

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

120th Legislative Day

4/20/2018

Speaker Lang: "The House will be in order. The House will be in order. We shall be led in prayer today by Pastor Jessie Herring who is with Table of Life Ministries in Springfield. Pastor Herring is the guest of Representative Scherer. 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 Herring."

Pastor Herring: "Let us pray. Father God, we come this morning honoring You, giving You thanks and praises, Oh God, for this day. For certainly, God, this is the day that You have made and we got our hearts and minds set to rejoice and to be glad in it. Father God, I thank You for this House. And Father, what you're doing in this season. We thank You, God, for giving immunities, love, peace, and harmony, because Your words say how good and how pleasant it is for brothering to dwell together in unity. Father God, I thank You for giving them the mind to trust You, because Your word said to trust in the Lord with all thine heart. And You told us to lean on to our own understanding. You say in all thy ways to acknowledge You and ye shall direct thy path. So, Father, I thank You for leading and guiding each and every one in this House. Bless them and keep them in Your care. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Speaker Lang: "Be led in the pledge by Representative Ammons."

Ammons - 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."

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Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record reflect the excused absences of Representatives D'Amico, Dan Burke, Feigenholtz, Gabel, Jones, and Zalewski."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer."

Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record reflect that Representative Dan Brady, Representative Joe Sosnowski, and Representative Brian Stewart are excused for the day."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Clerk, please take the record. We have 105 Members answering the roll and we do have a quorum. Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Hollman: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 997, offered by Representative Severin. House Resolution 998, offered by Representative Feigenholtz. House Resolution 999, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 1000, offered by Representative Barbara Wheeler. House Resolution 1001, offered by Speaker Madigan. House Resolution 1002, offered by Representative Hurley."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Clerk, page 30 of the Calendar, Order of Resolutions: HJR74, Representative Jimenez. Mr. Clerk, read part of the Resolution."

Clerk Bolin: "House Joint Resolution 74.

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate Illinois Route 4 as it travels through Chatham as the 'U.S. Army Corporal James 'Chad' Young Memorial Highway'."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Jimenez."

Jimenez: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present House Joint Resolution 74 to honor the life and memory of Corporal

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James 'Chad' Young by designating Illinois Route 4 through the Village of Chatham as the 'U.S. Army Corporal James 'Chad' Young Memorial Highway'. Corporal Young was born in Rochester and attended school in Chatham and graduated from Glenwood High School in 2003 before joining the United States Army in 2004. Corporal Young was on his second tour of duty in Afghanistan where he worked as a combat engineer clearing explosives from the road. He had been on leave visiting family and returned to Afghanistan, where he ultimately gave his life for his country five days later on November 3, 2010 in the Kandahar Province. He was 25 years old. According to one of his high school teachers, he is remembered for cracking jokes about pirates. The *State Journal-Register* quoted his teacher, Jim Milner, by saying he was just somebody you were always happy to see every day. General Bud Jameson, the Commander of Corporal Young's unit, commented to the paper, not everyone is suited to the stress of knowing that they're going to go out and literally look for trouble. I can't think of a more honorable thing to do in combat than making the way safe for other soldiers. Corporal Young gave his life protecting his fellow soldiers from the dangers of war. And he gave his life to protect and defend all of us here at home. The debt we owe to Corporal Young is something that we can never repay, but we can honor his life and memory by doing everything we can to take care of our service men and women when they come home and never forgetting their family's sacrifice as well. Joining us today in the gallery are members of Corporal Young's family including his mother, Brett Ann Young; his sister, Katie Young Powell; his niece, Sydney

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Robbins; and his cousin, Jennifer Duffy. The Mayor of Chatham, Dave Kimsey, also joins us today. HR74 is one small way that we can pay tribute to Corporal Young and the sacrifice he made for our nation. I would ask the Body to join me in thanking his family and joining us here today. And ask for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 74."

Speaker Lang: "Body will take a moment of silence. Those in favor of the Resolution will say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution... 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? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 105 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And the Resolution is adopted. To the family, thank you for joining with us today. Mr. Clerk, returning to the Agreed Resolutions. Leader Currie moves for the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And Agreed Resolutions are adopted. Moving back to priority order of Bills, Members, House Bill 4754, Representative Kelly Burke. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4754, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Burke, K.: "Thank... thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4754 is a cleanup of... or not cleanup, but an addition to the Bill we passed several years ago allowing ABLE accounts, achieving a better life experience, 529-type accounts for folks who... who have a disability that they... who became disabled before age 26. So, the Treasurer's Office has done an excellent job in rolling out these accounts, but they've gotten some feedback from potential users of the accounts about changes that would

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make these even more accessible. And those changes are incorporated into the Bill. I know of no opposition. And I ask for an 'aye' vote."

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? Lilly. Please take the record, Mr. Clerk. There are 105 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4828, Representative Cassidy. Representative Cassidy. Out of the record. House Bill 5599, Representative Conyears-Ervin. Representative Conyears-Ervin. Out of the record. House Bill 4885, Representative Wallace handling for Representative Gabel. Out of the record. House Bill 4936, Mr. Demmer. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4936, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer."

Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4936 is an initiative to allow for individuals who have received psychiatric training as part of their service in the United States Armed Forces to be able to come back to Illinois and work as a mental health professional. I know of no opposition. And I ask for your support."

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 take the record, Mr. Clerk. There are 104 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority,

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is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5153, Mr. Davidsmeyer.
Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5153, a Bill for an Act concerning
State Government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Davidsmeyer."

Davidsmeyer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill allows the
Illinois School for the Deaf and the Illinois School for the
Visually Impaired to operate as a normal school. It allows
them to hire teachers in a timely manner and certified staff
that they are in competition with other states throughout the
nation. And we passed a similar Bill that had a sunset, but
it's working very well and we want to continue to move forward
on this. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Guzzardi."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Guzzardi: "Representative, we have listed on our analysis that
the AFL-CIO and AFSCME are opposed to this Bill. Can you
explain their opposition?"

Davidsmeyer: "I've talked to them. They believe that there's a
larger personnel issue on this specific issue. They were
willing to work with me and move forward, but there's a larger
personnel issue and an issue with timely hiring throughout
the state. So, they didn't want this to bleed into that. I
just... They're okay with moving forward with this."

Guzzardi: "Okay. It's your view that this particular issue is...
you can work on it distinctly from the other issues that
they're concerned about?"

Davidsmeyer: "Yes. Yeah."

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Guzzardi: "Okay."

Davidsmeyer: "We're keeping this separate from the other hiring issues. I have another Bill that covers other... other people, but we're focused on just this one. And I'm not moving forward with that other Bill."

Guzzardi: "Okay. Thanks, Representative."

Davidsmeyer: "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 take the record. There are 103 voting 'yes', 1 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 3418, Representative Harper. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 3418, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Harper."

Harper: "Out of the record."

Speaker Lang: "Out of the record, Mr. Clerk. House Bill 4165, Mr. Harris. Mr. Harris. Mr. Greg Harris. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4165, a Bill for an Act concerning health care. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Harris."

Harris, G.: "Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the House. For those of us who are worried about preserving the protections for our constituents in their private health care or their public health care, this is a very important Bill. This Bill would allow the state to protect our citizens from having, by action of Congress, their pre-existing condition

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protections rolled back or their ability to avail themselves of essential health benefits rolled back. As some of you know, in the Graham-Cassidy Bill and other Bills that are being considered in Congress, there are options for any state to file a waiver that would allow insurance companies, whether it's through your employer or a group plan or an individual plan to roll back pre-existing condition protections. So this would be going back to the bad old days to the worst old days, that our families worry about where suddenly, you know, if you had had cancer, if you'd had a sick child, you could be denied insurance or charged larger rates again simply by the fact that one of your family members had been ill. It would also allow insurance companies to drop essential health benefits from their plans and not even offer them. The most frequently discussed essential health benefits that insurance companies have talked about dropping are the most expensive ones: maternity care, behavioral health care, substance abuse treatment, and pharmaceutical benefits. And all of these could be waived by any state and those benefits dropped from both public and private insurance. It also would protect the State of Illinois from a waiver that would water down or eliminate protections for our Medicaid population. And the way the Bill functions is that in Illinois right now we are one of the few states where the Governor of the state, the chief executive, can file one of these federal waivers with no input or no approval from us in the Legislature. So, with stroke of the pen, whoever the Governor is, can file a waiver that would take away health care protections under Federal Law for Illinois residents. What this Bill does would be to

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require a Joint Resolution of the House and the Senate to approve the submission of one of these waivers any time a waiver submission would reduce, eliminate, or otherwise deteriorate health care protections that Illinois residents have. I think it's an important check and balance between the Legislative Body and the Executive Body. I would be happy to answer any questions and I would ask for a strong 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Breen."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Breen: "All right. And Representative, you've put a few things together in this Bill. I want to start with the Medicaid waivers. And so, that's with the Medical Assistance Program, Children's Health Insurance Program, any other medical assistance program in Illinois. So your Bill would prevent Illinois from imposing work requirements on able-bodied individuals in order to get on to Medicaid?"

Harris, G.: "Representative, if you read the language carefully, you would see what the Bill requires is if there is a change to the Medicaid program that reduces or diminishes any current benefit for Medicaid recipients."

Breen: "Not benefit-restrictive, methodologies, procedures, or other requirements. So that means work requirements for able-bodied adults..."

Harris, G.: "And you did..."

Breen: "...who have no kids and no other..."

Harris, G.: "You didn't let me finish my statement."

Breen: "Okay."

Harris, G.: "What..."

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Breen: "But you've put a bunch of things together here. And I just... that one... that's one that's in the news right now."

Harris, G.: "That... that one's in the news right now. And when a change like that is made, I believe that the Legislature, the Representatives of the people, should be the ones that vote to approve or deny those changes. All this Bill does is say that the chief executive does not have unitary authority to file a waiver without the House and Senate approving. Right now in State Law, the Governor or the chief executive of the state may file a waiver under any of these federal Acts. I believe that we should have a voice. That's all the Bill does. We can vote it up; we can vote it down."

Breen: "The problem is, is that your... that your Bill would ban it and then allow the General Assembly, by both Houses agreeing, we have to agree, which we never do on anything..."

Harris, G.: "Representative, you're..."

Breen: "...well we do anything that the Democrats want. We don't on other issues."

Harris, G.: "You... you are... you are misstating or forgetting your recent history. We have sitting before the Federal CMS, right now, the 1115 behavioral health transformation waiver. This is a waiver that Members of this Body, Representatives Bellock, and Demmer, and me, and Feigenholtz, and Senators from both sides worked very hard for many months, maybe even a year, with the Department of Healthcare and Family Services, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Public Health to craft... to transform the behavioral health care and substance abuse system in this state. It had wide bipartisan support; there was wide bipartisan participation. It is a

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waiver that is sitting at the Federal Government now. In our approp hearing yesterday, Secretary Dimas told us and later in a Medicaid working group, Secretary Norwood told us that we're about to hear good news from the feds on it. So there is... the most recent waiver in Illinois history is something that moved forward with broad bipartisan support. So this is not to kill things, this is to be sure the things that go to Washington are the good ones."

Breen: "See, but here's the problem, Representative. I mean, we... we in this chamber ourselves just experienced an issue where an entire class of Bills were blocked by the Majority Caucus merely... no matter the merit of the individual Bill because they didn't want to take up any of the class of those Bills. And so, it's very easy to think of a time and... where the executive of the state is trying to make a change, trying to apply for a waiver and the Legislature, because they're playing politics with it say, well, we're not going to give you any permission to do the waiver even though it makes perfect sense because we want you to trade us something. And so there's no need to change this now when we... you know, if our last waiver process went so well, there's no need to now change it."

Harris, G.: "Oh, there's every reason to change it now because the actions of the Federal Government..."

Breen: "And you've frozen it..."

Harris, G.: "...have changed since then."

Breen: "...you've frozen time as of January 1, 2017. You've frozen time. So as long as it was in effect in January 1, 2017 forever and always that is the gold standard for everything

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in our health care world and anything in the public health care sphere, we're freezing that in time."

Harris, G.: "Why do you hate the Legislature, Mr. Breen? Why do you think we should not be involved?"

Breen: "I love the Legislature, but I don't trust the Legislature because I serve in the Legislature."

Harris, G.: "Well, I trust us very much. I trust you and I trust we will have very different opinions on these... a lot of these items, but I believe that the combined wisdom of the 177 of us, representing our constituents, is a better way to establish public policy than to have whoever happens to occupy the seat on the second floor making unilateral decisions."

Breen: "To the Bill. Ladies and Gentlemen, we already have an Illinois law, a prohibition on using pre-existing conditions to condition your insurance coverage. So that's not something that this Bill in any way impacts. The point is that sometimes we've got some innovative things that we want to try to get done. The Executive Branch, currently and has always, had the ability to apply for these but somehow we're going to freeze time as of January 1, 2017 and forever. No, no, no, the Executive Branch can't do what it's always been allowed to do. They've got to come back to the General Assembly and say, mother, may I? This is a restriction on the ability of the Executive to do things, minor things, larger things, all of which though he's got the full right to do. We shouldn't allow the Executive to do what they're going to do. If an individual waiver doesn't pass muster by broad bipartisan majorities, well then the Legislature can deal with it at that time. But doing a Bill that prohibits any waiver application at all by

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the Executive Branch until the Legislative Majorities take their little cracks through it and they get their little... they get their little benefit out of it, makes no sense. It would absolutely gum up the works. It will make sure that we never ever have the ability to apply for waivers for things like work requirements on able-bodied people before they get to take advantage of government programs. That would never happen if we enact this Bill. So please vote 'no'. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Bellock."

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. I know that we have worked on a lot of things together with Representative Harris. And I know his intentions are always good and the 1115 waiver was a terrific movement that we've put forward, but on this specific Bill, I have strong concerns about limiting and not allowing the state to submit waivers that would diminish or require criteria to be met for such as eligibility or work requirements for different things such as issues that are going around this state right now. So as this Bill, I think, limits also the authority of the Governor and CMS to move forward on issues such as that I would not support the Bill at this time. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Andersson."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Andersson: "Good morning, Representative Harris."

Harris, G.: "Good morning, Representative Andersson."

Andersson: "Just a... just a few questions. One is, right now, for example, the 1115 waiver that we've been going through, did that require action by the General Assembly or not?"

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Harris, G.: "No. The Governor submitted it, as is under his current authority."

Andersson: "So this... and so if this Bill passes, if we were to do the 1115 waiver a day after the Bill is effective, now it would be in the purview of the Legislature to make the decision to allow that to occur?"

Harris, G.: "If you read carefully the language of the Bill, if... if there's a change requested in a waiver that would take away health care benefits from Illinois citizens, if they... if it takes away health care benefits from Illinois citizens, it would be required to be approved by the Legislature. If the waiver adds more benefits for health care citizens, it may be submitted directly by the Governor. It would just be that if the waiver through actions of the Federal Government would take away pre-existing condition protections, if it would take away pharmacy protections from our residents, if it would take away maternity coverage, if it would take away coverage for opioid abuse then the Legislature would have to approve it."

Andersson: "All right. Thank you. My second question relates to the possibility of block grants. There is an argument at the federal level that they may change the entire funding system, where now money would come to the state via block grants, which personally I think would be a horrible idea 'cause it would decimate a lot of our mental health funding that has designated funds it needs to go into. How, if at all, would this Bill impact that?"

Harris, G.: "That... that's really unclear, Representative, because we've not seen final language on rules on how waivers would

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interface with block grants, so that's just an unknowable question. But I will agree with you on one thing. Should we go to a block grant system at the Federal Government for Medicaid, Illinois, because of where we happen to be situated right now in our payment situation, would become one of the biggest losers in the nation. It would have a devastating effect, not only on our hospital systems and on our residents who rely on Medicaid for health care, it would be devastating to our state budget. It would blow a huge hole beyond which we've ever seen."

Andersson: "Thank you for the answers to my questions."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Wheeler."

