

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION - SECOND DAY

NOVEMBER 27, 1972

11:45 O'CLOCK A.M.

THE HONORABLE W. ROBERT BLAIR, SPEAKER

IN THE CHAIR



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

STATE OF ILLINOIS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A Roll Call for attendance was taken and indicated that all were present with the exception of the following:

- Representative Bernard E. Epton - no reason given;
- Representative Donald A. Henss - no reason given;
- Representative Gene L. Hoffman - no reason given;
- Representative Thomas R. Houde - illness;
- Representative Allan L. Schoeberlein - no reason given.



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of illness."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right. The Journal will so indicate. Messages from the Senate."

F. Selcke: "Message from the Senate, by Mr. Wright, Secretary.

Mr. Speaker - I am directed to inform the House of Representatives the Senate has concurred with the House in the adoption of the following Joint Resolution, to wit:

House Joint Resolution No. 1, concurred in by the Senate

September 26, 1972. Kenneth Wright, Secretary. Mr. Speaker -

I am directed to inform the House of Representatives the Senate has concurred with the House in the adoption of the following Joint Resolution, to wit: House Joint Resolution

No. 2, concurred in by the Senate November 26, 1972.

Kenneth Wright, Secretary. No further messages."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right. Ah... just be at ease now while we wait the arrival of the Senate for the Joint Session of this First Special Session of the 77th General Assembly. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce Jamiel Mazief, who is Secretary to the Prime Minister of Jordan, while we are waiting on the Senate."

Jamiel Mazief: "Thank you. Thank you, very much. I am glad to be here in Springfield. I feel like it's my country, like my people and I feel very well here to be here, with all of you and good luck to all of you."

Doorkeeper: "Mr. Speaker, the Senate is at the door and are waiting admission."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right, admit the Honorable Body."



Mr. President, is there a quorum of the Senate present?"

President of Senate: "Mr. Speaker, ah... a quorum of the Senate is present."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right. A quorum of the House is present and the ah... Joint Session of the First Special Session is ah... now in Session. Resolutions."

F. Selcke: "House Joint Session Resolution No. 1. Hyde. Resolved that a Committee of 10 be appointed, 5 from the House by the Speaker of the House and 5 from the Senate, by the Committee on Committees of the Senate, to await upon his Excellency, Governor Richard B. Ogilvie. Invite him to address the Joint Assembly."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Gentleman from Cook, Mr. Hyde."

Hyde: "Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I move adoption of Joint Session Resolution No. 1."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All those in favor of the adoption of the Resolution, say 'aye'."

Members: "Aye."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Those opposed 'no'."

Members: "No."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "The 'ayes' have it and the Resolution is adopted. Pursuant to the Resolution, the following persons are appointed to call on the Governor."

F. Selcke: "On the part of the Senate, the Members are Senators Berning, Cherry, Merrit, O'Brien and Neiswander. For the House, Frank Smith, Hamilton, Pappas, Phil Collins, Duff."



Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Well, we have the Attorney General of the State of Illinois on the Rostrum, Bill Scott. Bill."

Bill Scott: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm very proud to be here today and appreciate the very tremendous support that I had in helping to be rehired to be the Lawyer for the People of this State. Thank you."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Ah.... Doorkeeper."

Doorkeeper: "Mr. Speaker, the Honorable Governor of the State of Illinois, Richard B. Ogilvie, awaits... and his Party waits admission to this Chamber."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Admit the Honorable Governor and his Party. Members of the Joint Session, the Governor of the State of Illinois, the Honorable Richard B. Ogilvie."

Hon. Richard B. Ogilvie: "Thank you. Thank you, very much. Thank you. Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, Attorney General Scott, distinguished Members of the Illinois General Assembly, and Ladies and Gentlemen. (See Attached Speech)."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Will the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, proceed."

Cecil Partee: "I move, Mr. Speaker, that the First Special Session, do now arise."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right. All those in favor of the gentleman's motion that the Joint Session of the First Special Session do now arise, say 'aye'."

Members: "Aye."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the gentleman's motion passes. All right, we are now back



in our Special Session. Introduction of Bills."

F. Selcke: "House Bill No. 1. C. L. McCormick. Bill for an Act to free Ad Volorem property taxes and to amend an Act in relation therewith. First Reading of the Bill."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Wait a minute. For what purpose does the gentleman from Johnson arise?"

McCormick: "Ah.... Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Bill.... This will be House Bill.... House Bill 1 and 2 will be.... the first bill will be the Bill that I'm introducing in behalf of the administration on the property tax freeze. I would invite any and all Members that would like to be co-sponsors to go down and put your name on those Bills. Thank you."

