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Speaker Crespo: "The House will come... will be in order. Members will be in their chairs. We shall be led in prayer today by Dr. Michael Fogerson, Pastor, who's with the First Baptist Church in Chester. Dr. Michael Fogerson is the guest of Representative Costello. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off all cell phones and rise for the invocation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Fogerson."

Pastor Fogerson: "(Undiscernible) Praised be you the eternal one who is our God. You are the mighty maker and king of the universe. You are the maker of the earth and great is your name. Lord, God, I pray that as you govern it is always just. It is always fair. It is always true. It is always good. Lord, your word says that there is a blessing found when the family, when brothers, and sisters can dwell together in unity. There is a goodness to be had. A pleasantness to be acquired. Lord, you say it's like precious oil that is poured down upon our head, and flows to our beard and to the edges of our robe. It is like the dew of Hermon that comes upon mountains of Zion. Lord, I pray that this Assembly would work together in unity, and they would know the blessing and the goodness that comes from you and you alone. Lord, the greatest commandment of all is to love you with all our heart, with all of our mind, with all of our soul, and with all of our strength. And the second is to love our neighbor. Lord, I pray that in this Assembly the most easy way to serve you is to serve our neighbor to be your hands, to be your feet, to be your heart. And Lord, God, I pray that this Assembly would do just that. And Lord, God, I pray the way that our King has taught us. Our Father, who

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art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen."

Speaker Crespo: "Thank you, Pastor. We'll be led in the Pledge of Allegiance today by Representative Morgan."

Morgan - 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 Crespo: "Roll Call for Attendance. Representative Harris is recognized to report any excused absences on the Democratic side of the aisle."

Harris: "Mr. Speaker, there are no absences on the Democrat side of the aisle today."

Speaker Crespo: "Thank you. Representative Butler is recognized to report any excused absences on the Republican side of the aisle."

Butler: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the Journal reflect that the excused absences on the Republican side are Representative Tom Bennett and Representative Dave Severin. And if we could please keep Representative Bennett in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Thank you. Have all recorded themselves who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. There being 116 Members

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present the roll call, a quorum is present. Leader Harris for a Motion."

Harris: "Speaker, I move to waive the posting requirements for the following Bills so they can be heard in the proper committee: House Bill 16, House Bill 22, House Bill 40, House Bill 218, House Bill 254, House Bill 256, House Bill 258, House Bill 278, House Bill 279, House Bill 330, House Bill 334, House Bill 809, House Bill 811, House Bill 890, House Bill 920, House Bill 1629, House Bill 2056, House Bill 2145, House Bill 2205, House Bill 2272, House Bill 2407, House Bill 2446, House Bill 2478, House Bill 2485, House Bill 2529, House Bill 2605, House Bill 2738, House Bill 2739, House Bill 2741, House Bill 2755, House Bill 2840, House Bill 2913, House Bill 2932, and House Bill 2982."

Speaker Crespo: "Thank you. With leave from the Body, we will consider those Motions in a single Motion. Is there leave? Is there leave? Leave is granted. Leader Harris has moved to waive the posting requirements. All those in favor say 'aye'; opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it and the posting requirements are waived. On page 13 of the Calendar, under the Order of Resolutions, we have House Joint Resolution 15, offered by Representative Murphy."

Murphy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present House Joint Resolution 15, which designates November 1, 2019 as Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day in the State of Illinois. This Resolution will not only honor our Vietnam Veterans, but will also offer an apology on behalf of the state to any servicemember who returned home from the Vietnam War and did not receive the proper thanks and homecoming that they so

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rightly deserved. House Joint Resolution 15, also requests that flags in Illinois be flown at half-staff November 1st. This Resolution was brought to my attention by a constituent of mine from Auburn, Illinois. Vince Speranza is 94 years old and is a decorated World War II combat veteran, who fought in the... Siege of the Bastogne and in part of the larger Battle of the Bulge. Vince fought in the... with the 101st Airborne in his courage is stuff that legends are made of. Vince is here with us today in the gallery to my right. Please acknowledge Vince. Vince traveled around the world talking about his service in World War II and meeting men and women of our armed services. One thing that he is most passionate about is ensuring that Vietnam generation of veterans are given the proper respect and thanks that he and others received when they returned from battle. In a recent *State Journal* article, a Vietnam veteran was quoted as saying, 'There was nobody to greet you when you got off the plane like there is now. You were just alone. There was no respect for you or your uniform or what you did for the country.' House Joint Resolution 15 is one small way that we can acknowledge the service and sacrifice of all those who served in Vietnam and never forget what they did. Thank you, Vince, for not only your service but for your concern to all veterans. I ask for your support of this Joint Resolution and would be happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Crespo: "Leader Durkin is recognized."

