

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Committee Report. Representative Barbara Flynn Currie, Chairperson from the Committee on Rules reports the following committee action on March 21, 2017: recommends be adopted, referred to the floor is Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 770, Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 2606, Floor Amendment #3 to House Bill 2647, Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 2652, Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 2653, Floor Amendment #3 to House Bill 2654, Floor Amendment #2 House Bill 2663, Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 2893, Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 3092, Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 3282, Floor Amendment #3 to House Joint Resolution 25. Correction of a Committee Report read in on March 16, 2017. Representative Mussman, Chairperson from the Committee on Special Needs Services reports the following committee action taken on March 16, 2017: recommends be adopted is House Resolution 156."

Speaker Lang: "The House will be in order. We shall be led in prayer today by Pastor Mark Nebel, who is with St. John's Lutheran Church in Red Bud. Pastor Nebel is the guest of Representative Costello. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off cell phones and rise for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Nebel."

Pastor Nebel: "Thank you. Let us pray. Oh Lord, God, heavenly Father, Your holy word urges us to pray for all of those who are in authority that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This pleases You, Oh God, our Savior, for You want all to be saved and to come to a knowledge

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

of Your truth. Please bless this Assembly as a governing authority which You have established as Your servant for the good of our state. We ask for Your eternal wisdom to be present among us trusting in You as the God who is with us as the way, the truth and the life. We plead for Your forgiveness when and where we do wrong. We pray for Your blessings when we seek to serve others in their time of need. We celebrate Your guidance as the actions of this Assembly benefit the citizens of Illinois. We thank You for this opportunity of public service for Your glory and for the good of others. These and the many other thoughts that we bring to You in the silence of our own hearts we pray in Your most precious, loving and saving name, Amen."

Speaker Lang: "Be led in the Pledge by Mr. Olsen."

Olsen - et al: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Speaker Lang: "Roll Call for Attendance. Leader Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record reflect the excused absences of Representatives Arroyo and McAsey."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer."

Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please excuse Representatives Davidsmeyer, Jesiel, Mitchell, and Severin today."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Clerk, please take the record. There are 110 present, we do have a quorum. The Chair recognizes Mr. Wehrli. For what reason do you rise, Sir?"

Wehrli: "Point of personal privilege, Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Wehrli: "So, yesterday was a monumental day for one of our colleagues. This individual is best known as being the House provider of Twizzlers to all of us. Yesterday, Representative Tim Butler turned 50. So, if you get the chance, swing by, grab some Twizzlers and wish Representative Butler a happy birthday."

Speaker Lang: "Congratulations, Representative. Mr. Swanson, for what reason do you rise, Sir?"

Swanson: "Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lang: "You may proceed."

Swanson: "Today is National Ag Day. And I cannot be more honored to celebrate agriculture and the impact of this industry on our Illinois economy. The great Paul Harvey once paid tribute to the farmer. I certainly cannot come up with better words than Paul Harvey. And Paul Harvey said, and on the eighth day God looked down on his planned paradise and said I need a caretaker, so God made a farmer. God said, I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper and then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board, so God make a farmer. I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own ground... grandchild. Somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife's done feeding visiting ladies and tell the ladies be sure and come back real soon and mean it, so God made a farmer. God said, I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt and watch it die, then dry his eyes and say maybe next year. I need somebody who can shape an axe

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make harness out of haywire, feed sacks and shoe scraps; and who, planting time and harvesting will finish his 40-hour work week by Thurs... Tuesday noon, then pain from tractor back put in another 72 hours, so God make a farmer. God to have... God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds and yet, stop in mid-field and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place, so God made a farmer. God said, I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bales, yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed pullets who will soon stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadow lark. It had to be somebody to plow deep and straight and not cut corners. Somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed and rake and disc and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the self-feeder and finish a hard week's work with five-mile drive to church; somebody who would bale a family together with a soft drawn bond of sharing, who would laugh and then sigh and then reply with smiling eyes when his son says he wants to spend his life doing what dad does. So, God made a farmer. So, today, we recognize and thank all farmers for today is National Ag Day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Sir. Mr. Long, for what reason do you rise, Sir?"

Long: "I rise on a point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

Long: "Thank you, Speaker. My colleagues on the floor, we should have a piece of paper that I delivered to your desk today.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

This is concerning Naplate and the destruction that they experienced February 28. And because Naplate was not a large enough city to receive federal funding, they lost their sirens, their important sirens, first alert sirens. And we are... this fundraiser was set up by a gentleman by the name of Dan Lite from... he's present from Crosscom. And I share this with you and I would like for everybody on the House Floor to share this on their legislative page and/or Facebook page and see if we can't help... help out the City of Naplate raise sirens... or raise the money for the sirens. I appreciate it. Thank you, Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you. Mr. Butler. Mr. 50-year-old Butler, for what reason do you rise?"

