

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,
PRESIDING OFFICER

FULL LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,
CHAIRWOMAN

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

March 24, 2014
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REGAL REPORTING SERVICES
516-747-7353

A P P E A R A N C E S :

NORMA GONSALVES
Chair

KEVAN ABRAHAMS
Minority Leader

SIELA A. BYNOE

ROBERT TROIANO

CARRIÉ SOLAGES

DENISE FORD

LAURA CURRAN

FRANCIS X. BECKER

HOWARD J. KOPEL

VINCENT T. MUSCARELLA

RICHARD J. NICOLELLO

ELLEN BIRNBAUM

DELIA DeRIGGI-WHITTON

MICHAEL VENDITTO

LAURA SCHAEFER

DENNIS DUNNE, SR.

JUDY JACOBS

ROSE MARIE WALKER

DONALD MACKENZIE

DAVID DENENBERG

WILLIAM MULLER
Clerk of the Legislature

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2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Please lead us in
3 the Pledge of Allegiance.

4 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
5 recited.)

6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Please call the
7 roll.

8 CLERK MULLER: Deputy Presiding Officer
9 Nicoletto?

10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Here.

11 CLERK MULLER: Alternate Deputy
12 Presiding Officer Kopel?

13 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.

14 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Bynoe?
15 (No verbal response.)

16 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Solages?

17 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.

18 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Ford?

19 LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.

20 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Curran?

21 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Here.

22 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Becker?

23 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Present.

24 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Muscarella?

25 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.

2 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Birnbaum?

3 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Here.

4 CLERK MULLER: Legislator DeRiggi-

5 Whitton?

6 LEGISLATOR DeRIGGI-WHITTON: Here.

7 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Venditto?

8 LEGISLATOR VENDITTO: Here.

9 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Schaefer?

10 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.

11 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Dunne?

12 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Here.

13 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Jacobs?

14 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Here.

15 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Walker?

16 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

17 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Mackenzie?

18 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Here.

19 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Denenberg?

20 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Here.

21 CLERK MULLER: Minority Leader Abrahams?

22 He's here.

23 Presiding Officer Gonsalves?

24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Present.

25 CLERK MULLER: We have a quorum. And

2 Legislator Bynoe is here, as well.

3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: As is customary,
4 before the business of the Full Legislature takes
5 place, we have half an hour of public comment.
6 And several people have submitted slips. The
7 rule is a three-minute rule, and I think you know
8 that when you signed in. And I'm going to begin
9 with Joanne Borden. Joanne.

10 MS. BORDEN: I said welcome to spring,
11 brrrr. Anyhow.

12 We, transgender people, need protection
13 from discrimination. We need and ask for the
14 same protection you give to everyone else. We
15 ask for no more, but we are owed no less.

16 There is an abundance of proof that we
17 are born this way, just as left handed people
18 are. Yet, you sit idly by, observe the bigotry
19 aimed at us and become part of it. You're
20 obstructing our freedom from discrimination is a
21 corruption of your office. You provide laws to
22 protect every other group and you won't even say
23 why, why you won't protect us.

24 Many people conclude this is bigotry
25 based on ideology but I can't believe that. I

2 can't believe there is any ideology that can
3 trump the American belief in equal treatment
4 under the law. Your inaction is waging an
5 unnecessary assault against transgender people.
6 By not protecting people under the law you are as
7 guilty as the perpetrators, guilty of preventing
8 hardworking people from supporting their
9 families, providing good housing, and getting
10 adequate healthcare.

11 Furthermore, the violence we experience
12 is fueled by your permissiveness of
13 discrimination. It's as surely as if you hold
14 the guns and the clubs.

15 You must pass the gender law in order to:
16 say violence is wrong, say firing people because
17 they are transgendered person is wrong, say
18 refusing housing to transgendered people is
19 wrong, say refusing public services to
20 transgendered people is wrong, say not giving
21 transgendered people equal protection of the law
22 is very wrong. Say those things or join the
23 barbarism. Shame. Shame on the republicans
24 sitting on this dais for subscribing to anything
25 more precious to them than Americanism, more

2 precious than American principles of equal
3 justice, more precious than your pledge of the
4 flag, more precious than what republicans used to
5 stand for.

6 Pass the Gender Clarification Law and
7 join the civilized world once again. Pass it
8 now.

9 Thank you for listening.

10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,
11 Joanne.

12 The next speaker is Debbie Wilson.
13 Debbie Wilson.

14 MS. WILSON: Good afternoon.

15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: State your name
16 for the record, please.

17 MS. WILSON: My name is Debbie Wilson.
18 I live in the Incorporated Village of Freeport.
19 I just wanted to let you people know that on
20 Valentine's Day of 2012 I left my home at noon to
21 take my mother to lunch. I returned exactly an
22 hour and a half later to find that somebody had
23 broken through two doors, they had beat my dog
24 almost to death, ransacked my house, found my
25 safe, and stole \$70,000 worth of cash and

1 jewelry. Through that experience I learned a lot
2 of things.
3

4 When I tried to contact a lot of the
5 organizations that are supposed to help victims
6 in the County, I found that I didn't meet the
7 criteria for any of them. At one point I felt I
8 needed some counseling so I called up one of the
9 -- I think you have two different agencies that
10 are supposed to help people, but they only
11 provide help for people under the age of 18 or
12 over 60. I was told to either go to my church or
13 go through my health insurance. I contacted one
14 of the agencies that you have set up for
15 reimbursement for people who have been victimized
16 or victims of violent crime. I asked them if
17 they would consider reimbursing me for some of
18 the vet bills. These vet bills right here are
19 just from this year. They said they don't
20 reimburse for vet bills.

21 They did make an arrest. What I'd like -
22 - well, there's a couple of things I'd ask. I'd
23 like to see an animal registry, which I did speak
24 to Dave Denenberg and he said he would work on
25 something like that. I think it's important.

