

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**



# **HOUSE JOURNAL**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**88TH LEGISLATIVE DAY**

**REGULAR & PERFUNCTORY SESSION**

**TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2007**

**3:15 O'CLOCK P.M.**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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88th Legislative Day**

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The House met pursuant to adjournment.  
 Representative Hannig in the chair.  
 Representative Hannig asks leave to use the Quorum Roll Call from the First Special Session to convene the Eighty-Eighth Legislative Day.  
 Leave was granted.

### MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by  
 Ms. Shipley, 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. 766

A bill for AN ACT concerning State government.  
 Passed by the Senate, July 10, 2007.

Deborah Shipley, Secretary of the Senate

The foregoing SENATE BILL 766 was ordered reproduced and placed on the order of Senate Bills - First Reading.

### AGREED RESOLUTIONS

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

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION 567

Offered by Representative Cross:  
 Congratulates Phil Langley on his induction into the Harness Racing Hall of Fame.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION 569

Offered by Representative Coulson:  
 Mourns the death of John T. Trutter of Chicago.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION 570

Offered by Representative Tracy:  
 Recognizes the citizens of the Village of Ashland as they celebrate the Village sesquicentennial.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION 571

Offered by Representative Yarbrough:  
 Mourns the death of Ruby Pearl White of New Kensington, Pennsylvania.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION 572

Offered by Representative May:  
 Congratulates James Conlon, Music Director of Ravinia Festival in Highland Park, on being honored by the Anti-Defamation League with the Crystal Globe Award.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION 573

Offered by Representative Dunkin:  
 Congratulates Elroy C. Smith on his 15 years of service to the Chicago radio industry.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 574

Offered by Representative Burke:  
Mourns the death of Anthony J. Peloza of Chicago.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 576

Offered by Representative Currie:  
Congratulates Dr. Frances McConnell Williams on her retirement as Principal of Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Paideia Community Academy in Chicago.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 580

Offered by Representative Smith:  
Congratulates the Canton Special Olympics Team on their achievements at the 2007 Special Olympics.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 581

Offered by Representative Washington:  
Congratulates Ms. Ollie Jones of Zion on celebrating her 100th birthday, July 7, 2007.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 582

Offered by Representative Bill Mitchell:  
Congratulates Mr. and Mrs. John S. White on the occasion of their 50 year wedding anniversary.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 583

Offered by Representative Jefferson:  
Mourns the death of Cheryl Marie "Chip" Box of Rockford.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 584

Offered by Representative Granberg:  
Congratulates Dr. H. Goff Thompson on the occasion of being named the 2007 Rural Practitioner of the Year by the Illinois Rural Health Association.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 585

Offered by Representative Granberg:  
Congratulates the hard workers that make Spassfest a yearly event celebrated by many and wishes the citizens of Germantown a great time as they enjoy Spassfest.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 586

Offered by Representative Flider:  
Mourns the death of United States Army Corporal Karen N. Clifton of Mount Zion.

**AGREED RESOLUTIONS**

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS 567, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 576, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585 and 586 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 3:18 o'clock p.m., Representative Currie moved that the House do now adjourn until Wednesday, July 11, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock p.m., allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk.

The motion prevailed.

And the House stood adjourned.

**88TH LEGISLATIVE DAY**

**Perfunctory Session**

**TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2007**

At the hour of 3:24 o'clock p.m., the House convened perfunctory session.

**HOUSE RESOLUTIONS**

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

**HOUSE RESOLUTION 575**

Offered by Representative Granberg:

WHEREAS, Article XIII, Section 5 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 requires the State to provide pension benefits to members of State-sponsored retirement systems; and

WHEREAS, The State of Illinois supports five retirement plans on behalf of State employees, university employees, teachers, judges, and members of the Illinois General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, It is the State's responsibility to provide adequate funding to support State pension liabilities so that future generations are not held responsible for current expenses; and

WHEREAS, Deferrals of the State's obligations to its annuitants contributed to an unfunded pension liability in State-sponsored systems of \$19 billion in 1995 to \$43 billion in 2003, resulting in a funded ratio of 48% in 2003, the worst funded ratio of any of the fifty States and significantly under-funded in comparison to the national average of 91.1% among 101 public retirement systems according to the 2003 Public Fund Survey conducted by the National Association of State Retirement Administrators; and

WHEREAS, The Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago's Task Force on Illinois State Finance, in recognition of this crisis, reported that unless changes are made "commitments to State employees will become a huge burden on future generations or will not be kept at all"; and

