

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

OF THE

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT

A regular meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Legislator Kate Browning, Chair
Legislator Vivian Vilorio-Fisher, Vice Chair
Legislator Sarah Anker
Legislator Jack Eddington
Legislator John M. Kennedy, Jr.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Legislator DuWayne Gregory
Sarah Simpson, Assistant Counsel to the Legislature
Barbara LoMoriello, Deputy Clerk, Legislative Clerk's Office
Diane Dono, Budget Review Office
Craig Freas, Budget Review Office
Paul Perillie, Aide to Majority Caucus
Marge Acevedo, Aide to Presiding Officer Lindsay
Josh Slaughter, Aide to Legislator Browning
Seth Squicciarino, Aide to Legislator Vilorio-Fisher
Thomas Ryan, Aide to Legislator Vilorio-Fisher
Brendan Chamberlain, County Executive's Office
Dr. James Tomarken, Commissioner, Suffolk County Health Department
Walter Dawydiak, Chief Public Health Engineer, SC Health Department
James Meyers, Suffolk County Health Department
Ken Knappe, Suffolk County Health Department
Gregory Blass, Commissioner, SC Department of Social Services
Ed Hernandez, Deputy Commissioner, SC Department of Social Services
Linda O'Donohoe, Suffolk County Department of Social Services
Ben Zwirn
Richard Meyer, AME/Legislative Director
Serafino Bueti
Tony Peck
Sally O. Elkordy
Anthony Doreska
Perry Finkelstein
Jeanice Barcelo
Cindy Pikoulas
James Pikoulas
Dan Goldberg
Anthony Tolda

Mike Mitchell
Siobhan Ciresi
Andrew Petterson
Jamie Feldmann
David Heller
Kathy Liguori
Steven Burgdoerfer
Other Interested Parties

TAKEN AND TRANSCRIBED BY:
Lucia Braaten, Court Stenographer

(*THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 2:08 P.M. *)

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Good afternoon. We will start the Health and Human Services Committee. If everyone would please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Do we have a quorum? Oh, yeah, we do. Okay. We'll start the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Legislator Anker.

(*Salutation*)

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Good afternoon, everyone. What I would like to do is I will begin the meeting. We've had some concerns and issues with the day-care subsidies. Commissioner Blass, I see you're here. If you could come up and give us some information on what's going on with the day-care funding.

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

Good afternoon, Madam Chairman, Members of the Committee. The Department of Social Services has come upon the kind of end-of-year problem that we had hoped to avoid. We are aware in our budgeting processes in the earlier part of the year that towards the end of the budget year, there's going to be a little more or a little less of funding available and we tried to account for that. Some of the preparations we did in anticipation of budget shortfalls included, as you know, the increase in the parent fee that is contributed toward the cost of child care. The issue that's presented to us basically now is that we have had a record number of increase in child care applications for child -- child care applications that rose to almost an increase of 22% in as little as four months, in the last four months of this year.

I'll give you some figures which our Finance Administrator, Ken Knappe, will elaborate upon in a moment, but I can tell you that the basic budget of child care for Suffolk County is the child care block grant. That meant that we had a -- for 2011, for this year ending, since January, we had an adopted budget for child care of \$32,311,723. We also had ARRA funds or stimulus money for child care, which added 1,426,000 to that. And additional funds transferred this year for child care, where we had been going to our postage accounts, our office supply accounts, everywhere we can. We added one-and-a-half million to that. So the total funds available for child care in this year was \$35,274, and we have essentially used all of that up.

The block grant has had a wavering kind of history with us. In the 2009-2010 budget year, the State block grant for child care was 33 million dollars. In 2010-2011, it was 32 million dollars. And for 2011-2012, next year, it's going -- we're going into a block grant of 29 million. We need help in getting the State to bring that amount up for Suffolk County, and we are hoping, with a meeting that we are organizing for December the 20th, to bring together providers, the Child Care Council and others to see whether a lobbying effort can be formulated and executed for Albany to deal with this issue, because our numbers are going up while the block grant is going down.

And to tell you how the numbers are going up, I remind you of the effort of the Department to do away, as we did, with waiting lists, we don't have them anymore, and to try to get as many children in child care enrolled as possible. The 5800 children that received care in November are 1700 more children than the monthly average of 2010. So when it comes to monthly averages, we've had an increase of almost 41%. Since July of 2011, the number of children receiving subsidized care has

increased from the 4,827 to 5,895, which is an increase of 1,068 more children, representing an increase in as little as four months, as I said, of 22%. The 2012 adopted budget includes, as I said, the 2929.9 million, and this is this is a reduction of approximately six million dollars over the actual need of the program.

To put this into perspective as it would apply to the difficulty that's presented in our payments, let me just start with a general proposition, that we know of no other jurisdiction that has a 30-day prompt payment requirement for paying bills to child care providers. We don't offer that as a complaint, we're just offering that as a background. We would also offer the point that the hiatus that we're suffering now in the written explanation that I gave to each Legislator is about a maximum of two to three weeks, meaning that the bills that are coming in now won't be paid for two to three weeks past the 30-day rule until January, because that's when the appropriation's going to be funded, and that's when we're back to the ability to pay those bills. So that delay, unfortunately, is going to be two to three weeks. The sad thing about this is the larger operations --

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

But you're still under the 30 days, though, so you're not violating the prompt payment.

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

Yes. We -- for the first time, we will be this December, yes. That's the unfortunate result of this. But I did want to say one more thing. The bills that come in from the larger operators are usually -- they're handed in at the beginning of the month and are, therefore, paid within 30 days. The bills that come in a little later than the beginning of the month are from the smaller operations that can't afford to have bookkeepers and accounting firms, and the like, to provide the billings in a more timely fashion. They come in a little later in the month. And the November bills that came in a little later, we're not going to be able to pay within 30 days from that November date, we're only going to be able to pay them when the appropriation starts getting loaded again in this January, and that's the three -- two-to-three-week range problem that we have. It's a cause of significant regret to us.

We have complied with the prompt payment bill since it was adopted. We deeply regret the difficulty this is causing to the providers, but we do emphasize that in January, when the appropriation is able to be funded again, we'll have the money to get that billing paid out.

I'll turn this over for some brief comments by Ken Knappe, and then I'd be honored to have any questions you might wish to offer.

MR. KNAPPE:

Just wanted to emphasize what the Commissioner was mentioning. As far as the prompt payment, it's only November submissions that would have been paid 30 days in December. We would -- once the funds have been exhausted out of the child care appropriation, we have no money to pay those bills. We're putting everything in process. So when the 2012 budget is loaded, we will be able to process all of those submissions, and then we'll be processing the December submissions in -- within the 30-day prompt payment. So it's only a snapshot in time. It's a two-and-a-half to three-week problem, and once January 3rd and the budget is loaded, we'll be back within 30 days again.

In addition, part of the struggles that I'm sure some of the providers have been feeling, as well as Social Services' staff, we have -- there's been a statewide implementation on what we call a CCTA, which is a Child Care Time and Attendance System. It's a one-size-fits-all State system. For us in Suffolk, we had a very good system in KinderTrack with the electronic submission of KinderAttend. The State rolled this out in August and September, for the most part, and that's when we came on board with it. And for our processing, it's really a step back for us. Our current system was a better system. The providers were used to our current system. So, in addition to this, this has

caused some frustrations for my staff, but certainly for the providers, too, which we're trying to reach out to them and help them out with that as well.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

I'd like to ask Counsel, also, if we do not comply with the Prompt Payment Law because of the financial situation, is there a clause that kind of gives us some leeway?

MS. SIMPSON:

I would have to look at the prompt payment policy and get back to you on that.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Are you familiar, Ken?

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

We would -- I'm sorry.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Anybody there.

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

We would contend that the Prompt Payment Law that was adopted by the County Legislature makes a sensible provision, that it would not apply in terms of a penalty if the appropriation doesn't exist or is exhausted --

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. That's what I thought.

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

-- and this appropriation no longer is funded.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. That's what I thought. Also, I know that when you talked about changing the requirement of the parents going from the 50% to the 30%, you looked at the fact that maybe many of them were eligible for food stamps and possibly not applying for food stamps. Have we been successful in getting those families on food stamps, and, you know, has it made a significant change for them?

MR. KNAPPE:

Yes, we believe that the outreach was successful. Our food stamp cases are going up just because of the times as well, so it's hard to quantify exactly how many of the parents and the families that we targeted outreach, but it seemed very successful from the feedback that we received.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Good. Legislator Kennedy.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Commissioner and/or Ken, my recollection with Kinder Care and KinderTrack is that we were looking for vigorous implementation of that. And, as a matter of fact, that was one of the items that was discussed at length when Legislator Vilorio-Fisher first brought the prompt payment legislation to bear. And -- well, let me ask my first question. Did we purchase that software? Did we have a cost or is that something that was provided to us?

MS. KNAPP:

The original KinderAttend, KinderTrack system, when I was in front of this committee talking several

years ago, that was a local cost that we incurred and we paid for that system. The statewide system that rolled out in the summer, that we did not pay for, the State paid for it. New York State OCFS mandated every district in the County that receives child care block grant funds to go onto that system.

LEG. KENNEDY:

But my question is, if we have a system in place that's a superior system and that we purchased, and that presumably we pay to maintain, couldn't we seek a waiver from the State to allow us to continue to operate?

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

We did and it was denied. They basically told us that they're very happy that we have a good system. They actually told us that theirs was going to be better. They, in fact, borrowed many of the features of our system and adopted it to theirs, and then they implemented it. It turned out worse. We're left holding the bag for what we invested in it. And we actually had to step backwards in order to comply with the rigmarole that they put together, which they called a better system, which, in fact, was the opposite.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. What I'm going to ask you, if you would, please, to just send me a copy of whatever the application or request for waiver, or as the denial, and something that identifies what the cost was for acquisition of the software and the annual maintenance, and I will be happy to go ahead and take up some correspondence on it.

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

Absolutely.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Any other questions? No? Okay. Well, thank you, Commissioner. And it's not looking good, that's all I can say.

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

No, but the bottom line is it's a three-week maximum. It does hurt the local small mom-and-pop type of provider --

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Right, right.

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

-- but we still don't have waiting lists. We still are serving a record number of children, and we -- all we need to do is get after that problem with the State block grants reduction over the next year.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Commissioner, I just have a problem going backwards with this at all. It's just we have to pay our bills. We have to be able to -- I don't know what where we're going to find the money, but we can't officially sanction going backwards. I just can't support that. You're shaking your head, Mr. Knappe.

MR. KNAPPE:

We agree with you. And I took great pride in my staff for being compliant with the prompt payment and working through that. It was only because the appropriations have dried up that we weren't able to make payment. And how we got to this position, when I spoke in front of this committee in -- it was either July or August, and we talked about increasing the parent fee, we raised the parent fee from 15% to 30%. And all our projections with all the information we had on that, we thought that was going to be enough to --

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Yeah, you were very proactive.

MR. KNAPPE:

Yes.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

You really were very proactive.

MR. KNAPPE:

We thought we were going to have enough to get to December. Because of the 20% increase from July to now in the number of children served, we just didn't have that much of an increase in such a short period of time in our projections. That's why we are at the stand-still for the next couple of weeks of December until the 2012 budget is loaded. Like the Commissioner said, we went through all of our discretionary accounts. We took everything that we can to transfer to the child care appropriation to pay our child care bills. That's that 1.5 million that's included in the handout that we gave. So it's really just because that there's a lack of appropriations that we cannot process.

