

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

70th Legislative Day

7/1/2017

Speaker Lang: "The House will be in order in regular Session. We shall be led in prayer today by Lee Crawford, the Pastor of the Cathedral of Praise Christian Center in Springfield. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off cell phones, and rise for the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Crawford."

Pastor Crawford: "Let us pray. Gracious God, our Father, who art in Heaven, it is because of Your divine and tender mercies that we are not consumed. It is because Your precious compassions, they never fail us. We're thankful this day for Your mercies, for their new unto us every morning. Now, sovereign and most gracious God in heaven, today we invoke Your blessings upon this august Assembly, upon the Speaker of this House, upon all of his Leaders, upon all of his Members, upon all of their families. May they be empowered today with Your wisdom and with Your insight. May they be empowered today with Your strength and with Your might. May they be empowered today with Your spirit and with Your guidance. May they have Your heart, may they have Your mind, may they have Your will to do that which is good, to do that which is the most perfect will of God. This we pray in Your Son's name, Amen."

Speaker Lang: "We should be led in the Pledge by Mr. Butler."

Butler - 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. Mr. Harris."

Harris, G.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representative Tabares will be excused today on the Democrat side."

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Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Sir. Mr. Demmer. Mr. Andersson."

Andersson: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record reflect that Representative Winger is excused for the day."

Speaker Lang: "Please take the record, Mr. Clerk. There are 116 Members answering the roll and we do have a quorum. The Chair recognizes Mr. Ford."

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

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed, Sir."

Ford: "Mr. Speaker, I just would like to alert the Body that at this time a good friend of most of ours, Commissioner Robert Steele is... now his family is celebrating his homegoing service in Chicago and...because we are here, trying to do the work of the people, many of us that would like to be celebrating his homegoing can't be in Chicago for the homegoing of Commissioner Robert Steele. And so, I just want to offer my condolences to President Steele and Robert Steele's daughter on the loss and to all the people of the district that he served on this day. So, today is a sad day for many of us. And if we could just have a moment of silence for the Steele family."

Speaker Lang: "The Body will take a moment of silence. Thank you. Please be seated Members. Chair recognizes Representative Barbara Wheeler. For what reason do you rise?"

Wheeler, B.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And good morning to all of us. I'd like to introduce my husband, although many of you know he's up in the gallery, Joe, he's here today, but it's his birthday. So, we have the wonderful pleasure of celebrating Joe's birthday here in the beautiful City of Springfield. So, please give him a warm welcome."

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Speaker Lang: "Happy birthday, Joe. Great to have you with us.
Mr. Brady is recognized."

Brady: "Point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "You may go right ahead, Sir."

Brady: "Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, if I could have your attention for just a moment. My son, Tom, who will be a sophomore in high school, and a bit of a history buff, asked me to read the following. A hundred and fifty-four years ago today was the first day of what would become the bloodiest battle in American history, the Battle of Gettysburg. It lasted July 1 through the 3 and saw over 51 thousand casualties. Men from all over the country; New York, Ohio, Maine, and yes, Illinois, came together to fight off Robert E. Lee and his armies. Today, I would like to acknowledge these sacrifices that have been made, and hope we can come together in Springfield today, just as our forefathers did 154 years ago today. Written by my son, Tom Brady, who says, best of luck to both of us... all of us. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Sir. Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Bolin: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 525, offered by Representative Stuart and House Resolution 526, offered by Representative Brady."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Harris moves for the adoption of Agreed Resolutions. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Agreed Resolutions are adopted. Chair recognizes Mr. Welch."

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

Speaker Lang: "Proceed, Sir."

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Welch: "Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had a guest here in the gallery, who is from Northeastern Illinois University. And I had an opportunity to meet this professor earlier this year. In my role as chair of Higher Education, I was visiting a number of the universities and I was so honored to meet her when I visited Northeastern Illinois University and I invited her to come down. And she came down early yesterday and made it here and she's here again today and that's Professor Dr. Nanette Potee. She spent 18 years as a professor at Northeastern Illinois University and 27 years in the State of Illinois system. She received four teacher excellence of the year awards and because of the budget chaos and everything going on at Northeastern Illinois University, all of the layoffs and the furloughs, that university lost a great professor yesterday because today begins her first day in her new life of retirement. And I want the Body to all put their hands together and thank Professor Dr. Nanette Potee for her years of service to our state and to the higher education system. And let's give her a well-deserved round of applause."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Sir. Mr. Stewart is recognized."

