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5	NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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8	RICHARD NICOLELLO,
9	Presiding Officer
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12	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
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15	ROSE MARIE WALKER,
16	Chairwoman
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20	1550 Franklin Avenue Mineola, New York
21	MINEOIA, NEW TOLK
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23	Monday Sontombor 0 2010
24	Monday, September 9, 2019 5:33 P.M
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- 2 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: At this time
- 3 I'll call the Health and Social Services
- 4 Committee to order. I will ask the clerk to
- 5 call the roll.
- 6 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator
- 7 Joshua Lafazan?
- 8 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Here.
- 9 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator
- 10 Arnold Drucker?
- 11 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.
- 12 CLERK PULITZER: Ranking Member
- 13 Delia DeRiggi-Whitton?
- 14 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 15 Here.
- 16 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator C.
- 17 William Gaylor III?
- 18 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Here.
- 19 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator
- 20 Laura Schaefer?
- LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.
- 22 CLERK PULITZER: Vice Chairman
- James Kennedy?
- LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.
- 25 CLERK PULITZER: Chairwoman

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 Rosemarie Walker?
- 3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Here.
- 4 CLERK PULITZER: We have a
- 5 quorum, ma'am.
- 6 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Before we
- 7 begin I'm going to ask for a motion to
- 8 suspend the rules, please.
- 9 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: So moved.
- 10 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Second.
- 11 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Motion by
- 12 Legislator Schaefer, seconded by Legislator
- 13 Drucker. All those in favor of suspending
- 14 the rules signify by saying aye.
- 15 (Aye.)
- 16 We have Clerk Item 294-19 is a
- 17 Resolution to establish the Nassau County
- 18 Commission to combat senior identify theft,
- 19 frauds and scams.
- 20 Can I have a motion?
- 21 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: So moved.
- LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Second.
- 23 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by
- 24 Legislator Gaylor, seconded by Legislator
- 25 Lafazan. Legislator Gaylor, would you like

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 to say something?
- 3 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Thank you
- 4 very much. This is a piece of legislation
- 5 that I asked and hope it makes it through
- 6 committee and then the Full Leg obviously
- 7 that identifies and creates a committee to
- 8 help establish the cause for this increase
- 9 in senior scams.
- 10 There have been numerous pieces
- in the paper, numerous constituents have
- 12 been calling to the offices in recent years,
- 13 but it seems more prevalent now where there
- 14 have been many instances of seniors having
- 15 been victimized by various types of scams;
- 16 phone scams, particularly others types of
- 17 scams where people knock on their doors and
- 18 misrepresent who they are and whatnot.
- 19 These scams have actually become quite
- 20 sophisticated.
- 21 Some make it appear that they are
- 22 legitimate either from government officials.
- 23 I have been informed of scams by people who
- 24 represent themselves as police officers or
- 25 police agencies or sheriff departments or

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 other government entities, or recently there
- 3 has been a rash of scams in our area from
- 4 people who identify themselves as pastors or
- 5 rabbis seeking money for temples and
- 6 churches and the like.
- 7 We all know about the IRS or
- 8 credit card companies or the social security
- 9 administration calls that, even I've gotten
- 10 that told me I'm going to be arrested in the
- 11 next few minutes unless I call them back
- 12 with some way to get them some crazy target
- 13 credit cards or credit cards from TJ Maxx or
- 14 whatever.
- So it's a prevalent problem
- 16 throughout the county and particularly
- 17 geared towards targeting our seniors.
- 18 So this legislation is being
- 19 introduced to protect the seniors against
- 20 these scams and frauds which are really
- 21 heartless crimes being perpetuated upon
- 22 those that lack a certain level of awareness
- 23 and particularly are devastating to our
- 24 seniors.
- 25 This commission that I'm calling

