

STATE OF ILLINOIS



HOUSE JOURNAL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

105TH LEGISLATIVE DAY

REGULAR & PERFUNCTORY SESSION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2006

12:06 O'CLOCK P.M.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Daily Journal Index
105th Legislative Day**

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The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Representative Turner in the chair.

Prayer by Reverend Elmer Wilson with the Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Kankakee, IL.

Representative Lyons led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

By direction of the Speaker, a roll call was taken to ascertain the attendance of Members, as follows:

110 present. (ROLL CALL 1)

By unanimous consent, Representatives Richard Bradley, Chavez, Jones, Lindner, Meyer, Patterson and Watson were excused from attendance.

TEMPORARY COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative Smith replaced Representative Granberg in the Committee on Electric Utility Oversight on March 15, 2006.

Representative Lyons replaced Representative Patterson in the Committee on Electric Utility Oversight on March 15, 2006.

Representative Yarbrough replaced Representative Colvin in the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education on March 15, 2006.

Representative Soto replaced Representative Joyce in the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education on March 15, 2006.

Representative Black replaced Representative Watson in the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education on March 15, 2006.

Representative Rita replaced Representative Richard Bradley in the Committee on Executive on March 15, 2006.

Representative Feigenholtz replaced Representative Jones in the Committee on Executive on March 15, 2006.

Representative Beaubien replaced Representative Meyer in the Committee on Executive on March 15, 2006.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Representative Giles, Chairperson, from the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education to which the following were referred, action taken on March 14, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendations:

That the bills be reported "do pass" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILLS 2546 and 2882.

That the bill be reported "do pass" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Standard Debate: SENATE BILL 2191.

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2191 is as follows:

11, Yeas; 10, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Giles, Calvin(D), Chairperson
 N Mitchell, Jerry(R), Republican Spokesperson
 Y Beiser, Daniel(D)
 Y Yarbrough(D) (replacing Colvin)
 N Eddy, Roger(R)
 Y Soto(D) (replacing Joyce)

Y Davis, Monique(D), Vice-Chairperson
 N Bassi, Suzanne(R)
 Y Chapa LaVia, Linda(D)
 Y Dugan, Lisa(D)
 Y Flider, Robert(D)
 Y Miller, David(D)

N Moffitt,Donald(R)
 N Munson,Ruth(R)
 N Pihos,Sandra(R)
 N Reis,David(R)
 N Black(R) (replacing Watson)

N Mulligan,Rosemary(R)
 Y Osterman,Harry(D)
 N Pritchard,Robert(R)
 Y Smith,Michael(D)

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2546 is as follows:
 12, Yeas; 5, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Giles,Calvin(D), Chairperson
 Y Mitchell,Jerry(R), Republican Spokesperson
 Y Beiser,Daniel(D)
 A Colvin,Marlow(D)
 N Eddy,Roger(R)
 A Joyce,Kevin(D)
 Y Moffitt,Donald(R)
 Y Munson,Ruth(R)
 N Pihos,Sandra(R)
 N Reis,David(R)
 N Black(R) (replacing Watson)

Y Davis,Monique(D), Vice-Chairperson
 A Bassi,Suzanne(R)
 Y Chapa LaVia,Linda(D)
 Y Dugan,Lisa(D)
 Y Flider,Robert(D)
 Y Miller,David(D)
 A Mulligan,Rosemary(R)
 Y Osterman,Harry(D)
 N Pritchard,Robert(R)
 Y Smith,Michael(D)

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2882 is as follows:
 17, Yeas; 1, Nay; 2, Answering Present.

Y Giles,Calvin(D), Chairperson
 Y Mitchell,Jerry(R), Republican Spokesperson
 Y Beiser,Daniel(D)
 Y Yarbrough(D) (replacing Colvin)
 P Eddy,Roger(R)
 Y Soto(D) (replacing Joyce)
 Y Moffitt,Donald(R)
 Y Munson,Ruth(R)
 P Pihos,Sandra(R)
 A Reis,David(R)
 N Black(R) (replacing Watson)

Y Davis,Monique(D), Vice-Chairperson
 Y Bassi,Suzanne(R)
 Y Chapa LaVia,Linda(D)
 Y Dugan,Lisa(D)
 Y Flider,Robert(D)
 Y Miller,David(D)
 Y Mulligan,Rosemary(R)
 Y Osterman,Harry(D)
 Y Pritchard,Robert(R)
 Y Smith,Michael(D)

Representative Delgado, Chairperson, from the Committee on Human Services to which the following were referred, action taken on March 15, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendations:

That the bills be reported "do pass" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILLS 2326, 2455, 2578, 2782, 2913 and 2936.

That the bill be reported "do pass as amended" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILL 2483.

