of conscience in this Body and in this nation that regardless who the President is, they cannot behave the way this one is behaving. So, I just want to say that yesterday what I saw what is a sleeping giant waking up, and when I go back to my neighborhood, I'm going to be part of that sleeping giant who is not going to be sleeping anymore. And to end it this way, I love the internship program because I finally can be on my own TV, YouTube, Facebook, as a result of my intern, Melissa, who I just met today. My own video camera, thanks to my intern.

So, listen, this is just about standing up for what America's supposed to be about, that's all it is. So, having said that, I'm going -- I'm going to continue to participate in every rally there is across this State. I'm asking my Leader from the Hispanic Task Force, I'm asking my leaders from the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, let's take what happened yesterday throughout every corner of this State. I'm ready to march on, because we are going to overcome. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

Ms. Jaffee.

Five minutes, I'm reminding folks, please.

MS. JAFFEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the --

thank you for the opportunity to speak with my colleagues remembering the victims of the Haitian earthquake of January 12, 2010. Devastating earthquake which ravaged the Island of Haiti where an estimated three million people were impacted with death toll estimates ranging from 100,000 to 60,000 children, women, men, families devastated. This resolution here, I'm so pleased that we're taking this moment to remember and respect what happened at this tragedy, to honor the resiliency of the Haitian community and our State -- here in our State, and their countless contribution to our country and the great State of New York. We should use this day to reaffirm America's and New York's commitment to our Haitian brothers and sisters, provide them the support that they need here and in Haiti and to shelter them safely here in our country while theirs is rebuilt for so many.

Colleagues here in the State Assembly have written - and I have joined them - to Federal Administration expressing our concern for the ending of the Temporary Protective Status - TPS, as was noted earlier - for the Haitian individuals and families, as well as others, and I will continue to voice my support for the renewal of TPS for Haiti and the other nations to remain in this country. New York State is fortunate to have such a vibrant group of Haitian immigrants and so many others who day in and day out work hard to make a better life for themselves and their children while contributing to our local communities, to our economy, to this country which was built upon generation after generation of immigrants, a shining beacon of

freedom and hope we should all be so proud of to call home. As a daughter of a father who is an immigrant and a granddaughter, a grandmother who was an immigrant, came from Russia and Poland, my father used to shine shoes on the corner in Brooklyn just to get some funding so that they could support and -- and -- for themselves. And eventually, he became an educator, a teacher, and really inspired youth.

I am so grateful for the daily learning experiences and the friendship and support and love I've had with so many in my community who are immigrants from so many countries, from Haiti large numbers from Haiti and African Continent, Caribbean, India -- Caribbean, India, Ireland, Israel, Latin American countries who are our neighbors, our colleagues, our business owners, teachers, professors, doctors or nurses, waitresses, home care attendants, engineers, scientists, firefighters, police officers and servicemen and women; part of our community, they are our families. Our diversity is what makes America great. We cannot become a country and a State that separates our children and families, it's unacceptable. We cannot become a country and a State that tolerates hate speech and rhetoric and placing fear among our communities, our immigrants, their children and other groups.

As an educator, I can tell you how essential it is for our youth to have support, to have love and care, and the education that they deserve and need to become part of our future, to become substantial members of our community, give them opportunities to be

successful. It is unconscionable and it goes against one of our most American values if we don't continue to be positive and supportive, offering protection and shelter and respect to all of our communities, and I'm so pleased to be standing here today with all of you remembering the victims, but also moving, looking at the future and supporting all of those who came to America and who are part of America now. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Richardson.

MS. RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Today, I stand here, Mr. Speaker, as a messenger for all of the residents of the 43rd Assembly District, to say that we stand with our Haitian brothers and sisters, understanding at the end of the day all of our blood is red. Many of our lives changed on January 12th, 2010. I remember where I was, too. I was working for the New York State Senate and I worked in the Senatorial district that had the highest concentration of Haitian nationals outside of Haiti. I was doing their constituent affairs work. Imagine what the office was like the day of and after the earthquake. There was so much emotion that our residents of the community were feeling because they couldn't get in contact with family members, people were still buried under rubble. The basic necessities of food and water and light wasn't available and there were just this big ball of mystery where we just didn't know what was going to happen next.