Butler: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lang: "Proceed, Sir."

Butler: "I just would like to tag on to Representative Swanson and his appropriate recognition of National Agriculture Day. We have a couple people in the gallery who have wrestled some calves, probably. We have Mike Martz, the President of Illinois Beef Association and Joni Bucher from Marietta, Illinois, the Vice President of the Illinois Beef Association. I'd like to recognize them in the gallery, to the west over here and remind everyone that tonight's... at 5:30 the State House Inn is the Illinois Beef and Corn Reception. Everyone is welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you. Mr. Martwick, for what reason do you rise, Sir?"

Martwick: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on a point of personal privilege."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Speaker Lang: "You may proceed."

Martwick: "Thank you. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, today I have two Pages joining me. And they're not really Pages, but they're going to be acting as Pages today. And first of all, I want to thank the Republican side because we had no slots available for Pages on our aisle, one; we had one slot left. And so, one of my Pages is serving as a Republican Page, which is very good because this is... Yeah. Rep... you know, I don't know that that would be appropriate. But this is very good because they are really here about a bipartisan issue. These young ladies serve as... on the junior board and they're advocates for the Polish American Association. Many of you will remember I brought down those delicious Paczkis that we shared that was a fundraiser for this organization. Well, this organization has been decimated by budget cuts year after year and in the Governor's current proposal much of their funding is eliminated. These two ladies came down here to see how Springfield works and to advocate for their cause. So, when you see them, when you talk to them, you know, be aware that they're here not just as Pages today, but because they are here about an issue that they're really concerned with. I want to introduce them now. Here on our side of the aisle, Marzena Mistarz. Stand up and wave. Please give her a warm Springfield welcome. And on the Republican side, Arletta Gromek is here. There she is. And thank you very much."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Sir. And thank you for joining us. Representative McCombie, for what reason do you rise?"

McCombie: "Point of personal preference, please, Speaker?"

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

McCombie: "In honor today of National Women's Month, I want to take a moment to recognize an incredible woman from Savanna, Illinois. But I... the one thing I do want to say when people ask me about my experiences here one of the best things that I've found here in Springfield is the women that I'm serving with and who support me to be successful. So, I want to give a shout-out for all of those that are here. The woman I want to recognize today is from Savanna, which is my hometown in District 71, and her name is Helen Scott Hay. Helen Scott Hay was a nurse who devoted her life to helping other people by teaching within the nursing profession, serving in the Red Cross during World War I and training nurses all over the world. She graduated from Northwestern Academy Magna Cum Laude in 1889 and received a degree from Northwestern University in 1893. In 1906, she became superintendent of nurses at the Illinois Training School for Nurses in Cook County Hospital where she revolutionized how nurses were trained and was also the superintendent of Cook County Hospital, one of the largest hospitals in the world at the time. In 1911, she joined the Red Cross, which is celebrating their 100 years this year and supervised nurses in war-torn Eastern Europe where they opened baby clinics, staffed hospitals, and cared for refugees and orphans. In 1918, she assisted the War Department in creating the Army School of Nursing. After World War I, she supervised nurses who cared for the extremely needy in Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Poland and the Balkans. For her work, she was honored with the Florence Nightingale Award which is the highest honor given to the Red Cross nurses. After serving overseas, she came

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

back to Savanna where she was involved in helping the local community. She was even the principal of the Savanna High School for a year which is where I graduated. She helped to found West Suburban Hospital in Oak Park and her work est... helped to establish hospitals as having modern hygiene and no longer simply serving as a place where the poor went to die. Before Helen Scott died after a full and meaningful life, as she was close to death she did something else for the first time as a woman and she voted. The world, our country, our state and our communities are better off because of the contributions of women here and women like Helen Scott Hay. And I am honored to be able to share her story of this Savanna trailblazer with all of you. Thank you, Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Representative. On page 20 and 21 of the Calendar, under Motions in Writing, there are several Motions to Table, under Rule 60(b). I will take them all in one vote, but first I'll read them into the record. House Bill 371, Representative Mayfield; House Bill 707, Representative Bellock; House Bill 1810, Representative Mayfield; House Bill 2449, Representative Pritchard; House Bill 2486, Representative Hammond; House Bill 2679, Mr. Moylan; House Bill 3501, Representative Greenwood; House Bill 3511, Representative Bryant; House Bill 3512, Representative Bryant; House Bill 3526, Representative Wehrli; House Bill 3647, Representative Harper; House Bill 3861, Representative Hammond; House Resolution 68, Representative Gordon-Booth; House Resolution 108, Representative Gordon-Booth. Each of these moves to table their respective Bill or Resolution. Representative Ives, are you rising to this Motion? Those in

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

favor of the Motions to Table will say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. Each Motion is adopted. Each Bill or Resolution is tabled. The Chair recognizes Representative Ives."