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bills 2326, 2455, 2483, 2578, 2782, 2913 and 2936 is as follows:

9, Yeas; 0, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

Y Delgado,William(D), Chairperson
 Y Bellock,Patricia(R), Republican Spokesperson
 Y Collins,Annazette(D)
 A Cultra,Shane(R)
 Y Flowers,Mary(D)
 Y Jakobsson,Naomi(D)

Y Rita,Robert(D), Vice-Chairperson
 A Chavez,Michelle(D)
 Y Coulson,Elizabeth(R)
 A Dunn,Joe(R)
 Y Howard,Constance(D)
 Y Jenisch,Roger(R)

Representative Scully, Chairperson, from the Committee on Electric Utility Oversight to which the following were referred, action taken on March 15, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendations:

That the bill be reported "do pass as amended" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILL 1705.

The committee roll call vote on House Bill 1705 is as follows:

8, Yeas; 0, Nays; 4, Answering Present.

| | |
|--|---|
| Y Scully,George(D), Chairperson | Y Verschoore,Patrick(D), Vice-Chairperson |
| P Krause,Carolyn(R), Republican Spokesperson | Y D'Amico,John(D) |
| Y Franks,Jack(D) | P Froehlich,Paul(R) |
| Y Smith(D) (replacing Granberg) | Y Mitchell,Bill(R) |
| A Myers,Richard(R) | Y Lyons(D) (replacing Patterson) |
| Y Phelps,Brandon(D) | P Stephens,Ron(R) |
| A Sullivan,Ed(R) | P Tenhouse,Art(R) |

Representative Burke, Chairperson, from the Committee on Executive to which the following were referred, action taken on March 15, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendations:

That the bill be reported "do pass" and be placed on the order of Second Reading-- Short Debate: SENATE BILLS 2255 and 2445.

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2255 is as follows:

11, Yeas; 1, Nay; 0, Answering Present.

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Y Burke,Daniel(D), Chairperson | Y Lyons,Joseph(D), Vice-Chairperson |
| N Kosel,Renee(R), Republican Spokesperson | Y Acevedo,Edward(D) |
| Y Berrios,Maria(D) | Y Biggins,Bob(R) |
| Y Rita(D) (replacing Bradley,R) | Y Hassert,Brent(R) |
| Y Feigenholtz(D) (replacing Jones) | Y McKeon,Larry(D) |
| Y Beaubien(R) (replacing Meyer) | Y Molaro,Robert(D) |
| A Saviano,Angelo(R) | |

The committee roll call vote on Senate Bill 2445 is as follows:

8, Yeas; 4, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Y Burke,Daniel(D), Chairperson | Y Lyons,Joseph(D), Vice-Chairperson |
| N Kosel,Renee(R), Republican Spokesperson | Y Acevedo,Edward(D) |
| Y Berrios,Maria(D) | N Biggins,Bob(R) |
| Y Rita(D) (replacing Bradley,R) | N Hassert,Brent(R) |
| Y Feigenholtz(D) (replacing Jones) | Y McKeon,Larry(D) |
| N Beaubien(R) (replacing Meyer) | Y Molaro,Robert(D) |
| A Saviano,Angelo(R) | |

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by

Ms. Hawker, Secretary:

Mr. Speaker -- I am directed to inform the House of Representatives that the Senate has concurred with the House in the passage of bills of the following titles to-wit:

HOUSE BILL NO. 3183

A bill for AN ACT concerning local government.

HOUSE BILL NO. 4349

A bill for AN ACT concerning local government.

HOUSE BILL NO. 4462

A bill for AN ACT concerning safety.

Passed by the Senate, March 15, 2006.

Linda Hawker, Secretary of the Senate

A message from the Senate by
Ms. Hawker, Secretary:
Mr. Speaker -- I am directed to inform the House of Representatives that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title, in the passage of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the House of Representatives, to-wit:

SENATE BILL NO. 2369

A bill for AN ACT concerning revenue.
Passed by the Senate, March 2, 2006.

Linda Hawker, Secretary of the Senate

The foregoing SENATE BILL 2369 was ordered reproduced and placed on the order of Senate Bills - First Reading.

