

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
90TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

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Speaker Granberg: "The hour of 11:30 having arrived the House will come to order. The Members shall be in their seats. We will be led in prayer today by the Reverend William N. Lovell, Stated Clerk Emeritus of the Presbyterian Church of Chicago. He's also with the Protestants for the Common Good of Chicago. Reverend Lovell is the guest of Representative Lauren Beth Gash. Guests in the Gallery may wish to rise for the invocation."

Reverend Lovell: "Let us pray. Almighty God, You who created the universe and all that is in it. The sun and the moon, and the stars, the heavens above and the earth beneath. Look down upon us this morning and humble us, Your mortal creatures. You are above and beyond us yet we know that You watch us and also that You care for us. Like a father who runs ahead to greet his prodigal son, like a mother who cares for her children through all of their troubles. You care for all the people of this state, O Lord for whom You have given us responsibility. The high and the mighty and lowliest. Remind us that the least among us especially need Your care and ours. Grant our Governor wisdom, farsightedness, courage, and compassion. Grant those same qualities to each of us here this morning to whom You have given the task of governing. Help us to know the gratitude of the public for the service we render. Enable us to attend to the responsibilities of our business O Lord with diligence and patience. Dealing with the critical issues of our time, among them the welfare of all, and education for all as we fuss with the inevitable details, negotiations, competing interests, compromises, political debts. Hold before our eyes somehow always the common good. Help us to act on the truth we know lest we lose it and fall back. Spare us and the people of this state from

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the cynicism that assumes that all of our actions are motivated by narrow self interest. Actions of our brothers and sisters here today as well as our own. Nudge each of us toward noble objectives. Even more Lord God, in all that we do may we be guided by the words of the prophet, let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream. Amen."

Speaker Granberg: "We will be led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Representative Moffitt."

Moffitt - 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 Granberg: "Roll Call for Attendance. Representative Cross."

Cross: "Hi, how you doing today, Mr. Speaker? Do you have a question?"

Speaker Granberg: "Do you the sufficient number of your Members there today?"

Cross: "We're all here today and thanks for asking."

Speaker Granberg: "Thank you, Representative Cross. Representative Hannig."

Hannig: "Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representative Shirley Jones is excused today. Would the record please reflect that?"

Speaker Granberg: "The record shall so reflect. Take the record, Mr. Clerk. On this question, there are 117 Members present, there being a sufficient quorum, the House is hereby convened. Mr. Clerk, Committee Reports."

Clerk Rossi: "Representative Currie, Chairman from the Committee on Rules to which the following Resolutions were referred, action taken on March 5, 1997. Reported the same back with

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the following recommendations: 'Be adopted' House Joint Resolution 14 and Joint Session Resolution #2. Representative Flowers, Chairman from the Committee on Health Care Availability to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 4, 1997. Reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'Do pass Short Debate' House Bill 111. House Bill 579 and House Bill 620. 'Do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 347 and House Bill 643. Representative Deering, Chairman from the Committee on Transportation and Motor Vehicles, to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 4, 1997. Reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'Do pass Short Debate' House Bill 331. House Bill 844. 'Do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 242. 'Do pass Standard Debate' House Bill 541. Representative Mautino, Chairman from the Committee on Insurance to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 4, 1997. Reported the same back with the following recommendation: 'Do pass as amended Standard Debate' House Bill 161. 'Do pass as amended Consent Calendar' House Bill 223 and House Bill 224. Representative Shirley Jones, Chairman from the Committee Public Utilities, to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 4, 1997. Reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'Do pass Short Debate' House Bill 709, 'Do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 707."

Speaker Granberg: "Supplemental Calendar announcements."

Clerk Rossi: "Supplemental Calendar #1, is being distributed."

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Black, for what reason do you arise?"

Black: "Yes, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. An Inquiry of the

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Chair. Pursuant to House Rule 9, the Calendar is getting a little crowded and it says that we will be given daily and weekly Orders of Business. I quote, 'The Speaker may establish a weekly Order of Business or a daily Order of Business, setting forth a date and approximate time at which specific measures may be considered by the House.' Are you aware of...will we be going to that today or tomorrow or is that still under advisement?"

Speaker Granberg: "Thank you, Mr. Black, for bringing that matter to our attention. It's very important and the rule provides that, in fact, that is permissive. And we will certainly do that in the future."

Black: "Do you... well, you have our permission to do that. Is that what you mean by permissive?"

Speaker Granberg: "I always seek your permission."

Black: "Thank you. Well we might expect that Order tomorrow so we know when we will be expected to pass certain Bills. I know, you probably will want to get through the Calendar today, if at all possible. Is that your intent?"

Speaker Granberg: "Do you have a Bill on the Calendar, Representative Black?"

Black: "One or two, I...who keeps track?"

Speaker Granberg: "Well, those will probably be moved with your permission."

Black: "Thank you."

Speaker Granberg: "On House Supplemental Calendar #1, appears House Joint Resolution 14. The Lady from Cook, Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. I move adoption of the Resolution, which merely requires us to convene in Joint Session today to hear the Governor's Budget Address."

Speaker Granberg: "On the Motion to adopt House Joint Resolution

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14, all in favor say 'aye', opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it, the Motion is hereby adopted. Committee Reports."

Clerk Rossi: "Representative Burke, Chairman from the Committee on Executive to which the following Bill was referred, action taken on March 5, 1997. Reported the same back with the following recommendation: 'Do pass Short Debate' House Bill 673."

Speaker Madigan: "The Chair recognizes the Doorkeeper for an announcement."

Doorkeeper: "Mr. Speaker. The Honorable President Philip and the Members of the Senate are at the door and seek admission to the Chamber."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Doorkeeper, please admit the Honorable Senators. As designated House Joint Resolution #14, the hour of 12:00 noon having arrived, the Joint Session of the 90th General Assembly will now come to order. Will the Members of the House and our esteemed guests from the Senate please, take their seats. Mr. Clerk, is a quorum of the House present?"

Clerk Rossi: "A quorum of the House is present."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. President, is a quorum of the Senate present in this Chamber?"

President Philip: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A quorum of the Senate is present."

Speaker Madigan: "There being a quorum of the House and a quorum of the Senate in attendance, this Joint Session is convened. At this time we would like to announce certain dignitaries who have joined us today for the speech. First there is the Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Bob Kustra. Bob Kustra. The Secretary of State, former Speaker of the House, George Ryan. The State Comptroller, Loleta Didrickson. The State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka.

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Attorney General, Jim Ryan. The Auditor General, Bill Holland. The State Superintendent of Education, Dr. Joseph Spagnolo. The Chair recognizes the Majority Leader, Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Would the Clerk, please read House Joint Session Resolution #2?"

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Rossi: "Joint Session Resolution #2, 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 President of the Senate to await upon the Honorable Governor of the State of Illinois and invite him to address the Joint Assembly."

Speaker Madigan: "Representative Currie, moves for the adoption of the Resolution. All those in favor signify by saying, 'ayes', all those opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it, the Resolution is adopted. Pursuant to the Resolution, the following are appointed as a committee to escort the Governor. And the appointments from the House would be Representative Burke, Representative Morrow, Representative Younge, Representative Hassert, Representative Hoeft. President Philip."

President Philip: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Senate Members are Senator Bomke, Senator Meyers, Senator Radogno, Senator Trotter, and Senator Welch."

Speaker Madigan: "Will the committee of escorts please convene at the rear of the Chamber and await his Excellency the Governor? The Chair recognizes the Doorkeeper for an announcement."

Doorkeeper: "Mr. Speaker, the Honorable Governor of the State of Illinois, Jim Edgar and his party wish to be admitted to

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this Chamber."

Speaker Madigan: "Admit the Honorable Governor. Members shall be in their chairs. Members shall be in their chairs. Mr. Governor."