Also, in Freeport, we had a fire about two weeks ago where they found a dozen dead dogs. That individual was arrested for dog fighting. He's been convicted twice in the past of cruelty to animals and dog fighting. I just don't know what it's going to take for somebody to do something like this. We need an animal registry.

I'd also like to see the assets seized of anybody that's convicted of animal cruelty and create a fund where the money would go to various rescue organizations and people like me who have been victimized, and at least try to reimburse us in some way.

I've spent thousands of dollars in vet bills.

Additionally, Laura Curran has been trying to help me. Apparently the DA, at the moment, can't locate my case. She's been trying. I have an additional document for you and hopefully we can try to locate this case.

I know he's sitting in a federal prison in Mississippi on drug trafficking charges. I don't think there is any one of you sitting up there that likes to see a drug dealer walking any

of our streets.

He was committing burglaries in the village. He is linked to four. My dog did his job; he bit him. There was blood DNA at my house. And that's why I'm never going to euthanize him.

CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes have expired, ma'am.

MS. WILSON: I'm sorry?

CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes have expired.

MS. WILSON: Okay.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Just wrap it up, Debbie. Finishing your comment.

MS. WILSON: It's changed my life forever. I think that lawmakers could do a lot better in helping the animals. They really can't speak for themselves. They really, really do need us to help them.

And one other thing as a side note.

I live in Freeport, like I said. The residents of the village asked me if there was any way we could create a dog park in Cow Meadow Park because there are a lot of animal lovers

2 there. I know that funds are limited, as far as
3 the fencing. There is a great spot. I've gone
4 down and looked. I do work with animals so I
5 know what needs to be done. We really would be
6 amenable to even holding fundraisers to raise the
7 money to pay for the fencing. So I just wanted
8 to throw that out there as well.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,
11 Debbie.

12 John Burke.

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Norma?

14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Yes. Legislator
15 Denenberg.

16 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Debbie, both
17 Laura Curran and I will continue trying to track
18 down the information for your case. As far as a
19 registry of animal abusers, I agree with you.
20 I'm trying to work on something on that.

21 Finally, with respect to Cow Meadow Park,
22 we have mentioned that to the county executive
23 before and it seems like it's possible.
24 Obviously, Wantagh, Cedar Creek, and Eisenhower
25 Park all have dog runs now, so it would make

2 sense to consider one at Cow Meadow Park as well.

3 So thank you.

4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: John Burke.

5 MR. BURKE: Good afternoon. I'm John
6 Burke. I'm here to speak on the redistricting of
7 the district - the electoral districts for Nassau
8 County.

9 I used to live in East Meadow, and Norma
10 was my representative. Now I live on the north
11 shore and Delia is my representative here at the
12 legislature.

13 I want to point out that we're here with
14 a number of organizations, including the Common
15 Cause and New York Communities for Change, The
16 League of Women Voters, and the New York Civil
17 Liberties Union, as well as some that I can't
18 read the names because they're so tiny.

19 The point of gerrymandering and redrawing
20 the districts to enable to the one or the other
21 party to maintain control of the legislature or
22 any elective body refers to Governor Gerry of
23 Massachusetts who redrew the electoral districts
24 so he could maintain his control of the state.
25 And one legislature in Massachusetts pointed out

2 that the districts resembled a salamander, which
3 is how the name gerrymander became used.

4 Yesterday, a group of about a dozen folks
5 were thrilled to have -- to have a drive from
6 Roslyn to Hicksville. It only took us an hour
7 and a half following the redistricting lines of
8 three of the districts, including 16th, 19th, and
9 some other number.

10 I want to point out that the districting
11 -- the redistricting should allow communities to
12 vote together so that there will be an equal
13 representation on the legislature. It doesn't
14 matter if it was one party or the other and at
15 times either party will redraw the lines to
16 enable them to maintain control.

17 I want to end by saying that put the
18 voters first because we're the ones who elect
19 you. I voted for Norma, and I voted for Delia,
20 at different times. Voters first. Voters first.

21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you, Mr.
22 Burke.

23 Andrew Malekoff.

24 MR. MALEKOFF: Good afternoon. My name
25 is Andrew Malekoff. I live in Long Beach. I'm

1 executive director of North Shore Child and
2 Family Guidance Center. I'd like to thank you
3 for a few minutes of your time to inform you
4 about the growing crisis of dwindling access to
5 community based mental health care for children
6 and families in Nassau County.
7

8 More low and middle income families than
9 ever before are in need of low cost, high quality
10 community-based mental health care. However, in
11 New York State continued access to care is
12 assured only to children and families with
13 Medicaid insurance. Here are the facts.

14 Seventy-five percent of all serious
15 mental illness occurs before the age of 24; yet,
16 only one out of five children receives help from
17 a mental health specialist. Lack of access to
18 needed care can disrupt work, family, and school
19 life and lead to more serious and costly illness.

20 In recent years community-based mental
21 health clinics in Nassau County have closed their
22 doors, have been taken over by corporate entities
23 with no community roots, and have established
24 policies to turn away children who do not have
25 Medicaid insurance. State officials advised me

1 that the private marketplace will fill the gap.
2 They are misinformed. Many child psychiatrists
3 and behavioral health care providers do not
4 accept commercial health insurance.
5

6 New York State's multi-year vision for
7 the state mental health care system guarantees
8 only treatment for children with Medicaid
9 eligibility, thereby increasing the marginalized
10 role of middle class and working poor families.
11 Here is a true story to illustrate.

12 Some years ago I was swimming off the
13 ocean off Long Beach and I noticed a group of
14 children who had drifted near the jetty, near the
15 rocks. I swam to them. When I arrived, there
16 were three little girls. One looked to be about
17 nine years old. The others, who were crying and
18 holding on to the older girl, appeared to be six
19 or seven. The older girl was barely in control
20 of her emotions. I wrapped my arms around the
21 three of them and said hang on. Finally, the
22 lifeguards arrived and took over. Now let's
23 consider another scenario.