In all of that, I faced a language barrier. I didn't speak not one word of Haitian-Creole, but I'm so thankful that I have

this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to highlight somebody in this Chamber, somebody who I call time and time again to translate for me for the countless numbers of temporary protective status applications that I have filled out. Thank you to Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte, because at that time, she was not an Assemblywoman. She was just simply a community activist, part of (inaudible) and I just knew her because she was so -- she was so active in the community and every single time I called her, even though she had a full-time job she always answered the phone. She always translated and we always got it done. Thank you, Rodneyse.

I have the honor of representing so many Haitian nationals today within the beautiful communities of Crown Heights, Prospect Lefferts Gardens and East Flatbush and although I am not Haitian by blood, I am honorary Haitian to the Haitian Caucus. And I want to say to all of the Caribbean countries in this particular moment that we can find so many ways to pick ourselves apart, whether we are light-skinned or dark-skinned or come from a Hispanic region or simply because we speak Creole, but again, all of our blood is red. For what is happening right now in the United States of America, we need to find unity, unity amongst the things that we have in common, to find love, joy and peace in the simple things of getting to know someone and to know about a different culture. I love the Haitian community in Brooklyn. When they're coming down Eastern Parkway, trust me, you know they are coming. They have such strength, courage, and you here it echo in this Chamber. Today, the

level of resiliency that they have as a people, they know how to stick together; we can learn something from the Haitian community.

And so, now we are faced with this President and his vile rhetoric and him just not wanting anyone that isn't blonde hair and blue eyes, because I literally Googled people from Norway, and that is exactly what they look like. They don't look like me. That is it, the United States of America. The United States of America is reflective of all of us in this Chamber, African-Americans, Caribbean-Americans, Asian-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Caucasians; I don't care where your family is from, America was built on the backs of immigrants. This is the United States of America. This is what America looks like when it's great, not people only coming from Norway.

And so, my Haitian brothers and sisters, I want you to know that we are going to fight, we are not going to take this laying down and I just want you to know eight years later, we mourn with you, eight years later we love you, eight years later we still stand by your side. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

Mr. Crespo.

MR. CRESPO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, want to join my colleagues in supporting this resolution and speaking out for Haitian-Americans and the Haitian community and all they have suffered and all they have persevered. The resolution commemorates and remembers the victims of that earthquake and

those individuals that -- whose lives were lost, you know, we want to honor them. We can't control what the man who occupies the White House today is doing, but we can control what we do as a State and when we think about earthquakes and we think about all these natural disasters that are affecting our -- our -- our communities and the globe and we have to honor them by -- by understanding the facts and the scientific data that says that our policies effect the occurrences of these incidents, that the things we choose to do in terms of our environment can help prevent more victims of earthquakes, more victims of -- of natural disasters. So, that is a responsibility and, unfortunately, we have seen already that the President has no interest in that and the Federal Government is rolling back some of those protections, so we need to do what we can as a State.

But there are other victims of this earthquake and those are the families that were displaced because of this reality, who moved here, who were brought here, who were welcomed here, who have settled here, who have had children here, who have jobs here, who have contributed here, who have businesses and have now become a real integral part of our communities, not just from Haiti, but other parts of the world, as well. And it's unfortunate when, as a nation, when we talk about -- it's become a talking point to just say how proud we are of our diversity, or what message this -- this country was founded upon, when we turn our backs on the very people that need us the most that we need to support the most. It happened in Puerto Rico with this disaster when our President fails to show up and

when he does, he throws paper towels at a crowd, or when he passes a Federal tax bill that treats us not like American citizens, but literally as a foreign entity and says, here's a 20 percent excise tax on all your intellectual property. You're not American citizens anymore, we're treated like something else.