We are doing everything proactive in the next two weeks. So when January 3rd comes on board, the budget is loaded, we hit a green light, checks are cut immediately. In addition to that, the December submissions will be paid within the 30 days as well. We have staff going through parallel tracks to make sure that this November situation of submissions, because of lack of appropriations in December, does not impact anything going forward. This is just a one-time stopgap. It's painful, I understand, but we're doing everything in our power to make sure that we are back at 30 days when we get January, when the budget is loaded.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Given the budgetary holes that we saw for 2012, if we establish a precedent of relief in 2011, what I'm afraid of is that in 2012 there will come a point where we're out of money again, because we're already hearing that we're -- you know, our TANs and everything else are coming sooner, we're running out of cash. I'm just so concerned about the trickle-down negative effect of everything here with our budget. We are looking at people in our County losing their jobs, but then -- in County government losing jobs, but then people in those small businesses that are trying to keep their heads above water, they're going to have employees that are going to lose jobs. And I just don't know that we can keep pushing this down the road and not find some way to plug it because we're bleeding. We're bleeding jobs, and as long as we're bleeding jobs, our economy is not going to rebound, because people can't spend money if they don't have jobs.

And I know that you have been -- the Commissioner has been so responsive. You've been so responsive to our budgetary problems, and I'm trying to figure out how you can pull out of this, but I just can't -- I can't support going backwards on something we worked so hard on. And to tell you the truth, for about half a year after we passed this, I took nasty heat from somebody on the 12th floor publicly because of this, and I just -- and I didn't do it for any kind of self-aggrandizement, just out of fairness, that people were doing something to keep our working poor employed and weren't -- they were suffering because of it.

So I don't know the answer, but I don't know that this is the answer. I'm sorry, I just can't -- can't say let's do it on the backs of small business people. We can't just -- we can't do it on the backs of small business people.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. And I believe Kathy here. And we have reached out to our Governor, his office, to see if there's some kind of solution that they can come up with this. But I thank you.

COMMISSIONER BLASS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

And Vivian's right, it's -- we're going to face the same problem maybe sooner next year than -- being that we have about six million dollars less in the budget. So, with that, I'll start with the public portion, and first speaker is Kathy Liguori.

MS. LIGUORI:

Thank you. Thank you for the opportunity to speak here today. I come here wearing many hats. First, as the Vice Chair of the Welfare to Work Commission of the Suffolk County Legislature, and Chair of the Commission's Child Care Committee. I'm also here as a child care advocate, a child advocate, and as a small business owner/child care provider, scared silly about the future.

First, let me state for the record that the Child Care Committee of the Welfare to Work Commission will be reconvening next week, as the Commissioner has said, and we are going to work collaboratively and expeditiously with the Department towards solutions of this funding crisis that we're all facing here. We have a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November -- December 20th, at 2:30, at the Mary Gordon Building. And I welcome you or any of your Legislative Aides to attend on your behalf. The goal will be to set the framework of agenda for a delegation to reach out to the State officials, which will include an outreach to the child care providers and the families, and perhaps for a similar successful work ethic of the recent past that restored our block grant allocation of 2008, when we were cut. While this is not -- it's a hopeful strategy at this time of crisis, I'm hopeful that the solutions can be sought, and I look forward to Tuesday and working together. But right now, I have to speak to you as a child care advocate.

You may already know that for the child care providers, New York State mandates the number of employees that we must have based on the number of children in our care. New York State mandates the maximum number of children we can care for. They set the reimbursement rates that the providers can charge or be paid at. And Suffolk County sets the minimum age for employees for contracted providers. These are some of the problems that the child care providers face which led to the passage of the living -- of the Prompt Payment Law -- excuse me. As we fast forward to today, this State mandate, that each employee be cleared of the child abuse from the State registry -- State registry -- I'm sorry, I'm very upset and nervous with these -- with this situation. The mandate for the child abuse clearance is now on -- the costs are now on the child care providers.

In 2009, with the October rate change, New York State dropped the reimbursement rate 29% overall. While Suffolk County is serving an all-time high of children, the cost for care per child to Suffolk County dropped 25% in 2011 versus 2009. We're just beginning to feel the effects of August 2011, which was when New York State implemented the new billing system, as they had mentioned before, CCTA, which did replace the KinderAttend and KinderTrack system. The CCTA system for the child care providers, the child care providers are now doing double the administrative work, and we are also now being reimbursed in quarter-hour increments for care already provided,

for payroll already paid. This means that the providers in certain instances are being reimbursed 75% less than the contracted market rate that they have with the County.

I don't want to forget about the child care industry economic rate of seven to one ratio, the multiplier, whether it's based on a positive effect or maybe now a negative effect. Lenders are even more reluctant to give us loans.

As far as the Prompt Payment Law is concerned, we are -- we all worked very hard for this. When a door closed and some of them slammed in our face, we found a window to climb through. It's the oxygen mask for the working poor families and the abused children that we care for. We're relying on the Prompt Payment Law to provide a quality program for these children. This might be a three-week problem for now, but it really is a long-term problem, and we're only kicking the can down the road of 2012, we're here again, which is why we're meeting next week to collaboratively work together to provide solutions. And yes, we're reaching out to the Governor's Office and we'll reach out to all the State Delegation, but we are relying on the Prompt Payment Law to hold true. The money was enacted. We need this Prompt Payment Law to help us keep our doors open, and I ask you to support us in that manner. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you, Kathy. Next is Steve Burgdoerfer.

MR. BURGDOERFER:

Good afternoon. I own two Tutor Time Child Care Centers, one in Ronkonkoma and one in Islandia that serves the areas of Central Islip and Brentwood. Especially my school in Islandia, 98% of our revenue is based on what our community demands and needs are, which are people that are on Social Services.

We are a large child care provider. We probably do about over \$100,000 in billing a month with the County. We still have not received our check, and we processed it on October 31st, because I instruct -- because this means so much to us that we have our people, we stay overnight, overtime, because, as brought up by Ken, it is a tremendous burden and it has cost us a lot of administrative costs, that I have to bring in extra people now to do a lot of the work that the old system used to do. And we submitted October 31st, so, technically, November 1st because it was after hours, and so we're well past the 30 days now. So I just wanted to make that correction.

Remember, as Kathy said, we're 30 days before, you know, when the services have been rendered, then it's another 30 days, so it's 60 days that -- it's not really 30 days, it's 60 days from when we've incurred most of our expenses. We can't let it slip, because we went through this years ago. We can't go backwards. We had people that had IRS liens and everything else on them. And I'm concerned also about the state of the budget, and I'll do anything I can to help support this, because instead of having this meeting now in December, I'm afraid we're going to have this meeting in October next year, because it's going to come up on us even quicker. And we need to get the money within the 30 days, and we need to do whatever we can to help support, you know, people that are trying to get a job, trying to do the best for the children. You should see some of the sad situations that I -- especially, I have my school in -- you know, that serves Central Islip and Brentwood, in which I got shootings and, you know, people getting shot just down the road. This is a place of sanctuary. We put in a \$100,000 new playground, okay, into our school out of my pocket -- we couldn't get a loan for nothing -- to help give these children a safe, constructive place to play, and we just need to get paid on time. Thank you.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you, Steven. Okay. Next speaker, Serafino Bueti. Bueti? I'm sorry.

MR. BUETI :

Thank you for allowing me to speak today. Thank you for allowing me to speak today. I'm here from Torrington, Connecticut, representing the Chemtrail Truth Movement of Northwest Connecticut. You're probably wondering why I would come all the way, travel three hours and take a ferry to get here. I've been involved in following the chemtrail issue for over eight years now. We really haven't gotten much traffic in -- as far as traction, getting with our public officials up in Connecticut. So what I'm hoping and what we're hoping is that if this legislation, I.R. 2029 moves forward and becomes law in Suffolk County, that it will translate into a model that will be moving forward with other counties and states in this country, and eventually lead to a total ban on the spraying of chemtrails over the United States and much of the world.

I'm here in support of Long Island Skywatch and the others who have worked tirelessly in spearheading this movement. And I'm here to mention Legislator Romaine, who I have never met personally, but I would consider him on my list of heroes for having the guts, shall we say, to propose this legislation against what I found to be a lot of opposition, speaking for myself.

I also would like to -- I have copies of a video called "What In The World Are They Spraying". I'd like to submit them to whoever takes them here and have them passed out to the members of the committee so that you can personally view them. I think you'll find that this video, although there's a lot of others and a lot of information, I found that it will help to answer a lot of the questions you have, the who's, the what's the why's and the how's of the chemtrail issue and also various other geoengineering programs.

One of the frequently asked questions that I encounter is this program is -- would have to be so huge that how come nobody knows about it? Well, a lot of people actually do know about it. But how could they keep it a secret? And I just would like to remind people of the Manhattan Project, which involved thousands and thousands of people, but, yet, no one knew about it and eventually they created the atomic bomb. And Edward Teller, who was a scientist, who was known as the "Father of the Atomic Bomb," was also a huge proponent of spraying particulate matter into the atmosphere in order to help combat global warming, and so he was involved in getting this going, so it's, you know, more of the same.

I've had three -- fortunate enough to have three different careers in my life. All of them have involved working outdoors, so I'm acutely aware of the weather and the -- how conditions can affect you as far as being -- doing your business and carrying on your daily rounds. And I've seen a lot of changes in the weather. I'll give you one example. I do snow plowing in the wintertime. Fifteen years --

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. You are going to have to wrap up, because we have a three minute --

MR. BUETI :

Okay. Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Yeah.

MR. BUETI :

So, basically, I urge you to advance this legislation, please, and find the heroism in yourselves. Applause.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you. Next speaker is Sallie Elkordy.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

She went to the bathroom.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. We'll holdup. Tony Peck. You have to hold the button as you speak.

MR. PECK:

Hello. There's a few things I'd like to address in relation to the dangers of chemtrails, as well as the credibility of these dangers. Francis Mangels is a USDA biologist and part of the USDA Soil Conservation Service and he's done multiple tests with soil on the dangerous amounts of aluminum and barium, which are two of the probably biggest dangers as a result of chemtrails. Pond water that is far away from any industry or pollution has gone from safe levels to near toxic levels of aluminum. Aluminum has been found in examples of tree bark, resulting in a lot of trees dying. Dr. Tammy Born states that aluminum is also known to have cancer-causing effects. Even hair samples have been taken. One specific case is a girl living on an organic farm and in her hair follicles they found high levels of aluminum.

Dr. Leonard Thyme was a PhD in Chemistry. He stated that aluminum oxide forms a plaque within the arteries and basically shuts down life. And over time aluminum will build up in your body, because when aluminum oxide grabs hold of a state, it does not let go, and this will cause major neurological damage, because it cannot be flushed out by normal systems of the body.

And Alzheimer's is also skyrocketing. We've seen cases in younger and younger people, and evidence shows that memory loss can be attributed to the accumulation of aluminum in the brain cells. So there's overwhelming evidence that dangers of chemtrails and aluminum need to be addressed immediately. And regardless of political beliefs, political party, or anything, we all need safe air to breathe.

Legislators are supposed to work for and represent the people, and it's pretty clear that people want a ban on chemtrailing. And according to the Fifth Article of the Bill of Rights, "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law," and the spraying of chemtrails is depriving all persons of liberty and property -- or life and liberty, actually. And there's no jurisdiction, legal or otherwise, to poison the planet and its inhabitants.

So, even if all this evidence is not enough to convince you that chemtrails is an immediate danger, there should at least be a shred of doubt in your mind that it can be harmful. And even that slight chance that it could be harming you should be enough to pass a ban on chemtrails. And because even there's a slight possibility that you, your family, or especially your children, our children, are being physically harmed by this, that should be enough to pass the ban, because children don't have a say in this, and it's not fair for them to be -- for the rest of their life be affected with their health from the chemtrails. So, please, do the right thing and pass the ban. Thank you.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you. Okay. Next is Anthony --

MS. ELKORDY:

Excuse me. I'm so sorry I was not here.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Sallie.