Durkin: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Crespo: "Please proceed."

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Durkin: "I know just a little bit earlier Representative Butler said we need to keep Representative Bennett in our thoughts. I visited Tom yesterday, but many of all know that he was involved in the extremely, extremely serious car accident Thursday night in his district somewhere in the Colfax area, where he sustained major injuries, eight broken ribs, multiple fractures in his ribs. He was very fortunate to have walked out, crawled out of that accident by himself. His van went up in flames. This is the type of thing that a lot of people don't recover from. But Tom being the person that he is, the type of spirit that he is, he has... he was able to leave and get help. He is currently at the St. Joes Memorial Hospital in Bloomington and a number of our Members have stopped to see him. I was in with him yesterday. It's going to take a long time for him to recover, but I just hope that you all remember that Tom is such a fine, fine man. He's and absolute gentleman, and he's a good who works tireless for his district. And it pains him enormously not being here, and that's the type of person he is. So when we say that we would like to keep Tom in our thoughts and prayers, I think it's particularly important that we put politics aside and think about Tom and if you're a person that does say prayers at night, include him in that list. But also drop him a note, he lost his phone in the accident in Gibson City, we can get that address. But I know that he will enjoy hearing from you. But were very fortunate that Tom survived that. At the end of the day, we are a family, and we do feel pain about any of our Members whether it's stricken by any type of illness or accident. And this is a situation that I hope that we just

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remember that were all human beings, we're Illinoisans and we support the men and women we work for particularly when they're having a bad time. So, as I said earlier, he's one of the nicest men you're ever going to meet. He is. And I've said this before to Tom at his fundraisers that, you know, he's too nice for this job. But I also said that, you know, we're at a time where I think that good guys win and Tom is a good guy and he did have a guardian angel on his shoulder the other night. So, folks drop him a note, but I appreciate this opportunity to speak. And let's just wish Tom a speedy recovery. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Thank you, Leader Durkin. Wishing Tom a speedy recovery. Going back to Resolution 15, Representative Murphy moves for the adoption of House Resolution 15. All those in favor say 'aye'; opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it and the Resolution is adopted. On page 13 of the Calendar, under the Order of Resolutions, we have House Resolution 162, offered by Representative Marron."

Marron: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present House Resolution 162, which is a congratulatory Resolution for the Schlarman Academy Girls' Basketball Team, and we have them in the gallery with us today. They were the Class 1A State Champions, and they were not only the Class 1A State Champions this year, but this is the second consecutive year which they won that title. They are the pride of Danville, Illinois. So please give them a warm welcome to the General Assembly."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Marron moves for the adoption of House Resolution 162. All those in favor say 'aye'; opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it

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and the Resolution is adopted. On page 13 of the Calendar, under the Agreed Resolutions, we have House Resolution 164, offered by Representative Davidsmeyer."

Davidsmeyer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the General Assembly, I want to introduce you your AA pom-dance and lyrical state champions, the Jacksonville J'ettes. If we could give them a round of applause. I was telling the girls earlier, I got to watch my sister be a J'ette and their coach be a J'ette for four years and win state championships. So it's exciting to see them back here returning the state championships to Jacksonville. I want to introduce you to the members of this great team. First off their coach, Tiffany Hickox. Their members of the Jacksonville J'ettes, co-captain, Sarah May; co-captain, Sarah Wilson; Olivia Pine, who's a squad leader; Grayson Moore, squad leader; Chloe Burrus, squad leader; Ava Lahey, squad leader; Hannah Loeffelholtz, Ashley Haggerty, Gabbi Meehan, Paige Scaman, Amelia Pine, Layne Rogers, Paiten Wilson, Grace Turner, Paige Hadden, Esha Kulkarni, Dani Dillard, Claire VanAken, and Jillian Claussen. And I want to... Allyson Maul as well as a coach. Actually my first grader... that's his first grade teacher, so thank you for taking good care of him. He's learning a lot this year. Girls, I want to thank you for being such amazing athletes, for representing Jacksonville so well. We really appreciate it, and we look forward to having you back next year and all the years to come. Thank you so much. Your state champion dance team, the Jacksonville J'ettes."

Speaker Crespo: "Congratulations. Representative Davidsmeyer moves for the adoption of House Resolution 164. All those in

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favor say 'aye'; opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is hereby adopted. Leader Willis for an announcement."

Willis: "Thank you. Once we adjourn, the Democrats will adjourn for a caucus in Room 114, please."