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

Speaker Lang: "You may go right ahead."

Stewart: "Would the Ladies and Gentlemen of the House welcome my two Pages for the day, Nora Grigoroff from Nokomis and Anniyah McClure from Taylorville."

Speaker Lang: "Hello. Thanks for being here with us. Mr. Spain, for what reason do you rise, Sir?"

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

Speaker Lang: "Go right ahead."

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Spain: "Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce my Page for the day. This is Augie Watts. He's here from John C. Cordrey Elementary School... Coonley Elementary School. He's a seventh grader, 12 years old. This is his first time in Springfield, even though his dad spends quite a lot of time here in Springfield. Let's please welcome my Page for the day, Augie Watts."

Speaker Lang: "Happy you're here with us. Thank you for joining us on the floor. Representative Bryant is recognized."

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

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

Bryant: "I have as my Page today, Nate Watts, also a son of Charlie Watts. And I've only just gotten to meet him for a few minutes, but so far I kind of think that Nate is, what we would call at home, a ring tailed tutor. So, I'm kind of looking forward to him keeping things... motion moving in here today. Nate."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you. Good to have you here. Representative Wheeler is recognized. Did you forget to tell us about the cake?"

Wheeler, B.: "Oh, the birth... the birthday cake?"

Speaker Lang: "Yes."

Wheeler, B.: "No, I didn't forget. I... "

Speaker Lang: "All right. Go right ahead."

Wheeler, B.: "A point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "You may proceed."

Wheeler, B.: "Thank you. Well, who I have with me for my Page for the day is the middle child of Charlie Watts. His name is Zach Watts, he's nine years old and he's informed me that he's the smartest of all the Watts so."

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Speaker Lang: "Good to see you. Thanks for joining us. Mr. Riley."

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

Speaker Lang: "Go right ahead, Sir."

Riley: "Thank you. I would like to inform the Body, maybe some of you already know, that the golfing world is upon the State of Illinois. Matter of fact, the third round of the women's PGA, one of the major championships, is taking place as I speak in my hometown, Olympia Fields, the historic Olympia Fields Country Club. We had the U.S. Senior Open in 1997. We had the Men's U.S. Open in 2003, and we've had other championships there. We're really proud to have the LPGA in town and if we get out of here in a reasonable time, maybe you can come ask me for a ticket. But I just want to celebrate the historic Olympia Fields Country Club on their achievement and wish all of the players well."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Sir. Representative Williams is recognized."

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

Speaker Lang: "Go right ahead."

Williams: "I'd like to introduce my Page for the day who is the oldest in the family Watts. It's Bella Watts, who goes to... went to Coonley but now is going to be at Walter Payton Elementary, an amazing CPS school. And she's involved with Lacrosse and a lot of great other activities and excited to be joining us today."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you. An entire family Paging today. Representative Hammond."

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

Speaker Lang: "Proceed."

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Hammond: "I just would like to know what what's going on here today."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Batinick is recognized. Do you have an answer for Representative Hammond?"

Batinick: "I don't."

Speaker Lang: "All right."

Batinick: "I'm sorry. A little winded, I was running in. A point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "You may proceed."

Batinick: "Sometimes you see these movies that seem like something that couldn't happen, where you have like major train accident, then they reroute the road and then you have a truck, because of the rerouted road, goes down the wrong road, grabs a wire and knocks out power and then there's a rollover accident. Sorry, I ran up here. So..."

Speaker Lang: "Sir, we have a few minutes, take a deep breath."