Why are we sending that message today and -- and to those families that were displaced who are still victims of this earthquake to now say to them, I don't care what you've done, I don't care if you have children, I don't care where you're contributing, I'm going to make an example out of you and on the way out the door, I'm going to insult your countries, I'm going to insult where you're from, your heritage, your history. When the President of the United States refers to these countries in the way that he did, it goes counter to everything that we stand for, not just as a nation, but who we are as a State, Lady Liberty in the Harbor and her message.

And so, I think about this and I have to stand up because the Haitian people have fought throughout history and have led and demonstrated what freedom is all about, what perseverance is all about, and they continue to struggle in large part because of limitations that others impose on them. And so, when I think about what happened in the Bronx the other day, that fire that claimed the lives of 13 people, there would have been more victims if not for Private Emmanuel Mensah, an immigrant from Ghana, a member of the United States Armed Forces home from the holidays -- home for the holidays who could have -- was out of the building, could have

stayed out. He ran back in. He brought people out. Saved several lives and in one of those trips, looking for more victims, he perished himself. If that is not the greatest example of what America stands for and the fact that anyone, no matter where you are from, you have an opportunity to contribute to the greatness of this nation then, ladies and gentlemen, if we can't recognize Private Emmanuel Mensah, if we can't recognize the victims of this earthquake or the victims of Maria and the rest of Caribbean, or victims from around the globe who have come here throughout history and made this country what it is, then we are failing our very own history, we are failing our purpose, we are failing our Founding Fathers, we are failing our Constitution and we are failing ourselves as Americans and humans.

We can do better. We need to send love, not hate. We need to welcome those that need us the most. We need to respect those that are contributing. And while we can't control, at least for the next few years, what the President of the United States says or does, at least as a State, let us demonstrate that we can do better and that our communities and the people from around the world and tonight, today, especially the people of Haiti deserve better, and I believe we owe it to them.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Walker.

MS. WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have had an opportunity to listen to the many different commentaries today regarding this resolution, I've heard, *I'm Puerto Rican, I'm Haitian-American*. As I have had an opportunity to speak to many of

my colleagues, there are people from Ireland that based on their last name, they know exactly what neighborhood and block their family is from. As an African-American woman, I don't know that. My history was taken from me. So, I have to do my own homework, my own research in order to figure out who I am, who I belong to other than our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. But that's something that conflicts me all the time.

But I did have an opportunity this year -- last year to go on a delegation trip to Haiti and to see people who had pride in their country. I had an opportunity to visit schools with children and smiling faces who loved *Frozen*, Elsa and Anna just like my little girl here in Brooklyn. Families who work hard each and every day. I saw women carrying baskets on their head, selling fair to take care of their families. I saw a government that was invested in the needs and the wants of the people that they represent. I saw businesses provide for economic prosperity for those individuals who work within those walls.

And as we stand here today and we honor the victims of the Haitian earthquake in 2010, I want to also mention something that one of those government officials said to me, that there was a United Nations peacekeeping mission that took place, and after the hurricane there was a situation where the feces from members of this peacekeeping mission traveled downstream into the water supply into mainstream Haiti which infected over 800,000 people with cholera. Ten thousand people lost their lives. So, while we look at the events

in -- on January 12th of 2010, we can't look at this as a snapshot in history. Earthquakes have devastating effects and the needs and the wants of the community are continuing and longstanding.

So, while I stand here with my colleagues as we commemorate and honor those whose lives we have lost, many people said on MLK Day yesterday, *Well, what's next?* So, I thought of my own particular challenge to figure out what I can do to make my own difference. The people in Haiti have hospitals that they're rebuilding, they needed hospital beds, sheets. There's a huge issue as it relates to the sewage and the processing of garbage. They need garbage trucks. So, we can collectively come together to put our voices together to not just be words in the air and to actually put our thoughts into action.