Wheeler, K.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. Ladies and Gentlemen, this is just simply a mechanism where we can just prevent the Executive Branch from doing their job. You can't even start the waiver process without our permission unless, of course, we're expanding the cost of health care. Secondly, this is just another way to go straight to the heart and say, we are not going to really ever accept the idea of a work requirement as part of what we should expect from able-bodied people in this state who can contribute. Please vote 'no'. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Fine."

Fine: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Question for the Sponsor, please."

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Fine: "If this legislation is not put in place then the Federal Government could take away the essential benefits that insurance plans sold on the... in the state, on the exchange, have to carry in the State of Illinois?"

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Harris, G.: "Representative, I'm having a hard time hearing you."

Fine: "With this legislation, we put a protection in place of the essential benefits that insurance plans sold on the exchange in the State of Illinois need to cover. Is that correct?"

Harris, G.: "Well, yes, but it also protects those that are in employer plans. It protects those in individual plans or group plans. You know, the Federal Laws that are being considered would not only affect those in the exchange, but people would lose benefits like maternity care, prescription drugs, behavioral health, substance abuse, even in private plans. I mean, virtually every single Illinois person who has health insurance, public or private, is at risk of losing major parts of their coverage if one of these waivers should be filed."

Fine: "I have a big concern because in Illinois right now, we're working very hard on mental health parity to make sure that mental health is covered the same as physical health. And right now mental health and substance abuse disorders and behavioral health treatment, counselling and psychotherapy, are one of the essential benefits. Is that something that could be taken away and make it even more difficult to get those services?"

Harris, G.: "Absolutely. They would not... insurance companies would not be required to offer them at all."

Fine: "I just want to go through a list of the services required under the Affordable Care Act as essential benefits, so people really realize what can be taken away without our knowing it: outpatient care; emergency room visits; hospital treatment for inpatient care; prenatal and postnatal care; mental health and substance abuse; prescription drugs; services and

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devices to help in recovery of an injury, disability, or chronic condition; lab tests; preventive services including counselling, screenings, and vaccinations; and pediatric services including dental and vision for children. How would families be able to afford these outside their insurance plans if they have to pay for insurance and pay for these services in addition? Thank you so much for bringing up this legislation. It's very important for the people in the State of Illinois."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Flowers."

Flowers: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Gentleman yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Gentleman yields."

Flowers: "Representative, I am trying to get clarity of what is the issue here because I am reading your analysis and it says that provide that the State of Illinois shall not submit a waiver to the Federal CMS that would result in more restrictive standards, more restrictive standards. And this Bill is specifically for people that's on Medicaid."

Harris, G.: "This Bill is for people who are on Medicaid or people who are covered by private insurance, Representative. 'Cause if you look at Graham-Cassidy and the other Trumpcare Bills that are moving in Congress, each one of those Bills would allow these benefits to be taken away from people covered by both Medicaid and private insurance. So, you know, every single person in every one of our districts could be at risk from losing health care benefits under the plan they've had for many years through a private employer that they think their family should have and right now they're entitled to. And all this Bill does is saying that before Illinois signs

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up for that plan to start taking away maternity benefits, pharmacy, substance abuse treatment that the General Assembly should have a say. That's all this Bill does."

Flowers: "And so, if I have a pre-existing condition, you're saying that this plan that I have... they could take that away from me. And so, I will be paying for the insurance because having insurance is still a requirement and I'll have to be paying for something that's not helping me?"

Harris, G.: "There are present provisions in these Federal Acts that would bring us back to the bad old days where if you had a preexisting condition or you had a child who had a pre-existing condition or your wife had had breast cancer, you know, whatever the case may be, yeah, you could be excluded from a coverage pool, forced into a high-risk pool, or have to pay exorbitant premiums far above and beyond what your neighbor, who did not have a pre-existing condition, is paying."

Flowers: "And as a result, if this legislation is not passed, women can be discriminated against in regards to pregnancy and the birth of their child once the child is born."

Harris, G.: "Yes."

Flowers: "To the Bill, Ladies and Gentlemen. We're talking about people's lives here. We're talking about businesspeople making medical decisions. They're practicing medicine without a license to do so. We are paying insurance premiums like the same way we do on our cars in case something were to happen our vehicles would be fixed. With our health, in case something were to happen, we will have access to a doctor by way of an insurance company. The insurance company will be

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covering the expenses because oftentimes so many families have gone into bankruptcy, have lost their homes, lost their jobs, lost everything because of an illness. We should be trying to prevent that. Every day we pick up the newspaper, there's thousands of more people dying in this country because of opioids overdose. People trying to self-medicate. They are killing themselves because they lack... they lack access to care. I would really appreciate an 'aye' vote on this very important piece of legislation and if not, maybe we should look into sponsoring single payer for all, Representative, what do you think? Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Batinick."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Batinick: "I just want to clarify something, Representative. It says the Executive Branch shall not apply unless the General Assembly acts, correct?"

Harris, G.: "It will require the General Assembly pass a Joint Resolution supporting the application, yes."

Batinick: "So my understanding, though, that in order to even get to the point of... to start this... I guess my point is, it's hard for the General Assembly to negotiate with the feds. I mean, isn't that why we have a Governor to negotiate with the feds?"

Harris, G.: "All the negotiations, you know, all the discussions can be had, just as we did on the 1115 waiver, they can go on as we've done with the Medicaid working group and the hospital assessment working group. But what this Bill says is that

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should a waiver be proposed that would take away health care from Illinois citizens, that would take away things that are the status quo, that would reduce the amount of their health care coverage or increase the cost of health care coverage, it would take a vote of the General Assembly before the final paperwork was sent to Washington."

Batinick: "Okay. To... to the Bill. I mean, as a state we need to start thinking of creative ways to run government more efficiently. And to me, what this looks like, what I believe this is, is what you're seeing in the news is you're seeing work requirements for able-bodied individuals if they're going to have Medicaid... work requirements. These are the sorts of things that we need to do. These are the creative ways that don't hurt the person that has a serious pre-existing condition, that don't hurt the people that really are downtrodden. These are the things that take away money from the mental health services that we should be providing. Able-bodied people that have the ability to work should have work requirements to get Medicaid; they should be able to do that. This is going to make that process harder. I don't in a million years expect this General Assembly, this House and this Senate, to pass something as groundbreaking as that and as something that would actually say to the Illinois citizens, hey, you know what, they're actually trying. They're trying to take care of the people that actually need the services, instead of just trying to leave people and take care of the people who don't. So, I strongly urge a 'no' vote. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Harris to close."

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Harris, G.: "Well, Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for the debate.

To the... to the last speaker and some of those others who brought up work requirements as something that would not move forward under this legislation, that's one of the ones actually I don't worry about in this state because I've seen several quotes from Governor Rauner saying that this is not something that he intends to make application for. So, I don't think you will be seeing that come from the Executive Branch one way or the other because the Governor has said he thinks adding the work requirements are wrong. So that probably would not apply in this situation. But what this Bill does, Ladies and Gentlemen, is it asks us to do our jobs as Legislators. It asks us not to cede authority on one of the most important decisions that affects every single family in Illinois, which is whether or not they can have health care, what they are going to pay for their health care, and whether or not they can be turned down for services that they've come to expect for their kids, for substance abuse treatment, for mental health treatment. If you don't think that's our job to have an opinion on that, you know, this... this is what the Legislature is for, Ladies and Gentlemen. We are the voice of the people. We are sent... come... sent here to represent the interests and needs of people in our districts. And if you look at public opinion polling right now or if you go out and talk in your community, you'll see there is no topic that is more... high on the mind of every person and every family in Illinois and across America than fear for what's about to happen to their health care because of rising costs, because of increasing prior authorizations, step therapies, all the

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ways that have been used to, you know, limit and regulate health care. And it's got to make families' blood run cold to see that, you know, after all these years when they thought they were protected because someone in their family had a pre-existing condition that somehow they could not be discriminated against or their family denied health care, that we would be standing, you know, putting ourselves in a position to have helped those families protect their pre-existing condition exclusions and we, as Legislators, refused to do it and failed to do it. You know, I would not want to go home and have to explain to a family why suddenly they are uninsurable, where for the last several years they've had good insurance; it's protected them and protected their children under the pre-existing condition exclusion. I would hate to go home and give a speech about how we're doing so much in Illinois and caring so much about the opioid population, where because of our lack of action on this Bill, we have allowed the Federal Government to take away all funding for opioid treatment and prevention. Yeah, how do you do that? How do you go home and tell a mom that we've just voted to, you know, take ourselves out of having responsibility for the decision to take away maternity care or mental health treatment? How do you tell somebody who has cancer that, well, we had a chance to stop the Federal Government from eliminating pharmacy as a covered benefit and we as a Legislature punted. If that's what you want to do is punt on the health care of all the 12 million citizens of Illinois whether they're on Medicaid, whether they're on private insurance, you know, vote 'no' on this Bill. If you

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want to be on record as actually having stood with the families of Illinois, having stood against cuts to their health care, having protected people with pre-existing conditions, having fought for opioid treatment, fought for the health care for pregnant and parenting families, fought for more mental health treatment in your community, fought to keep pharmacy as a benefit, vote 'yes'. I urge everyone to vote 'yes' on this legislation. 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. Please record yourself, Members. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 59 voting 'yes', 44 voting 'no'. And the Gentleman asks for a Postponed Consideration. Thank you, Mr. Harris. House Bill 4288, Representative Hammond. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4288, a Bill for an Act concerning military service. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Hammond."

Hammond: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4288 changes how we do veterans preference, and it allows for veterans who have served in other states to also receive veteran's preference in the State of Illinois, but only after we've given full consideration to all of our Illinois veterans. Appreciate an 'aye' vote. I know of no opposition."

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 take the record, Mr. Clerk. There are 105 voting 'yes' 0 voting 'no'.

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And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5148, Representative Kifowit. Out of the record. House Bill 4661, Mr. Martwick. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4661, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee benefits. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Martwick."

Martwick: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Bill 4661 codifies current practice regarding ethics training for trustees of downstate police and fire pension systems. I know of no opposition. I ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Those in... Sorry. Mr. Breen is recognized."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Breen: "Just to be clear, Representative, we're not reducing a requirement for ethics training?"

Martwick: "We are not. Representative, the ethics training that is currently required is spoken of two places in the current statutes. So the 8 hours of ethics training that is required is already covered in the 16 hours of annual training that they're required to undergo. And so, current practice is, is that they don't require them to take that additional 8 hours. This just codifies that."

Breen: "Fair enough. Thank you."

Martwick: "Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Those in... once again, saved by Mr. Spain. You're recognized, Sir."

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Spain: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representative, I support what you're doing. I just want to clarify. One of the things that often would be a point of frustration to me would be local pension funds and some of the travel... sometimes very extravagant travel that they would do for training purposes. Is your intent for this ethics training certainly could be accomplished at a local level? Is that correct?"

Martwick: "So, I'll be completely honest with you, Representative. I don't know the specific manner in which they go about it. This only speaks to the requirements of the training. So in the current statute there are... the statute says that they must undergo 32 hours of training once they initially take their seat on the board as a trustee and then they have a requirement of 16 hours of annual training every year that they have to go through and 8 hours of that is ethics training. And then, in another part of the statute, it says that they must undergo 8 hours of ethics training. So this is just cleaning up that statute to say that the 8 hours of ethics training are covered by the 16 hours of annual retraining."

Spain: "Okay, thank you. I support your Bill and I appreciate your leadership on this topic. So, as we continue our discussions, we'll make sure that we can give some further examination to how we make sure that the administrative expenses for these local police and fire pension funds are held to a reasonable level. Thank you."

Martwick: "Thank you. I look forward to working with you on that."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Bill will vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all

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voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. There are 104 voting 'yes' 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5544, Representative Moeller. Out of the record. House Bill 4469, Representative Stratton. Out of the record. House Bill 5778, Representative Stuart. Representative Stuart, running down the aisle. I guess that means you want your Bill called. Please... please read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5778, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Stuart."

Stuart: "Sorry. So, House Bill 5778 will simply extend an existing tax credit for wages paid to qualified veterans. It will apply that tax credit to the spouse of the veteran as well. And I ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Breen."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Breen: "And Representative, I believe you had... there was some issue with making a change on a tax credit that didn't exist anymore. Did... were you able to work out the technical drafting issues on that front?"

Stuart: "Can you say that again? I'm sorry. I couldn't hear you."

Breen: "So, my analysis shows that the tax credit does not exist currently. And you are amending... at least your original Bill was amending that nonexistent tax credit. So, then were you able to fix it so the... so you're restarting... that you were able to legally restart the tax credit and then go again?"

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Stuart: "Yeah. There was a... there was a technical Amendment that was able to fix that problem."

Breen: "And then you... just... just please explain to us exactly which... what type of income is credited here."

Stuart: "It's... it's up to 10 percent of wages with a cap of \$1200."

Breen: "And that's provided to businesses that hire a qualifying veteran or veteran's spouse?"

Stuart: "Exactly. Yup, for a business."

Breen: "Okay. For a business in Illinois. And then, what... what makes you a qualifying veteran under your Bill?"

Stuart: "All right. Sorry, it's my understanding that that Amendment needs to get out of Rules. So can I pull this and..."

Speaker Lang: "The Lady..."

Stuart: "Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "...takes the Bill from the record. You wish to move this Bill back to the Order of Second Reading for the Amendment? Mr. Clerk, put the Bill on the Order of Second Reading. House Bill 4965, Representative Wallace. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4965, a Bill for an Act concerning public aid. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Wallace."

Wallace: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a Bill that continues the work that we've done over the last few years to bring stability to the child care assistance program in the State of Illinois. It is a Bill that will allow for 12-month eligibility to be granted rather than 6 month, which gives continuity to the family, gives continuity to the education

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of the child, who is enrolled in a program. And it also helps with the small businesses that are running these child care programs. I encourage an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Breen."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Breen: "Thank you. And Representative, I believe this is a change that was made in Federal Law and we're modelling that change at the state level to 6 months to 12 months?"

Wallace: "Absolutely."

Breen: "Is that accurate? Okay. Thank you."

Wallace: "Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Davidsmeyer."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Davidsmeyer: "Quick... quick question. So if we're moving this, and I understand there was a change at the federal level to be able to receive some of those funds, I believe."

Wallace: "Yes."

Davidsmeyer: "If... if an individual is registered and in school, and receiving the child care, if they decide not to reenroll the second semester, do they have to report it?"

Wallace: "So that's a..."

Davidsmeyer: "Or will they receive benefits guaranteed for 12 months, whether they're in..."

Wallace: "Well, the..."

Davidsmeyer: "...or out of school?"

Wallace: "...the eligibility is based upon their income. So under that scenario just because they're enrolled in school or not

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enrolled in school, if they are no longer... if they're not earning more money, they're still eligible in the program."

Davidsmeyer: "Even if they're not currently working or currently in school?"

Wallace: "You have to provide some... yeah, you have to provide proof of income to be part of this program. So, I mean, I don't know of very many people who are... I don't think I've ever heard of a case of a person who's not working or in school or both, who qualifies for the program."

Davidsmeyer: "And... and so that's my question. If... if I apply on July 1 and I'm enrolled to go in to school and my reason for needing child care is school and then second semester rolls around January 1 and I decide not to apply, am I still in the child care program despite not being enrolled in school and not having a job?"

Wallace: "But that's it. Even if you were going into school in the fall, you still had to prove income to be qualified for the program."

Davidsmeyer: "You also have to prove that you're in school or you're working and that's the basis for your need for child care, correct?"

Wallace: "Absolutely."

Davidsmeyer: "So you prove that in July 1, but in January 1, if you change, do you have to report that you're..."

Wallace: "No. This is a 12-month eligibility consistent with the new federal rules."

Davidsmeyer: "You're not answering my question. My question is, if your situation changes where you no longer are in a

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situation where you're out of the home in need of child care, does this change? I mean..."

Wallace: "No, your eligibility..."

Davidsmeyer: "...do you have to report?"

Wallace: "...does not change. Your eligibility will be granted for 12 months. And as I stated in my opening statement, it gives stability to the child care providers..."

