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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 July 21, 2022 via Zoom and in-person.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Leslie Kennedy, Chairperson
Leg. Stephanie Bontempi, Vice Chair
Leg. Bridget Fleming (excused absence)
Leg. Tom Donnelly (via Zoom)
Leg. Dominick Thorne
Leg. Manuel Esteban

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Legislator Sarah S. Anker, 6th Legislative District
Legislator Jason Richberg, 15th Legislative District
William Duffy, Counsel to the Legislature
Frank Tassone, Clerk of the Legislature
Brett Robinson, Chief Deputy Clerk/Legislature
Lisa Black, Chief Deputy County Executive
Lance Reinheimer, Director/Budget Review Office
Craig Freas, Budget Review Office
Greg Atherton, Aide to Leg. Bontempi
Chris DeLuca, Aide to PO
Ali Nazir, Aide to PO

Public Portion:

Devon Toney
Greg Fischer
Latoya Bazmore
Joy Amanda
Jean Marinacci
Terri Garafalo
Lisa Azzarelli
Michael Kane
John Gilmore
Heather Rubbo
Joy Newball
Josephine Valdez
Daniel Grenier

1 Gary Kaelin
2 Ellen K. DiDomenico
3 William Cox
4 And all other interested parties
5
6
7

8 **MINUTES TAKEN BY:**
9 Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer
10
11

12 *****
13 *****
14 *****
15 *****

16 **THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 2:03 PM**

17
18 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

19 Calling the meeting of the Health Committee to order. Please stand
20 for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Thorne.
21

02:02PM

22 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

23
24 Please remain standing for a moment of silence for all people that
25 serve the public.
26

27 **MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED**

28
29 Thank you. Mr. Clerk, can you call the roll?

02:03PM

30 **(Roll call by Chief Deputy Clerk Brett Robinson)**
31

32
33 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

34 Present.
35

36 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

37 Present.
38

39 **LEG. FLEMING:**

40 (No response)
41

02:03PM

42 **LEG. THORNE:**

43 Here.
44

45 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

46 Legislator Fleming has an excused absence.
47

48 (Continued roll call)
49

50 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**

51 Here.
52

53 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

54 Legislator Donnelly present via Zoom.
55
56

1 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

2 Five.

3
4 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

5 Thank you. Do we have any correspondence?

6
7 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

8 All correspondence has been distributed accordingly, Madam
9 Chairwoman.

02:03PM 10

11 **PUBLIC PORTION**

12
13 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

14 Okay, thank you. We are now at the public portion where each of
15 you is given three minutes to speak. We have a lot of cards which
16 is a good thing. Is Joy Newball here? Joy, you signed up online?
17 No. All right. We'll try you later. Greg Fischer. Okay. Latoya
18 Bazmore.

19
20 **AUDIENCE:**

21 She's coming in right now.

22
23 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

24 Okay. We'll wait a couple of minutes for her. Skip? Okay. We'll
25 save her over here. Devon Toney.

26
27 **DEVON TONEY:**

28 Hello. Good afternoon. This is my second time here today and I'm
29 -- I'm going to read something first. Today I plan to hopefully
30 gain your support of legislation by asking you all to support the
31 doctors from Daytop Samaritan Village and the administrative judges
32 that held two fair hearings at Deer Park Department of Social
33 Service as a neutral party; meaning the judges was a neutral party
34 between me and the Department of Social Service. A decision was
35 made which I submitted here at a prior legislation hearing, which
36 was about two months ago, two-and-a-half months ago.

02:05PM 30

37
38 I ask your support now by asking a letter from legislation asking
39 Frances Pierre and the Department of Social Service to honor that
40 judge's decision. I'm not asking you guys to get involved except
41 to the extent that Frances Pierre and the Department of Social
42 Service honor what the judge made a decision on and what the
43 doctors made a decision on. And that was I cannot be housed in
44 certain places. As we stated earlier, a friend of mine and
45 somebody that we worked with with the A.I.N.T project as well as
46 Renita Certain Spin the Yard worked with, he lost his life at a
47 shelter in Coram just days ago. I don't need that to be my fate.

02:05PM 40

48
49 So I'm asking that the legislation provide me with a letter
50 requesting. I'm not even asking that I demand it, but just
51 requesting that they honor the previous judgement given down by the
52 administrative judge. And that's all. Thank you.

02:06PM 50

53
54 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

55 Thank you, Devon. Latoya Bazmore? I think she just came in.

1
2 **LATOYA BAZMORE:**

3 Hello. Thank you for hearing me again today. To piggyback off of
4 what Devon was saying, again, there were situations and things that
5 were going on with Devon and his mental health and they're still
6 going on. He needs a certain type of housing and -- if you -- I
7 know that he had a whole conversation with Legislator Gonzalez and
8 Richberg. And they promised some things through Frances Pierre and
9 we need to start moving those things forward. Ten days is what we
02:07PM 10 have for the housing we're in right now. So in order for him to
11 continue to work and me to continue to work, it's not gonna -- it's
12 not gonna be good with us out on the street as well while we're
13 trying to find housing, proper housing for the people that we help.
14

15 So like Devon said, we need backing, people that will stand behind
16 us, write a heart to Frances, e-mail us, let us know or give the
17 support that is needed in this situation. And I also do believe
18 that there are other situations with people that we've ran into who
19 are also homeless, house-hopping, couch-hopping that need the same
02:08PM 20 type of assistance. They need backing. Nobody's listening. We
21 have a gentleman that we deal with who's disabled and can't find
22 housing. He keeps getting denied housing. And he has a missing
23 leg. He's obviously disabled. That's an issue.
24

25 We have at least maybe three or four different people that are
26 vets. Shouldn't be a homeless vet in America at all. That word
27 should not exist especially in Suffolk County. The funds are
28 there. There are plenty of organizations. I was watching the news
29 where there were like at least probably like four or five different
02:09PM 30 organizations "we're doing this for vets." Where's the money
31 going? There are homeless vets out on the street that we actually
32 deliver food to. So there shouldn't be any of that involved in
33 America, in Suffolk County and the money is there. That shouldn't
34 be a problem.
35

36 Mental health shouldn't be an issue with people who get the money
37 for these things and are supposedly distributing these things to
38 the population they say they are. There shouldn't be homeless,
39 mental health, addiction, any of that. It should not be happening
02:09PM 40 but it is clearly. We see it everyday. What we do with the
41 A.I.N.T project, we do 24/7. This isn't something that sits around
42 and we do it every couple of days. This is everyday visiting
43 people where they sleep in the communities, behind buildings. So
44 this shouldn't be a problem in Suffolk County but it's turning into
45 something that's out of control. Thank you.
46

47 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

48 Thank you, Latoya. I just saw Greg Fischer come back in.
49

50 **GREG FISCHER:**

51 Hi. I'm Greg Fischer from Riverhead. And I have two topics to
52 speak on. If I run out of time, I'd like to get a little bit of a
53 courtesy on it.
54

55 First thing is on Legislator Richberg's committee for infant
56 brutality and for maternal health, so the first thing -- I was very

1 upset to find out that this past week the Suffolk County Health
2 Department had posted a -- something on the website saying that
3 vitamins do nothing when we all know commonly that folic acids,
4 folate supplementation helps prevent birth defects. And I'm gonna
5 put up a copy -- give a copy to the Clerk of that posting. A very
6 flawed study taking some vitamins in some doses. It's completely
7 biased. But that the Suffolk County Health Department would
8 actually say that as if coenzyme Q 10 shouldn't be giving out with
9 statins and we shouldn't be vitamin D supplementing anybody. And
10 women that are menstruating shouldn't consider iron supplements
11 when they're iron deficient or maybe people should -- so it's
12 absurd. It's completely and utterly absurd that the Suffolk County
13 Health Department would post up something that say vitamins do
14 nothing. Vitamins literally mean life minerals. That's where it
15 gets its basis from. We know that vitamin deficiency contributed
16 to COVID. So I'm going to leave some other things for the clerk to
17 put into the record on vitamins and necessary vitamins, but that
18 stuff has to be taken down. I'm so disappointed that we took that
19 advocacy position this past week from the Suffolk County Health
02:12PM 20 Department by posting that.