Ives: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I ask for a point... point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lang: "Proceed."

Ives: "Members, today we have with us a very distinguished veteran and I'd like everybody's attention for a moment. We passed a House Resolution in January commemorating Dr. Bob Adams and his work for veterans in Illinois and specifically, Wheaton. Bob Adams created the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. He's the cofounder of the institution that this year will celebrate its 10th anniversary. Over the last 10 years, Bob Adams has helped nearly 1400 veterans and their families by providing transitional housing assistance to homeless veterans. He is present here with us today. He's right behind me. Mr. Adams has taken it from one house named for Lance Corporal... and I'm afraid I'm going to say... Lance... Lance Corporal Nicholas Oriston. He's taken it from that home to another home that was designated for Staff Sergeant Robbie Miller, a Medal of Honor recipient and he's now started a third home that works with homeless women veterans. Additionally, he has expanded his program to include supportive services in nearly seven counties around Chicagoland. So, his work is monumental. Bob served in Vietnam. He served to free those who were embattled during the Khe Sanh Seige. He was in the lead battalion. He was a combat medic. He saved many lives in his role in the military,

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

then in the Marine Corps and he's saving even more lives now as he works to move these people to some homelessness into independence. And his record is amazing. What he started as simply a normal human individual reaching out to serve other human individuals has expanded beyond even, I think, his dreams. He has a commissary program where he supports folks with food and household goods, if you want to donate to that you could as well. He has taken on the role of moving people out of homelessness into fully functioning positions. He has an over 80 percent success rate in doing so. So, he's taken what really was a not-for-profit donation-driven institution with some support from VA funds and made an incredible organization. In fact, I recognize Linda Chapa LaVia who helped pack the scratch-off lottery ticket for veterans and that is the only state assistance that his program receives. So, he's doing this all with a lot of fundraising and some help from the... the Federal Government. So, we... we need to replicate Bob's model. We need to appreciate what he did as just an ordinary citizen getting involved, not particularly wealthy man, not a particularly connected man, saw a need and filled it on his own. And I just think that it's important to recognize such great service to him. He has stepped down as the director of the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. He's still very much involved within... with them. And this year, on April 30, they will have their 10-year gala celebration of existence. And I want you to applaud him now. Thank you all."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Representative. And thank you for joining us here today on the House Floor. Chair recognizes Leader Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker, and Members of the House. You may not have known her name, but Linda Loyd was a very familiar House staffer and I'm sure that you knew her by sight. She worked for the House for 38 years and in fact, most recently has been the assistant postmaster. Yes, Linda, the mail lady. Always with a smile, always with a warm greeting. I'm sorry to report to the Members of the Body that last Friday Linda suddenly lost her life. She had recently embarked upon treatment for a recurrence of cancer, but she was doing well and a bad reaction to the medication is what struck her down. So, I would ask, Speaker, in honor of this wonderful woman who smiled at us, who waved at us, who served us for 38 years, I would ask for a moment of silence in memory and in honor of Linda Loyd."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Representative. Members may be seated. Page 17 of the Calendar, House Joint Resolution 21, Mr. Bennett. Is Mr. Bennett in the chamber? Out of the record. House Joint Resolution 25, Mr. Zalewski. Please proceed, Sir. Apparently, this has an Amendment, Sir? Mr... So, Mr. Zalewski on the Amendment. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "Floor Amendment #3 was offered by Representative Zalewski and has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Zalewski."

Zalewski: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move to adopt Floor Amendment #3. It removes our staff from being who staffs it and makes the agency... the do it agency the administrative staffer."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Amendment say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Amendment is adopted. Now, Mr. Zalewski on the Resolution."