Speaker Crespo: "Leader Butler is recognized for an announcement."

Butler: "I believe the Republicans are going to caucus, but not upon adjournment because are we coming back, is that correct?"

Speaker Crespo: "That is correct."

Butler: "Okay. Yeah, the Republicans will Caucus in 118."

Speaker Crespo: "The House will be in recess to the call of the chair for approximately one hour. And we will be returning back to the House floor to continue doing some business. The House will be in order. To proceed to the Order of House Bills on Third Reading, on page 10 of the Calendar under Third Readings, we have House Bill 345, offered by Representative Lily. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 345, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Lily is recognized."

Lily: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen of the General Assembly, I rise to present House Bill 345. It's just that simple. We also affectionately refer to it as T-21. House Bill 345 increases the age to purchase tobacco products from 18 years of age to 21 years of age. I'll like to also start with the fact that we have been debating this Bill for the past four years, and it's before you again because the past Governor vetoed it. But as we debated this Bill, I believe every single media outlet in the

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State of Illinois supports Tobacco 21. This Bill is also supported by the American Lung Association, the Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, the Respiratory Health Association, Illinois State Medical Society, Illinois Health and Hospital Association, Mission Readiness, March of Dimes, the Illinois Public Health Association, and many other organizations and health facilities throughout our great state. We have to date passed this piece of legislation in seven states and 38 local municipalities here in the State of Illinois. In Illinois alone over 45 million in population has been affected by this particular Bill. And to note, the City of Chicago and Cook County both has passed Tobacco 21. The fact that 95 percent of tobacco users started using tobacco before the age of 21. And this is why it is so important that we address this Bill today because they said if they had not, they would not have started before 21. In Illinois nearly two billion is being spent every year treating the Medicaid population for tobacco related diseases. Actual total of healthcare costs in Illinois related to tobacco use is over five billion dollars a year. This is a public health issue, not a crime issue. The ideal that penalizing young adults and teenagers who defer tobacco use is false. There's no evidence to support this notion. It is important that we move forward here in the State of Illinois and give our youth a living chance and a fighting chance. I ask for an 'aye' vote for Tobacco 21 here today if there's no questions."

Speaker Crespo: "Thank you. Leader Durkin."

Durkin: "Thank you. To the Bill. I've been around here for a few years and this issue has been around almost as long as I have."

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And I have been fight it most of my career. But I am here to say I am no longer fighting it but I'm supporting Tobacco 21 for the State of Illinois. I cannot ignore what the U.S. Surgeon General under this administration has said about teen smoking in particularly e-cigarettes and the epidemic that is going on everywhere throughout this nation, in particularly in the State of Illinois as I look at it. We cannot, no longer ignore this, stick our head in the sand. And I think this is the right thing to do on so many levels. And the thing is, I also did the research, but I looked at my greatest resource to make this determination and that would be my daughter Caroline, who is 17 years old at Lions Township High School in LaGrange, Illinois, told me, Dad, it's out of control. Not just tobaccos but also jewels, e-cigarettes, and all those that go along with it. She said, you guys need to do something. And I said Caroline, I'm doing something, I'm changing my mind, and I'll be voting for this Bill. And I recommend everyone else to support this legislation."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Batinick."

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

Speaker Crespo: "She indicates that she will. You may proceed."

Batinick: "Representative, you probably remember I voted for this Bill last time, and I do intend on voting for the Bill again. I have a couple of quick questions about the Bill specifically. While this Bill raises the age to sell tobacco... or purchase tobacco to 21, it does decriminalize it for anybody 18 and under. Meaning it is no longer illegal for anybody under the age 21 or 18 to have tobacco products. Is that correct?"

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Lily: "That is."

Batinick: "Do you have any concerns that this might actually make accessibility for 15, 16, and 17 year olds actually higher? Because it's making the access to it easier than the law currently stands to it today."

Lily: "House Bill 345, targets... is targeted for the younger age population 14 through 17 years of age. Eighteen year olds are the suppliers to our young population. The idea behind this Bill is to remove the 18 year olds as suppliers in the high schools. Fourteen to 17 year olds generally do not associate with 21 year olds in their social circles."

Batinick: "Okay. All right. Thanks, thanks for the clarification. The other question I have is to cost. Do you know what the loss tax revenue to the state is going to be once this Bill passes?"

Lily: "The loss has been a portion... is over inflated. It assumes that so many... every single 18 year old will be stopped smoking upon this implementation of this legislation. That's just not true."

Batinick: "Okay. Is there and estimate... of cost?"

Lily: "There is no estimate. But it is... there's no estimate, but what is out there is the estimate that has been given is inflated."

