Governor Cuomo introduced Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins, and Reverend Al Sharpton

- Day 19 of civil unrest
- Day 104 of COVID virus

COVID:
- Governor reiterated the need to focus on monitoring daily test results
- Cuomo continued, reviewing daily test results in NYC and hotspots in minority communities
- 42 lives lost as of yesterday (32 in hospitals, 10 in nursing homes)
- Yesterday: COVID-19 increasing in 21 states, 14 states are seeing new high
- Today: COVID increasing in 23 states, 15 states are seeing new highs
- States that reopened too quickly are beginning to close again
  - In NYC, we have reopened, but numbers continue to decrease
- Governor explained a slide from Instagram showing data on the rate of transmission
  - NYS had the lowest rate of transmission at .77

Civil Unrest:
- Governor reiterated his stance with protests and the need for the Federal Justice Agenda
  - Education Equity
  - Child poverty
  - Affordable housing
  - Criminal justice reform
- NYS Legislature has passed police reform package which will be signed
  - Governor thanked all those involved in making this legislation possible
- Governor stated that this legislation was a long time coming as George Floyd was just the most recent incident of injustice against minorities in America.
- NYS Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative will be launched today
  - Executive Order will be issued requiring local governments and agencies (500) to develop a plan that reinvents and modernizes police strategies and programming in their community
  - Failure to provide a plan will result in no state funding
  - Must formulate a plan addressing use of force by police officer, crowd management, community policing implicit bias awareness training, de-escalation training and practices, restorative justice practices, community-based outreach, a transparent citizen complaint disposition procedure, and other issues raised by the community
  - With community participation
  - Must enact plan by local law by April 1 to be eligible for state funding
  - The goal is to restore trust. It is evident in recent protests, that there is no trust among law enforcement and the community

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins:
- Stewart-Cousins shared that she was thankful to be present with Reverend Al Sharpton and the opportunity to lead in the Senate
- She continued, explaining the notion of what it means to be afraid to live in your own skin
- In regards to the Justice Agenda: It is not a sure thing, but it is a step in the direction towards justice
- She went on to thank protesters and all others who made this possible

Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie:
- Heastie began by thanking advocates and families involved stating that being Speaker would mean nothing to him if this legislation was not passed
- While this reform has been desired for some time, seeing what happened to George Floyd was the turning point.
- There are still many injustices due to systemic racism like education and healthcare. We need government to get involved and chart that course.
- Enough is enough.
- Speaker expressed his hopes that reform would prevent other instances of police brutality from occurring.
- Heastie ended by thanking Reverend Al Sharpton for his leadership.

Reverend Al Sharpton
- This is a victory for all of us.
- Al Sharpton expressed sorrow for the families who would always have an empty seat at the dinner table.
- Demonstration leads to legislation, then reconciliation.
  - The singing of these bills is a step in the right direction.
- On the Executive Order:
  - There is no governor in the country who has done something like this.
  - This is a model for how to deal with Civil Rights in the 21st Century.
  - Al Sharpton commended Cuomo for his involvement in this movement.
  - "Andrew Cuomo has raised the bar."

- Governor Cuomo was joined by victims' mothers and legislators for the singing of bills who expressed gratitude for this passage.