139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Speaker Hannig: "The hour of 10:00 having arrived, the House will be in order and the Members will please be in their seats. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off all cell phones and pagers and rise for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. We shall be led in prayer today by the Reverend Dr. Cecilia Harris who's the pastor of St. Mathews United Methodist Church in Chicago. Reverend Dr. Harris is the guest of Representative Dunkin."

Reverend Dr. Harris: "Let us pray. Most holy, sovereign, compassionate and loving God, God of all creation, God of all people, You have gathered in this House on this day men and women chosen to represent those whom You love, those whom You account as sacred in value and worth. As documents are handled, as legislation is reviewed, may Your servants in this room be reminded that it's not just paper. them and all of us who serve Your people be ever reminded that the decisions we make affect the lives of men and women and children whom You love. Help them to be reminded that hope will be built up or torn down based on how the paper is handled. Dreams will be nurtured or decimated based on how the documents are handled today. The very decisions made in this room, the legislation approved or rejected in this room, is all about the people of the State of Illinois. Holy God, grace these men and women with wisdom, grace them with a passion for justice and may Your wisdom and Your righteousness bear much fruit through their decisions and the hard work that they do on behalf of Your people whom You love with deep passion and commitment. Amen."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Chavez, will you lead us in the Pledge."

Chavez - 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 Hannig: "Thank you very much... Roll Call for Attendance.

Mr. Clerk, would you call the roll."

Clerk Mahoney: "Acevedo. Acevedo. Bassi. Bassi. Beaubien."

Beaubien: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Beaubien is present. Beiser."

Beiser: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Beiser is present. Bellock."

Bellock: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Bellock is present. Berrios. Berrios.

Biggins. Biggins. Black. Boland."

Boland: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Boland is present. Bost."

Bost: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Bost is present. John Bradley. John Bradley."

Bradley, R.: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Rich Bradley is present. Brady. Brady.

Brauer. Brosnahan. Brosnahan. Burke."

Burke: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Burke is present. Chapa LaVia. Chapa LaVia. Chavez."

Chavez: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Chavez is present. Churchill."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Churchill: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Churchill is present. Collins."

Collins: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Collins is present. Colvin. Colvin. Coulson.

Coulson. Cross. Cross. Cultra."

Cultra: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Cultra is present. Currie."

Currie: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Currie is present. D'Amico."

D'Amico: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "D'Amico is present. Daniels."

Daniels: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Daniels is present. Monique Davis. Monique

Davis. Will Davis. Delgado. Delgado.

Dugan."

Dugan: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Dugan is present. Dunkin. Dunkin. Dunn.

Dunn."

Dunn: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Dunn is present. Durkin. Durkin. Eddy."

Eddy: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Eddy is present. Feigenholtz. Feigenholtz.

Flider."

Flider: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Flider is present. Flowers. Flowers. Franks.

Franks. Fritchey. Fritchey. Froehlich."

Froehlich: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Froehlich is present. Giles. Giles. Golar."

Golar: "(Inaudible)."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Clerk Mahoney: "Golar is present. Gordon."

Gordon: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Gordon is present. Graham. Graham. Granberg.

Granberg. Hamos. Hannig."

Hannig: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hannig is present. Hassert. Hassert. Hoffman.

Hoffman. Holbrook."

Holbrook: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Holbrook is present. Howard."

Howard: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Howard is present. Hultgren."

Hultgren: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hultgren is present. Jakobsson."

Jakobsson: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Jakobsson is present. Jefferies. Jefferies.

Jefferson."

Jefferson: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Jefferson is present. Jenisch."

Jenisch: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Jenisch is present. Joyce. Joyce. Kelly."

Kelly: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Kelly is present. Kosel."

Kosel: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Kosel's present. Krause."

Krause: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Krause is present. Lang."

Lang: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Lang is present. Leitch. Leitch. Lindner.

Lindner. Joe Lyons."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Lyons, J.: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Joe Lyons is present. Mathias. Mathias.

Mautino. May. May. McAuliffe."

McAuliffe: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "McAuliffe is present. McCarthy."

McCarthy: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "McCarthy is present. McGuire."

McGuire: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "McGuire is present. McKeon."

McKeon: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "McKeon is present. Mendoza. Mendoza. Meyer.

Meyer. Miller. Miller. Bill Mitchell."

Mitchell, B.: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Bill Mitchell is present. Jerry Mitchell."

Mitchell, J.: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Jerry Mitchell is present. Moffitt."

Moffitt: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Moffitt is present. Molaro."

Molaro: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Molaro is present. Mulligan. Mulligan.

Munson."

Munson: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Munson is present. Myers."

Myers: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Myers is present. Nekritz."

Nekritz: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Nekritz is present. Osmond."

Osmond: "Present."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Clerk Mahoney: "Osmond is present. Osterman. Osterman.

Parke."

Parke: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Parke is present. Phelps."

Phelps: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Phelps is present. Pihos."

Pihos: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Pihos is present. Poe."

Poe: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Poe is present. Pritchard."

Pritchard: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Pritchard is present. Ramey."

Ramey: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Ramey is present. Reis."

Reis: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Reis is present. Reitz."

Reitz: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Reitz is present. Rita. Rita. Rose."

Rose: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Rose is present. Ryg. Ryg. Sacia."

Sacia: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Sacia is present. Saviano. Saviano. Schmitz."

Schmitz: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Schmitz is present. Schock. Schock. Scully.

Scully. Smith. Smith. Sommer."

Sommer: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Sommer's present. Soto."

Soto: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Soto is present. Stephens."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Stephens: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Stephens is present. Sullivan."

Sullivan: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Sullivan is present. Tracy. Tracy. Tryon."

Tryon: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Tryon is present. Turner. Turner.

Verschoore."

Verschoore: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Verschoore is present. Wait."

Wait: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Wait is present. Washington."

Washington: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Washington is present. Watson."

Watson: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Watson is present. Winters."

Winters: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Winters is present. Yarbrough. Yarbrough.

Younge."

Younge: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Younge is present. Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Madigan: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mr. Speaker is present. Acevedo. Acevedo.

Bassi."

Bassi: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Bassi is present. Berrios. Berrios. Biggins."

Biggins: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Biggins is present. Black. John Bradley."

Bradley, J.: "Here."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Clerk Mahoney: "John Bradley is present. Brady. Brady.

Brauer."

Brauer: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Brauer is present. Brosnahan. Brosnahan. Chapa LaVia. Colvin. Colvin. Coulson."

Coulson: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Coulson is present. Cross. Cross. Monique Davis. Monique Davis."

Davis, W.: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Will Davis is present. Delgado."

Delgado: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Delgado is present. Dunkin. Dunkin. Hamos."

Hamos: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hamos is present. Durkin."

Durkin: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Durkin is present. Feigenholtz. Feigenholtz. Flowers. Flowers. Franks. Franks. Fritchey. Fritchey. Giles."

Giles: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Giles is present. Graham."

Graham: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Graham is present. Granberg. Granberg. Hassert."

Hassert: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hassert is present. Hoffman. Hoffman.

Jefferies. Jefferies. Joyce. Joyce. Leitch. Leitch.

Lindner."

Lindner: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Lindner is present. Mathias."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Mathias: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mathias is present. Mautino."

Mautino: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mautino is present. May."

May: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "May is present. Mendoza. Mendoza. Meyer."

Meyer: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Meyer is present. Miller."

Miller: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Miller is present. Mulligan. Mulligan.

Osterman. Osterman. Rita. Rita. Ryg."

Ryg: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Ryg is present. Saviano. Saviano. Schock.

Schock. Scully. Scully."

Scully: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Scully is present. Smith."

Smith: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Smith is present. Tracy. Representative Tracy.

Turner. Turner. Yarbrough. Yarbrough. Acevedo. Acevedo.

Berrios."

Berrios: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Berrios is present. Brosnahan."

Brosnahan: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Brosnahan is present. Brady."

Brady: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Brady is present. Chapa LaVia. Colvin.

Representative Colvin. Cross. Cross. Monique Davis.

Monique Davis. Dunkin. Dunkin. Feigenholtz. Feigenholtz.

Flowers. Flowers. Franks."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Franks: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Franks is present. Fritchey. Granberg. Granberg. Hoffman. Hoffman. Jefferies. Joyce. Leitch. Representative Leitch."

Leitch: "Here."

Clerk Mahoney: "Leitch is present. Mendoza."

Mendoza: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mendoza is present. Mulligan."

Mulligan: "Present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mulligan is present. Osterman."

Osterman: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Osterman is present. Rita. Representative Rita. Schock."

Schock: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Schock is present. Turner."

Turner: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Turner is present. Tracy. Representative Tracy. Yarbrough. Representative Yarbrough."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Cultra, for what reason do you rise?"

Cultra: "A point of personal privilege."

Speaker Hannig: "Why don't… why don't you let us finish the roll on the Attendance Roll Call. Is everyone on the Attendance Roll Call who wishes? Representative Feigenholtz is present. Mr. Clerk, would you record her as present."

Clerk Mahoney: "Feigenholtz is present. Chapa LaVia is present."

Speaker Hannig: "Okay. Any further? Then Mr. Clerk, take the record. There are 101 Members answering the Roll Call, a

139th Legislative Day

- quorum is present. Representative Cultra, for what reason do you rise?"
- Cultra: "I just wanted to thank the Speaker for the pictures.

 It's a very nice memento and it's very much appreciated.

 Thank you."
- Speaker Hannig: "Excuse me. Representative Bost, I forgot to recognize you for the excused absences."
- Bost: "Thank... thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let the record reflect and it is with great sadness that we say Bill Black is not here today."
- Speaker Hannig: "Okay. The rec..."
- Bost: "So, we could probably go ahead and head on out."
- Speaker Hannig: "The record will so reflect. And... and Representative Currie on the excused absences on the Democratic side."
- Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record show that Representative Patterson is excused today."
- Speaker Hannig: "The record will so reflect. Mr. Clerk, read the Committee Reports."
- Clerk Mahoney: "Referred to the Committee... House Committee on Rules is Senate Joint Resolution 95, offered by Representative Currie. Rules Report. Representative Barbara Flynn Currie, Chairperson from the Committee on Rules, to which the following legislative measures and/or Joint Action Motions were referred, action taken on November 30, 2006, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'approved for floor consideration' is Senate Amendment #1 to House Joint Resolution 107, a Motion to Concur. House Joint Resolution 139, offered by

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Representative Meyer, is a Motion to Concur with Senate Amendment #1, 'recommends be adopted'. House Joint Resolution 150, offered by Representative Reis, is 'recommends be adopted' and referred to the Order of Resolutions."

Speaker Hannig: "Okay. If I could just have your attention for a moment, we're gonna try to expedite a few things this morning so that we can move along and everyone can head home before the weather gets too bad. And what we're gonna do is combine three Concurrence Motions on House Resolutions. And so, on page 3 of the Calendar we have House Joint Resolution 107, House Joint Resolution 139 and on the Supplemental Calendar, on the Order of Resolutions, we have House Joint Resolution 150. Now, the board only has the capability of showing the first one, but we're gonna debate each one separately and then at the end we'll have one Roll Call and that way we can move things along, okay. So, that's the plan. So, we'll begin... I'm advised that Representative Howard doesn't need to speak on her Resolution. On House Joint Resolution 139, Representative Meyer, do you wish to say anything? Okay. And Representative Reis on House Joint Resolution 150, would you like to say something on behalf? You don't need to but if you wish to, we'll recognize you. Okay. So, the Gentleman passes. So, the question is, 'Shall the House concur... shall the House concur in House Resolution 107, House Joint Resolution 139 and House Joint Resolution 150?' All in favor will vote 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The voting is open. Mr. Clerk, call the roll."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Clerk Mahoney: "Acevedo. Acevedo. Bassi."