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were offered and placed in the Committee on Rules.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 989

Offered by Representative Pihos:

WHEREAS, There are too many children who have suffered because their parents have not met their child support obligations; and

WHEREAS, To facilitate the delivery of child support to children in significant need, the General Assembly passed the Expedited Child Support Act of 1990; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of Illinois on April 1, 1992, adopted rules designated "Implementation of the Expedited Child Support System" pursuant to the Expedited Child Support Act of 1990, and the Court amended those Rules effective April 15, 1997; and

WHEREAS, In 2002, 86% of custodial parents throughout the United States who were due child support under a court order did not receive all of the child support that was due; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has received numerous constituent concerns about delays, dilatory tactics, continuances in child support cases and, in their view, the infrequent exercise of the court's authority to find non-custodial parents with unpaid support obligations in contempt or to impose jail time as a means of enforcement of child support orders; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that the receipt of child support has positive effects on children's cognitive and behavioral performance, regardless of the family's income or other socioeconomic characteristics; and

WHEREAS, Many poor families rely on child support for over 25% of their income and thus children in families with low incomes may especially benefit from the protective effects that child support can have against poverty; and

WHEREAS, Child support benefits all types of families, and the receipt of child support is positively related to child outcomes such as educational attainment, school behavior, and access to health care and nutrition; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that when a parent pays child support, the child has fewer behavior problems, makes better grades, and stays in school longer than do children who are the victims of non-support; and

WHEREAS, Payment of child support by a noncustodial parent is positively related to contact with the child, a sense of involvement in the child's upbringing, and a positive relationship with the resident parent; and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of Illinois recognized the importance of prompt decisions in child support proceedings and included specific deadlines in the rules that implemented the expedited child

support system; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we respectfully urge the Supreme Court of Illinois to consider in child support cases the scheduling of cases, treatment of litigants, and nature of orders entered during proceedings to establish or modify child support or to determine child support arrearages and the means by which the noncustodial parent, the obligor, will pay the arrearages; this consideration could include the effects that court orders have on children who have not had the benefit of the full amount of child support; requests by the obligor or the obligor's counsel to continue the proceedings to another time; delays that occur due to acts or omissions of the obligor or obligor's counsel; or pleas from the obligor or the obligor's counsel that the court not find the obligor in contempt or impose any jail term for any failure by the obligor to pay child support; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we respectfully urge the Supreme Court of Illinois and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts to consider an assessment of parent litigant concerns about child support proceedings, including a review of:

(a) the length of time that a child support case takes from the initial pleading to the date of the court's determination of that issue;

(b) the range, frequency, and appropriateness of the rulings by circuit courts when an obligor appears on a rule to show cause for non-payment of child support;

(c) the means by which the circuit courts and circuit court clerks process and schedule child support cases;

(d) the innovative means utilized by some circuit courts to avoid delays in child support cases, including expedited scheduling;

(e) possible modifications or additions to the Supreme Court Rules concerning child support that might address this issue; and

(f) possible enhancements to educational programs concerning child support cases provided by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Supreme Court and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts be furnished with suitable copies of this resolution.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 995

Offered by Representative Granberg:

WHEREAS, Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Illinois, established in 1990, is dedicated exclusively to the prevention of child abuse and neglect; its programs contribute to strong, healthy families by: helping to prepare and support parents so that they can better care for their children; educating parents, grandparents, neighbors, babysitters, and others about situations that can be harmful to children; and raising concern among all citizens -- "we are all responsible for protecting our nation's children"; and

WHEREAS, PCA Illinois has 2 main advocacy priorities for Illinois in 2006; the first of these is to continue to build the Healthy Families Illinois Program across the State; Healthy Families Illinois (HFI) is a voluntary program of intensive home visiting to support parents of newborns and to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect; it is modeled after Healthy Families America, a national initiative of Prevent Child Abuse America; its goals are to promote positive parenting, to encourage child health and development, and to prevent child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, Begun in 1997 with State funding, HFI grew to an \$11 million statewide program in 51 different communities serving over 3,000 families annually by 2001; there has been no additional funding since 2001, and the program has not been able to grow toward serving the thousands more needing its services; PCA Illinois' vision is to see this program reach full scale in Illinois through incremental growth every year; and

WHEREAS, PCA Illinois' second advocacy priority for Illinois in 2006 is to address the methamphetamine problem in Illinois in partnership with the various State agencies and coalitions working on it; and

WHEREAS, Methamphetamine ("meth") has become the major drug problem in rural Illinois and has more serious implications for harm to children than any other drug; children are affected by its incapacitating effects on their parents and caretakers and by the risk of harm in its manufacture and sales; it is now specifically addressed in the Illinois Juvenile Court Act of 1986 within the definition of child abuse;

and

WHEREAS, PCA Illinois has worked in partnership with State agencies and with community groups to help address this problem through public awareness, education, training, and support for legislative measures; several legislative responses have already been made; the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act, which took effect January 11th, includes stronger deterrents to meth manufacture in homes where children reside or in multi-unit dwellings where other tenants, including families and children, would be put at risk; other recent legislation restricts access to products containing key meth ingredients ephedrine and pseudoephedrine; and