Davidsmeyer: "And I understand that..."

Wallace: "...stability to the child..."

Davidsmeyer: "...for somebody who is still in need of the child care to be able to go to school or to go to work, but if they're no longer working or no longer in school then where's the child care need?"

Wallace: "The need..."

Davidsmeyer: "I mean that they should be at home."

Wallace: "...is for the child's continuity of education. That continues. That doesn't disappear."

Davidsmeyer: "It doesn't say anything about..."

Wallace: "The small businesses that are... that this is part of their business budget that continues. That doesn't change. And with a 12-month eligibility, you still may earn a different job. You may enroll in the summer session. There are so many variables and moving parts. I can't say what a specific scenario would look like, but 12-month eligibility is consistent with the federal guidelines and brings stability."

Davidsmeyer: "So you... you brought up education. There's nothing in here that says you have to send your child to an educational day care. I... I don't understand. If you skip a

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full semester, four months, and you... and I'm not saying this is... this is not a normal occurrence I understand, but I think that we need to add something in there that says, if you're no longer working and/or in school that you should have to report to the state to let them know that you are no longer in need of child care services."

Wallace: "Well, why, if the Federal Government has already changed this standard?"

Davidsmeyer: "Because if you're at home, why do you need somebody else to take care of your children?"

Wallace: "The programs are also educational programs."

Davidsmeyer: "No, they're not."

Wallace: "I know that the... No..."

Davidsmeyer: "It doesn't specifically say that..."

Wallace: "...no, let... wait. Let me finish my statement..."

Davidsmeyer: "...they have to be enrolled in an educational day care."

Wallace: "...Representative Davidsmeyer, I will finish my statement."

Davidsmeyer: "Okay."

Wallace: "We have an erroneous belief that when we enroll children into child care programs, whether it's a home facility or a standalone facility... that the people who are providing these services are not also educators. They go through continuing education. They understand child development. They are structuring a day around learning. And that is what is going to be best for that child consistency and continuity in their early education process. We just had this discussion yesterday around attendance in early education programs."

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Davidsmeyer: "But... and that is in education centers. That's not specifically in day care. Day care..."

Wallace: "So..."

Davidsmeyer: "...is different than an education center. And... and..."

Wallace: "I know that. I have two children now and each of them when they are within the care of a qualified child care provider, there is education... there is an educational component."

Davidsmeyer: "Is there a requirement for education..."

Wallace: "I don't know of a child care..."

Davidsmeyer: "...component. There is..."

Wallace: "...facility that just doesn't do anything that is educational with children."

Davidsmeyer: "I can find one in..."

Wallace: "Everything that we do..."

Davidsmeyer: "...everybody's district..."

Wallace: "...everything that we do..."

Davidsmeyer: "...that... that..."

Wallace: "...with our children is educational. My seven month old is floating around here somewhere. He is receiving an educational experience right now, whether it's sensory, whether it is language, whether it is emotional, those are all parts of the educational process of a young, growing mind."

Davidsmeyer: "But we're kind of getting off the topic. So..."

Wallace: "We are."

Davidsmeyer: "...the reality is, the point of this program is to ensure if somebody is trying to better themselves in school, that they have access to child care."

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Wallace: "Absolutely."

Dauidsmeyer: "If they're trying to work and set a good example for their children, they are getting child care."

Wallace: "Absolutely."

Dauidsmeyer: "My question is, if they are not doing either of those things, why should the State or the Federal Government be providing dollars for child care, when the parent is at home and could provide that themselves?"

Wallace: "All right. So..."

Dauidsmeyer: "We're not talking physics..."

Wallace: "...have you... no, no."

Dauidsmeyer: "...and calculus."

Wallace: "Okay. Have we... are there... is there any individuals in the chamber who have ever been unemployed in their adult life? Have you ever been unemployed in your adult life?"

Dauidsmeyer: "Yes."

Wallace: "And when you were looking for work, if you had been a parent, where would your children need to be while you were looking for work?"

Dauidsmeyer: "Family, friends, support system. I mean..."

Wallace: "Okay. And so, for people who have those, that's all great. Again, this is just a Bill to be consistent with the federal... the new federal standards. It will bring dollars to the state. And I don't think that anyone should vote against a Bill that makes us consistent with new federal recommendations and would bring back dollars to the state, especially since Illinois is a donor state in the tax process."

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Davidsmeyer: "Well, I just think that if somebody is at home, that they should be taking care of the children and the state shouldn't be paying for child care for somebody who is at home. So..."

Wallace: "Thank you."

Davidsmeyer: "...I understand what you're trying to do, and I agree that we need to do this, but there needs to be some type of reporting that says, I am no longer in need of child care. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Demmer: "Representative, we had a good conversation in committee about this Bill and I think there are some points that I just want to clarify. First, we've heard that... I think it's been suggested that it was a new change in Federal Law to move it to 12 months, but I believe it's the case that Federal Law has called for 12-month eligibility for several years, but Illinois has actually pursued waivers... temporary waivers to shorten that to 6 months. Isn't that correct?"

Wallace: "That is true. We haven't been consistent."

Demmer: "So, this is a... this is an established precedent from the Federal Government. And one of the reasons that we've pursued waivers in the past is because there is a fiscal impact to this. There is a fiscal impact to moving it from 6 months to 12 months of eligibility, but in the most recent federal omnibus spending Bill, there are specific dollars, new money, that comes to the State of Illinois to help implementation of these rules that have been on the books for a few years, but

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not all states have implemented that. And I believe in committee we heard that... the testimony was that the fiscal impact of this is projected to be about \$70 million..."

Wallace: "Yes."

Demmer: "...but in fact 82 and a half million dollars in new federal money are coming to the state for the purposes... I think the Conference Committee Report from the omnibus spending Bill specifically says it's for the purposes of implementing the program as Federal Law has written it. So..."

Wallace: "That's absolutely correct. Thank you."

Demmer: "Yeah. So I appreciate that. And Mr. Speaker, to the Bill. I think this helps us come into line with a program that's been established for several years and Illinois has been seeking waivers from that for a variety of reasons, but one of those reasons was the fiscal impact. The fiscal impact now is mitigated by the fact that there are new federal dollars coming to us for this implementation. I think this is a responsible thing for us to do, puts us in line with other states and does so at a time that we're receiving dollars to help us do that. It's... I encourage your 'yes' vote. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Stratton."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Stratton: "Representative, I note that this is amending the Illinois Public Aid Code Section 5... oh, I'm sorry, Section 9A-11 for child care. And under subsection (b) it provides that, at a minimum, the Illinois department shall cover the

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following categories of families, and I just want to make sure that this is correct. First of all, recipients of TANF..."

Wallace: "Yes."

Stratton: "...participating in work and training activities; secondly, families transitioning from TANF to work; thirdly, families at risk of becoming recipients of TANF; fourth, families with special needs as defined by rule; fifth, working families with very low income as defined by rule; and sixth, families that are not recipients of TANF and need child care assistance to participate in education and training activities. So, in reference to the prior inquiry, as to whether or not somebody who might be in school but then decides to not reenroll or is unemployed, this provision indicates that all of these categories would be covered for child care, correct?"

Wallace: "Correct. Specifically, number three to your point. So families that would be at risk for being enrolled in the TANF program. So if they've dropped out of school, that puts them at risk, but what our hope is for them to have continuity with child care so that they can find gainful employment and find stability in their lives."

Stratton: "And again, just to also clarify, when there's a disruption in child care, then that totally defeats the purpose of someone being able to find adequate employment or go back to school?"

Wallace: "Absolutely. As you probably heard, when you are not employed, you should be working as hard during the day, as many hours during the day to seek employment so that you can

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gain employment. And children need to be some place safe while that happens."

Stratton: "Thank you. To the Bill. I just pointed out that the.. the Illinois Public Aid Code, the Sections 9A-11 regarding child care clearly sets forth the provisions of what needs to be.. what needs to happen to qualify for child care. And I absolutely urge an 'aye' vote. That this is something that will help families all around our state who need child care assistance to be able to work, go to school, and to provide for their families. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer for an announcement."

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

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

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Batinick: "Representative, so my understanding is, is we have a fiscal impact of 70 million, but we're taking in about 80, 83 million for a positive of 10-plus million dollars, correct?"

Wallace: "Yes. Can you imagine, I brought forth a child care Bill that will bring us money?"

Batinick: "You should've done that a few weeks earlier, the praise you would've gotten. I urge an 'aye' vote. Thank you."

Wallace: "Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Mitchell."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Mitchell, C.: "So I think the Gentleman from Dixon covered the fiscal impact fairly well, but I just wanted to ask a follow-

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up question after the line of questioning from the Gentleman from Jacksonville, I think misunderstands how child care works. Representative, are you aware of, sort of, plethora of families around the state whose... who... whose parents are gold and silver star child care providers who just happen to be looking for work in their spare time, 'cause I'm not?"

Wallace: "No, I'm not aware of that."

Mitchell, C.: "So, my understanding of child care is that it is not just parking your kid somewhere, but in fact it's also an opportunity for this child, in a critical area of brain development at a critical time, to also get early childhood education that is not just good for keeping them out of the parents' way who's seeking work, but for making sure that they are ready to go to school and become learners. Is that correct?"

Wallace: "Absolutely."

Mitchell, C.: "So, to the Bill. There seems to be this fundamental misunderstanding that child care is just some place you park your kid. And when you park your kid there, they're sitting there all day and maybe they learn something, maybe they don't. But when they're no longer at work or they're no longer in school, well, you can just keep them at home and you can read them their ABCs. That's not how this works. There are really good child care programs that get people ahead, that allow kids especially poor kids, downstate or in the City of Chicago, to get a jump on their education. We shouldn't disrupt that for any reason, especially when we've got a positive fiscal impact. This deserves an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Ives."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Ives: "I just had some technical questions about the implementation of this. So the Federal Government came in with their tax reform package, basically said, eligibility or redetermination happens every single year in a 12-month period. We've been doing it 6 months. Have we been doing it 6 months via statute, or by rulemaking, or just simply a waiver request?"

Wallace: "It's been a combination of rulemaking and waiver requests."

Ives: "So currently we don't have it in statute that we must comply with federal guidelines. We've been able to determine this on our own. Is that correct?"

Wallace: "I don't believe there's anything in statute that states that."

Ives: "So, really, DHS, the Governor's Office, they could either decide just not to simply apply for the waiver and then this entire Bill would be moot. Is that correct? We wouldn't need this Bill if they didn't apply for a waiver."

Wallace: "Can you restate that? I'm sorry."

Ives: "So, right now, the reason that we aren't following Federal Law on redetermination is because we've requested a waiver to redetermine every 6 months. Is that correct?"

Wallace: "Yes, that's correct, but as was already stated, it wasn't a fiscal benefit to the state prior to now."

Ives: "No, I understand that. So I'm just saying, there's, you know, the DHS on its own could just simply decide, well, we're not going to submit for a waiver and we're going to just

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simply comply with the federal guidelines of 12 months and we don't really need legislation to put this into effect. They could just do it without legislation."

Wallace: "They could, but as you also mentioned, the opposite could also happen. So I think codifying it and making it consistent with what the federal block grants will be moving forward that... well, that we hope will be moving forward..."

Ives: "Is it..."

Wallace: "...is important."

Ives: "...is it... is there a chance, really, that actually the Federal Government says, no, we set out new guidelines as part of a massive tax overhaul and we're just going to disapprove your waiver? Get in line, Illinois. Comply with our federal guidelines. Is that a possibility? 'Cause we've been asking for a waiver for quite a long time."

Wallace: "I'm sorry. It's a little loud. So, you stated that we could..."

Ives: "I'm just trying to be clear that, really, the Federal Government could step in, disapprove a waiver request from the state..."

Wallace: "Yes."

Ives: "...Illinois and just say, no, you're going to have to comply with federal guidelines on this. This was part of a massive tax overhaul project and we're not going to approve any further waiver requests on redetermination timeframes."

Wallace: "That is always a possibility, yes."

Ives: "Okay. Just wanted to make that clear. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Wallace to close."

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Wallace: "Thank you. This is a Bill that is going to bring the stability that is necessary for small businesses in the State of Illinois that are overwhelmingly owned and operated by women and women of color. This is a Bill that will bring stability to families who are seeking child care and a safe place for their children to be as they pursue their goals, whether it's educational or occupational. And this is a Bill that will help consistency with the next generation and allowing them to be able to have the early childhood exposure to education that is necessary for their future. I encourage an 'aye' vote."

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? Burke. Please take the record. There are 100 voting 'yes', 4 voting 'no'... excuse me, Mr. Clerk. 103 voting... 101 voting 'yes', 3 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Leader Currie is recognized."

Speaker Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please add to the excused list on our side of the aisle, Representative Drury."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Representative. The Chair recognizes Mr. Rita."

Rita: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I filed a Motion to reconsider the vote on House Bill 4508. I'd like to withdraw that Motion to reconsider the vote on House Bill 4508."

Speaker Lang: "For the record, the Gentleman withdraws his Motion to reconsider the vote by which House Bill 4508 passed. Thank you, Sir. House Bill 4855, Representative Wheeler. Please read the Bill."

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Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4855, a Bill for an Act concerning safety. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Wheeler."

Wheeler, B.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to present House Bill 485, but before I do, I'd like to speak on behalf of the end of the of the alphabet caucus. Which includes: Unes, Wallace, Walsh, Wehrli, Welch, Welter, Wheeler, Wheeler, Williams, Willis, Winger, Yingling, and Zalewski. We would like you to at least consider starting at the end of the alphabet someday. Just a thought."

Speaker Lang: "For those of us in the middle of the alphabet, we couldn't care less. Your..."

Wheeler, B.: "So think about it."

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed on your Bill."

Wheeler, B.: "Thank you. House Bill 4855 amends the FOID Act. It clarifies the definition of patient. It extends the time for ISP to make a determination on renewal and the current card will remain valid. It also provides, by rule for ISP, to suspend the card during an investigation. I ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Lady's Bill that she waited so long for 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. Ammons, Guzzardi. Please take the record, Mr. Clerk. There are 97 voting 'yes', 4 voting 'no'. This Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Chair recognizes Mr. DeLuca."

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DeLuca: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like the record to reflect I intended to vote 'yes' on House Bill 5153."

Speaker Lang: "The record will reflect your intention. House Bill 5477, Representative Winger. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5477, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Winger."

Winger: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 5477 aims to increase lifesaving of shelter animals. It provides that animal shelters shall begin reporting on their inventory of dogs and cats and other animals and the outcome statistics from the previous year, as part of its annual renewal application with the Department of Agriculture. This type of tracking will increase transparency and allow for the transferring of animals between shelters from overpopulated to underpopulated shelters. This type of activity works towards a no-kill state. And this would be effective January 1, 2019. The Department of Ag is neutral and I'm not aware of opposition. I ask for an 'aye' vote."

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. Arroyo, Williams, Yingling. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. There are 104 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4828, Representative Cassidy. Out of the record. House Bill 5599, Representative Conyears-Ervin. Out of the record. House Bill 5741, Representative Cassidy for Representative Gabel. Please read

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the Bill. We understand there's a Floor Amendment, Representative. Mr. Clerk, please put the Bill back on the Order... wait, before you do that. Representative, you look like you're not sure and since this is Representative Gabel's Bill, do you want to take it out of the record and double-check?"

Cassidy: "No, I think it's okay. Yes, it is."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Clerk, please put this on the Order of Second Reading and read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5741, a Bill for an Act concerning safety. This Bill was read a second time a previous day. Amendment 1 was adopted in committee. Floor Amendment #2, offered by Representative Cassidy, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Cassidy."

Cassidy: "So the Amendment simply allows that the report from the underlying Bill be submitted electronically. Given that this is an environmentally friendly piece of legislation, it seems appropriate that the report coming out of it should be as environmentally friendly as possible. So I ask that the Amendment be adopted."

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

Clerk Hollman: "No further Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. We're doing some Second Reading Bills now. House Bill 5251, Representative Fine. Please read the Bill."