24 Imagine me swimming out to the three
25 little girls. Now try to imagine if instead of

1 telling them to hang on, I treaded water at a
2 safe distance and asked them if they had Medicaid
3 insurance. Imagine them answering, no, mister,
4 and then me saying, sorry girls, and turning my
5 back on them and swimming to shore. This is the
6 situation that we now face as New York State has
7 made a dramatic departure from its statutory
8 responsibility to make sure our most vulnerable
9 citizens, our children, get community-based
10 mental health care regardless of their family's
11 economic status. They expect us to throw the
12 under insured middle class and working poor
13 overboard with no life preserver.

15 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes have
16 expired, sir.

17 MR. MALEKOFF: Okay. And finally, I
18 invite you to jump into my Atlantic Ocean memory
19 with me because it's a story that is more about
20 me and the three little girls. It's about all of
21 us and the thousands of children at community-
22 based mental health agencies, like North Shore
23 Child and Family Guidance Center, guide safely to
24 shore every year and offer the chance to see a
25 brighter day.

2 Thank you for your time.

3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you, Mr.
4 Malekoff.

5 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Ms. Gonsalves. Ms.
6 Gonsalves. Madame Chair.

7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
8 Solages.

9 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Andrew, thank you
10 for coming here today. My question to you is
11 have you reached out to the comptroller regarding
12 the \$500,000 of unclaimed funds that he wanted to
13 direct towards youth services? Have you reached
14 out to him regarding that to ask maybe if some of
15 that could be diverted to mental health services?

16 MR. MALEKOFF: No. I have not reached
17 out to him at this point. Now that you mentioned
18 it, I did read about that in the paper. I
19 certainly hope that, as was reported, that those
20 funds would be available for youth services,
21 mental health services, other so called non-
22 mandated services.

23 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Thank you. I will
24 follow up on that issue. Thank you.

25 MR. MALEKOFF: Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator
Jacobs.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Mr. Malekoff, I did
reach out to the comptroller and to the county
executive, and as soon as I hear something, I
will let you know.

MR. MALEKOFF: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you, Mr.
Malekoff.

Ryan Lynch.

MR. LYNCH: Good afternoon. My name is
Ryan Lynch. I'm the associate director for the
Tri-State Transportation Campaign. We are a non-
profit organization that works to create a more
balanced, environmentally friendly, and equitable
transportation system in New York, New Jersey,
and Connecticut. Thanks for the opportunity to
testify today. We're here to testify in support
of increasing the county's contribution to the
Nassau County bus system, NICE Bus.

Last fall, this Legislature raised the
possibility of potentially increasing funding for
the bus system. Unfortunately, in the final
budget there was no additional funds included.

But since then we've seen NICE Bus ridership fall to a 15 year low. We've seen NICE's own service indicate that satisfaction rates among riders has plummeted. And what we haven't seen is increased funding for the bus system.

The state budget only increases funding for the bus system by about a million dollars; that's not even enough to cover the cost of inflation year over year.

In partnership with riders and other stakeholders, Tri-State has identified potential improvements to the system if provided with additional revenues. We have run these ideas passed NICE; they've agreed on the cost estimates and on the importance of these potential route improvements. Essentially, what we've found is roughly \$7 million gets improvements on 12 routes, restoration of service that was previously cut and improved services and enhanced service on different routes. So this \$7 million may sound like a lot of money given the county's current fiscal environment, but it really is just a drop in the bucket when you look at how much of an economic boom the bus system is for Nassau

2 County.

3 In 2012 alone, the bus system generated
4 almost \$200 million in economic output, it
5 supported over 1500 jobs, and for every dollar
6 that Nassau County invested in the bus system,
7 \$75 were generated in economic development. And
8 the people who use the bus system made an
9 aggregate income of \$850 million in 2012. This
10 is an economic lifeline for hundreds of thousands
11 of peoples a day and millions who use it every
12 year.

13 So, as NICE gets ready to finalize their
14 budget this coming week for the next year, its
15 operating budget, we urge the legislature to
16 revisit this idea of increasing funding for NICE
17 Bus and support the riders that need the system
18 the most.

19 Thank you very much.

20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You're welcome,
21 Mr. Lynch.

22 Anita Hollorz.

23 MS. HOLLORZ: Good afternoon everyone.
24 My name is Anita Hollorz. I'm the executive
25 director of Long Island Jobs for Justice. Thank

2 you so much for giving me the opportunity to
3 speak before you today. I'm also here to address
4 the issue of increased funding to our bus system.
5 Ryan gave a really nice number breakdown, so I'm
6 not going to go into any of that. But I do want
7 to speak to the issue of bus riders and bus
8 drivers and how this funding could impact their
9 lives.

10 In 2012, Long Island Jobs for Justice
11 established the Long Island Bus Riders Union as a
12 way to ensure that bus riders had a voice in the
13 decisions made regarding their bus system, moving
14 forward with the private system. And now two
15 years later, bus riders continue to express the
16 same concerns and the Bus Riders Union continues
17 to fight the same concerns that we had many years
18 ago, which is overcrowded buses, late buses,
19 buses that don't show up, lack of accessibility
20 for disabled riders on those buses, connections
21 not being able to be made between routes, Metro
22 Cards being swiped of their fares and bus riders
23 losing their money, sometimes hundreds of dollars
24 in one shot, as well as driver safety, which is
25 something that has become a huge issue of concern

1 in the past couple of months. All of this, all
2 of these issues impact the ability of bus riders
3 to be productive citizens in Nassau County.
4

5 Without an efficient bus system, bus
6 riders can't get to work, they can't get to
7 school, they can't take tests, and they can't get
8 to doctor's appointments, sometimes doctor's
9 appointments that are a matter of life and death.
10 So we need an efficient bus system in order to
11 make sure that bus riders are able to do these
12 very important tasks.