MS. ELKORDY:

Yes, hi.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Yeah, go ahead.

MS. ELKORDY:

I just spent \$120 to come from Forest Hills, Queens, to show you my chemtrails. Well, anyway -- can you hear me?

LEG. GREGORY:

No.

MS. ELKORDY:

No? All right. Okay.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

You have to hold the button down.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Well, actually, I can hear pretty good.

MS. ELKORDY:

All right. Well, I'll just tell you again. I spent \$120 to come from Forest Hills to show you my chemtrails. I want to thank you so much. Who is the Legislator who has submitted this legislation? Is this {Romani}?

MS. LOMORIELLO:

Romaine.

MS. ELKORDY:

Romaine. Well, bless Legislator Romaine, because the world over is having -- experiencing this problem. And these are my chemtrails. These are not by any means the worst chemtrails. I was just outside photographing your chemtrails. They are among the worst. Oh, my goodness. So I just came here to say we would like to breathe freely and enjoy.

This is Bill of Rights Day and I would love the right to breathe clean air, and everyone the world over would. And I'm just so excited that Suffolk County is the first, the first. This is historic, and I am just honored to be a part of this. Thank you very much, and let's get rid of them. Thank you so much.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Next is Anthony -- is it Doroska?

MR. DOROSKA:

Hello. I have a couple of -- five copies. I was told that there'd be five people on the committee. They're blood work, and also a page on the Navy Research Laboratories that shows that they tested the ionosphere for -- since 1985, and they were spraying through the exhaust of the shuttle, and explains that, and that came from the military's website. So this is not a conspiracy. You guys got to wake up.

Today I would like to talk about the results of my family's blood tests for aluminum again. The CDC says the safe levels of aluminum are between zero through nine micrograms per liter. My father was tested at 10 micrograms per liter, my wife and I were tested 11 micrograms per liter, and my son and daughter were tested at 10 micrograms per liter. I want to point out that my wife and I are 40 and 39 years old respectively. My daughter was 16 and my son was 14 when tested. I think that being that young and having levels of aluminum that high is quite shocking.

I would like to tell you that I learned that when you have metal chelation, the numbers will not fall immediately, but will rise. That is because it draws the aluminum out of the fatty tissue and the cells where it gets deposited. So by this means, you could have -- could get your blood test for aluminum and your results could be within range, but you might have excessive amounts of aluminum stored in your body.

Since my father has become quite forgetful the past few years, I believe that he might have accumulation of aluminum. Aluminum has been linked to Alzheimer's Disease, and I have heard that a better test for aluminum is to have your hair tested. I have not done this.

I really hope that the bill that was proposed is made eligible for consideration today; that it could be approved by the full Legislature on December 20th. I find this to be very sad that we have to provide evidence of this crime that is being committed. I always believe that we have checks and balances in our government, but I believe the people of the United States would be protected by our government. I would like to know how this has been slipped through Congress. I'd also like to say, if anyone has doubts that this is happening, they really should have themselves tested, their water, their soil, for aluminum, barium and strontium.

Hey, if your eyesight works, take a look when you have time to observe our skies and watch the persistent contrails sprayed over our skies. That's a no-brainer. No PhD needed. No long -- my long-term memory still works, and persistent contrails were not observed in the skies years ago. After all, the U.S. Government also thinks it's perfectly safe for you to drink fluoride, microwave your body at TSA checkpoints, eat genetically modified organisms, and get yourself repeatedly injected with chemical adjuvants in vaccines and drink aspartame. Aw, come on. What are some aluminum, barium, strontium nanoparticles on top of all that?

I would like to thank Edward Romaine for his support, and I would like to thank everybody for showing up today. Thank you very much. Applause.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Next is Perry Finkelstein. And after Perry is Jeanice Barcelo. Perry Finkelstein, right?

MR. FINKELSTEIN:

Yes, that's me, unless there's two Perry Finkelsteins. I'd be very surprised.

*(*Laughter*)*

But I think there is another one in Manhattan, I was told. But, anyway, good afternoon. Thank

you for your time. I'm actually going to thank you in advance for passing and pushing this ban forward, because I believe that once you see, and read, and listen, hear all the facts, not just, you know, spewing out of nonsense, but the facts, that you will agree that this is a very real and scary thing that's going on here.

I watched this yesterday and I've been watching these chemtrails for over probably 15 years-plus, two planes flying at approximately the same height, same altitude. I mean, obviously, I can't tell exactly, but same atmospheric conditions. One is totally covering the sky with his miles long trail of whatever, strontium, aluminum, whatever it be, and the other one has absolutely no condensation. So what does that mean? Okay? Anyway, there is -- there is plenty of testimony at higher levels as well. Congressman Dennis Kucinich introduced the Space Preservation Act, which does site chemtrails and the weaponization of the atmosphere in space, as well as Representative Bart Gordon from Tennessee, who I quote, says, "Geoengineering carries with it a tremendous range of uncertainties, ethical and political concerns, and potential for catastrophic environmental side effects."

So this issue is something that we really all need to be concerned about. Please, just look at the facts and figures, and the reports and all, and just protect yourselves, protect your children, protect the future generations, because I just remember being taught in school, I mean, what you need for survival is shelter, air and water, and that may be -- need to be amended to we need clean air and water. So what else can I say?

Apparently, the 1% thinks that it's more profitable to keep us sick than to keep us healthy. So, please, just search your consciences, look at the evidence, and push this ban forward. Thank you.

*(*Applause*)*

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:
I have a question.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:
Mr. Finkelstein, could you come back?

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:
Can you come back? I have a question.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:
Legislator Viloria-Fisher has a question for you.

MR. FINKELSTEIN:
Yes.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:
Did you say that Dennis Kucinich introduced legislation?

MR. FINKELSTEIN:
He brought it before Congress. It was squashed.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:
And what was the number?

AUDIENCE MEMBER:
H.R. 2977.

MR. FINKELSTEIN:

H.R. 2977, Space Preservation Act. Thank you.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

Of 2001.

MR. FINKELSTEIN:

Of 2001.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

But it never reached the floor, you're saying?

MR. FINKELSTEIN:

They squashed it.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

They may -- created another one, H.R. 3616.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Okay. Thank you.

MR. FINKELSTEIN:

H.R. 361.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Thank you.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

H.R. 3616.

MR. FINKELSTEIN:

H.R. 3616 I believe is the follow-up to that.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

Space Preservation Act of 2001.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay.

MR. FINKELSTEIN:

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. We -- yeah, we can't have back and forth. We have a stenographer who's trying to do this. Next is Jeanice Barcelo. And after that is Cindy Pikoulas, right?

MS. BARCELO:

Hi. Can you hear me? Now can you hear me?

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

Yes.

MS. BARCELO:

I want to thank you all so much for hearing us today, because this is such a critical issue. I've never felt so frightened about something that's happening in our world today as I do about what's happening in our skies right now. And for those of you who haven't an understanding of what chemtrails are, I really want to invite you to look in the sky. Contrails are actually condensation trails. Condensation means that they will dissipate and disappear in the sky. So when you see a natural contrail, they might last for two minutes, ten minutes tops, that trail behind the plane will disappear. When you see a chemtrail, you will notice that that chemtrail can go on for miles and miles. You might see criss-crosses in the sky, and you will notice, if you watch just one of these very long trails, that they don't dissipate, they actually expand. And in a matter of hours they will still be there covering the entire sky and blocking out the sun. We now know that those chemicals that are being sprayed onto our planet right now contain aluminum, barium, strontium, lead, mercury, and a number of other extremely toxic, neurotoxic chemicals that will disrupt our brain's capacity to function properly, and, therefore, our entire bodily capacity to function properly. This is a severe biological attack on the human nervous system and on the biology of the entire planet.

You will notice with chemtrails in the sky, sometimes you'll see the plane, there'll be a long line and then it will stop spraying, and then it will be another long line and then it will stop spraying. You could see it's like almost a tic-tac-toe board in the sky. So, please, look up in the sky and see what is happening to us. Pay attention to what is happening to us.

We here are New Yorkers. In my opinion, we are the strongest people in this country. And I ask you all, please, to listen to me because this is very important. We have an opportunity as New Yorkers to be the first state in this nation to step up and say we have to stop what our federal government is doing to our population, what it is doing to all of life, what it is threatening our children. It is threatening every creature on this planet. The government has gone insane and I hope you can now see that as well, now threatening to detain U.S. citizens indefinitely without a trial and without being charged. This is what's happening to our government. Demanding vaccines that also contain aluminum. Have any of you had strange headaches. Well, your brain begins to swell from the aluminum. Have any of you had long dry coughs that don't go away? This is because the nanoparticles are getting stuck in your throat and have now entered into your bloodstream and into your lungs. Respiratory problems are going up enormously.

Vaccines, GMO foods, fluoridated water, chemtrails in our skies. People, we are under biological attack by the United States government. And we have got to, as a community, as a people that cares about the place where we live and the planet we live on, and our children and all of life, we've got to ban together in unity to step up and say, "No more, we cannot have this." We have to put all of our attention and all of our energy into stopping this.

So, please, I'm saying this from the depths of my heart. This is a terrifying situation we have. It's extremely extensive. These people have unlimited money because they're the same people that are running the Federal Reserve and creating the money. If you look up at what's going on, you'll see dozens and dozens of planes in a single hour. Who is hiring these people? Who is funding the planes? Who is paying for these chemicals to be sprayed on us? Can you see the extent?

Please, pass this bill. This is critically life-sustaining and important for us to do this. Thank you.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you. Cindy Pikoulas.

MS. PIKOULAS:

Hello, everybody. I too, want to thank everyone for giving us the time to hear us. As you all know, I'm with lay Long Island Skywatch, and I commend Mr. Romaine for bringing this forth. I come to you today, though, not from Long Island Skywatch, but as a mom and as a teacher, and I have some statistics to share with you.

Autism, a study just came out from the Los Angeles Times yesterday, it has increased 20-fold in a generation, that is ten years. This is our children. The overall death rate from chronic lung disease and Alzheimer's has risen. Lung disease has risen 8% in the last five years, Alzheimer's has risen 7.5 %, and early onset has moved up 4%. It is now affecting people in the 50-year-old age bracket. Alzheimer's is not a normal aging condition, it is a brain disorder and has been linked with aluminum.

Vitamin D deficiency is now an epidemic. Forty to 60% of the U.S. population is vitamin D deficient. That goes along with the Nassau study that states in the last 20 years, the earth has dimmed 20%. The U.K. just last week advised pregnant women to up their intake of vitamin D because of all the disabilities that are now occurring amongst children. Why all of a sudden as a world population are we vitamin D deficient? Vitamin D is linked with cancer and heart disease. They estimate that it causes one quarter of all cancers and all heart disease.

The asthma epidemic among children since the 1980's is up 60%. That is 60%. Fifty percent of children now have a life-altering allergy since 1990. Fifty percent of children have allergies, 50% have a life-altering allergy. Sweden, 12 -- in the last 12 years, their population of children with life-altering allergies has doubled.

I can only repeat everything that we've spoken about earlier. I was not looking for this two-and-a-half years ago when my husband made me aware of it. I have always been organic. I teach high school. I teach about chemicals, Bisphenol A. I commend the doctor who was here the last time we spoke. I cannot believe what is occurring in our skies. If someone would have told me two years ago -- and I'm very nervous and it's very personal to me, because one out of six children now has a disability.