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Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5251, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Second Reading of this House Bill. Amendment 1 was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 1439, Representative Gordon-Booth. Out of the record. House Bill 5196, Representative Greenwood. Out of the record. House Bill 5097, Representative Hernandez. Out of the record. House Bill 4687, Mr. Bennett. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4687, a Bill for an Act concerning civil law. Second Reading of this House Bill. Amendment 1 was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 4369, Mr. Sommer. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4369, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 5104, Representative Ammons on the Order of Second Reading. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5104, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. Floor Amendment #1, offered by Representative Ammons, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Ammons on the Amendment."

Ammons: "Thank you. The Amendment simply excludes commissary for Department of Correction inmates. We're going to come back and work on that later. So it... it removes that from the Bill and deals strictly with the inmate copay."

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

Clerk Hollman: "No further Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 5611, Mr. Andrade. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5611, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Second Reading of this House Bill. Amendment #2 was adopted in committee. Floor Amendment #4, offered by Representative Andrade, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Andrade on the Amendment. Mr. Andrade."

Andrade: "Sorry, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Amendment 4 cleans up a technical change and we're using the language that is already existing in the Bill to add a few other members."

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

Clerk Hollman: "No further Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 4620, Representative Wheeler with a 'W'. Please read the Bill. It's 4920, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4920, a Bill for an Act concerning civil law. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 4415, Mr. Costello. Please read the Bill."

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Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4415, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 4665. Representative Gabel's Bill, Representative Wallace to handle. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4665, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Second Reading of this House Bill. Amendment 1 was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 2617, Representative Gabel. Representative Fine to handle this one. Representative Fine. Out of the record. House Bill 4572, Mr. Guzzardi. Out of the record. House Bill 4234, Representative Harper. Out of the record. House Bill 5160. Please read the Bill, Mr. Clerk. Out of the record for the moment. House Bill 5784, Representative Manley. Representative Manley. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5784, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. Floor Amendment #1, offered by Representative Manley, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Manley. On your Amendment."

Manley: "Everybody's talking to me at once here. Sorry. Can you give me a minute, please? Sorry. Speaker, can I take that out of the record for now? Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Out of the Record, Mr. Clerk. House Bill 5497, Mr. Martwick. Please read the Bill."

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Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5497, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. Floor Amendment #1, offered by Representative Lang, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Martwick took this Bill over for Representative Lang. It was a wonderful Bill. Why don't you go ahead with the Amendment, Sir, if you know what it is?"

Martwick: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Amendment 1 is a page and line Amendment that curtails the circumstances under which credit unions may disclose their member records to law enforcement."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Amendment will say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "No further Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 4707, Representative Scherer. Out of the record. House Bill 4129, Representative Stuart. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4129, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. House Bill 2717, Mr. Welch. Mr. Welch. Out of the record. House Bill 4969, Representative Wallace. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4969, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendment. A fiscal note and

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state mandates note have been requested but not filed at this time."

Speaker Lang: "Bill will be held on the Order of Second Reading. House Bill 4964, Representative Wallace. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4964, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. This Bill was read a second time a previous day. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. A state mandates Note has been requested, but not filed at this time."

Speaker Lang: "Please hold that Bill on the Order of Second Reading. Returning to Representative Manley on House Bill 5784. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5784, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. Floor Amendment #1, offered by Representative Manley, has been approved by for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Manley."

Manley: "Thank you, Speaker. House Floor Amendment #1 is a page and line Amendment that adds the requirement that the quarterly reports, required by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, be delivered electronically and that these reports also be available electronically at the request of any Member of the General Assembly."

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

Clerk Hollman: "No further Amendments. No Motions are filed."

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Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. Moving to some Third Reading now, Members. House Bill 4688, Representative Kelly Burke. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4688, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Burke."

Burke, K.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4688 is an agreed Bill with the Department of Financial and Professional Regulations and the nursing home administrators. We extended the sunset on their licensing Act last year. And then they spent some time coming up with some changes that the department and the administrators wanted for the Bill. So this reflects an agreement of those two parties. I know of no opposition and I ask for an 'aye' vote."

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? Leader Currie. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 104 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5257, Representative Bellock. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5257, a Bill for an Act concerning juveniles. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Bellock."

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 5257 was an initiative of the Cook County Public Guardian. And what this Bill does, it will ensure that a minor's guardian ad litem or attorney will receive... the kids that are in DCFS,

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that their attorney or guardian ad litem will... shall receive critical information regarding their client on a timely basis, that is within a three-day limit. The trouble had been that these reports were going to hundreds... used to get hundreds of days and now they were down to just 20 days. So that's why the Cook County Guardian had asked for this legislation. I don't know of any opposition."

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. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. There are 104 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4568, Mr. Butler. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4568, a Bill for an Act concerning public aid. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Butler."

Butler: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4568 amends the healthy local foods incentives program, a Bill that we passed... Act that enacted last year that allows for taking advantage of a federal program through the Farm Bill that doubles SNAP benefits with some nonfederal sources. This just eliminates the June 2019 sunset on this program to make it permanent. We've authorized \$500 thousand in this, but it's subject to appropriation. Happy to take any questions. I know of no opposition."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hays."

Hays: "Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

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Hays: "Representative, does this Bill have anything to do with the bicentennial or Route 66?"

Butler: "We could amend it to make so, if you would like, Sir."

Hays: "Add me to it then. 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? Burke. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 102 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4954, Mr. Cavaletto. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4954, a Bill for an Act concerning government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Cavaletto."

Cavaletto: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4954. What it does, it amends the State Commemorative Dates Act. It provides that the fourth day of November of each year is designated as G.I. Bill of Rights Day to be observed throughout the state as a day of recognition of the landmark legislation that provided benefits to World War II veterans and would serve as a basis for the future legislation to extend benefits to all who served in the United States Armed Forces. I ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Gentleman's 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? Flowers. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 104 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby

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declared passed. House Bill 5795, Representative Chapa LaVia.
Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5795, a Bill for an Act concerning
education. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Chapa LaVia."

Chapa LaVia: "What it does is it puts in guidelines, as far as
truancy and percentage and how it equates. It's an agreed
Bill as far as all these... the stakeholders. I'll take any
questions."

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? Mr. Clerk, please
take the record. On this question, there are 103 voting 'yes',
0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the
Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House
Bill 4339, Mr. Connor. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4339, a Bill for an Act concerning
criminal law. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Connor."

Connor: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4339 basically
indicates that when a defendant in a child sex abuse case
chooses to go pro se, he does not have the right to directly
cross-examine the victim in the case. So it puts in place
that a judge can assign another counsel to read the questions
or the judge can read the questions to the child victim,
directly himself. The only opposition comes from the Cook
County Public Defender's Office, which is a constitutional
argument. This is not a settled area of law. It is somewhat

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gray; however, there is no current Constitutional prohibition against this. So I'd ask for an 'aye' vote. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Breen."

Breen: "And... Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Breen: "And... Representative, I just want to make sure their... so the Cook County Public Defender is opposed. They believe it is a violation of the defendant's Sixth Amendment right... on my analysis, to conduct his or her own defense. But I think they still have their right to conduct their defense. It's a matter of confronting their accuser, is that right? What's the... what's the Sixth Amendment concern?"

Connor: "Correct. So basically it indicates that they have the right to be present, in terms of the... it's a Confrontation Clause argument..."

Breen: "Right."

Conroy: "...and a Sixth Amendment argument. But basically, the Confrontation Clause argument has basically put more weight on the defendant being physically in the room with the witness, than with the defendant's ability to personally cross-examine the witness. And that's basically the way the case law has gone. The Cook County Public Defender's Office takes a different view. To me this is basically letting the judge run his own courtroom and letting him determine how a victim can be cross-examined, particularly a child victim. And the judge has to make a specific finding that the direct examination of the child victim by the defendant would be, basically, traumatic for the child victim."

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Breen: "How will they do this? Will they do this over a video, or is the defendant actually going to be there present, it's just they won't be the person questioning directly?"

Connor: "They will have to be physically present in the room. Unfortunately, our... the closed circuit statute in Illinois that permits child victims to testify over closed circuit specifically exempts pro se defendants. So this legislation is an attempt to close that loophole and make sure that defendants cannot retraumatize a child victim by the opportunity to cross-examine them directly in court."

Breen: "Right. Fair enough. It seems like you've struck a good balance. Thank you, Representative."

Connor: "Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Ammons."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Ammons: "Just a question of... I believe there's probably some constitutional lawyers in this room. If the... the person is being cross-examined by the prosecution, would that exempt the prosecution from also cross-examining the child in the court proceeding?"

Connor: "So, no. The... what the court would have the option of doing is they would get basically the list of questions from the defendant and then either the judge would read those questions to the child victim or the defense... or a defense attorney, appointed by the judge for this particular purpose, would read those questions and conduct the cross-examination."

Ammons: "Would that be in the open court proceeding?"

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Connor: "Correct."

Ammons: "So the defense could question the child in the case?"

Connor: "Correct."

Ammons: "But the accused who's representing himself pro se could not respond with questions? Can they respond to the judge with questions?"

Connor: "They can add questions. Yes, absolutely. They can keep providing questions and speak to their own... to the standby counsel during the course of the proceedings. They just can't address the child directly."

Ammons: "So in this particular case, the prosecution or defense would not be addressing the child directly?"

Connor: "Correct."

Ammons: "So, let me just make sure I'm clear on that. I'm reading it differently on the screen."

Connor: "Okay."

Ammons: "In this particular kind of case, the prosecution nor the defense could cross-examine the child directly?"

Connor: "No. The defense would be examining the child, but not... in other words, the defendant cannot talk directly to the child."

Ammons: "Okay."

Connor: "He would have to submit his questions, either to the judge, or to a standby counsel."

Ammons: "So they could be submitted, they just cannot be done in the open process, directly?"

Connor: "He... he can't do it himself. If he molested..."

Ammons: "Or she."

Connor: "...or she, excuse me, yes. Yes, basically."

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Ammons: "Thank you very much."

Connor: "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? Fine, Wallace. Please take the record. There are 104 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 3909, Representative Conroy. Out of the record. House Bill 4536, Mr. Crespo. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4536, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Crespo."

Crespo: "Thank you, Speaker. House Bill 4536 is a request from one of my villages, Hanover Park, asking for a TIF extension from 2024 to 2036. I should add that all the taxing bodies have sent in letters to support of the extension."

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? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. There are 103 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5447, Leader Currie. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5447, a Bill for an Act to revise the law by combining multiple enactments and making technical corrections. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Leader Currie. Leader Currie."

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Currie: "Thank you, Speaker and Members of the House. This is the first revisory Bill of 2018 and I would like to say that I would be happy to answer all your questions, in reality I wouldn't. So I hope that you won't have any and I hope that you'll vote 'yes'."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Lady's honest plea will vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 103 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4892, Mr. Davis. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4892, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Davis."

Davis: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the House, this is an effort of the Health Facilities and Services Review Board with regard to some specific changes to their Act. The Bill makes two substantive changes: one that deletes the requirement that at least one board member must attend a public hearing. And in part, the reason for that is because with scheduling of the board members so that they are doing what they're supposed to do, sometimes it's difficult to get board members to the meetings. So, there are other ways in which the public can engage... engage the board through written comments and they can also speak at the... at the hearings or the public meetings. And then, they can also then come to the actual board meetings and then address the entire board that attends the meetings. This also then deletes the requirement

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that staff must post a monthly report on the status of the application of the recommendations regarding the board rules. The rules requires a month... the current rules require a monthly report. What they are doing now, because of the advances in technology, is that the reports are actually now in real time. So they're actually showing up in real time versus the idea of waiting to then just post it on a monthly basis. And then there a number of technical clean-up changes as well with regard to their Act. And I'll be more than happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Breen."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Breen: "So and then, Representative, just because that... the requirement to... that we remove the requirement that staff post a monthly report, the reason that that is... your language is not anti-transparency because they're actually doing real time reports. That's what I just heard you say."

Davis: "Correct."

Breen: "Now, as well I see this issue that in lieu of fines or agreements to provide in-kind services, they can allow the permit holder to make donations. What... what is... what is that about?"

Davis: "Could you repeat the question?"

Breen: "So... so, it says in our analysis you're clarifying that in lieu of fines or agreements to provide in-kind services the board can also settle compliance issues by having the permit holder make donations. So what... what's that... is that just an addition or what... what's that change about?"

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Davis: "Well, that... that's currently... I think that process is currently there. I don't think we're making any... I don't believe we're making any particular changes to that, but that's already a part of the Act. So that what a... a hospital, if they are going to be fined, what they can do instead of paying that fine to the board, then they can donate those dollars to a community-based organization working in that area. They can also help to provide services or any other items that they deem necessary. So the board can make those decisions currently in lieu of asking the hospital to pay a fine that they can then say, pay those dollars in ways such as that I just described."

Breen: "Fair enough. Thank you. And, yeah, the Bill looks pretty good, so thanks for running it."

Davis: "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? Halpin. Please take the record. There are 104 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5210, Mr. Demmer. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 5210, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer."

Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 5210 is an agreed Bill that helps reduce what we consider to be a duplicative license where a realtor had to pay a separate fee for each

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physical location where they operated out of. I know of no opposition. I ask for your support."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Mayfield."

Mayfield: "What are the status of the notes on this Bill?"

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "No notes have been filed on the Bill."

Speaker Lang: "My understanding, Representative, is that your note request came after the Bill had already been moved to Third Reading. Representative Wallace is recognized."

Wallace: "Yes. I would also like better clarification on the process of notes. I mean, I read the Rules book, but I'm just still interested especially since we just passed over one of my Bills that has a state mandate note when there's no state mandate involved in that Bill at all."

Speaker Lang: "Representative, notes have to be filed before... note requests need to be filed before the Bill moves to Third Reading."

Wallace: "And so, then these are just ruled inapplicable..."

Speaker Lang: "They're..."

Wallace: "...automatically?"

Speaker Lang: "...just... they're moot once the Bill..."

Wallace: "They're moot."

Speaker Lang: "...moves to Third Reading."

Wallace: "Thank you very much."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you. Those in favor of the Gentleman's 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. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 100 voting 'yes', 1 voting

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'no', 2 voting 'present'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 2376, Representative Flowers. Out of the record. Sorry, Mr. Clerk? Representative, do you have an Amendment? I'm told you have an Amendment. Do you wish to move the Bill back to Second and do your Amendment? Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill. Move the Bill back to Second and read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 2376, a Bill for an Act concerning employment. The Bill was read for a second time on a previous day. Amendment #4 was adopted in committee. Floor Amendment #5 is offered by Representative Flowers."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Flowers."

Flowers: "Amendment #5 makes technical changes..."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor..."

Flowers: "...in regards to the date."

Speaker Lang: "...of the Amendment say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have. And the Amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "No further Amendments. But a fiscal note has been requested on the Bill as amended and has not been filed."

Speaker Lang: "This Bill will be held on the Order of Second Reading. House Bill 4205, Mr. Ford. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 4205, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Ford."

Ford: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Members of the House. I move for the passage of 4205. It simply requires all public schools, including Chicago Public Schools, to connect at-risk students to either community-based or in school academic support. I move for the passage of 4205."

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Speaker Lang: "Mr. Breen."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Breen: "Representative, I... I see you've got a very long list of opponents on your Bill: the Statewide School Management Alliance, State Board of Education, Alliance of Administrators of Special Education, the Illinois Coalition for Education of At-Risk Youth, and the Chicago Public Schools, all of which oppose. What is the basis of their opposition to your Bill?"

Ford: "I have no idea. My analysis lists nothing but proponents and only one opponent. I think that your analysis may be old. I did an Amendment and that should've removed opposition that you're concerned about."

Breen: "And... and... tell us again, Representative, when... so your Bill identifies certain students within the school district as 'at-risk students' and then it requires the school board to require schools to connect those at-risk students to either community-based or in school academic support. So they're going to be mandated to provide tutoring, summer school, mentoring, an evaluation for the purpose of an IEP, meeting with an academic advisor. So, you're... I think one of the concerns was you're mentioning community support and they don't have... at least as I understand, you know, the school board doesn't have any control over community support organizations."