Bassi: "Pass."

Clerk Mahoney: "Bassi votes 'aye'. Beaubien. Bassi passes.

Beaubien."

Beaubien: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Beaubien votes 'aye'. Beiser."

Beiser: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Beiser votes 'aye'. Bellock."

Bellock: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Bellock votes 'aye'. Berrios."

Berrios: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Berrios votes 'aye'. Bassi votes 'aye'.

Biggins."

Biggins: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Biggins votes 'aye'. Boland. Boland."

Boland: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Boland votes 'aye'. Bost."

Bost: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Bost votes 'aye'. John Bradley."

Bradley, J.: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "John Bradley votes 'aye'. Rich Bradley."

Bradley, R.: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Rich Bradley votes 'aye'. Brady."

Brady: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Brady votes 'aye'. Brauer."

Brauer: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Brauer votes 'aye'. Brosnahan."

Brosnahan: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Brosnahan votes 'aye'. Burke."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Burke: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Burke votes 'aye'. Chapa LaVia."

Chapa LaVia: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Chapa LaVia votes 'aye'. Chavez."

Chavez: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Chavez votes 'aye'. Churchill."

Churchill: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Churchill votes 'aye'. Collins. Collins.

Colvin."

Collins: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Collins votes 'aye'. Colvin. Coulson.

Coulson."

Coulson: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Coulson votes 'aye'. Cross. Cross. Cultra."

Cultra: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Cultra votes 'aye'. Currie."

Currie: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Currie votes 'aye'. D'Amico."

D'Amico: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "D'Amico votes 'aye'. Daniels."

Daniels: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Daniels votes 'aye'. Monique Davis."

Davis, M.: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Monique Davis votes 'aye'. Will Davis."

Davis, W.: "Yea."

Clerk Mahoney: "Will Davis votes 'aye'. Delgado."

Delgado: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Delgado votes 'aye'. Dugan."

Dugan: "Aye."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Clerk Mahoney: "Dugan votes 'aye'. Dunkin. Dunkin. Dunn."

Dunn: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Dunn votes 'aye'. Durkin."

Durkin: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Durkin votes 'aye'. Eddy."

Eddy: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Eddy votes 'aye'. Feigenholtz."

Feigenholtz: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Feigenholtz votes 'aye'. Flider."

Flider: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Flider votes 'aye'. Flowers."

Flowers: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Flowers votes 'aye'. Franks. Franks.

Fritchey. Fritchey. Froehlich."

Froehlich: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Froehlich votes 'aye'. Giles."

Giles: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Giles votes 'aye'. Golar."

Golar: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Golar votes 'aye'. Gordon."

Gordon: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Gordon votes 'aye'. Graham."

Graham: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Graham votes 'aye'. Granberg. Granberg.

Hamos."

Hamos: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hamos votes 'aye'. Hannig. Hannig."

Hannig: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hannig votes 'aye'. Hassert."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Hassert: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hassert votes 'aye'. Hoffman."

Hoffman: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hoffman votes 'aye'. Holbrook."

Holbrook: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Holbrook votes 'aye'. Howard."

Howard: "Ave."

Clerk Mahoney: "Howard votes 'aye'. Hultgren. Hultgren.

Jakobsson."

Jakobsson: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Jakobsson votes 'aye'. Jefferies."

Jefferies: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Jefferies votes 'aye'. Jefferson."

Jefferson: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Jefferson votes 'aye'. Joyce."

Joyce: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Joyce votes 'aye'. Kelly."

Kelly: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Kelly votes 'aye'. Kosel."

Kosel: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Kosel votes 'aye'. Krause. Krause."

Krause: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Krause votes 'aye'. Lang. Lang. Leitch."

Leitch: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Leitch votes 'aye'. Lindner."

Lindner: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Lindner votes 'aye'. Joe Lyons."

Lyons, J.: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Joe Lyons votes 'aye'. Mathias."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Mathias: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mathias votes 'aye'. Mautino."

Mautino: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mautino votes 'aye'. May."

May: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "May votes 'aye'. Mau... McAuliffe."

McAuliffe: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "McAuliffe votes 'aye'. McCarthy."

McCarthy: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "McCarthy votes 'aye'. McGuire."

McGuire: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "McGuire votes 'aye'. McKeon."

McKeon: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "McKeon votes 'aye'. Mendoza."

Mendoza: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mendoza votes 'aye'. Meyer. "Meyer."

Meyer: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Meyer votes 'aye'. Miller."

Miller: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Miller votes 'aye'. Bill Mitchell."

Mitchell, B.: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Bill Mitchell votes 'aye'. Jerry Mitchell."

Mitchell, J.: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Jerry Mitchell votes 'aye'. Moffitt."

Moffitt: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Moffitt votes 'aye'. Molaro."

Molaro: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Molaro votes 'aye'. Mulligan."

Mulligan: "Aye."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Clerk Mahoney: "Mulligan votes 'aye'. Munson."

Munson: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Munson votes 'aye'. Myers."

Myers: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Myers votes 'aye'. Nekritz."

Nekritz: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Nekritz votes 'aye'. Osmond. Osmond.

Osterman. "

Osterman: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Osterman votes 'aye'. Parke."

Parke: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Parke votes 'aye'. Phelps."

Phelps: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Phelps votes 'aye'. Pihos."

Pihos: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Pihos votes 'aye'. Poe."

Poe: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Poe votes 'aye'. Pritchard."

Pritchard: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Pritchard votes 'aye'. Ramey."

Ramey: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Ramey votes 'aye'. Reis."

Reis: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Reis votes 'aye'. Reitz."

Reitz: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Reitz votes 'aye'. Rita. Rita. Rose."

Rose: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Rose votes 'aye'. Ryg."

Ryg: "Aye."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Clerk Mahoney: "Ryg votes 'aye'. Sacia."

Sacia: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Sacia votes 'aye'. Saviano. Saviano. Schmitz.

Schmitz. Schock."

Schock: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Schock votes 'aye'. Scully. "Scully."

Scully: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Scully votes 'aye'. Smith."

Smith: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Smith votes 'aye'. Sommer."

Sommer: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Sommer votes 'aye'. Soto."

Soto: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Soto votes 'aye'. Stephens. Stephens.

Sullivan."

Sullivan: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Sullivan votes 'aye'. Tracy."

Tracy: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Tracy votes 'aye'. Tryon."

Tryon: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Tryon votes 'aye'. Turner."

Turner: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Turner votes 'aye'. Verschoore."

Verschoore: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Verschoore votes 'aye'. Wait."

Wait: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Wait votes 'aye'. Washington."

Washington: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Washington votes 'aye'. Watson."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Watson: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Watson votes 'aye'. Winters."

Winters: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Winters votes 'aye'. Yarbrough. Yarbrough. Younge."

Younge: "(Inaudible)."

Clerk Mahoney: "Younge votes 'aye'. Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Madigan: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Mr. Speaker votes 'aye'. Acevedo. Colvin.

Colvin. Cross. Cross. Dunkin. Dunkin. Franks.

Representative Franks."

Franks: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Franks votes 'aye'. Fritchey. Representative Fritchey. Granberg. Hultgren."

Hultgren: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Hultgren votes 'aye'. Lang."

Lang: "Aye."

Clerk Mahoney: "Lang votes 'aye'. Osmond. Representative Osmond. Rita. Representative Rita. Saviano. Saviano. Schmitz. Representative Schmitz. Stephens. Representative Stephens. Yarbrough. Representative Yarbrough."

Yarbrough: "Yes."

Clerk Mahoney: "Yarbrough votes 'aye'."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Jenisch, for what reason do you rise?"

Jenisch: "Inquiry of the Chair."

Speaker Hannig: "Yes, state your point."

Jenisch: "Yes. I know my term is up in the middle of January, but I think I should still be on the Roll Call. And he

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

missed my name twice on the Roll Call. So, I would like to vote 'aye' on this Bill."

Speaker Hannig: "So, Mr. Clerk. Okay."

Jenisch: "Somebody must have screamed 'aye' for me. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Oh. Have all voted who wish? Then Mr. Clerk, take the record. So, on this question, there are 105 voting 'yes' and 0 voting 'no'. And the House does concur with House Joint Resolution... House Joint Resolutions 107 and 139 and these Bills are declared adopt... passed... these... this Reso... these Resolutions are declared adopted and the House does adopt House Joint Resolution 150. Representative Verschoore, for what reason do you rise?"

Verschoore: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."

Speaker Hannig: "State your point."

Verschoore: "I found out today that my staffer, Brendan Hostetler, is going to be leaving us. I wanna thank the Speaker. I don't know how the Speaker does it, but he puts together the greatest staffers, as far as I'm concerned, in the State Legislature. I can only speak for myself, but Brendan has, as I put it, kept me on the straight and narrow. I don't think the Legislators give these staffers enough credit. They... they work when we go out to dinner and do our things. They're staying there late at night and having us prepared the next morning. I just want Brendan to know how much I appreciate everything he did for me. I wouldn't have been able to do my job without his help and I

139th Legislative Day

- think everybody should remember these staffers at Christmas time. Thank you very much."
- Speaker Hannig: "On page 4 of the Calendar, under the Order of Resolutions, is House Resolution 1346. Representative Poe.

 Representative Poe, did you wanna say a few words?"
- Poe: "Mr. Speaker, basically, it's self-explanatory. Proclaims that helping citizens with disabilities and we'd ask that we would get a favorable vote. Thank you."
- Speaker Hannig: "Is there any discussion? Then all in favor of the Gentleman's Motion say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. Excuse me. Representative Feigenholtz, did you wish to speak on this? No. Could we adopt the Resolution? Okay. So, all in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The Resolution is adopted. Representative Feigenholtz, for what reason do you rise?"
- Feigenholtz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on a point of personal privilege."
- Speaker Hannig: "State your point."
- Feigenholtz: "The previous speaker, Representative Patrick Verschoore, is celebrating his 63rd birthday today. Let's all give him a birthday wish."
- Speaker Hannig: "Representative Lang, you have House Resolution 1504. The Gentleman moves for the adoption of House Resolution 1504. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. The Resolution is adopted. House Resolution 1545, Representative Rose. Representative Rose. So, the Gentleman moves for the adoption of House Resolution 1545. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. We're going to now

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

move to House Resolution 1552. Mr. Clerk, would you read the Resolution."

Clerk Bolin: "House Resolution 1552.

- WHEREAS, The Honorable Representative Lee A. Daniels, during his experience of almost 32 years as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, has served the Illinois General Assembly in almost every position of honor known to the House, including the responsibility of Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives; and
- WHEREAS, The Honorable Lee A. Daniels has become a nationally known advocate for persons with developmental disabilities and their families, sponsoring many ground breaking pieces of legislation designed to help persons with developmental disabilities and their families, and tirelessly advocating for their implementation and full funding; and
- WHEREAS, Because of Lee A. Daniels' tireless work on behalf of Illinois persons with developmental disabilities and their families, Illinois has become a national model successful developmental disability care, with special reference to the problem of adequate community care for persons with developmental disabilities and their families, the problem of providing adequate transition support for developmentally disabled people who "age out" from their years of elementary and secondary education, and the problem respite care for the families of persons with developmental disabilities who selflessly care for their family members at home; and
- WHEREAS, For these and many other reasons, the Honorable Lee A.