So, I thank you today for introducing this piece of a -- this resolution in order for us to be able to stand and say what we'd like to do in terms of our next moves. And I stand with you, also, as we send a letter to the United Nations to say that you have already taken responsibility for the actions here, and that's to the tune of \$40.5 million; only \$2.7 million have been raised thus far. We have a responsibility to the people of Haiti and I think that I am glad that this is bringing it to light so that we all know and recognize what our individual contribution will be to the life blood of this people.

Thank you, again, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

Mr. Barron.

MR. BARRON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

You know, we speak of Haiti as a poor country, that Haiti is a poor country. Haiti has historically been an exploited country. Haiti is actually a very rich country, rich in spirit, rich in culture, rich in natural resources. But what we don't want to talk about here today is America's responsibility in the exploitation through imperialistic foreign policies of Haiti. Remember, the Marines invaded Haiti, United States occupied Haiti on July 28th, 1915. United States, through imperialism and colonialism, occupied Haiti, exploited Haiti, took out the natural resources of Haiti, brought in American corporations. Haitian women used to make baseballs for Rawlings for ball players in America to knock 'em out the park and make more money than a Haitian woman making the baseball by the time they rounded the bases after they hit the home run. America supported Papa Doc, Jean-Claude Duvalier, a murderer, a dictator; America supported him. Murdering Haitian people because he, along with Baby Doc, allowed for the exploitation of Haiti; that's what America did. That's what America did.

And so we sit here and, yes, Trump needs to be hit every way you can hit him, but don't let Hillary Clinton and Bill Clinton hide behind a Trump hit when they exploited Haiti, as well, when money was supposed to be given to the Haitian population. Don't let the American President Woodrow Wilson and others who came after him hide behind Trump. Trump is horrible, a racist, a fascist, everything you can think of; if you can create any other names, he's that, too, but don't allow the Democrats off the hook who also

exploited Haiti.

We don't want to talk about that, we don't want to talk about policies even under the prior President that was hurtful to Latin America, hurtful to Africa, a command military bases in Africa, not humanitarian aid. We don't want to talk about that, but we need to because America owes a debt to Haiti, and so does France. They owe a debt to Haiti. How dare France say Haiti has to pay them reparations after they colonized Haiti. America owes Haiti reparations to repair the damage that this country did. You all come up here talking we all Americans, we have the same blood and all of that stuff, well, tell your same blooded American government to pay Haiti their reparations, tell France to pay Haiti their reparations. Worse than the earthquake is colonialism and imperialism. That's worse than an earthquake because that lasts a long time, it lasts for centuries.

America owes a debt to Haiti because of the revolution that was Boukman, Dessalines, Henri Christophe, Toussaint L'Ouverture, they were beating France so badly and Napoleon was getting whipped that the French had to sell Louisiana to America because of the Haitian Revolutions and revolutionaries. We need to understand that history so when we get up here and talk about natural disasters like an earthquake, don't forget the human disaster of imperialism and capitalism and how it's tentacles of racism reach across the globe and creates poverty, death and destruction in smaller countries that they could bully with their military force.

So, as we stand for our brothers and sisters who are victims of this earthquake, we should always remember we have a responsibility of making the foreign policy of America more humane and just for the countries that they exploited. America has an ugly history of exploitation and imperialism that we don't want to discuss. Ugly. And we need to pay these countries back. They deserve it and we owe it to them.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Perry.

MR. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to join my colleagues in remembrance and tribute to the 316,000 victims of the 2010 earthquake that devastated Haiti. I join with all those who pray that the souls of the victims, which included hundreds of United Nations peacekeepers rest in peace. I pay tribute to the survivors, many of who fight - 50,000 of them in America - to survive and to get their lives back together. They face a lot of challenges, quite many unnatural challenges created by humans who maybe not intentionally, but the actions seem to portray an intent of not caring for their fellow man.