Zalewski: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Joint Resolution 25 is a Blockchain Task Force. For those of you who don't know, blockchain is a way to do... to secure financial transactions through what's called 'bitcoin'. It's a very secure unhackable way to secure data and secure documents. It's my understanding that the do it along with the Cook County Clerk, Cook County Recorder of Deeds are all interested in implementing this technology at some point. The task force will be tasked with developing legislation to do just that. I would ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Resolution will vote 'yes'; opposed vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Please record yourselves, Members. Chapa LaVia, Ford, Mussman, Rita. Pritchard. Please take the record. On this question, there are 110 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And the Resolution is adopted. Ladies and Gentlemen, we're going down the Bills on the Order of Third Reading. Please be ready when your name is called. House Bill 230, Mr. Thapedi. Out of the record. House Bill 238, Representative Flowers. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 238, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Flowers."

Flowers: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Once again, I bring to you House Bill 238. And last week, Representative Demmer and I had a conversation

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

regarding the Bill. And I would like to report back to you, Sir, that I did look at the language and I realized that House Bill 238 was codifying Federal Law. And Federal Law gives reasons... sorry, I... may I have my glasses... Federal Law give reasons for the codification or the legislation. And they are as follows: It strengthen the rights of long-term health care facilities resi... for the residents. The signing of an arbitration clause at the time of admissions when a residents are unwell, the families are overwhelmed and time is of the essence is not in their favor to have this information before them. Oftentimes, the resident is coming from a stay in the hospital and may not have a choice of another facility. Once the resident and the family arrived in the facility, they're handed papers to sign that include an arbitration agreement. Most do not know that they are signing... most of them do not know what they are signing and the problems may occur because they're waiving any problems that may come forward and a pre-dispute arbitration clause imposed by long-term care facilities are never truly voluntary. So, as a result of what is already Federal Law, I would respectfully ask that we codify this and if the Supreme Court makes any changes, we will follow that law as well. The law is the law."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Andersson."

Andersson: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Andersson: "Representative Flowers, just so we can kind of reboot back to last week, if I recall our debate last week... I'm over here... if I recall our debate last week, the key component of the Bill is you are giving those people who are going into

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

the nursing home the right when they go in to refuse to sign an arbitration clause. In fact, they can't sign an arbitration clause, correct?"

Flowers: "No. It would prevent a facility from entering into a pre-dispute agreement for binding arbitration."

Andersson: "Correct."

Flowers: "And it would allow a facility to enter into a post-dispute agreement for binding arbitration."

Andersson: "Right, so that's the key. So, when... when a family decides to put a loved one into a nursing home, one of the things that the nursing home cannot insist on, pre-dispute when they go into the nursing home, is that they must sign an arbitration agreement. In other words, they're not giving up the right to go to court if something happens."

Flowers: "Right."

Andersson: "Okay. So, the question I think that was raised by Representative Demmer last week that got us into a bit of confusion was when can that be signed after they're in. I reviewed the Bill. It looks to me like it is what you just said, post-dispute. So, let's say something unfortunate, untoward happens to a resident in a nursing home. They're injured, for whatever reason; at that point if both parties wish to, they can enter into arbitration, but they're not required to. Is that correct?"

Flowers: "That is correct, Sir."

Andersson: "And so, I also understand you mentioned the Federal Law... I'm sorry. I'll try to speak up. And you also mentioned the federal lawsuit and at present that's pending. We don't

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

know the outcome. Depending on the outcome this either is fine or we'd have to revisit it. Is that correct?"

Flowers: "Absolutely. That is correct, yes."

Andersson: "Thank you for the... the clarifications from last week. And by the way, thank you for taking it out of the record last week, so we could further understand how this works."

Flowers: "This is too important of an issue. And it was really my pleasure and thank you."

Andersson: "Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer."

Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Demmer: "Representative Flowers, I appreciate the conversation that we had last week following our initial debate on this. I don't want to belabor the points. We had a long debate last week. But I want to clarify, last week the issue that... that we had in dispute was about whether this Bill prohibited the signing of a pre-dispute arbitration agreement only at the point of entry or after the person was already admitted to the facility. We had a discussion about that about what the Bill said and I want to just clarify that this Bill would prohibit a resident from at any point entering into a pre-dispute arbitration agreement, not just at the point of entry, not just before they're admitted to the facility, but at any time whether it's a week, a month, a year later they are still, under this Bill, prohibited from ever entering into a pre-dispute arbitration agreement. Is that correct?"

Flowers: "That is correct. And that is currently Federal Law."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Demmer: "So, it's actually a federal rule. It was fed... it was fed... not Federal Law, not an act of Congress, but a federal rule founded by the Department of Health and Human Services. And as soon as that federal rule was... was issued last fall, a court issued an injunction against the implementation of that rule. So, while there is a pending federal rule today, there is an injunction prohibiting that from being affectively enforced today?"