WHEREAS, PCA Illinois also supports keys issues raised by one of its child advocacy partners, Voices for Illinois Children, including: the Early Learning Illinois effort to improve and expand preschool opportunities for young children; the Children's Mental Health Partnership to strengthen children's mental, social, and emotional health; and the A+ Illinois Campaign to reform school funding and improve the adequacy and fairness of education; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, PCA Illinois will work with the Illinois Association of Court Appointed Special Advocates to secure \$1 million in funding to improve and expand the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program to serve more of our State's most vulnerable children; Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) are trained volunteers who serve as advocates for children in the court system interacting with the child and providing information in the child's best interest directly to the court; operating under careful guidelines established by National CASA for an intensive and ongoing commitment to the child, volunteers in Illinois served over 4,200 children last year; the actual need is more than six times that number; and

WHEREAS, A Child Abuse Prevention Month Media Conference Launch and Awards Ceremony is planned for April 3, 2006 in the State Capitol rotunda at Springfield; simultaneous launches will be held in Chicago and in southern Illinois; PCA Illinois, in collaboration with the Department of Children and Family Services, has planned a statewide calendar of events in connection with the prevention of child abuse and neglect for the month of April; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we proclaim April 2006 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Illinois and urge organizations throughout the State to take steps to increase local and statewide visibility of Child Abuse Prevention Month activities.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 998

Offered by Representative John Bradley:

WHEREAS, The illegal manufacture and use of methamphetamine is a severe problem in this State, especially in downstate Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly has enacted numerous pieces of legislation that impose stronger penalties for the manufacture or possession of methamphetamine and that make it more difficult to obtain ingredients for the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine, such as the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act and the Methamphetamine Precursor Control Act; and

WHEREAS, The proposed federal budget for 2007 could result in the reduction of \$13,000,000 available to our State for methamphetamine law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, The major reductions would be to the COPS program and to the Byrne Justice Assistance grants that give money to local police departments to pay for more officers and help provide equipment such as police radios and computer systems; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, Byrne grants helped Illinois police make 1,267 methamphetamine-related arrests and seize 348,923 grams of methamphetamine; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the federal government to reinstate the funding for methamphetamine enforcement, including the COPS program and the Byrne Justice Assistance grants; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the United States Senate, and to each member of the Illinois Congressional delegation.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1004

Offered by Representative Howard:

WHEREAS, The Illinois Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority are sponsoring their eighth annual legislative visit to the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., was founded in 1908 as the first sorority established by African-American college women; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha is an international organization with over 200,000 undergraduate and alumnae members; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha itself is an organization with a commitment to promoting education, healthy minds and bodies, family unity, economic development, political empowerment, cultural heritage, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha members who have distinguished themselves individually include Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, Hazel O'Leary, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, Ella Fitzgerald, Phylicia Rashad, Zina Garrison, Jane Addams, Marlan Anderson, Margaret Burroughs, Cardiss Collins, Bettiann Gardner, Marla Gibbs, Gladys Knight, Constance Baker Motley, Jessye Norman, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, Alicia Keys, and Illinoisan Linda White, international president of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc.; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the members of this Body, in recognition of the achievements of the members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and the values for which they strive, do proclaim Wednesday, March 29, 2006, as the Eighth Annual Alpha Kappa Alpha Day throughout the State of Illinois; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Linda White, international president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1005

Offered by Representative Jerry Mitchell:

WHEREAS, The Illinois Standards Achievement Test, which scores are critical to Illinois' compliance with the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, is being delivered late to school districts across Illinois and with incomplete or incorrect testing documents; and

WHEREAS, The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires all states to measure each public school's and district's achievement and establish annual achievement targets for the state to show adequate yearly progress; and

WHEREAS, Adequate yearly progress calculations in Illinois are now based on three factors: (1) the percentage of reading and mathematics scores that meet or exceed standards, compared to the annual State targets; (2) the participation rate of students in taking the State tests, which must meet or exceed 95%; and (3) the attendance rates of students in elementary and middle schools and the graduation rates of students in high schools, which must meet or exceed the State's annual targets; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois Standards Achievement Test is scheduled to be administered in all school districts between March 6 and March 24 for students in grades 3 through 8 in reading and mathematics and for students in grades 4 and 7 in science; and

WHEREAS, The State Board of Education entered into a new contract with assessment vendor Harcourt Assessment, Inc. in 2005 to administer the standardized test for the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Harcourt Assessment, Inc. has not adequately performed its contractual duties for the State of Illinois, jeopardizing the validity of the State standardized test because of multiple problems with timely delivery and the accuracy of testing documents; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we request the State Superintendent of Education to attend a joint hearing of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and the House Elementary and Secondary Education Appropriation Committee to (1) produce the RFP request, with all subsequent responses from interested parties, e-mails, correspondence, and all other information concerning the procurement of Harcourt Assessment, Inc.; (2) outline how the contract with Harcourt Assessment, Inc. was derived; (3) explain all provisions of the contract, in conjunction with the State Board

of Education's expectations for compliance with contractual duties; (4) explain why the State Board of Education was not aware of Harcourt Assessment, Inc.'s inability to perform its contractual duties; and (5) explain how the multiple problems with the delivery of tests and the accuracy of testing documents put the 2006 standardized testing in jeopardy of being invalid; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the Speaker of the House, the members of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee, the members of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Appropriation Committee, the members of the State Board of Education, and the State Superintendent of Education.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1006

