

STATE OF ILLINOIS
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

127th Legislative Day

November 15, 2000

Speaker Hartke: "The House shall come to order. The House shall come to order. We shall be led in prayer today by Lee Crawford, the Assistant Pastor of the Victory Temple Church in Springfield, Illinois. The guests in the gallery may wish to rise and join us for the invocation and remain standing for the Pledge. Pastor Crawford."

Pastor Crawford: "May we lift our hearts as well as our minds. Most gracious and most kind eternal God, giver of life. Father, we ask that You judge over us as we stand humbly before You as Your sons, and as Your daughters of Your divine plan. We ask that You would stand before us as a great God, as we stand before You as a people mindful of Your great favor that You have bestowed upon us. And bless us to be mindful of Your will that You've asked us to do. So Father, I ask that Your divine presence would be upon us. That Your might would strengthen us. That Your spirit would guide us. And that Your great counsel would advise us. Father, this we kindly and humbly pray. Amen."

Speaker Hartke: "We shall be led in prayer today... or the Pledge of Allegiance by Representative Andrea Moore."

Moore, A. - 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 Hartke: "Roll Call for Attendance. Representative Currie, report on the Democrat side."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record show that Representative Mary Flowers and Representative Charles Morrow are both excused today."

Speaker Hartke: "Representative Poe on the Republican side."

Poe: "Mr. Speaker, the only absentee we have today is Representative Eileen Lyons."

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Speaker Hartke: "Mr. Clerk, take the record. 115 Members answering the roll call. A quorum is present. Mr. Clerk, do you have any announcements?"

Clerk Rossi: "Rules will meet immediately in the Speaker's Conference Room. The Rules Committee will meet immediately in the Speaker's Conference Room."

Speaker Hartke: "Clerk for Committee Reports."

Clerk Rossi: "Committee Reports. Representative Pugh, Chairperson from the Committee on Revenue, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Wednesday, November 15, 2000, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' House Bill 4738. Representative Murphy, Chairperson from the Committee on Personnel and Pensions, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Wednesday, November 15, 2000, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass as amended Short Debate' Senate Bill 1047; recommends 'be adopted' House Amendment #2 to Senate Bill 851. Representative Monique Davis, Chairperson from the Committee on Appropriations-Human Services, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Wednesday, November 15, 2000, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 4577."

Speaker Hartke: "Clerk for an additional Committee Report."

Clerk Rossi: "Committee Reports. Representative Barbara Flynn Currie, Chairperson from the Committee on Rules, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on November 15, 2000, reported the same back with the following recommendation: to the Committee on Children and Youth, House Resolution 883; to the Committee on Elementary

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and Secondary Education, House Resolution 870; to the Committee on Environment and Energy, House Resolution 879 and House Resolution 887; to the Committee of Human Services, House Resolution 842; to the Committee on Revenue, House Bills 4743 and 4754. Approved for consideration, compliance Amendatory Veto Motion on House Bill 861."

Speaker Hartke: "Recognizes the Lady from Cook, Representative Currie. For what reason do you rise?"

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. To make a Motion to suspend the posting requirements so that Representative Black's House Bills 4743 and 4754 may be heard in the Committee on Revenue."

Speaker Hartke: "You've heard the Lady's Motion. All those in favor signify by saying 'aye'; opposed 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it and the Motion is carried. Representative Ryder, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Ryder: "Mr. Speaker, I would ask consent to make an announcement, if I may?"

Speaker Hartke: "Is there leave? Leave is granted."

Ryder: "Thank you. I would like to inform everyone that today is 'GIS Day'. You may have noticed the displays downstairs. There's several communities as well as state agencies that are displaying their GIS wares. I would invite everyone to go down, examine them. It is the wave of the future of technology. Many of your communities are doing this. So, I would encourage everyone to go down there. And if, by some rare circumstance you are not aware of what GIS stands for, then you should go downstairs to find out. Thank you."

Speaker Hartke: "Thank you, Mr. Ryder. Members please be in

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their chairs. We have a special guest today and we want to be prepared when he arrives. Mr. Jones, Mr. Woolard, would you please take your chair? Mr. Franks? Regular Session will stand in recess. I recognize the doorkeeper for an announcement."

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

Speaker Hartke: "Mr. Doorkeeper, please admit the Honorable Senators. As designated in House Resolution #73, the hour of 11 a.m. having arrived, the Joint Session of the 91st 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, a quorum of the House is present."

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

Speaker Madigan: "Speaker Madigan in the Chair. 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. The Chair would like to recognize certain dignitaries who have joined us today. First, the First Lady of the State of Illinois, Lura Lynn Ryan in the rear gallery. The wife of Ambassador Remirez, Mrs. Patricia Remirez. There are two physicians who have traveled with Mr. Remirez, they're from Cuba. There's Dr. Odalys Laso, excuse my Spanish. Dr. Laso. Also, Noberto Miranda. The Director of the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, Director McDonough. The Chair of the Illinois Arts Council, Shirley Madigan. The Chair would recognize

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the Governor of the State for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Governor."