Flowers: "You are correct."

Demmer: "Okay. Thank you very much. And I think for... I appreciate your conversation we had on this Bill. I think our real hesitation was around the fact that we're setting ourselves up to be another... another lawsuit. We're setting the department up for another lawsuit. It's pending at the federal level. We should get clarity there before we take this policy in the State of Illinois otherwise we're just asking for a lot of cost to be expended in litigation with the state and probably a significant delay in the implementation here as well. So, for that reason, I'll be voting 'no' today. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Batinick."

Batinick: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Flowers: "Yes."

Batinick: "A really quick question. What does this do to existing arbitration agreements? Do they stay in force or are those null and void?"

Flowers: "It's only moving forward, Representative."

Batinick: "Okay. So, the ones that are in place stay in place?"

Flowers: "It's moving forward."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Batinick: "Okay. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Wallace."

Wallace: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Wallace: "Just so that we can clarify what's happening. So, I just heard the Gentleman explain the federal rule when the injunction and you just mentioned the fact that if they've already signed these agreements it's not going to change anything. This is so people coming in from now until..."

Flowers: "The future."

Wallace: "Right. So, moving forward."

Flowers: "Until the court decides otherwise."

Wallace: "Okay. So, this particular Bill are there reasons why nursing homes would not want for this Bill to move forward? What are some of their reasons as to why they don't want this Bill to move forward?"

Flowers: "I'm not going to get into the reasons for the nursing homes because I'm sure they're trying to protect themselves, so I'm just going to leave it right there. But my reason for this legislation is to protect the residents. And so, as I stated, a lot of them are coming from hospitals, they're elderly, their... their options are limited. And they should not have to feel that they have to sign this paper or they won't be able to move in because that's not what the rule nor the law says."

Wallace: "Okay."

Flowers: "And so, this is not prohibiting arbitration, but it's saying that you cannot prevent a fac... a facility cannot prevent a person from entering into a pre-dispute agreement

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

for binding arbitration. But the Bill does allow a facility to enter into a post-dispute."

Wallace: "Okay. So, when insurance... this is a consumer protection law..."

Flowers: "This is..."

Wallace: "...or a Bill?"

Flowers: "This is a consumer protection Bill, yes."

Wallace: "Thank you, Representative. To the Bill. I think it's extremely important to note that final piece of our discussion here that this is a consumer protection... this is legislation that is concerned with consumer protection. I hope that we would side with the residents of Illinois and protect those who may be in a situation where they have to consume these services. And for those reasons, I encourage an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Flowers to close."

Flowers: "Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I would appreciate an 'aye' vote. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Bill will vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Please record yourselves, Members. Burke, Crespo, Hays, Sente, Soto. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 69 voting 'yes', 40 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 503, Representative Harper. Representative Harper. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 503, a Bill for an Act concerning government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Harper."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Harper: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to present House Bill 503 which would make the birthday of President Barack Obama, August 4, a legal state holiday. I encourage an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Andersson."

Andersson: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields?"

Andersson: "Just one preliminary question. This isn't your first Bill, is it?"

Harper: "This is not."

Andersson: "Good. I appreciate that. So, a couple of questions. And I'd actually like to start with a prefatory statement which is that the concept you're working on here giving President Obama a day I think is deserved. I think it's appropriate. But I have a couple of questions about how we're doing it."

Harper: "Sure."

Andersson: "Number 1, is this actually a day off where we're giving state employees, schools a day off or is this just a memorial day, if you will? Not memorial, literally, but a day of recognition?"

Harper: "This would... this would be a day off for state agencies."

Andersson: "Okay. And so... for state agencies or state agencies and schools and local government?"

Harper: "Well, pretty much state agencies. It really wouldn't affect schools, being that it's in August when school is not in session. So, pretty much state agencies."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Andersson: "Well, but there is sometimes summer school and things like that. If they were in session, in school, would they receive the day off?"

Harper: "I would imagine so, yes."

Andersson: "Okay. And what's the fiscal impact for something like this?"

Harper: "Well, GOMB says that the fiscal impact to the state is about 3.2 million in personnel costs."

Andersson: "The last part drifted off. I couldn't..."

Harper: "About 3.2 million in personnel costs. The same amount that it currently costs for all of us to celebrate all of the other state holidays in Illinois."