Offered by Representative Cross:

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Homeowners Association Task Force is created to examine issues concerning homeowners associations; the Task Force shall consist of seven members appointed as follows: two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a co-chairperson; two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a co-chairperson; one person from an association that represents the Illinois legal community; one person from an association that represents realtors; and one person from an association that represents home builders; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the task force shall meet on two separate occasions between May 2006 and July 2006 with the purpose of drafting a bill to create a homeowners' association act to be presented to the General Assembly.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 107

Offered by Representative Howard:

WHEREAS, Changes over the past several decades in federal and state laws defining crimes, prescribing sentences for crimes, prescribing and limiting services and treatment for persons incarcerated for crimes, and setting conditions and services post-release from prison or jail have resulted in staggering increases in the numbers of persons with past criminal convictions; and

WHEREAS, Between 1970 and 2001, the Illinois prison population increased by more than 500 percent, from 7,326 to 44,348; and

WHEREAS, Nationwide, over 650,000 men and women, a figure larger than the entire population of Boston or Washington, DC, will be released from state and federal confinements in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 244,000 men and women are currently under correctional supervision in Illinois, including those in jail, in prison, on probation, and on parole; and

WHEREAS, Almost all - between 95 and 97 percent - of those who are incarcerated or detained in the United States will serve their time and come home; and

WHEREAS, Over the past several decades enactment of and changes to federal and state laws limiting opportunities for employment, as well as education, housing, public assistance, and other aspects of civil life, for persons with criminal convictions have resulted in high barriers to those persons' success in society after they have served the sentences for their convictions; and

WHEREAS, Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich convened the Statewide Community Safety and Reentry Working Group and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley convened the Mayoral Policy Caucus on Prisoner Reentry to study prisoner reentry, and the reports and recommendations from those groups are becoming available in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Barriers to employment and job promotion for persons with criminal convictions are extremely complex issues, involving, among others, public employers at all levels of government, private employers, labor organizations, education and training institutions, public safety officials, public and private licensing and certification bodies, insurers, employment placement agencies, custodians of and users of arrest and conviction records, drug treatment agencies, and persons with criminal records; and

WHEREAS, A thorough examination of the barriers to employment for people with criminal conviction

records and a thorough study of ways in which such barriers could be lowered or eliminated without exposing employers, individuals, the general public, or property to unreasonable risk is warranted; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is hereby established a Legislative Task Force on Employment of Persons with Past Criminal Convictions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall have the following members:

12 voting members, as follows: 3 members of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate, 3 members of the Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader, 3 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and 3 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the House Minority Leader; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all actions of the Task Force require the affirmative vote of at least 7 voting members; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the following persons shall serve without compensation as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Task Force:

- (A) The Director of the Illinois Department of Corrections, or his or her designee;
- (B) The Director of the Illinois Department of Employment Security, or his or her designee;
- (C) The Secretary of the Illinois Department of Human Services, or his or her designee;
- (D) The Director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, or his or her designee;
- (E) The Secretary of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, or his or her designee; and
- (F) The Chairman of the Illinois Human Rights Commission, or his or her designee; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the voting members of the Task Force shall select a chairperson; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall conduct public hearings and examine the barriers faced by persons with past criminal convictions with respect to obtaining employment; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall evaluate those recommendations made by the Governor's Statewide Community Safety and Reentry Working Group; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly in a final report which shall be filed on or before October 31, 2006; the requirement for reporting to the General Assembly shall be satisfied by filing copies of the report with the Speaker, the Minority Leader and the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the President, the Minority Leader and the Secretary of the Senate and the Legislative Research Unit, as required by Section 3.1 of the General Assembly Organization Act, and filing additional copies with the State Government Report Distribution Center for the General Assembly as required under paragraph (t) of Section 7 of the State Library Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the report shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

- (1) An assessment of those collateral consequences of a criminal conviction which impede employment of persons with past criminal convictions, and the experiences of other states in addressing this issue;
- (2) An assessment of the preparation for gainful employment provided to those incarcerated in Illinois correctional facilities, and the experiences of other states in addressing this issue;
- (3) An identification of the barriers which impede those with criminal records from obtaining stable employment; and
- (4) Recommendations for legislative changes necessary to facilitate the employment of persons with past criminal convictions which, if implemented, would not expose the employer, an individual, the general public, or property to unreasonable risks; and be it further