13 And we recognize that a bus system can
14 only operate to the extent of what funding it
15 has. So this is why I'm here today to ask the
16 legislature to really consider contributing more
17 money into our bus system and to prioritize bus
18 riders. We can't continue to let the cost of
19 this bus system fall onto the back of bus riders.

20 And I do want to address the issue of
21 driver safety because it's something that has
22 been brought to light again.

23 Last month, there was a driver who was
24 physically assaulted on a bus. And we just found
25 out this morning that there was yet another

1 driver last night who was physically assaulted.
2
3 Now, increased funding can contribute to the
4 safety of bus drivers as well.

5 The Bus Riders Union is not just for bus
6 riders; it's also for bus drivers. We recognize
7 that the relationship between riders and drivers
8 is crucial in order for a bus system to operate
9 properly. And we recognize that the safety of
10 bus drivers is crucial in this as well.

11 Increased funding not only can contribute to the
12 roots of buses improving and becoming more
13 improvement, but it can also contribute to the
14 safety of drivers.

15 If you saw in *Newsday* a couple of weeks
16 ago, there was an article in there and a bus
17 driver was quoted saying these very same issues;
18 that bus drivers do not feel safe. They do not
19 feel safe on the job. And that Veolia really
20 needs to contribute to the increased safety of
21 drivers, whether it's putting up partitions or
22 putting emergency buttons onto their buses. But
23 these are issues that increased funding can face.

24 And I'll just end it with just saying
25 that a strong bus system means that there's

2 strong ridership, and strong ridership means that
3 it's a stronger county. So I really encourage
4 everybody here today to please consider
5 increasing the funding for Nassau County's bus
6 system and to prioritize bus riders and bus
7 drivers in Nassau County.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you, Anita.

10 Legislator Jacobs.

11 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Hi. I just wanted
12 to tell you something else to put on your list.
13 I appreciate -- I know Ryan very well, but I
14 haven't really spoken to you.

15 You realize the entire north-east
16 quadrant of Nassau County --

17 MS. HOLLORZ: Absolutely.

18 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: has been cut off
19 from any kind of services.

20 MS. HOLLORZ: Yes.

21 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Mainly what breaks
22 my heart are the people we met when I originally
23 called a hearing about two or three years ago,
24 and it was all young people going to college in
25 wheelchairs and blind, people that are in

1 desperate need for bus service. Nothing has
2 changed on that whatsoever. I understand it's
3 somewhat related to the fact that there wasn't
4 great ridership along the north-east corridor.
5 But I'm sure if they even limited it to one route
6 along Jericho Turnpike, it would open up a vast
7 arrange of mileage along Jericho Turnpike for
8 people in need.
9

10 I have never seen anything like this. I
11 have never seen one quarter of an entire county,
12 which happens to be in my district, in Legislator
13 MacKenzie's district and in Legislator -- I
14 believe part of it in Legislator DeRiggi-
15 Whitton's district. It's unacceptable. It's
16 really totally unacceptable.

17 We had some people help us out, Rotary
18 Ride, but they couldn't continue financially to
19 do that. They were getting certain donations,
20 but they're not anymore. And I would like that
21 to be something that you advocate for as well.

22 I hear you. We can't just necessarily
23 find the money. It's done by the administration.
24 But they have to hear this. It's really a
25 tremendous problem.

1 MS. HOLLORZ: Absolutely.

2 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: In addition to
3 everything else.

4 MS. HOLLORZ: And thank you for
5 mentioning that.

6 And I do just want to say that this is an
7 issue that speaks very much to the disability
8 advocacy that we do --

9 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Absolutely.

10 MS. HOLLORZ: because we recognize that
11 when there's no fixed route service that means
12 that Able Ride cannot operate there either and
13 disabled riders can't get around.

14 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Exactly. And what
15 are the people who need dialysis do? What do the
16 students do?

17 MS. HOLLORZ: Exactly.

18 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: What you're really
19 doing is losing not only a workforce, an
20 education force that could help people that have
21 disabilities to become productive members of
22 society. And people who need things like
23 dialysis, which is a continuous thing, I don't
24 understand. I just don't understand. Certain
25

things are just life items that we can't shuffle
aside. But I've been talking about this for a
long time.

MS. HOLLORZ: We will absolutely add
that to our list. And it's --

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Thank you.

MS. HOLLORZ: been on our list for many
years.

LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you, Anita.

MS. HOLLORZ: Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Aaron Watkins-
Lopez.

MR. LOPEZ: Good afternoon. Thank you
for letting me speak. My name is Aaron Watkins-
Lopez. I am a lifetime resident of Nassau County
as well as a bus rider. I'm also a member of the
Long Island Bus Riders Union. I've been here
before you previously asking the same thing Ryan
and Anita had asked for, an increased funding of
the buses.

When you increase funding for the buses,
you're not increasing it for NICE Bus, you're not
increasing the money for Veolia, you're

1 increasing the money for us, the rider, as well
2 as the drivers.
3

4 In six days, on March 30, we are about to
5 have a new schedule for NICE Bus. And in that
6 schedule they have cut over eight different
7 timeframes for different bus services. I know
8 the N-1 in Legislator Solages' district has got
9 six buses that are now cut in rush hour time.
10 This happens every quarter. But with the lack of
11 money, it happens more and more buses get cut and
12 it gets harder for people to get to work, to get
13 home from work, to get around. I see it every
14 day, people complaining I've got to run in today
15 but now I can't go home or I've got to take five
16 buses instead of the one bus that went straight
17 through. I've got to take three or four now.

18 An increase of funding doesn't just
19 increase service, it increases the maintenance of
20 the buses. And when I ride the bus and I see
21 that I don't know what stop we're stopping at
22 because I can't hear it because there's no
23 announcement or I can't see it because nothing is
24 going across the screen, it's a problem. It's
25 not just a problem for people with disabilities.