Andersson: "Sure. So, we've got a number of them. I don't obviously know how many, 10, 12, something like that?"

Harper: "Something like that, yes."

Andersson: "But those exist."

Harper: "Correct."

Andersson: "And now we'd be adding another one. So, we're going to spend another 3.2 million, right?"

Harper: "Yes."

Andersson: "And our analysis shows that... and I think you'd probably agree with this... that those state employees are productive when they're working, right? They do good work. Yes?"

Harper: "Yes, I believe so."

Andersson: "I believe so, too. Our analysis shows that a loss in productivity is \$16 million. So, we're not really talking just 3.2; we're really coming close to \$20 million in lost productivity in direct personnel costs."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Harper: "I understand that. And again, we're... we're at that same number for all of the other state holidays that we currently celebrate. And I believe that having Barack Obama Day deserves the same amount of attention and days off that the other state holidays deserve."

Andersson: "I would draw a comparison to other states and another President that our side of the aisle might... might like and I think it came up in committee which is President Ronald Reagan. Well, look at California, fairly progressive state and take a look at what they do. Number 1, they didn't pass it until he passed away, 2010. Not that I'm suggesting you wait, not that I'm suggesting you wait. But also, it's not a day off. It's a day of acknowledgement, a day of recognition. And I guess, what I'm... what I'm hitting on here is I think this is deserved. But would it not be better to put it at a time and maybe... is it his birthday? I mean, is that the... the date that's picked, the President's birthday?"

Harper: "It's his birthday."

Andersson: "Oh."

Harper: "Sure, yes, August 4."

Andersson: "Okay. I'm just wondering would it not be more appropriate to put it during the school year and not give anybody the day off, but instead educate and celebrate in a way that people can recognize. 'Cause like so many of these holidays, do we actually celebrate them? I don't know that we do. I think we go for picnics. I think we enjoy the day off, but I'm not sure the recognition is there. What do you think?"

Harper: "Well, I believe that we do celebrate all of the other state holidays. I mean, if nothing more, the stores have great

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

sales on President's Day and Washington Day, don't they? But seriously, though, I do... I do believe that it's important that we celebrate Barack Obama Day whether it's in during his birthday or during another time just because what he means to the State of Illinois, just because of what he has done for this entire country. And I believe that specifically what he stood for as it relates to community service and community building that that, in fact, would be part of us celebrating Barack Obama Day would be encouraging people to get out there and get involved in their communities as in day of services or any other way that we decide to commemorate the holiday."

Andersson: "And my la... I believe it will be my last question. But to the 3. ... 3.1 or the 20 million lost productivity, where are we going to find the money? We don't have any money. We're broke. What are we going to do?"

Harper: "Again, I understand that. However, if we can find the resources and the time to continue to celebrate all of the other state holidays, I really don't see how adding one more day to celebrate our wonderful President that came from the State of Illinois would be that much more of an impact."

Andersson: "Well, I mean, it's a \$20 million impact. Those other costs are already baked in; they're already there. And like it or not, they exist. This is new money that we have to find. So, I'm going to ask you again. Where are we going to find the money?"

Harper: "I do understand that. One of my... just a suggestions off the top of my head, would be that we concentrate on turning this day into a day of service and all of those resources and all of that help that we get from people volunteering and

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

providing free work in the state, I believe, will help to offset perhaps some of the cost that we will incur from giving our wonderful state employees the day off. And that is what I am hoping."

Andersson: "It's... it's an interesting idea, but here's one of the problems. Is mo... if you're talking about volunteers helping with state costs, state expenses, our... our union contracts prohibit that. Our union contracts..."

Harper: "No. I'm saying that..."

Andersson: "...prohibit that."

Harper: "No, I'm not saying that..."

Andersson: "We can't have volunteers."

Harper: "...volunteers get involved with state work and state contracts. I'm saying that individuals get up and get busy in their communities in the way that they maybe have never done before on this particular day. And I know that that has some great value of it that could be compared to a monetary value. I know that for a fact."

Andersson: "It might... it might have some impact. I'll... I'll stipulate; it would have value. The problem is I don't think it would have value to the cost to the state. And right now, our state is broke. Our state is broke and we cannot simply say it would be nice if there's an offset. There has to actually be an offset for us to be able to spend money we don't have or even more money than we don't have. So, thank you for the answers to the questions. Mr. Speaker, to the Bill. As I said in the onset, President Obama is the first African-American President in the United States and he's from Illinois. That deserves acknowledgement; that deserves

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

respect, but I'm not sure even he would want us spending we... money we don't have. So, if we can find a way to fund it, great. Right now we've got \$12.4 billion in backlog. We don't have close to the money. I would urge the Sponsor to maybe reconsider, make this an honorary day rather than a day off and I bet you'd get a ton of votes on this. I would hope all. I can't guarantee it, but you'd have mine. So, but at this point, I respectfully but unfortunately have to urge a 'no' vote. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer."

Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Demmer: "Representative Harper, I certainly appreciate your intent at bringing this Bill. I think it's totally appropriate to recognize people from the State of Illinois who have risen to positions of global influence and had a lasting legacy that the world will know for years to come. I... I am questioning though a couple of aspects of this. So, first, as my colleague mentioned, we have a pretty significant financial impact with making this a paid day off. So, just to clarify. This would mean that all state facilities that could close would close. People who are looking to go to their local office to fill out paperwork, to receive services, those folks would... would show up and the doors would be closed and lights would be off. Is that right?"

Harper: "Well, that is right. Just like on any other state holiday."

Demmer: "Okay. And for those state agencies that could not close: the Department of Corrections, State Police, places like

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

that, all those employees would be paid an additional stipend for having worked the day, April... August 4, whatever day of the week that happens to fall. Is that correct?"

Harper: "That is correct."

Demmer: "So, we have a couple of different costs there. First, in the lost productivity and you know, the difficulty for... for residents to access services on this day as well as the ongoing costs of what would be a normal day... a normal day's business, now suddenly that costs us more to have those folks come to work. So, that's certainly a hesitation we have. The second side though comes from just looking at the fact that throughout Illinois history we've been privileged to have several Presidents who have come from the great State of Illinois or spent significant portions of time in the State of Illinois. I would note and I'm... I know this was great local pride, I represent Dixon, the hometown of President Ronald Reagan. President Reagan's the only President who was born in the State of Illinois, the only President who went to grade school, high school and college in the State of Illinois. The only President to spend the formative years among the people of the great State of Illinois, but we don't have a holiday for President Reagan. Why... why exclude?"

Harper: "Why don't you file the Bill? Let's do it."

Demmer: "Well, you know, I'll file a Bill that says let's recognize Reagan Day, but avoid the first things I talked about which is a significant increase in costs, the difficulty for citizens to access services on that day. I'd love us to cosponsor this Bill if it were just a designation. It didn't come with a huge financial impact. I think we... we have to

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

look at this and understand that hopefully in years to come we'll have even more Presidents who come from Illinois or more people who go on to change the world come from Illinois. And I don't think we're in a position to extend a holiday, a paid day off, every time we have somebody from Illinois who goes on and does great things. We have a good way to recognize the contributions of important Illinoisans like Barack Obama, like President Reagan, like President Grant, President Lincoln without incurring significant financial costs and making logistical challenges there. So, if you would entertain a Bill to mark the day, to celebrate that day, to mark the historical contributions and not throw in the significant financial challenges, I'd join you on that and I'd gladly vote 'yes'. Because of that though and because of the inconsistent way of treating one President over other Presidents differently, Presidents who are from Illinois just as... just... or respect time in Illinois just as he did, I just can't support this legislation today. And I encourage you to look for a way to do this... to do this without incurring financial costs and treating all Presidents the same. Thank you."

Harper: "Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Barbara Wheeler."

Wheeler, B.: "Thank you. To the Bill, Mr. Speaker. I would like to point out that last Session I tried to pass a Bill increasing the number of school days that students were mandated to attend. It would cost about exactly the same amount and I couldn't even get it out of committee because we are in a budget crisis. So, I'm a little surprised at the

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

inconsistency here. We still are in a budget crisis. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Harper to close."

Harper: "President Barack Obama, he did great work for the State of Illinois and our country. And I believe that we need to do our part in preserving that history. Our President accomplished major goals. He put our economy back on track. He cut taxes for working families and provided affordable health care for millions of Americans. Personally, to me, he helped me get motivated, get up in my community and organize my neighbors to be the change that we want to see and now we are seeing right now on the ground. I encourage an 'aye' vote for Barack Obama Day."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Bill will vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Please record yourselves. Please record yourselves. Burke, Chapa LaVia. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 54 voting 'yes', and 51 voting 'no', and 1 voting 'present'. And the Sponsor requests Postponed Consideration. Is that correct, Representative?"

Harper: "Yes. I'd like to Postponed Consideration."