21
22 Now, I'd like to leave something for Legislator Richberg, which is
23 I did talk about vitamins for infants and expected mothers in his
24 hearings. So vitamin D, prenatal vitamins, vitamin C and you're
25 free to give that to any -- and children's vitamins -- you're free
26 to give that to any person that comes through your office that you
27 think needs it. But if you trace vitamin deficiency to health,
28 there's a complete correlation, which, of course, increases the
29 County's cost. We have vitamin deficiency, injury to health. So
02:12PM 30 now we have public safety issues. And we have Medicaid issues.
31 Cascading health issues. So I hope you will turn that around.

32
33 The second thing I had to speak on is the issue of the Shots for
34 Tots Clinics going up, which is kind of a disgrace. We are now
35 pushing -- drug pushing these shots on infants down to six months
36 old who cannot communicate their side effects; even to the
37 five-year-olds that were recently approved, they cannot communicate
38 their side effects. Now by telling various clinics that they will
39 be liable possibly for civil penalty for hosting these, I've been
02:13PM 40 able to push them out of most venues because they don't want that
41 civil liability. I said, *well, if it's so safe, go get an*
42 *indemnification agreement from the provider*, which they're
43 unwilling to give so they decided to shut those clinics down. So
44 if it's safe, why don't you get an indemnification agreement?

45
46 So the last thing is, the one place where it's still being given
47 the last Shots for Tots clinic coming up is at Pronto. All these
48 others shut down. So this all smells of -- too skeezy to me
49 because it's -- they're not giving the warnings that I gave out to
02:13PM 50 this Committee in the past; the side effect warnings, they're not
51 giving them out to any of the patients anywhere in the County and
52 they're not even getting them out to Spanish at a Spanish Clinic.

53
54 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

55 Mr. Fischer, your three minutes are up.

1 **GREG FISCHER:**

2 Really good. And I'll leave you with stuff. But the bottom line
3 is on these kids getting shots, they're showing up with convulsions
4 in two to five days, or, you know, it's happening and other side
5 effects that we can't even tell are happening. And Fauci himself
6 admitted that there are no long term safety studies showing safety.
7 There are studies showing injuries. So thank you for your time.

8
9 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

02:14PM 10 Thank you, Mr. Fischer. Has Joy Newball returned? No. Okay.
11 Jean Marinacci. Am I saying it correctly? Oh, okay.

12
13 **JEAN MARINACCI:**

14 Yes. Can I give him my three minutes?

15
16 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

17 You really can't. That's not in the rules.

18
19 **JEAN MARINACCI:**

02:15PM 20 Sorry.

21
22 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

23 Hi, Joy. Miss Marinacci, want to wait a second and have Joy -- no,
24 Joy?

25
26 **JOY AMANDA:**

27 How are you today?

28
29 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

30 Good. How are you?

31
32 **JOY AMANDA:**

33 All right. Great. Came a long way. Let me know when I can begin.

34
35 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

36 Yes.

37
38 **JOY AMANDA:**

02:15PM 39 Time starts now. Oh, great. So, again, my name is Joy, Joy
40 Amanda. I actually drove in from Queens, New York because this
41 issue means a lot to me. I'm a mother. I have a child. He wasn't
42 able to finish school because of the mandates and all these things
43 going on. But, hey, one day at a time, right?

44
45 So I just have a couple of comments to make as far as, you know,
46 mandating anything for the population that has been the least
47 affected by this. So one thing that you can keep noted is that
48 children are at a negligible risk for COVID as of May 19 -- I mean,
49 May 29, 2021. The Center of Disease and Prevention attributed only
02:16PM 50 366 deaths in children age zero to 18 for COVID. COVID vaccines
51 are experimental. There is no information, no data. New York is
52 known as a clinical trial state. As the FDA plainly states in the
53 COVID vaccine fact sheets, vaccines administered under the EUA,
54 which does not make it mandatory just because it's an EUA, status
55 are not FDA approved and have not undergone the same type of review
56 as an FDA-approved or cleared product. Experimental COVID vaccines

1 are far more dangerous to people than the disease itself with about
2 a thousand adolescents between 12 and 15 years old in a Pfizer
3 clinical trial vaccine group, and about the same number in the
4 Moderna's trial the death rate following either vaccination in the
5 age group may be approximately zero point one percent; two in 2000;
6 over 200 times higher than the COVID 19 mortality rate. Something
7 to consider.

8
9 Adolescents are reporting serious COVID vaccine injuries including
02:17PM 10 cardiac problems and death. We know about myocarditis; we know
11 about pericarditis. We don't even know how this is going to affect
12 our next generation when it comes to fertility. Are we going to
13 have a next generation to raise? Are we going to have a next
14 generation to teach? Are we going to have a next generation to
15 mold to protect us? Long term adverse effects from the COVID
16 vaccines including reproductive effects cannot be ruled out.
17 Doctors are warning about the possibilities of long term adverse
18 affects that have not yet been discovered at this time including on
19 growth, reproductive systems and fertility.

20
21 As someone who is a mom, not a birthing person, I am a mom of a
22 young man who may want to have kids who actually broke up with his
23 girlfriend because she decided to get the shot because they talked
24 about kids, I want to see my future generations. I want to see my
25 grandchildren. I want see to great my great grandson. I want to
26 see my blood line go forward.

27
28 Children who receive COVID shots were facing additional risks that
29 most adults will not. Simultaneous administration of multiple
02:18PM 30 vaccines. Children not only have the vaccination schedule that we
31 know have increased since the '80s, we're going to add now booster
32 shots, vaccines and just an overall revolving door of subscription
33 to lifelong changes in their bodies. So I don't know if that bell
34 meant that my time is up, but I do just want to say thank you for
35 having the men and women of New York State come in and give their
36 piece. Thank you.

37
38 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

39 Thank you for coming out. Jean Marinacci, do you want to speak?

02:18PM 40
41 **JEAN MARINACCI:**

42 This is my first time here. I'll try to keep it together. She
43 triggered something off and it's regard -- my name is Jean
44 Marinacci, I'm sorry. My son, David, lost his life in January of
45 this year and -- due to a Fentanyl -- fluorofentanyl and heroin
46 overdose. My son was working for a company and was let go because
47 he wouldn't take the vaccine in November of last year. He called
48 me up and said "ma, what do I do?" And I said "don't because --
49 like I said there was no proof that it was effective." I said "if
02:20PM 50 you got it, you couldn't get COVID." I said "if it doesn't prevent
51 and if it doesn't fix it, then, why take something that's not been
52 proven to help anybody?" So he opted to take the unemployment, at
53 least what they gave him. Now his company wasn't that big, big,
54 big. He was trying to get a job on Long Island but he found that
55 it was going to be a dead end because everywhere he would go, they
56 would require that vaccine.

1
2 So my other son had to leave the state about four or five years ago
3 because of vaccination for his daughter. He was going to a
4 Christian school and he moved her -- his family to Pennsylvania.
5 Well, my son David was going to go there. He actually came back
6 from Pennsylvania. He was visiting for a while; came back here to
7 pack the rest of his things up so he could go to Pennsylvania
8 because that was a better life for him. And the mandates, like I
9 said, I keep thinking, you know, he was functioning. As long as he
02:21PM 10 was working and making money, he was -- it was keeping him going.
11 When he found that there was, like, no hope for him here, he didn't
12 even comfortable about moving to Pennsylvania but what else was he
13 gonna do? His brother was there. His family was there.

14
15 And these mandates just are killing people and ruining people
16 lives. And they have to be stopped. And now that I got his
17 results just recently about what he -- I kind a had a feeling what
18 it was but now it's there and this stuff -- I mean he didn't have
19 medical insurance, which I feel bad because he was single, he had
02:21PM 20 no family, no children or wife and he didn't have anywhere he could
21 have gotten at least Suboxone prescribed for him instead of him
22 having to try to make money to try to hustle to get that. And
23 that's when I saw him somewhat normal. He lived with me for two
24 years a year ago. And that was the first time that I ever actually
25 really saw the horror that my other son was telling me he knew
26 about my son. And I didn't know what to do. I called up the
27 hotline. I just went into spiritual warfare, if anybody
28 understands that, and I think I saved his life. But from there I
29 was like, I don't have a Narcan pen. How do I help him?