WHEREAS, Annuitants of the State's benefit systems rely on the security provided by pension benefits to meet their daily necessities, including food, housing, and healthcare; and, as the Civic Committee has recommended, "Illinois should keep its obligations and commitments to those who have worked for it and who will work for it in the future. Failure to fund adequately to cover such obligations is unfair to employees whose rights have vested"; and

WHEREAS, Over the next three years, in order to meet the statutory funding formula, the State will be required to increase annual contributions to the pension systems and debt service on outstanding pension obligation bonds, reducing available State resources to fund growth in other core services provided by the State, such as education and health care, to less than \$200 million (or less than 1% growth) of natural revenue growth per year; and

WHEREAS, Further deferrals of the State's pension liabilities will force future generations to pay billions in additional interest on the unfunded liabilities of the State between fiscal years 2008 and 2045; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the funding crisis caused by the State's persistent under-funding of its pension obligations and other past deferrals, the Civic Committee has stated that "Good government in a democracy involves making hard choices. The citizens who live in Illinois and pay taxes here, and the businesses located here, all must make such choices. Their government should do no less. Avoiding such choices undercuts democracy."; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the State's pension funding system is in a state of crisis, and that the State will continue to unnecessarily pay billions in interest costs alone if the unfunded pension liability does not receive an immediate and significant infusion of funding, the General Assembly is in agreement that a solution to this crisis must be adopted prior to adjournment of 2007 Spring Session of the Ninety-Fifth General Assembly; this action is necessary to adequately secure existing pension obligations, reduce long-term interest costs on current obligations, more effectively manage State funding requirements,

and ensure that future new revenues will not be consumed solely by escalating pension contributions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly shall enact any such additional protections necessary to ensure that no further State pension liabilities may be deferred to future generations of Illinois citizens.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION 577

Offered by Representative Brauer:

WHEREAS, The State of Illinois honors Illinois veterans for service in the United States Armed Services, the Illinois National Guard, and the Illinois Naval Militia with grants and scholarships to attend Illinois community colleges and public universities; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois Veteran Grant Program pays eligible tuition and certain fees for undergraduate study at any Illinois community college or public university for Illinois residents who qualify; a qualified applicant is any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has served at least one year of active duty and whose separation from such service has been characterized as honorable; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois National Guard and Naval Militia Grant Program pays tuition and eligible fees at all Illinois community colleges or public universities; a qualified applicant must be on active status and have served for at least one year in the Illinois National Guard or the Illinois Naval Militia; and

WHEREAS, The MIA-POW Scholarship Program for dependents of Illinois residents declared to be missing in action or prisoners of war pays all tuition and fees at any Illinois community college or public university; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois Veteran Grant Program, the Illinois National Guard and Naval Militia Grant Program, and the MIA-POW Scholarship Program are all considered entitlement grants; thus, if the General Assembly does not fully fund these programs to cover all expenses, the community college or public university must waive all tuition and fees on behalf of that student; and

WHEREAS, Illinois community colleges and public universities must raise tuition and fees in order to compensate for unfunded mandates placed upon them by the Governor's budget; and

WHEREAS, It is not fiscally responsible for the Governor to increase government spending while other parts of the budget continue to be underfunded; and

WHEREAS, The FY06 budget underfunded these veterans' programs by \$13.6 million; the FY07 shortfall is expected to reach approximately \$14.5 million; with the projected increase in the number of veterans qualifying for these benefits, the shortfall is expected to rise somewhere between \$15 million and \$18 million in FY08; public institutions will have no recourse but to further raise already inflated tuition and fee rates for all Illinois students to cover the increasing costs of such programs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the community colleges and public universities of the State of Illinois are entitled to reimbursement for the costs incurred in the administration of the Illinois Veteran Grant Program, the Illinois National Guard and Naval Militia Grant Program, and the MIA-POW Scholarship Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly recommends that the budget fully reimburse community colleges and public universities for the costs incurred in the administration of the Illinois Veteran Grant Program, the Illinois National Guard and Naval Militia Grant Program, and the MIA-POW Scholarship Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly urges the quick passage of House Bill 479, which creates the Appropriation for Military Scholarships Act that provides that beginning with the budget for Fiscal Year 2009, the Governor must include a General Revenue Fund recommendation in the annual budget sufficient to reimburse institutions of higher learning in this State for not charging students tuition and fees under the Illinois Veterans Grant Program, the Illinois National Guard and Naval Militia Grant Program, and the MIA-POW Scholarship Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the Governor, the Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board, the president of each community college of the State, and the president of each public university of the State.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 578

Offered by Representative Franks:

WHEREAS, As of June 27, 2007, the Governor has failed to negotiate a consensus position with the General Assembly on the State budget for Fiscal Year 2008, which begins on July 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, After May 31, the General Assembly is deemed to be in overtime session, requiring a three-fifths vote of the members in each chamber to pass legislation that has an effective date before June 1 of the next calendar year; and