Speaker Lang: "The Bill will be placed on the Order of Postponed Consideration. Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Hollman: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 214, offered by Representative Hurley. House Resolution 215, offered by Representative Hurley. House Resolution 217, offered by Representative Flowers. And House Resolution 219, offered by Representative Mah."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Speaker Lang: "Leader Currie moves for the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Agreed Resolutions are adopted. Members, an announcement for you. Members. We will be taking our House photo tomorrow. So, aside from looking beautiful, please clear your desks. Some of you try to look beautiful, the rest of you try to clear your desks. That would be tomorrow at noon, clear desks. And now, leaving perfunctory time for the Clerk, Leader Currie moves that the House stand adjourned 'til Wednesday, March 22 at the hour of noon. But before we take that vote, the Chair missed two lights that were on. Representative Mah is recognized."

Mah: "All right. Thank you, Speaker. I'd like to thank you for your support for the Resolution that we just passed marking the month of March as Social Worker Month. It's very appropriate for that to have passed today because today is, in fact, World Social Work Day. Thank you very much."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Bennett."

Bennett: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I have a couple of very special guests with us in the... in the chamber. And this has to do with House Joint Resolution 21. And if I may for just a moment, talking about this as... in their behalf since they are with us today. Basically, what happened on April 7, 1979, a very sleepy small town of 4 thousand people on Interstate 57, things started with State Trooper McCarter and his brother-in-law with Vice were attempting to stop four speeding vehicles on the Interstate. McCarter called for backup from two policemen in Paxton, Officer Caisse and Officer Hale. Soon, gunshots broke out and by the time the

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

smoke had cleared, State Trooper McCarter, brother-in-law Vice and Officer Caisse had been shot and killed. Officer Hale had multiple gunshot wounds. Two subjects that had fled the stopped vehicles were also dead. McCarter was survived by his wife and his son. Caisse was survived by his wife, son and two daughters. Vice is survived by his wife and six sons. And Officer Hale survives today. And today, on their honor, we wish to honor these brave men for their courage to fight for their community and to stand in harm's way for all of us. We'd like to honor them with a House Joint Resolution. We do thank them for their service for their ultimate sacrifice. And with the approval of this General Assembly, we wish to designate the overpass at 200 North Road crossing I-57 South of Paxton as the McCarter-Caisse-Vice-Hale Memorial Overpass. On behalf of us today and to my right, is Paxton Mayor Bill Engle. Bill, if you would, please. And also, with us today is semiretired policeman Larry Hale, who was one of the four that survives today. Would you please help me give them a very warm welcome and a thank you for your service."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Representative. And thank you for your attendance today. We appreciate it. Mr. Evans is recognized."

Evans: "I rise for a quick Motion to waive the posting requirements from the committee Transportation: Regulation, Roads & Bridges for subcommittee... the subcommittee of Roads(sic-Railroads), Ports and Aviation Subcommittee to hear one Bill 3611 today."

Speaker Lang: "You heard the Gentleman's Motion. Is there leave? No objection, leave is granted. Chair recognizes Representative Ives."

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

Ives: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker for your indulgence, as we're ready to get out of here. I rise for a point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lang: "Go right ahead."

Ives: "I just would like to let the Body know that today the world celebrates Down Syndrome Day. It's chosen as 321 represents the genetic cause of trisomy 21, which is a third copy of the 21st chromosome. In honor of this day, I'd like to specifically recognize my nephew, Paul Remmes and I ask you to just take that with you. And in their honor, here's a couple of things you can challenge yourself to do. Paul is not able to verbalize his needs, so today can you help one person without asking them for help... without them asking you for help. Also, Paul's low tone makes it harder for him to accomplish many physical tasks. Throughout the day today, can you try to do something with your nondominant hand such as typing or texting, brushing your teeth or eating or playing a sport. And also, Paul loves music and he loves to dance. So, today, in honor of Paul, turn up your favorite music and just get down and dance. Thank you so much for paying attention to this important day."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Representative. Representative Flowers is recognized."

Flowers: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege, please."

Speaker Lang: "Proceed, please."

Flowers: "I would like to take this opportunity to wish my husband, Daniel Coutee, a happy birthday. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Moving back to Leader Currie's Motion, Leader Currie moves that, allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk,

STATE OF ILLINOIS
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

27th Legislative Day

3/21/2017

the House stand adjourned 'til Wednesday, March 22 at the hour of noon. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned."

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House Bill 4015, offered by Representative Harris, David, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. First Reading of this House Bill. Introduction of Resolution. House Resolution 216, offered by Representative Martwick, is referred to the Rules Committee. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."