30
31 And then and I had to move -- I moved out here and then he went to
32 go live with somebody for the last nine months who she was a
33 registered retired nurse and I can't even believe that she did not
34 recognize the way he was that night. And she didn't even have my
35 phone number and she was renting him a room. I was like, what is
36 wrong with her? But, you know, her daughter was addicted and then
37 went to a program came out, was on Methadone and she just sits
38 there like a zombie. So it's -- it's just a bad epidemic what's
39 going on. And I pray that nobody else has to go through losing a
02:23PM 40 child. I can't say burying. He sits with me in my bedroom in an
41 urn. That was his wishes. So between the mandates and all, it's
42 just killing people. That's another way it's killing people
43 because they're turning to drugs and stuff to cope. And that's all
44 I have to say.

45
46 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

47 Thank you, Miss Marinacci. I know this was very difficult for you.
48 I let you go over your three minutes.

49
50 **JEAN MARINACCI:**

51 Thank you.

52
53 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

54 But we all empathize. A loss of a children something that, it's
55 just horrendous. Thank you.

1 **JEAN MARINACCI:**

2 Thank you. Thank you as well.

3
4 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

5 Next is Terry Garafalo.

6
7 **TERRI GARAFALO:**

8 Hi. So I'm speaking on behalf of Jeannie again. What I noticed
9 was a lack of attention that she needed in the community and me
10 coming from law enforcement, and I'm now retired, I asked her if
11 Suffolk County police had reach out to her to let her know that her
12 son's overdose and death would be investigated, open or closed.
13 And she had to go searching around for all the answers. And I said
14 it shouldn't be. There should have been somebody. The first line
15 of defense in anything is the police being the first ones notified
16 when they find out somebody dies of an overdose. They didn't reach
17 out to the immediate relative, which would have been her. It was
18 told, as she had mentioned, it was given to the roommate and there
19 was a disconnect there.

20
21 So she had to go find out where his property was. And she got a
22 phone back, but there are clues in that phone and there are other
23 people, other outsiders who have connection in law enforcement that
24 are helping her. And it should come from our local police. I
25 still want to know is there an open investigation; are you looking
26 to see where this Fentanyl and these drugs came from? Because last
27 year, I believe, we made news because Sini wanted attention, the
28 District Attorney then, when there were six deaths out east of
29 overdoses. But that was it. We never heard another story again on
30 the news, really, that was newsworthy.

31
32 Her son's death shouldn't be in vain. He's one of thousands that
33 we don't know about out in this county. So there should be more
34 attention. There should be some communication whether or not the
35 case is being investigated or it's closed. Some kind of sympathy;
36 some kind of "we do care" from the very people that have to carry
37 the body out of the residence and being brought to the medical
38 examiner, the morgue and she was left in the dark. And I told her
39 there's so many protocols that should be followed and how does she
40 not know what they are because nobody spoke to her after this.
41 Like I said, Jeannie was on her own. She had to go looking here,
42 go here and waiting to hear answers about his death. She heard
43 nothing. Again, she was seeking all the answers. Somebody should
44 have been calling her and saying "here's what we have," just some
45 kind of sympathy, to say "we do care." Thank you for your time.

46
47 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

48 I understand what you're saying. I'm just going to break here and
49 answer. You call the local police precinct where he passed. And
50 from now on everyone should know if someone doesn't have insurance,
51 they call their local legislator and their local Legislator can get
52 them Medicaid; any kind of insurance with what they need. So that
53 should not ever be an issue for anyone. All right. Thank you.

54
55 **TERRI GARAFALO:**

56 Thank you.

1
2 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

3 Held on one second. Legislator Thorne.
4

5 **LEG. THORNE:**

6 So sometime this week you should be contacting my office, if we
7 could sit, try to get some answers for this young lady.
8

9 **TERRI GARAFALO:**

10 Yes, thank you.
11

12 **LEG. THORNE:**

13 We'll work on it.
14

15 **TERRI GARAFALO:**

16 Okay. Thank you. Again, thank you all.
17

18 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

19 Thank you. Okay. Lisa Azzarelli. Hello.
20

21 **LISA AZZARELLI:**

22 Hope everyone is well. Leslie, something I have to present here,
23 like a hundred pages. So I can give it to the Clerk but I would
24 appreciate it if you had it front of you as I speak to it.
25

26 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

27 Okay.
28

29 **LISA AZZARELLI:**

30 So if you want to do that for me. Thank you. I'll wait for the
31 switch. Okay, before we begin, I do want to address the woman here
32 and say blessings upon you for your sadness and report to you that
33 just this past week, DA Tierney and his prosecutors did an amazing
34 job in crushing the case on closing a stash house in Ronkonkoma.
35 That's a little something. We saved millions of lives from cocaine
36 and Fentanyl overdose, so.
37

38 Okay. What you have before you is -- and I addressed it to the
39 whole Legislature as well as the Health Committee. So if the Clerk
40 will please make copies for you later and I'll also try to get you
41 digitally and e-mails. It's -- what says a notice of culpability.
42 Basically just so you understand, some of what was said today from
43 Joy and from Mr. Fischer referenced the inadequacies of the
44 information we're receiving from our local Health Department
45 regarding the COVID vaccine, masking and other certain issues. And
46 in this document you're provided with the sources cited for that.
47 So now it's not just hearsay, it's actually researched and it's
48 found in scientific documents and medical journals. So now you
49 have this before you; and, therefore, as your own tool to work with
50 the local Health Department in saying "I need to scrutinize what
51 you're telling us to do because I have evidence that says
52 otherwise."
53

54 The misinformation coming from the local Health Department such as
55 don't take vitamins, sorry, but my family in Scotland and the siege
56 of scurvy would disagree with that. So I think that what we really

1 need to understand is the informed consent is not occurring due to
2 this misinformation. And as our elected officials that will fall
3 upon you. And I'm so happy that we had to change this recent
4 election in the status of the board. And seeing that, I think it's
5 been 16 years since we've had a turnover, shows that the community
6 at large is looking for that change. And that we have legislators
7 who fight for their constituents without accepting what comes down
8 from the state.

02:30PM

10 So this also I pointed out to on the document when all of you'll be
11 able to see it when it gets re-printed but there is also the study
12 of Ron Johnson, did a five-hour panel with the -- and I left out
13 that link for you as well with medical professionals including the
14 inventor of the mRNA injection -- technology in which he clearly
15 states the dangers of this. This contains a spike protein and a
16 spike protein now through the studies indicated in the document I
17 provided you show extreme adverse effects.

02:31PM

19 We also heard Joy mention pericarditis and myocarditis. That's in
20 here as well. And now we have doctors who literally have notices
21 "if your child is vaccinated, we will need to give them an
22 echocardiogram before they can be passed for school sports." So
23 where in God's name does anyone think that this is okay to keep
24 pushing is beyond me. So Shots for Tots really needs to be
25 reevaluated. My time can't possibly be up so I think something
26 might have --

28 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

29 It's up.

02:31PM

31 **LISA AZZARELLI:**

32 It doesn't --

34 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

35 We'll give you a couple minutes.

37 **LISA AZZARELLI:**

38 Thank you. I also have FOILS in here from the State Department
39 asking them for the evidence for continuing the Governor's
40 emergency. And they are unable to provide it. No data responsive
41 to that request including anything from hospitals. Where are you
42 getting your data from to keep the emergency going? They're not
43 able to provide it. Where is your data on the safety of masks?
44 Not able to provide it. And then enclosed you'll find data on
45 actually the germs that have been found in the mask.

02:31PM

47 And last but not least I do want to quickly touch upon the
48 surveillance, the water waste surveillance and the accepting of
49 funding from the DOH. So this is going in which the isolation and
50 quarantine case comes into play. Bobby Ann Cox, the esquire from
51 Upstate, just won this case and basically, though, is in appeal so
52 there's still a concern. But {Huckle} outlines how this wastewater
53 surveillance, which we believe is for our best benefit as far as
54 safety in our water system is actually being used to indicate where
55 areas of COVID might be. And then she can isolate and quarantine
56 even someone's specific house, let alone shut down a school or

1 anything else. So one of the counties Upstate decided to add into
2 that provision that she will not be allowed, or the Department of
3 Health will not be allowed, or any fellows, which I understand this
4 Legislature received upwards of almost \$7 million to hire 35
5 fellows, they will -- and any assistants that work with Stony
6 Brook, etcetera in surveying the water will -- Upstate they made
7 sure that those surveyors will not be allowed near homes, schools
8 and businesses so that citizens will not be targeted. So they have
9 to be random places. And I would hope that that gets put into any
10 of the resolutions that are adopted here as well.