F. Selcke: "Ah... House Bill No 2. C. L. McCormick. An Act to authorize the general purpose units of local government to refund a portion of property tax collected for such units of local government each year. First Reading of the Bill." House Bill 3. Clabaugh. An Act to provide for the orderly, efficient and economic financing acquisition, construction by the State of Illinois a Capital School facilities and so forth. First Reading of the Bill. House Bill 4. Clabaugh. Appropriate 100 million dollars to Capital Development Board for school construction. First Reading of the Bill. Ah.... House Bill 6. Clabaugh. Established



in the State Treasurer's School Construction Fund. First Reading of the Bill. House Bill 6. Makes an appropriation to State Treasurer. First Reading of the Bill. House Bill 7. Clabaugh. Amends the Capital Development Board Act. First Reading of the Bill. House Bill 8. Clabaugh. An Act to amend Section 20 of Public Act 77-2013. First Reading of the Bill."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Gentleman from Champaign, Mr. Clabaugh, for what purpose do you rise?"

Clabaugh: "Mr. Speaker, Members of the House. You just heard the reading of six bills I believe, dealing with the distribution of funds and tax freeze on the school phase and the Bills are down, Bills, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, I believe and any member who would like to be a co-sponsor, ah... the Bills are down there and I would like to have them put your name on them."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Resolutions."

F. Selcke: "House Joint Resolution No. 4. Randolph. Resolved by the House of Representatives of the 77th General Assembly, First Special Session, State of Illinois, Senate concurring herein, that the Revenue Committee of the House of Representatives and the Revenue Division of the Public Finance Committee of the Senate are directed to hold joint hearing in relation to House Bills 1 through 8 and Senate Bills 6 and 7 of the First Special Session of the 77th General Assembly, and report their recommendations to the respective Houses by December 11, 1972. The Chairman



of the Revenue Committee of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Revenue Division of the Public Finance Committee of the Senate shall be co-chairmen of the joint hearings. Where are the Bills? Through inadvertence, House Bill...the Bill that was read as House Bill No. 8, actually belongs in the regular session and not in the Special Session, so we are deleting House Bill No. 8 of the Special Session of this General Assembly, but I'm telling you that so you won't be confused by the numbers. We have in the Special Session, House Bills 1 through 7 introduced, not 1 through 8. Now, we'll change that resolution to read 'House Bills 1 through 7' instead of '1 through 8'."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right. The gentleman from Cook, Mr. Randolph, with regard to House Resolution 4."

Randolph: "Ah.... Mr. Speaker, Members of the House. I move that the appropriate rule be suspended for immediate consideration of the House Joint Resolution 4."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right, is there objection? Hearing none, unanimous consent being given, ah... the appropriate Rule will be waived so that this Resolution may be heard at this time."

Randolph: "Now, Mr. Speaker, Members of the House. I urge that House Joint Resolution No. 4 be adopted."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Discussion? All those in favor of the adoption of... gentleman from Cook, Mr. Maragos."

Maragos: "Mr. Speaker, will the sponsor of the Resolution yield



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to a question?"

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Gentleman from Cook, Mr. Randolph."

Maragos: "Will the December 11 reporting date give us enough time to study these series of Bills?"

Randolph: "We will have time to study the Bills before we meet. We possibly will have the first meeting a week from today."

Maragos: "And how many sessions do you intend to have on this ah...."

Randolph: "I will not know until after ah... further discussion, say checking the Bills myself. Possibly, two, three. I'm hopeful we can get through in two maybe."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right, any further discussion? Gentleman from Cook, Mr. Downs."

Downs: "Mr. Speaker. Would the Chairman repeat what he said. I couldn't hear him. I think this is very important. I'm also a member of that committee."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Gentleman from Cook, Mr. Randolph."

Randolph: "This is a very important resolution. These are important Bills. We will give you time to study the Bills before we have the first meeting and you will receive seven day notice and we are hopeful that we can deplete our hearings in two to three days."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Any further discussion? All those in favor of the adoption of House Joint Resolution 4, say 'aye'."

Members: "Aye."



Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it, and the Resolution is adopted. - The gentleman from Cook, Mr. Hyde."

Hyde: "Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. You will recall yesterday that we adjourned our General Session until 1:00, so ah.... I'm shortly going to move to adjourn the Special Session, ah... and ah.... but don't go far away because we will be convening at 1:00 for our General Session. I now move, Mr. Speaker, that the Special Session of the General Assembly stand adjourned until the hour of 10:00 AM tomorrow morning."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right. All those in favor of the gentleman's motion, to adjourn the Special Session until 10:00 AM tomorrow morning, say 'aye'."

Members: "aye."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the Special Session is adjourned until 10:00 AM. All right. Hold it just a minute. Gentleman from Cook, Mr. Hyde."

Hyde: "Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. After more serious consideration, ah.... it has been determined that the suggestion of the distinguished Minority Leader that we adjourn the Special Session until the hour of 11:00 O'Clock tomorrow morning, rather than 10:00, so I now so move that the Special Session stand adjourned until the hour of 11:00 AM tomorrow morning."



Hon. W. Robert Blair: "All right. All those in favor of the gentleman's motion, say 'aye'."

Members: "Aye."