Governor Edgar: "Speaker Madigan, President Philip, my fellow Constitutional officers, Members of the 90th General Assembly and my fellow citizens of Illinois. Today I am pleased to present a balanced budget that will move this state forward on many important fronts. It will allow us to do even more for young children because we no longer have to worry about old debts. The billion dollar backlog that resulted from the excesses of the '80's is gone. The Medicaid Monster has been tamed. We are paying our bills on time. We have an adequate cash balance. In fact, we can now pay back our final lingering obligation, \$36 million that had been borrowed from the Road Fund years ago and has been on the books longer than I have been Governor. And we can use those funds on road projects throughout Illinois, as motorists of our state expected. Welfare reforms, which we initiated several years ago in Illinois, have moved tens of thousands of public aid recipients into jobs, cutting the caseloads. State government has been streamlined, downsized, and made much more efficient and effective. The financial analysts who lowered our bond ratings a few years ago have raised it. Illinois is back fiscally. The debts of the past are history, but the lessons from past excesses live on. The fiscal discipline must continue. We must live within our means. We cannot spend money we do not have. Our resources are substantial, but there are limits. So we must set priorities, as we have and we will. We must continue to put children first. Providing good health care for infants, toddlers and

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pregnant women. Encouraging and guiding young parents to become better parents. Responding quickly and effectively to abuse and neglect. Expediting adoptions. Assuring affordable day care, especially for moms moving off of welfare. Providing special assistance to kids with special needs, long before they enter our schools. Properly and fairly funding our school and insisting upon quality education. All this and more we must do for the children of Illinois, for their futures and ours. Children must be our top priority. But not our only priority. We must expand and intensify our initiatives to move people from welfare to work. We must build and staff enough prisons to assure that dangerous people are put and kept behind bars, with minimal risk to prison guards. We must help communities throughout Illinois to combat gang violence, drugs and domestic violence. We must expand and bolster our efforts to combat elderly abuse and to help senior citizens remain in their homes as long as possible. We must build on the major initiatives we have taken to preserve and promote our natural resources and to protect our environment. We must persist with the sweeping reform of our mental health system, continuing to put more dollars into community-based services while providing quality care at our state hospitals. We must continue honoring the commitment we made three years ago to protect the integrity of our public pension systems by properly funding them. And now the specifics. I have earmarked more than half of the new resources available to us to increase state funding for our schools. Most of that increased funding, \$230 million, will go to elementary and secondary education, meaning we will have increased funding by more than a billion dollars for elementary and secondary education in



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only five years. By providing that funding and demanding from educators that it be used effectively and efficiently, we have improved our schools. But even with that infusion of additional dollars, the Illinois system for funding our schools remains fundamentally unfair. As I pointed out in my State of the State address, nearly 60 cents of every dollar spent on elementary and secondary education in Illinois comes from the local property tax, That is not fair. Seven hundred thousand school kids in Illinois are not funded at an adequate level. That is not fair either. In this budget I have targeted more than \$100 million in new money to address the inequities among school districts. It is what I believe we can afford under the existing school funding system without neglecting other critical needs in education and human services. But it is clearly is not enough to deal with the inequities in per pupil funding from one school district to another. It is not enough to assure that we no longer have 700 thousand children in this state being treated unfairly. And it is not enough to allow us to substantially reduce local property taxes in Illinois and replace them with state dollars. We need more than a billion dollars to address the inequities and the unfairness. And that will take courage and statesmanship from all of us. It will take making good on the commitment that I and almost every Legislator here have made to the people of Illinois, the commitment to reduce reliance on local property taxes and make school funding fairer. In my State of the State Address I urged that we enact comprehensive funding reform this year. Since then I have been impressed with the willingness of the legislative leaders and most of the Members to give serious and thoughtful consideration to

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this issue. Starting tomorrow morning, my office will convene a working group with representatives of the four legislative caucuses. That group will begin specific discussions that hopefully will lead to the consensus we need to enact this badly needed and long overdue reform. Meanwhile, as I indicated earlier, we cannot shortchange other pressing needs in education. Among other things, this budget adds \$15 million to technological innovation we launched two years ago in elementary and secondary schools. That will pave the way for high-speed access to the Internet in all public schools. It will help even the poorest school districts tap into new and exciting learning opportunities. Furthermore, through our successful Jobs for Illinois Graduates program, we will expand funding that provides special one-on-one counseling to high school seniors who might fail without it. In addition, for the fourth year in a row, we have fully funded the Board of Higher Education's budget request. More than \$116 million in new funding will go to our colleges and universities. Nearly 20 million of those new dollars will be devoted to scholarships, making more than \$310 million available to make higher education more affordable in Illinois. Forty million of those new dollars will go to public universities to improve undergraduate education, minority student achievement, distance-learning and many other important programs. We will provide nearly \$10 million more for workforce training and advanced technology efforts through our network of community colleges. And we have earmarked an additional \$15 million to continue development of our higher education technology network. But regardless of how adequately and fairly we fund kindergarten through college, we will fail our children and the future of this state if

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we do not pay special attention to babies and toddlers. Studies of the brain have proven that the intellectual potential and emotional well-being of a child are dramatically impacted before birth and in the first three years of life. We now know that babies and toddlers need stimulation, as well as, love and stability to foster their development. They need to be talked to. They need to be read to. Without intellectual and visual stimulation, they are cheated of potential. Moreover, the sooner that problems in development are detected and addressed, the better the odds that they can be overcome or at least compensated for. We know much more now about the brain development of our grandchildren than we did about the development of our children. But knowing is not enough. We need to respond, particularly when there are indications that children are at risk of not realizing their full potential. And if we don't respond, too many of our kids are going to be doomed to failure before they set one foot inside of a classroom. We cannot afford to fail and we will not fail in Illinois. This budget commits more than \$1 billion to nurturing children, particularly children at risk, from before birth through their preschool years. It includes more than \$220 million for initiatives designed to prevent infant deaths and low birth weight and to teach parenting skills, particularly to young parents. It includes \$55 million, a 77 percent increase, in Early Intervention programs, focused on kids with disabilities that delay and complicate their development. This budget includes an \$11 million increase for preschool programs, meaning that we will reach and teach twice the number of preschoolers being served when I took office six years ago. This budget doubles funding to improve care for

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mothers and babies in rural areas. This budget triples funding for Secretary of State Ryan's excellent family literacy program, which is helping adults to help themselves and their at-risk children. Overall, this budget substantially expands and bolsters our efforts to prevent problems by reaching out to and guiding disadvantaged and at-risk families. I am pleased that Illinois, which had ranked among the bottom five states when it came to immunizing two-year-olds, a few years ago, now ranks in the top 10 among our 50 states. But we can't let up. We need to make sure kids are immunized. They need the proper nourishment, care and nurturing. Parents need to be counseled on how to handle stress and fatigue, so they won't make victims of their own children. Abuse and neglect stems much more often from ignorance and weariness than from malice. I am convinced that most parents want to be good parents. But many of them need our help. And we must help. As a matter of humanity, and because the cost to us in human terms and in tax dollars will be far greater if we don't act than if we do. A potential Jane Addams could become a high school dropout if we don't act. Other potential costs are even more alarming. Our prisons are full of people who were abused and neglected as children, victims who made victims of others...killers...sex offenders...muggers starved for cash to feed their drug habits. Our communities are going to be safer for all of us only, only if our homes are safer for children. The more than \$1 billion investment we are making in the youngest of our citizens is sensible. It's responsible. It's right. Without the \$350 million for day care I have included, a \$70 million increase this year, welfare reform simply wouldn't work. If mothers on welfare

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can't leave their children with responsible, affordable caregivers, they can't leave welfare. What's more, we can't let them. It does no good to steer moms off of welfare if their babies and toddlers are going to suffer because of inadequate care. Moreover, without adequate day care, we are going to force the working poor onto the welfare rolls because they cannot hold jobs and provide proper care to their children. So we must and we will have adequate, affordable day care in Illinois. And we're going to do a better job of providing many other services for kids when the new Department of Human Services comes into being July 1. Too often children and their families have been served by several agencies and several case managers, with little regard for the whole picture. The new department will run programs that have been administered by a half dozen different agencies. Services to the needy will be better coordinated. We also will save some administrative costs, and the savings will be plowed into prevention initiatives to serve young children. One case manager instead of several. Better coordination. Less administrative cost. More prevention. All will come with that agency that is at the core of the most sweeping state government reorganization since the early part of this century. And no challenge it faces is more urgent and more compelling than helping tens of thousands leave the welfare rolls and become self-reliant. That means working more closely with communities to generate more involvement and decision-making by those closest to the challenges. It means working more closely with the private sector to open up job opportunities for welfare recipients. It means developing and implementing strategies to meet the needs of recipients making the transition and employers willing to