02:33PM

11
12 So the document is very important and informed consent is very
13 necessary. If you're moving forward with Shots for Tots, everyone
14 deserves freedom of choice, but medical tyranny is certainly a
15 realistic thing that we are facing right now. And I think that the
16 Shots for Tots, or any place where you are advocating enforcement
17 of this injection, this mRNA technology, which is a modifier, needs
18 to be told openly and transparently to those who are receiving it.
19 Thank you.

20
21 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

22 Thank you. Okay, our next speaker is Michael Kane.

23
24 **MICHAEL KANE:**

25 Good afternoon, everybody. Thank you so much for holding this
26 today. I'd like to submit my comments for the record. My name is
27 Michael Kane. I'm the founder of Teachers for Choice, which is a
28 New York State wide grassroots association of teachers and
29 educators who opposed medical mandates as requirements for
30 employment. I'm also the grassroots organizer for Children's
31 Health Defense.

02:34PM

32
33 I was a New York City special education teacher for over 14 years
34 but was removed from my job, then fired for nothing more than
35 declining COVID vaccination. I am currently suing New York City
36 for firing me and hundreds of educators as the lead plaintiff in a
37 federal lawsuit known as Kane versus de Blasio going for ten
38 months; still not back at my job.

02:35PM

39
40 Today I come to you with two messages on public health. One, the
41 pharmaceutical industry, the NIH, the CDC and the FDA cannot be
42 trusted. Not today. Maybe they could at some point. They cannot
43 be trusted today. And two, there should be no mandates for anyone,
44 adult or child. Not at all. On my first point, please, do not
45 take my word for it. But rather we should listen to Dr. Marty
46 Makary of Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Makary is one of the most
47 eminent public health experts on the planet. He writes for the
48 Wall Street Journal and served in leadership on the World Health
49 Organization.

50
51 Makary recently stated that there is a mass exodus from the NIH,
52 CDC and FDA over the ridiculous recent approval of COVID shots for
53 children age six months to five years old. This includes the three
54 top researchers of the vaccine research center at the NIH itself.
55 They've walked away. According to Makary the data that was
56 submitted for approval process for six months to five-year-olds was

1 contradictory and incoherent. Now I have a direct statement from
2 him explaining that but -- for time, please read it. It's in the
3 record. I'll move on. What he said was the contradictions should
4 have given pause, but it did not give pause. Instead of giving
5 pause, the vaccine was approved for use with this huge
6 contradiction quote "it's like a horror movie I'm being forced to
7 watch and can't close my eyes" end quote. Said one senior official
8 with the FDA quote "people are getting bad advice and we can't say
9 anything." End quote. That comment was one of many culled from
02:36PM 10 calls and text messages between officials and Dr. Marty Makary
11 himself. Makary recently published this information with co-author
12 Dr. Tracy Beth Pogue.

13
14 In addition to this, the FDA recently asked the judge to hide all
15 of the science and data that Pfizer had submitted for the approval
16 of the COVID vaccine for the next 75 years. This was reported by
17 Bloomberg Law. And I have the reference here as well, too. So
18 when we're all dead, we would finally have all of the science.
19 Thank God the judge struck that down and now thousands of documents
02:37PM 20 are coming out for people to analyze. And it doesn't look that
21 good.

22
23 Now based on what I just stated and provided for the record today,
24 my second point is self-evident. There should be no mandates for
25 anyone, adult or child. The agencies that are tasked with
26 analyzing the science to make these decisions have been captured,
27 corrupted and are not trustworthy today. All medical decisions
28 must be presented to all Americans with informed consent. That
29 means the right to say no without punishment or persecution. Thank
02:38PM 30 you so much. Appreciate it.

31
32 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

33 Thank you, Mr. Kane. Next is John Gilmore.

34
35 **JOHN GILMORE:**

36 Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My
37 name is John Gilmore. I am the Executive Director of Children's
38 Health Defense, New York. I'm also the founder of the Autism
39 Action -- children's Health Defense, by the way, is an
02:38PM 40 international non-profit organization working on health issues.
41 I'm also the founder of the Autism Action Network which is a
42 national 501(c) 3 headquartered here on Long Island.

43
44 And the people -- many of the people here have said things I
45 originally had planned to say. I'm not going to repeat them. Some
46 were modified a little bit. But my main point is basically this:
47 Okay, we've been living with COVID for two-and-a-half years now.
48 Right? And it's time for us to really re-think how we deal with it
49 and how we handle it and how we process it. And I think the first
02:39PM 50 -- there's two main lessons, I think, as far as process goes
51 because everyone sort of talked about the science, then we did take
52 into consideration the first, as Michael said, is we really cannot
53 trust what the so-called experts and agencies are telling us any
54 more. All right? And I'll give you a perfect example of that.
55 Earlier this week Anthony Fauci was quoted -- this is a direct
56 quote -- one of the things that's clear from the data is that even

1 though -- because the high degree of transmissibility of the virus,
2 don't protect overly well against infection. That's his
3 bureaucratic way of saying it doesn't stop transmission of the
4 disease, all right?

5
6 Now, we have known that for a longtime. Okay? People who actually
7 read the documents have known that since 2020 because when Pfizer
8 and the other companies submitted their documents for review by the
9 FDA, they explicitly said that, that they were not designing
10 products to stop transmission. Yet we relied too consistently
11 about that by Fauci, by any number of leaders, head of the CDC, the
12 governors and so on about that. And that's not the only lie. We
13 were lied to about the deaths related to COVID, right? They were
14 recording people who died with COVID as people who died of COVID.
15 And one of the reasons why is up until fairly recently the
16 hospitals got a \$50,000 bounty for every case of COVID, for every
17 death that they recorded. Well, what's a reasonable hospital
18 administrator going to do about that? You tell me. All right.

02:40PM

19
20 The second thing is that state of emergency in New York State and
21 throughout the country has got to stop. Every time you turn around
22 they're declaring new states of emergency. They declared one for
23 guns. Now the president wants to declare one for abortion, all
24 right? And the problem with emergencies is it completely short
25 circuits the entire democratic process. That is the whole point of
26 it. It's to make Legislators elected by the people like you
27 completely irrelevant in the decisionmaking process. And that
28 leads to very, very bad decisions, all right?

02:41PM

29
30 So when COVID hit on March 7th of 2020, Governor Cuomo declared a
31 state of emergencies. One of his very first decisions was to place
32 people with active COVID infections into nursing homes. The very
33 people even at that point even though they were the most vulnerable
34 from COVID, that's where he decided to put them. And what was the
35 result of that? In New York 15,000 people at least died including
36 my mother. All right? And that was repeated by about five other
37 governors. Forty-five governors didn't do that. Every place that
38 they did that, the mortality rate for seniors went through the
39 ceiling in the nursing homes. Okay?

02:42PM

40
41 But the problem with that is it wasn't limited to Cuomo. Okay?
42 The New York City Department of Health went right along with it.
43 The Mayor went right along with it. The New York State Department
44 of Health went right along with it. Everybody went along with it.
45 And anybody who said anything different about it could find
46 themselves ejected off of social media because there's been a
47 strict -- very strict censorship regime social media about anything
48 related to do with COVID. So the states of emergency have got to
49 go. All right?

50
51 Think about this is, you know, let's not pretend that this whole
52 COVID thing hasn't made a few people huge amounts of money. This
53 has been an enormous sums of money paid for this. All right? I'll
54 give you one example. Pfizer, which is headquartered over there on
55 42nd Street in the City in 2021 made \$41 billion off the COVID shot
56 just from federal government purchases.

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02:43PM

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02:44PM

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02:45PM

CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:

Mr. Gilmore, if you can just try to wrap it up.

JOHN GILMORE:

Okay. Just to put that in perspective and I'll get to real quick my end point, the entire global vaccine market in 2019 was \$20 billion. They made twice the entire industry just in one year, okay. Another one, if I could just please, Moderna was paid \$2.6 billion in 2021. In March of this year they gave their CEO a golden parachute of \$925 million just to leave, all right. Put that in perspective. All right? Another -- this is from the emergency, right.

CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:

We have to end this because people are calling in and Zooming in.

JOHN GILMORE:

Can I just -- one last thing.

CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:

One last thing.