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 for is a way that we can figure out a need
- 3 to understand the why and the how these
- 4 scams manifest themselves so prevalently and
- 5 steps to identify them as well as steps and
- 6 processes to take to greatly reduce the
- 7 likelihood of our seniors being victimized
- 8 and really prayed upon.
- 9 The goal is to bring the
- 10 resources and knowledge and preparation that
- 11 many agencies, both governmental agencies,
- 12 possibly non governmental agencies, private
- 13 companies and citizens have to protect our
- 14 most vulnerable constituents, our seniors.
- So, I believe that there is a
- 16 certain level of lack of awareness by
- 17 seniors and the goal is to improve the
- 18 awareness, knowledge and resources available
- 19 to them in this particular area. That's
- 20 what this legislation is calling for.
- 21 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
- 22 or comments from the other legislators?
- LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
- 24 support this but I also recommend the AG has
- 25 a very good program, Smart Seniors, and

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 they're things I never even thought of.
- 3 It's good for anybody. I have them at the
- 4 senior center. It's a start.
- 5 The only other good thing lately
- 6 is I have noticed on the television, if
- 7 someone is calling now it says robo before
- 8 the number. That's been the best thing.
- 9 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Sometimes
- 10 what I get is, I think when you start
- 11 getting closer to 60, you start getting
- 12 these kinds of phone calls. It will say
- 13 spam also on the caller ID.
- 14 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Bill, I can
- 15 tell you I am at that age. I get those
- 16 phone calls all the time and they do come up
- 17 spam.
- But, especially -- and it doesn't
- 19 just affect seniors, but unfortunately
- 20 seniors get suckered into giving money.
- 21 Many of them even donate to all these they
- 22 think charitable organizations but they
- 23 aren't charitable organizations. Or they
- 24 think they are saving their grandchild who
- 25 is now locked up in some country and can't

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 get home or lost everything and can't get
- 3 home, so everything we can do to try to help
- 4 them.
- 5 I know many of us had the
- 6 workshops in our senior centers in our
- 7 districts, but the more we can do the
- 8 better. There is no more comment or
- 9 questions?
- 10 (No verbal response.)
- 11 All those in favor signify by
- 12 saying aye.
- 13 (Aye.)
- Those opposed?
- 15 (No verbal response.)
- 16 This will move forward. Thank
- 17 you.
- Our next is Clerk Item 312-19,
- 19 Clerk Item 336-19 and Clerk Item 347-19,
- 20 which are all ordinances supplemental to the
- 21 annual appropriation ordinance in connection
- 22 with the Department of Human Services.
- LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: So moved.
- 24 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Second.
- 25 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 Legislator Schaefer, seconded by Legislator
- 3 Lafazan.
- 4 MR. HALL: Brian Hall, Human
- 5 Services. 312-19 is a supplemental
- 6 appropriation for \$36,300. This is for our
- 7 youth service program with the interns. We
- 8 get reimbursed 100 percent by New York State
- 9 for their salaries.
- 10 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
- 11 or comments on this item from the
- 12 legislators or from the public?
- 13 (No verbal response.)
- 14 Clerk item 336-19.
- MR. HALL: 336-19 is a grant in
- 16 the amount of \$350,000 from the Office of
- 17 Children and Family Services. We use those
- 18 funds to contract out with the local towns
- 19 and municipality youth contracts. It's 100
- 20 percent state funded.
- 21 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
- 22 or comments from the legislators?
- 23 (No verbal response.)
- Any public comment?
- 25 (No verbal response.)

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Health Committee/9-9-19
1
2
                Clerk Item 347-19.
3
                MR. HALL: 347-19 is a grant for
    $68,660 and it's for a methadone clinic. To
4
5
    help offset some of our increased costs as
6
    the cost of the drugs being used over there
7
    go up. It's 100 percent reimbursable.
8
                CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
9
    from the legislators or comments?
10
                (No verbal response.)
11
                Any public comment?
12
                (No verbal response.)
13
                Seeing none, all those in favor
14
    signify by saying aye.
15
                (Aye.)
16
                Any opposed?
17
                (No verbal response.)
18
                Any abstentions?
19
                (No verbal response.)
20
                This will move on to the Finance
21
    Committee. Thank you.
22
                Next is Clerk Item 313-19, 314-19
23
    and 335-19. These are all ordinances
24
    supplemental to the annual appropriation
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ordinance in connection with the Department