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help them do it. Transportation to and from work. Day care. Mentoring. Targeted job training assistance. Last year alone more than 31 thousand families left welfare for jobs in Illinois, among the more than 80 thousand families that have made the move in our states since 1993. But we need to move thousands more welfare recipients to payrolls in order to meet our goals for the next few years. The state will support training to help prepare welfare clients for the workplace, and we can assist with transportation needs. Hundreds of welfare clients are ready to go to work today. Thousands more will be ready within weeks in counties throughout Illinois. But the state can only do so much by itself. These welfare recipients need suitable jobs if they are to make the leap to self-sufficiency. That is why a few weeks ago I asked dozens of Illinois' largest employers to join us in this statewide effort, and help all Illinoisans by providing jobs. The response has been gratifying. Several major Illinois employers have committed jobs to the effort...AT&T, Sears, Spiegel, United Airlines, Commonwealth Edison, Helene Curtis and Dominick Finer Food Stores...just to name a few. I applaud and commend them for being good corporate citizens, and I urge others to join them. But hiring welfare recipients is also good business. Don't take my word for it. Ask executives at UPS and Marriott International. Those companies now have extensive experience in hiring welfare recipients and retraining them as good productive workers. It will take an ongoing public-private dialogue and an unflagging spirit of cooperation to move thousands more families from welfare to independence. The Department of Human Services also will manage, direct and coordinate our programs to improve community services for people with mental illness or

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disabilities. Again, the thrust is to make our clients as independent as possible. For example, in dealing with mental illness, we're devoting nearly \$10 million more to the kinds of community services that have already helped state hospitals cut admissions in half. Thousands and thousands of Illinoisans with mental illness or disabilities are now finding treatment and care in their home communities. They're among friends and loved ones. Many of them are able to work and maintain their own homes. Indeed, those who have been treated in state mental health hospitals are far less likely to return because of the followup and prevention programs now available to them in their communities. Self-sufficiency. Independence. Community-based services. Prevention programs. All of these will be staples of the new Department of Human Services. Meanwhile, a streamlined and more focused Department of Children and Family Services can concentrate on child abuse and neglect. Allegations of abuse and neglect must be investigated quickly and thoroughly when the allegations are true, the children must be removed from harm's way. Good foster care must be available. If families are capable of reuniting, services should be provided to help them to do so safely. But if they aren't capable of reuniting, children should be permanently placed as quickly as possible in loving, nurturing homes. The tragedies still jolt us and outrage us. But I believe DCFS is doing a significantly better job of responding to abuse and neglect. We have moved thousands more children from foster care into permanent homes in recent years. Our subsidized guardianship program will place hundreds more children in secure homes, often with relatives, without terminating parents' rights. By encouraging more foster

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homes and homes of relatives to be licensed, we've nearly doubled the number of caregivers that are adequately trained to help children in need, and we've made those homes better places for children to live. Adoption numbers are also rising. In fact, we've set new records in adoptions in each of the last three years. Through adoptions and subsidized guardianship, we will place 28 hundred more children in safe, loving homes this year...and 4 thousand more next year. We've invested hundreds of millions of dollars in the last few years to improve our response to abuse and neglect, and we will continue to do what is necessary for the most vulnerable of our citizens. At the same time, this budget provides more resources to help hundreds of thousands of our state's oldest citizens live with dignity and remain at home. We're providing millions of new dollars in in-home services and other community-based programs. For example 75 hundred more seniors will receive home-delivered meals because we will more than double the amount the state is currently providing. We also are increasing funding for homemaking and other in-home services. And we are bolstering our efforts to respond to a growing number of elderly abuse reports. Furthermore, in three state Veterans Homes, Manteno, LaSalle and Quincy, we are funding specialized care centers and more than 100 additional beds for veterans with Alzheimer's disease. On another front...the Department of Public Health is providing millions of additional dollars to support thousands of Illinoisans who rely on the AIDS Drug Assistance Program. This program allows recipients to continue working and leading productive lives. Otherwise, many of them could lose their jobs and join the welfare rolls, where they would qualify



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for the drugs and receive cash assistance as well. The investment is obviously worthwhile, for the AIDS patients and for the taxpayers. Yet even as we invest in our human resources, we must continue investing in our natural resources. As we seek to build a better future for children and families throughout Illinois, we must not overlook our responsibility to protect and improve our environment. Our air, soil and water are cleaner today than even a decade ago. But we are committed to making them cleaner still. Last month Lieutenant Governor Kustra and I called on federal officials to recognize the Illinois River Basin as a National Priority Area. The idea is to create a partnership and follow a long-term plan to clean up the river and thousands of miles of its tributaries. Soil loss, silt buildup and pollution are clogging this vital transportation artery through the heart of Illinois. Through our Illinois River Initiative, we can work together with landowners into the early 21st century, to stem erosion, reduce runoff and revitalize wetlands on hundreds of thousands of acres. We have earmarked \$2 million in this budget to attract the federal dollars we need this year to implement the 15-year effort to conserve this crucial state and national asset. We also will provide \$5 million in this budget to help the City of Chicago address the leakage problem to conserve water in the Chicago Harbor. We have added \$3 million in this budget for agricultural research projects to make farms more productive, improve food quality and prevent diseases. We will add more than \$20 million for our Conservation 2000 Initiative. Through that initiative, we are helping landowners conserve and cleanup soil and water. And Conservation 2000 is also allowing us to manage lands, such

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as the 15 thousand Site M area in Cass County, for public use. Environmental protection goes hand in hand with our economic development efforts as we seek to help communities and their businesses expand and create jobs. As part of that commitment, we will make available more than \$200 million in state and federal funds to help local governments finance improvements to wastewater treatment facilities. And we will provide \$56 million more to improve the quality of drinking water in communities throughout Illinois. Clean water and safe sewage treatment are vital components of the state's infrastructure network for economic development. But companies also need well-trained workers. So, we will add more than \$2 million this year to our Industrial Training Program, to help nearly 2 thousand Illinois businesses train and re-train more than 33,000 workers. Another vital component in promoting economic development is our ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe and modern transportation system. Later this spring my administration will outline in detail a budget of nearly \$5 billion for roads, bridges, passenger trains, airports and mass transit throughout our state. But with that good news comes some sobering news. State revenues for bridge and highway repairs and construction are declining. This year's budget for roads and bridges tops \$1 billion. But the budget is down more than 12 percent from last year. Revenues are dropping off and inflation is cutting in. In 1989, the Motor Fuel Tax was increased. At the time, everybody understood it would probably fund a five-year program of extensive road and bridge improvements. We've stretched it out for eight years, by capturing an extraordinary amount of federal dollars and making the Department of Transportation leaner

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and more efficient. But by next year, unless additional resources become available, we will be unable to maintain our current road program. New construction funds will dry up. Projects will grind to a halt, idling construction workers across the state. The maintenance and repair backlog will grow. Our economic development gains have been built in large measure on the quality of our transportation network in Illinois. We cannot afford to shun our stewardship of this extensive and valuable system of roads and bridges. I agree with Members of the General Assembly that this is an issue worth examining this year. And I will ask the Legislative Leaders to meet with me next week to assess whether it is wise and doable to increase revenues for transportation this spring. Meanwhile, we will continue committing substantial funds to make our roads, streets and neighborhoods safer. This budget includes a \$5 million increase to pay for nearly 200 additional state police officers coming on board during this fiscal year, primarily to bolster our road patrols. Also included is more than \$2 million to help Attorney General Ryan launch new initiatives to combat gangs. The funds will be used to mobilize communities throughout the state by implementing programs developed by the Attorney General and other members of the Governor's Commission on Gangs. In addition, victims of crime, particularly women, will benefit from a \$6 and a half million initiative funded by the Criminal Justice Information Authority. It will send dollars to communities and not-for-profit groups that provide counseling, safe shelter and other programs. Over the next year we will fully fund the operations of new prison facilities brought on line this year to provide more than 22 hundred new beds for adults and juveniles.