JOHN GILMORE:

Totally relevant. Right. So this basically what motivates us is the whole Shot for Tot program. Let's put that into perspective. Okay. The shot was authorized for children, the age group we're talking about a month ago. All right. At this point only 2 percent of American children have got this shot. All right. And in the last couple of weeks, the number of children getting it has trailed down to very, very low numbers. And what that tell us is the American people are speaking, okay. They do not trust this thing. They've been watching the government for the last two-and-a-half years and everything going along and they've come to the very correct conclusion that this is not to be trusted. At best this is something we should watch very closely, see what happens. But in the meantime there's no way I'm going to let my kid have that. And Suffolk County should not have any role in trying to encourage the children of this county to get the shot. Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:

Thank you, Mr. Gilmore. I'm going to say this last name wrong, Heather Rubbo; is that correct?

HEATHER RUBBO:

Rubbo. Very good. Hi, how are you? I really wasn't planning on speaking today so this is a little haphazard. But I come to you as a mother from Holbrook, New York and a hairdresser. My child was force vaccinated to go to college. She's a D 1 athlete and she worked very hard to get into the PA program. While she was away at college, she's texting me, calling me complaining about tics. My child never had tics. She comes home, she's forced to get the flu vaccine. We've never done the flu vaccine. The tics are a thousand times worse. So now my 19-year-old child, as I talk to

1 her, whether it's a good day or a bad bay, every day, all day she's
2 ticking. It's called transient tic disorder. And it could be her
3 eyes; it could be her stomach; it could be her back; it could be
4 her chest. And she plays on, again, a D 1 soccer team. At what
5 point do I stop holding my breath that my child's heart is not
6 going to stop when she's on that field?

7
8 There is not enough evidence. They forced this on our children.
9 And as a salon owner I have to tell you that I talk to many, many,
02:46PM 10 many people and I'm hearing horror stories. And some people will
11 go *oh, I think it's the vaccine*. Well is it or is it not?
12 Cancer's coming back. Dementia. People dying within months of
13 getting the vaccine. Rashes. My 22-year-old neighbor who's never
14 been allergic to anything now gives herself three shots every three
15 weeks in her stomach because she goes into anaphylaxis in the
16 middle of sleeping. She's been contacted by the NIH. She has
17 contacted every doctor. She's been to allergists all over the
18 place. She looks like an AIDS victim, excuse me. She's got
19 swollen lips, eyes swollen shot. Within three weeks of the second
02:46PM 20 vaccine she was rushed to the hospital out of her college class.
21 And I'm trying to help her. With what? Vitamins and nutrients.
22 Detox fast, the same that I'm trying to do with my child.

23
24 I'm on every website known to man to try to find ways to help
25 everybody that I come in contact with. But what can I do for my
26 child? I have a 15-year-old old son who's going into 10th grade.
27 Are you going to mandate -- are they going to mandate that vaccine?
28 Because I'm telling you right now my son's not going to school
29 anymore. And that is the consensus for many, many people that I
02:47PM 30 know. There is no evidence this works. I am 52 years old. I am
31 not vaccinated. I have not stopped being around people this whole
32 time. I've had COVID three times. I'm fine. And my child will be
33 fine with nutrient supplements care just like the flu, just like
34 the cold. But we need for you to advocate for us because our hands
35 are tied. People are losing their jobs. I'm losing business. I
36 couldn't get funding during COVID. I had to work behind the scenes
37 in order to make money to pay my rent because my landlord wanted
38 that anyway. So I'm asking you to help us and think of my child
39 and my neighbor's child who are suffering. Thank you for your
02:48PM 40 time.

41
42 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

43 Thank you. Okay. We have a few more speakers that are present but
44 I'm trying to do it in order in which people came. I have
45 Josephine Valdez on Zoom.

46
47 **JOSEPHINE VALDEZ:**

48 Hello.

49
50 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

51 Hello. How are you? You have three minutes to speak.

52
53 **JOSEPHINE VALDEZ:**

54 Okay, thank you. Like was said I'm Josephine Valdez. I'm speaking
55 on behalf of myself and (inaudible) which I am the cofounder of.
56 I was working the New York City Department of Education as a para

1 professional. Since October 1st I have not been working. I'm just
2 not understanding as to why we're still doing this measure or even
3 pushing this vaccine when I was in school I had (inaudible)
4 children that were complaining about the mask and the PCR test and
5 I found that absolutely disgusting because I feel like it's taking
6 away parental rights. And I feel like no authority, there's no
7 person, no governor, no mayor, no president that has any power over
8 any free human being on this planet, right?

9
10 I'm also speaking on behalf of my coworkers that were coerced,
11 about 62 that were coerced into getting the vaccine in the last
12 week of September because otherwise they were going to be fired
13 from their jobs. I was also fired and have not been able to apply
14 for unemployment. I had to move back into my parents due to
15 financial loss. I'm not understanding as to why not one expert,
16 not from the president cabinet, not one from the Health Department,
17 why no one talking about the mental health devastation that this
18 whole pandemic has caused from a global massive scale. We're
19 talking about financial loss; mental health decline. We're talking
02:49PM 20 about suicide amongst children even as young as 8 to 9 years old.
21 We're also talking about drug addiction, alcohol addiction. Right?
22 Not one person is talking about this at all. And if you're going to
23 talk about health, then mental health should be the number one
24 priority because a person that is not mentally well, then, their
25 lives, their quality of life is going to decline. If you're taking
26 away people's jobs, then how am I supposed to now take care of my
27 health?

28
29 And then I'm also going to talk on behalf of the parents that also
30 lost their jobs; on behalf of the parents that have not been able
31 to speak up for their children inside a school system while the
32 school system is being funded on the parents tax dollars. I
33 believe that this was a scam done on the population in order to
34 cause chaos and division against the people and it's disgusting and
35 it needs to stop. Our health, I'm responsible for my health. No
36 one else is responsible for anyone else's health. And I think,
37 like I said, it needs to stop. I am personally sick and tired of
38 it. I've been suffering mentally as well as other people in my
39 team that I know are about to be homeless, that have lost revenue
02:50PM 40 in their businesses and no one is talking about this at all.
41 Everything is about health and health. Yet the homeless population
42 here is that of adults. I witnessed drug use by the public library
43 where children are at.

44
45 I'm not understanding why we're not talking about the bigger
46 problem that is being caused because of the restrictions, because
47 of (inaudible) because of the medical (inaudible) that was done on
48 the world wide, you know, global scale where people have not been
49 able to go to restaurants. I personally got arrested. Some of the
02:51PM 50 people maybe got arrested who were trying to go into restaurants,
51 right. But again we're talking about public health; however it
52 seems that this whole response and restrictions have caused way
53 more problems. Right now I just give (inaudible) and I believe in
54 the years to come it's going to cost a lot more problems due to the
55 whole mental health impact that is being permitted upon the
56 populations. So why are those solutions (inaudible). I did go to

1 school for (inaudible). I understand that this measures are
2 abusive in nature. You're talking about (inaudible). You're
3 talking about forcing a person to put on a mask, restricting their
4 oxygen, which is the essence of our live. And children whose lungs
5 are developing, why are we restricting the way that they're
6 breathing? Again, we're all adults and I find it insulting that I
7 have so called health officials and government that supposed to be
8 working for me, public servants treating me as if I am stupid or
9 I'm a child that is incapable of making her own personal decision.

10
11 So that is what I have to say. I feel like we all need to address
12 this issue that's been going on on a mental level because no one,
13 not one expert, not (inaudible) not Joe Biden, not Kamala Harris,
14 not one person has spoken about the whole mental health crisis that
15 we have been suffering in this country and major cities for the
16 past almost three years now.

17
18 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
19 Thank you, Miss Valdez.

20
21 **JOSEPHINE VALDEZ:**
22 Thank you.

23
24 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
25 Okay, next we have on Zoom Daniel Grenier. Is that the way to say
26 it? Daniel? Do we have him, Chris?

27
28 **MR. DeLUCA:**
29 He's on his phone.

30
31 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
32 He's on the phone. Okay, Daniel, can you hear us?

33
34 **MR. DeLUCA:**
35 His phone number is here. Ask him if he can hear you.

36
37 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
38 All right, Daniel?

39
40 **DANIEL GRENIER:**
41 Hello.

42
43 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
44 Hello, Daniel. It's your turn to speak. You have three minutes to
45 speak. Go ahead.