We're all being told what we need to do to correct this. Special education teachers are the only teachers that are being hired. My school lost 50 teachers last year, we're looking at another 50 this year, and these are all from regular education. But if you want a job, become a special education child (sic). And they're giving us all new programs on how to teach these children. But what they're not looking at is why are these children disabled. Aluminum -- barium is linked with cancer, aluminum is a central nervous system problem. Please, it's up to you.

And just on a final note, I know I'm ending, I am getting E-mails and phone calls from people all over the globe commending Suffolk County, and using us as an example of what they can do to get their Legislators to listen to them, so please.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Next speaker, James Pikoulas. James? James Pikoulas?

MS. PIKOULAS:

I'm sorry.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

No, your husband's next.

MS. PIKOULAS:

Oh.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

And after that is Dan Goldberg.

MR. PIKOULAS:

Hi, everybody. I didn't prepare anything today because I'm out of words. I don't know what else anybody could say. What everybody here is saying, you know, there's some anger, there's hostility, there's fear. What we're saying is, please, please. There's air quality acts. This is already against the law. But let's put this on the books, let's get the world active. Let's go and tell the, you know, federal government what they could do with some of their rules, okay? I'm a proud American, okay? My grandfather fought in Second World War, the whole thing, okay? We can't do -- work any harder. And everything I hear, every time I'm here, I've only been here twice, is how, please, just give us the money so we could save lives. My God, do you see what's happening?

This isn't us against you or people against the government. You're our neighbors. You're not politicians. You don't have the Army waiting for you to protect you, and the CIA and the FBI. You're one of us. Once you lose your position, you're back to being our neighbor, and we respect every one of you. We know your hands are tied. We know how passionate this might be, you know, coming at you, like you guys might be -- I don't know what you're thinking. I just hope you're thinking, "Oh, my God, let's at least put this on the news, let's at least get our local papers active. Let's tell the population what's happening."

Last time I was here, the DEQ, which had failed horribly, because every tree on Long Island is just about gone. Look at them. Read a book, figure it out. Tell them to understand what a dead tree looks like. The leaves have not fallen off the trees. They're too weak to drop their leaves. We're a part of the same ecosystem. We're failing, okay? You hear the statistics. I just beg you, and I'm not the first one, pass this bill. Let's get loud. Let the people do what they can do. Venezuela, Greece, everybody has contacted my website. They are proud. They're asking for help, they're asking for guidance, and we're really, last hope, counting on you guys to hear us.

And, you know, we're not looking to take the government over. We're not -- we're just looking for like self-responsibility as a community, as neighbors. And people are going to say, "You know what, Cuomo said something we don't like, we're going to go against him." When they don't want to send you money, say, "Where'd the money go?" In enough of this "Where's the money," "We're in a bad state." Where is it? Start asking. You guys can. We're asking and now we're here to ask you to ask for us in case you haven't. But I beg you, everybody. We're just saying, please, pass this so we can make a lot more noise.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. James, hold on a minute. Legislator Eddington has a question for you.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Yeah. I appreciate the way you're presenting the information. You know, a month ago, I didn't know anything about this. And I've been involved in education for a lot of years, and I don't like to make a decision real quick until I can look at everything. And when 30 people come and they call yell and scream and grrrr, I mean, here's what I'm hearing. Long Island -- I'm hearing paranoia, I'm hearing, "My brain's swelling," biological attack, the earth is dimming, allergies and autism amongst children, one out of six children are disabled and our trees are dying. Now, I'm not saying you're not right, I'm just saying don't ask me to make any big decisions until I can study this. I've got to tell you, since you were first here, I'm looking at the sky and I'm saying, "Oh, I thought

that was sky-writing." I'm seeing it.

*(*Applause*)*

But, you know, having 30 people and yelling and clapping, that doesn't impress me to make a decision. I've got to look at the information -- you've got my attention. I don't know if I want to start setting policy on what you've said. I want to investigate it because you're reasonable people. You're certainly psyched and you've been studying it, but I've got to catch up. So that's why I'm a little hesitant to start passing. I'll beat the drum, but I got to -- I got to know it. I can't -- you know what it is? When you're in our position, if every group that comes with 20 or 30 people, we all go, "Yeah, we'll pass that legislation," you know where we'd be right now? We'd be in a lot of trouble. We have to do our due diligence and you're helping us, but probably meeting with the Legislators individually, coming with some information, not just throwing it all at us. And I am looking, I really am.

You have educated me to a degree to want to learn more, and your approach is a reasonable, you know, approach, and you've gotten my attention, so I appreciate you coming.

MR. PIKOULAS:

Well, I thank you wholeheartedly for that. I just want to let you know that the reason why the people are at this point is because we've been to Congress. Okay? You know, silly me and my wife, we actually started at the top and that's the problem. And so these people were so psyched because they actually had a voice and they were like, "Oh, my God, we can actually have a voice." So what you're saying is awesome and I respect it, but we don't have time. Okay? We've been at this for years. And the information? You guys are brilliant, okay? The information could be inhaled overnight. The amount of information, public, on the website, privately done, publicly done, it's there. Six more months, I don't know what else to say. I'm a fisherman. I don't finish anymore because of the conditions, weather related alone. You can't even get out there anymore and I know why, so I got it.

And I thank you. And, believe me, these people are passionate because we're frightened, genuinely. And thank you so much, guys.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you. Next is Dan Goldberg.

MR. GOLDBERG:

Hi. My name is Dan Goldberg. I wanted to just really tell my story today. Before I get into that, though, I really appreciate what you said. The fact that you heard this last time, now you walk out, and on a sunny day you actually look up in the sky and you're maybe seeing something different than what you saw before, or considering the fact that those trails that are being emitted by those planes are not just sky-writing, that they're actually military planes spewing out toxins and poisons on every one of us, that that is really a scary thing.

So I just want to say that for 15 years I had one of the largest alternative medical practices on Long Island. My focus in my practice was cleansing and detoxification. So I had at one point over 25,000 Long Islanders who would come to me on a regular basis to cleanse and detoxify their bodies. These are people who were becoming aware that all the crap that we put into our bodies from food and from the air and from the environment, drugs and medications, was actually ruining their health.

So, you know what? Actually, I'm just finding it really hard to talk because it doesn't seem like anybody's really even listening. Okay. Thank you. I appreciate it.

My own personal story is that I got into the holistic health field because I became aware that I was very sensitive in my own body to a lot of different things in the environment. And about six months ago I started noticing a really interesting phenomenon. The woman who spoke before, Jeanice Barcelo, she would call me and she'd say, "Dan, how are you feeling?" And I'd say, "You know what, I'm feeling like hell right now. I feel like a truck just ran over me." And she would say, "You know, it's really interesting, because just yesterday they were spraying really heavily on Long Island." And I'm like, "Really?" I wasn't even aware, like yourself, of the whole chemtrail phenomenon. And then she'd call me about a week later and she'd say, "Dan, how are you feeling today?" And I'd say, "I'm feeling about the same as I was last week. I feel like crap, actually. I feel like all my energy has been taken out of me." And she said just yesterday there was another big heavy spraying all day of the chemtrails." And then, like yourself, I started noticing that there was a cause and effect.

I'm a very, very healthy person. I take care of myself better than anybody that you might find, but this is something I have no control over, and I have found a because and effect. Like this week, I almost didn't come today because I was so knocked out. Early in the week, on Tuesday I think it was, the chemtrail spraying was really horrific. About 24 hours later, I was feeling like crap, and I almost did not have the energy to come today to speak on chemtrails because the chemtrails were knocking the crud out of me. So, you know, you may say that this person is crazy, but I have an education in nutrition and holistic health. For 15 years I was one of the most respected practitioners on Long Island. So believe me when I say I know my body. You might say you know your children, you know your wife, you know your husband. I know my body and when something like this is happening and I can see a cause and effect, it's worth it for me to come here and speak up on this.

So I really appreciate you guys. This may be new to you, as it is to many people, so your willingness to educate yourself -- you know what I was just going to say? The DVD that he gave out, "What In The Heck Are They Spraying," if you want to really find out in a really intelligent way what it is that's happening, please watch that. Look at that DVD. It's about an hour, but you will learn what's going on and what's not being done, and it is really scary. And I appreciate your time. Thank you.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you. Next is Anthony Tolden. Is it Tolden or Tolder?

MR. TOLDER:

Yeah, I get a lot of that. It's Tolder.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Well, yeah, okay. It's the way it's written. And after that will be Mike Mitchell.

MR. TOLDER:

Hello. I'm Anthony Tolder. I'm running for United States Congress to represent New York State District 2 as a Republican candidate, and I plan on making this issue a part of my platform and trying to get this reintroduced at a federal level. And we would all greatly appreciate if you would help us pass this on a local level.

What I have here, I'd like to read just a little bit of the beginning of the Declaration of Independence

for you. "When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation."

The reason I'm reading this is because this declaration was essentially made because basic human rights were being trampled upon day in, day out every which way you could imagine. And we're coming to a point where it's looking like things are getting to that point again. And this geoengineering, trying to control the weather, the crops, the trees, even the people, because it's having an effect on the people, this is going against the laws of nature and of nature's God. Now, when we think of the word "God", I'm sure everybody would have a different perception. But the point is, is this was people coming together saying, "We're resisting a repressive regime that is acting like gods. And we are dealing with these mad scientists promoting this, and we've addressed the federal government's involvement, but I haven't really heard much about the corporations. And this country is about we, the people, not we, the corporations, not we, the mad scientists. And we would all greatly appreciate it if you would help us declare this independence and freedom of our air quality. Thank you.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you. Mike Mitchell. And Siobhan is after Mike.

MS. MITCHELL:

Thank you. Frankly, I'm so impressed with the group here today, that they've said everything I was going to say. So I was not going to get up for a minute because they've said everything, and in, some of them, excellent ways. So my speech might be, say, 30 to 45 seconds, if you will.

A lot of you here I remember the last time, and I spoke about DDT, and so on and so forth. But, basically, you do get to be first, which is the great thing. So, if you make the right call, just like they did years ago with DDT, you get that in the books. It began in Suffolk, it began here and your names are on that. So I'm praying that it goes in the right direction.

Number two, as we've heard some others say, the federal government basically likes to do things, to make decisions that affect our lives in many ways, but they don't seem to want to check with us. So is this one of those things again? Is this something that we, the people, and the states can question? And that's what's being asked of you. If they came out and made a statement, "In the interest of your health, we're going to spray, say, Agent Orange to make your environment better," well, then, ten years later you find out it's carcinogenic and causes all kinds of problems, well then the furor starts, but it's already ten years later. In Southeast Asia they sprayed Agent Orange under the name of calling it a defoliant. The truth, the sinister truth was to destroy the paddies, the rice paddies. United States realized it could not defeat the Vietcong on their own soil. We had the superior firepower. We could not defeat and we were not taking that country from them. They were going to come. The only way to stop them was to destroy the food supply. Agent Orange was designed just to do that. So it was a means to the ends, it was sinister, but we must question if something like that here were to happen for whatever purpose that they're seeking. We have a right to ask and the people here have a right to ask, the states have a right to ask, the County, Legislators such as yourself. We're in it together, we join together. Let's unite and just go forward. Thank you.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Siobhan Ciresi. Siobhan, I know your name.

MS. CIRESI:

Thank you. Thank you, Kate. Good afternoon, everybody. I just want to start. I came here to speak to the Health Committee and the Health Committee's not complete. One of the members has been missing for most of the testimony and there's been a lot of side conversation. And I'm not saying anything about that, but I'm noticing it.