Batinick: "What is that estimate?"

Lily: "I'm sorry, I don't have that before me."

Batinick: "Okay, All right. Thank you very much. To the Bill, I think some of our Members are going to be for it and some will be opposed to it. I think there's some important

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unanswered questions. I'll listen to the rest of the debate.
Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Meyers-Martin."

Meyers-Martin: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am speaking in support of House Bill 345. Thirty-eight municipalities have already passed Tobacco 21 laws, covering 4.5 million people in population. Only Home Rule municipalities have the authority to regulate the age to purchase tobacco products. There are 1,298 municipalities in Illinois and only 209 of them are Home Rule communities. This means over 1 thousand municipalities do not have the authority to pass Tobacco 21 in Illinois. That is why we need to pass Tobacco 21 statewide. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Butler."

Butler: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank Representative Lily for her work on this Bill and I'm happy to be Chief Co-sponsor on the Tobacco 21 legislation. I'm glad it's back for another run in the 101st General Assembly. Almost got there in the 100th General Assembly but I'm glad you're leading it again. I just for the Body, I just would like to read some information from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention. 'Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the United States.' Let me say that again, 'Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the United States.' Nearly 40 million U.S. adults still smoke cigarettes and about 4.7 million middle and high school students use at least one tobacco product. Nine of 10 people who smoke cigarettes try it by the age of 18. Each day, 2

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thousand Americans under age 18 try a cigarette for the first time. In 2018, 27 percent of high school students have reported tobacco use. Four hundred and eighty thousand deaths per year are due to smoking, 1300 deaths a day. Ladies and Gentlemen, smoking kills. There's no 2 ways around this. Smoking kills. And it's a very preventable way to make a healthier United States, if we go after smoking, especially at an early age under 21. When I spoke on this Bill last year, I mentioned the fact that when I was in high school, *Miami Vice* was a big show when I was in high school. Don Johnson was one of the coolest guys around, and I started smoking Lucky Strikes because of Don Johnson. I was able to only do that for only a few weeks before I stopped smoking. But there's a lot of people who continue to smoke from 18, 16, 17 on. I know this isn't a perfect Bill. There's some changes I would like to see in it. But for those who wonder about the decriminalization aspect of it, I'd like you to ask a member of our law enforcement how many kids they actually bust for smoking a cigarette every day. It doesn't really happen today. This is the right thing to do. This is the right thing to do to make a healthier Illinois. And I would urge an 'aye' vote on it."

Speaker Crespo: "Thank you, Representative Johnson (sic-Butler). Representative Evans."

Evans: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. First of all, I'd like to say thank you to Camille Lily for your hard work on this legislation. You know, we here we make the law, but I think beyond that we send a message to people on what we prioritize and what we feel is right, not just as far as the

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law but what we should be doing as a country and as a state. And what we're saying is, that we have the information. We know that cancer is caused by smoking cigarettes. But we're also saying in this legislation that if you are an adult, and you choose to continue to participate in this activity, you can. We're giving an individual an opportunity to grow. We're giving an individual an opportunity to make that decision as a true adult. At the age of 18, you're legally an adult. You can do a lot of things but you're still growing. At 18 I was still growing, and as a cancer survivor and of all of the cancer survivors and the folks who had individuals like myself who've had cancer or individuals who've cared for someone, any message we can send that we're with you, I think that's a good message. Thank you, Camille. And thank you, to the American Cancer Society and all the organizations who've pushed for years and finally pass this great piece of legislation. We'll send a message to Illinois that we want to help the Illinois for today and for the future. So thank you, Camille Lily and thank you to all the advocates."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative McDermed."

McDermed: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was a supporter of this Bill last time, and last time I dedicated my vote to my mom, Eleanor, who was a smoker all her life. She tried many, many times to quit. And if this Bill can prevent another person from dying from lung cancer then we should all vote yes. And I'm dedicating this vote to my mom. Thanks, Representative."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Wehrli."

Wehrli: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. First, I'd like to thank the Sponsor for bringing this forward. It was mentioned

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earlier that right now currently have a patchwork of Home Rule communities that have already adopted this legislation. So from a law enforcement standpoint, and from just a continuity in how we do things, I'm going to be a strong supporter of this Bill. My hometown, Naperville, passed this in 2016. It's the right thing to do for our youth, and I urge a strong support."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative McCombie."