46
47 **DANIEL GRENIER:**
48 Just going off of what she said, yes, there's a very, very great
49 mental health crisis, not only in New York City but across the
50 whole country. And places where we talk about health, no one cares
51 that there's people living on the street. They need mental
52 institutions to help with whatever problems they're going through
53 but all we talk about is COVID, COVID, COVID all the time,
54 especially vaccines, testing, that's all we hear in the streets. I
55 literally just see in my neighborhood two additional testing sites
56 today, this week, yet I see more homeless people all the time but

1 that problem is never addressed.

2
3 We have people who are unjustly fired, who are perfectly fine
4 healthy people who can go to work every day provide for their
5 families yet they had that stripped from them because they decided
6 to make a personal decision of their own body. That's their
7 choice. That's their right and not one institution, no government
8 agency, no one has the right to decide that for anybody.

9
02:54PM 10 Just look at the firefighters, teachers, police officers,
11 (inaudible) thousands of people got stripped of their jobs and they
12 were perfectly healthy to work. So that just shows me that none of
13 this is about public health and safety. And going off repeatedly
14 like to the children in the school system, forever we force masks,
15 we took the kids -- kids were playing sports, kids were playing
16 activities. If their parents did not want them to take this
17 experimental shot, which had the horrific safety profile,
18 myocarditis, blood clot, Guillaine-Barre Syndrome, just so many
19 different side effects, 1300 listed in Pfizer's own document, yet
02:55PM 20 we're going to push this on kids to take the -- just to go to
21 school? It's nonsense. They have a 99.98 survivor rate. It's
22 just complete nonsense. And parents that don't have that choice of
23 what they can decide for their own children, then have them yank
24 them out. That's really the only -- that's the only option that
25 the school systems are giving to parents at this point. Because
26 giving kids this shot with no choice is completely barbaric and
27 it's a crime against humanity. So, I leave my comments at that.

28
29 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

02:56PM 30 Thank you, Daniel. Next we have Gary Kaelin. Hello.

31
32 **GARY KAELIN:**

33 Hello everybody. I'm not anywhere near as prepared as people have
34 spoken before me. Just refreshing to be around such normal
35 thinking people because you don't see a lot of it in today's world.
36 I'm just coming from my job which I had to get because I was fired
37 from the courts. I got my religious exemption denied. Obviously I
38 didn't take the shot. Twenty-six years, you know, planning on
39 another four, but apparently somehow it became this was part of my
02:57PM 40 requirement now. Got COVID in April of 2020. Got through it. It
41 was a little rough for a few days. Came back around in December of
42 2021 at the courts. Ninety-five percent of the building is vaxxed.
43 So where am I getting it from? I mean, it's such a joke. We're
44 the ones that have to get tested. We're the ones that have to get
45 tested. Okay, everybody is popping up is vaxxed. I mean,
46 Walensky, what three months ago, she says we can say that the shot
47 or two shots and a booster, a shot, two boosters cannot guarantee
48 acquisition or transmission. Meaning you can get it; you can give
49 it. So I'm watching this, I'm like I'm going back to work.
02:58PM 50 Apparently not. But you still want me to get it.

51
52 So the second time after I get it, my daughter didn't feel good. I
53 was going to even get tested. We go. And I was stopping to go see
54 my cardiologist for a checkup and he says get blood done again. So
55 for just -- for the hell of it, I got the antibody test and the
56 doctor calls me back and she informs me, she goes down my list, oh

1 your antibody level is 2500. It's the highest measurable level.

2
3 So now, I go what do you do when you filling up your car five
4 dollars a gallon and the nozzle clicks? Do you keep going? Do you
5 top it off to see what happens? I signed up. I was a cop; then I
6 was a court officer. I didn't sign up to become a de facto science
7 experiment for people that need money. I didn't make anybody
8 money. I honestly think people have a problem with that. And what
9 they're doing with kids? I mean, I thought it was bad enough with
10 the adults. I mean, please, it's kids, it's just -- it's not about
11 -- stop with the health. It's not about health. Look at what just
12 happened to me. You want to see what happens to my health if you
13 force something on me. And that's not good. Once again it's an
14 honor to be the room with these people.

15
16 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

17 Thank you for coming out to speak. Ellen K. DiDomenico.

18
19 **ELLEN K. DiDOMENICO:**

20 Good afternoon. I wasn't planning on speaking but now that
21 everybody spoke, I have to say something. So I was just telling my
22 friend like you read it but I just have something received. For
23 those who want to follow the science, the latest job 80,000 pages
24 from Pfizer states the vaccine was not 95 percent effective, but
25 only 12 percent effective but only for a week. Then after that it
26 drops to one percent. So for that -- and Pfizer didn't even want
27 to release the documents for 75 years. So guess what? We'd all be
28 dead by then. So we can't even know what's in the Pfizer shot.

29
30 So just as full disclosure, I do know Dominick Thorne. I have a
31 younger son who's special needs. I'm going to talk about
32 nutrition. I refuse to put my son on any medication and I do it
33 through nutrition. Within six months -- three months of drinking
34 this juice he started talking and he's 21 and he's thriving. And I
35 refuse to put my son on the vaccine because I believe he was vaxxi
36 injured when he got the MMR. Because he was fine until he got it.
37 So my husband we fight all the time. My husband's a police officer
38 and he's Italian. (Laughter) So he was one with this vaccine he
39 was pushing, I said "I'm not getting it and I'm not letting
40 Christopher get it. Because I got him to where he is
41 self-sufficient. If he gets his vaccine, I don't know what's going
42 to him." I said "you want to take him? You sign an affidavit.
43 Anything happens to him, it's on you. You quit your job and you
44 take care of him 24/7."

45
46 And I have a niece who's son -- his friend who got the vaccine now
47 has Bell's Palsy. So now we have all this coming out and we need
48 to see the data. Everybody wants to talk about data, let's see how
49 many people died from getting this shot. And not for nothing, kids
50 should not get it. They keep saying, all the doctors saying kids
51 are not subject to getting sick. They are the first one who's
52 going to rebound from whatever it is. They have the best immune
53 system. And not for nothing I'm a paralegal by trade. How are all
54 the illegals coming across the border, not get tested and not
55 mandated? When does their rights become more important than my
56 rights? I come here. I came here legally as a a two-year-old. I

1 pay taxes. I went to school here. And when is their rights
2 beating my rights? They all broke the law and now we don't have to
3 test them and mandate? I think that's not fair. Thank you.

4
5 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

6 Thank you. I've completed all the cards in the Zoom request. Is
7 there anybody else who would like to speak? Come on up. You can
8 fill out a card with the Clerks after you're done. Just give us
9 your name.

03:02PM 10

11 **WILLIAM COX:**

12 My name is William Cox. I come to you from Staten Island. I used
13 to live here in Brentwood. I come to you to talk about the
14 atrocities of New York City and how thousands of NYPD, FDNY, EMS,
15 all first responders have been laid off. And how this should not
16 happen in Suffolk County. How this needs to be avoided at all
17 costs and people need to be allowed to provide for their children.
18 Forgive me, this is the first time I'm ever speaking in front of a
19 -- okay, (pause) okay, I come to you to ask you to adhere to your
20 oath of office for the people of Suffolk County and its
21 constituencies. I come to you to ask that you allow your people to
22 provide for their children and to -- I'm freezing up.

03:03PM 23

24 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

25 It's okay.

26
27 **LEG. THORNE:**

28 Take a breath.

29
30 **WILLIAM COX:**

31 And to follow their dreams and -- oh, God, I'm freezing up.

32
33 **LEG. THORNE:**

34 Take a deep breath.

35
36 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

37 Can I just say something? I think you're very brave for being here
38 and speaking. So don't --

39
40 **WILLIAM COX:**

41 I'm freezing up.

42
43 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**

44 -- don't freeze up. Just keep going, take your time. And thank
45 you all for coming today and speaking up and sharing how you feel
46 about this. I truly appreciate it and I think we all appreciate
47 the valiant effort.

48
49 **WILLIAM COX:**

50 This pandemic has turned into a power grab with our Governor
51 continuously declaring a state of emergency and abusing her powers.
52 The only way to fight that is through you. We all live in
53 uncertain times with war and rumors of war. I ask that you bring
54 certainty to Suffolk County and its constituents; that everyone is
55 free and can provide without -- can provide for their families
56 without being forced to get an experimental vaccine. I ask that

03:04PM

1 you can provide certainty that your oath of office may be followed.
2 I'm sorry.

3
4 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

5 Good job. Thank you for coming out to speak. Okay. No one else?
6 So we will move on. We have no Appointment Resolutions. As of
7 yesterday we had no presentations. But not knowing it was going to
8 go this long, I got some good news and we have the Deputy County
9 Executive Lisa Black who's going to share some good news with us.
10 Come on, Lisa. I'm just going to let Dominick, he wants to say one
11 thing.

12
13 **LEG. THORNE:**

14 Hello, Lisa, just give me one second.

15
16 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

17 Sure, no problem.

18
19 **LEG. THORNE:**

03:05PM 20 I want to take a moment to congratulate each and every person, take
21 part in government; stand tall in your beliefs. The fact that our
22 nurses and doctors and firemen went from heros to zeroes is
23 disgusting. And I stand with you in your right to either take or
24 not take the vaccine. So thank you so much.

25
26 All right, Lisa, it's all yours.

27
28
29 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

30 Thanks, Legislator. I come from a family of first responders so I
31 appreciate that.

32
33 I'm Lisa Black. I'm the Chief Deputy County Executive. And I
34 spoke to the Chair today and we spoke about opioids and there's
35 been a lot in the news recently because the state of New York had
36 recently met with their opioid task force. And so everybody's
37 quietly waiting for what the County is planning to do with that.
38 And so I just wanted to brief you on where we are now.

03:06PM 40 Just a little bit of background first, the state created their
41 Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Board. That was created through
42 OASAS, the state agency that handles substance use. And there are
43 21 members of that committee. The board provides recommendations
44 to the Governor, the Senate, the Assembly, both of their finance --
45 respective finance committees and then their committees on health
46 as well. They have about a total of \$193 million to distribute
47 over 18 years. That advisory board was created in two thousand --
48 where are we? We're in '22? 2021. At the same time our county
49 created a task force of -- how many members? 19 members. Since
03:07PM 50 then they've met 18 times. It is chaired by Deputy County
51 Executive Jon Kaiman.

52
53 During those meetings we heard from 37 different providers. And
54 while that was very inclusive, we know that that is not the only --
55 those are not the only groups that can provide services and
56 supports to those affected in this population.

1
2 So, part of the recommendation from that group was going to be --
3 which we will unveil once they're finished writing the report, the
4 Health Department has, right now they're finalizing the touches on
5 it, they will advise that we should be doing an application process
6 for the funds, which I think is probably the most transparent way.
7 Anybody including these 37 groups can submit for funds. And they
8 would have to provide a plan for those funds, you know, how soon
9 they can get that plan up and running; how many resources they
03:08PM 10 need; what's the timeframe; do they need buildings or capital or
11 physical space, you know, all of those things that we would
12 normally do similar to an RFP. Right? RFPs we make sure that you
13 have all the information that you need.
14

15 And in doing so through the application process, the Health
16 Department will be available to help them through technical
17 questions just like they always are through RFPs. And I think
18 that'll be most helpful probably for the smaller groups who may not
19 be used to contracting with the County. And smartly and through
03:09PM 20 the guidance of the Legislature last year in the budget we created
21 the opioid abatement and recovery fund. So all of the funds that
22 the County receives through the opioid fund settlements will be put
23 in a fund that cannot be used for any other purpose except for
24 those that are put to best use for harm reduction, prevention,
25 treatment and recovery programing.
26

27 So that's where we are. We're ready to in short order launch an
28 application process. We do need the help of the Legislature to
29 make sure that all of those smaller groups in your communities that
03:10PM 30 you work with on a day-to-day basis and that your constituents hear
31 from, that that application process is really shared widely with
32 your constituency because, you know, we know the 37 people -- you
33 know, groups came in but that's not the entire totality of it.
34 And, you know, speaking with the Chair, she was already telling me
35 about another group that I hadn't even heard of.
36

37 So that's why we really do need your resources here. And then
38 after the application period, the subject matter experts through
39 the Health Department will make recommendations. We want those
03:10PM 40 recommendations to go to a five-member group that is separate from
41 the task force. The task force had -- I said 17 -- 19 members on
42 it and six Legislators. What we want to do is create a five-member
43 review team. Once the Health Department reviews the application,
44 they will give it to the five-member review team, one of which will
45 be the Presiding Officer; the second would be Legislator Richberg
46 and/or his designee; the third will be the County Executive, Health
47 Commissioner. And then if those four agree on potentially
48 utilizing an opioid advocate in some way, I think that would be
49 helpful to have that voice and that committee as well, right? We
03:11PM 50 want the subject matter experts to review the applications, what's
51 real, what's not, what's possible. And for the first disbursement
52 we would like to include in this year's budget that will come to
53 you in September and then you will vote on it obviously before the
54 end of the year for use in 2023.
55

56 So I think the application process will be open, transparent.

1 Anybody and everybody can submit applications for those funding.
2 And then you, you know, through the budget process will be able to
3 administer those awards. And so, you know, the opportunity through
4 the budget, the Legislature will be able to, I guess, yay or nay
5 this five-committee recommendation. And so next week we would like
6 to put forward a piece of legislation that would just create that
7 five-member committee. And I spoke to the Chair about that.
8 Again, the appointments, they indicated would represent the
9 Legislature and the Executive. And that's pretty much where I am.

10
11 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

12 Thank you, Deputy County Executive. Does anybody have any
13 questions?

14
15 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

16 Yes, Leslie, Tom Donnelly.

17
18 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

19 Okay, Legislator Donnelly, go ahead.

20
21 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

22 Hi, Lisa, good afternoon? How are you?

23
24 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

25 Hi, Legislator. How are you? Very good. Thank you.

26
27 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

28 Good. So I'm via Zoom. So I caught most of it. I just wanted to
29 go over some of the logistics.

30
31 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

32 Sure.

33
34 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

35 I'm a hundred percent supportive. I think it's -- it sounds like a
36 pretty coherent, you know, responsible kind of game plan to attack
37 this. Just give me the five member review panel again.

38
39 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

40 Sure. It would be Dr. Pigott, the Health Commissioner; Presiding
41 Officer or designee; the Minority Leader and/or designee; the
42 County Executive. And the fifth member would be an advocate
43 member.

44
45 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

46 Okay. And that advocate member, would that come from the opioid
47 panel?

48
49 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

50 It could. It could. I believe -- listen, we had 19 members on
51 that committee. It could be any one of those people or other
52 people. I would like to, you know, make sure that those four
53 members agree on that person. I think that's the most appropriate
54 way to do that.

1 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

2 Oh, no, I agree a hundred percent.

3
4 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

5 Yeah. There may be some perceived, you know, conflicts. We want
6 to make sure that everybody's fine with that same person.

7
8 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

9 The opioid panel has done, you know, God's work over the last year
10 so they certainly deserve a lot --

11
12 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

13 I think we did, like, four times as many meetings as the state. So
14 we're very happy with progress.

15
16 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

17 The second question is are you going to have a portal on the County
18 website to apply for a group like --

19
20 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

21 Yes.

22
23 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

24 You know, and I think, as you said, this is where the local
25 legislative offices certainly are going to play a key role. You're
26 going to have some of these smaller groups, you know, that are
27 really small, if they know about it, perhaps, you know, and we
28 spread that message, there's an easier way for them to try at least
29 jump start their application.

30
31 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

32 Yes, there will be an online portal. And that, I think, will have
33 the most access -- you know, the greatest access for everybody.
34 And, again, the Health Department can even help them with their
35 application, any questions during which, you know, if we're going
36 to open it up for a month, for example, if they have questions, *how*
37 *do I do this, what other information do you need*, if that
38 application comes in and we still need additional information, the
39 Health Department will be reaching to them to further enhance their
40 application. We don't want to disqualify anybody because they
41 didn't provide enough information.

42
43 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

44 Yeah, I know. I got you, good. No, I like it so far. And then
45 just the last piece that I have is, and I think I may have asked
46 this question before, does the opioid settlement allow us to use
47 some of that funding specific for staffing in our municipality?

48
49 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

50 So, municipalities are one of the ones that can apply for funding,
51 of course. So, towns, villages, etcetera, if they have programing
52 that they find appropriate to serve this population, we would
53 certainly want them to do so. Given that the funds are available
54 for a period of 18 years, we would have to see what their plan
55 entails to determine whether or not it would be appropriate to
56 have staffing included.