Batinick: "In any event, that actually happened in Plainfield last night. So, I went home to try and get a change of clothes and have a quick, quiet night with the family and we had a major train derailment, 25 cars, 3 leaking oil, a... evacuation in a half-mile radius. And they rerouted the road and a truck hit a tension wire and my power went out at my house. And I just got to say kudos, on the House Floor, to all the EMS people that helped with the situation. We had people from five towns that helped out. ComED got the power restored by about midnight last night. The roads are open. We're dealing with the... with the leaking oil still, but I was real impressed with all the towns that came out and helped Plainfield. We're... we're very appreciative for the assistance from Naperville,

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Bolingbrook, Romeoville, and the Will County Sheriff's Department and I think maybe even a couple other towns. So, kudos to the EMS people that helped with all the major incidents in Plainfield last night. So, thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Sir. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "A letter from the Secretary of State. Issued July 1, 2017. To the Honorable Speaker of the House, in compliance with the provisions of Constitution of the State of Illinois, I'm forwarding herewith the enclosed House Bill from the 100th General Assembly that is being returned by the Governor with specific recommendations for change. House Bill 1811. Respectfully signed, Jesse White, Secretary of State.

Speaker Lang: "The Chair recognizes Mr. Phelps."

Phelps: "Thank you, Mr... "

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Clerk, Supplemental Calendar #1, House Bill 1811, under the Order of Amendatory Vetoes. The Chair recognizes Mr. Phelps."

Phelps: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I move to override the Governor's Amendatory Veto to House Bill 1811. We have debated this numerous times, for two years or more now. And I would just ask for your vote."

Speaker Lang: "With leave of the Body, we're going to limit this to two speakers on each side for five minutes each. Mr. Andersson."

Andersson: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. Representative Phelps is absolutely right. We have debated this Bill. We all know what it's about. We all know what's in it. It is time to just do this. We cannot let 9-1-1 go down across the state. Let's just do this. Thank you."

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Speaker Lang: "Mr. Thapedi for five minutes."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Thapedi: "Representative Phelps, as we sit here today, there is no 9-1-1 Act, correct?"

Phelps: "That's exactly right."

Thapedi: "There's no telecom Act, correct?"

Phelps: "That's exactly right."

Thapedi: "There's no cable and video Act, correct?"

Phelps: "Right."

Thapedi: "So, the consumer protections that are in these Acts no longer exist, correct?"

Phelps: "Right."

Thapedi: "So, if any telecom company wanted to shut down their landline services today they could do that and there would be no Illinois law to stop them from doing so, correct?"

Phelps: "Correct."

Thapedi: "This Override Motion reinstates all of these Acts and all the consumer protections within them, correct?"

Phelps: "Correct."

Thapedi: "I urge an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hays for five minutes."

Hays: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of this Bill. Thank you to Representative Phelps, Representative Thapedi, and others. This Bill was robustly debated a couple of days ago. This will both send us forward into the future with the telecom rewrite, billions invested in our communities and new technology, and the technology of tomorrow. It will also rightsize our 9-1-1 services that are so critical and pivotal

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in every community in this state. I strongly urge your vote to override this Veto. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Ammons for five minutes."

Ammons: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the override that is being requested by Representative Phelps at this time. To not only protect the 9-1-1 services throughout our state, but this override is a signal of what we should be doing next, which is voting on a fully funded budget for the State of Illinois. This 9-1-1 service is only one indication of what will happen if we don't have 9-1-1. But guess what will happen if we don't have a fully funded budget. I am calling for the next Bill to be on that board is a fully funded budget."

Speaker Lang: "We had limited this to two a side. Mr. Phelps to close."

Phelps: "Just very simple, Mr. Speaker. If you believe in 9-1-1, you want to help save it, and believe in investing in new technology, we need your 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Override Motion vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Ford, Lilly. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 90 voting 'yes', 22 voting 'no', 1 voting 'present'. And the House overrides the Amendatory Veto of the Governor. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Mr. Breen, for what reason do you rise, Sir?"