Hon. W. Robert Blair: "Opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it and the motion to adjourn the Special Session until 11:00 AM tomorrow morning passes. Now, we will have a 15 minute period and we'll be coming back in to our Regular Session at the hour of 1:00 PM. I do not think that the Regular Session will ah.... take too long. Now more than an hour I would think."



ADDRESS TO THE SPECIAL SESSION  
RICHARD B. OGILVIE  
GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
NOVEMBER 27, 1972.

On October 16th, I called this 77th General Assembly to meet in special session.

I issued that call because it was imperative that the governor and the Legislature act with dispatch to establish the guidelines for the distribution of federal revenue sharing monies.

Massive amounts of funds have just been made available to state and local governments in Illinois. Those funds must be put to work for the benefit of all the people of Illinois. We cannot permit any of these funds to be diverted from needs of the highest priority.

As I stated in my call for this special session, I regard property tax relief as the top priority for Illinois.

Nothing has changed since I asserted that priority.

Property taxes must be frozen. Every effective means must be used to begin a reduction in these taxes, which bear so heavily on property owners and renters alike. And every effort must be made to take this action as soon as possible.

This is not a partisan issue.

Every one of us is aware of the pressing need for property tax relief.

As I noted in October:

"The regressive nature of the property tax is becoming increasingly recognized. The tax is imposed without regard to a taxpayer's ability to pay and is often most oppressive on an individual homeowner or farmer.

"In fact, the ad valorem property tax has become a consumption tax of the most perverse sort. In the end, renters are victims of the property tax as well as owners. For example, we have found that typically, 25 per cent of gross rent constitutes indirect property taxes passed on to the renter by the landlord. This is equivalent to a 33 1/3 per cent sales tax on the consumption of housing. This is the same vicious bite that strikes the homeowner..."

I believe that there is no issue in Illinois government more pressing than property tax relief.

Accordingly, I urge that you begin your deliberations immediately, and proceed with dispatch.

I am confident that you will be able to meet on the common ground of the public interest.

To that end, legislation has been prepared which will freeze property taxes as fast as this can legally be accomplished. The freeze will benefit renters and owners alike.

Legislation has also been prepared to make possible an immediate rebate of property taxes by cities, counties, townships and villages, which will be the direct recipients of federal revenue sharing monies.

In your deliberations on this important bill, I urge you to provide that any relief afforded to owners be extended to their tenants. This should apply to residential as well as commercial tenants.

In October, I recommended that the bulk of the federal revenues which have been made available to state government be employed to increase our aid to schools.

In addition to a substantial increase in state funding for the operating costs of education--which will be possible in next year's budget--I have recommended a new program of state support for school construction costs.

Bills to carry out this recommendation have also been prepared and introduced for the special session.

This recommendation will advance state support for education--and provide state assistance in an area where many local schools have been burdened to the limit.

At the same time, it will enhance the top priority I have set for property tax relief. For there can be no more direct relief given the hard-pressed property taxpayer than to lessen the pressure which results from the dependence of school financing upon the property tax.

Most of the members of this General Assembly have already written a record of accomplishment in the field of tax reform and tax relief.

Many of you placed the public interest above political expediency in 1969 when I recommended passage of the Illinois Income Tax. The passage of that measure made it possible for Illinois to take a high place in the family of states.

It made possible the enormous increases in school aid and support for local government, which have kept property taxes from soaring far beyond the present unfair levels.

The members of the previous and present General Assemblies also made significant progress in actual and direct tax relief, achievements made possible only by enactment of the Illinois Income Tax.

Since 1969, we have enacted, or put into effect by executive action, the following specific reforms of the Illinois tax system:

--Exemption of one automobile and household furnishings from personal property taxation.

--Exemption of \$1,500 on homesteads owned by persons over the age of 65.

--Exemption from taxation of personal property used and produced in farming.

--For each taxpayer a \$5,000 deduction against the value of personal property subject to taxation.

--Establishment of "circuit breaker" protection and rebates on real property taxes for senior citizens and disabled persons.

--Exemption of food stamps from the sales tax.

I am confident that in the near future the United States Supreme Court will accept our position and eliminate completely--and forever--the Illinois personal property tax on all individuals.

The men and women who achieved this record can indeed take pride in their accomplishments. You have made history for Illinois. But that is the past.

Today, the challenges of this special session are themselves historic. They provide an opportunity to undertake fundamental--and deeply needed--reforms to effect property tax reduction and state relief for local school construction.

I am confident that you will respond to this challenge as you have to others. I am confident that you will consider the legislation we propose in a non-partisan fashion.

These proposals are far-reaching, but they should not be controversial.

Your responsibility is clear.

It calls for immediate consideration of the proposals submitted.

It calls for a judicious review of all of the implications involved in their passage.

We can achieve relief for property taxpayers without crippling the operations of state or local governments.

We can increase state aid to schools without any increase in present state taxes.

And we can do it in a short period of time with the cooperation of every member.

I appreciate the opportunity to address this special assembly.

I assure you of my cooperation in your deliberations on these most important matters.

And on behalf of the people of Illinois, I wish you well.

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