As we pay this tribute, Mr. Speaker, I find it quite unfortunate that what's portrayed here in the fact that this is not a bipartisan participation and that the silence from some colleagues is deafening. I can't believe that we are together paying tribute to people, resilient people of a nation that helped and aided America in its growth and in becoming independent and they had a natural disaster that broke the hearts of everyone in the world. And there is

no bipartisan participation here, that some people have absolutely nothing to say about nothing good, nothing kind to say about the Haitian people. I find it very distressing.

But what's happening in our country, Mr. Speaker, in regards to human treatment of people in need is deplorable and it is not a Republican or Democratic issue; it's an American issue that touches all of us. And it's not right if we don't do something about it as a people. And we also pay tribute and celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King and his birthday, celebrated on the 15th, and I just like to close, Mr. Speaker, with a word from Martin Luther King. He says, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." And the plight of the Haitian people, the plight of all who travel to America to seek refuge from natural and unnatural disasters that threaten their lives and forbid them an opportunity to live as humans is something that should matter to everyone who calls him or herself an American. And it is tragic that we can't find, all of us, any of us who can't find something good just representing about the survivors and the survival of the people of Haiti. We should search our heart. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Lentol.

MR. LENTOL: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I hadn't intended to speak on that, that's why I'm speaking so late on this matter. And I thought that it was incumbent upon someone to bring this discussion where it belongs, and to pay homage and tribute to those who died in this natural disaster in the hope that it never

happens again. But we know it will happen again. We know that there will be other disasters, not necessarily in Haiti, but all over the world.

So, my message is a little bit different than the others who have spoken here tonight. This year, I am celebrating the 100th anniversary of my grandfather's election to the New York State Assembly. He was elected in 1918. His name happened to have been Joseph Lentol, as well, and he shouldn't have been here. As Mr. Ramos said - and, actually, he helped me with some of the ancestry issues that I found out over the last several years - but my grandfather was an immigrant from Italy, and we were under a quota in those days from people from Italy. They didn't want to admit Italians back in the early 1900's. A lot of us forget that. And there were a lot of other nationalities that weren't allowed entrance into our country and couldn't get here very easily. And it's taken us a lot of years under our United States of America to understand that the Statue of Liberty gives us all the message that we need to determine who should come into this country. And we don't need Presidents - my message won't be political - we don't need very much guidance into determine who it should be that comes into our country. It should be our huddled masses, it should be poor people. It should be those who built our country because they built it well. And who is to say that we are not going to have people who come into this country from Haiti or any other "blankety-blank hole country" that we don't want to let in whose going to be the savior and the person that will deliver the United

States of America to even more glory than it already possesses.

So, ladies and gentlemen, I stand with my Haitian brothers and sisters and all of those who come from immigrant countries like my forefathers did in saying that we should honor what this country stands for and our immigration policy should reflect that.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. D'Urso.

MR. D'URSO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I couldn't stay silent. I heard so many eloquent speakers here to tell us their side of the story, their relationship with their, you know, with their friends from Haiti, some of them are descended from, you know, Haitian grandparents and parents and so on and so forth. So, I felt I wanted to say something, also. I just could not sit back and say nothing.

Not only I will vote for this resolution, but I also would like to mention about my own feelings being an immigrant. I came here, I was 21, and I experienced some discrimination. And I often thinking, imagine me, of white race, a white color, experience that kind of discrimination, imagine people of color here what they go through. So, when the earthquake happened, I was doing humanitarian work in Injibara, outside Nairobi, Africa and Kenya and I was working with a priest, Roman Catholic priest and three nuns from the -- from Croatia and we decided we already made 12 trips to Kenya, now let's pay some attention to Haiti that needs the help because they're devastated not only in material things, but also in spirit. So, we moved our operation to Haiti. We were there within a month after June -- I mean, January 12th, 2010, and we put together a

nice orphanage that we still work on it today. So far, I have made 10 trips there and I'm trying to put a trip together after we get the budget passed. I hope we get it on time because I'm going back there with 12 volunteers to build a four classroom school within, you know, the orphanage compound in Port-au-Prince in an area called (inaudible). And I invite anyone who wanted to join us and I said I hope the budget goes in place because I was advised, *Be careful if the budget's not in place, you should be here to vote for it.* Then, I don't know what's going to happen, but I'm inviting anyone to participate with us.