McCombie: "Thank you, Speaker. I saw you correct yourself. Thank you. Will the Sponsor yield? In the 101st General Assembly, you don't need one Republican vote to pass anything in the House, but sounds like you do have quite a few of us over here that are going to be voting for it, and unfortunately I'm not one of them. Absolutely right, smoking does kill. Killed both of my parents. And there was nothing I could do or say that was ever going to get them to stop smoking. A Bill like this, would never have gotten them to stop smoking as a child. My question is, why decriminalize this?"

Lily: "As mentioned, this is not a criminal Bill. And there's no evidence to the point that if you penalize young people that it would be... causes them not to smoke."

McCombie: "Well, the penalty for the one time... sorry. Sorry."

Lily: "It is important that we understand that there's not one piece of document from the police department, from our public safety where they have even implemented penalties on this population, because they understand that these young people need to be given an opportunity to live healthier lives. Unfortunately, we must do what we do as societal to make sure

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that they have that by raising the tobacco age from 18 to 21."

McCombie: "Okay, well the first violation was \$25 or 15 hours of community service and I don't think anybody here in the chamber can dispute that 15 hours of community service whether you're a criminal or not is a good thing. Our youth should be doing that regardless. So I don't think that the current law how it reads right now is a problem. And I have heard from some local police departments and they do utilize the 15 hours of community service. Another question I had was whether or not there was... if you knew what the loss of revenue was going to be? And the loss of revenue is going to be... could be up to \$40 million. How do you anticipate the state to replenish the coffers on that? Would you be using the bag tax or what will you be using to raise that \$40 million?"

Lily: "Thank you, Representative for the question. As I stated earlier that particular number was inflated. There's no fiscal notes on the Bill, because that note's inflated. I am saying that it is important that you understand not every single 18 year old because it's an addiction will stop smoking because it's an addiction on the day that we pass this Bill. It is important that we stay focused in making sure the lives of our young people are healthy."

McCombie: "And no doubt. I just wonder what the loss of the \$40 million, what that's going to do for the education side of that because, I'm going to assume that's been used in the past to educate youth on not smoking. Also, parents are often talking to me and all of us on both sides of the aisle, about JUUL. This is now going to give them actually no penalty to

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even smoking the JUULs in the schools and so that's also a concern for me. You know, I understand and respect your position as well as several people that are going to vote for this Bill, but we have got to quit chipping away at our personal liberties and put tax bases and I just... I cannot imagine how we're going to continue on in Illinois if we continue to do things like this without thinking of what the actual true unintended consequences are because, as much as I wish it was healthy children, I unfortunately think it's not going to be that way. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Davidsmeyer."

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

Speaker Crespo: "She indicates that she will. You may proceed."

Davidsmeyer: "Representative, we seem to have a lot of back and forth on the floor and I want you to know, I respect you a lot and it's obviously nothing against you because I think you're a wonderful person. My concern on this is mainly philosophical. I believe that if a person is old enough to decide who the most powerful person on the planet, the President of the United States is, I think they're responsible enough to look at the package of cigarettes or look at a can of chewing tobacco and see that it says, 'this can kill you'. I think if you're old enough to join the Army and go die for your country, you're old enough to make that decision on your own. I understand that it's bad for you and I... when I go and I speak with grade school classes, high school classes, I say, who in here thinks tobaccos good for you? And nobody raises their hand. They all understand it. I think there's a point at which you have to say, you're either an adult or you

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are not. And that, that is my reason for opposing this. I will say, however, I do believe this will pass today. And I want your commitment to work together to get rid of loopholes, because there are loopholes in where and how you can get tobacco, and we need to get rid of those loopholes. If we're going to say, you cannot have them, unless you're 21 or older, I want a commitment that you'll work with me to get rid of those loopholes. Will you work with me?"

Lily: "Representative, I'm not sure what the loopholes are, but I have demonstrated over and over again, I'm willing to work with anyone to make sure that we have healthy Americans."

Davidsmeyer: "Okay, I appreciate that and I will be talking to you soon. Thank you."

Lily: "Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Feigenholtz."

Feigenholtz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to applaud the advocates, the Lung Association and also Representative Lily, for persevering on a very, very difficult Bill. For about 5 minutes I was a Sponsor of this Bill and am not sure it even got out of Rules. So I want to applaud you for that. And like Representative Butler and other people who spoke, I smoked for 30 years, and I have to say it was very, very difficult to come off of nicotine. Nicotine is a horrible addiction. There some people who describe it as being worse than Heroine. And I think that when we started addressing youth, who are the yet addicted, and we can save them from those addictions. This is a definite way of doing it, I know that previous a speaker who is very involve in the Cancer Caucus talked about Cancer but Emphysema, Heart Disease, Gum Disease the fact

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that smoking leeches your bones. These are just a few things happen to you with a life of smoking. So again, I applaud you, I thank you. People will live longer happier lives, and I really encourage passage of this Bill. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Skillicorn."

