

STATE OF ILLINOIS
93rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE
TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

1st Legislative Day

7/9/2004

Speaker Madigan: "The House shall come to order. Members shall be in their chairs. We ask the Members and our guests in the gallery to turn off cell phones, pagers and laptop computers. And we ask the guests in the gallery to rise and join us for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. We shall be led in prayer today by Father Richard Barclift of the Saint Pat's Church in Andalusia, Illinois. Father Barclift is the guest of Representative Verschoore."

Father Barclift: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What an honor it is for me to be here today. Thank you, one and all. And a special gratitude to Representative Pat Verschoore of my district and of my parish. And I suppose I want you to know that we pray for you good men and women everyday at Saint Pat's as we celebrate Holy Eucharist together. We pray for leaders of nations, leaders of states, like Illinois, leaders of smaller communities, like the communities that we're all from. Our families, families even who work together in businesses. Communities that may even comprise people of many and various ethnic, racial heritage, origins. And these families who nonetheless are one, because we live together, we dream together and together work out our salvation. These are the families that we pray for daily at Saint Pat's, as well as those who, for various region... reasons, are marginalized, who have no one to speak for them. And today, I bring our prayer to you, good men and women, Gentleman and Ladies of this House. Because this House is a home, too. And you

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too are a family that live here, you too serve, protect, defend and guide us just like all other leaders of families, closer to each of us. We thank you so much. And today, I bring you a prayer from the families and the communities within my parish. And those little communities of great people are represented by the three young men that I brought here today, Chevy McManus, Billy Gingrich and Joshua McManus, members of my parish and community of Andalusia, Reynolds, Illinois City, Buffalo Prairie, Edgington and Taylor Ridge. So, the prayer is this. Almighty God, almighty good God, thank You for today. Thank You for these good men and women, bless them, be with them. And when the going gets tough help them to keep their eye on the prize of life, the life of every human being in this great State of Illinois, as graced and dignified from the very moment of their conception all of the way to heaven. Be with each of us in this journey, it's our joy, through Christ, our Lord. Amen."

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

Chapa LaVia - 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 Madigan: "All right. Ladies and Gentlemen, once again, only punch your own button. Roll Call for Attendance. The Clerk shall take the record. There being... I'm sorry. Mr. Clerk, wait one second. Representative Currie."

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Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record show that Representatives Rich Bradley, Collins, Colvin, Fritchey, Molaro, Scully and Slone are excused today."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Bost."

Bost: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record reflect that Representative Munson, Myers, Rose, Parke, Pihos, Schmitz, Black, Eileen Lyons, Sommers, Jerry Mitchell, Beaubien, Osmond and Mathias are excused today."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Clerk, take the record. There being 96 Members responding to the Attendance Roll Call, there is a quorum present. Mr. Clerk, read the Proclamation of the Governor."

Clerk Mahoney: "Proclamation 2004-200.

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution requires the General Assembly to make appropriations for the expenditure of public funds for the fiscal year for state departments, authorities, and public agencies; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has not made appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for the expenditure of public funds for the Intensive Prenatal Performance Program within the Department of Human Services; and

WHEREAS, many Illinois mothers throughout the state have been identified as high risk for having low weight births; and

WHEREAS, the Intensive Prenatal Performance Program provides prenatal health care services of high-risk mothers

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throughout the state in order to avoid the adverse consequences of low birth weight for children;

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5, subsection (b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby call and convene the 93rd General Assembly in a Special Session to commence on July 9, 2004, at 12:00 p.m., to consider any legislation (new or pending), which will address directly the budget of the Department of Human Services for the Intensive Prenatal Performance Program for fiscal year 2005. Signed by Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor."

Speaker Madigan: "Representative Currie, for what purpose do you seek recognition? Excuse me, Representative Currie. Mr. Clerk, read the Resolutions."

Clerk Mahoney: "Tenth Special Session House Resolution #1 and Tenth Special Session House Resolution #2 are introduced."

Speaker Madigan: "Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker and Members of the House. I move to suspend the rules so that we might consider and adopt House Resolutions 1 and 2 of the Tenth Special Session of this General Assembly."