1 It's a problem for people that don't ride the
2 buses. It makes people that ride the buses
3 uncomfortable to do so, especially if you want to
4 open the buses up to new riders.
5

6 Ridership is at an all time low. But
7 it's at an all time low because the buses are not
8 inviting. They're not inviting to people. And
9 it's not inviting because they don't have the
10 money to do so.

11 I just would like to end with, I know
12 I've spoken to several of you to come and ride
13 the bus. Please, ride the bus one day for your
14 district and see what it's like for daily riders
15 that have to go, to take an N-6, to take an N-1
16 that never connect or to take an N-4 that's 30
17 minutes late and three buses show up but they're
18 all packed. So I truly do urge you to ride the
19 buses in your district. And please contemplate
20 on amending the budget to give us increased
21 funding. Give NICE Bus the money.

22 Thank you.

23 LEGISLATOR FORD: Michael, I thank you
24 very much and I appreciate it. I actually did
25 have the opportunity one day of taking a ride on

1 a bus. I attended your hearing that you had
2 about two weeks ago, I'm trying to remember. It
3 was very informative. Even for me, for my
4 experience, I agree with you.
5

6 I think we need to work with Veolia in
7 regard to some of the issues that you've brought
8 up because I spoke about them too.

9 If you don't know the neighborhood that
10 you're in, you may not know what the next street
11 is, you don't know where the bus stops are.

12 Not only for the security of the bus
13 drivers, they had said next year I think they
14 were getting some new buses that would have those
15 cameras or whatever safety measures for the bus
16 drivers. In the hopes, maybe in the meantime to
17 take a look at some of the routes so that we can
18 put in other types of measures to protect the bus
19 drivers themselves. We will be looking into
20 this.

21 Legislator Jacobs, of course, has always
22 been an advocate and she's absolutely right. I
23 just find it hard to believe that there is no bus
24 service along Jericho Turnpike. And I think that
25 if we could get a route established there, I

1 think you might find more of our north Long
2 Island residents attending maybe Nassau Community
3 College or maybe getting to school a little bit
4 faster and a little bit better.
5

6 We're listening. Thank you.

7 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you.

8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Kimberly Saget.

9 MS. SAGET: Hi. My name is Kimberly
10 Saget. I live in Valley Stream. I am an
11 organizer with the Long Island Jobs for Justice.
12 I am a full-time student, and I have two jobs so
13 I'm constantly on the bus. I rely on the bus.
14 My bus is what takes me to work, to school, and
15 from.

16 The biggest issue that I have is lateness
17 and the connectivity with the buses. Sometimes I
18 will wait outside for the N4, that's the one I
19 use the most. It would be like 15, 20 minutes
20 late. Sometimes the buses don't show. Sometimes
21 it's early and I'm there waiting and I'm
22 expecting a bus to show up and there's no buses
23 until 30 minutes after. By the time I get to the
24 bus, I already missed my connecting bus.
25 Sometimes that results in me being late to work,

2 missing tests, being late for tests, missing
3 materials in school, and that's just something
4 that needs to change. So, if there's increased
5 funding with the buses, obviously that will at
6 least add some more service to the line, helping
7 the issues. Also, with the connectivity,
8 establish some communication within the buses,
9 that can help also.

10 We just need the buses to become more
11 reliable. Once we rely on the buses -- we were
12 at the Bus Rider Union meeting and we were
13 discussing the MTA, how the MTA is very reliable.
14 If we can make Nassau County Bus, Veolia
15 reliable, you can gain riders.

16 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you very
18 much, Kimberly.

19 Pat Boyle.

20 MR. BOYLE: Hi. My name is Pat Boyle.
21 I'm here representing the Coalition of Youth
22 Service Agencies.

23 First of all, I just wanted to piggyback
24 just for a second, if you don't mind, on what
25 Andy Malekoff said before. He talked about not

1 being able to receive the services because of
2 Medicaid/Medicare, all these other kind of
3 things. Think about it for one second, though.
4 The guts that it takes for a family or a child,
5 if the child is old enough to be able to do it,
6 to admit that they have this problem in the first
7 place and to go out and seek help, to try to be
8 able to go out and do that, and then you get to
9 the place that you think, finally, I feel a
10 little better, I walked in the door, I got here,
11 and then you get turned away.

12
13 In community-based organizations we see
14 it all the time, where people come in, and they
15 really do come in rather reluctantly, to be able
16 to receive the services that we can provide. And
17 we're not a mental health provider. We can't
18 provide the kind of things that a psychiatrist
19 and others can provide. So what Andy is talking
20 about, it's going to be a major problem down the
21 line. Either what's going to happen is they're
22 just not going to receive services at all or
23 they're going to wind up hospitalized or worse.
24 That kind of got at my heartstrings because I
25 know of a lot of kids who have a really hard time

2 being able to get out there and do that.

3 But of course I'm here to talk to you
4 about something different, so let me just toss it
5 out there.

6 Yeah, we're getting ready for summer.
7 Even though it's freezing outside, we're getting
8 ready to start thinking about what's going to
9 happen in the summer, and watch people complain
10 about it being 85 degrees out. I can hardly wait
11 for that.

12 Bottom line is, I know the comptroller
13 had come out and said that he had found \$571,000
14 and that he would like to be able to earmark that
15 money towards youth services. I'm sure I kind of
16 wished that it was that easy, and I'm sure that
17 it's not that easy.

18 I know that you have a lot on your plate
19 right now, between everything that's going on
20 with regard to unions and everything else that's
21 happening. You have a lot on your plate. So I
22 thought it was important that I come here today
23 to represent the Coalition, to say, please, don't
24 forget about us. If that money can be there,
25 especially because we're getting geared up for

2 summer programs and we want to have a nice, safe,
3 smooth, well done summer, these monies could come
4 in very, very handy to help programs really
5 expand and do what they need to be able to do.