Governor Ryan: "Good morning and thank you, Speaker Madigan, and Members of the General Assembly. I'm delighted to be here. Come back to my old haunts. See a lot of my old friends and several of my new friends, several of my new enemies. But I'm delighted to be here at any cost. I'm here really this morning to introduce to the General Assembly and their guests, a friend of Illinois, a fellow that we made friendship with over a year ago. Fernando Ramirez is the Chief Principal Officer of the Cuban Interest Section in Washington, D.C. He is the highest ranking Cuban official to be in the United States. He's been an increasing link in creating humanitarian bridge between the people of Cuba and the people of Illinois. And with his guidance and encouragement we traveled to Cuba as you my recall. And we took medicine and we took school supplies. We were on a humanitarian mission. And we built a bridge of goodwill between the people of Cuba and the people of Illinois. We established a bridge that was grounded in a foundation of friendship and cooperation. And we learned that there are opportunities for the people of Illinois to share our knowledge and expertise. Most recently, Childrens' Memorial Hospital hosted a historical medical exchange. Political differences were cast aside and young Rodell, commonly known as 'Rowdy' Medina, had an operation that literally saved his life. Rowdy's doctors from Cuba that were introduced here, Dr. Laso and Dr. Miranda, join us today. And they were introduced by Speaker Madigan. They learned about this life saving medical procedure and other medical advances on their visit with the Medinas to Childrens' Hospital. These doctors are here to learn the

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procedure. Only two places in the world this procedure can go on. One is at Childrens' Hospital, Memorial Hospital, and one is in London. These advances in friendship just couldn't have happened without the dedication and the leadership of Fernando Remirez. Ambassador Remirez who is joined here today by his wonderful wife, Patricia, has a very long and distinguished career in international relations. He's first served as the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Cuba, and is Cuba's representative to the United Nations from 1994 to 1995. And as the chief of the Cuban Interest Section, Fernando, as I said, is the highest ranking Cuban official posted in the United States. And most importantly, he's a friend to Illinois. And he treated us very kindly when we were in Cuba, and I think we made some great inroads there because of his diplomatic skills. And I'm delighted to have the opportunity to introduce to you, Ambassador Fernando Remirez. Fernando, it's all yours."

Ambassador Remirez: "Thank you very much, Honorable Governor, George Ryan and First Lady, Mrs. Ryan, Honorable Michael Madigan, Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives, Honorable 'Pate' Philip, Senate President, Honorable Lee Daniels, Republican Leader, Honorable Emil Jones, Senate Democrat Leader, Honorable Edgar Lopez, Representative. It is a great honor for us to be here today with you Senators and Representatives of the great State of Illinois. Representatives of the noble and friendly people of this State, thank you very much for inviting us to be here. One year ago, the State of Illinois took a very significant step forward to Cuba with a historical trip made to our homeland by a delegation headed by Governor Ryan and Mrs. Ryan, the Honorable Michael Madigan, Speaker of the

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Illinois House of Representatives, the Honorable Lee Daniels, Minority Leader, the Honorable Emil Jones, Senate Democrat Leader, and many other distinguished personalities from the State of Illinois. That was not only a historic and very successful visit for the Cuban people but also a major breakthrough in the relations between Cuba and the United States. It was the first time that a Governor from the United States officially visited Cuba, and it was also the first time in 40 years that a high-ranking American official delivered a speech to a Cuban audience. Please allow me to take this opportunity to say that our people will never forget that trip and what it meant. We'll never forget how brave and dignified you were on how many obstacles you had to overcome to make possible that trip. Nevertheless, that trip was not the first step taken by Illinois with regard to our country. We remember, very clearly, that this Assembly was the very first legislative Body in the United States that passed a Resolution to lift the embargo on food and medicine against our people, which is by the way, the only embargo on food and medicine in the whole world. And that Resolution was a significant step that was passed unanimously for all of you. And let me tell you that in all our people know that fact and will always remember that this Body were the first ones in the United States who approved that Resolution. Thank you very much all of you for this. Today, we understand that you have a second Resolution. This time a Joint House/Senate Resolution. And we hope that also this time you will approve this Resolution. Thank you very much, also. We would like to express our deepest appreciation to the two Members of this legislative Body that were the promoters of this proposal, Representatives Edgar Lopez and Dan

