

STATE OF ILLINOIS
95th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

22nd Legislative Day

7/30/2007

Speaker Hannig: "The hour of 5:00 having arrived, the House will be in order. The Members will 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 for the Pledge of Allegiance. We shall be led in prayer today by Lee Crawford, the pastor of the Cathedral of Praise Christian Center here in Springfield."

Pastor Crawford: "Let us pray. Most gracious and sovereign God, the giver and sustainer of our lives, here we are again before You asking humbly Your most precious blessings to be upon this august Assembly. Asking again, Father, for You to bless the Leader of this Assembly. Asking again Your blessings to be upon every Member of this Assembly. Asking again that You would bless their families. Asking You again for Your blessings of wisdom, strength, and passion as they serve You. That their service may be pleasing, that You may receive praise in their service, that Your people may benefit from their service. This we pray in Your Son's name. Amen."

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

Krause - 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: "Roll Call for Attendance. Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record reflect that Representatives Acevedo; Boland; Rich Bradley; Burke; Chapa

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LaVia; Collins; Colvin; Crespo; Will Davis; Dugan; Dunkin; Feigenholtz; Flider; Franks; Fritchey; Golar; Gordon; Graham; Hernandez; Howard; Jakobsson; Jefferies; Jefferson; Lyons; May; Mendoza; Miller; Molaro; Nekritz; Osterman; Patterson; Riley; Ryg; Scully; Soto; Washington; Yarbrough; and Younge are excused."

Speaker Hannig: "And Representative Bost."

Bost: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, let the record reflect that Representative Meyer; Durkin; Dunn; Lindner; Fortner; Myers; Tracy; Sullivan; Pihos; Coulson; Watson; and Mulligan are excused today."

Speaker Hannig: "Mr. Clerk, take the record. There are 67 Members answering to the Roll Call, a quorum is present. Representative Biggins, for what reason do you rise?"

Biggins: "Well, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to rise on a... make a statement."

Speaker Hannig: "State your point."

Biggins: "Well, I'm a little concerned. Traditionally, when reporting those absences, there aren't that many. Maybe it'd be easier to report those that are present. And I'm afraid the Majority Leader... we need her to be strong. You know, we're losing Members... they're dropping all over the place over on our side of aisle, they're looking for new careers, I think. But I'm a little worried about the Majority Leader's health as she has to read that many names at once. Can she get an assistant to help her or maybe just read the ones that are here? Just a suggestion."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Rose."

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Rose: "An announcement, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen, Representative Biggins is the grandfather of Brooke Ellen Biggins born over the weekend and all are healthy at home."

Speaker Hannig: "Congratulations, Representative Biggins. Representative Bost."

Bost: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. An inquiry of the Chair. When we first started in this Special Session deal, I said, you know, since we go from to another, could we get paid for each one. I... I asked and they said 'no', because they just all run together. But we started one today at 2:00 and then we're starting another one at 5:00. Does that qualify for two different Sessions or no?"

Speaker Hannig: "No. It... it's two different Sessions, but only one per diem a day is allowed."

Bost: "Well, all right. I... I just thought I'd ask."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Black."

Black: "Mr. Speaker, point of personal privilege."

Speaker Hannig: "State your point."

Black: "Was reading the paper over the weekend and it said... By the way, I was here for the Special Session, I didn't see a one-month budget... temporary emergency one-month budget presented by the Governor. Can we expect that before the day is over? It's on its way? All right. I... I just couldn't help but notice, I believe it was in Saturday's Springfield (sic-State) Journal-Register. It said, 'Shortly after lawmakers approved a one-month emergency budget to keep government operating in July, Blagojevich said, 'A series of temporary budgets would be unacceptable.' Because they don't contain the increased state spending on

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health care and education that he wants. 'A continuing string of one-month budgets is nothing more than a Republican budget in disguise.' He said this on June 29. Now, his spokeswoman, Rebecca Rausch, said he still feels that way, but we don't want to see a government shutdown. Two things. Where's the Governor? We're about ready to go into a shutdown mode and I haven't seen hide nor hair of him. Ever since I lost my binoculars I can't see airplanes. My eyesight isn't good enough. And then the second thing, would somebody in this chamber tell me how the Republicans can pass a budget with 51 Members? I mean, if you tell me how, hell, we'll do it by 6:00 tonight. And half of you will vote with us. Oh, half of you isn't very many. I mean, ya know, what is... where is the leadership in all this. Holy mackerel. You know what, Bob Biggins has been here so long in Special Session that grandchild wasn't even conceived when we started."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Sacia."

Sacia: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask the Members of the Body to join me today in wishing a happy birthday to Representative Mike Tryon. It's the thirteenth anniversary of his thirty-ninth birthday, I believe."

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

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."

Speaker Hannig: "State your point."

Bellock: "I just wanted to let the Members know, especially the women of the Conference of Women Legislators, that Deborah

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Murphy was extremely ill. And she's had serious surgery at the Cleveland Clinic and I wanted everybody to keep her in our prayers. She's doing okay, but it was an emergency surgery. So, thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Currie now moves that the First Special Session of the House of Representatives stand adjourned until Tuesday, July 31, at 1 p.m. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the First Special Session stands adjourned."