RESOLVED, That within 60 days after the filing of the report, the appropriate standing committees of both the House and the Senate shall hold hearings to consider the recommendations made by the Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the ex-officio members of the Task Force.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 108

Offered by Representative Pihos:

WHEREAS, In the 2004-2005 school year, over 321,000 children with disabilities were served in special education programs across Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The number of children in special education programs has risen 12% in the last 5 years alone, and special education accounts for approximately 21% of all education spending; and

WHEREAS, The federal government has established a goal of reimbursing 40% of the costs of special education incurred by school districts, but it currently provides only 18% of costs nationally and only 14% in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Illinois has failed for decades to update reimbursement rates for special education costs, with the last reimbursement rate set in 1973 for special education orphanage tuition, in 1985 for special education personnel, in 1978 for special education private tuition, in 1976 for special education summer school, and in 1965 for special education transportation; and

WHEREAS, Illinois has continued to prorate special education mandated categoricals at less than 100%, with the FY06 budget prorating these mandated categoricals at 97%; and

WHEREAS, Even if Illinois fully funded mandated categoricals at 100%, this would still only represent partial funding, as the reimbursement rates are severely outdated; and

WHEREAS, Illinois school districts currently spend an estimated \$1 billion from their own general education funds to meet the unreimbursed costs of special education services that are mandated by federal and State laws and administrative rules; and

WHEREAS, Special education continues to represent a growing financial burden on school districts as the need for services increases while State and federal funding fails to increase along with that need; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that a task force shall be created to study current special education funding needs and to make recommendations as to how the State can increase special education funding and ease the financial burden on school districts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the task force shall consist of the State Superintendent of Education (or his or her designee) plus 16 members appointed as follows: the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader shall each appoint one representative, the Senate President and the Senate Minority Leader shall each appoint one senator, and these 4 leaders shall each appoint 3 public members representing the interests of special education administrators and services, school districts, and disability advocates; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2007; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be transmitted to the State Superintendent of Education.

SENATE BILLS ON FIRST READING

Having been reproduced, the following bills were taken up, read by title a first time and placed in the Committee on Rules: SENATE BILLS 880 (May), 1085 (Berrios) and 2358 (Molaro).

AGREED RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were offered and placed on the Calendar on the order of Agreed Resolutions.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 987

Offered by Representative Hamos:

Congratulates Shani Davis on winning a gold medal in the 2006 Torino Winter Olympics.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 988

Offered by Representative Daniels:

Congratulates Frank and Verna Clayton on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 990

Offered by Representative Kelly:

Congratulates Faye E. Terrell-Perkins on her appointment by the Illinois Supreme Court to serve on the Minimum Continuing Legal Education Board.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 992

Offered by Representative Eddy:

Congratulates Agnes Dale Smith on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 993

Offered by Representative Eddy:

Mourns the death of Ola Marie Bundy of Normal.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 994

Offered by Representative Granberg:

Congratulates the winners of the fifth grade poster contest sponsored by the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 996

Offered by Representative Feigenholtz:

Congratulates Kevin J. Bell on 30 years of service to Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 997

Offered by Representative Poe:

Thanks Reverend Lee Fields, Jr., pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Springfield, for his community leadership in heightening public awareness to the growing violence in his community by organizing a "Stop the Violence" march.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 999

Offered by Representative Cross:

Congratulates Pastor Thomas Hudson Cross Jr. on the occasion of his retirement after 45 years of ministry in the United Methodist Church.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1000

Offered by Representative Munson:

Congratulates the Gifford Park Association on the occasion of its 25th annual Historic Elgin House Tour.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1001

Offered by Representative Ramey:

Mourns the death of Thomas J. Merrion of West Chicago.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1002

Offered by Representative Kelly:
Congratulates Mr. Keith Hauge for his significant commitment to public education in Illinois and for his 57 years of devoted service to the Illinois Education Association.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1003

Offered by Representative Myers:
Congratulates the Western Stoneware Company on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1007

Offered by Representative Brady:
Congratulates the Epiphany School Lady Knights seventh grade girls basketball team of Normal on winning the IESA 7A State Championship.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1008

Offered by Representative Brady:
Congratulates the Epiphany School Lady Knights eighth grade girls basketball team of Normal on placing third in the IESA 8A State Championship.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1009

Offered by Representative Hannig:
Congratulates the Hillsboro High School Lady Hilltoppers girls basketball team on winning the IHSA Class A State Championship.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1010

Offered by Representative Krause:
Congratulates Mr. Frederick G. Wagner for his significant commitment to public education in Illinois and for his 47 years of devoted service to the Illinois Education Association.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1011