1
2 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

3 So would that come through the review panel, then? So I serve two
4 different townships, both of which have really terrific, terrific
5 programs, our Babylon Beacon Center and then the Town of Huntington
6 has a real terrific program as well Supervisor Ed Smith. You know,
7 I'd like to be able to support those efforts particularly in terms
8 of -- in terms of staffing because I think where is it, I think,
9 nationwide, right, we're -- it's everyday, we're in this mental
10 health play -- play out in front of us --

11
12 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

13 You are exactly right. Staffing is going to be, I think, the
14 largest --

15
16 (Legislator Sarah Anker entered the meeting via Zoom)

17
18 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

19 Are you able to provide the structural funding to keep those -- to
20 keep those centers running so, you know, the County as a whole is
21 kind of like the mother ship, but, you know, we have 9 different
22 townships in the County that provide different levels of services.
23 So being able to try to assist them, I think, from a practical and
24 logistical point would be imperative. So, yeah, and I'd like to
25 work on that little piece as well, particularly the staffing.

26
27 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

28 Yeah, I think you bring up a good point, though, we should probably
29 do similar to what we do with shared services. We can do a call
30 like all supervisors, village mayors, you know, just -- I feel like
31 it's a weather call almost, you know, *this is what we're doing,*
32 *this is what's coming up, we want to help you get through that.*
33 And we'll be available to them, give them a little bit of direction
34 at the onset of the application process.

35
36 **LEG. DONNELLY:**

37 Great work. Let me know how I can help. Great stuff.

38
39 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

40 Thank you.

41
42 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

43 Any other questions? Okay. Thank you, Lisa.

44
45 **CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE BLACK:**

46 Thank you, Chair.

47
48 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

49 Wonderful. Let's get moving.

50
51 **TABLED RESOLUTIONS**

52
53 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

54 Okay. So we'll move onto Tabled Resolutions. **1414, Establishing a**
55 **Mental and Physical Health Advisory Board. (Gonzalez).** We still
56 have a question on that. So I will make a motion to table.

1
2 **LEG. THORNE:**
3 Second.

4
5 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
6 Thank you. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

7
8 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
9 Five. (VOTE: 5-0-0-01/ABSENT: LEG. FLEMING)

03:17PM 10
11 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
12 Okay, thank you. 1417, Adopting Local Law (No. ,) with no number
13 yet (-2022,) A Local Law to regulate the packaging of cannabis
14 marijuana products to dissuade its appeal to children. (Hahn). Do
15 we have a motion?

16
17 **LEG. THORNE:**
18 Motion to table.

19
20 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
21 Motion to table. I'll second that. All in favor? Opposed?
22 Abstentions?

23
24 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
25 Five. (VOTE: 5-0-0-01/ABSENT: LEG. FLEMING)

26
27 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
28 Five, thank you. 1419, Creating trauma informed policies in
29 Suffolk County. (Hahn). Do we have a motion?

03:18PM 30
31 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
32 I'll make a motion.

33
34 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
35 What do you make a motion to do?

36
37 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
38 To table.

39
40 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
41 To table. Okay.

42
43 **LEG. THORNE:**
44 Second.

45
46 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
47 Thank you. All right, we have a motion and a second. All in
48 favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

49
50 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
51 Five. (VOTE: 5-0-0-01/ABSENT: LEG. FLEMING)

52
53 **INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS**

54
55 Okay. Then we move to Introductory Resolutions. 1528, Amending
56 the 2022 Adopted Operating Budget to accept and appropriate

1 **\$909,695 in additional 100% State Aid from the New York State**
2 **Office of Mental Health, that's New York State OMH, to various**
3 **contract agencies for a Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (COLA). (Co.**
4 **Exec.).**

5
6 **LEG. ESTEBAN:**
7 Motion to approve.

8
9 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
10 We have a motion to approve. Anybody --

11
12 **LEG. THORNE:**
13 Motion to move to the consent calendar.

14
15 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
16 Thank you. Do we have a second?

17
18 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
19 Second.

20
21 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
22 We have a second. All right. All in favor? Opposed?
23 Abstentions?

24
25 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
26 Five. (VOTE: 5-0-0-01/ABSENT: LEG. FLEMING/PLACED ON CONSENT
27 CALENDAR)

28
29 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
30 Okay, 1528 has been approved and put on the consent calendar.
31 **1529, Amending the 2022 Adopted Operating Budget to accept and**
32 **appropriate \$533,232 in additional 100% State Aid from the New York**
33 **State Office of Addiction Services and Supports, which is OASAS, to**
34 **various contract agencies for a Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (COLA).**
35 **(Co. Exec.). I'll make a motion to approve and place on the**
36 **consent calendar.**

37
38 **LEG. THORNE:**
39 Second.

40
41 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
42 Thank you. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

43
44 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**
45 Five. (VOTE: 5-0-0-01/ABSENT: LEG. FLEMING/PLACED ON CONSENT
46 CALENDAR)

47
48 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**
49 Okay. 1529 is approved and placed on the consent calendar. **1549,**
50 **Donating 2,000 emergency meal boxes to Long Island Cares (Inc.)(Co.**
51 **Exec.). Do we have a motion?**

52
53 **LEG. BONTEMPI:**
54 Motion.

1 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

2 Do we have a second?

3
4 **LEG. THORNE:**

5 Second, Madam Chair.

6
7 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

8 Okay. Thank you. We have a motion and a second. All in favor?

9 Opposed? Abstentions?

03:20PM

10
11 **CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK ROBINSON:**

12 Five. (VOTE: 5-0-0-01/ABSENT: LEG. FLEMING)

13
14 **CHAIRPERSON KENNEDY:**

15 Thank you. Seeing no further business on this Committee, we are

16 adjourned. Thank you, again, for coming and speaking out.

17
18
19 **THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 3:20 PM**
20 **{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**

21
22
23
24
25
26 **VOICE MAIL TESTIMONY SUBMISSION:**

27
28 Good evening, my name is Lillian White and I would like to say that
29 given the uncertain risk, definitive lack of benefits of the COVID
30 19 vaccine, parents should refuse the right to exercise this
31 personal medical decision on behalf of their children based on
32 their child's medical background, their own religious and personal
33 beliefs and the child's mental, physical, sociological health and
34 should not be penalized by the state or by the county or by anyone
35 for exercising such freedoms and inalienable rights.

36
37 I am writing -- actually calling to urge you to ensure that our
38 schools are returned to normal. COVID 19 guidelines passed down by
39 the CDC are unnecessarily harming our kids. There's no long term
40 safety data on the guidelines. Kids have a 99.997 percent recovery
41 rate from COVID. And the research shows kids do not pass the virus
42 to adults. The benefit of the medical intervention is in question.
43 It is crucial to consider the potential harm. Social isolation
44 through mandatory masking and contact tracing causes substantial
45 harm to children because according to the world's renown
46 psychiatrist and medical ethicist, Dr. Peter Bragen, MD, there's
47 nothing more important than facial expressions for a child's
48 emotional and social development.

49
50 I urge you to reflect on the damage these guidelines are causing
51 our children and to protect our kids by lifting any and all
52 mandates and guidelines. Staggered arrival times, desks 6 feet
53 apart, closed lunchrooms off when -- playground, no extracurricular
54 activities, plexiglass barriers, literal masking and physical
55 distancing, temperature checks, routine PCR testing, contact
56 tracing and quarantines are not suitable for healthy children even

1 though the CDC says so. A growing number of experts are witnessing
2 widespread collateral damage in pediatric population and are now
3 speaking up about how the CDC school guidelines are harming our
4 children physically, spiritually, psychologically. The data shows
5 the children are not at sever risk of harm from COVID 19 and they
6 are not at risk to others. In fact it's documented that it's
7 adults who typically transmit COVID 19 to children, not the other
8 way around.

9
10 The CDC's latest prevention strategy, strategies are unwarranted.
11 It's unethical and unconstitutional to force healthy children to
12 abide by measures that can result in physical and emotional harm
13 and impinge on their ability to be healthy, well-adjusted
14 individuals. Children have a right to be children. We should stop
15 treating them like commodities that we can build one size fits all
16 policies around.

17
18 Thank you for your time and consideration and have a good night.

19
20
21 **-- Lillian White**
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