Breen: "Point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

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Breen: "Mr. Speaker, on the prior Bill there were two speakers allowed per side and I didn't realize that the two speakers on the Republican side were going to be proponents of that. And I would have liked to have spoken to the actual Amendatory Veto. I would have risen and do rise to support sustaining that Amendatory Veto 'cause the Governor has rightly pointed out and shined a light on a practice, that is a long-standing practice of this General Assembly, to continue to put sunset dates on things so that lobbyists have to continue to come and lobby us. It is a bad practice to put three-year sunsets on things, really for ill purposes, not because of any belief in good government or good policy. Moreover, in that Bill, fee increases were put on the people of Illinois, both in Chicago and downstate, doubling almost of downstate fees and fee increases on the people of Illinois that had absolutely nothing to do with actually providing the cost of actually providing 9-1-1 service. The actual cost of providing 9-1-1 service by the Commission report was a \$1.05 downstate. So, what did we do? We put a \$1.50 on folks. Fifty percent more than is actually required to provide the service. The cost in Chicago... I can't believe that the cost in Chicago is going to be 60 bucks a year, per cell phone user, for all of those folks in Chicago. There's no way. And so it was correct of the Governor to amendatorily Veto this Bill and it should have been sustained not overridden. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Chair recognizes Speaker Madigan."

Madigan: "Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, this will simply be an advisory. There'll be a Session tomorrow. We do not expect that any Bills will be called tomorrow."

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There'll be a Session tomorrow, but we do not expect that any Bills will be called. The Leaders met yesterday, we'll meet again today. The appropriations revenue people met late last night and early this morning. Workers' compensation people met this morning. All of those people will continue to work through the weekend. And as I said earlier, Leader Durkin and I will meet with the other two Leaders very shortly. So, have a good day. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Leader Durkin is recognized."

Durkin: "Well, thank you. I'll be brief. We're two days out after our fiscal year, I'm worried about what credit agencies and I know our side of the aisle is very concerned about what the nation and what will people be thinking about this state. We had great momentum yesterday in this chamber. Sending our Members back home or wherever and saying that we're not going to come back until late tomorrow I believe does not move us towards resolution of this issue. I still contend that these matters can be resolved very quickly. I want this done today. We can do this, continue working."

Speaker Lang: "Speaker Madigan."

Madigan: "Question of Mr. Durkin. Did someone tell their Members to go home?"

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Durkin."

Durkin: "I think... I missed half your speech, but the... we're going to adjourn today... hold on... but saying that we're done today, come back tomorrow, to me it says take no action, to me it speaks for itself. We can continue to work this out, but when you know, when you say that we're not going to take action, I know what that means."

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Madigan: "Mr. Durkin, to repeat my statement. There'll be Session tomorrow. You know because you're part of the negotiations, that there will be no Bills to call tomorrow, you know that. You're part of the negotiations."

Durkin: "There are still Bills that can be addressed that have not been, and I know that we can put back on the Calendar. I mean, there are a number of our colleagues over here they still would like to see some action on Bills and I think that while we're here let's... let's do it. I would just say that we continue and keep Members in Session today, let us continue on with the negotiations and as I said earlier, I don't believe we're that far apart. But saying that we're going to gavel out right now and return at some point tomorrow, to me, does not send the message to Illinoisans that we're prepared to bring this to resolution anytime soon."

Madigan: "Mr. Durkin, if you're aware of Bills where Members wish to call their Bills, you should advise us."

Durkin: "We will."

Madigan: "And we'll stand at ease until you give us the Bill numbers."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Butler is recognized on a point of personal privilege."

Butler: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And on behalf of the citizens of the community of Springfield, since we seem to all be here this evening, I would like to welcome you to the Capital City Celebration. There will be fireworks over the Capitol this evening, not fireworks in the Capitol hopefully. There will be fireworks over the Capitol this evening. I would encourage all of you to come out and enjoy the fine capital city, what

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we have to offer, and check out the fireworks tonight in Springfield. Thank you, Sir."

Speaker Lang: "The House will be in order. Leader Currie now moves that the House stand adjourned until Sunday, July 2 at the hour of 2 p.m. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned until Sunday, July 2 at the hour of 2 p.m."