So I want to also make it clear and put it on the record that the Health Committee has been provided with packages of facts upon facts regarding geoengineering, as well as lab results from samples of free-falling snow, tree bark and surface water showing toxic levels of aluminum, as well as barium and strontium, from right here in Suffolk County. If anyone entertains conspiracy theory regarding geoengineering and this bill and considers using this notion as their reason to not approve this bill, it will be clear to all of them, especially to the thousands of viewers who have seen the testimonies given on December 6th on the internet, and the thousands more that will view it, that the Suffolk County Health Committee has willingly dismissed irrefutable and indisputable facts, facts like the weather modification activities as ordered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which have admittedly taken place over many states in America.

Any one of you can request these summaries of weather modification activities from NOAA yourselves, activities like created rainfall, rain suppression, rain enhancement, created snow, snow augmentation and more. Any one of you can visit the websites of Weather Modification, Incorporated, North American Weather Consultants, or Aero Systems, Incorporated, and for a price order your weather of choice. Any one of you can look up at the skies on a regular basis and with your own eyes watch very high altitude planes leave trails that spread out and create an artificial manmade haze of cloud cover that fills up the entire sky. Any one of you can look into the history of the U.S. Federal Government experimenting on an unconsenting, unwitting population. If you think your government wouldn't do such a thing, think again and look up the 1970's DICE trials where the United States and the United Kingdom sprayed into the air massive quantities of bacteria with an anthrax simulant and poisonous phenol over the population of Dorset while working to keep it a secret, which came out anyway in 2002.

I urge you to, please, separate out the facts from any so-called conspiracy theory regarding the artificial manmade cloud cover we see nearly every day in Suffolk County. If I can do it with my own time, my own energy and my own money, certainly you can, because that -- because you have the manpower, resources and finances to do so as the Health Committee.

I want to point out that the Health Committee has jurisdiction over all matters and legislation pertaining to public health, prevention services, and the protection of the rights and welfare of the children and youth of Suffolk County and their physical, social and educational well-being. By approving I.R. 2029, you live up to your own responsibilities that you have willingly taken on for yourselves. By dismissing the facts, it is clear that the Health Committee will not be fulfilling the whole of its purpose, and worse yet, does this willingly and in full knowledge of the facts presented.

Please consider your own selves, your own families, your children and your grandchildren. Will you be able to tell them you did everything that is in your power to protect them from the manmade global dimming and the widespread vitamin D deficiency that comes with it? Did you do your best to prevent the damage, the damage and contamination of their environment, or would you leave to them an even more unstable toxic chemical soup for a Suffolk County to swim in?

Please vote with your heart and with your logic combined and approve I.R. 2029 for a full Legislature vote this December 20th, 2011. Thank you.

(*Applause*)

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you, Siobhan. Next is Andrew Petterson. Andrew Petterson; am I correct?

MR. PETTERSON:

Oh, yes. I didn't hear you. Thank you. Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for taking the time to endorse this legislation today. My name is Andrew Petterson. I've been a resident of Huntington for about ten years. My profession is law and I've been practicing law for about 20 years. Like the others here today, I've taken time off from my business to attend this hearing because this issue is very important to me. I do not get paid for my time away from my business, since I am self-employed.

I urge you to endorse this legislation. This legislation protects us, you and me, against the release of heavy metals such as aluminum and barium onto our properties and into the air we breathe without some minimal safeguards such as the filing of an Environmental Impact Statement. Otherwise, such heavy metals may be released onto our properties and into the air we breathe without our consent and without any safeguard as to the short-term and long-term consequences to our health and to the value of our properties.

I realize that there may be some concern that Suffolk County does not have the right to legislate about what occurs in the atmosphere. I do not agree. I do not believe that there is currently any legislation which gives any party the right or authority to spray aluminum and other heavy metals into the atmosphere. So passing this legislation does not have the effect of stepping on anyone's toes. If there's still concern about overstepping your authority regarding the atmosphere, I believe the legislation has a savings clause which makes the provisions binding only to the extent that they are enforceable.

Whether or not you have done the research to confirm that the spraying is now occurring is irrelevant. I think we can all agree that the release of aluminum and other heavy metals into the -- onto our property and into the air we breathe without our consent and without first proving that there is no risk to our health or to the value of our properties is important and reasonable. Our most valuable asset is our health. And for most of us, our most valuable investment is the house in which we live and the land on which it is built. Real estate which is contaminated with toxic waste, including aluminum, barium and strontium, has little or no value. I do this for a living and, trust me, if you get an environmental report and you have any kind of contamination on your property, the properties that we've seen already plummet in value will plummet -- they'll be -- they're pretty much valueless with any type of contamination on the soil. And from what I've been told, other people -- and I'm going to get my soil tested -- have extraordinarily contaminated soil. If you go -- other people that are here today have tested their soil and the surface is loaded with aluminum. But when they dug down deeper, where it hasn't been touched in 30 years, no contamination.

So, anyway, please pass this legislation to protect our health, yours and mine, and help protect the value of real estate -- our real estate, the environment -- and the environment for generations to come. And thank you for listening, and let's keep our health.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Don't go anywhere. And I hear that because you're the last speaker, and being your an attorney, you know, I don't disagree that weather manipulation is going on, we know it -- we know it is. My son lives in Colorado. They do it to get snow in -- not in Aspen, in Vail. In fact, I was there over Thanksgiving weekend and I saw it for myself. I'm driving through the area from where my son

lived, he lives near Aspen, and I drove through, there's hardly any snow until you hit Vail, and it's the only place that's got about a foot of snow on the roadsides, so -- but my question for you is, is that, you know, when everybody's talking about the planes, and there are planes, and I know Siobhan and Cindy and James came to my office and I said, "So what do we do, we stop the airplanes from flying?" I mean, when you talk about the chemtrails and you talk about the pollution that's coming from the planes, how would we as a county control that?

MR. PETERSON:

I think the -- I thought about that and I think the best way to go about it is to -- if you have the legislation, and I think it would give some kind of credibility just to the aluminum -- the aluminum toxicity, and I think the best thing to do then is to just -- we have to outlaw -- and I used the words in the beginning, I wrote this today in between working, but I think the key words are the release. So if someone's releasing heavy metals onto the real estate that you we own o into our bodies, I think it's clear that no one should have the right to do that. I don't think there's any legislation anywhere that gives anyone the right to do that. But I think it's important to have some legislation to start, which does not -- which prohibits anyone from contaminating our soil on the property that we known, and in our air, in our bodies, without some kind of proof that it's safe, because probably there isn't. But I think that legally you have to do it so that you're not stepping on anyone's toes. And I think get the legislation passed, it would then open the door to get testing, and I think it's important for everyone to get tested. I'm about to do it, my soil and my blood, to see if I'm toxic with aluminum, barium, strontium.

But I think it's key to have something on the books. And I don't think you're stepping on anyone's toes because I spoke to Jon Cooper, and he said, "I think one of the concerns that everyone has is that we don't have the right to legislate about what happens in the air space." But I thought -- gave it a lot of thought and I don't think anyone has any legislation to give them the right to spray heavy metals into the atmosphere. So I don't think you'd be overstepping your bounds.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. It's just I know that this has been the issue, is that we don't -- we don't have authority in Suffolk County to control our air quality. Basically, it's the State Health Department, and that's -- that's where the difficult position is for us. You know, I do see it as a problem. Our atmosphere, we do have a problem. You know, we have global warming, and, you know, again who can fix that? Suffolk County can't. But with that, I'm -- Legislator Kennedy does have a question for your.

LEG. KENNEDY:

I wanted to kind of just pick up on what Legislator Browning had spoken about. And as an attorney, if you practice in the areas of real estate or anything along those lines, you have to be familiar with the Clean Air Act. You have to be familiar with DEC's regulation on emissions, and the fact that they've completely occupied the field, so much so that recently Dr. Tomarken spoke to us about the fact that Suffolk County disbanded its Ambient Air Monitoring Program, and it is diverted and reverted back to DEC. Even where we have fix-based known sources that may, in fact, be emitting particulate and pollutants, you know, noxious types of gases and things like that, we can bring it to the attention of the DEC, but ultimately it's up to the DEC as far as doing sampling, monitoring and regulation.

So I would come back to you again, then, and say where would it -- how could you postulate that there would be some role for Suffolk County here in light of a federal regulatory scheme that's comprehensive and that employs a state regulatory scheme that's comprehensive and that employs a state regulatory scheme that's comprehensive? It kind of escapes me.

MR. PETERSON:

Well, I'm not an expert in the area. However, I've given this a lot of thought, because I spoke to Jon Cooper and he said to be prepared on this issue. And again, there is no legislation. The Clean Air Act -- and I'm not an expert in any of those areas because I do practice real estate law, but commercial, and I do closings and I do leasing. I don't -- I'm not an environmental expert. I look at an environmental report and --

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay.

MR. PETERSON:

-- that's pretty much it. But the one thing that I think is missing is the acts that we're speaking about, I think they deal mostly with -- or probably exclusively with what comes out of an industrial facility. I don't think that anyone's actually focused on what comes out of a plane, and I think Suffolk County probably -- they did pass legislation. Jon Cooper said he -- I think he was responsible for it with respect to mosquito spraying, so that communities can get notification and say, "I don't want them to spray above my house."

LEG. KENNEDY:

That's correct.

MR. PETERSON:

So I think that's along the same lines. And I think we have to start somewhere because -- and again, I don't think there's any legislation and I can't imagine any of those acts that you'd mentioned, which are a good starting point, deal with a plane spraying heavy metals. I think they deal more with factories and ground pollution. I don't think they deal so much with this situation, which I think is a first.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Thank you.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

Excuse me, Legislator Kennedy.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. We can't have conversation from the floor. I'm sorry. If there's anyone in the room who has not spoken and would like to speak, you may come up. No speakers? Okay. We have two. Okay. And you'll receive a card. Make sure you fill out the card after you speak. Could you, please, just state your name.

MS. FELDMANN:

My name is Jamie Feldman. And under this Constitution we are a sovereign nation and -- county, and we have the right to breathe, you know, and our future generations have the right to breathe. And we're being told that the reason for this activity is to prevent global warming, and what it's actually doing is it's escalating global warming by putting extra water vapor, which is a greenhouse gas, into our atmosphere. So they're actually trapping in the heat. They're doing exactly what they're trying to prevent. And we are just trying to stop this and the bigger people won't listen to us. They won't even give us a second chance. So we are pleading with you to be our voice for these other legislations and just, please, listen to us and hear our voices. Do it for -- if not for us, do it for your children and your grandchildren, please.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

And we have one more speaker. Would you, please, state your name?

MR. HELLER:

David Heller. There are several things that were said that could be augmented or backed up, and when you get up here, you have a tendency to forget, just to raise your hand.

I would add this: That in Nassau County, and I'm sure it's the same in Suffolk County, there are people that live in exclusive communities that have a lot of money and they have changed the way planes fly over their community. They do not fly over those communities. I know. I grew up on the South Shore in Wantagh in Nassau County and you could count the planes by looking at your watch. You knew what time a plane was going to come by right over your house, right over your house, right over your house. But you go to the North Shore and they don't fly planes over Brookville, they don't fly planes over Muttontown, and I'm sure that that could be done on the whole of Suffolk County.

Monitoring is being done, but it is not being done air-quality-wise for aluminum specifically. That's omitted.

And one more thing I just wanted to add was of another speaker that got up, is that he talked about his awareness of his body. I know this man for 40 years. He was the captain of our cross country team, he was the captain of our tennis team. The man never took a sip of liquor as long as I knew him. And he runs, he runs marathons. He has instrumentation to detect things in your body you probably never even heard of. So when he says that he feels a difference from something coming over his head, I for one completely get it, because I know the man is a straight up -- straight up, straight arrow as they come kind of person and has taught me a lot about health, my health.