Ford: "I think that we have to make sure that we're clear on the words in the Bill and it says 'connect' not provide. So they're not to provide it, but they're to connect them to the

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resources necessary to provide them the necessary support in the areas where they're struggling. So no new revenue for the school, just a real keen approach to taking care of at-risk students when we know that they're struggling. And so, the at-risk is listed as has failed two or more classes in the immediate school semester, has experienced a decline in his or her grade point average of more than two points on a 4.0 scale, chronically truant, has been suspended more than three times from school either in school or out of school, is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and a few others. So the key is when we know that students are at risk, we should do everything that we can to connect them to services in the school or in the community."

Breen: "And... and just so that I'm... also, just to clarify what the Bill does, so you're requiring a kind of a broad base of support mechanisms that they would need to be... in your Bill it says connected to, but you're also saying... it also says in here that the school district shall inform the parent or guardian of such a student about the community-based or in school academic support available in that school district or in the community in which the school district is located. So they do have to provide information to the parents about the community-based resources and the in school support. So that..."

Ford: "And I... you know..."

Breen: "...I think that was their concern. They don't necessarily have all the community-based..."

Ford: "Well, then they..."

Breen: "They don't have the information even."

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Ford: "Well, if they don't have it, then they can't provide it. But if they have it and if they want to do what's in the best interest of the child then they will provide them with the information. I mean, there are report card pickups where you have children that come for parent-teacher conference and you may have students that have chronic truancy, they may have failing grades. And we're saying at that point or at any point, the teacher or the school can say, your child is struggling in reading, math, or some other areas of life and we want to encourage you and connect your child to programs that we have at the school or a community-based organization that we have a relationship with."

Breen: "And... and just... just as well, in your definition of at-risk students, the school district would have to track the person's GPA, so that if it dropped two points, compared to the immediately preceding semester, that they would then have to add them to this program as well..."

Ford: "So, they... they're already tracking it. I think that what's unfair about this, Representative, is that you're making this into a complex issue when it's really simple and it's about helping students that we know are at-risk. I don't understand why the long debate over this issue of a at-risk student when we know they need help."

Breen: "Well, we do know that at-risk students need help. The problem is, is are we mandating..."

Ford: "No."

Breen: "...on every school district in the state a one-size-fits-all..."

Ford: "No, no."

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Breen: "...way of doing it..."

Ford: "In fact, you know what..."

Breen: "...I'm presuming..."

Ford: "...teachers are mandated anyway to do what's at... in the best interest of the child. They are mandated reporters."

Breen: "Right. Now you also include into this... the definition of at-risk student that the student is the subject of an investigation conducted by DCFS. Does the school necessarily know that a student was... or should the school know, necessarily, that the student might have been subject of a DCFS investigation?"

Ford: "I mean, the school could... they may know, but once again, that's just one of the items that if the school knew about it then that's more information that the school could use to help connect the child to support."

Breen: "Just... to the... to the Bill. We certainly need to provide support for at-risk students. The issue is, do we need to be mandating that type of support the way that this occurs from Springfield? Or can we trust that school districts will actually take care of their at-risk students, which is their duty under law, it's their duty to their community, to do it in the way that is most efficacious for their community? The way that that's done in the Chicago Public Schools is going to be much different than the way it's done in suburban school districts, in exurban school districts, in more rural school districts. And so, for that reason, despite... appreciating the intent of the Sponsor, this particular mandate on our schools does not appear to be well-taken at this time."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Demmer."

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Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record reflect that Representative David Harris is excused for the day."

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

Pritchard: "Thank you, Mr. Sponsor... or Mr. Speaker. Would the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Pritchard: "Representative, again, could you clarify why a numerous number of groups are opposed to this Bill?"

Ford: "Well, I just know of one and that's the School Manage Alliance that's against the Bill. As I said, the opposition for the most part was reduced when the Amendment #1 was adopted."

Pritchard: "And again, Amendment #1 did what?"

Ford: "It removed the opposition that you may be..."

Pritchard: "But what did it..."

Ford: "...concerned about."

Pritchard: "...what did it change?"

Ford: "Amendment #1... House Committee Amendment #1 clarified the mechanics of the Bill. That's it."

Pritchard: "And that's where you're specifying specifically how they are to respond and..."

Ford: "Exactly."

Pritchard: "...how they are to provide the services?"

Ford: "That's right."

Pritchard: "So, you're also receiving opposition from the State Board of Education and from the Chicago Public School system. What is the source of their opposition?"

Ford: "Well, I know that they slipped to the underlying Bill..."

Pritchard: "4205."

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Ford: "...but not into the Amendment, according to my analysis."

Pritchard: "Excuse me, Representative?"

Ford: "It's my understanding that they slipped to the underlying Bill, 4205, and I don't have an opposition to House Committee Amendment #1."

Pritchard: "But you're still leading, in this Bill, a very prescriptive way that a school board is supposed to react when they've identified a student at-risk, correct?"

Ford: "They... you know what, I think that it's simple. I don't know what more to say about this Bill in debate, but I'm asking that schools connect at-risk students to support in the school or from the community. I mean, that's it."

Pritchard: "And if that was all your Bill did..."

Ford: "That's..."

Pritchard: "...I think that would not be the real issue, but when you're going forward and you're prescriptively saying what the school district must do that reduces their flexibility, perhaps their resources and what resources might be available in that school district or in that community."

Ford: "It's... may include, but it is not limited to..."

Pritchard: "So I..."

Ford: "...anything."

Pritchard: "Representative, to your Bill. We certainly are supportive of what you're trying to do because clearly we need to be more concerned with students at-risk, but I think we should not be as prescriptive as you're trying to be in this Bill. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hays."

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Hays: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. Representative, one of the things that I think is a common thread throughout the state... maybe two things... one is certainly compassion for those students who are in fact at-risk, doing the most that we possibly can to identify those factors and those challenges early. But I haven't been to a school in my district or anywhere else where the other common thread is, do not send me one more mandate that comes with no money. And that is true in east central Illinois. It is true in the City of Chicago. It is true in Carbondale, and Decatur, and Aurora, and Rockford, and everywhere else. And so, to the last speaker's point, I think when we're this narrow and prescriptive, it really does, unfortunately, rise to the level of that clarion call that is, for the love of goodness, stop sending me mandates that I cannot possibly meet. Stop taking the flexibility for how to handle challenging situations out of the hands of my local duly-elected school board members. And if you're not going to send any money, get hard on the red button. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Willis."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Willis: "Representative, are you mandating that any school set up a new program that they don't already have?"

Ford: "No."

Willis: "Are you mandating that these students attend the advice that the counselor or teacher may give to the parent?"

Ford: "No."

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Willis: "Okay. So this is not a mandate. All you're saying is, we want to make sure that the students and their families are aware of programs that could assist them with a struggle that they're already having in the school?"

Ford: "Yes."

Willis: "I don't understand.. to the Bill. I do not understand the opposition from the other side of the aisle. This is the least mandate, mandate... if you want to call it a mandate even... that I've ever seen. All we're doing is, we're advising families of resources that are already set up in the community to help our students that are struggling. We're not making... we're not saying you have to establish a program to help the student. We're saying, you are the professionals in the community, you know what's available out there, please share that information so that my students can get the help they need. We're not even saying that you have to make sure the student attends these programs. We're saying, we wanted to give you the best information possible. I urge everybody to vote for this. It is a good sense piece of legislation. Thank you, Representative, for bringing it forward."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Chapa LaVia."

Chapa LaVia: "My city was used in debate. Sorry, Chad. Hey, so listen. To the speaker. Will the speaker yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Chapa LaVia: "So, what is your intent on this Bill, Representative Ford?"

Ford: "My intent is to make sure that parents and schools are connected and working in a partnership for the best interests of the child, the student."

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Chapa LaVia: "Okay. And in all of our offices and I don't know about yours, Representative Ford, when a constituent calls me and asks me for services, I often would just give them a list of the services I put together for them and regardless of if it's education, if it's employment, et cetera. Do you do that in your office?"

Ford: "I do."

Chapa LaVia: "Okay. So, what we're saying is in this, forgive me if I'm wrong, is if a student falls into this category that we're just providing the family with a list of services that they can go get. It's just a piece of paper or giving them a phone number, so they can contact that entity to help their child with the possibility of being educated and a taxpaying citizen one day."

Ford: "Exactly."

Chapa LaVia: "All right. So, you know, this is very simple. I hope that we have some of your support on the other side of the aisle. There's no malice here. We're just trying to get the services to the kid. We're not saying that the school district has to go out of their way, but each of us have a list of resources that we can give these families. And sometimes they don't have that resource, okay. So, it's... whether a piece of paper or just giving them that information for the counselor, or what have you, is connecting the services to the child. I ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Hammond."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

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Hammond: "Representative, one of the previous speakers was fairly emphatic in stating that this is not a mandate. Would you agree that this is not a mandate?"

Ford: "It's not a mandate for a new program."

Hammond: "No. I'm going to make this a simple question. Is this a mandate on our schools?"

Ford: "It's a requirement."

Hammond: "Okay. We'll do semantics. This is a requirement on our schools. So, I'm just making sure because according to our analysis and... and our staff, this is indeed a mandated requirement and there will be costs associated. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Bellock."

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Bellock: "Okay. I know we've gone over this with what the last couple of speakers said, but on our analysis it isn't just about informing the parents and guardian about community things. It is a mandate on six different things that... beginning with the 2018-19 school year, school boards shall require its schools to connect at-risks students in need of academic support to either community-based or in school academic support. So that is not just something saying they're going to give information to people. You're mandating that. Isn't that correct, Representative?"

Ford: "All you have to do is connect people to information. Connect them to programs and resources that are available already."

Bellock: "But that..."

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Ford: "That's it."

Bellock: "...the way this reads in ours is that you are connecting at-risk students in need of academic support to either community-based or in-school academic support. So those are actually... could be, you know, services that would have to be paid for."

Ford: "Those would be services that are already in the school. I mean, if a school does not have programs to support at-risk students then that is a problem, and they would have to start programs to support at-risk students."

Bellock: "Okay. I was just trying to clarify what I think a couple of the other speakers had said that it was just informing the parent or guardian of an at-risk student about community-based supports available. In the couple of sentences above that, it's a mandate that they do connect those people, not just providing them information. Thank you."

Ford: "Well, if they don't have the programs at the school, it's good for the school to connect them to outside programs. Programs that the state provide funding for... or... or not..."

Bellock: "I know..."

Ford: "...like Catholic charities..."

Bellock: "Yeah."

Ford: "...and other programs."

Bellock: "I know that's important. I'm just trying to clarify what the Bill says in that Amendment. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Reick."

Reick: "Mr. Speaker, I yield my time to Representative Hays, please."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hays."

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Hays: "You know, sometimes in this chamber we try to make things more difficult than they are. If you like this Bill, vote for it. But if you visit your schools and the administration, and the faculty, and the Board of Education begs you to quit sending mandates to their district, then when the Bill says 'shall require'... shall require, for you new folks that means you have to do it. That's a mandate. I mean, let's just cut right down to it. You like the Bill, vote for it. If you promised your people you'll quit sending mandates to their district then you're red. Don't make it any harder than it has to be."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Davis."

Davis: "Thank... thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I'll just speak to the Bill. So one of the previous speakers... you know, you're... we're making this statement about mandates and what that means. Now, as a Representative, when people call my office, I connect them with services all the time. Now if you don't do that then shame on your offices because that's what our constituents call... when they call, they're looking for something. And so, to turn the word 'connect', in this case, into a mandate, he's simply saying that, yeah, their job is to say, here are some services. Here are some opportunities for the young people that are at-risk. So I don't understand why, in this context, connect is all of a sudden a mandate, when presumably, connect is what we're supposed to do in our offices which means we provide our constituents with information and then they can choose whether to take advantage of the information, to go visit the services, or whatever the case may be. So, I don't know if it's a matter of the fact

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that it's at-risk kids and who these young people are in our communities and whether we don't care about them. I would like to think we care about at-risk kids. And I don't understand why when we're saying that trying to help at-risk kids should be something that our schools are supposed to be able to do that it is all of a sudden a problem for us. Please let's not turn this into one of those kinds of debates. Connecting children with services should be something that we want our schools to do, because again, if they're not in school then they're out roaming the streets. But I can guarantee you we'll want more money for police to take care of them when they're out roaming our streets. So instead of going in that direction, let's support the Gentleman's Bill to make sure that in school, where the children should be, where they belong, and if they need help that they're getting that help inside their respective schools. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative McCombie."

McCombie: "Thank you. Question, please?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

McCombie: "You know how I feel about the mandates in committee. And this one shows me as a 'yes'. And I remember sitting at the table with the Illinois Statewide School Management Alliance that they were opposed to the Bill, but was willing to work with you. Have you reached out to them on this Bill?"

Ford: "Reached out to them?"

McCombie: "Pardon?"

Ford: "I haven't reached out to them. I'm waiting for advice. Nobody's called me to offer any Amendment."

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McCombie: "Okay. So, if you're waiting for advice, maybe the Bill should be pulled until you're ready?"

Ford: "No. It's ready right now because they have no advice. That's why they haven't reached out to me."

McCombie: "Okay. Well, because of that piece not being completed I'm..."

Ford: "I know."

McCombie: "...going to have to vote 'no' on this particular... 'cause it is indeed a mandate. And I would like to move to previous question, please."

Speaker Lang: "Representative, you debated the Bill so you cannot make that Motion. Mr. Andersson is recognized."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Andersson: "Representative, at the beginning of the debate I think you indicated who... that there was only one opponent to your Bill based on the Amendment. Is that... who is it and why are they opposed?"

Ford: "School Management Alliance."

Andersson: "So all the other opponents that were listed on our analysis that I think the Floor Leader indicated they have all been removed from opposition? Is that correct?"

Ford: "I have no witness slips stating any opposition except the School Management Alliance."

Andersson: "Yeah, that's not exactly an answer to my question."

Ford: "Before the Amendment."

Andersson: "Right. Are you aware that the entities that indicated they were opposed have... they've removed their objection or are you just saying they didn't slip in opposition?"

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Ford: "Well, you know, just like you and everyone over there, you're going by your analysis, I'm going by my analysis."

Andersson: "Right. And so your analysis shows just the Statewide School Management?"

Ford: "That's right."

Andersson: "Okay. And my other... my other question for you is, I'm reading the actual text of the Bill. And once this requirement is triggered, it says the academic support may include, but is not limited to any of the following. And the very last one, number five, is meeting with an academic advisor. I think all our schools have academic advisors, don't you?"

Ford: "They should."

Andersson: "Well, I... I agree, they should, but I actually think they probably do, right?"

Andersson: "Well, I would say that most schools that are properly funded and have great outcomes probably have them."

Andersson: "I'll go a little further than you and I think that they all do. Bottom line, if this is a mandate, it's very, very light because if a school wanted to... to do the least they could, they could identify a child and say, go meet with the counselor in the school. So quite honestly, folks, yeah, I get it that it... you know, you can use the word mandate, but this is pretty minor in my opinion and maybe it'll do some good. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Ford to close."

Ford: "This is kind of confusing to me because it's a simple Bill trying to help at-risk students. We know that many times quiet students are at-risk students and we learn that they become dangerous students. And my goal here is to make sure that

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parents, schools, and students all connect so that when a student needs help, we can provide them the help. It's not requiring the public schools to create a new program. It's simply asking them to have a good relationship with the community, with the parent and the student, and provide the services to make the kid a successful person in life. So I move for the passage of House Bill 4205."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Gentleman's 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. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 54 voting 'yes', 44 voting 'no', 1 voting 'present'. And the Gentleman moves for Postponed Consideration. House... Excuse me. The Chair recognizes Mr. Butler on a point of personal privilege."