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Rutherford. That were the ones who introduced this Resolution and we want to thank again for the continual efforts in promoting the first Joint House/Senate Resolution to lift the embargo. But we have not to come here today to speak about the U.S. embargo against Cuba. And not because we think that we'll be preaching to the choir. We truly believe that that policy is outdated and out of touch with the global world that we live today. Because the world has changed, has changed and will continue to change in the next future. We think that the vast majority of the American people is in favor to improve relations with Cuba like the Cuban people, and is against the embargo like the vast majority of the international community like was demonstrated just last week in the United Nations with the vast majority of the votes of the members of that international body. We came to this historical Capitol to express our willingness to have normal and friendly relations between our two peoples. We are neighbor countries that should work together in areas like transportation, communications, environments, counter narcotics, sports, culture, tourism, and so many other areas. The day in which the Illinois companies and farmers can make business with Cuba will be the day that both will mutually benefit from each other. For example: just in terms of food and agricultural products, our country will buy this year \$1 billion in products from all over the world, and really from all over the world, including Australia and some Asian countries. And we know, and we are sure, that all this products we could buy here in the United States, here in this State of Illinois. And I'm sure that you will agree with me, that will be a better quality products that we'll have to our people. Cuba is a

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developing nation, not a huge market like China. But as a country, we have the same population as the State of Illinois, with economy expansion and positive growth, including tourism that has become the first economic sector in Cuba, and just next year we'll have two million foreign visitors in our country. Our goal is to improve the living standards of the Cuban people. Thus, we target as our priorities: health care, education, and social security. And thanks to all of you Honorables, Senators and Members of the State House of Representatives and particularly, thanks to a leadership of Governor Ryan, the State of Illinois is a pioneer in the cooperation between Cuba and the United States. As a result of your efforts a news bureau of the Chicago Tribune will be very soon in Havana. And today, we have changes in health care, education, culture, sports, and many other fields. Here are with us two Cuban doctors as an example of this cooperation. And the most important thing, thanks to your support, to your humanitarian attitudes, the life of one Cuban child, Rodell, will be saved. Thanks to all of you, first place, Governor, the life of one Cuban child will be saved for the future as a good example of how many things can we do together. There are many things that we could learn from many institutions of Illinois and so many opportunities that we both could take advantage of. It has been a pleasure to be here in the Land of Lincoln and being here reminds me of Abraham Lincoln, the great emancipator, wrote in a letter to James Conklin on August 26th, 1863, 'Peace does not appear so distant as it did.' I hope it will come soon and come to stay. And so come as to be worth the keeping in all future hands. Thank you very much all of you. It has been a great honor for us to be here. And

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thank you to the Governor, Mrs. Ryan, the Speaker, the President of the Senate, to all distinguished Members of the Senate of Illinois and the House of Representatives and special thank you very much to the brave people of the State of Illinois. Thank you very much."

Speaker Madigan: "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 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Joint Session will now arise. The Regular Session will come to order and stand at ease. The Governor plans to escort the Ambassador down the center aisle for those of you who may wish to speak with the Ambassador, personally. Recognizes the Clerk for an announcement."

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

Speaker Madigan: "On the Order of Supplemental Calendar #1, on the Order of House Bills-Second Reading, there appears House Bill 4577. Mr. Clerk, what is the status of that Bill?"

Clerk Rossi: "House Bill 4577 has been read a second time, previously. Amendment #1 was adopted in committee. No Motions have been filed. No Floor Amendments approved for consideration."

Speaker Madigan: "Put the Bill on the Order of Third Reading. House Bill 4738. Mr. McCarthy. Mr. Clerk, what is the status of that Bill?"

Clerk Rossi: "House Bill 4738, a Bill for Act concerning taxes. Second Reading of this House Bill. No Committee

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Amendments. Floor Amendment #1 has been filed to the Bill, but it remains in the Rules Committee."

Speaker Madigan: "This Bill shall be held on the Order of Second Reading. On the Order of Senate Bills-Second Reading, there appears Senate Bill 1047, by Mr. Cullerton. Mr. Clerk, what is the status of that Bill?"

Clerk Rossi: "Senate Bill 1047, a Bill for an Act amending the Illinois Pension Code. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. Amendment #1 was adopted in committee. No Motions have been filed. No Floor Amendments approved for consideration."

Speaker Madigan: "Put that Bill on the Order of Third Reading. On the Order of Amendatory Veto Motions, there appears House Bill 861, a Motion by Mr. Winkel. Mr. Winkel on a Motion."

Winkel: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill 861 increases the penalties for domestic violence committed in front of a child. The Governor's Amendatory Veto only makes a technical change. This is a change that I'd committed to to make sure was accomplished when we debated this Bill on the floor last Session. The change is in place, and I would ask that my Motion to accept the Amendatory Veto be approved."