6 Whatever the nuances are to be able to
7 make it happen, I don't understand it. I'm sure a
8 lot of you don't understand it yet and you really
9 have to get into it and figure out what's going
10 on. But I really hope that you do, and you try
11 to be able to make sure that we're on your mind
12 when you talk about those funds.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you, Pat.

15 Cheryl Jenkins.

16 We've gone over the 30 minute rule.

17 However, because I do have two more slips, I
18 thought maybe we can complete public
19 participation.

20 MS. JENKINS: My name is Cheryl
21 Jenkins. I speak on behalf of New York
22 Communities for Change.

23 I just want to reiterate certain things
24 that we all know. Our objective is equal
25 population. Follow the principle of one person,

one vote in the U.S. Constitution by drawing districts and exercising good faith to create fair and impartial districts.

Of course the voting rights, fair representation for racial and language minorities. Respect for political subdivision. District lines should represent the borders of towns and villages, whenever possible. Keep residents with common interests together in a single district and help facilitate a strong relationship between town and village officials and their community level representatives. Respect communities of interest. If a community with shared interests is redrawn and divided by political district lines, the representation of those interests will be also divided and weakened.

Compactness. District shapes should be as compact as possible and districts should connect separate areas divided by water or other impassable features.

We are tired of seeing partisan officials trying to silence our community and other communities of color across Nassau County. These

1 maps were designed by politicians who helped
2 other politicians and dilute the power of our
3 neighborhoods. We demand fair maps, districts
4 that make sense, and equal representation.
5

6 As you already know, fair and equal
7 representation is the bedrock of American
8 democracy and improper redistricting can result
9 in unequal representation in voting districts.
10 This is extremely important for the voting rights
11 affecting all of Nassau County. The plan moves
12 over half of the population to different
13 districts, separates brother from brother, sister
14 from sister. It is tearing us apart. That is
15 definitely not fair.

16 You, the Nassau County Legislature, has a
17 responsibility to protect public confidence by
18 conducting an open and transparent process to
19 develop a new districting plan.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Tammie Williams.
22 Tammie Williams. Tammie is the last speaker.

23 MS. WILLIAMS: Good afternoon.

24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I didn't want to
25 push you off, Tammie.

MS. WILLIAMS: Huh?

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I said I didn't want to push you off until after the meeting.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. How is everybody doing?

My name is Tammie Williams, and I represent Elmont and I also represent the Nassau United Redistricting Coalition. I'm the baby of the group. So I represent the generation that, you know, couldn't be here.

We are here today because every voter deserves to be heard. Every community deserves to be heard.

Redistricting is about the power of votes. Our county government controls \$2.79 billion in a budget. Lord of mercy. And everything from property taxes to potholes in Nassau County, every vote matters. Unfortunately, redistricting is broken in Nassau County.

Partisans on both sides are allowed to manipulate the process for their own gain. As *The Long Island Herald* recently wrote, "Any process that pleases only the majority party is a

parcel factor bad for people." We must find ways to fix the problem.

Nassau County voters demand an end to deadlock and division. Although created with good intentions, Nassau's redistricting process is, in the words of Deputy Presiding Officer Richard Nicoletto, designed to deadlock.

Now it's time for Nassau County to become a national model for independent, commonsense redistricting.

After a year and a half of research and consultation, we are here today to demand action. Now is the time to move from the past marked by lawsuits, partisanship, wasted taxpayer money to a new future marked by good government, a respected process, and independence.

Our proposed builds on the strong foundation of our County Charter with three key reforms. First, the process must work. The state court of appeals has tried to make sense of our redistricting section but good government demands that we clarify the Charter. The steps should be crystal clear and the commission should have a tie breaker so that it can produce a

2 single consensus map.

3 Second. A transparency in fairness must
4 be at the heart of redistricting decision. The
5 heart. The most recent process had a strong
6 record of public meetings, such as public input,
7 should be required, not optional. Fair
8 redistricting principles like uniting communities
9 of interest should be a priority not an
10 inconvenience. I am not an inconvenience. My
11 son is not an inconvenience. These people
12 standing right next to me are not an
13 inconvenience.

14 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes have
15 expired, ma'am.

16 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. I'm the last
17 person.

18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Go ahead, Tammie.
19 Finish up.

20 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

21 Third, our redistricting commission
22 should be free to do what's good for voters over
23 a decade, not just what's good for party bosses
24 today. Elected legislators must have the final
25 say in the process. But our redistricting

2 commission should be independent and able to
3 bring them good advice.

4 The Nassau United Redistricting Coalition
5 and non-partisan coalition of communities, civil
6 rights, faith groups have come together to demand
7 action from the Nassau County Legislature to fix
8 the process.

9 We are from many different parts of
10 Nassau County. We represent many constituencies.
11 We come together because we believe that
12 everyone's voice should be heard. More than four
13 out of five Nassau voters agree with us -
14 republicans and democrats.

15 We are pleased by the conversations we
16 have had about this reform over the last six
17 months. The drafts reforms we present today come
18 from those conversations. Simple conversations.

19 We've done our work and we join with the
20 voters here today to ask you, are you ready to do
21 yours?

22 Presiding Officer Gonsalves, thank you.
23 And Majority Leader Abrahams, thank you. Will
24 you each sit down with our coalition in the next
25 two weeks to discuss how we can make Nassau

County a national model for good government and show your constituents that we are ready to take action and strengthen voter's rights in our county? Would you meet with us?

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Tammie, once we review the documents that you presented today, then we will consider meeting with you.

MS. WILLIAMS: I appreciate you.

LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Tammie, I don't know if you know, I sat down with members of the group already. My caucus did. I assume that everybody has already.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: So did we.

LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: So you did too.

MS. WILLIAMS: So are we ready? Come on. We've got to make history. This is a civil rights movement.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Tammie, there was a report that was given to us today. Give us an opportunity to review that report.

LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may. When we had sat down with your group -- and I don't know if everything has made it back to you. I think -- speaking on my side, we support

1 everything that you're talking about. We support
2 and open, transparent process that is more
3 inclusionary of the people of Nassau County and
4 not just the folks that sit up here or make
5 appointments to the voting commissioner from
6 folks that sit up here. We want to figure out
7 how we expand that and how do we develop that
8 process going forward.
9

10 So we are very open minded to the process
11 changing. I think we conveyed that at the
12 meeting. I would love to sit down with the
13 presiding officer to figure out how we can do it
14 in a bipartisan manner.

15 It doesn't help by me saying what I'm
16 saying -- obviously, I have great respect for
17 Norma -- and she says what she says and then
18 we're not saying it together. There has to be,
19 obviously, a discussion where we can have some
20 common ground. The biggest common ground -- I'm
21 not talking about between me and Norma -- it's
22 between us and the people -- and make sure that
23 we can come to some conclusionary things.

24 But we support a change to the process as
25 well as a change to make it a more transparent

2 and more open, more than anything else. I think
3 I've been very clear on that. I think I was
4 asked a couple of weeks ago at this type of same
5 forum. I think we discussed that at the meeting.
6 I would have no problem meeting whatsoever to
7 discuss greater enhancements in the process.

8 I'm glad to see so many people care about
9 it at such an early point. We still have nine
10 years to go before an implementation of another
11 map. Folks are here and they are concerned.
12 It's not just about the folks that are here now.
13 It's about the generations that are going to
14 follow afterwards.

15 I thank each and every one of you for
16 being here as part of this process, as well.

17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,
18 Tammie.

19 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Now it's time --

21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I'm sorry, Madam
22 Presiding Officer. That was just in my response
23 to them. I do want to say something overall.

24 I was listening to the folks that were
25 here on behalf of NICE Bus and I waited for

1 everyone to comment because I didn't want to take
2 any time away from your commentary.

3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you for
4 that.

5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: My pleasure. I
6 noticed -- I don't know if they are here, some of
7 them might have left so maybe I shouldn't have
8 waited. But the bottom line is I just wanted to
9 make sure that I get on the record.

10 We have proposed, multiple times,
11 amendments in the past that strengthen NICE Bus.
12 But I'm looking to this budget process where we
13 can maybe have a renowned faith. Some people
14 don't realize, but I truly believe, I've worked
15 very well with the presiding officer, in terms of
16 coming together on some compromise. I think the
17 commitment is going to be made by both of us that
18 we're going to look to try to see in this
19 upcoming budget cycle if we can move and enhance
20 the money for the riders of NICE Bus. I'm
21 looking to do that again.

22 I would hate to have to do any type of
23 amendments on one side. I would love to be able
24 to do something jointly, that includes all 19
25

2 members of the legislature.

3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you, Kevan.

4 I would like you to know that we recently
5 met with Ryan Lynch and the administration
6 regarding additional funding and where that
7 funding would go. We're not turning a blind eye.
8 We're trying to do what we can to resolve the
9 problems and to make sure that we are positive
10 going forward.

11 Aaron, I know that you are a part of the
12 union. And we want the bus drivers on the buses
13 to be safe and to return home to their families
14 safely.

15 Now we go to the calendar for today. And
16 we're going to begin with Item 1, which is a
17 hearing on a proposed local law to amend the
18 Miscellaneous Laws of Nassau County in relation
19 to the Nassau County Tobacco Settlement
20 Corporation.

21 Motion, please, to open the hearing?

22 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

23 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
25 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator Walker.

All those in favor of opening the hearing signify by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any opposed?

(No verbal response.)

The hearing is open.

Who would comment on this? Greg, any comment on this?

MR. MAY: This is a legislative initiative. But we have Ms. Lisa Locurto from the county attorney's office to respond to any questions about the operation of the tobacco board and how this law would affect it.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Are there any questions of Ms. Locurto regarding this item?

(No verbal response.)

No questions.

Any public comment?

(No verbal response.)

There being none, guess what. A motion to close the hearing?

LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.

LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Second.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

2 Legislator Nicoletto, seconded by Legislator
3 Kopel.

4 All those in favor of closing the hearing
5 signify by saying aye?

6 (Aye.)

7 Any opposed?

8 (No verbal response.)

9 The hearing is closed.

10 Item 2, a hearing on Ordinance Number 28-
11 2014 to adopt the capital budget for the County
12 of Nassau for the first year of the four-year
13 capital plan to commence on January 1, 2014
14 pursuant to the provisions of §310 of the County
15 Government Law of Nassau County.

16 Motion, please, to open the hearing?

17 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

18 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
20 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator Walker.

21 All those in favor of opening the hearing
22 signify by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 Any opposed?

25 (No verbal response.)

2 The hearing is open. And?

3 I believe I'm going to recess the hearing
4 on the capital plan. When a new date is
5 available, we will notice if properly.

6 The hearing on Ordinance Number 28 is now
7 recessed.

8 With the permission of the Minority, we
9 will do the consent calendar first and then go to
10 the other items that are on the non-consent.

11 The first item is Item Number 3, a local
12 law to amend the Miscellaneous Laws of Nassau
13 County in relation to the Nassau County Tobacco
14 Settlement Corporation.

15 Motion, please?

16 I'm going to go through each of them.
17 That was Item 3.

18 Item 9 -- no, sorry -- Item 2 12, 13, 14,
19 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27,
20 28, 29, 30, 31, and I believe -- wait, there are
21 a couple more -- 32, and 33, and 34.

22 Motion, please?

23 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

24 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

2 Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator Walker.

3 Any questions or comments regarding these
4 items?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 Any public comment?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 There being none; all those in favor of
9 the item that I just put forth on the record,
10 signify by saying aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 Any opposed?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 The items pass unanimously.