Skillicorn: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. First off, I would think everybody could agree that smoking is a dirty and unattractive habit. I still have to go what did we learn from banning things? I think of the war on drugs, just because we ban drugs didn't diminish demand. Just because we ban drugs didn't take it away, we still have to deal with those parts of society. We also have to deal with the black market. That significant. So this... the current law is 18 years old, is the cutoff. So this will raise it up to 21. So let's think about what people can do when they are legally 18 years old. You know we mention serving the Army and things like that but 18 year olds can get married. Eighteen year olds can have children, 18 years can go hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt to go to school. Eighteen year old are adults and they are capable of making big decisions. Deciding where to go to college, deciding going to debt for school is a big decision. It's probably bigger than lighting up a cigarette. And I'm just going to point out there a better approach to this. Educations works. Reminding young people that this is a dangerous habit, that this has health problems, that it is dirty and nasty is good enough in my eyes. So I'm going to urge a 'no' vote, but I'm also going to urge us to keep talking to young people and letting them know that this is a

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bad habit, and it's a bad habit that they shouldn't start.
Thank you very much. I urge a 'no' vote."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Bristow."

Bristow: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of this Bill.

I started smoking at the age of 15 when it was not illegal. In the next 27 years, I smoked and tried to quit smoking. After I lost both of my parents to cancer, non-lung, but cancer within three months of each other I decided to quit for good. As of February 1st of this year, I quit smoking 15 years ago. My point is if it's illegal under the age of 21, maybe it will stop people, kids my age that were easily influenced by others to not light up for the first time. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Wheeler."

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

Speaker Crespo: "She indicates she will. You may proceed."

Wheeler: "Thank you. Representative, we've talked about this Bill in the past on the floor here, I know this is opposition to the Bill listed in our analysis. I'm assuming that some of those are from associations that may have members that would be affected on the border communities of the state. I think we talk about that the last time the Bill was on the floor. Can you address some of the concerns that have risen to you?"

Lily: "I don't have access to your analysis, so I'm not sure of what those concerns are."

Wheeler: "Okay. Well again, I believe the fact that we're not changing age of the neighboring states of this Bill, are we?"

Lily: "I'm not. I didn't hear you, I'm sorry?"

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Wheeler: "I understand, because were not changing the age requirement of any of our neighboring states, a person who is under 21 can go across the river into Iowa or Missouri and be legally able to purchase tobacco products there? Is that correct?"

Lily: "I'd just want to remind you that there're 7 states in our United States that have has Tobacco 21. Hawaii, California, Maine, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Oregon, and Virginia. We have 38 local municipalities in Illinois covering over 4.5 million in population, including Cook County and Chicago who have all have pass Tobacco 21. It is so important that we address the issues here in Illinois, because we have the resources to do so."

Wheeler: "I appreciate that. I'm not quite sure it addresses where I was trying to go with that. But Representative, I just want to make sure the record is clear on one thing. The previous speaker had mention that making it illegal for someone under 21 to have these products is not what this Bill does, does it? It does not make it illegal..."

Lily: "It remove penalties from the Bill."

Wheeler: "Right. So it is not illegal to possess Tobacco products under the age of 21 with this Bill in effect. That's correct, right?"

Lily: "That is correct?"

Wheeler: "So while I can certainly understand the motive behind this Bill. I understand the idea we all want to see a healthier Illinois. We want to see a fewer people smoking. I don't think we're going to get to where we want to go with this Bill in the form that it is right now, I applaud your

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efforts, Representative Lily, I just don't think that this is the solution that going to get us to that goal. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "The Chair recognizes Representative Lily to close."

Lily: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I just like to state a couple things. This is a public health issue not a criminal issue. The ideal of the penalizing youth, your young adults, and teenager would defer them from using tobacco is false. There's no evidence or notion of this nature. In 2020 the military will be smoke free institution in the state of the United States of America. It is important that everyone understands if you don't have your health, you don't have much else. Our youth are even speaking, Leader Durkin indicated his teenage daughter has pleaded for assistance in this is area because of all the tobacco use not only of tobacco, but e-cigarettes. Our youth are speaking to us and we need to listen. It is important to know again, and it has been stated over and over again, that tobacco cause cancer, tobacco uses cause cancer. Two billion dollars in the Medicaid population alone is being utilize in the treatment related in the tobacco use. We cannot afford it as a society and everyone deserves to live longer lives and why shouldn't we start with our young people. I thank you for this, I would say, enlightening and informative discussion. I just ask on today that you support Tobacco 21, so that our young people can have healthier rich lives in Illinois. I ask for your 'aye' vote."