 Daniels quickly attracted the esteem of his legislative

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

colleagues in other states, an esteem reflected in the executive positions to which he was elected within the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL); starting with membership on the NCSL Executive Committee, a post to which he was elevated in 1984, he rose to the rank of NCSL President in 1989-90, presiding over the NCSL Annual Meeting in Nashville in that year; and

- WHEREAS, After only six years in office, Representative Lee A. Daniels joined the ranks of House Republican leadership in the Illinois House, becoming Minority Whip in 1981, and after only eight years in office was elected House Republican Leader by his colleagues in 1983, beginning an uninterrupted period of twenty years as leader of the Republican Party in the Illinois House of Representatives, the lineal successor of Abraham Lincoln in this position; and
- WHEREAS, As the undisputed leader of his colleagues, Daniels was the unanimous choice of his party's caucus for the position of Speaker of the Illinois House during the 89th General Assembly, which met from 1995 through 1996; and
- WHEREAS, During the term of the 89th General Assembly, the Illinois House initiated numerous items of key legislature effort for the good of all Illinois, including the passage and signing into law of a comprehensive package of measures for the reform of the Chicago school system, a system that had been described by a federal secretary of education as "the worst school system in the nation"; and
- WHEREAS, As a result of the bipartisan efforts encapsulated in Chicago school reform, this inner-city school district has

139th Legislative Day

- begun the task of renewing its excellence, increasing pupil test scores, and keeping the promise to "leave no child behind"; and
- WHEREAS, The leadership of the Honorable Lee A. Daniels has been characterized by a desire to increase the productivity and excellence of all units of State and local government within Illinois, and as a result Daniels has been a friend to the Illinois taxpayer in every position in which he has served; and
- WHEREAS, Before and during his Speakership, Lee A. Daniels pushed tirelessly for the enactment of property tax caps in Cook County, in the suburban counties surrounding Cook County, and in many counties in downstate Illinois, to limit the growth of local governmental spending, and ensure that the units of local government that depend on property tax revenue remain units of high productivity and retain a sense of loyalty to the taxpayers who elect them; and
- WHEREAS, In these uncertain times, our national security is measurably increased by the presence of almost inexhaustible resources of coal under the ground of Illinois, but during the 1980's and 1990's, the Illinois coal industry was suffering almost exponential decline in the volume and value of coal mined; and
- WHEREAS, In 2001 Lee A. Daniels, acting as House Republican Leader, brought all of the interested parties to the negotiating table and led the development of the "Empower Illinois" program to re-establish the Illinois coal industry and encourage the continued mining and burning, under environmentally sound conditions, of Illinois coal for

139th Legislative Day

- electric energy throughout Illinois and the rest of the nation; and
- WHEREAS, In 1992 Representative Daniels drafted, and saw enacted into law, a bill, that became Public Act 87-870, which created the criminal offenses of stalking and aggravated stalking, making Illinois the first State in the nation to make stalking a felony criminal offense and thereby protecting victims of stalking throughout Illinois; and
- WHEREAS, Lee Daniels has made adequate health care for seniors his top priority, and has been a principal legislative champion of the Circuit Breaker program that provided subsidized pharmaceutical drugs for lower and middle-income seniors to cover cardiovascular disease, diabetes, arthritis, Alzheimer's disease, cancer, glaucoma, Parkinson's disease, and osteoporosis; and
- WHEREAS, The Circuit Breaker program formed the foundation of Illinois's current Illinois Cares Rx program to provide necessary pharmaceuticals of many varieties to Illinois senior citizens; and
- WHEREAS, The preceding has not been a complete list of the legislative accomplishments of the Honorable Representative Lee A. Daniels, because a definitive list would take too long to be recounted here; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we acknowledge that the experience, lawmaking skill, and accomplishments of the Honorable Lee A. Daniels have raised

139th Legislative Day

- him to a unique position among his colleagues in the Illinois House of Representatives; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that Representative Lee A. Daniels has been, is, and will continue to be a tireless advocate for his district, for DuPage County, and for all of the people of Illinois; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that the Honorable Lee A. Daniels could not have accomplished a fraction of the considerable body of accomplishments recounted here had it not been for the tireless and loving support that he has received from his wife, Pamela Daniels, and his five children, Laurie, Rachael, Julia, Tom, and Christina; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives present a suitable copy of this resolution to the Honorable Representative Lee A. Daniels and his family, as a token of our continued affection and esteem."
- Speaker Hannig: "On the Resolution, the Gentleman from Peoria, Representative Leitch."
- Leitch: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. It's indeed a bittersweet honor for me to be the first to speak on the occasion of Lee's retirement Resolution. As many of you know, I'm often fond in these moments to paraphrase Emerson who once said that a person cannot speak but that he judges himself. With his will or against his will he draws a portrait to the eyes of his companions. And I must say and I know you agree what a portrait has been drawn by our friend and Leader Lee Daniels. If we're to be measured here in our brief service throughout time, perhaps the most important measurement is

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

what we do to help those who can least help themselves. And so it is that Lee has set a standard that may never be reached across this country for his compassion and for his dedication and for his success at making the lives of thousands and thousands of Illinois citizens and by example those around the country who suffer from developmental disabilities. As a leader, Lee's portrait would also expand nationally through his service with the National Council of State Legislatures. He shared his service; he shared his innovation; he shared his example of integrity and brought great pride, great respect and great honor to Illinois through that service. But in my view and so many others of yours, that doesn't begin to tell the story of the true Lee Daniels that we know and love. Everyone knows the word's the bond around here, certainly Lee has exemplified that. Though Lee's impact on so many of us as indepen... individual Members truly cannot be exaggerated. Indeed, anything I've ever done down here of any significance would never have been accomplished without the counsel and leadership and help of my friend Lee Daniels. And so it is true for so many others in our caucus and outside of our caucus because Lee has always been open to a good idea whomever has brought it forward. But not just in the legislative arena has Lee been a dear friend and a strong, compassionate voice. Many, many of us have had individual issues and Lee has always been the first one there. Who can forget Lee's grief over the loss of our beloved Roger McAuliffe. Lee has always been there for so many of our Members who've gone through individual crises. Lee's gone to find the doctors, to not

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

rest until he knew that the families had been comforted and that he had done everything he could to do to help those of us who were in his individual... individual need. Many of you will recall in 1992 when I was walkin' around here bald as a cue ball, not that that much has changed, but it was as a result of a cancerous brain tumor. I didn't even get out of the recovery room that day before Lee Daniels was on the phone to offer me, my family, and others his support, his compassion and his... express his extreme desire to help. it's where all of your portraits, Lee, each a personal portrait for each of us together with a magnificent portrait, the panorama of your life and of your service that makes so many of us so proud to call you a friend and to have been a small piece of your life as you have served so diligently, so honorably, so beautifully the people of Illinois. Godspeed, Lee Daniels."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Leitch moves for the adoption of House Resolution 1552. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. Speaker Madigan."

Madigan: "Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, let me get that guy in sights of my eyes. Lee Daniels and I have had a very interesting relationship over many, many years. Let's start with something that probably very few in this chamber know which is that in 1975 for the election of the Speaker the Democrats elected 101 Members in the prior election, in those days you needed 89 votes to elect a Speaker. Democrats being Democrats, among our 101 we could not find 89 to vote for one of our own for the office of

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Speaker. And so at the end of the balloting it was a group of Republicans that joined Democrats to elect Bill Redmond as the Speaker of the House. Redmond had been elected, I believe, from the same district as Lee in DuPage County. Lee Daniels was the first Republican to rise and to vote for Redmond. At the time, the general conversation around the Capitol building was that Lee Daniels had ruined his political career. He had broken ranks with the Republican Party, went across the aisle and participated with some Democrats to elect a Speaker, but the history clearly shows that that was not the case because going forward he got himself into a track among his fellow Republicans and at the appropriate time he was selected as their Leader, served very professionally as the Leader of the Republicans with great competence and became the Speaker of the House. of course, I'm always anxious to commend those who have risen to the rank of Speaker of the House and so clearly I wanna do that for Representative Lee Daniels. As I said, we've had a interesting relationship; generally, an easy relationship, sometimes difficult, sometimes difficult; generally, cordial, sometimes not, but always professional, always professional. And that's really important understand not just for Lee and I but for all of us because we come here as a group of people, each of us has our own personality, each of us has our own agenda that we wish to advance through the Body and as all of that comes together and collides it can be difficult to need to maintain a sense in a spirit of professionalism. And that's something that we should all strive to do day in and day out and that's

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

what Lee and I worked real hard to do because, look, when you're competing Leaders, there's gonna be a lot of policy differences, a lot of political differences and so you really have to draw upon your discipline to make sure that you maintain your professionalism as a Member of the House of Representatives. Lee has much to be proud of, much to be He has a wonderful family. He has been a wonderful father for his daughter who has a developmental disability. And he has championed that cause here in the House for as long as he has served in the House of Representatives, not always with strong support from others and it is clearly to his credit, clearly to his credit. Lee is leaving us but I think he's going on to bigger and better things. I think he's going to have a real good life that can reflect upon his accomplishments here in the House; he can reflect upon his accomplishments as a father, as a family man and has a great, wide road ahead. Lee, on behalf of my family and I'm sure all Democrats and all Republicans, I wish to wish you the very, very best as you go forward. Best of luck."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Stephens."

Stephens: "Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker and Members, Lee. We're all aware how fortunate we are to serve here and as I look around the room and on our side of the aisle and I see some faces here that I know would not be here were it not for Lee Daniels. Almost every career on this side of the aisle has been touched in a positive way by Lee Daniels. Speaking for myself, I can never thank you enough. To our caucus I would say that Lee Daniels gave us a template that began in the

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

1990 election when we were not having such a great year and with his leadership he proved that not only could we survive but we could prosper. And led us back to a Majority and he earned the honor of being elected Speaker of the House. But for most of us, and for me for sure, it is the personal side of our lives that we have shared. Some of you will remember, but many will not, it is of a personal tragedy in my life but not making an excuse. I became addicted to prescription medicine. One of the worst days in my life was when I finally realized that I couldn't hide from my sorrows with those drugs. And in this city, in the building just down the street, the Capitol, I made a decision that would change my life forever in a positive way. I needed help and I found that help. The help wasn't free and I was beside myself, emotionally distraught. Having a place waiting for me at the Betty Ford Clinic in California and no way to get there and do you know they... it's... it's a cash business. needed \$15 thousand; I couldn't even find my checkbook. And I sat in my office and cried. Lee Daniels walked in and closed the door. He said, 'What do we need to do?' through my tears I told him that... my situation. He got on the phone in my office, got on the phone with the Betty Ford Clinic in California; he got out his credit card. He said, 'I always wanted to test this thing. Ya know, they have limits.' Lee Daniels was there for me in a very personal way and helped save my life. What I will always remember and what each of us know is that the greatest gift that God gives us is the relationship with another human being. Lee, you have honored that relationship to the ultimate. Me and

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

my family will always remember you for what you've done for us personally, for our careers and what an inspiration you have been to so many. God bless you."

Speaker Hannig: "Anything further? Representative Mulligan."