2.5

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 of Health. Motion, please.
- 3 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: So moved.
- 4 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Second.
- 5 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by
- 6 Legislator Gaylor, seconded by Legislator
- 7 Drucker. We have MaryEllen Laurain.
- MS. LAURAIN: Good afternoon.
- 9 MaryEllen Laurain, Department of Health.
- 10 Item 313-19 is a supplemental appropriation
- in the amount of \$113,175. This is for the
- 12 children with special healthcare needs.
- 13 It's funded through New York State
- 14 Department of Health and provides
- 15 information and referral to families of
- 16 children up to the age of 21 who have
- 17 special health care needs and medical
- 18 diagnoses.
- 19 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
- 20 from the legislators?
- 21 (No verbal response.)
- 22 Any public comment?
- 23 (No verbal response.)
- 24 Clerk item 314-19.
- 25 MS. LAURAIN: Item 314-19 is a

1	Health Committee/9-9-19
2	supplemental appropriation in the amount of
3	\$717,006. This is for early intervention
4	administrative grant. This is 100 percent
5	funded through New York State Department of
6	Health and provides administrative costs to
7	our Early Intervention Program.
8	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
9	or comments from the legislators?
10	(No verbal response.)
11	Any public comment?
12	(No verbal response.)
13	All those in favor signify by

- MS. LAURAIN: Item 335-19 is a
- 16 supplemental appropriation in the amount of
- 17 \$198,425. This is for our childhood led
- 18 poisoning prevention grant. It's 100
- 19 percent funded through the New York State
- 20 Department of Health and protects children
- 21 from led poisoning.

saying aye.

14

- 22 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
- or comments from the legislators?
- 24 (No verbal response.)
- 25 Any public comment?

1		Health Committee/9-9-19
2		(No verbal response.)
3		Seeing none, all those in favor
4	of those th	ree clerk items signify by saying
5	aye.	
6		(Aye.)
7		Any opposed?
8		(No verbal response.)
9		Any abstentions?
10		(No verbal response.)
11		Then they will move on to finance
12	also.	
13		MS. LAURAIN: Thank you.
14		CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you.
15		Clerk Item 350-19 is a proposed
16	local law t	o amend Nassau County
17	Miscellanec	us laws in relation to
18	restricting	advertising of age restricting
19	products.	
20		Can I have a motion?
21		LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: So moved.
22		LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Second.
23		CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by
24	Legislator	Drucker, seconded by Legislator

25

Gaylor.

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you,
- 3 Madam Chair. Again, I want to applaud and
- 4 commend the majority for recognizing the
- 5 urgency of passing this bill as well. We
- 6 are in the midst of an epidemic. We are
- 7 seeing it every night on the news with the
- 8 vaping problems and affecting adolescents
- 9 who don't even know what they are doing to
- 10 their bodies and lungs and everything else
- 11 and cognitive development later on.
- 12 This restriction on advertising
- obviously we have to do more and hopefully
- 14 this will be the start of other legislation
- 15 that we can enact here to combat this
- 16 epidemic.
- 17 But at least the advertising ban
- 18 will perhaps deter people from purchasing
- 19 when it when they see it in the stores, the
- 20 convenient stores, and gas stations and
- 21 other local stores near schools and parks
- 22 and playgrounds.
- We have to try to do as much as
- 24 we can as often as we can. This is another
- 25 effort. I'm very excited and happy that the

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 majority is supporting it as well.
- 3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: It's nice to
- 4 see that we're moving even further. We made
- 5 sure they are not in any place where
- 6 children can get them readily, they're
- 7 behind counters where tobacco products are.
- 8 We made sure the fines are larger on the
- 9 stings and if they continue to disobey those
- 10 laws, they will further complicate issues
- 11 they have to deal with. This is just adding
- 12 to it.
- Any questions or comments from
- 14 the legislators? Legislator Gaylor.
- 15 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Thank you,
- 16 Madam Chairwoman. Obviously we know there
- 17 is a vaping issue and this addresses one
- 18 piece of it.
- 19 Make no mistake, vaping is a bad
- 20 thing. The CDC and the federal government
- 21 came out with a study last week after there
- 22 have been numerous deaths of kids who were
- 23 vaping and they're vaping these liquids that
- 24 are in these things that look like little
- 25 flash drive things and they're vaping two or