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Moreover, the super-max prison in Southern Illinois will be open by next winter to house our state's most unmanageable inmates. We also will expand the 100-bed military style boot camp for juveniles at Murphysboro and we will build a new 400-bed juvenile center. And we will begin building adult prison facilities in the next year for more than 57 hundred additional inmates, including a \$95-million maximum-security prison I'm proposing in this budget. Two weeks ago this General Assembly broke a two-year gridlock to support prison construction and other essential capital projects. I commend you and thank you for the bipartisanship. It led to approval of the bond authorization Bill covering projects for the past two years. The budget I'm proposing today includes nearly \$440 million in new bond projects for the coming year. The new funding includes \$126 million for capital projects at colleges and universities throughout the state, and tens of millions of dollars more to help us maintain and improve other state facilities. And we've provided \$5 million to help the Chicago Symphony and the Lyric Opera rebuild their facilities so the entire state can Benefit from the tourism dollars they bring in and the quality of life enhancement they provide. We are able to accomplish what I have laid out in this budget message because we have been fiscally responsible. We have set priorities. We have exercised fiscal discipline. Under the leadership of Treasurer Topinka, we have maximized the return on our investments. We have used technology to make government more efficient, more effective and more accountable. Indeed, I believe we must employ state-of-the-art technology to keep us on track fiscally. So I am pleased Comptroller Didrickson and our office are working together vastly improve our fiscal

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management system. It will be noted what two Constitutional Offices got applauded for and which two didn't. I don't want to say anything about it. As I stand here, more Illinoisans than ever are working. Our unemployment rate has been below the national average for three years, a rare occurrence in recent history in Illinois. Private firms in this state have created hundreds of thousands of new jobs since 1991 because we've created a climate in which business can thrive and expand. This sustained prosperity has been accompanied by advances in several areas. More accountability for our schools. Greater community involvement in problem-solving. Tens of thousands of Illinoisans moving from welfare to work. But we can't stand still. While maintaining fiscal discipline, we need to invest even more in the future of this state. This budget is a straightforward document. It provides a blueprint for continued growth...a path to greater independence...a message of hope and of promises kept...for all Illinoisans. It builds on the important work we have done together. It maximizes resources to address our state's most crucial priorities. It allocates fairly and compassionately. It focuses on our future, our children and families, our environment, our health, our safety and our economy. It encourages each and every resident of our state to realize his or her own potential. It urges Illinoisans in every community and neighborhood to work side by side to make a difference in the lives of others in our state. It draws upon the collective strength of our great state, as we together shape a new era of opportunity, prosperity and dreams come true for all Illinoisans. Thank you very much."

Speaker Madigan: "Will the Committee of Escort please come

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forward to escort the Governor from the Chamber. Committee of Escort please come forward to escort the Governor. The President of the Senate is recognized for a Motion."

President Philip: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move the Joint Session do now arise."

Speaker Madigan: "The President of the Senate has moved that the Joint Session do now arise. All those in favor signify by saying, 'aye'. All those opposed signify by saying, 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it and the Joint Session will now arise. Representative Granberg in the Chair."

Speaker Granberg: "On page 2 of the Calendar, appears House Bill 8. Representative Moffitt. Out of the record. House Bill 29, Representative Dart. Would you like to move that Bill to Third Reading, Sir? Representative Tom Dart. House Bill 29. Out of the record. House Bill 31, Representative Steve Davis. Steve Davis, do you wish to have your Bill moved to the Order of Third Reading? The notes have been filed. Out of the record. House Bill 70, Representative Fritchey. Representative Fritchey, the Gentleman from Cook. Out of the record. House Bill 78, Representative McGuire. Mr. Clerk, read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 78, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Vehicle Code. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 87, Representative Dart. Out of the record. House Bill 131, Representative Novak. Is the Gentleman from Kankakee in the Chamber? Would you like to have your Bill moved to Third Reading, Representative? The notes have been filed. House Bill 131, Mr. Clerk. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 131, a Bill for an Act to amend the

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Illinois Public Aid Code. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 152. Out of the record. House Bill 153, Representative Wood. Would you like to move that Bill? Out of the record, Mr. Clerk. House Bill 70, Representative Fritchey. Mr. Clerk, read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 70, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Controlled Substances Act. Amendment #1, was adopted in committee? No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed. Second Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 72, Representative Fritchey. Mr. Clerk, read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 72, a Bill for an Act to amend the Private Detective Private Alarm, Private Security, and Locksmith Act of 1993. Second Reading of this House Bill. Amendment #1, was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 168, on page 3 of the Calendar, Representative Lang. Out of the Record. House Bill 169, on the Order of Lang. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 169, a Bill for an Act in relation to certain games of chance. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 201, Representative Andrea Moore. Representative Moore, would you like to have the Bill called? Representative Moore. Out of the record."

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House Bill 214, Representative Brunsvold. Is Representative Brunsvold, in the Chamber? Would the Gentleman like his Bill moved? Mr. Clerk, read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 214, a Bill for an Act to amend the Emergency Medical Services Systems Act. Amendment #1, was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 216, Representative Brunsvold. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 216, a Bill for an Act concerning the local regulation of firearms. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 233, Representative Dart. Representative Dart. Is the Gentleman in the Chamber? On the Order of Dart, House Bill 233. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 233, a Bill for an Act in relation to rights and remedies. No Committee Amendments."

Speaker Granberg: "Out of the Record. House Bill 282, Representative Woolard. Representative Woolard. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 282, a Bill for an Act to amend the Grain Code. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for consideration. No Motions filed. Second Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. Mr. Clerk, House Bill 233, the Bill was just read a second time, is that correct? Read the House Bill 233. We'll move it to third."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 233, a Bill for an Act in relation to rights and remedies. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for consideration. No



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Motions filed. Second Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 283, Representative Woolard. Does the Gentleman wish to have the Bill called? Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk. (Sic - House Bill) 283, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 283, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Farm Development Act. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed. Second Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 284, Representative Woolard. Mr. Clerk, read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 284, a Bill for an Act to amend the Agriculture Fair Act. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 285, Representative Woolard. Mr. Clerk, read the Bill."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 285, a Bill for an Act to amend the Livestock Management Facilities Act. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 287, Representative Cross. Do you wish to have the Bill called?"

Cross: "Can I ask an Inquiry of the Chair? I have an Amendment that's been filed. Mr. Speaker, could you tell me the status of that Amendment? I know it was filed yesterday."

Speaker Granberg: "Mr. Clerk, the status of the Amendment? Representative Cross, it has been referred to the Rules Committee."

Cross: "Is there a Rules Committee meeting set today? I just want to know if I can go ahead and get this out of rules?"

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Speaker Granberg: "Mr. Cross, there has not been a Rules Committee scheduled for today."

Cross: "Inquiry again of either the Chair or the Clerk. Will this be sent from Rules to the...it's more of a technical Amendment, from Rules to the Floor, from Rules to the committee. Do you know?"

Speaker Granberg: "Mr. Cross, I do not know that, if you wish to have the Bill moved to third then we could bring it back to second for purposes of your Amendment."

Cross: "As much as I would love for it to go to third, Mr. Speaker. I need the Amendment at the request of one of your Members. So, I'm going to keep it on second, see if we can get it out of Rules. Thanks."