My wife is a 9/11 survivor. Someone talked about filtration of the blood and the aluminum coming out of the tissues where it makes you sicker right afterwards. She's so toxic, she cannot have that process done. I have actually taken her to the hospital twice because she was unable to breathe sometime after midnight. I don't know what it was about that time, but two different times in my life I've had to take her to the hospital because she couldn't breathe. I've had her blood sample tested under darkfield microscopy and you can literally see these heavy metals in her blood. Forget about what's in her deep tissues and her muscles and her organs, just in her blood. It looks like an armored tank with these little white blood cells going up to attack. They hit these spikes, like a spike collar on a -- you know, what I'm saying is, is they hit them, they die instantly. If they're punctured, the fluid comes out, and for her, it gets into her lungs. There's no such thing as a common cold for her, because when she breathes in and she gets some kind of a bug, that lasts with her for at least a month, at least a month. Lately, and I've married for -- I know her for 11 years now. It stays with her for two months. Coughing, medication doesn't stop it. She's up at night, she's -- it's just too much to talk about. I'm sorry.

But, please, please, do not waste any time in getting this thing handled. Get it under our belts, because Suffolk County can stand up and make a difference in the entire world, starting here, moving to New York State, then the country, then the rest of the world. It needs to be handled and we can do it here. We can really make not just a difference in the world, we can make a contribution to the world, and it's really in your hands. Thank you.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

With that -- Dr. Tomarken, I know that -- that's what, two weeks ago, when this bill first came to committee, we had asked if you had some conversation with the sponsor, because I know you were concerned with some specifics or the lack of specifics in the bill. Could you kind of give us some of your input? And I see Walter's here, if Walter would like to join us. And I can ask of Counsel, has there been any amendments to the bill?

MS. SIMPSON:

Last amendment to this bill was before the first public hearing.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Doctor, we're back again. And I don't know if any other Legislators have any questions, but, again, two weeks ago, we had requested that, you know, had you any conversation with the sponsor to be more specific with the bill, as far as what do you control and what can you control?

DR. TOMARKEN:

I think the best way to respond to that is we've prepared a document and speaking points to the issues we are concerned with about the legislation, and I'm going to let my staff present that and then we'll be open for questions.

MR. MEYERS:

One of the main issues is that the intent and the scope of the law is not that clear from the way it's written. But we assume from the speakers that it's about basically the spraying of chemicals from aircraft. And the chemtrails theory holds that the government or other agencies are spraying chemicals from aircraft do things like modify weather, which is a form of geoengineering, which is a term you heard a lot of.

We have some concerns with this law. One of them is a jurisdictional issue. I'm not a lawyer, but I think the Clean Air Act is pretty clear and it states that no state or local -- locality may pass a standard, which I quote, respecting emissions of any pollutant from any aircraft. And, as a matter of fact, it also makes a law to try to enforce those regulations, which means that perhaps the County or staff could be guilty of violating the Clean Air Act if they attempt to enforce these regulations. That's one of the concerns we have.

Another concern is the way it's written, it's kind of excessive the way it would be applied, and it's a little bit vague. Some of these compounds are in every fuel. So, essentially, any fuel source would be regulated by this regulation as it's currently written. That means vehicles, boats, buses, your home burner, your -- you know, air crossed, wood, etcetera. The way it's written, there are no exemptions for any of these sources. So we have a big concern about what is the intention of this regulation? Is it meant to be for aircraft, for stationary sources, for mobile sources, etcetera.

And it's unknown what type of other sources out there emit these contaminants in small quantities. There could be a lot of sources out there to emit these things in small quantities, because they are -- they are common contaminants. They're a common -- aluminum is a very common part of the earth, it's 8% of the earth's crust. It's very possible a lot of sources emit these compounds in small quantities. It would take a lot of research to figure out what does emit these compounds, and it may have some unintended consequences in businesses, etcetera, in the area.

So also an issue with respect to the definitions as we discussed earlier, what's meant by salt specifically? That's a very vague term. What type of barium and sulfur compounds are covered? And like I said earlier, what's really the intent of this? Is it meant to cover aircraft, stationary sources, etcetera?

We feel that it's a duplication of resources. The State DEC, the EPA, the FAA and the New York State Department of Health have abundance of experience and have a lot of -- a lot of jurisdictions in this area. They have extensive programs to cover air pollution. In order to have a program that really -- that doesn't have any merit would take a huge commitment of resources and manpower, etcetera.

And the other -- another issue is the fact that the regional -- air pollution is kind of a regional issue. Controlling an air pollutant here may affect, you know, downstream Rhode Island, etcetera. In order to really contrail Suffolk County's air quality, you need to really get Nassau County involved, New York City involved, etcetera. That's the way these regulations are typically written. A lot of these contaminants are carried with the -- you know, the winds downstream.

Finally, that in order to have any type of air pollution program that's meaningful would take significant resources with staff, etcetera. And we feel that we'd need a senior public health engineer, an environmental toxicologist, an enforcement specialist, a senior public health sanitarian, two public health engineers, three public health sanitarians, a chemist I and a chemist II, and that's about \$866,000. And we figure with vehicles and other equipment, it's probably like a million dollars for the first year. That's really for a minimum program that can control air pollutants.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Walter, do you have anything you'd like to add? And I know Legislator Viloría-Fisher has a question, so.

MR. DAWYDIAK:

I just wanted to state for the record, that was Jim Meyers, our Chief of Pollution Control, and he's probably the last person in our department with any air quality expertise. He goes back to the 1980's when we used to have an air program, and we're fortunate to have him as a resource. Jim did an excellent job summarizing some of the illegal programmatic issues that we have concerns with about the legislation itself, and we're just happy to answer any questions.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Legislator Eddington.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Did Legislator Romaine reach out to you guys at all?

DR. TOMARKEN:

I gave him a call and spoke with him, and he really didn't have any additional information that he gave us in terms of what his intent was or how the legislation should -- might be changed.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Well, I guess what -- I guess, then, what I'm asking then is -- I mean, obviously, I'm not going to be here, but maybe -- couldn't somebody meet with you and get a recommendation? Obviously, the people here are saying there's a problem. And, I guess, if you look up in the sky you can see there's something going on. But could we do something? I mean, if we can't do this, rather than just say, "Okay, screw it, we're done, let the State or Federal Government," is there something that you guys think we could do? I mean, you're the experts on this, and we've got lawyers, so that maybe if we get you together with our lawyer, we could come up with something, rather than us sit here and try to dream up something that will make people happy. I mean, is that a possibility? This is the international sign for yes (nodding).

*(*Laughter*)*

DR. TOMARKEN:

I think there are so many issues that -- because what -- when you say what it is, and we're not sure what it is, there's jurisdictional issues, there's, obviously, as Jim mentioned, resource problems, our lack of expertise in these areas; the fact that the issues that appear to be raised are broader than just any one county, one geographical area. So we haven't yet got a clear idea of what exactly the "it" is, as they say. So that's what --

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Okay. Well, that's what I was saying originally, but I think there's like 30 people behind you that are pretty clear on what the "it" is. You know what, I mean, we could -- but I hear what you said.

*(*Applause*)*

I hear that you're saying that maybe we have to partner with Nassau County to get this done appropriately. But if that's the case, well, then, we should reach out to Nassau County, rather than just say, "Well, we can't do anything about it," because that's what -- I mean, I'm hearing a little possible solution from you saying we've got to reach out to the neighboring counties.

DR. TOMARKEN:

If this is in the air, something that's deposited from airplanes, that's not our jurisdiction.

MR. MEYERS:

There's one thing I did not say from my notes, which was important. This is a practice that I must say the U.S. Government says does not exist, just for the record.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

They're saying this ain't happening.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

Google it.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

This is not true.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Right. Well, also Agent Orange wasn't a problem either for a lot of my friends. Okay. That's pretty clear, then.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

We can't have conversation from --

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

I'm sorry.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

I'm sorry.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Legislator Viloría-Fisher.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

I apologize, I had to take that call. But this was a very poorly drafted piece of legislation, and it's a shame that it gave people false hope.

Mr. Meyers, you were here when I tried to have restrictions on power plants. And I couldn't do NOx or SOx because those were federally -- those were already federally regulated. So I just focused on CO2, and that was manageable because it was from specific sources that we were looking at those gases coming out of there. So I know about those regulations and about the preemption that exists. Legislator Romaine and I tried to regulate the flight plans, because there were people taking helicopters from Manhattan to the Hamptons and they were flying right over people's yards in my neighborhood and it was very disruptive. We tried to do that. We could not because that's an FAA regulatory area. We cannot control the flights, we can't do it. So this was a very misleading piece of legislation, and I feel bad that all of you have come here and spent so many hours and we can't pass this. We don't have the jurisdiction.

The third thing that Mr. Meyers didn't -- and, by the way, we couldn't do it -- what we did do is we met with Senator Schumer, Senator -- at that time, I believe it was still Senator Clinton, and Congressman Bishop's offices. We met with them. We can advocate for you. I asked you for Senator Dennis Kucinich's bill number so that I can refer to something, because you've laid out some interesting things that I've never heard of before. So I've learned a lot about something. The first time you came, I had no idea what geoengineering was. And I thought you were saying contrails, not chemtrails. So we're learning something that I didn't know about.

Somebody mentioned mosquito spraying. Yes, we could control mosquito spraying because we are the ones who are doing the spraying. So when our Health Department knows that we're going around spraying insecticides, we have to warn neighbors that we're going there. That's why we were able to control that. We have jurisdiction over our own activities.

I don't know how on earth we could ever ask for an EIS from an airplane. This bill is asking for EIS from any entity who's going to be putting out these chemicals. Is that correct, Mr. Meyers? How could we do that? How can we ask for an EIS from airplanes. We can't take answers from the floor at this point. Because I'm not arguing what the audience has said, I'm arguing against this bill. It's not an appropriate bill. It cannot be enforced. It cannot be passed here because we are preempted. We do not have this jurisdiction. And I'm sorry that you have been led down this garden path. I don't think our Counsel should have ever drafted it.

We have the Clean Air Act, we have FAA jurisdiction. We have the inability to support this even if we could do it. We had the child care people here that you saw who are taking children in, billing us because they are supposed to be getting vouchers. And we have small businesses, people who are having to mortgage their homes to pay their bills. That's why we had the prompt payment policy that I implemented a couple of years ago. And now we're worried about not being able to pay our child care people on time because we don't have the money. We couldn't invest a million dollars in this now, even we could.

So I just wanted you understand. If there are neighborhoods like Muttontown, etcetera, that don't have planes flying over them, it's not because Muttontown did it, and it's not because Nassau County did it, it's because they're -- the federal government isn't allowing the planes to fly over that airspace. It's the FAA who regulates that, not Suffolk County. We're a small fish in this pond, people, we can't do this.

So I'm going to vote against this. And I'm not voting against you, I'm voting against the bill that we cannot -- we cannot constitutionally pass this bill.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

Coward.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

No, I am not a coward. If I were a coward, sir, I wouldn't be articulating the reasons why this can't be done. And if you can't be civil, I will ask that you leave this auditorium, because I'm not calling you names, and I don't expect to be called names by you. I am certainly not a coward.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Legislator Anker.

LEG. ANKER:

Okay. I just wanted to comment on your efforts and to try and to create a safer, healthier environmental. You're doing what you can to protect your health and the health of your family, to help the people that you love, help the people that you care for. We've been -- I know I've been doing that and the Legislators up here have been doing that for many, many years. And what you've touched upon is something that's considered controversial, and rightly so, with the issues out there, you know, whether it's a government conspiracy. There's all these interesting dynamics of what we're considering to be either contrails or chemtrails.