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 three of those flash drive things which is
- 3 equivalent of each one of those flash drives
- 4 is a pack of cigarettes.
- 5 So, by them vaping, they are
- 6 inhaling three packs of cigarettes a day and
- 7 it's very harmful on them.
- 8 I'm proud to be part of this
- 9 committee in pushing this legislation
- 10 forward obviously. I do hope that we look
- 11 to try to do more because the addiction to
- 12 nicotine leads to the addiction of other
- 13 things including marijuana and other drugs
- 14 and just bad for our children, it's bad for
- 15 everybody.
- 16 When I say children, people are
- 17 vaping, kids are vaping in third grade in
- 18 fourth grade. It's quite common that fourth
- 19 graders have tried it. This is a big big
- 20 problem.
- 21 Again, good efforts and I hope
- 22 there is more to come on vaping and
- 23 eradicating it from this county. Thank you.
- LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you,
- 25 Legislator Gaylor. I appreciate your

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 support and I have filed legislation with
- 3 the Clerk's Office and I hope that we can
- 4 see that support generated and continued in
- 5 that regard because I have filed a bill to
- 6 ban the flavored vapes that are the source
- 7 of the attraction to our adolescents, to our
- 8 young children today.
- 9 If we can obliterate them from
- 10 the market, it will go a long way to
- 11 removing this scourge.
- 12 As you correctly pointed out, one
- 13 liquid pod is equivalent to 21 cigarettes.
- 14 You think about the nicotine in 21
- 15 cigarettes, that's the addiction. That's
- 16 what's causing the addiction. They buy
- 17 these pods, these liquid vapes. They taste
- 18 like bubble gum, cotton candy, and
- 19 strawberry, and they don't realize it and
- 20 it's an alluring addition and habit. It can
- 21 lead to many other problems, not just health
- 22 problems but further addiction.
- I'm anxious and hopeful that we
- 24 can get the majority to continue to do more
- 25 in this regard.

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other
- 3 comments or questions from the Legislature?
- 4 (No verbal response.)
- 5 Public comment? Mr. Budnick.
- 6 MR. BUDNICK: Honorable
- 7 legislators. Mr. Drucker, my highest
- 8 compliments. I, over the last 40 years have
- 9 served as a president of counseling agency,
- 10 the chairman of the board of a counseling
- 11 agency, and on the board of various
- 12 counseling agencies.
- 13 Let me tell you, this vaping
- 14 stuff is a clear and present danger to the
- 15 young people of America and, yes, you're
- 16 right we have to do all we can to try and
- 17 stop it.
- We have too many young people
- 19 doing this. They're getting sick. They are
- 20 becoming addicted to nicotine. Forgive me
- 21 for saying this, that's just a slow
- 22 executioner. You know about his brother
- 23 Guil, don't you? Guillotine. God bless you
- 24 and keep up the good work. May the good
- 25 Lord bless and keep you.

1	Health Committee/9-9-19
2	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you,
3	John. All those in favor of Clerk Item
4	350-19 signify by saying aye.
5	(Aye.)
6	Those opposed?
7	(No verbal response.)
8	Any abstained?
9	(No verbal response.)
10	Then this one will move on to the
11	Finance Committee. There are two more
12	items. Clerk item 329-19 is an ordinance to
13	enhance food allergy safety measures at food
14	service establishments in Nassau County.
15	Can I have a motion?
16	LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: So moved.
17	LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Second.
18	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by
19	Legislator Josh Lafazan, seconded by James
20	Kennedy. The item is before us. Josh.
21	LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Thank you
22	very much, Madam Chairwoman. I do want to
23	especially thank Legislator Kopel for his
24	commitment to the issue. A pleasure working

25 with Howard.

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 As we sit here today, more than
- 3 35 million Americans, one in ten Americans,
- 4 experience food allergies. Our response to
- 5 food allergies must warrant a true sense of
- 6 urgency and consider these startling
- 7 statistics according to food allergy
- 8 research in education.
- 9 Every three minutes, a food
- 10 allergy reaction sends someone to the
- 11 emergency room. In the United States
- 12 200,000 people require emergency medical
- 13 care for allergic reactions to food each
- 14 year.
- 15 Medical procedures to treat
- 16 anaphylaxis resulting from food allergies
- increased by 380 percent between 2007 and
- 18 2016.
- 19 We recognize that food allergies
- 20 can be a significant barrier to both safety
- 21 and quality of life and our citizens deserve
- 22 prompt and comprehensive action here.
- That is why I filed this bill to
- 24 make Nassau County a proactive municipality
- 25 in New York in terms of protecting