Speaker Granberg: "Thank you, Representative Cross. House Bill 288, Representative Deering. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 288, a Bill for an Act concerning vehicles. Second Reading of this House Bill. Amendment #1, was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. On the Order of Lang, House Bill 291. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 291, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Purchasing Act. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 297, Representative Lang. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 297, a Bill for an Act to amend the Code of Civil Procedure. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 320, Representative

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Deering. Does the Gentleman from Washington County wish to have his Bill called? Is Representative Deering in the Chamber? Out of the record. House Bill 380, Representative Smith. Representative Smith. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 380, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Vehicle Code. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed. Second Reading of this House Bill."

Clerk Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 473, Representative Capparelli. Representative Capparelli, would you like to have the Bill moved to Third Reading? Mr. Clerk read the Bill?"

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 473, a Bill for an Act to amend the Code of Civil Procedure. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Clerk Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 475, Representative Deering. Is the Gentleman in the Chamber? Out of the record. House Bill 522, Representative Bugielski. Representative Bugielski, would you like to have your Bill moved to Third Reading, Sir? Out of the record. House Bill 540, Representative Lang. Would Representative Lang, like to have the Bill called? Mr. Clerk, read the Bill for Representative Lang."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 540, a Bill for an Act to amend the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Act. Amendment #1, was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed. Second Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 546, Representative Schakowsky. Mr. Clerk, read the Bill."

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Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 546, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. On the Order of Lang, House Bill 614. Out of the record. Back to page 2, of the Calendar. Representative Moffitt, House Bill 8. Do you want that Bill held on second still? House Bill 29, Representative Dart. Do you want that held on second still? Out of the record. House Bill 31, Representative Davis. Representative Steve Davis. Representative Steve Davis, in the rear of the Chamber, do you wish to have House Bill 31 moved to the Order of Third Reading? Out of the record. On page 7 of the Calendar appears House Bill 229, Representative Currie. The Lady from Cook."

Currie: "Thank you. Should the Clerk, read the Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "House Bill 229, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 229, an Act concerning fees of the Clerk of the House. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you. This is the measure that would bring the statues in line with the changes in our Rules this Session. As you remember, our Rules provide that Members may offer Congratulatory Resolutions but we were anxious that those Congratulatory Resolutions not increase costs for Illinois taxpayers. What this legislation does is to authorize statutorily the imposition of the fee through Rules promulgated by the Clerk of the House. I would be happy to answer your questions and would appreciate your support for the Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Thank you, Representative Currie. This Bill is on Third Reading, it is for final passage. Any

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questions? The Gentleman from Kendall, Representative Cross."

Cross: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to House Rules, I'm joined by seven of my colleagues. I'd like to take this off Short Debate. Do you recognize that request?"

Speaker Granberg: "So removed."

Cross: "Thank you. Will the Sponsor yield, please for some questions?"

Speaker Granberg: "She indicates she will."

Cross: "Representative, it was a little loud over here and it's actually a little loud in the Chamber. We are having a good deal of difficulty hearing what this Bill...or hearing how you described this Bill. Could you repeat for us what the purpose of this Bill is, or what it does?"

Currie: "As you remember in our House Rules, Members are permitted to file Congratulatory Resolutions. But the Rules specify that Members who do so, will be charged a fee. This legislation gives statutory authority for the Clerk to promulgate the Rules that will enable us to pay those fees should any of us wish to offer Congratulatory Resolutions."

Cross: "Will the Speaker...Representative Currie, who's going to determine the cost of the Resolutions?"

Currie: "The Clerk will do that under this legislation and the Clerk has begun some preliminary analyses already."

Cross: "Mr. Speaker, I'm having a hard time hearing from over here...over here at all."

Granberg: "Representative, your point is well taken. Ladies and Gentlemen. Ladies and Gentlemen, this Bill is on Third Reading. Could you give your attention to Representative Currie, please?"

Cross: "Has anyone determined the costs that the Clerk will have

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to assess the people?"

Currie: "My understanding is that it is likely to be somewhere in the neighborhood of \$15 to \$18."

Cross: "Fifteen to \$18."

Currie: "That's a preliminary estimate and it includes the cost of the Legislative Reference Bureau drafters as well as the costs of the covers and the Clerkly activities."

Cross: "Is that per page, Representative?"

Currie: "No, it would be per Resolution. As I say, the analysis is preliminary but it looks as if it would be per Resolution."

Cross: "Representative, I guess I'm a little confused. Why didn't you just do this pursuant to House Rules? Is this a Bill that's going to need Senate approval as well as House approval and signature by the Governor?"

Currie: "Yes, but it doesn't affect the Senate because it doesn't comport with their Rules and would I imagine that they would be willing to give us a helping hand as we always stand ready to help the Senate."

Cross: "I guess, I'm also confused about what office, or which budget is going to be paying for the cost of the Resolution. Is this going to come out of particular Members district office allowance budgets or is it going to come out of the Clerk's Office budget? And if it comes out of the Clerk's Office budget or allowance, why do we need this Bill?"

Currie: "Well, first of all it does not come out of the Clerk's Office budget."

The point was to follow a practice that you set in your Rules in the 89th General Assembly. And that is, we did not think it appropriate to charge taxpayers additional dollars above what they

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are paying today so that we could offer Congratulatory Resolutions. Although, the Rules of this Assembly, for this Chamber, restore the opportunity to introduce Congratulatory Resolutions, the guarantee is that that will not create additional costs for the folks back home. So, under the Rules and under this proposed statute, Members would pay the costs determined by the Clerk of introduction and passage of a Congratulatory Resolution. They could pay out of their own pockets. Members could pay out of their district allotments. They could pay presumably out campaign funds but the cost will not be paid by increases in the costs of the Clerk's Office."

Cross: "Well, in the event...is the Clerk going to be held accountable under either this Rule or the House Rules, of the money he or she collects and then spends on the Resolutions? How are we going to know what the Clerk's...how the Clerk's handling the money?"

Currie: "Well, the Clerk will provide procedures for the handling of the money so we can make sure that the dollars are accounted for adequately."

Cross: "I don't...I'm not aware that your Bill provides that. Is there a mechanism in place that provides for an audit of these funds as well as a report back to the General Assembly, either pursuant this Rule or...pursuant to this Bill or through the House Rules?"

Currie: "The money would go into the Clerk's fund, the Clerk's fund and of course that money is appropriated by us through the Legislature. So, I think that would be the place where the accounting would occur."

Cross: "Has anyone determined, I mean we're hearing some figures a variety or wide range of numbers here of the actual cost of preparing a Resolution. You mentioned some numbers earlier."

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Currie: "The Clerk has been doing some preliminary looks at that question and going into the calculation would be the amount of time spent by people in the Legislative Reference Bureau, in the Printing Unit, in the Journal Room, and those costs as I say, look as if they would be somewhere in the neighborhood of 15 to 18 perhaps \$20 per Resolution."

Cross: "Mr. Speaker, I have another question, but while I'm being recognized, we'd like a verification on this Bill as well."

Speaker Granberg: "The Gentlemen asks for a verification."

Cross: "If the requisite votes are there. Representative..."

Speaker Granberg: "So recognized, Representative Cross."

Cross: "Thank you. Representative, will this also include factoring of costs for the certificates that we've been using over the last couple of years?"

Currie: "No, this deals only with Congratulatory Resolutions drafted by LRB and adopted on the Floor."

Cross: "And will the Clerk's Office bear the cost of the certificates then?"

Currie: "I believe that each of us has the opportunity to do our own certificates. So, presumably we are bearing those costs."

Cross: "Well, since...I guess the next question, over the years we've had the Clerk's Office prepare these Resolutions and the Clerk's Office has paid for those Resolutions out of their budget. Well, as a result of the passage of this Bill, assuming the Senate passes and the Governor's signs it, mean a reduction in the budget of the Clerk's Office?"

Currie: "Well, Representative remember that for the last two years the Clerk has not performed these functions. I can only assume that the budget in the current fiscal year reflects the fact that this was not among the Clerk's responsibilities. So, I would not anticipate a reduction



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because of this function in next year's budget. It's a function that has not been preformed by the Clerk's Office for the last two years. Perhaps two years ago you can point me to a reduction you proposed in the Clerk's budget since that function no longer was preformed there."