WHEREAS, Reaching a consensus position on a State budget and any associated substantive issues requires the Governor to be consistently present in Springfield to negotiate with the leaders and members of the General Assembly concerning the budget and associated substantive issues; and

WHEREAS, The Governor's travel expenses present an increasing financial burden on the citizens of this State throughout the year, not just during the General Assembly's overtime session; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Governor shall not use a State plane or other State vehicle as his transportation from Chicago to the State Capital and back, except that the Governor may use a State plane or other State vehicle in emergency situations and to commute between Chicago and the State Capital once a week; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Governor shall not use State funds or State assets and shall not be reimbursed by the State for travel from Chicago to the State Capital and back more than once per week, except in emergency situations, and the Governor shall pay out-of-pocket for any additional travel to and from Springfield.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 579

Offered by Representative Franks:

WHEREAS, The taxpayers of the State of Illinois provide airplanes that are available for the Governor's use to assist the Governor in the performance of his official duties; and

WHEREAS, Under State and federal tax laws, if the Governor uses these airplanes for personal purposes without reimbursement to the State, then the value of that usage should be attributed to the Governor as taxable income; and

WHEREAS, Governor Rod R. Blagojevich frequently makes use of these airplanes, and he often uses the airplanes for purposes that appear to be purely "personal purposes"; and

WHEREAS, Governor Rod R. Blagojevich has, on occasion, reimbursed the State for his personal or political use of the State's aircraft; and

WHEREAS, Governor Rod R. Blagojevich should declare any unreimbursed personal use of State airplanes as income for purposes of his State and federal income tax returns; and

WHEREAS, In order assist Governor Rod R. Blagojevich in complying with his federal and State income tax obligations, the State should provide him with the proper documentation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that, in order for Governor Rod R. Blagojevich to properly declare his income on his tax returns, the Secretary of Transportation is directed to provide to Governor Rod R. Blagojevich the appropriate IRS Forms (Form 1099 or otherwise) for his unreimbursed personal use of State airplanes for the 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006 taxable years and, at the appropriate times, for all subsequent taxable years.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 587

Offered by Representative Dugan:

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that there is created a House Task Force on the Illinois Procurement Code for the purpose of examining the bidding process on State of Illinois contracts,



particularly on the preference given to Illinois businesses; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House Task Force on the Illinois Procurement Code shall consist of the following members:

- (1) A chairperson who is a member of the House, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- (2) 4 members of the House, 2 of whom are appointed by the Speaker of the House and 2 of whom are appointed by the Minority Leader of the House;
- (3) 2 staff members of the Department of Central Management Services appointed by the Director of Central Management Services; and
- (4) 2 staff members of the Procurement Policy Board appointed by the Procurement Policy Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members shall serve on a voluntary basis and shall be responsible for any costs associated with their participation in the House Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all members of the House Task Force shall be considered to be members with voting rights, that a quorum of the House Task Force shall consist of a simple majority of the members of the House Task Force, and that all actions and recommendations of the House Task Force be approved by a simple majority of the members of the House Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House Task Force shall conduct a survey of State contracts awarded over the course of a calendar year that includes, but is not limited to, the following findings:

- (1) how many contracts went to Illinois companies during the calendar year;
- (2) in the cases that an out-of-state company received a contract instead of an Illinois company that bid on the same contract, why the Illinois company did not receive the contract;
- (3) the difference in bids between companies that received a State contract and those companies that did not receive a State contract;
- (4) the difference in the bid specifications process between in-state and out-of-state companies; and
- (5) the benefits to the State of awarding contracts to Illinois companies instead of out-of-state companies; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House Task Force on the Illinois Procurement Code shall meet at the call of the chairperson and shall summarize its findings and recommendations in a report to the House no later than September 1, 2008.

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
FIRST READING**

Representative Dunkin introduced the following:

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 25**

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the State for adoption or rejection at the general election next occurring at least 6 months after the adoption of this resolution a proposition to add Section 17.5 to Article I of the Illinois Constitution as follows:

**SECTION 17.5. RIGHT TO DECENT HOUSING**

**(a) All persons shall have the right to decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing, which right shall not be denied or abridged by the State or by any subdivision of the State.**

**(b) The General Assembly may provide by law for the enforcement and implementation of this Section.**

**SCHEDULE**

This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act.

The foregoing HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 25 was taken up, read in full a first time, ordered reproduced and placed in the Committee on Rules.

**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 766 (Howard).

At the hour of 3:26 o'clock p.m., the House Perfunctory Session adjourned.