

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
100th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE  
TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION

1st Legislative Day

7/27/2017

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

Pastor Crawford: "Let us pray. Most gracious God in Heaven, Creator of us all, for it is from You, oh God, that all of our help come. And it is from You, oh God, that all of our blessings flow. Look upon this august assembly gathered here, may Your hand be upon each of them to direct them and in all of their actions, in all of their ways. Oh God, grant them hearts that they may feel you. Give them minds that they may know You. Grant them diligence that they may seek You and wisdom so they may find You. I pray today, oh God, that You would bless them with Your might. Advice them with Your counsel that in all of their endeavors they would willing do that which is good and that which is the most precious will of God. This we pray in precious Your Son's name. Amen."

Speaker Madigan: "We shall be led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Representative Fortner."

Fortner - 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 Madigan: "Roll Call for Attendance. The Chair recognizes Representative Turner."

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Turner: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please excuse Representatives Sente, Soto, Manley, and Halpin."

Speaker Madigan: "The record will reflect those excused absences. The Chair recognizes Representative Bellock."

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Will the record reflect the excused absences of Representatives Demmer, McDermed, Phillips, Reick, Spain, Stewart, Unes."

Speaker Madigan: "Let the record reflect those excused absences. Mr. Clerk, take the record. There being 86 responding to the Attendance Roll Call there is a quorum present for the Twelfth Special Session. Mr. Clerk, read the Governor's Proclamation."

Clerk Hollman: "Proclamation by the Governor.

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution establishes that providing a free, high-quality public education is a fundamental goal of the State; and,

WHEREAS, honoring this fundamental goal has always been a primary concern of this administration; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of Illinois depend on schools that are appropriately funded and start on time; and,

WHEREAS, many school districts depend on funds appropriated by the State and cannot operate throughout the full upcoming school year without those funds; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of Illinois deserve adequate and equitable education funding regardless of their zip code; and,

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WHEREAS, the General Assembly chose to make appropriations for education in its Fiscal Year 2018 budget contingent on passage of revisions of the State's school funding formula; and,  
WHEREAS, the General Assembly, in fact, passed a revised school funding formula in Senate Bill 1 on May 31, 2017; and,  
WHEREAS, since Senate Bill 1 passed, I have repeatedly requested the General Assembly send it to my desk; and,  
WHEREAS, the General Assembly has ignored my repeated requests to send Senate Bill 1 for review; and,  
WHEREAS, the General Assembly has instead delayed for 54 days since it passed Senate Bill 1 by using an internal legislative maneuver to avoid presenting Senate Bill 1 to me; and,  
WHEREAS, until the General Assembly ends its procedural antics and sends me Senate Bill 1, I cannot consider it; and,  
WHEREAS, the acts of the General Assembly are creating an artificial crisis for school funding across the state; and,  
WHEREAS, this artificial crisis is causing an unnecessary atmosphere of statewide fear in the minds of parents, educators, and all involved with the State's education system; and,  
WHEREAS, this delay is unacceptable gamesmanship with the students of this State; and  
WHEREAS, the Illinois State Board of Education is required to begin making payments to school districts across the State by August 1, 2017; and,  
WHEREAS, a new education funding formula must therefore be adopted by July 31, 2017, to ensure that school districts receive the money they need to open; and,

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WHEREAS, we must provide certainty to parents with school-age children, educators, and all Illinois citizens who care about education and the future of our State; and,

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1 as passed by the General Assembly does not ensure fair funding and outcomes for all our children, and failure to enact a school funding bill will negatively impact those children in need of a high-quality education and will have devastating and long-lasting ramifications for our state; and,

WHEREAS, under Senate Bill 1, a single school district unfairly receives hundreds of millions of dollars in extra funding beyond the amounts received under the funding formula by the other 851 school districts in Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, our State's current school funding formula is inadequate and inequitable for our children's education needs and has not been appropriately managed for decades; and,

WHEREAS, this administration, through the Illinois State Board of Education and the bipartisan Illinois School Funding Reform Commission, studied at great length the current disparity in school funding across the State and developed a framework for reforming the current school funding formula; and,

WHEREAS, this administration, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the bipartisan Illinois School Funding Reform Commission worked tirelessly to achieve what many other funding commissions have not: a comprehensive framework that aims to adequately and equitably fund our schools while prioritizing the needs of individual students; and,

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WHEREAS, both the General Assembly's behavior and the inequitable legislation they have propounded will prevent schools from opening, to the detriment of this State and Illinois families who trust and expect their children to be adequately and equitably educated on time; and,

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 5(b) of the Illinois Constitution empowers the Governor to convene a special session of the General Assembly;

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5(b) of the Illinois Constitution, I, Governor Bruce Rauner, hereby call and convene the 100th General Assembly in a Special Session to commence at 12:00 Noon on July 27, 2017, for the purpose of considering appropriate legislation to ensure that all school districts in Illinois are equitably and adequately funded to provide a high-quality education for all Illinois students. The Secretary of State shall take whatever reasonable steps are necessary to notify the members of the General Assembly of the purpose, date, and time set for convening this Special Session pursuant to 25 ILCS 15/3. ISSUED: on July 24, 2017 by Bruce Rauner, the Governor of State of Illinois."

Speaker Madigan: "Representative Lang in the Chair.

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Clerk, introduction of Resolutions."

Clerk Hollman: "Twelfth Special Session House Resolution #1 and Twelfth Special Session House Resolution #2 are offered by Representative Currie."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hoffman moves for the suspension of the applicable House Rules to allow for the immediate consideration of Twelfth Special Session House Resolution 1

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and 2. You heard the Motion. All those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the Motion is adopted. Mr. Clerk, please read Twelfth Special Session House Resolutions 1 and 2."

Clerk Hollman: "Twelfth Special Session House Resolution #1.

RESOLVED, that the Rules of the House of Representatives of the One Hundredth General Assembly be adopted as the Rules of this Twelfth Special Session, so far as the same may be applicable, and that the Committees of the House of Representatives of the One Hundredth General Assembly, and their membership, shall constitute the Committees of the House during this Twelfth Special Session. Twelfth Special Session House Resolution #2.

RESOLVED, that the Clerk inform the Senate that a majority of the House of Representatives has assembled, pursuant to the proclamation of the Governor, convening a Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the transaction of business."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hoffman moves for the adoption of Twelfth Special Session Resolutions 1 and 2. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the Resolutions are adopted. Mr. Clerk, adjournment Resolution."

Clerk Hollman: "Twelfth Special Session House Joint Resolution #1, offered by Currie.

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that when the House of Representatives adjourns on the 1st

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Legislative Day and the Senate adjourn on the 1st Legislative Day, the House shall remain in continuous session, and stands adjourned until the call of the Speaker, and the Senate shall remain in continuous session and stands adjourned to the call of the President."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hoffman, moves for the adoption of the Adjournment Resolution. Those favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it, and the Adjournment Resolution is adopted. In accordance with the Adjournment Resolution the House is adjourned until the call of the Speaker."