Cross: "Are we going to have to hire, will the Clerk's Office have to hire additional staff to take care of this?"

Currie: "No additional staff in the Clerk's Office."

Cross: "How about additional office equipment to prepare the Resolutions either in terms of fax or copy machines or equipment to produce them?"

Currie: "The Clerk at this point believes there will be no need for additional equipment."

Cross: "All right, I'm going...that's all the questions that I have for now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Granberg: "Thank you, Representative Cross. The Gentleman from Madison, Representative Stephens."

Stephens: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With all due respect, Sir, I think that we ought to look around and see what's taking place. The way the House is being run, and I don't mean to be disrespectful, but we have press interviews taking place on the House Floor and you've called the House to order to deal with the business of the state. We are on Third Reading, a final passage of a Bill from this Chamber. There are lobbyists on the Floor. There seems to be literally mass confusion going on..."

Speaker Granberg: "Excuse me, Representative. Representative Stephens, would you indicate who the lobbyists are? They are not permitted on the Floor."

Stephens: "Mr. Speaker, I would not want to embarrass someone to that point and I know that I'm treading on touchy ground here. But, however, I'm suggesting that we take a recess."

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If you simply look around the room, you'll see that you have press interviews taking place. I'm not going to embarrass them by noting their names. I don't want to name the lobbyists that are here. That is your job to clear the Floor and to bring the Members to the Chamber to deal with this important legislation."

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Stephens, Sir, I've looked over the Chamber there are no lobbyists on the Floor. If you insist there are, Sir, please name them and we will have them immediately removed, because that is not proper procedure. Unless you're talking about Lieutenant Governor Kustra."

Stephens: "Well, now there you go. We don't want to reduce this to name calling and politicizing this more than is the normal process. I'm just indicating, Mr. Speaker, we're still early in this Spring Session and we seemed to have Rules that are 'unabided,' Rules that seem confusing to us. We've just come out of committees where we don't know if the proper ruling is that the Chair may create, move a Bill to a sub-committee or whether indeed, as we feel, it takes a vote of that committee before we can move a Bill. Confusion over those Rules and confusion over the way the House is being run...the normal business is what we need to be talking about and that's the point I'm trying to make. Look around you, Mr. Speaker, this is not something of which you should be proud. Let's take a pause and deal with it."

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Stephens, do you have questions on the Bill? Thank you. The Gentleman from McHenry, Representative Skinner."

Skinner: "I have questions on the Bill. May I ask the Sponsor a question on this Bill?"

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Speaker Granberg: "The Lady indicates that she will respond, Representative Skinner."

Skinner: "The price in this is \$19 per Resolution, is that correct?"

Currie: "The Clerk has done some preliminary estimates and I believe that the total price will be around \$20. It may be less than that. It may in the neighborhood of \$15 to 16."

Skinner: "All right. Does this allow the Clerk to increase the price, if the price goes up?"

Currie: "Yes."

Skinner: "Then, besides the fact that nobody can hear what's going on and we're acting as if we're on First Reading, what's wrong with this?"

Currie: "What's wrong with this?"

Skinner: "I'm just curious."

Currie: "Nothing is wrong with this. Everything is right with this."

Skinner: "Well, Representative, that's the first time I've ever heard you allude that you're on the right and I'm so pleased, I'll stop talking."

Currie: "Cal, shoulder to shoulder with you."

Speaker Granberg: "The Gentleman from Vermilion, Representative Black, for what purpose do you arise, Sir?"

Black: "Yes, Mr. Speaker. Would a question of the Sponsor be in order?"

Speaker Granberg: "Please proceed, Representative Black."

Black: "Thank you. Representative, when this Bill passed from committee, was the dollar amount included in the Bill the committee acted on, so that when the committee voted they knew what it would be costing per Resolution?"

Currie: "There was not...the Bill, as you know, does not include a dollar amount. But in committee people did have access

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to information about the preliminary estimate from the Clerk of the House as to the cost of a Resolution."

Black: "Would it be your intent, Representative if somebody wants to do a Congratulatory Resolution honoring a milestone, say a 50th anniversary...is the procedure in place if I wanted to give a personal check to pay for that Resolution, or the procedure in place for that I could give a personal check to cover the cost of that?"

Currie: "That's the point of this Bill, Representative. It's to provide you with a place to write that check."

Black: "Okay. Let me take it a step further than. If I were congratulating the Loyal Order of Chicago State Police Officers, was the topic I would like to get back to before the spring goes away. But anyway, perhaps I would want to take that out of my campaign fund. That would be permissible too, correct."

Currie: "Yes, it would be."

Black: "Well, now let me get to the question that most bothers me. As I read this and...excuse me, very quickly, I had to go up and defend all that I hold near and dear, as Senator Cullerton was just absolutely saying terrible things about downstaters, which I just don't understand at all. So, I haven't really had a chance to look at this file but, it appears that we could also spend out of district office allotment if we wanted to generate a Congratulatory Resolution. Is that a correct understanding?"

Currie: "Correct."

Black: "Okay. Representative, I appreciate your indulgence and your straightforward answers and Mr. Speaker, if I could. To the Bill, that's before us on Third Reading. I think we need to frame this in a fundamental issue that we faced two years ago. And that is, when you have an opportunity to

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save tax money, you should take it. It is not a great amount of money. It will not make or break the state but I think it sent a clear cut message two years ago that these kinds of Congratulatory Resolutions, while I certainly sent many of them out, had no idea what it cost. There are other ways for me to do that. Sometimes I would submit and I'm as guilty as anyone on the Floor, they might even be a bit self-serving. Perhaps even might smack of political advantage, shall we say. We mature and we learn these things as we're here. But the fundamental issue is your still allowing these to be done at taxpayer expense. Now if we would amend this to personal expense or campaign expense, because quiet frankly, that's what they are in many occasions. No matter how you can pontificate about how people appreciate these, and they do we have within our own means ways to congratulate those who have milestones without using a direct subsidy for the taxpayer. I don't know how accurate this cost figure is, that each Resolution would cost approximately, somewhere in the neighborhood of \$15 or \$20. And I think before we cut them out, we were sending out 3 to 4 thousand of these a Session. I would just simply say, 'look if you're serious about trying to cut where we can cut and save taxpayers money, where we can and when we can, but I think the correct vote on this is a 'no'.' But with a little work on the Bill, if the Sponsor cares to bring it back, I might be persuaded, if it was a personal expense item to vote 'aye'. Otherwords, until we get to that point, I rise in opposition, I would urge my colleagues to vote 'no'."

Speaker Granberg: "Thank you, Representative Black and speaking for all of us, we appreciate you defending downstate with Senator Cullerton. The Lady from Cook, Representative

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Currie to close."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker and Members of the House. I think unfortunately, though well intentioned, the previous speaker was making an argument that is not about this Bill. If we are permitted to use district service funds to pay for Resolutions which I regard as a constituent service, I think most of us do. That does not increase the tab to the taxpayer. Our district service allotments are established by statute. They will not be increased because of this Bill. I am not aware of any Legislator who has returned legislative district office allotments to the state. If they have in the past, they may still in the future. But the point is that House Bill 229, will not cost the taxpayers one more penny tomorrow than they pay for us and the work we do today. If you vote against this Bill, the message you send is the unbridled message of all of us passing, at whatever cost to the folks back home, however many Congratulatory Resolutions we can think of to create. If you want to protect the taxpayers then the right vote on House Bill 229, is a 'yes' vote, a 'no' vote says, 'we'll do it at your cost, people back home, not at our own.' I appreciate your support for this measure."

Speaker Granberg: "The Lady from Cook, moves for the passage of House Bill 229. All those in favor shall vote 'aye', all opposed shall vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. A verification has been requested by Representative Cross that will be acknowledged. Mr. Clerk, poll the absentees."

Clerk Bolin: "No absentees."

Speaker Granberg: "Poll the Members voting in the affirmative, Mr. Clerk."