Mulligan: "Thank you. I, too, wanna commend Lee. I got here a little different way, I beat one of his leaders and he was one of the first people on the phone to congratulate me and then he only showed deference after that to, I think, the women Legislators in our caucus and to the many jobs and the responsibilities that he gave me. second year as a freshman, the person ahead of me was going to Congress and so I got to be at the table in Human Service Appropriations in negotiations and in the following year when we came back in the Majority and I requested to be Chair of that committee he let me be. And at that time I was able to be at the table as one of the few women that was at the table in doing negotiations. He always gave me good appointments and he always listened to what we wanted to do in Human Service Appropriations and he always listened when the Conference of Women Legislators when the women came and asked him in the caucus and I'm sure that many times there were people outside the caucus, not Legislators, who were critical of the fact that he showed deference to the women in his caucus. But I will say, as someone who's worked in the area for the long time and who comes from a community that has excellent facilities for the developmentally disabled, there isn't enough that can be said about Lee and what he's done in that community and what he's done in Illinois to help that community of people. They would not

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

be where they are today and even though we haven't fulfilled everything we need to do, he's always been there whether he's been the Leader or not, he's always been there, he's always been a voice and he's always been open. And the loss for that community, I think will feel particularly astute because... particularly acute because some of us will be the ones that have to try to carry on to make sure that what we need to do for that community is met without his leadership. I think it's important understand and I think many of us bring personal situations to the General Assembly that make us more in tune with certain issues and even though Lee has a daughter, who I'm sure he could financially take care of quite well, he made sure that people that couldn't, have that ear and that he worked with that community and how much they respect him over the years that I've been in the position in the General Assembly that I'm in is just unbelievable how much respect and how much credit they give him for where we are in Illinois in those issues. We will sorely miss his leadership on that issue and I'm sure he will feel free to pick up the phone and continue to call many of us. I've always believed that he's been a friend and he's had an open ear and many of you know that I'm a fairly passionate Legislator so I am not always calm when I am talking to him, but he always gave me that deference of being able to go in and talk to him, have his ear and to be open on those issues particularly which I think are particularly tough issues in the General Assembly because it costs so much money and people are so passionate about advocating for their own

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

individual areas, but he will be missed so much in the Human Service area that I only hope that other people will stout... step up and fill the void and please feel free to always call when I'm still here and lobby me on those issues because you know more than many of us will ever know."

Speaker Hannig: "Anything further? Proceed."

"Thank you. I was engaged in the property tax appeal Biggins: field and there's some laws that were passed around when tax caps were started in 1990... something and so I wanted to talk to somebody that... about who was instrumental in getting those legis... laws passed 'cause I had some concerns about some things that could happen unintentionally if language and stuff wasn't correct. So, as a practitioner of somebody who lived in town, in Elmhurst, and happened to have bought Lee's boyhood home, a rather old stately place of a hundred-something years, I thought I would call the House Republican Leader and make an appointment. So, I did that and he said well, come on down and we knew each other, acquaintances of sorts. And of course, he knew where I lived and so... but I'm way down to the day before I'm packing up and... my office and my wife calls me and said, 'hey, Bob, tomorrow when you go to visit Lee you're gonna be able to give him a present.' So what present is that? Well, you know these old houses, these hundred-year-old things, they pass along furniture from some owners to the others and there's a hutch that survived some time because we had bought it when we purchased the house just a couple owners after Lee's family had moved. So, my wife said, 'Bob, you'll be able to remove the hutch today.' 'Cause we were

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

redoing the house and it's a project that took a while. So, she said, 'you'll be able to give him something.' 'And what's that?' 'Well, we moved the hutch and out came his seventh grade report card.' So, I come down and meet... to meet with the House Republican Leader in his office and we talk about the tax stuff and he gives me some fine advice, some cautions and some things I was concerned that might happen. As we all know, things happen in these legislative times. And after we got all done, I said, 'Well, Lee, I did wanna give you something.' And of course, I stayed the evening for dinner and he, of course, he had a treat but anyway. Hey, so I said to Lee, 'I do have your seventh grade report card.' So, I handed him his seventh grade report card, duly signed each time by his mother, and he got a little red-faced and ya know, it was on a strange moment. And he said, 'Well, Bob, what can I say?' And I said, 'Well, you sure had good attendance then; you sure have good attendance now.' Ya know that's... and that's the story and that's the story I told and it's the story... the same every time I tell it. And since that time we've ended up not only living in the same house together back home; we did... we work in the same House together down here. I didn't room with he and Tom the last year and maybe it was my fault, I don't know, but anyway it was... that happened. And so, we have a lot of things in common. I really... he gave me nice rides down and it was very comfortable on the... I got to have his counsel and ya know, his advice was always very good advice to give and his personal advice to me and he helped me as he's done many... someone's spoken about it... some don't have

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

to, some won't. But he's helped so many other people with pieces of advice along the way and he and I will still be able to continue to do these things, traveling around somewhere together here and there, and I'll look forward to continuing those times, but appreciating very much his very wise advice that he gives, anything on State Government, and on personal matters, he's a great expert at that and I thank him very much and appreciate the opportunity he gave me. And we'll continue to be friends together and maybe I'll still call him once in a while for advice. My pleasure, thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Churchill."

Churchill: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I first came down to the General Assembly, I was one of those young folks that decided I wanted to be involved in all of the discussions that are going on on the House Floor and for those of you who are still here from the early '80s you'll recall that every day that went by I spent a lot of time on the House Floor talking and arguing points and debating and I've learned over time that sometimes a few carefully chosen words make more sense than long-winded debates. So, I won't be too long here. I've looked around and I've tried to find out if there are anybody... if there is anybody here that has spent more time with Lee in his office than I have. I don't think as a Member anybody else has, maybe some of the staff people have. And so, I have personal reflections of Lee Daniels that others of you may not have, but I... I would say this to you, we all give up so much of what we do back home, there are events we should go... attend that we don't, family

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

meetings that we should do, times with our kids that we should spend and we don't do that because of our public life but Lee Daniels worked as hard or harder than any Member down here that I know. And there was one example of that that I could recall for you was when Lee was the Speaker. Every day, as the Majority Leader, I would open up the House at 9:00 and we would go through our agenda and we'd fight all day long and about 9:00 at night I'd go into Lee's office and I'd say, 'Lee, everybody's tired, everybody's cranky, everybody's mad at each other, let's adjourn.' Lee would say, 'give me a second.' He'd go in, freshen up a little bit and he'd say, 'there's still work to be done.' And he'd march out and if you recall, we'd stay 'til midnight or 1:00 in the morning because Lee said we have so much we have to accomplish every day, let's accomplish this And it was... it was a work product that was amount. astounding in 2 years that was completed at that point. Lee, you're one of the hardest working folks that I've ever known and it's been a pleasure to not only be your colleague but to have you as my boss at one point, to have you as my Leader, my Speaker, and to have you as my seatmate. things that you have done for the people of Illinois will be written on the hearts of souls of eleven and a half million people in Illinois, not necessarily just in the record books from this place. God bless you."

Speaker Hannig: "Anything further? Representative Daniels...

Speaker Daniels."

Daniels: "Thank you. What do I say to all of you other than in 32 years I've realized a lot of things and every day has

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

been a new challenge. It's a great place; it really is. We are so honored and so blessed to be able to represent the people of Illinois and to do what we do. Just think of it. You can stand up on the House Floor and argue points and beliefs that you have and debate on behalf of people that send you here. Just think of the greatness of the democracy that we have, the ability to speak for people that can't speak for themselves or to debate for people that need your help or to plead a cause from Southern Illinois that somebody maybe from Northern Illinois iust The diversity of this state and the length of understand. the state, the breadth of the state and the people of the state all come together in this room. I have met people that I love and that I will love forever. But I want each and every one of you to know that even though I've spent some money unwisely against some of you on this side of the aisle... I sure wish I still had that ... and made many, many a mistakes probably too many to count and when I listened to the words, I think, I'm never worthy of those discussions, not worthy of the great things. And it's one of the things that I think you should understand that all of the honors that I have been afforded and there have been many and there have made many wonderful times, many hard times are there because of you are there because of what you've allowed me to do on your behalf, the Leader of the House Republicans and yes, Speaker of the House. What a tremendous honor. cannot thank you enough for that to afford me that opportunity. I'd like to talk to each and every one of you individually, but please feel that I give to you all my

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

heartfelt thanks for those honors and for the opportunity to serve. To my friend and I mean this seriously, Speaker Mike Madigan, he was right. We had some wonderful opportunities to serve the people of Illinois and we like to think we did a great job. We had some tremendous arguments and fights. I mean, there are times, we would have shot each other if they allowed guns on the House Floor. In fact, I think you did shoot me a couple times, Mike, when I walked off the House Floor. But you are right, Mike, I hold you in the highest respect and regard and without a doubt and I say this without reservation, you are the most talented and the most capable political Legislative Leader that I've ever met in this country and that I've had the pleasure to know in this state. My congratulations to you. To my Leader, Tom Cross, I wish him the absolute best of success... oh gosh, you've got some tremendous problems in front of you. You know without talking politically, we all know that we have tremendous needs in this state, whether it's in the area of human services or education or our criminal justice system, you name the area, we have tremendous needs and it's on your shoulders to resolve that. I ask you this, do not forget that you feel in your heart, do not forget what you know in your mind, do not forget the talent that you possess, the ability to stand up and argue for what's important for the people that send you here which is different, perhaps, than the people that sent me here in their views. I have been blessed to come from a wonderful area just like each and every one of you do, but we have different views and they may have in my friend Mike Bost's area down in Southern

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Illinois, but that's why I'm here. I'm here to represent the people that sent me here. Don't forget why you are here and the heartfelt charges that you feel in your mind. Stand up on this House Floor and argue them and argue them as hard as you can and if you win, understand that the day that has carried you forth is because you've been allowed to represent people. If you lose, there's never a loss here. We continue to move forward with those views and those ideas and those policies. Stand strong, speak strong, be loud, be clear and be responsible to those people that've sent you. You all know this; you've heard it, but sometimes when you sit here you forget how important it is. Sometimes when we go through those days of hours and hours and hours and boredom at times, we forget why we are here. forget your mission because you will get it done. To all of you, I thank you. To all of you that have allowed me the opportunity to represent you and the people of my area, and yes, for a very short, brief period of time... and Mike, thank you by the way for giving me 2 years... I remember how hard that was on you and I respect you for that and of course you know how hard it was on me to give it back to you so... Thank you all very much. God bless you and God love you all. Thank you very much."

Speaker Hannig: "Mr. Clerk, would you read House Resolution 1384 for Representative Acevedo."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 1384, offered by Representative Acevedo.

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

- WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois are pleased to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the St. Joseph Club; and
- WHEREAS, The San Guiseppe Society was officially chartered with the State of Illinois on August 13, 1926; the group originated in Chicago's Bridgeport neighborhood, when members of the All Saints Parish, which was composed of predominantly Sicilian/Italian families, chose to make their regular Saturday evening gatherings a more formal group; and
- WHEREAS, The group purchased its first property from the Mellon family; the first building was located at 608 West 26th Street and made the San Guiseppe Society one of the first Italian-American clubs in the city of Chicago to own its own property; and
- WHEREAS, The membership has both gained and declined throughout the years; the name of the club changed to the Saint Joseph Athletic Association and came to its present name, the Saint Joseph Club; and
- WHEREAS, In 1989, the membership voted to sell the property at 608 West 26th Street and to buy property at 2724 South Union Avenue; this purchase of a new home for the club and the subsequent renovation of the new property revitalized the group; many new members joined and the group continued to grow; and
- WHEREAS, The Saint Joseph Club regularly contributes to several groups and organizations, including the Saint Albert the Great Knights of Columbus, the Palos Ladies Golf Club Annual Breast Cancer golf outing, the All Saints Saint Anthony senior citizen Christmas Party, area churches, area family

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

that experience tragedies, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Mark White Post, the McGuane Park Baseball League (team sponsorship), the September 11th Memorial, and Fireman and Police benefits; the group also provides educational assistance awards, contributes to Thanksgiving food drives and clothing drives, and provides support to troops overseas; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the Saint Joseph Club; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Saint Joseph Club as an expression of our esteem."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Acevedo."

Acevedo: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Mr. Speaker, can we add Representative Esther Golar to... as a cosponsor of this Resolution?"

Speaker Hannig: "Yes, we will, Representative."