So, that's all I wanted to say and thank you to my colleagues that brought this resolution up so that we could have a nice informative discussion here, giving everybody an opportunity to speak and state the facts. Thank you very much for the opportunity.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you, sir.

On the resolution, Ms. Fahy.

MS. FAHY: But just very briefly, I feel that with all the speakers we had today, we didn't hear from anybody from Upstate New York and it would be remiss to think that the -- that the Haitian community is only thought of in New York, on Long Island and that there isn't a wonderful, wonderful Haitian community that is supported and was mourned, those -- those that were lost eight years ago. So, I commend my colleague for bringing this resolution forward.

We have an extraordinarily small, but a wonderful Haitian community that certainly adds to the extraordinary fabric of --

of the Capital Region, and I would also be remiss if I didn't say that my parents, too, are -- I am the daughter of immigrants, my parents came off the boat, as did many Haitians many years ago. My parents came off the boats -- the boat in the New York City Harbor and I often think, especially as I see some of the dialogue at the national level these days that too many people are forgetting where they come from and -- and it is unfortunate because while my parents came off the boat just maybe 70 years ago, it was less than 100 years ago or so when there was a lot of resentment for their type coming here and quote, unquote "stealing jobs" or "being dirty" or being this or being that.

So, the discrimination is not far -- shouldn't be far from any of our minds and when there are needs in this country, when there are needs in Haiti, when there are needs in other areas that have been devastated, especially in recent years, we need to remember where we come from and remind ourselves that it is -- those that are immigrants, whether they came here forcibly or not, whether they came on a boat or not, it's usually for the universal desire of a job and a better education for their children, the same reasons my parents came, the same reason so many others of our -- our parents, grandparents and others came. And I do believe that diversity is what has fueled the strength of this country. I commend the sponsor of this and thank her for always reminding us what has made our nation a better nation and thank you for bringing up this resolution, especially in this time when we have been having to grapple with such

disgraceful comments at the Federal level.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

Mr. Goodell.

MR. GOODELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of all my colleagues, I want to express our support for this resolution. The fact that we haven't discussed it extensively does not mean that we don't have full compassion and support for the Haitians and the problems that they went through. And that support crosses all of New York State. In my district, which is the farthest district from where we are today, members of my community stepped forward, we sent individuals and teams to help Haitians during that crisis, including my own cousin who is a physician who took time out of his private practice to lead a medical team and others, as well. And many of our service clubs contributed cash, not out of the government coffers, out of our personal pockets, as we have not only for Haitians, but as all New Yorkers, we have come together for the crisis in Puerto Rico and other crises that we've faced all around the nation. And that's the strength that we have as New Yorkers. We stand up on a personal level. We open our own wallets. We donate our own time and we strive to make not only New York better, but all the world better, and I'm proud of that response.

And so, thank you to all my colleagues who have spoken so eloquently in favor of this resolution, and I look forward to a unanimous vote in favor of it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Members, we will stand and signal our support for this resolution.

(Members are standing.)

All in favor signify by saying aye. The resolution is adopted.

Mr. Morelle.

MR. MORELLE: Yes, just a little bit of housekeeping, Mr. Speaker. The previously announced Democratic Conference immediately following Session has been postponed until tomorrow. I'm sure that will disappoint a number of members here.

But with that, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Assembly stand adjourned until tomorrow, January 17th at 11:00 a.m., tomorrow is a Session day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On Mr. Morelle's motion, the Assembly stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 6:13 p.m., the Assembly stood adjourned until Wednesday, January 17th at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday being a Session day.)