Speaker Crespo: "The question is, 'Should House Bill 345 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish?"

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Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this question, there are 82 voting in 'favor', 31 voting 'against', 0 voting 'present'. And this Bill, having received a Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. And proceed to the Order of House Bills on Second Reading, we have House Bill 2071, Representative Zalewski. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 2071, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee benefits. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Crespo: "Third Reading. Representative Scherer, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

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

Speaker Crespo: "Please proceed."

Scherer: "March is Women's History Month, and I have the privilege of my honor going to our First Lady Michelle Obama. I wanted to just read a little bit about her and her history. Michelle Obama was born and raised on the Southside of Chicago to Fraser and Marian Robinson in 1964, she lived in a brick bungalow with her parents and older brother Craig, who is often mistaken as her twin brother given they are just 21 months apart. After graduating as salutatorian from Whitney Young Magnet school, she attended Princeton University studying sociology and African-American Studies and later Harvard Law School. Michelle joined Chicago Law firm Sidley Austin working as an associate in marketing and intellectual property. There she met Barack Obama, a summer intern at the time, who she was assigned as advisor to. After two years of

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dating, the two were married in 1992. Michelle Obama steered away and focused her efforts on public service. From 1991 to 2005 she served as Assistant Commissioner of Planning and Development for the whole City of Chicago. Executive Director for the nonprofit of Chicago Office Public Allies and Associate Dean of Student Affairs at the University of Chicago, where she developed the school's first ever community service program. While serving as an America's first Africa-American First Lady, she effortlessly advocated for young adults. In 2010 she launched the 'Let's Move' campaign and fought against childhood obesity in the United States, to provide healthier food options and promoted physical activity for kids. In 2011, Michelle Obama along with Joe Biden launched 'Joining Forces', in an effort to gather Americans to support veteran and their families, given them the tools to be successful. In 2014, she launched the 'Reach Higher' initiative inspiring young people to complete their education, past the high school by exposing to them to opportunities that were once not given them. Then in 2015, she launched a 'Let Girls Learn' initiative to help empower girls from other countries to stay in school and get an education. Michelle LaVaughn Obama is a true staple in Women's History, and as we honor her she fights every day to make this a better country. My favor quote of First Lady Michelle Obama and I'm sure many of you share this with me is 'When they go low, we go high.' Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Hammond, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

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

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Speaker Crespo: "Please proceed."

Hammond: "In... to join my college in honor of Women's History Month, I have chosen to honor Mother Bickerdyke. Born Mary Ann Bickerdyke in 1817, she spent her life in the service of the others which is how she affectionately became known as 'Mother Bickerdyke'. She was a widow from Galesburg and she was a quote unquote 'botanic physician', who answered the call for every medical... for medical assistance during the Civil War. Mother Bickerdyke was a battlefield angel for the Union Soldiers, an indispensable figure in the Army's Medical Corps as she established 300 field hospitals, aided the wounded in 19 battlefields during that war. During the war she was the Chief of Nursing under the command of General Ulysses S. Grant. When his staff complained about the outspoken, insubordinate female nurse, who consistently disregarded the army's red tape and military procedures, Union General Sherman joked and said, 'Mother Bickerdyke outranks me and there's not a darn thing in the world I can do about it.' She was a tireless fighter for veterans and after the war she even served as a lawyer assisting veterans and their families in obtaining pensions. She died in 1901 and was buried in Galesburg next to her husband. Soon after a statue was erected of Mother Bickerdyke kneeling beside a wounded soldier holding a cup to his lips. It still stands in the courthouse square in Galesburg to honor this amazing woman, who was totally devoted to the health and welfare of our soldiers. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Reick, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

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Reick: "Point of personal privilege, Sir."

Speaker Crespo: "Please proceed."

Reick: "In keeping with Women's History Month I want to take it a little closer to home. With me today on the floor is my wife, Deb, who for past, good Lord, close to 40 years has shared the thick and way too much thin with me. There's a great song with a line that says, she is more than money, she 14 karat gold. I like you to welcome her to the floor. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Welcome to the floor, Mrs. Reick. Representative Walsh for reason do you seek recognition?"

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

Speaker Crespo: "Please proceed."

Walsh: "Ladies and Gentlemen in House, today I hope.. join me and Welcoming my Page for the day Kaley Koran, who is a student at the nation's oldest junior college, Joliet Junior College in my home district, where she's studying in music therapy. So please welcome her to Springfield. Thank you."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Wehrli, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

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

Speaker Crespo: "Please proceed."