Acevedo: "I'd also like to let the Clerk know that there was a new Resolution and there was a mistake on the original one. It's not the 50th anniversary, Ladies and Gentlemen, it's the 80th anniversary of the St. Joseph's Club. Ladies and Gentlemen, this past few months I had the opportunity to march in a parade for St. Joseph's Day with the St. Joseph's Club. And it's a statue of St. Joseph and we must have marched maybe for about a good hour with the club and its members and the families. But this is truly a model of what a community organization is about. It's a group of individuals that came together, men and women, who care

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

about their community and try to make the best of what they have and to make the community a better place to live in. This is about a group of individuals that are dedicated to makin' their neighborhoods safe to working and helping the less privileged members of their community. They've been dedicated for the past 80 years. Today, I'm proud to recognize. We have with us President Nick Leone and Vice President Tony Donato and we have some also other members of the St. Joseph Club that are here with today. Help me give 'em a great welcome. And Mr. Speaker, without further ado, if I can turn it over to... to my colleague, Representative Esther Golar, for just a few words."

- Golar: "It is a great honor to be a cosponsor of this Resolution... House Resolution 1384. We thank the leadership of Representative Acevedo and all... who in honor of our guests today. Thank you again."
- Acevedo: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time I'd ask for the adoption of House Resolution... of 1384."
- Speaker Hannig: "All in favor of the Gentleman's Motion say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. Representative Osterman, for what reason do you rise?"
- Osterman: "Mr. Speaker, a point of personal privilege. A number of our colleagues are going to be going into retirement and I want to acknowledge one of them today. From the district next to me, someone who's been an outstanding Legislator since 1996, Larry McKeon, the first openly gay Representative in the State of Illinois. He's been an inspiration to many people in our state who've been living

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

with HIV and AIDS. He's done an outstanding job as a Legislator in Chicago and on behalf of the Illinois House of Representatives I wanna wish him health and happiness in his future career. He'll be living down in Springfield, but if we could all give him a warm round of applause for his leadership. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Mr. Clerk, read the Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Mahoney: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 1549, offered by Representative Coulson. House Resolution 1550, offered by Representative Myers. House Resolution 1551, offered by Representative Burke. House Resolution 1553, offered by Representative Granberg. House Resolution 1554, offered by Representative Daniels."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Currie moves for the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Agreed Resolutions are adopted. Mr. Clerk, read the Adjournment Resolution."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Joint Resolution 152.

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that when the two Houses adjourn on Thursday, November 30, 2006, the House of Representatives stands adjourned until Sunday, January 07, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.; and the Senate stands adjourned until Sunday, January 07, 2007."

Speaker Hannig: "Could I... could I just have your attention for a moment here. Could I have your attention. Before we adjourn, we're gonna do a Death Resolution for a former Member that we've all served with, Representative Lou Jones.

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

So, we're gonna adopt the Adjournment Resolution, but we're not gonna adjourn until after the Death Resolution. So, Representative Currie moves for the adoption of the Adjournment Resolution. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Adjournment Resolution is adopted. And now, Mr. Clerk, would you read House Resolution 1326. Could... could the Members please be in their seats. Would the Members please be in their seats. We're gonna have a Death Resolution now read for a Member that we served with and could we have some order. Mr. Clerk, please read the Resolution."

- Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 1326, offered by Representative Madigan.
 - WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois learned with great sadness of the death of their dear friend and colleague Lovana "Lou" Jones on May 8, 2006; and
 - WHEREAS, She was born March 28, 1938 in Mansfield, Ohio to Louise and Sylvester Walker; and
 - WHEREAS, She attended high school in Mansfield before earning a Bachelor's degree in business administration from Ohio State University; and
 - WHEREAS, She moved with her mother to Illinois in 1959, settling in Chicago's Douglas/Grand Boulevard neighborhood; her sister joined them later; and
 - WHEREAS, She was the mother of Timothy Walker, the late Stephanie Walker, and the late Leslie Walker Boyd; she was a grandmother of seven: Tivaughn Walker, Timothy A. Walker,

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

- William Ramone Bradley Boyd, Nicholas A. Boyd, Carolyn N. Boyd, Triston T. Boyd, and Timika L. Walker; and
- WHEREAS, She was a member of Metropolitan Apostolic Community Church, serving on its Mothers Board, and a deeply spiritual woman whose faith was a source of great strength and helped to see her through times of adversity; and
- WHEREAS, She worked for the United States Postal Service,
 American Bank, and for the City of Chicago, and she
 volunteered as a member of innumerable boards and civic
 organizations; and
- WHEREAS, She was long involved in Democratic politics and helped the late Harold Washington, then a United States Congressman, to make history by becoming the first African-American mayor of the City of Chicago in 1983; and
- WHEREAS, She was first elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1986 and re-elected nine times thereafter; and
- WHEREAS, She was first appointed as an assistant majority leader in 1989; she was the chairperson of the Public Safety Appropriations Committee; she served as a delegate to the 1996 Democratic National Convention; she was a revered member of the House Legislative Black Caucus; she was a mentor and inspiration to younger members of the legislature; she was admired by fellow legislators from both sides of the aisle who often sought her counsel and advice; and
- WHEREAS, She was known for her candor, sharp wit, and willingness to speak the truth to power; she was a formidable debater, equally at ease offering a profound

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

point on a matter of public policy as she was at leaving her colleagues in stitches with a funny story or memorable retort; and

- WHEREAS, Throughout her life she treated others, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, disability, income, or sexual orientation, with the same degree of dignity and respect to which she believed that all human beings were entitled, and she demanded that others do the same; she fought discrimination in all its forms; she was a great leader in the struggle for equal rights for minorities and insistent that people of color have a place at the table; and
- WHEREAS, She firmly held that, as the gospels say, ultimately all will be made to account for how they treated the least among us; she devoted her energies and talents as a legislator to giving voice to the voiceless, comfort to the infirm, and assistance to the poor; and
- WHEREAS, She leaves an extraordinary legislative legacy; she was passionate in her commitment to criminal justice reform and also an advocate for crime victims, with a special focus on supporting battered women's efforts to rebuild their lives; she secured funding for projects, organizations, and institutions that could make a positive difference for her constituents, including billions more for schools throughout the State; she demanded that minority hiring be a requirement for public works projects; she brought new attention to the problem of postpartum depression; she helped to enact programs that allowed senior citizens to afford their prescription medications and have the dignity of leading independent lives; she led the effort to give

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

ex-offenders a second chance through her work on record expungement for non-violent crimes; she worked to make Illinois a leader in providing health care coverage to the uninsured; she led efforts to arrange the State's purchase of the John Hart Crenshaw House, also known as the Old Slave House, in Gallatin County in 2000 to make sure this part of African-American history in Illinois was understood and appreciated by future generations; and

- WHEREAS, While she was justly proud of her many achievements as a legislator, she felt that they paled in comparison to her pride in the accomplishments of her grandchildren, including those whose care and raising she undertook after her daughter's passing more than a decade ago; she used her experience to become an advocate for grandparents raising grandchildren and to increase public awareness about the subject and to pass legislation to provide college assistance to help families who find themselves taking on such a demanding challenge at an advanced age; and
- WHEREAS, The passing of Lovana "Lou" Jones has been deeply felt by many, especially her son, Timothy Walker; her sister, Mary Springfield; her brothers, Harvey Day and Bradley K. Walker; her step-sister, Sylvia Hunter; and her many grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and neighbors; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of Lovana "Lou" Jones, a true original, one of our own, and a woman whose contributions to the civic life of Illinois and steadfast commitment to her family and the

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

people she served will long be remembered and celebrated, and we extend our deepest sympathy to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved her; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to her family as an expression of our sincerest condolences."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Turner."

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Turner: Lou, Lovana Jones. Some of you were not at her homegoing and you may not recall that it was about a 7 hour celebration. I will not talk that long today, but it speaks of the woman that Lovana Jones was. Lou, as stated earlier, was a mother and a grandmother and we often talked about our In fact, Lou's grandson Tim and my son attended Morehouse College, alma mater of Ken Dunkin... they do a lot better... and we often... we often cried as we had to send our per diem checks to them in Georgia. Lou was my seatmate and we shared many political stories. She reminded me that she worked in my first campaign. I didn't know her at the time and it just shows that not only did she work in my first campaign, you heard in the Resolution she worked in Washington's campaign and probably every African American in here, Lou Jones worked or helped them be elected. That was the person that Lou was. We often debated on the House Floor who represented the poorest of the state and who also knew the most people incarcerated in our correctional system. And then, ultimately, we would say, 'Well, Wyvetter Younge should be sitting here talking with us because she, too, represents the poor district.' Lou

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

compassionate, was always willing to help others and she would... there was nothing that she wouldn't share with you. Her accomplishments are many and she'll be missed for her work, especially in the criminal justice and in the human services area. I can remember days when Lou would come to the House Floor after leaving the Jud II Committee and she would come to the floor still swearing. Yes, there was times she felt the need... she felt the need to speak another language. I know that if her good friend Billie Paige, who's up in the gallery, now if she could come down and speak she could really tell us some stories 'cause she and Lou carpooled together for many, many years. considered Lou loved a good party and when we were doing celebrations and some of you remember the... the annual inaugural parties that we had, Lou was very active in the planning and always enjoyed a good party. She considered herself the Bid Whist queen and some of you don't know about that card game. I tried to compare it earlier, but it's a game that you oughta get to know, but she certainly wore that banner. Lou was very compassionate, caring and loving and will truly be missed."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Lindner."

Lindner: "Hey, baby, how ya doin'? I just had to say those words and I can't say them like Lou, but I wanted to hear them once more because when Lou greeted you like that you knew that you were her friend. And you wanted to be a friend of Lou's. She was so much fun and so much fun to talk with and I would go over and I'd say, 'Lou, do you sleep with all those gold bracelets on or do you take those

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

off every night?' And we would chat about that. And I was absolutely fascinated of her stories when she was in the Black Panthers 'cause I grew up in that era and to hear her talk about being in the room when the police came in looking for somebody and he was hiding under a baby bassinet. And it was... it was... they were just fascinating stories. And most of those people are probably in public office right now. But she... she was a great person. As they said in her memorial, you didn't wanna be on the wrong side of Lou Jones. And we heard that many times in Judiciary II. It was a pleasure to have her in there when she did a real dressing down to DOC or to somebody when she was passionate about her issues. But we will truly miss Lou. I will miss seeing her and talking with her. And Lou, God bless you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Howard."

Howard: "Thank you very much. Good people, to say the least, I have lost a dear friend, a valued colleague in Lou Jones. As Art said earlier, he spoke at the funeral and it was a long, long service because so many people had so many good things to say about Lou and because I knew that I could talk a whole day about Lovana 'Lou' Jones. I am going to read the prepared remarks that I made. She and I first met over 30 years ago. We were advocates for many human rights and voter registration efforts. In fact, the first time that we really had a real... please excuse me... a real fight together was when we ran for delegate to a Democratic Convention and we worked very hard. And we thought we had won, unfortunately, we did not. There were many such events or occasions where they won sometimes and they lost sometimes.