15 Now to the non-consent calendar.

16 Item 4, Resolution 30, authorizing the
17 county attorney to compromise and settle the
18 action *Babor, Blackwell, Halligan, Schweitzer,*
19 *Spina and Young v. Nassau County Civil Service*
20 *Commission, et al.*, pursuant to the County Law,
21 the County Government Law of Nassau County, and
22 the Nassau County Administrative Code.

23 And related to that one is Item 5, an
24 ordinance providing for a capital expenditure to
25 finance the payment of certain judgments, awards,

determinations, or compromised or settled claims against the County of Nassau, authorizing \$494,803.02 of bonds of the County of Nassau to finance said expenditure, and making certain determinations pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the Local Finance Law of New York, and the County Government Law of Nassau County.

Motion, please?

LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by Legislator Dunne, seconded by Legislator Nicolello.

Any comments or questions regarding these two items?

(No verbal response.)

Any public comment regarding those two items?

(No verbal response.)

There being none; all those in favor of Items 4 and 5 signify by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any opposed?

(No verbal response.)

The items pass unanimously.

The next item is Item 6, Resolution Number 31, a resolution authorizing the county attorney to compromise and settle the action entitled *Frierson v. Nassau County, et al*, pursuant to the County Law, the County Government Law of Nassau County, and the Nassau County Administrative Code.

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: I recuse myself.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Let it be known that Legislator Solages has now recused himself on Item 6.

And the item related to it is Item 7, Ordinance Number 27, an ordinance providing for a capital expenditure to finance the payment of certain settled claims against the County of Nassau, authorizing \$895,050 of bonds of the County of Nassau to finance said expenditure, and making certain determinations pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the Local Finance Law of New York, and the County Government Law of Nassau County.

Motion, please?

2 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

3 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Second.

4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
5 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator Dunne.

6 Any comments or questions regarding those
7 two items?

8 (No verbal response.)

9 Any public comment?

10 (No verbal response.)

11 There being none; all those in favor of
12 Items 6 and 7 signify by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 Any opposed?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 The items pass unanimously.

17 Now Item 8, Ordinance 22, an ordinance
18 supplemental to the annual appropriation
19 ordinance in connection with the district
20 attorney's office.

21 Motion, please?

22 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

23 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by
25 Legislator Muscarella, seconded by Legislator

Walker.

There is an amendment to that item. I would like to read the amendment into the record. An amendment in the nature of a substitution. It's, I believe, changing the budget code from the health department to the district attorney's office.

All those -- no. Motion, please, to put the amendment on the floor.

LEGISLATOR DUNNE: So moved.

LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Second.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Motion by Legislator Dunne, seconded by Schaefer, Laura Schaefer.

Who is here to speak on this? Are there any questions regarding this amendment?

(No verbal response.)

Any public comment?

(No verbal response.)

Okay. So the amendment, therefore, all those in favor of the item, as amended, signify by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any opposed?

(No verbal response.)

The item passes unanimously.

And I have Item 11, Ordinance 30, an ordinance amending Ordinance Number 199-2011, an ordinance repealing Ordinance Number 188-2010, as amended, establishing fees to be charged by the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Museums, in relation to the active duty military and veterans leisure passport; and making certain determinations pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Motion on the item?

LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: So moved.

LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Second.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Motion by Legislator Schaefer, seconded by Legislator MacKenzie.

We need to -- hold on one minute.

LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Legislator Birnbaum wanted to second that.

CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Hold on. Hold a minute, Mr. Denenberg. You're jumping the gun. Okay. I'm going to ask that the second be made by Legislator Birnbaum.

2 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Second.

3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: An amendment in
4 the nature of a substitution for this item.

5 Again, moved by Legislator Schaefer and
6 seconded by Legislator Birnbaum.

7 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Second.

8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay. And the
9 amendment is including in that legislation would
10 be the active duty veterans as well. Am I
11 correct? Okay.

12 Now, Item 11, then we'll include active
13 duty veterans as well.

14 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: It's not actually
15 correct the way it's written.

16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: All that's
17 involved here is that the active duty, veterans,
18 military veterans can show their ID and they
19 would reap the benefit of veterans' leisure pass.

20 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: The way I'm
21 reading it is the amendment is just on the
22 veterans' leisure pass, so that it's the \$25 one-
23 time fee, according to the different categories
24 outlined. Nassau County resident veterans'
25 leisure passport.

2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: What happens
3 here, Ellen --

4 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: And the active
5 duty military would use their active ID in lieu
6 of --

7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: That's exactly
8 what I just said. It's a pass -- the veterans'
9 leisure pass is a pass for the active military.
10 Okay.

11 All those in favor of the amendment to
12 include the active military signify by saying
13 aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 Any opposed?

16 (No verbal response.)

17 Now the item, as amended. Item 11, as
18 amended, all those in favor --

19 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: I think there's
20 somebody that would want to speak on it before we
21 end it. He has the card, I think, in his hand.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Is there someone
23 out there who would like to speak on this item?

24 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Pat, that's you.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Come on, Pat.

2 When we ask for public comment, you're it.

3 MR. ENGSTROM: As past president of the
4 United Veterans' Organization -- my name is Pat
5 Engstrom. As past president of the United
6 Veterans' Organization of Nassau County, on
7 behalf of all 31 organizations, I want to thank
8 Legislator Birnbaum and the entire Nassau County
9 Legislature for passing this bill on behalf of
10 veterans.

11 Thank you very much.

12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You're welcome,
13 Pat.

14 Now, all those in favor of Item 11, as
15 amended, signify by saying aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 Any opposed?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 The item passes unanimously.

20 I'm not going to adjourn the meeting.
21 I'm going to recess it. So the legislative
22 meeting of March 24 is now in recess.

23 (Whereupon, the Full Legislature recessed
24 at 2:21 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of New York, do hereby state:

THAT I attended at the time and place above mentioned and took stenographic record of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate transcript of the same and the whole thereof, according to the best of my ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of April, 2014.

FRANK GRAY