Speaker Madigan: "The Gentleman moves to accept the Governor's Amendatory Veto. Is there any discussion? There being no discussion, the question is, 'Shall the Gentleman's Motion be adopted?' Those in favor signify by voting 'yes'; those opposed by voting 'no'. Ladies and Gentlemen, this is final action. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Does Mr. Stroger wish to vote? The Clerk shall take the record. On this question, there are 115 people voting

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'yes', 0 voting 'no'. The Motion to adopt the Governor's Amendment has been adopted. And this Bill, having received a Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Rossi: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 813, offered by Representative Smith; House Resolution 814, offered by Representative Gash; House Resolution 815, offered by Representative Julie Curry; House Resolution 816, offered by Representative Mary Kay O'Brien; House Resolution 817, offered by Representative Feigenholtz; House Resolution 818, offered by Representative Julie Curry; House Resolution 819, offered by Representative Scully; House Resolution 820, offered by Representative Scully; House Resolution 821, offered by Representative Scully; House Resolution 822, offered by Representative Gash; House Resolution 823, offered by Representative Granberg; House Resolution 824, offered by Representative Stephens; House Resolution 825, offered by Representative O'Brien; House Resolution 826, offered by Representative O'Brien; House Resolution 827, offered by Representative O'Brien; House Resolution 828, offered by Representative O'Brien; House Resolution 829, offered by Representative Gash; House Resolution 830, offered by Representative Feigenholtz; House Resolution 831, offered by Representative Julie Curry; House Resolution 832, offered by Representative Julie Curry; House Resolution 833, offered by Representative Granberg; House Resolution 834, offered by Representative Brosnahan; House Resolution 835, offered by Representative Julie Curry; House Resolution 836, offered by Representative Sharp; House Resolution 837, offered by Representative Gash; House Resolution 838, offered by Representative Hannig; House Resolution 840, offered by

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Representative Brosnahan; House Resolution 841, offered by
Representative Brosnahan; House Resolution 844, offered by
Representative Granberg; House Resolution 845, offered by
Representative Lou Jones; House Resolution 846, offered by
Representative Lou Jones; House Resolution 847, offered by
Representative Garrett; House Resolution 848, offered by
Representative Garrett; House Resolution 851, offered by
Representative Dart; House Resolution 853, offered by
Representative Berns; House Resolution 854, offered by
Representative Brosnahan; House Resolution 855, offered by
Representative Granberg; House Resolution 856, offered by
Representative Granberg; House Resolution 857, offered by
Speaker Madigan; House Resolution 858, offered by
Representative Klingler; House Resolution 859, offered by
Representative Klingler; House Resolution 860, offered by
Representative Parke; House Resolution 861, offered by
Representative Dart; House Resolution 862, offered by
Representative Dart; House Resolution 863, offered by
Representative Dart; House Resolution 864, offered by
Representative Brosnahan; House Resolution 865, offered by
Representative Granberg; House Resolution 866, offered by
Representative Acevedo; House Resolution 867, offered by
Representative Gash; House Resolution 868, offered by
Representative Granberg; House Resolution 869, offered by
Representative Granberg; House Resolution 871, offered by
Representative Morrow; House Resolution 872, offered by
Representative Novak; House Resolution 873, offered by
Representative O'Brien; House Resolution 874, offered by
Representative Granberg; House Resolution 875, offered by
Representative Giles; House Resolution 876, offered by
Representative Currie; House Resolution 877, offered by
Representative Currie; House Resolution 878, offered by

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Representative McGuire; House Resolution 880, offered by Representative Granberg; House Resolution 881, offered by Representative Julie Curry; House Resolution 882, offered by Representative Lang; House Resolution 884, offered by Representative Granberg; and House Resolution 885, offered by Representative Lou Jones."

Speaker Madigan: "The Clerk having read the Resolutions, Representative Currie moves for the adoption of the Resolutions. Those in favor say 'aye'; those opposed say 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. The Resolutions are adopted. The Chair is prepared to adjourn. The Chair recognizes Representative Lopez. Is Mr. Lopez in the chamber? The Chair shall announce the committee schedule. The Clerk shall announce the committee schedule. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Rossi: "The following committees will meet immediately following the conclusion of the Democratic Caucus: the Electric Utility Deregulation Committee in Room C-1; the Executive Committee in Room 118; the Human Services Committee in Room D-1."

Speaker Madigan: "Democrats should be advised that there will be a caucus immediately after adjournment. Democrats, please be advised that there will be a caucus immediately after adjournment in Room 114. Representative Currie moves that the House does stand adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow morning. Those in favor signify by saying 'aye'; those opposed say 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. The House does stand adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow morning providing perfunctory time for the Clerk. Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Black has raised a good point concerning the starting time for the committees. Let's say that the committees will start at 1 a.m.... excuse me... 1 p.m. So Democrats go to caucus; Republicans have a nice lunch. And committees

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start at 1 p.m. Thank you."

Clerk Rossi: "Perfunctory Session to order. There being no
business, the House Perfunctory Session stands adjourned."