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

But we always decided that we had to continue to do what we needed to do. As the song said, 'we picked ourselves up, dusted ourselves off and we'd start all over again.' guess we were always close but we became even closer when I became a Member of the Legislature. I had worked some years before for her to be a Member and she always encouraged me and told me that I could do it as well and it finally She... we were kindred spirits because we... we happened. thought alike. We obviously wanted to do things that helped to improve the quality of life for our fellow man. But even though we had a very good relationship and most of the time we smiled and laughed together, there were certainly times when that was not the case and as was the case with any relationship, when Lou disagreed with what you were saying you sort of felt a bit beat up. Nevertheless, I respected her; I respected her opinions and the advice and am certain that she respected me as well. It was not uncommon for her to call me any time of the night and I to call her as we talked about the kind of things that we were involved in. talked about our families, her grandchildren, grandchildren. We talked about the community issues; we talked about political issues, especially. We talked about anything, as I said, that we thought could improve the quality of life for those that we loved and represented. I know I will certainly miss Lou; I've certainly begun to miss her already as we've come back to Session. I'm certain that all of my colleagues agree that without Lou Jones this General Assembly will never be the same. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Monique Davis."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Davis, M.: "...Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. Lou and I both ... we won our election at the very same time. We had met prior to that because I coordinated the 21st Ward for Harold Washington in '83 and she was working with Bobby Rush and Dorothy Tillman in the 2nd Ward. Lou was sworn in early because her predecessor was convicted and went to jail, so Lou was called down early and of course, took her seat prior to me taking mine. That's a warning to ya. Lou Jones raised her grandchildren after the death of her daughter. She... most of them have completed college. She successfully did the grandmother role. Here in the Legislature I served appropriation chair to Human Service; she was appropriation chair to Public Safety. And we would often confer on the needs that were not being met in the African-American community or the poor communities. And she and I would fight many times behind closed doors against those who had the purse strings. Some legislation and some things that didn't become legislation were because of Lou Jones' behavior with me and others behind closed doors. One of them was an attempt by the Department of Corrections to charge former inmates for their room and board after they left. Lou and I talked with the director and let them know how ludicrous that would be. When we were developing the TANF legislation, the rule was if you worked you had to have so many working hours to remain on public assistance. Lou and I fought to get education hours to also be considered as working hours otherwise a person would never have a chance leaving the welfare rolls. Ιt was the Legislator... she was the kind of Legislator who made you glad

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

that you live in a democracy. Most of us come to serve the communities we represent and Lou would often say, 'We come and we represent those who live in our state.' I'm glad to have served with her. I believe she was a wonderful woman, a great grandmother and as a Legislative Leader I believe, until her illness started to overtake her, she led a very strong voice in support of the Democratic Party. Thank you very much."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Graham."

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I first ran for office, I was very timid 'cause I didn't know... yeah, I was timid... yeah, I was, 'cause this was unknown territory for me and I was being drug out into the deep with all these people that I didn't know and when I went to see Lou, Lou had already pledged her support to my opponent. So, she said but don't worry, ya know, all fair's well; you make it throughout, ya know, I'll work with you just the same. And each time she saw me I would come to these talk shows and I would be in the room with all these women that had been in politics for a while and she would always greet me with a well, although my opponent was there and she said, 'Have a seat right here.' And I said, okay. And she said, 'Lighten up, girl, it's gonna be all right.' And I was kind of afraid to jump out and talk. So, she said, 'Don't you have somethin' to say?' And it was like, well, yeah, I got somethin' to say. Well, just jump out there, ya know. So, she really encouraged me and I didn't venture across going from the west side to the south side until Lou encouraged me. So, I went out there and met some people and she always... always

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

had kind things to say about me although she supported my opponent. So, after I got elected and went on to work, she continued to talk me up in circles. So, I came to this big meeting on the south side and I said, hi, I was introducing myself to people that I would only see on TV. So, the first person I ran into was Bobby Rush and I said, 'Hi, we haven't met before but my name is Deborah Graham' and ya know how Bobby Rush is, he's like really cool, right. So, he leaned back and he said, 'Oh, you're Lou's friend.' Ya know, so I said, oh, oh, okay. He said, oh, she says great things about you and this, that and the other. So, I went on to the next person and it was Jesse Jackson. And so, I said, 'I've heard a lot about you; never met you before in person.' He said, 'Oh, I know who you are. Lou talks about you all the time.' So, before I made it to a lot of places and Lou had traveled there for ... before me, people who knew who I was. So, she was really encouraging; she was not fearful at all. She would basically stay up all night long and I'm the kind of person I rarely go to the parties and I would have to be at home or in my room by 9:00. And so, if they saw me after 9:30, they would have said, Deborah is hangin' out? And that's 'cause Lou was dragging me around half the time, but she was really supportive and I never understood the term 'hundred pound gorilla' until I met Lou. So... 800 pound, okay, 800 pounds. See, I still jacked that, Eight hundred pound gorilla, 'cause no matter what Lou defied whatever you told her she couldn't do. Ya know, she crossed the lines in supporting Republicans or whoever she felt really would demonstrate or benefit, ya know, our

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

people. So, I'm really, ya know, I'm really gonna miss her. And Billie Paige didn't speak to me the other day and I told her, the first thing I do when I go home, I'm gonna pray and tell Lou that you didn't talk to me this week. So, she told me the next week she saw me, she said, 'Hi, how ya doin'? Don't tell Lou that I didn't do that.' So, I'm gonna miss Lou."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Colvin."

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ya know, there are people in life that for some reason you never forget the first moment you meet them. In September 2001, just before I got sworn in here in the General Assembly having taken the place of a former Member, I spent a lot of time with her. And we were talking back and forth and I would ask Todd about different Members of the General Assembly. When we talked about Lou he said Lou can really be an asset, but when she's on the warpath, you'd just be best to get out of her way. first time I really experienced that was the first time I met her, those of you that are familiar with that time period, that was at the period when we were discussing the remap in the State of Illinois and I got a call from the Speaker's Office to come down to look at what my new district would look like. And I get to the Speaker's Office and I'm there and Charles Morrow and a number of Members are from the Democratic Caucus and Lou Jones came in with Charles Morrow and as grandmotherly as she could have been. Now, I had known Lou... just had seen her and just being involved in politics in Chicago, but it was the first time I've ever got a chance to meet her. And eventually, they

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

took us back in this room and these big computer screens and we saw the maps and Lou found her district and she went from 0 to 60 in about 3 seconds. And she let loose with a tirade of language that I found it hard to fathom would be coming from the mouth of someone who is so grandmotherly, but I will say at that date she made her point and I think everyone from the Speaker's staff, and he wasn't there at the time, but... but everyone from the Speaker's staff clearly saw her point and the next time I saw her she was very happy with the way the map looked. I didn't know if that was the way I was supposed to conduct myself when I needed things done, but I will say it was an effective tool. And I think most of us who served with Lou at one point or another had saw her use that method and it worked for her. Good luck and don't try that at home. I will say that quite frankly once I joined the General Assembly, Lou, indeed had always been an asset. Lou was one of the first people to encourage me to become the chair of the House Black Caucus. And she immediately became the one person who would kick me in my seat at the most to make me conduct myself in a way she thought our group should be heading in a direction. Lou was a real friend, but I think the real mark of anyone is not how people see and view them in this venue but how people view them when they're back home. Lou made a point for all of us to come and spend time down in her district, in her She always encouraged us in the caucus to get together. Lou was the first to open up her home for a summertime barbecue or a meeting back home. She always made us feel welcome. She always brought her family around in

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

our venue and her friends and the respect and the love and admiration other people had for her was very clear in terms of just how much people had a reverence for her. It was mentioned that Lou was in the Black Panthers and I find that just amazing. But Lou was a member of the Black Panthers for the same reason she's a Member of the General Assembly because she wanted to do so much for the people in her community. The two words that stuck out the most in the Resolution are the words 'true original'. Lou Jones was definitely a 'true original'. We will miss her. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Yarbrough."

Yarbrough: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe everybody in this room has their own Lou Jones story. So, I'm going to take this opportunity to tell mine. The first time I heard from Lou Jones was right after my election. I got a letter in the mail congratulating me on my election. The second time I heard from her was not... not even a couple of days later when she called me and told me that she'd like to meet with me and share some information with me. Well, when I first got the letter I didn't pay a lot of attention to the last name but I said I need to call this lady back and I saw Lou Lang, Lou Jones and I'm like, oh my god, I wonder which one it was. So, I wanted to send a thank you card back and I think Lou... I think I sent 'em to both of 'em because I wasn't quite sure who it came from. But I went and I met with Lou and the first thing she said to me was, 'Baby, now I didn't support you, but I do now.' So, I said, okay, I'm... Ya know, but I was ... I was just really honored that somebody

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

here called me, somebody here wanted to share with me even though I had gone through this war, ya know, to get here. Here was somebody in this Body that wanted to share with me and she did. She talked to me about the General Assembly and what it was an honor to serve here. She talked about what I could expect, but the one thing that she told me I could always expect from her is she was a go-to person and she would share and she did. Now, she has a peculiar leadership style, it's not my style, it's her style and I think some others have said that. But I tell you, any time something would happen here and you go to Lou she could give you some institutional knowledge about that particular subject. I'm gonna miss that, but more than anything else, I think her leadership style and what she did for me and comin' to this place I intend to always use that as part of When new people come here, they should be my style. welcomed. The people sent them here and so we should welcome them. And I know it's tough, ya know, when you've lost a race and somebody's gonna replace you, but I think that all of us should do that. We should reach out. I know that I've made that a part of who I am and what I'm going to be going forward, but it's because of Lou Jones and her peculiar leadership style that I'm goin' to make that a part of who Karen Yarbrough is. I'm gonna miss her as well. institutional knowledge, especially when it comes to the prison information that she shared with me and she had gone through almost every prison in the entire State of Illinois and her passion and her feel for people. She... she cared about people. Who's gonna carry the torch forward that the

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

soldier now has, ya know, put down? I wanna be one of those people. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Mendoza."

Mendoza: "Thank you. What I can tell you is that my first real experience with Representative Jones is on the receiving end of one of these amazing tirades that some of you have seen her throw in other directions. My first experience as a freshman when I had my death penalty expansion Bill was not so nicely received by the good Representative Lou Jones. I remember leaving the committee chamber after having passed it and having been greeted by that arm full of gold bracelets and a lot of bling bling in my face at the time and a great deal of flowery tirades coming directly towards So, my first experience with her was definitely not a good one. I think she didn't view me with much reverence either and so, honest to god, I can tell you that deep down in the most profound place in my heart there was not a soft spot for Representative Lou Jones. And I can tell you that she felt the exact same way about me. That feeling went on for 2 full years. We didn't speak a word to each other after that day, during the House debate that we ended up passing this Bill I think Representative Dan Burke was an actual human shield between Representative Jones and myself. And I was the youngest Member at the time in the House, scared out of my mind, but not willing to admit that by any means and holding my ground on an issue that I felt passionate about, that she obviously felt passionate about but that we sincerely disagreed on. Now, over the course of those 2 years, I thought she was the meanest, biggest bully;

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

I wanted nothing to do with her; she wanted nothing to do with me. And although I had people come tell me Lou's not as mean as and as big of a bully as you think she is; she's really a great woman. I didn't wanna hear anything. people were telling her, Susana's not this disrespectful, crazy, ya know, know-it-all, but she didn't wanna hear any of that either. Really, we're just two very stubborn people who are very passionate about issues and I think a lot of us, every single one of us that comes here, should be passionate about the issues that they care about. It was 2 years to the day almost that fight when some of you may recall a few years back... probably I wanna say 4 years ago ... there was a little girl who was very close to me who died from cancer. She had received a stem cell transplant at Children's Memorial Hospital was an illegal or undocumented person so her parents didn't even have enough money to give her a proper burial. And I reached out to all of you through a letter and many of you... thank you again... went ahead and wrote personal checks that we were able to send to her family so they could give this little girl a proper burial. It was that day that I was on the elevator with Ralph Capparelli, getting off the elevator and Lou, who... we would never, I mean, the only looks we gave each other were dirty. Honest to god, it was terrible. We brushed past in the elevator and she goes, 'Hey, can I get a copy of that letter?' And I... I was sure she was talking to Ralph Capparelli because it had been 2 years and she had never said a word to me. And so I turned around and I give her a mean look and I'm like, are you talking to me? And she