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Clerk Bolin: "A poll of those voting in the affirmative. Acevedo. Boland. Bradford. Brosnahan. Brunsvold. Bugielski. Burke. Capparelli. Clayton. Crotty. Currie. Curry. Dart. Davis. Davis. Deering. Erwin. Fantin. Feigenholtz. Flowers. Fritchey. Gash. Giglio. Giles. Granberg. Hannig. Hartke. Holbrook. Howard. Jones, Lou. Kenner. Kotlarz. Lang. Lopez. Lyons, Joseph. Mautino. McCarthy. McGuire. McKeon. Moore, Eugene. Morrow. Murphy. Novak. O'Brien. Phelps. Pugh. Ronen. Santiago. Schakowsky. Schoenberg. Scott. Scully. Silva. Skinner. Slone. Smith. Stroger. Turner. Weaver. Woolard. Younge Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Granberg: "Thank you. Representative Black, Representative Hartke asks leave to be verified. So acknowledged. Please proceed Sir."

Black: "Yes, Representative, it's been so long since I've had to do this, it's different."

Speaker Granberg: "It's a great way to start a new Session."

Black: "Thank you so much. Representative Monique Davis?"

Speaker Granberg: "Is Representative Davis in the Chamber? Representative Monique Davis? Remove her. Mr. Black, will another Davis be sufficient? Add Representative Monique Davis to the Roll Call, Mr. Clerk."

Black: "I knew she wasn't here because I didn't see her Fighting Illini suit here, but now she's back and we're glad she is. Representative Bradford?"

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Bradford. He is in the chamber, Representative Black, in the last row."

Black: "He's new. Could he wave his hand? I don't recognize him yet. Oh, there he is. Yes."

Speaker Granberg: "He didn't recognize you either. Representative Black, I'm sorry, Representative Feigenholtz

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would like leave to be verified."

Black: "I'm sorry, who was that?"

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Feigenholtz."

Black: "Oh, by all means. By all means."

Speaker Granberg: "Thank you."

Black: "Is Representative Novak in the chamber? Or is he out sitting something?"

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Novak is in the rear of the Chamber, Representative Black. In the spirit of bipartisanship on your side of the aisle."

Black: "He's not back, I thought we had a No Smoking Rule. What's going on back there?"

Speaker Granberg: "I assume we do. I don't see Representative Novak smoking."

Black: "That's why he's Chairman of the Environment Committee, no doubt. Is Representative Lang in the Chamber, or was he exhausted by moving 233 Bills?"

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Lang is always in the Chamber, Representative Black."

Black: "I understand that. Is Representative Morrow with us this afternoon?"

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Morrow. Charles Morrow. Representative Black, you certainly recognize Representative Morrow. Anything further, Representative?"

Black: "Representative Eugene Moore. Is Representative Moore with us?"

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Moore is in his chair, Representative Black, in the second row."

Black: "As well he should be. And Representative Capparelli. Is the dean with us?"

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Capparelli is in the front row, Representative Black."



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Black: "Yes. Dean it's, now that you've been verified it's time for your nap. Is Representative Bugielski here, or has he had a cell phone call?"

Speaker Granberg: "He has the hands on phone in the back of the Chamber, Representative Black."

Black: "I see. I noticed he only raised one hand though. Is Representative O'Brien with us?"

Speaker Granberg: "In her seat, Representative Black."

Black: "She's new too. Where is she now?"

Speaker Granberg: "She's next to Representative Deering. Certainly you couldn't miss him."

Black: "Well, actually, Representative Turner is blocking most of the aisle, I can't see. If he would just step back. Well, Representative Deering is there. Yes, and Representative O'Brien is there. Representative Crotty. Is she here?"

Speaker Granberg: "In her chair."

Black: "And where might her chair be? I need to get these."

Speaker Granberg: "See the hand's raised, Representative."

Black: "Looked like a very masculine hand being raised over there. Well, last but not least, Representative Hoffman? Oh, I'm sorry."

Speaker Granberg: "Good effort, Representative Black."

Black: "Well it's been two and a half years, and I hate to admit it, but I have nothing further, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Black, thank you very, very much. Taking up the Governor's call for bipartisanship. On that Motion there are 62 'aye' votes, 55 'no' votes, 0 voting 'present', 1 not voting. House Bill 229 is hereby declared passed. On the Order of Second Reading, House Bill 322. Representative McGuire. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 322, a Bill for an Act to amend the

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Illinois Highway Code. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed. Second Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. The Gentleman from Washington County, Representative Deering. For what purpose do you arise, sir?"

Deering: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the spirit of, in the spirit of true bipartisanship, I would like to waive the appropriate, or move the appropriate rule and waive the posting requirements for House Bill 995 for Representative Black."

Speaker Granberg: "The Gentleman has moved, the Gentleman has moved on behalf of Representative Black, to have the Bill posted in the Transportation Committee. Any questions? All those in favor shall say 'aye'; all those opposed shall say 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. The posting requirement is waived. Mr. Deering."

Deering: "Yes, Mr. Speaker. I was inadvertently out of the chamber earlier when you were on the Order of Second Readings. Can you go back to my Bills and we can try to roll them, please?"

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Deering, which Bill was that, Sir?"

Deering: "House Bill 475, I believe was one, and House Bill 320."

Speaker Granberg: "House Bill 320. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 320, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Vehicle Code. Second Reading of this House Bill. Amendment #1 was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading. House Bill 475. Representative Deering. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 475, a Bill for an Act to amend the

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Illinois Vehicle Code. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments have been recommended for adoption. No Motions filed. Second Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Granberg: "Third Reading."

Deering: "Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Granberg: "Representative Deering."

Deering: "Can we try for House Bill 844? It's on the Supplemental Calendar."

Speaker Granberg: "Not at this time Representative. Allowing Perfunctory time for the Clerk, Representative Currie now moves that the House stand adjourned until the hour of 1:30 p.m., Thursday. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. The House is hereby adjourned."

Clerk Bolin: "Committee Reports. Representative Dart, Chairman from the Committee on Judiciary I-Civil Law, to which the following Bills and Resolutions were referred, action taken on March 5, 1997, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass Short Debate' House Bill 513, House Bill 538, House Bill 961, House Bill 964, House Bill 965, and House Bill 966; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 127; 'do pass Standard Debate' House Bill 959, House Bill 960, and House Bill 962; 'do pass as amended Consent Calendar' House Bill 132. Representative Pugh, Chairman from the Committee on Human Services, to which the following Bills and Resolutions were referred, action taken on March 5, 1997, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass Short Debate' House Bill 773, House Bill 774, House Bill 775, House Bill 776, House Bill 778, House Bill 779, House Bill 780, House Bill 781, House Bill 782, House Bill 783, House Bill 784, House Bill 785, House Bill 864; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 126, and House Bill 202; 'do pass as amended Standard

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Debate' House Bill 118. Representative Phelps, Chairman from the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education, to which the following Bills and Resolutions were referred, action taken on March 5, 1997, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass Short Debate' House Bill 720, House Bill 788, and House Bill 898; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 574; 'do pass as amended Standard Debate' House Bill 448."