Speaker Madigan: "You've all heard the Lady's Motion. Is there leave? Leave is granted. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Mahoney: "Tenth Special Session House Resolution #1.

RESOLVED, that the Rules of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Third General Assembly be adopted as the Rules of the Tenth Special Session, so far as the same may be applicable, and that the Committees of the House of

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Representatives of the Ninety-Third General Assembly, including the House Journal Review Committee and their membership, shall constitute the Committees of the House during this Tenth Special Session. Tenth Special Session House Resolution #2.

RESOLVED, that the Clerk inform the Senate that a majority of the House of Representatives has assembled, pursuant to the proclamation of the Governor, convening a Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the transaction of business."

Speaker Madigan: "Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. I move adoption of the two Resolutions."

Speaker Madigan: "You've all heard the Lady's Motion. Is there leave? Leave is granted. Mr. Hannig in the Chair."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Cook, Speaker Madigan."

Madigan: "Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, the plan for this Special Session is identical to what we've done with all of the Special Sessions. There is nothing to brought before the House today as part of a Special Session. My plan is to move to adjourn this Special Session into the already established Perfunctory Session schedule for the House. Further, we plan to go into Regular Session today to consider a few pieces of legislation. Let me add that as of about 12:45 the Governor did not know if he planned to call Special Sessions for Saturday and Sunday. I told him that if he did take that action and kept the Members here in

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Springfield through the weekend that I would give him full credit for that action. He was very thankful. So, Mr. Speaker, my Motion is to adjourn this Special Session into the already established Perfunctory Session schedule."

Speaker Hannig: "And on that question, the Gentleman from DuPage, Representative Meyer."

Meyer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Speaker yield?"

Speaker Hannig: "He indicates he'll yield."

Meyer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Speaker, what is the status of the nego... of the negotiations in your... from your perspective in terms of reaching of the final agreement in the budget?"

Madigan: "Not much different from yesterday when I think I said that progress was slow but sure. And that's about the status today."

Meyer: "Well, we keep reading various... various reports on it in the newspapers or other sources that we get and it seems to be that one moment we're a hundred million dollars apart, the next moment we're two hundred million dollars apart. It fluctuates back and forth and probably at any one given time you can't find two... two reports of that that agree. Where are we in terms of that, do you feel?"

Madigan: "Mr. Meyer, I think it would be helpful to understand that for someone to say that we're a hundred million dollars apart usually means that they are working off a set of assumptions that presumes certain cuts or certain revenue increases. And as you get into a negotiation if either of those items are rejected, if a cut is not

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accepted or if a proposed revenue enhancement is not accepted, why then the numbers change. And that's how the numbers can go from a hundred million to two hundred million to four hundred million. So, I decline to offer numerical assessments, because I realize that they can change momentarily. And for people to offer those numerical assessments and to raise hopes, really is not fair. Ya know, they really oughta approach this in terms of not misleading or giving false hope to people."

Meyer: "With the negotiations as they're going on now, and I would assume that at some point people leave those negotiations think they... thinking that they have reached a point and everyone's agreed to it. Are we moving one step forward and then backward the next day on some of those agreements?"

Madigan: "It has happened where we would take one forward, two back. As a general rule, I think it's fair to say that there has been progress, it's slow, it's not as fast as everyone would like, but there has been a steady progression."

Meyer: "With the schedule that you anticipate for next week would you anticipate us if we are released for the weekend to come back to a Special Session on Monday or not?"

Madigan: "Well, as I've stated in the past, my plan would be that you wouldn't be here and that you wouldn't need to be here next week unless you were notified on short notice to come here to consider legislation. I expect that if the Governor declines to call Special Sessions for Saturday and

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Sunday that he probably would call a Special Session for Monday."

Meyer: "Thank you for your comments, Sir."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Cook, Speaker Madigan, moves that the Tenth Special Session be adjourned to the Regular Perfunctory Session schedule that has already been distributed to the Members. All in favor of the Motion say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Motion is adopted. And the Tenth Special Session stands adjourned."