Butler: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman... Speaker, whatever we go by today. I would just like to remind Members that next Tuesday is the Diabetes Caucus bowling event, which is a great event. Representative Davis gave some wonderful remarks yesterday about the importance of this events. But I would encourage everyone who wants to participate, last push to get signed up for it and everything. It's a fun event. I encourage you to come out. And just a little bit about what we've done for this year. The money that we've raised from previous events has allowed \$18 thousand to go to camps this summer for children with diabetes who will be attending camps around the state. This is a great event to create awareness around diabetes and help fight diabetes. So I encourage everyone in our... participate. If you don't have a team, talk to us. We'll

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get you hooked up with one. If you want to start a team, we still have applications and you can get them in. So remember, next Tuesday night is the diabetes bowl-a-thon out at Strike and Spare West. And I hope everybody is there."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Davis."

Davis: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just wanted to follow up Representative Butler's comments, appreciate that. To encourage, even if you're not a bowler and just want to come out and support the effort, please feel free to do so. Maybe you might even have a little... some dollars left in your campaign account. You can feel free to make a donation to our... to our caucus and to the efforts that Representative Butler talked about. And if you are a bowler, like some of us are... well, maybe not me, but some of you are... maybe you'll have the opportunity to come out and throw a few balls down the lane, see how many gutter balls you can hit, you know. And that's okay; it's all in fun. Nobody will talk about you, at least not to your face, anyway. But please come out and join our effort next week if you can. Some of us are prepared even though there have been probably some friendly wagers, you know, put out there about whose team is going to win the bowling and/or the shirt contest part of it. I know Wayne has been practicing hard. What'd you tell me, what, 680 pins, you know, all in one game. How can you hit 680 pins in one game? Wow, that's fantastic. So, you know, he's going to have his team out there. Hopefully you'll join us next week. Thank you very much, Representative Butler, for you efforts."

Speaker Lang: "House Bill 4583, Mr. Halbrook. Please read the Bill."

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Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 4583, a Bill for an Act concerning government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Halbrook."

Halbrook: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. 4583 expands the protections of the Open Meetings Act. That's why the AG's Office and organizations like the ACLU, Better Government, and other groups are supportive of this measure. The AG's Office and I are committed to solving the issues that this legislation addresses. The AG's Office is just buried in OMA violations. And this will help alleviate some of that. There's been some opposition to this Bill; however, they want to remove the very most important part, that's the ability to recover reasonable attorney fees. This is the component that gives teeth to OMA and is a much needed addition. The legislation also mirrors that of FOIA. This is a good government transparency Bill and gives everyday citizens a way to hold their elected officials accountable. A 'yes' vote is a vote for a more open, transparent, and accountable government. I urge a 'yes' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Pritchard."

Pritchard: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Pritchard: "Representative, I compliment you on your goals in this to have a more transparent units of local government and I know there's been issues in the past with some units of local government not being forthcoming and stonewalling and slow walking some of the issues, but as you mention, there is still opposition. And I'm wondering that if this Bill is successful and moves out of the House, if you're willing to

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work with some of the opponents in the Senate and see if there can't be further resolution?"

Halbrook: "I think it's a valid point, Representative, and I would consider that. I think that's valid."

Pritchard: "Because I think some of the opposition is that this might open up a well, if you will, of people filing lawsuits and it would be a opportunity for a lot of lawyers to make a lot of money. So one of those limitations might be some cap on the amount of attorney fees that could be paid. And I just encourage you to look at that and talk with the Sponsors. Thank you very much."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Davis."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Davis: "Representative, so your Bill is about making sure that notices are posted for special meetings, correct?"

Halbrook: "Right. It has to do with on the... on their website."

Davis: "On... the notices are just so... it's just requiring that notices be posted on a website?"

Halbrook: "It clears up some of the inaccuracies or some inadequacies along those lines, yes."

Davis: "So... so just, maybe you can just indulge me for a moment. I don't profess to be an expert about the Open Meetings Act, but what happens... what is supposed to happen when a community violates posting notices for any of their meetings, particularly special meeting?"

Halbrook: "Repeat that again, please."

Davis: "What happens if a community violates posting for their meetings?"

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Halbrook: "Well, I think that's covered in the OMA, the rate... what happens in that situation."

Davis: "No... no, I'm trying to seek some information from you. So, can you tell me what happens if they fail to post meetings appropriately?"

Halbrook: "I think there is a... the way to do that is outlined in OMA."

Davis: "Thank you very much, Representative."

Halbrook: "You're welcome."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Andersson."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Andersson: "So I understand the intent of your... your Bill here, Representative. One of my questions is, you've deleted a portion of the existing text that states, the failure of a public body to post on its website notice of any meeting or the agenda of any meeting shall not invalidate any actions taken at that meeting. Now, the history of that language is that there is concurrently a requirement that they post physically at city hall, village hall, whatever, but the reality is, websites do come up and down periodically. And due to the fact that there's a 48-hour notice requirement, if the website were to go down any time during that 48 hours, arguably now, the action at the meeting could be deemed invalid. As such, we put that language in there to protect from that. You've deleted that now. And so, my question is, why did you delete that provision?"

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Halbrook: "Yeah. I think there's redundancies built into those systems. So where that issue is... is not as great as we think it is."

Andersson: "Well, I think it can be significant. And more importantly, the website is the backup. The main... the main posting requirement is and always shall be, the posting at village hall or city hall. The website's the backup. Now, we're risking invalid... or actions being invalid for a technical glitch. I understand what you're trying to do. I don't have a problem with what you're doing with the special meetings, but removing that is really detrimental to the overall functioning of our local communities and how they comply with OMA. So, I guess I'm... I apologize, Sir. Hold on. The other question that... I'm sorry. I apologize for the delay. The other question I have is on the attorney's fees."

Halbrook: "Yes."

Andersson: "You have now made attorney's fees mandatory. In other words, right now, a court can decide whether attorney's fees should, in a given case, be awarded. Your Bill would now make them absolutely mandatory. If there's a prevailing party, they get attorney's fees, period, the end."

Halbrook: "If they're... if they prevail in the case, they shall receive fees. It's just... it mirrors what FOIA says."

Andersson: "Well, I think, again, you're taking... now you're taking the discretion away from the courts in being able to determine whether in a given case that's appropriate or not. I guess I'm not asking a question, I guess I'm speaking to the Bill. Ladies and Gentlemen, these... these few items that I've pointed out... the intent of the Bill is fine. The idea of attaching

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the requirements... or clarifying the requirements for special meetings is appropriate, but these additional changes that are a little lower in the Bill, they really could cause some harm to the way the Open Meetings Act regulations work. So, respectfully, you know, I'd urge a 'no' vote."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Mayfield."

Mayfield: "Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Mayfield: "Thank you. Representative, I like your Bill. I think this is a great Bill. It's a great transparency Bill. Having served on the school board where we've throw... have meetings, Harry Carry and the public were not aware of a lot of those meetings. And we actually had a watchdog group that really monitored this because the meetings would not be posted anywhere visible. They would post them at 3:00 right outside on the door of the school administration building for a meeting for that same evening at 5. And that was not fair to the parents who were really wanting to know what was going on operationally and where their tax dollars are going. There's a lot of decisions that are made. I think this is a great Bill. I do have a question regarding the emergency meeting. Is it just the minutes from the emergency meeting that get posted, or does that also qualify for the 48-hour posting, simply because it's an emergency? I get the special meeting, absolutely, 100 percent."

Halbrook: "Right."

Mayfield: "My question is about the emergency."

Halbrook: "Yeah. I'm not 100 percent positive on that. I can check on that, but I..."

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Mayfield: "Okay."

Halbrook: "...and I'm not positive about that."

Mayfield: "Okay. 'Cause our analysis just says that they have to post the minutes from the emergency meeting. So if that's something you can just check, maybe work with your Senate Sponsor, I will definitely be supporting this Bill. And anyone that is for transparency should support this Bill as well. Thank you."

Halbrook: "Thank you, Representative."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Breen."

Breen: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. I just want to also echo what the Representative said, that look, we've got a Bill supported by the ACLU, the Attorney General, the Better Government Association. It's being run by a Republican; it's got bipartisan support. This merely mirrors what we already have in our Freedom of Information Act. And this has been a place where, unfortunately, we've had some folks fall down. And they need this sort of change to clarify to ensure that folks follow our Open Meetings Act. It's one of the few protections that the people have that their government will be open, transparent, and that will do things above board. The notice is required and you're already supposed to be following them and putting a... putting a little extra teeth in this... in this Act. It is a wonderful, bipartisan message to people of the State of Illinois. We care about open, transparent, clean government. Please vote 'aye'."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Williams."

Williams: "Thank you. To the Bill. I'd like to reiterate what Representative Andersson mentioned about the deletion of the

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provision about invalidating the contents of the meeting. I support, fully, efforts to put further teeth in the OMA and FOIA Acts. I'd love to work on further beefing those up. But in this case, I have an example that happened just last week, or two weeks ago, regarding a unit of local government which was mandated to hold a certain meeting every year and the website was down. So, the default was to put up a notice at... on their Facebook page, to put up the required notices at the place of meeting, et cetera, but sometimes it simply cannot be helped. And the problem you run into is our statutes often mandate certain meetings. Townships, for example, have to host a town meeting the second Tuesday in April. Every township is required to do that. If there's a problem and there's no way to put that on the website, it's unclear how the township would possibly comply. So I have to agree with Representative Andersson. We all agree about accessibility and providing information, but this is just like a practical issue, which I have seen happen as recently as two weeks ago. So, if there's any way to just address that component, I think it would be a much better piece of legislation and much more workable for units of local government."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Ford."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Ford: "Representative, could you just tell me exactly what House Bill 4583 does?"

Halbrook: "Yeah. It expands the protections and allows for the collection or the assessment of attorney fees for litigation costs to the prevailing party."

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Ford: "My analysis says that there is a requirement of all public...
it is... what does requirement mean?"

Halbrook: "That's a requirement."

Ford: "Could that be a mandate?"

Halbrook: "It could be. Some would argue..."

Ford: "Do you..."

Halbrook: "...that point, yes."

Ford: "...support mandates?"

Halbrook: "In this case, yes."

Ford: "That's very good to have..."

Halbrook: "This... this is..."

Ford: "...on record that you're..."

Halbrook: "...not an unfunded mandate to my schools."

Ford: "I'm very happy to know that you support mandates when it's
most appropriate for you."

Halbrook: "In... in this case, it is... it is necessary."

Ford: "And, in the last case, I'm... this is not personal. I just
need to know how we're going to do business around here. We
just tried to pass a Bill to connect students to services, it
required it. And my picture of your vote said that you didn't
want kids to be connected to... because it was mandate. But I'm
going to tell you, I was going to vote for your mandate
because sometimes mandates are good. And I think that we
should learn from one another. The Bill will come back and
you'll have another opportunity to support a good
requirement. Can I get your commitment?"

Halbrook: "We'll take a look at that, Representative."

Ford: "Thank you. I urge everyone to consider looking at his Bill
to vote for his mandate."

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Speaker Lang: "Mr. Unes."

Unes: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representative, I just have a couple questions, just trying to clarify a few things. I understand your intent and we're all for transparency. But isn't... isn't it already a requirement to post the agenda and minutes on the website?"

Halbrook: "Right. Once you start posting on the website, you have to maintain that."

Unes: "But... that's already required. We've passed other legislation already that requires the posting of the agenda on the websites. Representative..."

Halbrook: "It means what happens... under this legislation, what happens in the meeting, if there's a failure to post, it's still valid."

Unes: "That's not my question. Representative, would you mind... I think there's just some... there's some confusion that needs clarified. Would you mind pulling it out of the record for now so that we could discuss..."

Halbrook: "Not at this time."

Unes: "Okay. So, right now, there's a requirement to post agendas and minutes on the website, true or false?"

Halbrook: "I believe that's correct."

Unes: "And so your Bill is saying that not only do you have to require it, but if, in fact, there isn't one agenda that is posted for whatever reason then everything that happens in that open meeting is null and void?"

Halbrook: "I'm not sure that's exactly correct."

Unes: "Representative, again, I'm... I understand your intent, appreciate your concern for transparency. There is some

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confusion on the Bill. I'd like to, again, ask you, would you please pull it out of the record so that we could have some discussion and bring it back at a later time?"

Halbrook: "We'll do that. I'll honor your request."

Unes: "Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Out of the record, Mr. Clerk. House Bill 5167, Representative Hammond. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5167, a Bill for an Act concerning transportation. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Hammond."

Hammond: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 5167 simply is clean-up language that streamlines the reporting for where truck traffic can legally travel. Appreciate an 'aye' vote. Know of no opposition."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Ives, your light is on. Were you planning to speak on this Bill? Representative Ives, were you speaking on this Bill? The Lady does not wish to speak. Those in favor of the Lady's 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? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 100 voting 'yes', 2 voting 'present'. And this Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Chair recognizes Mr. Davidsmeyer on a point of personal privilege."

Davidsmeyer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like everyone to look right behind me here on the Republican side. Behind me in the gallery, we have a group from Pittsfield, a group of student council members. So these are the future leaders that may be

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on this floor one day. I want to give them a warm Springfield welcome."

Speaker Lang: "Welcome to the House chamber. Thank you for joining us. Thank you. House Bill 4096, Mr. Harris. Out of the record. House Bill 4309, Representative Jimenez. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4309, a Bill for an Act concerning civil law. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Jimenez."

Jimenez: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4309 provides the pathway for a family member to petition for visitation with a frail, elderly individual who is not currently under guardianship or power of attorney. This issue came to my attention by a constituent, Sandy Baksys, who told me she was being unreasonably blocked by her sibling from visiting with their elderly father. House Bill 4309 would allow for Sandy and others like her to file a petition with the court to ask for visitation with an elderly family member. The court should consider the frail individual's functional impairment, the history of visitation with the individual, the opinion of other family members and the court will also consider, obviously, what is in the best interest of the frail individual. We worked hard with the original opponents of this Bill to come to agreed language. And I'd ask for your support of 4309."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Turner in the Chair. Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 4309 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all

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voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 102 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 4309, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Representative Davidsmeyer, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Davidsmeyer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another point of personal privilege."

Speaker Turner: "Please proceed, Sir."

Davidsmeyer: "Right here behind me in the gallery, we've got some young people from Salem Lutheran School in Jacksonville. This is a school that I went to through sixth grade. And I'd like to mention that when people ask about your favorite teacher, Mrs. Henderson up here, their teacher was my first grade teacher and the one that I always remember as one of my favorites. So I want to thank them for coming to town and being here. If we could give them a warm Springfield welcome, I'd appreciate it."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you and welcome to your Capitol. House Bill 5109, Leader Lang. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5109, a Bill for an Act concerning health. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Leader Lang."

Lang: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen, this Bill creates the community health care professional loan repayment program. We all know that we have trouble finding health care professionals, particularly in the area of mental health. This would create a loan repayment and grant program to help encourage people to get into this area. I know of no opposition and ask your support."

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Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Breen."

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

Speaker Turner: "Sponsor indicates that he will yield."

Breen: "Representative, so tell us about this program. First off, I see that it is subject to appropriation, so it doesn't go into effect unless we provide funds to allow it to go into effect. Is that correct?"

Lang: "That is absolutely correct, Sir."

Breen: "Okay. Now, and I... we... in our analysis there was some issue about ISAC. While it had no position, it had concerns about the structure of the Bill and that there may be some increased costs and administrative burdens. Is... is that an accurate concern or are there other programs like this that you're piggybacking off of?"

Lang: "As I recall, Sir, we worked with ISAC and the Amendment that's on the Bill, Amendment 2, was the Amendment we worked out with ISAC. I'm not certain they're opposed to the Bill."

Breen: "All right. They're neutral with the adoption of the Amendment. Are there other programs like this where we have the loan repayment program for a particular types of individuals doing particular things in the state?"

Lang: "I think we do. I don't think I have that information in front of me, but in the past, I know we've had programs to try to encourage doctors, to try to encourage teachers on other... in parts of the state that have had difficulty attracting teachers. And so, as you know, we have definitely a shortage of health care professionals, particularly in the area of mental health. The goal here is to encourage them to

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take up these classes in the university and to fan around the state and help us create access to appropriate health care."

Breen: "And then, what's the... what's the maximum repayment that a person can get for working in one of these? I believe they are the rural health or other underserved areas... What's the maximum allowed of repayment?"

Lang: "The Bill specifies different categories. The grants could be up to 35 thousand a year for a psychiatrist, 15 thousand a year for an advanced practice registered nurse, 12 thousand for a psychologist, 6500 for a licensed clinical social worker, 2500 for a substance abuse professional. And this also requires that they commit to and work for at least 12 consecutive months in a community mental health center in an underserved, a rural, federally-designated mental health professional shortage area in Illinois. And so we've put the requirements on these folks and they do have to pay back the funds if they don't fulfill their responsibilities under these grant agreements."

Breen: "And then, just... just from an economic perspective, the point is that we need folks to serve in these areas. We don't have high enough salaries to draw people into them. And so we're using this as something of an extra incentive where you can give the repayment assistance without needing to raise the salary for the particular position at the underserved area at the rural... rural area."

Lang: "I couldn't have said it better myself, Sir."

Breen: "Fair enough. Thank you for the answers to my questions."

Speaker Turner: "Leader Lang to close."

Lang: "Please vote 'aye'."

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Speaker Turner: "The question is, 'Shall House Bill 5109 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 101 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 5109, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Mr. Clerk... Representative Davidsmeyer, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Davidsmeyer: "One... one more, really quick. Today's a very..."

Speaker Turner: "This is your last one."

Davidsmeyer: "...important day. Thank you. It is my last one. So one more very important one. Today's a very special day. I want you to all go out and celebrate. Today's my son's sixth birthday. We've started with a donut about this big. It's a great day. I'm going to be celebrating. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Congratulations, Representative. Thank you. On the Order of Second Reading, we have House Bill 5160 offered by Leader Lang. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5160, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. Floor Amendment #1, offered by Representative Lang, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Turner: "Leader Lang."

Lang: "Thank you... thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a technical agreed Amendment."

Speaker Turner: "Gentleman moves for the adoption of Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 5160. All in favor say 'aye'; all

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opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "No further Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Turner: "Third Reading. House Bill 4745, Representative McAuliffe. Out of the record. House Bill... Excuse me, I'm sorry. He's here. House Bill 4745. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4745, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative McAuliffe."

McAuliffe: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Bill 4745 will correct something that the General Assembly did 10 years ago, but hasn't been implemented due to the procurement process through CMS. This will allow for babies, when they're newborn to be tested for the Krabbe Disease. I'd be happy to answer any questions and ask for your consideration on House Bill 4745."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 4745 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 102 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 4745, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4922, Representative Mah. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill. Mr. Clerk, can you please move House Bill 4922 back to the Order of Second Reading and read the Bill?"

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4922, a Bill for an Act concerning business. This Bill was read a second time a previous day. No

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Committee Amendments. Floor Amendment #1, offered by Representative Mah, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Mah on Floor Amendment #1."

Mah: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Floor Amendment 1 to House Bill 4922 simply makes some technical changes to the language and clarifies that we are referring to rebate cards in this Bill. And it also exempts card replacement fees from the ban on post-issuance fees on rebate cards."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Breen for a question on Floor Amendment #1."

Breen: "We'll just debate it on Third."

Speaker Turner: "Lady moves for the adoption of Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 4922. All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "No further Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Turner: "Third Reading. House Bill 5502, Representative McCombie. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5502, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative McCombie."

McCombie: "Thank you, Speaker. HB5502 amends the Real Estate Appraiser Act. It removes language to the Act stating an associate appraiser can only renew two times. I ask for an 'aye' vote. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 5502 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please

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take the record. On a count of 99 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 2 voting 'present'. House Bill 5502, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5596, Representative Moeller. Out of the record. House Bill 5745, Representative Mussman. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5745, a Bill for an Act concerning courts. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Mussman."

Mussman: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Members of the House. House Bill 5745 simply creates parity between the Jury Commission Act and the Jury Act. Under one, a breastfeeding mother is excused from jury duty upon request. For the other, it's been common practice, but it's been somewhat erratically applied. And this is actually a request from a member of our own Legislative Research Bureau. So, we would appreciate the support of just getting this cleaned up."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 5745 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 102 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 5745, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 1671, Representative Sente. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 1671, a Bill for an Act concerning animals. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Sente."

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Sente: "Thank you. This is a simple police dog Bill that came to me from my local chief of police. If a department gets a K-9 officer added to their department, they need to take care of that dog. That would include an annual medical exam, a rabies shot, and purchase of a heat sensing device. It's a bipartisan Bill. No one's against it. And I'm looking for a 'yes' vote."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, "Shall House Bill 1671 pass?" All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 102 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting present. House Bill 1671, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Representative Wheeler, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Wheeler, K.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please excuse Representative Jesiel for the rest of today."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Representative. House Bill 5814, Representative McSweeney. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5814, a Bill for and Act concerning State Government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative McSweeney."

McSweeney: "Mr. Speaker, House Bill 5814 would begin next year in fiscal year '19. It would require the Governor's budget to actually estimate what the late payment interest penalties would be. It also requires that OMB in their 4-year report to estimate late payment interest penalties. I worked with the CMS; they are now neutral on an Amendment because this will

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not be a separate appropriation line. It'll be for information. One of the pieces of information we got from the Debt Transparency Act is that we had spent \$1 billion or accrued \$1 billion of late payment interest penalties. This will simply require transparency. Again, CMS is neutral. I would appreciate a 'yes' vote."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 5814 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 101 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 5814, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5597, Representative Stratton. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5597, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Stratton.

Stratton: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Currently in Illinois, law enforcement officers that are charged with sexual assault can assert an affirmative defense of consent when the sexual conduct involves a person in custody. House Bill 5597 eliminates the option of employees of law enforcement agencies being able to claim such a defense and it provides that if charged with sexual assault, he or she cannot assert a defense that the act is consensual. There is no opposition to this Bill. We have broad-based support including the Illinois Chiefs of Police Association as well as the Illinois Sheriffs' Association. We have bipartisan support with over

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80 Sponsors to the Bill. And I respectfully request an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, "Shall House Bill 5597 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 100 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 5597, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4268, Representative Thapedi. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4268, a Bill for an Act concerning business. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Thapedi."

Thapedi: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Bill 4268 is an initiative of the Illinois State Bar Association. It amends the Home Repair and Remodeling Act by requiring disclosure of the amount to be paid for a job, the identities of the contractors and the subcontractors, the price to be paid to those contractors and subcontractors as well as providing some insight into the Mechanics Lien Act. The Bill also makes clear that these disclosures are informational in nature. There is no opposition to the Bill as the language was fully negotiated by the Illinois State Bar Association, the lenders, and the home builders. I'm available to answer any and all questions."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 4268 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all

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voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 98 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 4268, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5636, Representative Meier. Mr. Clerk, please call the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5636, a Bill for an Act concerning health. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Meier."

Meier: "Yes. 5636 is a simple Bill asking for the designated agency of people with disabilities to give a yearly report to DHS."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 5636 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 101 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 5636, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5021, Representative Pritchard. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5021, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Pritchard."

Pritchard: "Thank you. Ladies and Gentlemen, this Bill offers protection for students' records when an institution closes like ITT did a few years ago. This allows the State Board of Higher Education to confiscate those records for the

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protection of the students so that they have that in a long term. I would be happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 5021 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 101 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 5021, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Representative McCombie, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

McCombie: "Thank you, Speaker. On HB5597, as a proud Sponsor, I meant to vote 'yes'."

Speaker Turner: "The Journal will reflect your request. Thank you, Representative. House Bill 4944, Representative Sauer. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4944, a Bill for an Act concerning transportation. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Sauer."

Sauer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4944 is a companion Bill to legislation we passed last year. The Bill provides for light-use commercial vehicles to follow federal as well as large-state standards for testing. I know of no opposition to the Bill. And I'd appreciate an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 4944 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 84 voting 'yes', 14 voting

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'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 4944, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 5692, Representative Walsh. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 5692, a Bill for an Act concerning wildlife. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Walsh."

Walsh: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 5692 is an initiative of the Illinois Trappers Association. The Bill would eliminate the statewide limit on river otters, which is currently five, and establish them with the rest of the trapping that the DNR establishes area-specific limits by administrative rule based on the strength of the certain specie's population in any given area. And happy to answer any questions. Ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 5692 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Members, please record yourself. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 72 voting 'yes', 25 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 5692, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4232, Representative Severin. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4232, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Severin."

Severin: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Good morning, and I'd like to share with you the

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infamous statement of affairs. The school Bill that... so we've talked about school stuff today, so why stop now? What this does is two things: one is it takes care of transparency, it's a discussion that is on a daily basis as far as are we being transparent or not. What this Bill does is it continues to allow schools to be transparent with the records that they now purchase an ad with the newspaper. We have 852 school districts in the State of Illinois. They're purchasing ads, spending anywhere from \$500 to over \$2 thousand a year, so you can calculate the money that they're spending. What this does is it allows schools to continue to be transparent by taking the information that they purchase ads now from the newspaper and they would upload that information to their... to the ISBE website, to the school's website. And it would also allow schools to have a printed out hard copy, so if someone is interested in getting that information, they can stop by the superintendent's office and pick that up. So, I'd ask for an 'aye' vote. And be glad to discuss anything and I'm sure we're going to."

Speaker Turner: "On that, Leader Currie is recognized."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker and Members of the House. I rise in strenuous opposition to the Bill. In 2018, we ought to be in the world of the digital activity, but the reality is that a lot of our local governments haven't quite got there yet. The Citizens' Advocacy Center did a survey of some randomly selected 756 public bodies, only 49 percent of them actually had a website. Now we have requirements about posting notices of various kinds of things on websites today, and yet most of our municipal local governments, not most of them, but many

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of them are not complying with current law. So I think that if we really care about people knowing what is happening, if we want them to be sure they understand what the statement of affairs is on an annual basis, I think it would be a mistake to take that out of publication until we get better compliance from school districts, from townships, from county governments across the board. So I appreciate the Gentleman's good intentions, but I don't think this is the right time for us to reverse course and say that the web will work."

Speaker Turner: "Representative McSweeney is recognized."

McSweeney: "Mr. Speaker, to the Bill. We've worked across the aisle on bipartisan Bills to improve transparency. I believe this is an anti-transparency Bill. It'll especially be hard on senior citizens. I oppose this Bill and urge a 'no' vote."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Breen is recognized."

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

Speaker Turner: "Sponsor indicates that he will yield."

Breen: "Representative, just to clarify, you are still... you're not removing the requirements that a state of affairs notice be published, it's just that you don't publish the entire state of affairs in the local newspaper. Is that right?"

Severin: "Yes. It's actually published on the ISBE website, the school's website... and this is for schools. Eight hundred fifty-two school districts, I'll venture to say I haven't personally asked every... all 852 school districts, but I'll venture to say that all of them have a website. So, this isn't for community municipalities. This is for school districts and only school districts. And it requires them to upload

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that information to the ISBE website and to the school's website."

Breen: "And as well, we... I see in our analysis that we've already started to get waiver requests from this mandate. And I'm assuming we just got four on the spring 2018 mandate waiver report. I'm assuming we're going to get 848 more on the next mandate waiver report if we don't just change the statute."

Severin: "That's correct. Actually, schools have the opportunity to do that now. They can actually file for a waiver. But my thought is this, having been a school board member for 29 years, over half of my life, and being a great proponent of education. And many of you in here are also past school board members, past school teachers understand this information. But what this does is it allows us to come to the 21st century and to actually do what schools are doing now, and this waiver that the schools... they have the opportunity to apply for. Why have education spend their time filling out waivers when they could be working at other things that we're trying to do? We've been working on funding for education and all those kinds of things and those challenges. So to me this just makes good common sense for us to be in the 21st century and also to be transparent. I am all about transparency. To me this brings transparency up to the most up-to-date level of today where newspapers, first off, there's less and less newspapers. There's less and less people purchasing newspapers. And you have to figure out when is that going be posted in the newspaper. So you almost need a posting to post when the newspaper's going to have a posting of the post, if you get my post."

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Breen: "And then one last question. At least... and I don't have these... those four school district waiver requests in front of me, but with the waiver requests, I'm presuming that these school districts that got the waiver don't have to post anything in the newspaper at all. Whereas, your Bill would at least require them to say, hey, the annual statement of affairs is out. You can get it in a variety of places. So your Bill actually keeps some information in the local paper without having the full elimination of some sort of notice request for now."

Severin: "That's a great point. And that's why you're the Floor Leader. I appreciate that."

Breen: "Thank you, Representative."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Ford is recognized."

Ford: "Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Turner: "Sponsor indicates that he will yield."

Ford: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sponsor, so I'm a little confused. And it appears that you might be a little confused too because you want to remove mandates, then you want to add mandates. So are you for mandates or against mandates?"

Severin: "I'm against unfunded mandates and that's what this is, Sir."

Ford: "You're against unfunded mandates?"

Severin: "Yes, Sir. Yes, Sir."

Ford: "So, it is confusing, isn't it?"

Severin: "To me... to me it's not confusing as far as what this needs to do. This needs to be uploaded on to ISBE websites, school websites. The information needs be transparent to the community. And to me that is not confusing at all."

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Ford: "I mean, mandates are confusing to you guys. Because I clearly had a Bill that just wanted to connect people, just like you're doing, and it didn't cost anything extra. So what I'm saying is, there must be some confusion about mandates. And your Bill right here speaks to confusion. Because you say you want to remove mandates and then in the same Bill, you add a mandate. Why didn't you just remove the mandate? Then you would be consistent to your beliefs that we need to get rid of mandates. I urge a 'no' vote until the Republicans decide where they stand on mandates."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Hays."

Hays: "I can help the last speaker. Here's the difference. People in education request and plead, please don't send me mandates that cost me money. This will actually save them money. I believe that the Representative has landed on the difference between a Republican and a Democrat. You probably are confused, but that's why we're Rs. This saves them money; yours costs them money, pretty simple. As it relates to the Bill itself, you know, we... in this chamber, we... we do... we grapple with new technology. When do we implement it, when do we implement policy that pushes that forward? And there does come a time when you... you really can't cling on to the horse and buggy mentality when Henry Ford is rolling Model Ts down the assembly line. Henry Ford's rolling Model Ts down the assembly line. Vote 'yes'. Now is the time."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Ammons is recognized."

Ammons: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. I truly appreciate the lively debate on this particular topic, but I just want to bring us back to the nuts and bolts of my support for this

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Bill. This Bill, not only does it save money for the school districts, it actually prevents them from having to run an actual ad of which that local body has to pay for. So it's a savings. And two, we've passed several Bills out of this chamber in the last few days that allow for the posting of critical information to be put on a website as opposed to running in a particular publication. I think this is a good Bill because most people actually get... if you look at the survey, most people have responded in this country that they get most of their news online. Most of what they get is online. And so this would be consistent with how people are utilizing technology today to get their critical information. School districts throughout our state have access to internet and websites. And so this would be a good move for those districts to not have to spend a few dollars that they could put into that after-school program and they connect at-risk youth if they were not putting it in an advertisement in the local newspaper. And so, I stand and rise in support of this legislation and encourage an 'aye' vote in support of the 21st century technology called the internet that you can get information on postings for your schools."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Keith Wheeler is recognized."

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

Speaker Turner: "Sponsor indicates that he will yield."

Wheeler, K.: "Representative, I'm looking at the language in the Bill. And I know you've referenced a couple times that the... the objective is to put this online..."

Severin: "Yes, Sir."

Wheeler, K.: "...at ISBE's website."

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Severin: "Yes, Sir."

Wheeler, K.: "Okay. So, I have one question about that. So does the district then send the report to ISBE for them to post on their website?"

Severin: "They upload it. So actually there's a... there's a place on ISBE's website. All 852 school districts can upload that report and it goes to one spot in the ISBE website."