Clerk Bolin: "First Reading and Introduction of Senate Bills. Senate Bill 193, offered by Representative Rutherford, a Bill for an Act for Vision Service Plan Act repeal. First Reading and Introduction of House Bills. House Bill 1346, offered by Representative Myers, a Bill for an Act to amend the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. House Bill 1347, offered by Representative Tenhouse, a Bill for an Act concerning benefits for certain public safety officers. House Bill 1348, offered by Representative Cross, a Bill for an Act to amend the Code of Civil Procedure. House Bill 1349, offered by Representative Cross, a Bill for an Act to amend the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. House Bill 1350, offered by Representative Lindner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. House Bill 1351, offered by Representative Lindner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act. House Bill 1352, offered by Representative Lindner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Adoption Act. House Bill 1353, offered by Representative Lindner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Child Care Act of 1969. House Bill 1354, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, and Nail Technology Act of 1985. House Bill 1355, offered by Representative Bost, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Vehicle Code. House

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Bill 1356, offered by Representative Bost, a Bill for an Act to amend the Criminal Code of 1961. House Bill 1357, offered by Representative Myers, a Bill for an Act to amend the Unified Code of Corrections. House Bill 1358, offered by Representative Kosel, a Bill for an Act to amend the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. House Bill 1359, offered by Representative Lindner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Unified Code of Corrections. House Bill 1360, offered by Representative Winters, a Bill for an Act to amend the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. House Bill 1361, offered by Representative Clayton, a Bill for an Act to amend the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. House Bill 1362, offered by Representative Hughes, a Bill for an Act to amend the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. House Bill 1363, offered by Representative Wood, a Bill for an Act to amend the Unified Code of Corrections. House Bill 1364, offered by Representative Wait, a Bill for an Act to amend the Unified Code of Corrections. House Bill 1365, offered by Representative Mitchell, a Bill for an Act to amend the Unified Code of Corrections. House Bill 1366, offered by Representative Beaubien, a Bill for an Act to amend the Unified Code of Corrections. House Bill 1367, offered by Representative Bost, a Bill for an Act to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963. House Bill 1368, offered by Representative Myers, a Bill for an Act to amend the Criminal Code of 1961. House Bill 1369, offered by Representative Kosel, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Vehicle Code. House Bill 1370, offered by Representative Myers, a Bill for an Act to amend the Criminal Code of 1961. House Bill 1371, offered by Representative Jones, a Bill for an Act to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963. House Bill 1372, offered by

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Representative Winters, a Bill for an Act to amend the Unified Code of Corrections. House Bill 1373, offered by Representative Mitchell, a Bill for an Act to amend the Criminal Code of 1961. House Bill 1374, offered by Representative Capparelli, a Bill for an Act to amend the Metropolitan Reclamation District Act. House Bill 1375, offered by Representative Capparelli, a Bill for an Act to amend the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act. House Bill 1376, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Pension Code. House Bill 1377, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Community Services Act. House Bill 1378, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Municipal Code. House Bill 1379, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Municipal Code. House Bill 1380, offered by Representative Jones, a Bill for an Act to amend the Prenatal Syphilis Act. House Bill 1381, offered by Representative Granberg, a Bill for an Act to amend the Dietetic and Nutrition Services Practice Act. House Bill 1382, offered by Representative Granberg, a Bill for an Act to amend the Hearing Instrument Consumer Protection Act. House Bill 1383, offered by Representative Granberg, a Bill for an Act to amend the Structural Engineering License Act. House Bill 1384, offered by Representative Pankau, a Bill for an Act to amend the Property Tax Code. House Bill 1385, offered by Representative Leitch, a Bill for an Act concerning vehicle drivers. House Bill 1386, offered by Representative Hassert, a Bill for an Act to amend the Environmental Protection Act. House Bill 1387, offered by Representative Jones, a Bill for an Act to amend the Motor Fuel Tax Law. House Bill 1388, offered by Representative

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Noland, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Vehicle Code. House Bill 1389, offered by Representative Wood, a Bill for an Act concerning assisted living establishments. House Bill 1390, offered by Representative Lyons, a Bill for an Act to create the Retired Professionals Pro Bono Act. House Bill 1391, offered by Representative Lyons, a Bill for an Act to amend the Communicable Disease Prevention Act. House Bill 1392, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act to create the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Task Force. House Bill 1393, offered by Representative Lindner, a Bill for an Act to revise the law with respect to statutes that the courts have held unconstitutional. House Bill 1394, offered by Representative Lindner, a Bill for an Act to amend the School Code. House Bill 1395, offered by Representative Moffitt, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Vehicle Code. House Bill 1396, offered by Representative Moffitt, a Bill for an Act to amend the Property Tax Code. House Bill 1397, offered by Representative Saviano, a Bill for an Act to amend the Criminal Code of 1961. House Bill 1398, offered by Representative Granberg, a Bill for an Act to amend the Environmental Protection Act. House Bill 1399, offered by Representative Granberg, a Bill for an Act to amend the Counties Code. House Bill 1400, offered by Representative Leitch, a Bill for an Act to amend the Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan Act. House Bill 1401, offered by Representative Cross, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Controlled Substances Act. House Bill 1402, offered by Representative Silva, a Bill for an Act to amend the School Code. House Bill 1403, offered by Representative Silva, a Bill for an Act to amend the School Code. House Bill 1404, offered by Representative Zickus, a Bill for an

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Act concerning license plates. House Bill 1405, offered by Representative Giglio, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Pension Code. House Bill 1406, offered by Representative Giglio, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Pension Code. House Bill 1407, offered by Representative Brosnahan, a Bill for an Act to amend the Criminal Code of 1961. House Bill 1408, offered by Representative O'Brien, a Bill for an Act in relation to sex offenders. House Bill 1409, offered by Representative Stroger, a Bill for an Act to provide for supplemental procedures and issuance of obligations in connection with the making of local improvements through special assessments. House Bill 1410, offered by Representative Leitch, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Insurance Code. House Bill 1411, offered by Representative Persico, a Bill for an Act to amend the Environmental Protection Act. House Bill 1412, offered by Representative Capparelli, a Bill for an Act to amend the Uniform Commercial Code. House Bill 1413, offered by Representative Leitch, a Bill for an Act concerning native tribes development. House Bill 1414, offered by Representative Moore, a Bill for an Act in relation to taxes. House Bill 1415, offered by Representative Moore, a Bill for an Act in relation to taxes. House Bill 1416, offered by Representative Erwin, a Bill for an Act to amend the State Treasurer Act. House Bill 1417, offered by Representative Novak, a Bill for an Act to amend the Counties Code. House Bill 1418, offered by Representative Erwin, a Bill for an Act concerning currency changes in Europe. House Bill 1419, offered by Representative Mautino, a Bill for an Act to amend the Property Tax Code. House Bill 1420, offered by Representative Holbrook, a Bill for an Act to amend the



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Environmental Protection Act. House Bill 1421, offered by Representative Hassert, a Bill for an Act concerning insurance benefits for certain firefighters and police officers. House Bill 1422, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act concerning the right of publicity. House Bill 1423, offered by Representative Kenner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Energy Policy and Planning Act. House Bill 1424, offered by Representative Brosnahan, a Bill for an Act to amend the Sex Offender Registration Act. House Bill 1425, offered by Representative Kubik, a Bill for an Act to amend the Uniform Penalty and Interest Act. House Bill 1426, offered by Representative Lyons, a Bill for an Act regarding abused and neglected children. House Bill 1427, offered by Representative Fantin, a Bill for an Act to amend the Property Tax Code. House Bill 1428, offered by Representative Winters, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Insurance Code. House Bill 1429, offered by Representative Phelps, a Bill for an Act to amend the Public Employment Office Act. House Bill 1430, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act to amend the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act. House Bill 1431, offered by Representative Turner, a Bill for an Act amending the Property Tax Code. House Bill 1432, offered by Representative Wood, a Bill for an Act to amend the Statute Concerning Perpet... House Bill 1432, offered by Representative Wood, a Bill for an Act to amend the Statute Concerning Perpetuities by changing Section 4. House Bill 1433, offered by Representative Beaubien, a Bill for an Act concerning law enforcement records and reports. House Bill 1434, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act to amend the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. House

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Bill 1435, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Guaranteed Job Opportunity Act. House Bill 1436, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act concerning the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. House Bill 1437, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Guaranteed Job Opportunity Act. House Bill 1438, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act to amend the Illinois Public Aid Code. House Bill 1439, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act relating to academic centers of excellence. House Bill 1440, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act making appropriations to the Illinois Arts Council. House Bill 1441, offered by Representative Younge, a Bill for an Act to amend the Arts Council Act. First Reading and Introduction of House Resolutions. House Resolution #56, offered by Representative Granberg. Having no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand in recess until the hour of 4:00 p.m."

Clerk Rossi: "There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned. The House will reconvene in regular Session tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. The House now stands adjourned."