

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

Speaker Madigan: "The House shall come to order. The Thirteenth 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 and sovereign God, God of power, might, wisdom, and justice, through Your authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted and judgements are decreed. I pray, God, that You will assist us today with Your spirit of counsel and fortitude. May Your blessing be upon this august assembly, the Speaker of this House, all of its Leaders, all of its Members, all of their families. God, may they always seek the ways of righteousness, the ways of justice, the ways of mercy, and the ways of compassion. I pray that they be enabled by Your powerful protection and Your infinite wisdom to lead this great state with great strength and honesty and with great integrity. This we ask in Your Son's name, Amen."

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

Lang - 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."

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

Speaker Madigan: "Roll Call for Attendance. Representative Turner."

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

Speaker Madigan: "Let the record will reflect those excused absences. Representative Bellock."

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Please excuse Representatives Brady, Demmer, Harris, D., Jesiel, McDermed, McSweeney, Phillips, Pritchard, Reick, Spain, Stewart, Wehrli, and Sosnowski. Thank you."

Speaker Madigan: "Let the record reflect those excused absences. The Clerk shall take the record. There being 71 Members responding to the Attendance Roll Call, there is a quorum present for the Thirteenth Special Session. Mr. Clerk, read Governor's Proclamation. Mr. Lang in the Chair."

Clerk Hollman: "A Proclamation from 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,

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

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

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

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

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,

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

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

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,

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 28, 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

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

Session pursuant to 25 ILCS 15/3. ISSUED: July 24, 2017 by Bruce Rauner, the Governor of State of Illinois."

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

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

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hoffman moves for the suspension of the applicable House Rules to allow for the immediate consideration of Thirteenth Special Session House Resolution 1 and 2. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the Motion is adopted. Mr. Clerk, please read Resolutions."

Clerk Hollman: "Thirteenth 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 Thirteenth 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 Thirteenth Special Session. Thirteenth 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 Thirteenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the transaction of business."

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Hoffman moves for the adoption of Thirteenth Special Session Resolutions 1 and 2. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the Resolutions are adopted. The Chair recognizes Representative Barbra Wheeler."

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

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

Wheeler, B.: "Thank you. Understandably from both policy and political prospective much of Illinois has been laser focused on Senate Bill 1. The Education funding Bill which seeks to change the formula used to fund public K-12 education in our state. The implications are high and an incredibly important topic, no doubt. But we in Illinois... Northern Illinois have been primarily dealing with a flood devastation and insisting flood victims after approximately 20 inches of rain. The effects of these massive rain events has been daunting to say the least. And the cleanup will take time and the cost of the devastation will be tremendous. So, I'd like to tell you what's been happening in my legislative district, District 64, which includes portions of the Fox River and encompasses Crystal Lake proper. Along the Fox River, for the last few weeks we've been beaten down by torrential rains. People who live near or on the river are no strangers to flooding or sandbagging to protect their properties. But it is not just homes, but also the many businesses along the chain who depend on the watercraft traffic in the summer for a year's worth of income. So it's not only been physically and emotionally very difficult for the people along the Fox River and the Chain O'

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

Lakes, but also economically damaging. Despite their physical exhaustion, we are inspired by the generous help charities, such as the Red Cross, local charities, local governments, state and federal agencies. I would be remiss if I didn't mention IEMA, and the DNR, specifically Coalman Covington and Brad Winters but also are McKendry's very own, Dave Christen, and Lake County's Jo Keller. We are very grateful for everyone's help and assistances despite this natural devastation. In Crystal Lake proper, the city and houses along the lake are suffering from severe rains. Unlike the Fox River, residences, however, are not uses to this flooding. Dozens of home have been heavily damaged and to make matters worse, sewage is coming up through their pipes. You can imagine the stress and the difficulty they are experiencing these last few weeks, because every time it rains the saturated ground infiltrated... infiltrates their homes further. To add insult to injury, the residences just received their property tax bills. Many saw an increase over 15 percent and as high as 26 percent. The timing was obviously an unfortunate coincidence with the natural disaster they are dealing with, but it coincides completely with the unnatural manmade disaster that is recurring right here, right now in Springfield. Adding 32 percent income tax increase on all taxpayers including District 64 taxpayers without first reforming our incredibly unfair system and a property tax owners is an outrage. The people of Northern Illinois have asked me to represent them to protect their interest as home

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

1st Legislative Day

7/28/2017

and business owners, but the majority of this Body has made it near impossible. So I suggest this, barring the Hippocratic Oath in mind, let us do no further harm by taking no more money from our taxpayers unless and until we reform the basic structure and contours of State Government including and especially our property taxes. The people of the 64 can no more endure more any devastations be they natural or manmade. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Leader Hoffman, now moves that the Thirteenth Special Session adjourn until Monday, July 31 at noon. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the House stands adjourned."