What I would like to understand is more information about those contrails or chemtrails. The condensation trails, I think that's what they're called, with I guess the water evaporation, that's one type of air emittance from the airplanes. The other one is what you're concerned about and that's the chemtrails or the geoengineering.

When I was starting a not-for-profit, Community Health and Environment Coalition, I was focussing on the environment and how it affects our health. And what I did, I researched water, soil, and air. And what I found, focusing on the air, was that the air pollution in our area is substantially high. And I did some more research and I found out what the most polluting plants were emitting and who they were, and, of course, one was Northport LIPA. That's the most polluting power plant or plant in our area on Long Island, and even in the eastern portion of our country. There are other plants, not even power plants, industrial plants, that are also emitting toxic chemicals, and we have to address that, and we are, slowly, but surely.

You know, you mention Agent Orange, and I think you had mentioned that. And I was -- I had been on the school board for four years. And just so you know, I have three children. Two have severe allergies, food allergies, severe, and actually classified as special needs children. I did everything I could. I ate healthy, I did all -- you know, I have an organic lawn. I have all the, you know, things that you're supposed to do to make sure that your family is healthy. I have a water filter on my water, no offense to the Water Authority, but, you know, again, I had well water at one point. I got on Brookhaven National Lab's Community Advisory Council to make sure they were cleaning up their mess they made.

Two days ago I was over in Calverton making sure the Navy was doing what they could to clean up a toxic plume that they created in 1950. 1950 they put out chemicals, I believe it was TCE, that is a cleaner used to clean the paint off the plane parts, you know, and they would assemble them. Well, what they did in 1950 was dump the chemical in the ground. They also did that in Port Jefferson at Lawrence Aviation, and we're just now cleaning this stuff up. You know, again, that's wonderful they were cleaning it up, but why did take so long, and how many people were affected by that? And that's very disturbing to me.

So, as I went along and looking at different issues in the area, I became aware that Suffolk County was one of the most proactive government bodies, agencies, to actually do something about issues. You know, I went in front of the Town of Brookhaven, mother of three, you know, environmental advocate, whatever you wanted to call me. I'm sure they had other names they wanted to call me at the time. But I was trying to be to proactive and I truly believe I made a difference, and just like

you here are making a difference in what you believe in and what you feel are affecting you and the people that you care about.

I hope that you will continue your passion for what you're believing to be a -- and rightly so, something harmful that's affecting our environment.

As a Legislator, I'm going to tell you right now, I need to hear from the Navy, I need to hear from the EPA, I need to hear from the DEC. I need to hear from the F -- is it FAA? Is that the Federal Aviation Authority? Is that -- yep, Administration. I want to hear from them. I would like -- I know, and again, I'm going to touch on just a few things. I know that you guys have been here for a while. But we may not be able to regulate or to monitor at this time, I know, because of whatever the financial restraints, the personnel restraint. We may not be able to do that right now, but what we can do, and I did when I -- before I was a Legislator, less than a year ago, I can advocate. I can advocate for public safety. I can advocate for the health and wellbeing of the constituents of Suffolk County.

So what I propose would be for our Health Committee here to write to our -- I would say, I guess, Federal and State authorities, and also elected officials, and stress our concern with this issue. I think also, again, all government agencies need to be made aware, and I'm sure they are, but we need to be more specific, you know. And again, you know, people were talking about headaches and, you know, some of these issues that they feel these specific chemtrails are affecting them. We need to be more specific. We need to find out, number one, are they doing this? And who are "they"? Let's be more specific. I know, Kate, you had mentioned -- you know, they are doing some type of -- was it air seeding? Is that what it's called?

LEG. BROWNING:

Cloud seeding.

LEG. ANKER:

Cloud seeding. So again, we need to find out, you know, more information.

AUDIENCE MEMBER:

We could give you more information.

LEG. ANKER:

So we can -- well, no. We've had lot of information here today and I do appreciate it. But again, Suffolk County -- you want Suffolk County to do something about it and that's what I did years -- you know, not that long ago, as a health advocate. But it's got to be within our jurisdiction. And I know you guys want a lot, you know, from us, and we do want to give -- give you as much as we possibly can, but it's got to be done in the right way. And I know, you know, that's how government works. If there's more we can do right now, I think we'll do it, we'll do it.

This legislation -- I'm going to ask the attorney here today, the County Attorney representative, if we have the jurisdiction to do this. It doesn't -- I'm getting the sense that -- from the Health Department and also from the Legal Counsel, it's not -- we don't have the legal ability to pass this legislation in this form. It doesn't mean that we can't pass legislation. Hey, we passed legislation that has gone beyond these borders of Suffolk County, you know, for the cell phone legislation. Kate, what are the other -- and Vivian. There was a lot of legislation that we were the first because we made people aware.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

MTBE.

LEG. ANKER:

I'm sorry, what's that?

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

MTBE, when I banned MTBE from our gas because it was contaminating our water. We were the first County to do that in the State.

LEG. ANKER:

So we -- so all I'm asking for you right here today, the people that took the time and the money and your effort to come here, is to be a little more patient until we get to the point where we can find out what we can do that will make a difference, even if it's just a crack in the rock. You know, this is a pretty big boulder you're asking us to move, you know. And we need to figure out how the County can really facilitate change.

You're worried about the air and the chemicals that you're breathing. Again, I can give you other factors with air pollution, coal burning plants. The mercury those plants are putting out, getting into our air, recycling, recycling, throughout the world, getting caught up into -- getting caught up into the cycle of the -- what is it called? You know, the ocean, the cycles of the ocean, getting into their fish and eventually getting into us.

About -- I think it was about eight years ago I nominated Northport LIPA as part of the "Dirty Dozen", and that was through an environmental group. And what I did, you know, I had a plaque and I had a little pair of little kids shoes on this and I said, "Look, you win the award. You're part of the Dirty Dozen," you know, in the State of New York. And since that time, they have cleaned up, I have to say, especially the Port Jeff plant. They have reduced their emissions substantially. And I know -- I think Vivian can -- you know, that's her district, she can vouch for that.

So we are making a difference, every letter, every voice, everything that you do, every conversation you have with your friends or people that you don't know. But I do have to say, though, and when you do speak about your passion and cleaning up our environment, just be aware that there's only so much someone can do at a time, either comprehend or physically do. But try not to be so forceful that you're going to scare people away. You're going to -- you know, people will go closing doors on you and you don't want that because you're trying to do the right thing.

So, I'm sorry. I've taken up a lot of time and I apologize for that. But I do want to do more with this issue, because it's all about making our world a better place, making ourselves healthier, and the people around us, and especially our children, because we have to perpetuate humanity, and we can't do that when we know we've made mistakes.

I was on the Mount Sinai School Board, and I was the only School Board member who said there should not be chemical spraying on our fields and our school district. And I was the only one that said, okay, I know TCE, which is a derivative of Agent Orange, should not be on our ball fields, should not be in our schools. No one supported me, and the local newspaper put -- Times Record said, you know, Sarah Anker's -- you know, thumbs down. "Green Thumbs Down to Sarah Anker." Green thumbs down, because they didn't support me. They -- you know, they said unless it's mandated by the State, unless it's mandated by the State, the school districts can continue -- the school districts can continue to put down pesticides, unless it's mandated by the State.

Okay. Buy, anyway, so I didn't give up, though. And you know what I did? I eventually left the school board and I decided to run for public office, and look where I am today. And I encourage you and all you guys out there to do the same thing. If you truly believe that you want to make the world a better place, you know, go for it, and that's why you're here. But again, sometimes you got to pull back on the reins, not too long, and not to the point where you've completely stopped and

nothing's getting done, but at least to the point where other people can catch up with you.

So again, I keep saying I'm going to stop. I will stop speaking. And I appreciate everyone coming out here. And again, I encourage you to continue to do -- follow your passion, follow your ability to, you know, try to make a difference. I would really like to get a letter -- get letters out and continue the campaign to make sure that people that may be polluting our skies are no longer doing that. And let's not let it take, you know, more than 50 years, as we've seen in other -- with other industrial situations, whether it's water or land, but let's work on the skies. And I appreciate you coming out here. Thanks.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Jack, one minute. I guess Sarah was asked, our Counsel was asked about the legalities of us being able to enforce it. But in defense of our Counsel, when it comes to any legislation that is drafted, very often they're asked to draft legislation, and have been advised -- many of the Legislators can be advised whether we can actually enforce this and -- however, the Legislature -- Legislator has a right to say to that -- to the Counsel, no matter what the advice is, "Yes, I want to bill." So I do want to speak in defense of Counsel, that -- because I know Vivian had said, "Well, they should never have drafted it." So I just want to make sure the people are aware that they do what they're told. And so, Sarah, go ahead.

MS. SIMPSON:

From a jurisdictional standpoint, we are preempted by State and Federal law in this area and cannot pass this bill in this current form.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you. Legislator Eddington.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Originally, I was going to start off by asking Sarah to pass over whatever she's drinking over there, but --

*(*Laughter*)*

LEG. ANKER:

Water, water.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Okay. You know, as a clinical social worker, I look at it -- at you guys, because I don't consider myself a politician, I'm a clinical social worker working in government for the last six years. And my perception of what I saw in the audience when Sarah was talking is, okay, another group of uncaring, useless politicians, and that bothers me. Your body language says a lot. I don't want you to feel that you've been betrayed by us.

You know, a lot of times groups come here and all they really want is a cheerleader for their side, because then the other side comes and they ask us the same thing. And the responsible Legislators have to make the right decision based on all our information, and we're getting information from our experts that are here. And I think that you came here, and I'm not going to blame anybody for psyching you up, but I think there were unreasonable expectations on us. But that doesn't mean that we can't do something. I mean, what I've heard is, I heard the alphabet. You know, we got the DEC, and the FAA, and all these other -- well, if they make the decisions, then we should get their butts in the chair here and have them listen to what you're saying. I mean, we can't force

them to listen to you in the State, but we can force them to listen to you in our arena, so that there are things that we can do. And I would say that I've known -- I've known Legislator Browning for a long time. She wants to solve problems. This is an unsuccessful attempt, it's not a failure. We've got to come at it from another strategy. All right? It's not that we don't want to do it, we are basically being told we can't, but it doesn't mean we can't figure out another way. We can be successful.

You've already complimented us on how successful we have been in other areas. That's when we all work together and not leave saying, "Oh, screw those guys, they don't want to help." That's not the -- I don't want you to leave that way. We want clean air, we want healthy people, but how are we going to do it? And I'm telling you that we can solve it. This committee can get together with you guys, and if we have to bring people here and have them listen to testimony, then that's what we can do, but this isn't over. You know what I mean? I used to box in the Navy. This is round one.

*(*Applause*)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Thank you, Legislator Eddington. And I guess I'll finish up with -- you know, Mr. Meyer, I have depended on you and the Health Department for the air quality of the compost facilities in my district. I thought that the report that our Health Department made was an excellent report. However, the State stepped in and said, "It's not good enough." And we have asked them to do air quality tests and to date they have not. And, more than likely, this is a State issue. It is a State issue. It's a Federal issue more than a County issue. But I think what we're trying to do here is push the envelope in trying to get the State and the Federal Government to step up, you know, because we do pass legislation here and, you know, they'll say, "Oh, it's" -- you know, "It's not our jurisdiction." But we want to push the issue and give it some attention.