Wheeler, K.: "Okay. But is... and they can also put it on their own website, but it's not a requirement for that part if I'm reading the language correctly."

Severin: "That is correct."

Wheeler, K.: "They don't have to put it on... 'cause if they don't have a website then they're not required to put it there anyway..."

Severin: "That's correct."

Wheeler, K.: "...I would assume. So just to clarify, this doesn't mandate anyone to create a website if they don't have one already."

Severin: "Correct."

Wheeler, K.: "And it lets them use ISBE's website and the district's main administrative office. Those are the two places it would go."

Severin: "That is correct."

Wheeler, K.: "So we have transparency that can be reached from anywhere with a digital device as well as physical place to go..."

Severin: "Right."

Wheeler, K.: "...and read it yourself. And it saves money."

Severin: "That is correct."

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Wheeler, K.: "So it's win, win, win all the way across the board."

Severin: "That's correct and it's..."

Wheeler, K.: "Thank you."

Severin: "...not a new... it's not a new mandate. What it is, is just... it saves the schools money. It's already there; it just saves the schools money. That's what we're trying to do with time and money. That's what we're trying to do."

Wheeler, K.: "Representative, I'm reading this. You're removing an unfunded mandate and making it much easier to process this without having to spend a lot of money at all."

Severin: "That would be accurate."

Wheeler, K.: "Thank you."

Severin: "Thank you."

Wheeler, K.: "Vote 'yes'."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Sauer is recognized."

Sauer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Sponsor. You're a former school board president I believe, correct?"

Severin: "Yes, Sir."

Sauer: "So I'm a former school board member. And I know that you had to look through budgets and analyze things and try and find dollars so that you can put them towards the classroom. I have seen teachers spend money out of their own pockets for crayons, for poster board, for a lot of things. And to the Bill. I think that this will save money for school districts. It will end up giving dollars back into the classroom. It's been mentioned before. We've got an outdated process where we have to spend, in some cases, several hundred to thousands of dollars putting and buying an ad in the newspaper. I think there are a lot of ways to keep the transparency; you've put

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these into the Bill. This is a good, good Bill that's going to offer transparency and put more money back in the classrooms. So I'm in full support of your Bill. And I'd urge an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Hurley is recognized."

Hurley: "I yield my time to Representative Ford."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Ford is recognized."

Ford: "Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Turner: "Sponsor indicates that he will yield."

Ford: "So I've been advised over here by some Democrats that your Bill could actually cost school districts more money. Could you tell me about the digital divide in your community and if every family has a computer, a printer, and have the ability to print out the information that will now be placed on the website?"

Severin: "That's a great question. I appreciate that, looking forward to answering it. I'm going to give you the answer. So if you don't have a computer, if you're... if you're living in a community that has a library, I believe that there are libraries all over the State of Illinois, you're able to go to the library. If you are a..."

Ford: "Uh oh. So libraries is going... is going to be impacted? They got to pay. All right. Go ahead."

Severin: "So if a library, if you're a member of a library, you're able to..."

Ford: "Impact on libraries. All right, go ahead."

Severin: "Well, thank you. I appreciate that. You're able to go..."

Ford: "They don't."

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Severin: "...to the library and look at that... at the report. You can also print that out. You may have to purchase to have that printed out. You also... there are a lot of people in Illinois that have these things now; they're called cell phones. And you can pull it up right on the... on your cell phone and do the internet that way. There are also people, maybe senior citizens, if you're going to bring that point up, that they may want to go to their senior citizen... where they go to... to have lunch or breakfast or whatever, those places have computers also. So to your point that, if somebody actually wants that printed out, all they have to do is they can call their... the superintendent's office and they can get a free copy..."

Ford: "Oh."

Severin: "...and so..."

Ford: "From the superintendent?"

Severin: "The superintendent's office."

Ford: "And who would... who's going to pay for that? If they call the superintendent's office to request a copy, that's an impact that will cost the school district more money."

Severin: "I know... I know what you're trying to do, Sir."

Ford: "I'm not trying, I'm just speaking the truth."

Severin: "Okay. So what we're working to do..."

Ford: "Can we agree that that could cost the school districts more?"

Severin: "No, actually..."

Ford: "All right."

Severin: "...and actually..."

Ford: "That's it."

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Severin: "...schools have... schools have the oppor... they do that now. As far as, if you want to call your school, we can get on the phone right now and call 618-439-3136 and I can talk to the superintendent's office in Benton and ask them to have a copy for me and get that. How many people do that are very few. So, but potentially, sure we can talk about all different scenarios as far as what the potential is, but the reality of it is that the school districts are paying right now between 750 thousand and 1.6 million dollars as we speak on purchasing these newspapers, as we speak, Sir. And it's money that could be spent on education. So as far if you're a community member and you're interested in getting the ISB... this information, you can go to the website, you can call the school, or you can even come to a school board meeting and request those types of things if you're interested in as far as the information. So..."

Ford: "Representative..."

Severin: "Yes, Sir."

Ford: "...I want to tell you that you're absolutely right."

Severin: "Thank you."

Ford: "And I don't have an ax to grind or anything. I just think that this is a teachable moment and we can't be close-minded."

Severin: "Thank you. I appreciate that."

Ford: "And... and remember..."

Severin: "Thank you for being open-minded..."

Ford: "...we have to..."

Severin: "...about saving schools money."

Ford: "...and we... and we have to read the Bills as they are written."

Severin: "Yes, Sir."

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Ford: "And we really have to make sure that we understand what's going to impact a school district and what's not. There was a Bill earlier that failed because people failed to read it properly. It's much like... well, it's not even like yours. Yours has a impact. The previous Bill had no impact, none. So I hope that you would join me after reading the Bill and ask me to call the Bill back because you're willing to vote for it because it doesn't have an impact."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Williams."

Williams: "To the Bill. I'm noticing today that we're considering numerous pieces of legislation that pertain to the utilization of the internet for all sorts of things. The Bill we're discussing right now, the prior Bill about OMA providing more and more information on websites, and I think that's great. It's a cost-saving measure and something we can all support. Of course it's only workable if we have a free and open internet accessible to all. Keep in mind that as of April 23, that all can change. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Butler."

Butler: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm a proud 20-year subscriber to the Springfield *State Journal-Register*. And other than the required notices around election time when my name is on the ballot, I don't think I pay attention to a single thing that's required in the newspaper when it's published. I look around the floor here and the Representative from the 8th District, I'm not sure if he has a newspaper in front of him. And I'm not sure if anybody on this floor has a newspaper 'cause I sure don't see any around here. I'm sure someone's got it in a bag somewhere, but what I do see in front of every single

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Member of 118 Members is not just your computer or maybe your second computer that you have in your bag, but your cell phone as well. Folks, let me give you a little statistics here. This from a *Pew Research* poll from last year. Analysis of data shows that circulation for U.S. daily newspapers fell 8 percent, 8 percent in 2016 alone, marking the 28-consecutive year of decline of newspaper subscriptions. Total weekday circulation for U.S. daily newspapers fell to 35 million. Thirty-five million out of over 300 million people in this country only subscribe to newspapers. But I guarantee you just about everybody has a phone because they have been available through... for free through a former President that provided them for free to a lot of people. So I would say this is a wonderful idea, Mr. Severin, and I applaud you for your leadership on this. And I would urge a hardy 'aye' vote to everyone. This is a very good Bill. Thank you, Sir."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Ives."

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

Speaker Turner: "Sponsor indicates that he will yield."

Ives: "I was interested if you could specify exactly what is contained in the statement of affairs."

Severin: "Thank you. Those were items that anything that the school spends over \$2500 in that school year, they're required to have that in the report. So it could be for services, goods, those types of things, salaries. That's what's in the report."

Ives: "So it includes health care costs, more than likely?"

Severin: "Sure."

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Ives: "It would include payments for debt service?"

Severin: "Yes."

Ives: "It would probably include what they spend for maintenance?"

Severin: "Yes."

Ives: "Salaries?"

Severin: "Yes."

Ives: "Particular benefits?"

Severin: "Yes."

Ives: "So it's important information, isn't it?"

Severin: "Sure is."

Ives: "And when you see it in black and white it becomes more real. Wouldn't you say?"

Severin: "Definitely. That's why I like the transparency of it."

Ives: "I agree with the transparency of it. I also... Mr. Speaker, to the Bill. Look, this is important information and when people are faced with it in a newspaper setting, when they actually read it, when they see it, it becomes more real. And for that reason, I will be voting against this Bill even as it should be published both on the website. It should be published in black and white so that people can see, in general, especially when you have school districts like Palatine District 15 given a 10-year contract with 40 percent raises over 10 years and keeping all health care benefits flat. This is really important information so that citizens know how much their government is spending especially in school districts that usually eat up 70 percent of your property tax. They need to see it in all manners, whether it's in print or whether it's online. So I think, still, we need to get to the point where we're publishing this in print

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so people can view it, people who don't maybe have access to the internet, especially our elderly that are suffering from high property taxes. So I encourage this Body to continue to force this to be published in a newspaper and.. 'til we're... and we relook this issue maybe in another 10 years. Thank you very much."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Leader Lang."

Lang: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I find myself agreeing with the previous speaker."

Speaker Turner: "That's a first."

Lang: "I don't know how that happened. I think that was well said. And there are many school districts that simply aren't complying with today's law. There are many school districts that don't have complete websites. There are many school districts that don't post everything they're supposed to post. And there are many that are not even sophisticated enough to handle their websites properly. And while it's true that the Gentleman from Springfield is correct when he says that really no one reads these things in the newspaper, transparency still requires that we do that. So I oppose the Bill. And Mr. Speaker, should this reach the requisite number, I would request a verification."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Severin to close."

Severin: "Thank you. I appreciate the discussions that we've had on the floor. And you know, something that also is happening throughout the state right in Mount Vernon, population of 18 thousand people, their newspaper closed unexpectedly just in the last quarter. So there are less and less people that have that opportunity to even purchase that newspaper. And again,

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my goal for this Bill... and I will tell you this that being a freshman that's usually nervous when he's speaking, that... you know, they said, Severin, are you sure you want to address this? Are you sure you want to tackle this? And I said absolutely, now is the right time to do the right thing with this 21st century item and opportunity. So I believe that now is the time to do this and give people an opportunity in school districts to save money that actually... that this Body puts money into the schools' coffers that do one thing, is to educate students. And instead, we're spending it on things that we don't need to be. So I would ask for an 'aye' vote. And I appreciate the opportunity to discuss those things today. And I'd as for an 'aye' vote. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Members, a verification has been requested by Leader Lang, so please be at your seat to vote your button. The question is, 'Shall House Bill 4232 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 29 voting 'yes', 65 voting 'no', and 0 voting 'present'... Leader Lang, do you wish to proceed with your Motion? He withdraws his Motion. And on the..."

Lang: "Unlike some around here, who are not here today, who do verifications unnecessarily, I withdraw mine."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Leader. On a count of 29 voting 'yes', 65 voting 'no', and 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 4232, having failed to receive the Constitutional Majority, does not pass. It's failed. Representative Hurley, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

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Hurley: "Mr. Speaker, could the record reflect that I intended to vote 'no' on House Bill 5692?"

Speaker Turner: "The record will reflect your request. House Bill 5267, Representative Williams. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 5267, a Bill for an Act concerning civil law. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Williams."

Williams: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill is pretty simple. It makes very technical changes to what we know as the Crime Victims Compensation Act. This is an initiative of the Attorney General's Office which administers that Act. First, it helps to expedite crime victims' date of claims by requiring agencies to cooperate with the office of the AG. We've worked with law enforcement to get agreement on this piece. Second, it helps address fraud issues by clarifying that the counselors who provide services, which can be reimbursed under the Act, meet certain basic requirements and don't overcharge the state. And finally, it adds a few new crimes to the list of crimes that can be compensated and that includes revenge porn and posting of graphic or pornographic information. That's it, all agreed, and I'm happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 5267 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 94 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting present. House Bill 5267, having received the

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Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Leader Currie, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Currie: "To add to the list of excused House Democrats today. Please add Representative Moeller."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Representative. Representative Demmer, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Demmer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record reflect that Representative Frese and Representative Meier are excused for the day."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Representative. House Bill 4879, Representative Spain. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 4879, a Bill for an Act concerning civil law. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Spain."

Spain: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 4879 is an initiative from the Department on Aging. It makes just a small change allowing for the Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman to participate, rather than just the Long Term Care Ombudsman, the individual, herself. I ask for your support."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 4879 pass? All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 95 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 4879, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 1042, Representative Stuart. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

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Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 1042, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Stuart."

Stuart: "Thank you. What... what this Bill will do will require that we put in place places for nursing mothers to have access for lactation, whether they need to feed or to pump: one location here in the Capitol Building, one location in the Stratton, and one location in the Howlett Building."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 1042 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 91 voting 'yes', 1 voting 'no', 0 voting present. House Bill 1042, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. House Bill 4848, Representative Swanson. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 4848, a Bill for Act concerning civil law. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Swanson."

Swanson: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What this does, it provides a health care facility or health care professional shall provide, without charge, one complete copy of a patient's records if the patient is an indigent homeless veteran and the records are being requested for supporting a claim for veteran's benefits through the Department of Veterans Administration. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Seeing no debate, the question is, 'Shall House Bill 4848 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote

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'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On a count of 97 voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. House Bill 4848, having received the Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Representative Olsen, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Olsen: "Mr. Speaker, I wish to correct the record that... I wish the record would reflect that I intended to vote 'yes' on House Bill 5267."

Speaker Turner: "The Journal will reflect your request, Representative. House Bill 2354, Representative Willis. Out of the record. Members, an announcement. Monday, at 3 p.m. is the deadline for filing Amendments. Monday, 3 p.m. is the deadline for filing Amendments. And now, allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk, Leader Currie moves that the House adjourn until Monday, April 23, 2018 at 3 p.m.; Monday, April 23, 2018 at 3 p.m. All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the House is adjourned."

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Committee Reports. Representative Andrade, Chairperson from the Committee on Cybersecurity, Data Analytics, & IT reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 5547, House Resolution 874. Representative Rita, Chairperson from the Committee on Business & Occupational Licenses reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #2 to House

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Bill 3877. Representative Conroy, Chairperson from the Committee on Mental Health reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 68, Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 1443, House Resolution 756. Representative Hoffman, Chairperson from the Committee on Labor & Commerce reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 126, Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 127, Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 5166. Representative Lilly, Chairperson from the Committee on Insurance: Property & Casualty reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 1336. Representative Daniel Burke, Chairperson from the Committee on Executive reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 4319, Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 5612. Representative Soto, Chairperson from the Committee on Health Care Licenses reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 1338. Representative Crespo, Chairperson from the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education: School Curriculum & Policies reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 4226, Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 4657, and Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 4799. Representative Conroy, Chairperson from the Committee on Mental Health reports the following committee action taken on April 19,

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2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 4949. Representative Thapedi, Chairperson from the Committee on Public Utilities reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 5752. Representative Crespo, Chairperson from the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education: School Curriculum & Policies reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 4226, Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 4657, Floor Amendment #1 to 4799. Representative Kelly Burke, Chairperson from the Committee on Appropriations-Higher Education reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 5122. Representative Welch, Chairperson from the Committee on Higher Education reports the following committee action taken on April 19, 2018: recommends be adopted is Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 1292, Floor Amendment #2 to House Bill 1293, Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 1294. Introduction of Resolutions. House Joint Resolution 121, offered by Representative Ford, is referred to the Rules Committee. Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House Bill 5866, offered by Representative Bennett, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee benefits. First Reading of this House Bill. Introduction and First Reading of Senate Bills. Senate Bill 426, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 1901, offered by Representative Spain, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. Senate Bill 2450, offered by Representative Mitchell,

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Christian, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 2483, offered by Representative Olsen, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 2543, offered by Representative Olsen, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 2968, offered by Representative Spain, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Senate Bill 3024, offered by Representative Spain, a Bill for an Act concerning transportation. First Reading of these Senate Bills. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."