Offered by Representative Black:
Mourns the death of Joe D. Montgomery of Danville.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1012

Offered by Representative Parke:
Congratulates Thomas Menzel, former alderman, mayor, and city treasurer of Rolling Meadows, for his service to Rolling Meadows.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1013

Offered by Representative Parke:
Recognizes the 33rd anniversary of the creation of Meals on Wheels.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1014

Offered by Representative Coulson:
Congratulates the Niles North High School chess team on winning its first IHSA State Chess Championship.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1015

Offered by Representative Parke:
 Congratulates Tom Rivera on being inducted into the Illinois Tourism Hall of Fame.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1016

Offered by Representative Parke:
 Congratulates the citizens of Schaumburg on the occasion of the village's fiftieth anniversary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1017

Offered by Representative Munson:
 Congratulates Betty Brown of Elgin on being chosen to be interviewed by The History Makers.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1018

Offered by Representative Granberg:
 Congratulates Kirk Rueter of Hoyleton on the occasion of his retirement after a stellar 13-year career in Major League Baseball.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1019

Offered by Representative Phelps:
 Mourns the death of Jerry Russell Simmons.

SENATE BILLS ON SECOND READING

Having been reproduced, the following bills were taken up, read by title a second time and advanced to the order of Third Reading: SENATE BILLS 918, 2271, 2400, 2465, 2711 and 2718.

Having been reproduced, the following bill was taken up, read by title a second time and held on the order of Second Reading: SENATE BILL 2772.

Having been reproduced, the following bills were taken up, read by title a second time and advanced to the order of Third Reading: SENATE BILLS 2807 and 3062.

SENATE BILL 2302. Having been reproduced, was taken up and read by title a second time.

The following amendment was offered in the Committee on Consumer Protection, adopted and reproduced:

AMENDMENT NO. 1. Amend Senate Bill 2302 on page 3, line 3, by replacing "establishes" with "can establish"; and
 on page 3, line 7, by replacing "establishes" with "can establish"; and
 on page 5, by replacing lines 7 and 8 with "standard that is the same as those contained in this Act, and the State Fire"; and
 on page 5, by replacing line 10 with "those requirements have"; and
 on page 7, line 7, after "consist of", by inserting "an"; and
 on page 7, line 7, after "symbolic", by inserting "character or"; and
 on page 7, line 10, after "visible", by inserting "alphanumeric or symbolic character or".

There being no further amendment(s), the bill, as amended, was advanced to the order of Third Reading.

Having been reproduced, the following bills were taken up, read by title a second time and advanced to the order of Third Reading: SENATE BILLS 2489, 2165 and 2243.

SENATE BILL 2878. Having been reproduced, was taken up and read by title a second time.

The following amendment was offered in the Committee on Transportation and Motor Vehicles, adopted and reproduced:

AMENDMENT NO. 1. Amend Senate Bill 2878 on page 6, by replacing lines 11 through 14 with the following:

"the vehicle."

There being no further amendment(s), the bill, as amended, was advanced to the order of Third Reading.

CONCURRENCES AND NON-CONCURRENCES IN SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILLS

Senate Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 708, having been reproduced, was taken up for consideration.

Representative Black moved that the House concur with the Senate in the adoption of Senate Amendment No. 1.

And on that motion, a vote was taken resulting as follows:

110, Yeas; 0, Nays; 0, Answering Present.

(ROLL CALL 2)

The motion prevailed and the House concurred with the Senate in the adoption of Senate Amendment No. 1 to HOUSE BILL 708.

Ordered that the Clerk inform the Senate.

SENATE BILLS ON SECOND READING

Having been reproduced, the following bills were taken up, read by title a second time and advanced to the order of Third Reading: SENATE BILLS 2233, 2308 and 2334.

AGREED RESOLUTIONS

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS 987, 988, 990, 992, 993, 994, 996, 997, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018 and 1019 were taken up for consideration.

Representative Currie moved the adoption of the agreed resolutions.

The motion prevailed and the agreed resolutions were adopted.

At the hour of 12:36 o'clock p.m., Representative Currie moved that the House do now adjourn until Thursday, March 16, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock p.m., allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk.

The motion prevailed.