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

like, yeah. I go, what letter? She goes, the letter about that little girl; I'd like to help. And you know what I did, I was like blah. I completely melted on the spot and I oh my god, it is nice. like, so Thank you, Representative. And from that day on Lou Jones and I had this amazing relationship and I can tell you that I thank God every single day that we hated each other so much in the beginning because I was immature. I think even with all her age and all her wisdom she acted a little immature that time too; we all do this. But at the end of the day we both saw that we were both passionate and we both cared and we became very, very good friends. So much so that when I had some political problems some of you on the right side of the aisle came and said you wanted to help and my colleagues on the left did as well, but Lou Jones came up to me and said, 'Hey Mendoza, anyone picks on you, they're picking on me.' And I thought, hey, come on, bring it on 'cause Lou's got my Ya know, but I thought what a world that we could back. have started off in such a bad way and ended up in such a great way. And Lou Jones became a dear friend of mine, so much so that I think out of all the Hispanics in our caucus, I probably ended up having the closest relationship with her because I was very thankful to her; I was grateful; I respected her and I got to know Lou the person, the grandmother, the Legislator who cared and we went from the only person who voted against me on my freshman initial Bill was Lou Jones and who votes against a freshman on their first Bill. Well, Lou Jones voted against mine. And we went from that to her becoming first a 'no' vote on my DNA

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Bill, then a 'present' vote, then a 'yes' vote and a cosponsor and she herself said, 'Ya know, Mendoza, I hate to admit it but you were right.' And ya know, what a beautiful thing that we could get to that point and so really I thank God that we had a very abrasive relationship to begin with because then we would have never gotten to point B and point B just was really such a... a great experience for me; it's been a growing experience as a person and a Legislator and it certainly, ya know, I won't say that I'm going to miss Lou because, quite frankly, I do miss Lou so... I just ... ya know, a word of advice I guess to all of us that sometimes when we take things a little bit too personally down here there's no reason to do that because all of us are good people and at the end of the day, when our time comes and goes, we wanna be judged... I don't even think about whether it was was she a great Legislator or was he a great Legislator... it was were they a good person. And I think all of us would agree that Lou Jones was sincerely a great Thank you." person.

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Granberg."

Granberg: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Lou and I were elected at the same time and we came in together. One of the greatest things about this institution is you can bring people from all walks of life, different areas, different regions, different backgrounds and Monique Davis and Lou Jones were my seatmates. And I came from a town of 32 hundred people and I was in the back in the bathroom at the Capitol and we had a vote on some gun control Bill. And Monique and Lou had voted me what they thought was the correct vote and I

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

came running down the middle and... and so I changed my vote and Lou... ya know, Lou was a very religious person... and I'd always hear the term 'speaking in tongues', I didn't quite understand what that meant. But I was on the receiving end as well. And she finally told me, she said, 'Ya know, you don't know my people.' And I said, Lou, I said, I lived in your... I worked in your district for 2 years at 47th and Michigan for LAF. When's the last time you've been down to Carlyle ridin' around in a pickup truck with guns? when are you comin' down to my district? I know your district. And she just looked at me and she smiled and she said, 'You're a crazy white boy.' Yeah. And so... we had so much fun together. I just... I miss her so much. And then when Art picked me up for Lou's funeral, Lou was larger than I'd never been to a funeral before where after 7 life. hours they had to cut it short 'cause the cemetery was gonna close. Ya know, I thought Catholics were bad. It was just amazing and Billie, we always had so much fun going to the ballgames together and just... just wonderful and Lou was just a... such a wonderful person because she was so tough on the outside but just a piece of cake and one of the greatest advocates for those people who didn't have a voice. And I just wish I could be half the advocate she was."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Gordon. Gordon, in the back."

Gordon: "Thank you. Representative Lou Jones was a part of two of probably my most memorable days in my very short time here down in Springfield. One of them was one of the days when she came in speaking another language after a Judiciary II Committee hearing and she was very passionate about what

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

she believed was the right thing to do and I was very passionate about what I believed was the right thing to do on a certain piece of legislation. And so I came over to her on the House Floor and we were still discussing it and it... we were very civil to each other and she... and we were still talking about it and so we were ending the discussion and I said, ya know, but Lou... Lou I hope ... I hope that we can still be friends. And she said, 'Baby'... she goes ... she goes ... 'I love you, I do', she goes, 'but I am mad at you.' And it was like someone stabs me in the heart. It was like my own mother yelling at me that day and I walked away so upset and I think I talked to Representative Turner that day about how upset I truly was. And so then I remembered, just thinking to myself, I have gotta find a way to get this woman to like me again because it just bothered me so much. And so it happened, maybe a few months later, there was a piece of legislation that I was able to sponsor in front of the Judiciary II Committee. Representative Dugan sat next to me, we had a Republican sheriff, who was also endorsed by the Republican County Board chairman and it was about bringing nonviolent offenders back into the community that they came from, giving them job training and making sure that... helping them to find a job. And she was looking at me and just squinting at me and we're presenting this, ya know, this piece of legislation and so we all voted and of course, ya know, she voted 'yes' and she's just shaking her head and ya know, like I was nuts or something. After, ya know, hearing all the votes that I had made on these criminal law issues through the months, ya know, that I had been... been

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

here for all this time. And so we got done and the Bill passed and I stood up and she… she looked at me and she said, 'Gordon', and I looked over at her and she goes, 'baby, I am proud of you.' She goes, 'You finally got one right.' And so I know now that there is... Representative Lou Jones is gonna be keeping an eye on me. And I truly believe that if I ever do get the chance to get one right in her eyes she's gonna let me know. But I also know that if I ever screw one up again she's gonna let me know that too. So, I thank... I thank God every single day that I got the chance to serve with her for the very, very short period of time that I did 'cause she was a wonderful, wonderful woman and I've never met anyone so passionate about... about anything in my entire life as she was and I learned so much from her and I thank... I thank her for that every day."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Collins."

Collins: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Lou Jones was... When Billie..."

Speaker Hannig: "We can come back, Representative.

Representative Dunkin."

Dunkin: "Wow. When I first came here, it was... my seatmate was Lou Jones and Arthur Turner. All of what you said I think was... is right on time. I mean, she was a huge personality. And I can go on into a number of details just listening to her just rail on Jack Franks, Linda Chapa LaVia, Mendoza, Gordon, me. That was stupid. Why are you... why are you supportin'... ya know, this business or those businesses or this, that and the other and she would say, 'Look, they don't vote, you support the people, the people who brought you here.' She gave me a very, very profound insight just

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

about on anything here in this institution 'cause it is an institution. She had a solid and strong workin' knowledge just about at every major agency here in this state and she would often give her commentary. She knew people. You'd be amazed. In her district... ya know, we talked about how long her funeral is... you'd be surprised how many people that were sorry that they could not attend her funeral because of her impact on them. Profoundly, well regarded, at least wellknown. Chuck Jefferson and I used to play games or tricks on her every now and then when she would nod off. We'd put... at least I would mess with her... and she would wake up, cursing me out. Chuck would always say things that would incite her. She wouldn't speak to me for a couple of days. And she'd slide over to Art Turner and finish talkin' about me. I had a great time, just a great time. It was a great experience, a very positive experience oftentimes and Lou Jones was... she's something else, truly something else. would humble me, quite frankly, with some of her... her, like, ya know, verbal, flowery language, if you will. But she was someone that I have the utmost respect for, given what she was doing with her grandkids, given how she just... she loved. It's okay she... to say that she loved black people. didn't mind tellin' you that or fightin' for it here on this floor or back home. And so, Lou, I'm gonna miss you. gonna miss teasing you, taking pictures of you when you would fall asleep and all those other wonderful things. thank you for all of the what you've done, Lou Jones. And I know you're watchin' us and I know you're watchin' to see

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

if we're gonna add some value to the people that we represent here of this state. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Collins."

"When Lou Jones couldn't... when Billie couldn't bring Collins: her down, I brought her. And she'd say, 'Annazette, come pick me up now, you gonna get here on time?' I was like, yeah, yeah, I'm gonna be there. And so I'd pick her up and we'd drive down and she'd talk and talk and talk. And she'd just always was talkin' to me and tellin' me different things and encouragin' me. When I was pregnant with Taylor, she came up to me, she goes, 'I'm the godmother, nobody else, I'm that baby's godmother.' And then from that day on she wanted to tell me what to eat, where to sit, what shoes to wear, what clothes to wear. 'You aren't doin' it right, Annazette, sit down, sit down.' I was like, 'Lou, it'll be okay. I'm gonna be okay.' And when Taylor got here, and Taylor'd see her on TV and she'd see her pictures. Mom, mom, mom, mom look, mom look. She couldn't get the name straight 'cause she was too little and she wasn't even talking yet, but when she would see her face, she knew who that was. And we were planning the Stroger rally some... lady... women... women... political women and Lou wasn't there and every time, I think everybody in the room at the exact same time said, 'Where's Lou?' We miss Lou, because we knew that she was always leading and guiding us and she was one of the greatest women I think I've ever met. And I just wanted to say that."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Jefferies."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Jefferies: "...to take my friend's seat, Lou and I were friends for 4 years. We raised our children together; we were closer than our own sisters. I'm going to truly, truly miss I still find myself pickin' up the phone to speak to Even though the name of the office has changed, I still answer the phone, 'This is State Representative Lou Jones' office.' It has not really, really sunk in yet because I went from her illness to her death then to her seat then runnin' for election, so I haven't really had a chance to really regroup. It hasn't really sunk in. I keep reflecting back on the day that we took her to the emergency room and to this day no one could have told me or her that she wasn't comin' back. We were at the emergency room and she says, 'They said I'm gonna be here overnight', she said, 'but you know how that goes.' I said, 'Well, they're gonna check you out and we're gonna see what the problem is and you'll be back home.' Lou never made it back home to go to her bedroom. She can only... she went as far as the first level. It got to the point where as she was... she was really frightened and I... I was lost for words, she was lost for words. She never accepted the fact that she was as ill as she was because it was so sudden. I mean, no one could believe it. But one day, I was in the room with her by bedside and she said to me, 'I'm going to Session.' never gave up the idea that was not comin' to Session. thought that she would be able to fly down to... if Madigan needed her vote. And she left here with that notion. never gave up the idea that she was not comin' back. And I just wanna say, there's one thing that her leaving here has

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

taught me, do not take life for granted and treasure your friendship. She was a true friend and no one could tell me to this day that my friend would not be here. I truly, truly miss her. Just don't take life and your friends and your family for granted, don't do it. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Flowers."

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I... Lou Jones and I ran together in 1984 and I won my election and she didn't. And shortly after, as it was stated, she came down because of her... the person that she was running against was indicted and when she came to Springfield, she wasn't prepared to stay, she didn't know what she was gonna do. And when she found out that she was gonna be sworn in, she was not prepared and I remember she said to me, 'I don't have nothin' to wear because I didn't come down prepared.' So, I said, 'Lou, I'll take you shopping.' And when Lou was first down we used to shop all the time. Then it came to the point where Lou needed a place to stay and at the time, Carol Braun, Ethel Skyles Alexander and myself, we were staying right across the street from the Capitol. And I said to Carol and Ethel, 'Why don't we bring Lou in?' We only had three bedrooms. And Carol says, 'Not a problem if she doesn't mind sleeping in the dining room.' And when I said to Lou, 'Lou, everybody else have a bedroom, but if you don't mind, you could bring a bed in, we can just make the dining room out of your bedroom.' And so, that's how Lou Jones, Mary Flowers, Ethel Skyles Alexander and Carol Braun came to live together. And that was the best experience of my life because I had the pleasure of learning the history

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

about this place from Carol Braun and Ethel Skyles Alexander. I had the pleasure of learning about the Black Panther Party from Lovana Jones. And the years that we've served down here together, we've had our ups and downs, but I thank God that she came our way because Lou was the voice and the catalyst for a lot of us to wake up and see not the world as we wanna see it but as it truly is. And I thank God for that. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Jefferson."