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 individuals with food allergies. I thank my
- 3 colleagues for their commitment to the
- 4 welfare of our children and all those that
- 5 have food allergies and urge a unanimous
- 6 vote. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions
- 8 or comments from the legislators?
- 9 (No verbal response.)
- Any public comment?
- Mr. Budnick.
- MR. BUDNICK: I apologize. I
- 13 haven't had a chance to read this. What
- 14 does this bill do specifically in order to
- 15 try to effectuate the attenuation of
- 16 problems that are caused by those with food
- 17 and similar allergies? I don't understand.
- 18 I haven't read it.
- 19 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: That's okay.
- 20 I read it for you. What the bill does is
- 21 twofold. Both are imperative. Number one,
- 22 it mandates signage, food allergy awareness
- 23 signage, and, number two, it mandates food
- 24 allergy safety training for individuals in
- 25 restaurants.

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 So it's important not only to
- 3 have signage but to have personnel in the
- 4 restaurants to be trained. I hope you will
- 5 support it as well as my colleagues.
- 6 MR. BUDNICK: I think that's
- 7 fabulous. Speaking as a person who is
- 8 allergic to tomatoes, cheese and milk
- 9 solids, fish and shell fish, and worst of
- 10 all, chocolate. Thank you, thank you, God
- 11 bless you, guys.
- 12 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Legislator
- 13 Schaefer.
- 14 LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: I'm just
- 15 wondering as an attorney, have you
- 16 considered any issues with liability for
- 17 this? I think it's a good idea. I just
- 18 wonder if that's something that you have
- 19 considered and what the ramifications may be
- 20 for restaurants and staff at those
- 21 restaurants?
- 22 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: In the
- 23 modification in the amendment that was filed
- 24 by the majority, it had a provision. I
- 25 don't have the bill in front of me, but it

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 was put into place and I don't want to
- 3 butcher the language on the record here, but
- 4 it was put in place in terms of protection
- 5 for the county. Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Now, this is
- 7 restaurants, Josh, did this include I want
- 8 to say carvels or places like that?
- 9 My grandson, we never had these
- 10 allergies, my daughter allergic to bee
- 11 stings or things like that, but my little
- 12 grandson is allergic to not peanuts, but
- 13 tree nuts, certain tree nuts.
- I have to remember when we go to
- 15 an ice cream store they can't use that
- 16 scoop, they have to use a different scope
- 17 and some of them are very, very good. You
- 18 know what, if they serve soft serve you're
- 19 better of because that didn't have any scoop
- 20 involved. Because maybe she's going to be
- 21 put a fresh scoop in, but somebody else
- 22 might have just put a scoop in that was in
- 23 pistachio and not rinsed -- I never had to
- 24 deal with this before. He is a little guy
- 25 with the Epipen and the whole thing, trip to

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 the hospital and whatever.
- 3 It is very scary but I feel like
- 4 a lot of the responsibility is on myself
- 5 when I have him or his parents or whatever.
- I have to ask all those questions
- 7 or else I tell him, he doesn't know the
- 8 difference, he thinks it's peanuts or
- 9 whatever.
- 10 But like I said, a lot has to
- 11 fall on you as a parent or a grandparent or
- 12 caregiver whoever has them to be extra
- 13 cautious to avoid something.
- 14 But this is particularly at a
- 15 restaurant, not necessarily, like I said, a
- 16 Carvel or places like that that are in that
- 17 same situation.
- 18 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Speaking
- 19 with counsel, I asked Commissioner
- 20 Eisenstein for the number of restaurants and
- 21 he gave me the number 4,100 which is the
- 22 number of restaurants in the county so I
- 23 believe it would pertain to a Carvel or
- 24 Ralph's Ices.
- Just a couple of points. Number