And the House stood adjourned.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
NINETY-FOURTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE ROLL CALL
QUORUM ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE

March 15, 2006

0 YEAS

0 NAYS

110 PRESENT

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| P Acevedo | P Dugan | P Krause | P Pritchard |
| P Bassi | P Dunkin | P Lang | P Ramey |
| P Beaubien | P Dunn | P Leitch | P Reis |
| P Beiser | P Durkin | E Lindner | P Reitz |
| P Bellock | P Eddy | P Lyons, Joseph | P Rita |
| P Berrios | P Feigenholtz | P Mathias | P Rose |
| P Biggins | P Flider | P Mautino | P Ryg |
| P Black | P Flowers | P May | P Sacia |
| P Boland | P Franks | P McAuliffe | P Saviano |
| P Bost | P Fritchey | P McCarthy | P Schmitz |
| P Bradley, John | P Froehlich | P McGuire | P Schock |
| E Bradley, Richard | P Giles | P McKeon | P Scully |
| P Brady | P Golar | P Mendoza | P Smith |
| P Brauer | P Gordon | E Meyer | P Sommer |
| P Brosnahan | P Graham | P Miller | P Soto |
| P Burke | P Granberg | P Mitchell, Bill | P Stephens |
| P Chapa LaVia | P Hamos | P Mitchell, Jerry | P Sullivan |
| E Chavez | P Hannig | P Moffitt | P Tenhouse |
| P Churchill | P Hassert | P Molaro | P Tryon |
| P Collins | P Hoffman | P Mulligan | P Turner |
| P Colvin | P Holbrook | P Munson | P Verschoore |
| P Coulson | P Howard | P Myers | P Wait |
| P Cross | P Hultgren | P Nekritz | P Washington |
| P Cultra | P Jakobsson | P Osmond | E Watson |
| P Currie | P Jefferson | P Osterman | P Winters |
| P D'Amico | P Jenisch | P Parke | P Yarbrough |
| P Daniels | E Jones | E Patterson | P Younge |
| P Davis, Monique | P Joyce | P Phelps | A Mr. Speaker |
| P Davis, William | P Kelly | P Pihos | |
| P Delgado | P Kosel | P Poe | |

E - Denotes Excused Absence

STATE OF ILLINOIS
 NINETY-FOURTH
 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 HOUSE ROLL CALL
 HOUSE BILL 708
 VEH CD-HIGHWAY ACCESS
 MOTION TO CONCUR IN SENATE AMENDMENT #1
 CONCURRED

March 15, 2006

110 YEAS

0 NAYS

0 PRESENT

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Y Acevedo | Y Dugan | Y Krause | Y Pritchard |
| Y Bassi | Y Dunkin | Y Lang | Y Ramey |
| Y Beaubien | Y Dunn | Y Leitch | Y Reis |
| Y Beiser | Y Durkin | E Lindner | Y Reitz |
| Y Bellock | Y Eddy | Y Lyons, Joseph | Y Rita |
| Y Berrios | Y Feigenholtz | Y Mathias | Y Rose |
| Y Biggins | Y Flider | Y Mautino | Y Ryg |
| Y Black | Y Flowers | Y May | Y Sacia |
| Y Boland | Y Franks | Y McAuliffe | Y Saviano |
| Y Bost | Y Fritchey | Y McCarthy | Y Schmitz |
| Y Bradley, John | Y Froehlich | Y McGuire | Y Schock |
| E Bradley, Richard | Y Giles | Y McKeon | Y Scully |
| Y Brady | Y Golar | Y Mendoza | Y Smith |
| Y Brauer | Y Gordon | E Meyer | Y Sommer |
| Y Brosnahan | Y Graham | Y Miller | Y Soto |
| Y Burke | Y Granberg | Y Mitchell, Bill | Y Stephens |
| Y Chapa LaVia | Y Hamos | Y Mitchell, Jerry | Y Sullivan |
| E Chavez | Y Hannig | Y Moffitt | Y Tenhouse |
| Y Churchill | Y Hassert | Y Molaro | Y Tryon |
| Y Collins | Y Hoffman | Y Mulligan | Y Turner |
| Y Colvin | Y Holbrook | Y Munson | Y Verschoore |
| Y Coulson | Y Howard | Y Myers | Y Wait |
| Y Cross | Y Hultgren | Y Nekritz | Y Washington |
| Y Cultra | Y Jakobsson | Y Osmond | E Watson |
| Y Currie | Y Jefferson | Y Osterman | Y Winters |
| Y D'Amico | Y Jenisch | Y Parke | Y Yarbrough |
| Y Daniels | E Jones | E Patterson | Y Younge |
| Y Davis, Monique | Y Joyce | Y Phelps | A Mr. Speaker |
| Y Davis, William | Y Kelly | Y Pihos | |
| Y Delgado | Y Kosel | Y Poe | |

E - Denotes Excused Absence

105TH LEGISLATIVE DAY**Perfunctory Session****WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2006**

At the hour of 4:21 o'clock p.m., the House convened perfunctory session.

SENATE BILL ON FIRST READING

Having been reproduced, the following bill was taken up, read by title a first time and placed in the Committee on Rules: SENATE BILL 2369 (Currie).

At the hour of 4:21 o'clock p.m., the House Perfunctory Session adjourned.