And I appreciate everybody coming out. We have heard a lot of testimony on this. I don't disagree with you. I don't agree with everybody and everything that everyone said, but I agree with a lot of what you say. You're definitely correct on a lot of your information, and I think, you know, you just have to look at the polar ice caps and, you know, how it's melting, and, you know, the weather is whacky. You know, why is this? You know, there is some serious problems. But again, our Federal Government has to dress that, and I don't know how we're going to -- I don't know how we can do it.

I look -- you know, just real quick. When you look at the bill and, you know, again, not having specifics in the bill, and how would the Health Department -- what companies are -- who releases barium, sulfur -- barium salts or aluminum oxide? I mean, do we have companies that, you know, release these types of chemicals that we could control or put some kind of regulation on?

MR. MEYERS:

Yes, we could we. Could control stationary sources for, you know, barium, sulfur, other compounds. I mean, I think if you're going to, though, start an air pollution program, you want to look at what contaminants you want to regulate. Are these the right ones to regulate to start a whole program?

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Well, I am disappointed that we didn't get the specifics in this bill. However, I appreciate your time. And I think what I would like to do, in the interest of time, and everyone who has been sitting here and been very patient, I'd actually like to take 2029 out of order. So I'll make that motion. Do I have a second?

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Second, Legislator Eddington. And on the motion, *(2029) Adopting a Local Law to protect air quality in Suffolk County (Romaine)*. I'll make the motion to approve. Do I have a second? Okay. Do I have a second? I do not have a second. Okay. With -- having made that motion and no second, the bill does fail. **(Vote: Fails for Lack of a Second)**

And so for everyone who is here, you know, reach out to the sponsor. And I think that it would be in his best interest to push the issue with our State and Federal representatives. And I would certainly join him in sending any kind of letters, or whatever it is that we need to do to help you.

(*Applause*)

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

Okay. *1913, tabled resolution, establishing a Legislative Committee to provide guidance and streamline the permitting process for wastewater and food services (Anker)*. What's the -- Sarah?

LEG. ANKER:

Table.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Legislator Anker has made a motion to table; I'll second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It's tabled. **(Vote: Tabled 5-0-0-0)**

1922 - Adopting a Local Law to ensure the integrity and legibility of prescription labels in Suffolk County (Cooper). I'll make a motion to table.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Second, Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It's tabled. **(Vote: Tabled 5-0-0-0)**

2003 - Adopting a Local Law to facilitate emergency housing of sex offenders in non-residential areas (Schneiderman). I'll make a motion to approve. Do I have a second? We don't have a second?

LEG. ANKER:

(Raised hand).

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Second by Legislator Anker. All in favor? Opposed? Oh, do you have a question?

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. Go ahead.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Does this have anything to do with closing the trailers out in Southampton?

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

This has to do -- well, do you want to -- yeah, sorry.

MS. SIMPSON:

Back in 2010, we passed a law to stop the voucher program and go to a community housing system where there would be no more than six sex offenders in an individual shelter. There would be more supervision than there is out in the jails and the facilities we have in the jail. What this resolution does is it allows for shelter providers who would be willing to work with the County to be exempted from the zoning requirements that currently exist, which would allow them to, say, site the shelters in industrial areas away from residential communities. It also relieves them a little bit of the liability that may come with siting.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Is there a second?

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

There was a motion and a second.

LEG. ANKER:

I'll take that back.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Then I'll second it.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. So I guess I made the motion and there was a second, Legislator Viloría-Fisher. All in favor? Opposed?

LEG. ANKER:

Opposed.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Opposed.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Abstentions? Okay. Two oppositions. *(Vote: Approved 3-2-0-0 Opposed: Legs. Anker and Kennedy)*

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. *2032 - Adopting a Local Law to increase medical examiner fees (Presiding Officer).*
Do I have a motion?

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Second, Legislator Kennedy. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It's approved. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

Introductory Resolutions: **2066 - Appropriating funds for the purchase of equipment for Medical, Legal Investigations and Forensic Sciences (CP 1132) (Co. Exec.).** I'll make a motion to approve. Second?

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It's approved. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

2067 - Amending the Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds for the Brownfields Program, former Blue Point Laundry Site (CP 8223) (Co. Exec.).

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Motion to approve, Legislator Eddington.

LEG. ANKER:

Question.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Question, Legislator Anker.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

I'll second that.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

And second, Legislator Viloría-Fisher. And on the question, Legislator Anker.

LEG. ANKER:

The Brownfields Program, now that's looking at Blue Point Cleaner. Have we looked into seeing if that can be designated as a superfund site?

MR. DAWYDIK:

Walter Dawydiak, Acting Director of Environmental Quality. This is a legacy site that the County took ownership of a number of years ago. The contamination on that site is no fault of our own, but we are responsible for cleaning it up. Right now, it's in a voluntary cleanup phase with the State, and this is the fastest and cheapest way for the County to get this done. Superfund could theoretically potentially be an option. Right now it's under spills, which is the best way to go from our perspective. So we want to go ahead, accelerate, get this property back on the tax rolls and get it cleaned up. So, no, it wasn't formally looked at, because that would take longer and be

significantly more expensive for us.

LEG. ANKER:

Okay. So there's no way of getting funds from the Federal Government to help clean the site up at this point?

MR. DAWYDIAK:

In this case, it being in a spills program, I think it's unlikely that it would even qualify for superfund. Jim?

MR. MEYERS:

We did apply to the Brownfields Program, actually, twice; one time to do further investigation. The State denied that, saying that the previous work they was sufficient. We submitted again to do a cleanup. At that point, the program ran out of funding and they denied the application. There's been no further funding since then, so --

MR. DAWYDIAK:

Just to clarify, Brownfields would be the State funding, not the Federal Government. And they were out of money to support this, so the County has to do it on our own dime.

LEG. ANKER:

So does the County -- is the County having to pay for cleanup? Is there a specific requirement that the County clean up some of these spills versus State or Federal?

MR. MEYERS:

This is a County property, so we are liable for cleaning it up. I don't know if you realize that.

LEG. ANKER:

Okay. Yes.

MR. MEYERS:

It is a County property and it's being done basically as regulatory action by the DEC.

LEG. ANKER:

All right. I didn't realize it was County property. But if it was a private business or some other that the County did not own, then the County would not be responsible for cleaning it up?

MR. DAWYDIAK:

That's correct.

LEG. ANKER:

All right. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. So we had a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It's approved. *(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).*

2102 - Authorizing the County Comptroller -- oh, sorry, 2071. I'm sorry, I past one. ***(2071) Amending Resolution No. 1357-2007, amended by Resolution Nos. 685-2008 and 547-2009 in connection with the Brownfields Program (CP 8223.111) (County Executive).***
Do we want to make same motion, same second, same vote?

LEG. ANKER:

Can I ask the same question?

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

What's your question?

LEG. ANKER:

Same question.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

2071.

LEG. ANKER:

Can I ask a question?

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Go ahead.

LEG. ANKER:

What is the situation with this particular site? This is -- are we getting State funding for this one?

MR. FREAS:

Yes, we have some set State funding under this site. This resolution actually changes some of the funding stream and authorizes -- it's bond anticipation notes versus regular bonds because of the potential of State DEC reimbursement for the site, some of the funding.

DR. TOMARKEN:

This is receiving money.

MR. FREAS:

Yes.

DR. TOMARKEN:

We're receiving money.

LEG. ANKER:

Oh, we're receiving money.

DR. TOMARKEN:

Yeah, a check.

MR. FREAS:

Yeah, but it also authorizes us to sell the anticipation notes because we haven't gotten the money yet.

LEG. ANKER:

Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. So do we still want to go with the same motion or no? I'm okay with same motion, same second. Okay. Same motion, same second, same vote. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

2102 - Authorizing the County Comptroller and County Treasurer to transfer equipment

and approving an increase of two vehicles in the fleet for the Suffolk County Department of Social Services (County Executive). Real quick, what are these cars for? Ed, do you know? Who are they for should be --

MR. HERNANDEZ:

They're for the Family and Children's Services Division.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay.

MR. HERNANDEZ:

Picking up foster kids, transporting clients, and that's it.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Thank you. Motion by Legislator Viloría-Fisher; I'll second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It's approved. *(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).*

2111- To appoint member to the Teen Pregnancy Advisory Board (Denise Ferrera) (Viloria-Fisher). Is she a new appointment or --

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Yes, but --

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Oh.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

Your office didn't contact them.

MR. SLAUGHTER:

Tuesday they're coming.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

They're going to come Tuesday.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Well, my office has called them to tell them that -- to inform them that they hadn't been called, so could they come Tuesday.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

I guess they can. Is that the same for the other ones, Josh?

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

All of them. None of them were called.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Oh, okay. So I guess we'll -- do you want to make a discharge motion to approve?

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

If we can just approve them.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

I'm okay with that.

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

And that way they can be before us on Tuesday.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Okay. So a motion --

D.P.O. VILORIA-FISHER:

I'll make that motion.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

-- by Legislator Viloria-Fisher; I'll second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Okay. It's approved. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Same motion for 2112.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Same for **2112 - To appoint member to the Teen Pregnancy Advisory Board (Marcia Spector) (Viloria-Fisher)**. Same motion, same second, same vote. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

2113 - To appoint member to the Teen Pregnancy Advisory Board (Gina D'Andrea Weatherup) (Viloria-Fisher). Same motion, same second, same vote. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

2115 - To appoint member to the Teen Pregnancy Advisory Board (Judy Cummings) (Viloria-Fisher). Same motion, same second, same vote. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

(2139) Appropriating funds for the purchase of equipment for the Environmental Health -- I'm going to say that word again -- **Laboratory (CP 4079) and for the purchase of equipment for groundwater monitoring and well drilling (CP 8226) (Presiding Officer Lindsay)**.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Laboratory.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Sorry. I'll make that motion.

LEG. ANKER:

Question.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

And do we have a second? Somebody have a second?

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Second, Legislator Viloría-Fisher. Question on the --

LEG. ANKER:

What is that equipment for?

MR. DAWYDIAK:

Ron Huttie from our lab I think may still be around over here, but, basically, there's a couple of pieces of equipment that we need. We need an uninterrupted power supply to protect the integrity of the electronic circuitry of a lot of a lot of the high-tech equipment. We also need to replace an extraction unit for pesticide and semi-volatile sampling, for a total cost of \$85,000. These are regularly scheduled replacements that are consistent with our capital project request.

LEG. ANKER:

And it's in the budget, right? It's already --

MR. DAWYDIAK:

Correct.

LEG. ANKER:

Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Yeah. I believe this is some of the ones that were already in our Capital Budget that the Presiding Officer put forward because the County Executive did not. 2155 -- oh, sorry. We had a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It's approved. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

2155 - Appropriating funds in connection with the purchase of equipment for the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility (CP 4041) (Presiding Officer).

LEG. KENNEDY:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

I'll make a motion -- motion to approve, Legislator Kennedy.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Second, Legislator Eddington. I'd like to cosponsor it.

LEG. VILORIA-FISHER:

Capital Project 4041.

CHAIRPERSON BROWNING:

Yes. I'd like to be a cosponsor on that, please. So all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? It is approved. **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0).**

And before we go, I did mention that -- want to mention this, but I received an article. It talks about nurses being ranked as the most trusted profession, yet again. Nurses maintain their dominance to top Gallop's annual poll in trustworthy professions, topping the list for the twelfth time in thirteen years they have been included. And I believe the only year that they did not was in 9/11, when the fire departments were ranked. So I want to say congratulations to our nurses, and thank you for their service. Thank you.

And with that, I'll make a motion to adjourn; second, Legislator Vilorio-Fisher. We are adjourned.

(*THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:21 P.M.*)