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 one, just to Legislator Schaefer, I pulled
- 3 it up in the bill, and I thank the majority
- 4 for thinking of this. Section 7, letter C,
- 5 to the fullest extent permitted by law the
- 6 food service establishment shall not assume
- 7 any liability whatsoever with respect to any
- 8 alleged failure to comply with the terms of
- 9 this local law. So I thank you for your
- 10 diligence there.
- 11 Legislator Walker, to your point,
- 12 you couldn't be more accurate. That's why I
- 13 think the training is so important here.
- 14 If you are a teenager working at
- 15 Carvel you may not know. I only know
- 16 because I have close friends who are
- 17 suffered anaphylaxis that changing gloves
- 18 can save lives. Cleaning of the scooper can
- 19 save lives. Using the same rag and using a
- 20 different rag can save lives.
- 21 The nuance of how to protect
- 22 against cross-contamination is so complex
- 23 and we can all do a better job of learning.
- So what I'm hoping and I would
- 25 love to work with you, if this bill is

1	Health Committee/9-9-19
2	passed, to do a public service announcement
3	and do real public outreach with schools and
4	restaurants so an individual who is a child
5	doesn't have a parent there can have the
6	same knowledge as a parent who is
7	experienced here. So I would love to work
8	with you.
9	CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you.
10	Any other questions or comments from the
11	legislators?
12	(No verbal response.)
13	Is there any public comment?
14	(No verbal response.)
15	All those in favor signify by
16	saying aye.
17	(Aye.)
18	Those opposed?
19	(No verbal response.)
20	Any abstentions?
21	(No verbal response.)
22	Then this will move on to the
23	Rules Committee.
24	The final item is Clerk Item

25 331-19 which is a local law to amend the

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 Nassau County Human Rights Law in relation
- 3 to reasonable accommodations.
- 4 Can I have a motion?
- 5 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: So moved.
- 6 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:
- 7 Second.
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by
- 9 Legislator Gaylor, seconded by Legislator
- 10 DeRiggi-Whitton. Is there anyone to speak
- 11 to this item? Josh.
- 12 LEGISLATOR LAFAZAN: Thank you
- 13 very much, Madam Chair. According to NIDCD,
- 14 about two out of three of every 1,000
- 15 children in the United States are born with
- 16 a detectable level of hearing loss in one or
- 17 both years. And one out of eight people
- 18 aged 12 years or older has hearing loss in
- 19 both ears.
- Looking to the future of 2005
- 21 mark track report reported that the number
- 22 of Americans with hearing loss will increase
- to 40 million by 2025 and 50 million by
- 24 2050. I share these statistics of course to
- 25 underscore the need for our collective

- 1 Health Committee/9-9-19
- 2 urgency here at the Legislature and the
- 3 large scale of positive impact that our work
- 4 will have.
- 5 That's why I filed this bill to
- 6 amend the Nassau County Human Rights Law
- 7 because the simple fact is this, when
- 8 hearing acuity is a bona fide occupational
- 9 qualification for a job and a hearing aid or
- 10 other auxiliary aid can allow an individual
- 11 to reach a predetermined level of hearing
- 12 proficiency, I believe the individual should
- 13 be able to utilize the aid.
- With more than 3 million hearing
- 15 aids being dispensed in 2016 alone in this
- 16 country, this bill could not come at a more
- 17 crucial time for people who are deaf or hard
- 18 of hearing. So I thank my colleagues for
- 19 their devotion to serving individuals with
- 20 disabilities and I of course urge a
- 21 unanimous vote.
- 22 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you,
- 23 Josh. Any questions or comments from the
- 24 legislators?
- 25 (No verbal response.)

1		Health Committee/9-9-19
2		Any public comment?
3		(No verbal response.)
4		All those in favor of 331-19
5	signify by	saying aye.
6		(Aye.)
7		Any opposed?
8		(No verbal response.)
9		Any abstentions?
10		(No verbal response.)
11		This will also move on to Rules
12	Committee.	That was our final item. I
13	believe I d	lid not skip anything.
14		Motion to adjourn?
15		LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: So moved.
16		LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Second.
17		CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by
18	Legislator	Schaefer, seconded by Legislator
19	Gaylor.	
20		All those in favor of adjourning
21	signify by	saying aye.
22		(Aye.)
23		The Health Committee is
24	adjourned.	

(Whereupon, the Health and Social

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1		Health	Committee/	9 – 9	-19	
2	Services	Committee	adjourned	at	6:00	p.m.)
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