Wehrli: "Thank you, Sir. So many of us are aware of the many, many polls that show that a lot of Illinoisans simply want to leave our state. And sometimes in those polls we see that those same people don't think we're do a very good job down here, they don't think very highly of us in here in Springfield. And to that point, this Body passed a tax increase in 2001 saying that was going to fix our fiscal mess. Then again in

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2015, we passed another tax increase which was supposed to fix our fiscal mess. Last week the Governor introduced yet, a third income tax hike on the residents of Illinois. Who could be so foolish as to think the third time is the charm for the State of Illinois, and we simple need is just more of your hard earned tax dollars to fix our fiscal mess. Instead what we need to be doing is looking on the other side of the equation make sure were delivering the government services efficiently. Simply raising taxes is not the solution to our problem."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Cassidy, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Cassidy: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Crespo: "Please proceed."

Cassidy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the semi-official spokesperson for the Sullivan Caucus, and if you want to read my lips you can watch Representative Butler, I am proud to invite everyone and remind everyone of tonight Sullivan Caucus gathering starting at 5:30 at the Gin Mill. It's a very special night as we get to welcome back a former member the Sullivan Caucus, former Senator and now AG Director Sullivan. So please join us, looking forward to seeing everyone."

Speaker Crespo: "Mr. Clerk, committee announcements."

Clerk Hollman: "The following committee was canceled for this afternoon: Veterans' Affairs has been canceled. Meeting immediately after session is Appropriations Elementary & Secondary Education in D-1, Agriculture Conservation in Room 115, Insurance in Room 114, Public Utilities in Room 118,

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Transportation Regulation Roads and Bridges in Room C-1, Adoption and Child Welfare in Room 122. Meeting at 4:30 p.m... 4:30 p.m. is Energy and Environment in Room 114, Financial Institutions in C-1, Health Care Availability and Accessibility in 122, Cities and Villages in Room D-1, Judiciary Criminal Room 118. Once again, Veterans' Affairs was canceled."

Speaker Crespo: "Representative Arroyo, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Arroyo: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There's a person that I want introduce, I don't know if she was introduced but she hasn't been introduced since I've been here, somebody that took over Chapa LaVia... one of our Leaders in the Latino Caucus, and I want to introduce Barbara Hernandez to the floor of the General Assembly. If everybody can give her applause. Barbara."

Speaker Crespo: "Mr. Clerk. Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Bolin: "Agreed Resolutions, House Resolutions 170, offered by Representative Martwick. House Resolutions 171, offered by Representative Grant. House Resolutions 173, offered by Representative Martwick. House Resolutions 175, offered by Representative Martwick. House Resolutions 176, offered by Representative Andrade. House Resolutions 179, offered by Representative Yingling. House Resolutions 180, offered by Representative Edly-Allen. And House Resolution 181, offered by Representative Conroy."

Speaker Crespo: "Leader Harris moves for the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. All those in favor say 'aye'; opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And

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the Agreed Resolutions are adopted. And now, allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk, Leader Harris moves that the House stand adjourned until Wednesday, March 13, at the hour of noon. All those in favor say 'aye'; opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House stands adjourned."

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution 174, offered by Representative McSweeney. House Resolution 178, offered by Representative Conyears-Ervin. And Senate Joint Resolution 18, offered by Representative McDermed are referred to the Rules Committee. Instruction-First Reading of Senate Bills. Senate Bill 158, offered by Representative Walsh, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Senate Bill 1149, offered by Representative Costa-Howard, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 1199, offered by Representative Bristow, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Senate Bill 1302, offered by Representative Slaughter, a Bill for an Act concerning courts. Senate Bill 1378, offered by Representative Didech, a Bill for an Act concerning courts. Senate Bill 1468, offered by Representative Stuart, a Bill for an Act concerning veterans. First Reading of these Senate Bills. Introduction-First Reading of House Bills. House Bill 3798, offered by Representative Hoffman, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Senate (sic-House) Bill 3799, offered by Representative Didech, a Bill for an Act concerning government. Senate (sic-House) Bill 3800, offered by Representative Harris, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. House Bill 3801, offered by Representative

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Harris, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. House Bill 3802, offered by Representative Harris, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. House Bill 3803, offered by Representative Harris, a Bill for an Act making appropriations. House Bill 3804, offered by Representative Harris, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. House Bill 3805, offered by Representative Harris, a Bill for an Act making appropriations. House Bill 3806, offered by Representative Harris, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. House Bill 3807, offered by Representative Harris, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. First Reading of these House Bills. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."