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Lou Jones was a friend of mine when I first came into the General Assembly. Lou Jones embraced me 100 percent. She came to Rockford to work on my campaign. We just became instant friends. I was her seatmate for 4 years... 6 years prior to the coming of Ken And when Ken came in, he changed the whole Dunkin. complexion and you have catfish row. A matter of fact that Lou and I were seatmates, we sat right next to each other, Ken sat on the other side of her. And she would used to ask me, 'What's wrong with that boy? Where is that boy at? What is he doin'?' I'm like you and I don't know. And after Session, she would promise you a kind answer. She'd say, hey, baby and I'd say, hi, Lou. She's said, 'I'm gonna visit awhile, watch my switch.' I said, 'Okay, Lou.' I said, 'How do you want me to vote?' 'Just vote me the way you vote, baby. Everything's gonna be okay. Don't let Ken Dunkin touch my switch.' And this went on and on and Ken said it was great so... And then we had a lot of fun. used to... Lou used to come up and say, 'Hey, baby, I left my purse, give me \$10.' And I'd give her \$10. Give me \$20 and

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

I did. It was a couple weeks down the road and I'd be... I forgot about it. She'd say, 'Hey baby, here's your money back.' And I'm like, 'Okay, Lou, thank you very much.' But it was just that we had that atmosphere and everyone had a great time and everything. And she used to ask me, 'Baby, do you think Ken Dunkin's gonna be all right?' I said, 'He's gonna be all right, Lou.' But Lou really enjoyed our times together, our friendship and I will always cherish that. And we're gonna miss Lou Jones. But she was a great Lady; she did a lot of great things in the General Assembly for the people in her community, people outside of her community and I just wanna say everyone especially you ever. And we're gonna miss her as long as we're missin' her. She had a lot of great friends and we all cared for Lou Jones. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Miller."

Miller: "I know the hour is getting late and people wanna go but I just sort of felt compelled. I first met Lou as a candidate for State Representative and my predecessor was a first time State Rep too and the comments from Lou was, 'Ya see, when someone gets in, there's always someone else trying to step on top and get him out of the way.' Ya know, and so it was just similar to Karen, so she didn't support me. It was very harsh. But I think when I won my election in the general she was the first person to call even before Speaker Madigan called me to congratulate me. She was there and that kind of person. I think there are two things I really wanna say and I think what really changed from my relationship with her was in after my... during my first term

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

we had caucus, Democratic Caucus late and I felt I was not being treated properly and I had some frustrations and so on and so forth and Lou spoke up for me. And I'll never forget that speech and almost brought a tear to my eye when she said it and she said it to the Speaker and to the entire caucus on how me facing a reelection and for those firsttime State Reps know that's their first pretty much their toughest one is your first reelection and I was facing a tough reelection and as she said, ya know, Miller needs some things, Miller this, Miller that and it just really sort of came out of the blue because it was, in her eyes, a sense of fairness. And for us... for her to go with me from you shouldn't be here and you're just... this to you should be here and I'm gonna do all and what I say is really a testimony to her. During our relationship the one thing I did learn was never to be her Bid Whist partner 'cause I was just simply not good enough. And I remember Barack comin' in, trying to understand the game and Lou giving him a kind of a goofy look saying, 'Look, you're not at this table 'cause, ya know, we need experts here.' So, I knew to stay away from that table. But I just wanna close with one thing that I'm hearing that I knew in my heart was ya knew where you stood with her. And it wasn't no mystery; it wasn't no confusion. You knew where you stood with her in life. think that's where all of us wanna be remembered and how we wanna remember each other."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Monique Davis."

Davis, M.: "Since she's not here to defend herself. In reference to the 2 years with Susana, I think it had to do

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

with death penalty legislation. At the same time we were finding innocent men on death row, Susana's legislation was to increase death penalties. So, she gave Susana a nickname, 'Electric Susie'."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Golar."

Golar: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was not going to say anything, but I think I need to speak. From the time that I was appointed and my appointment on the day that I was appointed was December 27 of 2005, I had a conversation with the committeemen that made that happen, Alderman Coleman and Alderman Tillman and they gave me two people that I needed to stay in touch with in coming here. One person was Senator Hunter but they told me that I must align myself with Lovana Jones. In coming on and I think on the second day which was January the 10th, Senator Munoz and Eddie Acevedo had a reception for me at the Clarion and of course, ya know, most of my colleagues here came out to meet and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your support, but Lou Jones really stood behind me. When she came in, her and Billie Paige, she said, 'Now, I've gotten the word from Alderman Tillman, I must watch over you.' And she did that from the time that I was here she took me under her wings and in fact, days that I was afraid to get up and talk about my Bills, she said, 'Girl, are you crazy? Are you cra... You can do that.' And I said, 'Well, I need to go home and study and look over my Bill.' She said, 'No, you can do it.' She said, because when I came down here I was so afraid Carol Moseley Braun had to do all of my Bills. And so, I told her, 'Lou, I'm going to do

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

those Bills.' But I just want to say today that Lou pushed me every night when I didn't wanna go out to eat, she say, you have to go. When I didn't wanna... sometimes go to the Black Caucus meeting, she said, you have to go. didn't wanna go anywhere, she said, you must go. she said, you can make it happen; you can do it. And when I got up to do my first Bill, which I was so terrified, I got through that and then the second one and I think on my second Bill there was some issues but I just wanna thank many of the people here that helped me with that. Jones was a inspiration to me. I miss her. She called me every day and one thing she was a grassroots organizer. When we were in Chicago and she was a PUSH advocate. have to go to Operation PUSH. Jesse has to know you. the first thing that we went was the breakfast for Martin Luther King. She pulled me there; she pulled me everywhere. But I want to say tonight that this eve... today, I should say, is that Lou Jones and Billie Paige has helped me so greatly. I miss her and at the funeral I wanted to actually say some words and I'm gonna say that now. Lou, Lou, your healing has come. Lou Jones, Lou Jones, your healing has come. We are here to tell the world about the things that you have done. Speaking for others; setting people free, giving them the word of God to fight the enemy. Now, your earthly day is over; it is time to say well done. For God has opened the gates so run to Jesus run. Now, children, God, He is watching and you will comfort us through our grief and you will wash the tears away and you will give us

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

peace. Lou Jones, Lou Jones, your healing has come. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Giles."

"Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Lou Jones was one of those Giles: individuals when she saw a young person she supported them. When I first came into the Legislature as a young man, she wrapped her arms around me; she supported me. I saw her as grandmother figure and as a seasoned veteran, individual that has truly been into a lot of battles. And I saw her as an individual with a lot of wisdom. became the chair, joint chair of the Black Caucus, she was one of the first individuals to support me. that duration, of course, there was some things that she disagreed with me but because she felt some... for some reason that I was a minister, that I didn't smoke or drink a Bid Whist, that I didn't get the end result of some of the language that most of you all have experienced here but she sort of substituted that with 'the look'. So, oftentimes I got 'the look' from her. Like, young man, if you do that one more time... But truly, Lou Jones supported you as an individual. When I had the opportunity in my political world to run or to support one of my relatives for an elected office, she was right there. It wasn't a State Representative office, but it was another office and so she wanted to come out. She and Shirley, Rep... at that time Representative Shirley Jones, came out to my district in my respective ward to campaign, to support. That's the type of individual that she was and that's the type of individual that I will always remember. Thank you."

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Washington."

Washington: "Thank you. I was just going to sit back and wait, but I thought, ya know, now that Ms. Jones is no longer with us physically that it would be probably not right to not say since we are paying tribute to her. I just wanna say that I got my... my first experience of leadership from Wyvetter when I was her legislative assistant in East St. Louis back in the early '80s and I never came to Springfield when I heard of the Speaker, the Speaker was like somebody in a far reached place, ya know. You heard the name; you knew the man had influence; you knew he had a lot of good leadership under him such as Ms. Wyvetter Younge. And when I first came here as a freshman and I'm still a freshman, hopefully a freshman in my junior year, but that's how much learning. But so many people, Bob Churchill, others, have been good mentors for me to get a balanced view. But when I think about Ms. Jones and the people who I came in looking for leadership: Connie Howard, Willie Delgado, because I know my brothers' heart and when I come in, Ms. Jones did something for me that probably will last a lifetime. And I didn't understand what it meant when she came to me and told me I was going to be her vice chairman of Public Safety. I'm saying, 'Ma'am, I'm, ya know, I'm still learnin' here, huh. Ya know, I might be a fluke to even sit in this seat.' But she... she told me, she say, 'You can do.' Well, I said, it's more symbol than substance. I don't have to get out and look like a fool and show that I really can't do it 'cause she'll be there and won't miss any days. But I remember when she was sick she did miss a day and I did get a chance

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

to sit in that seat and with the Speaker's people there to kinda guide me. I felt like she kinda knighted me, in a And ya know, sometimes I feel so sorry for the provider that would come before Ms. Jones. Ya know, I'm a strong person, but I just believe it's a way to present a message but Lou Jones, you know, she told it just the way she felt it. A lot of time I had tears in my eyes, not for Ms. Jones, but for the people she was speaking to. Ya know, I would say, man, if I ever get a chance to talk... I agreed with her position, but it would be a better way I might say it. Ya know, 'cause I felt that I was glad not to be on the other end. She never said a harsh word to me; she never had to admonish me for anything and I thank God for that. But I... I realized today listening to you all that for her to choose me for such a wonderful responsibility, symbolic as it is, but I have a chance to grow and make good and to continue the good things that the many people here have shown me and especially Lou Jones. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Speaker Madigan to close."

Madigan: "I have two stories. So, one day on the House Floor Lou and I had some kind of a disagreement. Probably she wanted something and I didn't wanna give it to her. And I don't recall exactly how I responded to her, but I know it was short and cryptic. And so her response to me was, 'Why don't you grow up.' And she spun on her heel and walked away. And so as I told those who were at her funeral service, that's what I've tried to do ever since, try to grow up. Number two, although I remember a meeting about the map in the office in Chicago and... and I don't remember

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

all language real well, but what I do remember was that there were references in all of that to not wanting to be around some guy named Barack. It was always dark. Lou was a rebel; Lou was a crusader. She was a rebel against injustice wherever she found it. It may have been an injustice that she saw with Representative David Miller. may have been an injustice perpetrated by the criminal justice system. It may have been the injustices that she and others saw in the governmental and political structure of Chicago through the late '70s and into the '80s. And it was that sense of injustice in her innate ability to rebel against that that prompted her and others to join together with Harold Washington and launch the successful campaign for mayor of Chicago. She was a crusader, clearly a crusader for children in her work in the Legislature, clearly a crusader for all children but in particular the children of her daughter. She was a crusader for the rights and for benefits for ex offenders. But just in general, she was a crusader for fairness and equity throughout our society but especially for those that would be the vulnerable within the society or just those that needed a little help like all of us who have spoken today. So, as I look around the room and I hear stories of people saying, gee, ya know, I had just gotten elected; I didn't know what I was doing; I just arrived in Springfield; I didn't know what to do. So, you were like many others, you needed a little bit of help and her instincts were such that she would just gravitate to you, take up your cause, minister to your needs, provide advice, counsel, direction, solace when

139th Legislative Day

11/30/2006

appropriate. That's the type of person that she was. And so others have already said that we will miss her very, very much, but what we're really gonna miss is going to be... what we're really going to miss will be the type of person she was and what she gave to us. And so the best thing we can do for Lou Jones is to take those examples, carry them with us as we go forward and use all of that so that we can do for others as she did for us and we can be much, much better people."

Speaker Hannig: "Speaker Madigan moves for the adoption of House Resolution 1326. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. I just advised the Members that we will return to this chamber when we reassemble on January 7 and that will be at 3:00... 3 p.m. So, Representative Currie now moves that the House stands adjourned until Sunday, January 7, 2007 at 3 p.m., allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned."