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**HEALTH COMMITTEE**  
**OF THE**  
**SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE**  
**MINUTES**

A meeting of the Health 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 June 2, 2022 via Zoom and in-person.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Leg. Leslie Kennedy, Chairperson  
Leg. Stephanie Bontempi, Vice Chair  
Leg. Bridget Fleming  
Leg. Tom Donnelly  
Leg. Dominick Thorne  
Leg. Manuel Esteban

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

William Duffy, Counsel to the Legislature  
Frank Tassone, Clerk of the Legislature  
Brett Robinson, Chief Deputy Clerk/Legislature  
Rosalind Gazes, Budget Review Office  
Erika Hershberger, Aide to Leg. Kennedy  
Greg Atherton, Aide to Leg. Bontempi  
Chris DeLuca, Aide to PO  
Ali Nazir, Aide to PO  
Walter Dawydiak, Director of Water Quality/Health Services  
Michelle Zarifis, County Executive's Office  
Sal DeAngelo, public speaker  
And all other interested parties

**MINUTES TAKEN BY:**

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

1 THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 2:39 PM

2  
3 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

4 Good afternoon. Welcome to the Health Committee. Please stand for  
5 the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Bontempi.

6  
7 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

8  
9 Please stand for a moment of silence for the victims of the Buffalo  
10 and Texas shootings and for the military people who gave their  
11 lives to protect us.

12  
13 **MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED**

14  
15 Okay. Mr. Clerk, please, call the roll.

16  
17 (Roll call by Chief Deputy Clerk Robinson)

18  
19 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

20 Present.

21  
22 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

23 Present.

24  
25 **LEG. FLEMING:**

26 Present. Good afternoon.

27  
28 **LEG. THORNE:**

29 Present. Thank you.

30  
31 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

32 Present.

33  
34 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

35 Present.

36  
37 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

38 Six.

39  
40 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

41 Thank you. Do we have any correspondence?

42  
43 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

44 All correspondence has been distributed accordingly, Madam  
45 Chairwoman.

46  
47 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

48 Thank you, sir. It appears to me that we have one speaker, Sal  
49 DeAngelo. Are you here? Come on down.

50  
51 **SAL DeANGELO:**

52 Last week I presented the landscaping rebate program and asked the  
53 Health Department to sponsor or support a measure to amend the  
54 Suffolk County codes to require transition to battery-powered lawn  
55 equipment especially if the Governor signs the bill that's -- it's  
56 on her desk.

1  
2 Today I ask you to support another proposed state senate bill  
3 S1113A by Senator Lew to eliminate the use of gas leaf blowers from  
4 May to September starting in 2023 or 2024. Whether this bill makes  
5 it to the Governor or not -- Governor's desk or not, I ask that you  
6 take the initiative to eliminate the use of gas leaf blowers from  
7 May to September. This will improve the quality of life in Suffolk  
8 County; improve the health of the operator and the public by  
9 significantly reducing carbon and greenhouse gases, because these  
10 two stroke engines are very polluting. It will reduce noise in our  
11 communities. The County will be doing its part to address climate  
12 change and carbon emissions if it takes this initiative.

13  
14 And the second comment that I would like to make is I believe that  
15 the greatest need is to have a separate -- this is in regard to the  
16 mental health and physical health advisory committee -- I think the  
17 greatest need is to have just a mental health advisory committee  
18 separate from physical health. That's what's needed the most. And  
19 that's my comments.

20  
21 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

22 Thank you, Mr. DeAngelo. Just wondering -- hold on, one question  
23 -- just wondering if you know if there's a matching Assembly bill  
24 for the gas leaf blower?

25  
26 **SAL DeANGELO:**

27 I think there is, but I can't swear to it.

28  
29 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

30 Okay. That's fine.

31  
32 **SAL DeANGELO:**

33 I'll look for it.

34  
35 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

36 Does anyone else have questions? No?

37  
38 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

39 (Indicating)

40  
41 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

42 Yes.

43  
44 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

45 How are the commercial grade ones, lawnmowers -- because I'm  
46 thinking about my landscaper, he tells me his gas bill has gone up  
47 astronomically. He's spending a thousand five hundred dollars a  
48 week on gas. And he increased rates on all his customers, myself  
49 significantly. So you have landscapers. Are they going to have to  
50 go out and buy new equipment? And what do they do with the current  
51 equipment and the implementation timeframe of this? I could see if  
52 you say this will be phased in the year 2026, but to say it's going  
53 to be phased in 2023, you know, it comes down like a hammer. And a  
54 lot of our landscapers are small business owners. And if this is  
55 pushed on them too quickly, they're just going to raise prices  
56 again.

1  
2 So I like the concept, but I think if you try to phase it in more  
3 for the year 2027, you'll have less push back. And it gives the  
4 landscapers time to prepare and save and -- not just that, you  
5 know, strategize. They get to figure out which equipment they want  
6 to buy. See what I'm saying?

7  
8 **SAL DeANGELO:**

9 Yeah, many municipalities have banned -- large municipalities,  
02:44PM 10 including Washington DC, have banned the total use of gas leaf  
11 blowers permanently. Now, what we're asking for is to see a ban  
12 from May to September during the summer months where either they  
13 don't use the blowers at all or they purchase a battery-operated  
14 blower, so -- yes?

15  
16 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

17 So you're just referring to leaf blowers for now?

18  
19 **SAL DeANGELO:**

02:44PM 20 Gas leaf blowers.

21  
22 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

23 My apologies. I thought you were also talking about lawnmowers.

24  
25 **SAL DeANGELO:**

26 That's a separate bill, which I spoke of last week. And that bill  
27 is requiring -- would give a rebate to all landscaping equipment.  
28 That's why I suggested that -- to phase it in until 2025 and 2026.  
29 So, for example, the leaf blower that costs, for example, \$320  
02:45PM 30 that's recommended by consumers reports, one of the better ones,  
31 that would cost -- with the rebate program, that would cost a  
32 person \$120 to purchase that because you get a \$200 rebate for a  
33 gas leaf blower. For lawn equipment like a lawnmower, you would  
34 get \$300 rebate. So it's a great incentive to have people start to  
35 transition over.

36  
37 So there are two separate issues that we're talking about. That's  
38 the one I wanted for '25, '26 because I do recognize you have to  
39 phase in. This one I'm talking about, I think, would be good for  
02:45PM 40 either next summer or the summer after. Now, in the Town of  
41 Huntington we've been fighting for this for nine years. This has  
42 been going on for nine years. And I hope we get a little more  
43 progress this year because we're still working on it. But there  
44 may be -- you know, with some of these things there may be some  
45 exceptions for sit-down lawnmowers and things like that. But for  
46 actual smaller push behind lawn equipment, trimmers, chainsaws, all  
47 those would be involved in that major landscaping program where the  
48 rebate programs would be a great thing. So, that would really  
49 justify making major changes in the Suffolk County codes.

02:46PM 50  
51 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

52 I represent large areas of Huntington. I live in Huntington, so --

53  
54 **SAL DeANGELO:**

55 Yes.

1 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

2 -- I certainly am not going to go against my constituents. I  
3 support this.

4  
5 **SAL DeANGELO:**

6 Oh, thank you.

7  
8 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

9 I just want it to be successful and not have pushback. And  
10 oftentimes we try to implement things too quickly, then, you end up  
11 with nothing. So I'm just saying consider some compromise here.  
12 And in my experience I've had electric leaf blowers and they just  
13 don't have that power. And I'm just not sure how these battery  
14 ones are going to work, especially for landscaping crew that's out  
15 there working ten-hour days.

16  
17 **SAL DeANGELO:**

18 Have you had it for a while now? Because the new -- the new ones  
19 are much much efficient. And, in fact, even consumers reports now  
20 recommends that you purchase all battery-powered equipment. They  
21 feel that the consumer reports articles I've read, and I've done a  
22 whole analysis, said that they are as effective, if not more  
23 effective, than gas-powered. And they're, you know, less  
24 pollutant.

25  
26 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

27 I'll tell you what, I'd love to see one of these so maybe we could  
28 schedule a time and --

29  
30 **SAL DeANGELO:**

31 Okay.

32  
33 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

34 Go leaf blow.

35  
36 **SAL DeANGELO:**

37 All right. Okay, thank you.

38  
39 **APPOINTMENT RESOLUTIONS**

40  
41 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

42 Thank you. Is there anybody else that wishes to speak? Okay,  
43 seeing none, we'll move onto Appointment Resolutions. **1410,**  
44 **Appointing member to the Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Task**  
45 **Force Stephanie Henriques, LMSW. (Richberg).**

46  
47 **LEG. FLEMING:**

48 I'll make a motion to approve.

49  
50 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

51 Okay. Does she have to be here since she's being appointed for the  
52 first time or no?

53  
54 **COUNSEL DUFFY:**

55 It's your call.

1 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
2 Oh, it's my call. Okay. Go ahead, we'll take your motion.  
3 Anybody have a second?

4  
5 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**  
6 I'll second.

7  
8 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
9 Okay. All right. All in favor? Opposed? Any abstentions? Okay.

02:48PM

10  
11 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**  
12 Six. (VOTE: 6-0-0-0)

13  
14 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
15 That is approved. 1410 is approved. There are no presentations,  
16 no Tabled Resolutions.

17  
18 **INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS**

02:48PM

19  
20 Moving onto Introductory Resolutions, 1392, Amending the 2022  
21 Adopted Operating Budget to accept and appropriate \$74,000 in 100%  
22 Federal pass-through Aid from the New York State Office of Mental  
23 Health (NYS OMH) for workforce development. (Co.Exec.).

24  
25 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**  
26 Motion and move for the consent calendar.

27  
28 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
29 Okay. Anybody on a second?

02:49PM

30  
31 **LEG. DONNELLY:**  
32 Second.

33  
34 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
35 Second Legislator Donnelly. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

36  
37 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**  
38 Six. (VOTE: 6-0-0-0)

39  
40 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
41 Okay, 1392 is approved. Okay, 1414, Establishing a Mental and  
42 Physical Health Advisory Board. (Gonzalez).

43  
44 **LEG. FLEMING:**  
45 Motion to approve.

46  
47 **LEG. THORNE:**  
48 Motion to table.

49  
50 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**  
51 And on the motion.

52  
53 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
54 Okay, we have to -- we have a motion to approve and a motion to  
55 table. Is that what you said?

1 **LEG. THORNE:**  
2 That's what I said, Chairwoman.

3  
4 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
5 Who said that? Dominick. Okay, Dominick. Do we have seconds on  
6 either of those?

7  
8 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**  
9 I second the motion to approve.

02:49PM 10  
11 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
12 Okay. Is there a second on the motion to table?

13  
14 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**  
15 Also on the motion.

16  
17 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
18 There's no second on the motion to table.

19  
20 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**  
21 (Indicating)

22  
23 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
24 Legislator Bontempi has the first question on that.

25  
26 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**  
27 So, I agree with the gentleman that was just up here and spoke  
28 about -- you mention that they should really be separated the  
29 mental and physical parts. I agree. I think we need mental health  
02:50PM 30 initiatives. We need to do a lot on mental health. I am just  
31 worried that we group them together and then the focus is not on  
32 the mental health piece.

33  
34 So I would love to hear a little bit more about what this entails,  
35 if possible. And then also advisory boards, I think, we have a  
36 million advisory boards and I'm afraid that we're creating another  
37 advisory board that possibly won't actually -- you know, I don't  
38 know how much we will -- how this will exactly work. I guess I  
39 just need more information about this. That's really what I'm  
02:51PM 40 saying.

41  
42 **COUNSEL DUFFY:**  
43 You should second his motion to table.

44  
45 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
46 Do you want to do that?

47  
48 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**  
49 Yeah.

50  
51 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
52 Okay.

53  
54 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**  
55 So I'll second the motion to table, then, I guess.

1 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

2 Okay. We have a motion to approve and a second; and a motion to  
3 table and a second.

4  
5 **LEG. THORNE:**

6 Chairwoman, on the motion?

7  
8 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

9 Okay, go ahead, Legislator Thorne.

02:51PM 10

11 **LEG. THORNE:**

12 Thank you so much. I'm reading 1414 and let me be very clear. I  
13 have great respect for Legislator Gonzalez. But if you go into the  
14 second part of the resolution, subpart seven, it represented the  
15 Brentwood Union Free School District and the Board of Education  
16 must be appointed by the chairman. Why are we singling out one  
17 school district to sit on a countywide board? I'm a little  
18 confused about that. I mean, I'm confused of the overall bill  
19 knowing I believe it's great intentioned. I'm a little confused as  
20 to why would we single out one school district. And this is why  
21 I'm asking to table it so we can work on this a little bit better.

02:52PM 22

23 And, furthermore, I'm not so happy with telling people how they  
24 should live. As far as mental health, as I agree with my  
25 colleague, Miss Bontempi, you know, these are two separate  
26 subjects. And though they do collide in one's body -- I just think  
27 the bill needs a little more work. I'm not slamming it because  
28 Sammy put it up. I just don't know why we're putting one school  
29 district in and maybe not the other. I'm just confused as to why  
30 that would happen. We're writing a county law, not a local law --  
31 not a law for the Brentwood area. I just got some issues with it.  
32 So that's why I'm asking it be tabled, maybe we could work to find  
33 some resolution to some of these questions.

02:52PM 34

35 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

36 Thank you, Legislator Thorne. Legislator Esteban.

37  
38 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

39 Yes. I remove my motion to accept. And I think it is good to  
40 table this for further discussion. I respect Legislator Gonzalez  
41 very much. And the intention with this, I support it. I just  
42 would like to hear more about the rationale why we're putting  
43 together mental and physical. I completely understand, right, we  
44 all know that mental health affects physical health and vice versa  
45 but let's just give Legislator Gonzalez a chance to -- or his  
46 colleagues to work on this.

02:52PM 47

48 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

49 Okay. The table motion goes first.

02:53PM 50

51 **LEG. FLEMING:**

52 On the motion, Madam Chair?

53  
54 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

55 Sorry.



1 **LEG. FLEMING:**

2 Yep, no worries. So, I wonder -- I'm a little confused at the  
3 resistance of, you know, volunteers. This is a non-compensated  
4 board that, I think, the Legislative intent is, you know, spells  
5 out that the purpose of it is to recognize that mental and physical  
6 health are linked and that, you know, there are real needs in terms  
7 of mental health in our communities. I think volunteer --  
8 volunteer members of the community who want to participate -- you  
9 know, it offers resources. I don't see the downside of offering  
02:54PM 10 resources to, you know, the strapped resources, you know, of -- for  
11 instance, paid county staff, you know. We've certainly seen on the  
12 East End -- you know, and as the mother of a teenager I've  
13 personally seen how challenging the past couple of years have been.  
14 You know, you just -- between your phone constantly giving you bad  
15 news that -- we just at the beginning of this session, you know,  
16 had a moment of silence for two mass shootings and there was a  
17 third since that in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

18  
19 So, I mean, there are real strains coming out COVID and we've got a  
02:54PM 20 war in Ukraine. You know, if there are folks who are committed to  
21 looking at the relationship between mental and physical health and  
22 they're working on a volunteer basis, you know, I would urge you to  
23 support Legislator Gonzalez' efforts to optimize that willingness  
24 to serve the public. And if there's a question about a particular  
25 school board -- I mean -- or school district, may I suggest that we  
26 discharge this and ask Legislator Gonzalez to give, you know,  
27 further information to Legislator Thorne on that issue. Because  
28 this has obviously been put together with care and it's addressing  
29 a real issue. I don't think anybody denies that there are, you  
02:55PM 30 know, acute mental health issues in our communities right now, much  
31 more than before the pandemic.

32  
33 So I wonder if those who are objecting would be acceptable -- would  
34 accept a motion to discharge and allow Legislator Gonzalez to  
35 follow up before the General Meeting.

36  
37 **LEG. THORNE:**  
38 Madam Chair?

39  
40 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

41 Hold on one second, Legislator Thorne. Go ahead, Legislator  
42 Bontempi.

43  
44 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

45 So, I just hope here that -- you know, I also am the mother of a  
46 teenager and of two slightly older children. So I very well am  
47 aware of the mental health issues that have been associated with  
48 COVID and everything that's going on. So by no means should my  
49 questioning of this be construed as if I don't understand the very  
02:56PM 50 sever issue in this country in general about mental health. So, I  
51 just want to put that on the record. This has nothing to do with  
52 that. I am much a proponent of mental health initiatives.

53  
54 My question was simply that I don't think we should group them  
55 together. We need to focus on mental health. That's what we need  
56 to focus on. So I really wanted to get some more information about

1 that. So I just wanted to put that on the record.

2

3 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

4 Okay, thank you. Legislator Thorne.

5

6 **LEG. THORNE:**

7 Let me be abundantly clear. And I appreciate Legislator Fleming's  
8 concern. I'm not necessarily against this bill. And I have great  
9 respect for Sammy that he cares for all people. My concern is that  
02:57PM 10 we as Legislators serve all people of all zip codes irregardless of  
11 where they come from. And I don't know why in line seven it's  
12 singling out one particular district -- school district. I don't  
13 think it's a good idea. Do I support the bill overall? Yes. Do I  
14 think that Sammy -- correction -- Legislator Gonzalez has put a lot  
15 of care and love into this? Absolutely. Do I think he cares about  
16 everybody in the County? Absolutely. But wording is important.  
17 And if we table it and we give him a chance, Legislator Gonzalez,  
18 or Legislator Richberg to repair maybe to make consistencies or  
19 give me a better explanation that I am missing, then I'm all in  
02:57PM 20 favor of it.

21

22 But I am going to stand by my resolution to -- my request to table  
23 this resolution until we get answers to those questions. And it's  
24 not -- and let me be clear -- it is not whether he sits on one side  
25 of the party or other, because I would hope that you know I don't  
26 sit that way, as I supported your bill. But at the end of the day  
27 I just want answers to questions. And that's my job. So I just  
28 want to be clear on it. That's all. And I have great respect for  
29 Sammy. I think he's a wonderful person. Thank you. I yield back.

30

31 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

32 Okay. I was just told that we already have a mental health  
33 advisory board so the purpose of tabling would be to kind of see  
34 how we can join these together. Do you still want to put in for a  
35 discharge without recommendation, Legislator Fleming?

36

37 **LEG. FLEMING:**

38 No, I was testing it, you know, to see if there'd be an acceptance  
39 just in respect for the sponsors. But I'll just let my motion to  
02:59PM 40 approve stand. Thank you, Leslie.

41

42 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

43 Okay. We will move onto the tabling. All in favor of tabling this  
44 bill for readjustments? And all opposed? Any abstentions?

45

46 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

47 Six. (VOTE: 6-0-0-0)

48

49 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

02:59PM 50 Okay. This bill is tabled for some refining. **1417, Adopting Local**  
51 **Law No. (-2022,) A Local Law to regulate the packaging of**  
52 **cannabis (marijuana) products to dissuade its appeal to children.**  
53 **(Hahn).** This has to be tabled for a public hearing so I'll make  
54 that motion.

55

56

1 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

2 Second.

3

4 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

5 Thank you, Legislator Donnelly, for the second. All in favor?

6 Opposed? Abstentions?

7

8 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

9 Six. (VOTE: 6-0-0-0)

02:59PM 10

11 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

12 So 1417 is approved. Okay. 1410, Creating trauma informed  
13 policies in Suffolk County. (Hahn).

14

15 **LEG. FLEMING:**

16 Motion to approve.

17

18 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

19 Does anyone -- do we have a second?

03:00PM 20

21 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

22 On the motion?

23

24 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

25 Thank you. Yeah, we need a second. Does anyone want to do  
26 anything else? A tabling if they don't want to do a second.

27

28 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

29 We have somebody from Health on this?

03:00PM 30

31 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

32 That's what we need. Is there anybody here from Health? No.

33

34 **MR. DeLUCA:**

35 There's people on Zoom.

36

37 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

38 I don't see them. Okay, so then -- I have some questions, also.

39 I'm going to make a motion to table this so that we can question

03:01PM 40

41 this at a later time and see if we can make just a couple of minor  
42 changes to this.

42

43 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

44 Leslie, if I could? I'll go along with the tabling just because

45 there's some questions for Health. The way I'm reading this

46 resolution it's more of an SOP that would kind of come from the

47 executive branch and the Health Department through the medical

48 director. So I think we need a little bit of clarification.

49

50 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

51 We do.

52

53 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

54 Not that it's a bad thing. I just --

55

56

1 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
2 It's not a bad thing.

3  
4 **LEG. DONNELLY:**  
5 It's just gotta be clarified a little better.

6  
7 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
8 Okay. So on the motion --

9  
10 **MS. ZARAFIS:**  
11 Excuse me, Legislators, sorry, if I may speak? We did have Walt  
12 on. I don't know if there was just a technical issue. If you can  
13 hear us, if he's muted.

14  
15 **DIRECTOR DAWYDIAK:**  
16 I'm sorry, Walt is here. I'm here for 1430, which is the PEHL. I  
17 believe Jen Culp was on for this one. I'll see if I can get her by  
18 cell phone. She must have dropped off for emergency. Right now  
19 you're on 1417?

03:02PM

20  
21 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
22 1419.

23  
24 **DIRECTOR DAWYDIAK:**  
25 1419, I'm sorry. Okay. I'll see if I can text her to find out why  
26 she dropped off.

03:02PM

27  
28 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
29 Okay. In the interim we'll move onto 1430 while you're -- well,  
30 you're not here. You're making a phone call. So we'll just hold  
31 for a couple of minutes while someone gets back to us.

32  
33 **MS. ZARIFIS?**  
34 Sorry, I actually -- if I may, Legislator, I just received an  
35 e-mail from Jen Culp. This is not Health's bill. It is Legislator  
36 Hahn's.

37  
38 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
39 Hahn's.

40  
41 **MS. ZARIFIS:**  
42 They were -- and they were not consulted, so.

43  
44 **LEG. DONNELLY:**  
45 Motion to table.

03:02PM

46  
47 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
48 Oh, yeah, motion to table. Second. We need to find some answers  
49 from Health and get them in for some involvement. So let's take a  
50 a vote on the tabling. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

51  
52 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**  
53 Six. (VOTE: 6-0-0-0)

54  
55 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**  
56 Six. Okay. 1419 is tabled for some revisions. And are you back,

1 Walt?

2

3 **DIRECTOR DAWYDIAK:**

4 Yes, Walt here. Good afternoon.

5

6 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

7 Hi. Can we go to 1430, Appropriating PAYGO funds in connection  
8 with Environmental Health Laboratory Equipment (CP 4079). (Co.  
9 Exec.). Anybody want to make the motion?

10

11 (Legislator Donnelly exited the auditorium)

12

13 **LEG. FLEMING:**

14 (Indicating)

15

16 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

17 Okay, Legislator Fleming. I'll second. Go ahead, Mr. Dawydiak.  
18 Please let us know what's going on.

19

20 **DIRECTOR DAWYDIAK:**

21 So good afternoon, Legislator Kennedy, and members of the  
22 Committee. This is a standard annual appropriation of our 2022  
23 capital budget. This year it's not via bonding. It's via PAYGO  
24 funds. We are requesting \$300,000, which is our pre-budgeted  
25 amount. It was authorized by the Legislature in the '22 to '24  
26 budget. And it's also reflected in this year's amount in the  
27 budget that's coming before you as a proposed budget for 2023  
28 through 5.

29

03:04PM

30 So, it's already been authorized and approved. The equipment list  
31 is substantially the same as that which was submitted in the  
32 Capital Program with minor modifications. We have seven different  
33 pieces of equipment that are used for various phases of laboratory  
34 operations. All are well in excess of ten years old and are at the  
35 end of their useful life. Our lab does a good job in tracking  
36 annual needs. As things exceed ten years and need replacement,  
37 they go into this annual capital replenishment fund and Natalia  
38 Medvedeva is our current lab director, who's done a great job  
39 keeping backlogs in check as well as operations in the lab moving  
40 well. The latest example is the perfluoroalkyl substance equipment  
41 or PFAS method. That equipment is procured and is being installed  
42 with electricity as we speak and should be up and running this  
43 year. So, I'm happy to go into detail about any of this equipment  
44 but it would probably bore everyone to death. I'm happy to answer  
45 any questions and thank you for your consideration.

03:04PM

46

47 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

48 Thank you, Mr. Dawydiak, for keeping it at the same financial level  
49 and for not bonding out. So we will take a vote on this. All  
50 those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

03:05PM

51

52 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

53 Five. (VOTE: 5-0-0-1/LEG. DONNELLY NOT PRESENT)

54

55 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

56 Okay, 1430 is approved. We have no executive session. And seeing

1 no further business before this body, we are adjourned. Have a  
2 good rest of the day.

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**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 3:04 PM  
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**