

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

3rd Legislative Day

6/29/2009

Speaker Lyons: "Good afternoon, Illinois. Your House of Representatives will come to order. In the First Special Session Members are asked to please be at their desks. We will be led in prayer today by Wayne Padget, the Assistant Doorkeeper. Members and guests are asked to please refrain from starting their laptops, turn off all cell phones and pagers and rise for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. Wayne Padget."

Wayne Padget: "Let us pray. Dear Lord, we come before You today in sound body and mind, praying that on this day You grant us wisdom and guidance. During these hard times of negotiations, we pray that everyone can come together on one common ground and resolve the issues for the people of Illinois. We pray for the men and women in our Armed Services, both here and abroad. Provide them with Your protection, give them the strength to make it through these tough times. And let up also pray for the men, women, and their families who have made the ultimate sacrifice to defend our country. These things we ask in Your Son's name, Amen."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Bob Flider, would you lead us in the Pledge."

Flider - 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 Lyons: "Roll Call for Attendance. Leader Barbara Flynn Currie, Democrats."

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Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record show that Representatives: Arroyo, Brosnahan, Hamos, and Jakobsson are excused today."

Speaker Lyons: "Thank you, Leader Currie. Representative Bost for the GOP."

Bost: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let the record reflect that Representative Black, Mathias, Pihos, Schmitz, Tryon, Mulligan and Moffitt are excused on the Republican side of the aisle today."

Speaker Lyons: "Thank you, Representative Bost. Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. If I could add to my list, Representative Boland is also excused today."

Speaker Lyons: "Mr. Clerk, take the record. There are 99 Members present, we have a quorum. And the First Special Session will come to order."

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

Speaker Lyons: "The Chair recognizes the Lady from Lake, Representative JoAnn Osmond. For what purpose do you seek recognition, Representative?"

Osmond: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Republicans would like to caucus in Room 118 for one hour."

Speaker Lyons: "Republicans will be caucusing in Room 118 'til 4:30. Democrats, we will be standing at ease and awaiting the return of our Republican colleagues. The House will come to order. Mr. Clerk, Rules Report."

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Clerk Bolin: "Representative Currie, Chairperson from the Committee on Rules, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on June 29, 2009, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'recommends be adopted' Floor Amendment #4 to Senate Bill 415."

Speaker Lyons: "Mr. Clerk, what's the status of Senate Bill 415?"

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 415, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. The Bill has been read a second time, previously. Floor Amendment #1 was withdrawn. Floor Amendments 2 and 3 have been adopted. Floor Amendment #4, offered by Representative McCarthy, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lyons: "The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from Cook on Amendment #4, Representative McCarthy."

McCarthy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Amendment #4 adds some language for legislative intent to the Senate Bill that we discussed at length last Wednesday. I want to thank some of my colleagues here, Representative Ryg and Feigenholtz, from my side and Representative Coulson and Mulligan, from the other side, as well as Representative Bellock for coming forward with some legislation that would show that the intent is definitely to fund these human service providers and community-based human service providers. So, I think it makes it clear that the 2.23 billion that we'll make available to the budget through the selling of the pension notes will be used to fund these critical services. So, I'd appreciate... appreciate a positive vote on the

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Amendment and would be ready to address the Bill whenever the Chair is ready."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Bellock, do you wish to speak to the Amendment, to Amendment #4 or do you want to wait 'til Third Reading? Then no one..."

Bellock: "I'd like to speak to the Amendment."

McCarthy: "Yes."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Bellock on the Amendment."

Bellock: "Is that... or is that right? Thank you very much. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Bellock: "Thank you. I just wanted to ask, in this Amendment, Representative McCarthy, under community-based human service providers, would that include agencies such as Misericordia, Elim and health departments that do provide communities..."

McCarthy: "I'm told yes."

Bellock: "Great, thank you very much."

McCarthy: "Thank you for your help."

Speaker Lyons: "No one further seeking recognition, the question is, 'Should Floor Amendment #4 be adopted to Senate Bill 415?' All those in favor signify by saying 'yes'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it and the Amendment is adopted. Anything further, Mr. Clerk?"

Clerk Bolin: "No further Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Put that Bill on the Order of Third Reading and read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

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Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 415, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. Third Reading of this Senate Bill."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative McCarthy."

McCarthy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Senate Bill 415, now as amended, we discussed this Bill at great length last Wednesday. We know that this is one of the steps, about a 25 percent I guess, step towards solving some of the really terrible cuts that we looked forward to in the budget if we stayed at the current revenues. This will make 2.23 billion available to minimize those cuts. And it's a five-year bond that will be paid off in equal payments. We talked about the fact there are no balloon payments. So I think that makes it a little bit easier for us to look at. We're hoping that the economy does turn around; some of our revenue numbers do go up so that we'll be able to handle these payments over the next five years. But I think this is very drastic times and this is a reasonable measure to move forward and show some budget relief. And with the fourth Amendment, we make it very clear that this will go to the community service providers in order to reduce some of the real drastic cuts in human services. So, I'd appreciate your positive vote."

Speaker Lyons: "The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from McLean, Representative Brady."

Brady: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Brady: "Representative, thank you very much for advancing Senate Bill 415. I have a couple questions if you might be

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able to answer these. First off, the... the 2.23 billion in the pension obligation bond plan that we have, we know we have legislation, the Amendment we just adopted, directs the community-based human service providers to receive those dollars. Is that not correct?"

McCarthy: "Yes it does."

Brady: "Okay. And..."

McCarthy: "That was brought after we talked on Wednesday."

Brady: "Right."

McCarthy: "Some people wanted to give some direction in the legislation as to where this money should go. It started on your side and we added to it here. And so I'm very happy that we did that."

Brady: "So am I, thank you, for that. But where it exactly goes within community-based human service providers will still be up to the discretion of the Department of Human Services. Is that correct?"

McCarthy: "Yes, it will and you know, I consulted with people that I feel, I mentioned some of their names before, but like Representative Bellock and Coulson and Mulligan on your side, Representative Feigenholtz and Representative Ryg and Representative May, on my side who deal with the Human Services a lot and rather than say specific programs, they did feel that the discretionary part, these department heads should know as well as anybody what cuts would be the most severe to take. So, I do feel comfortable with this, you know, direction given to them, but leaving it in their hands so they... they can have some freedom to... to move the

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money around in order to hopefully, minimize the most severe cuts."

Brady: "And I... and I appreciate that, Representative. All of us here in the House of Representatives have heard from providers, have met with providers and there's a recurring theme, obviously, as... as the cuts, those that have potentially already taken action because of letters going out from the Department of Human Services regarding contracts and not renewing those contracts for services. So some of these agencies already have... have taken action. My... my question is, in regards to the legislation, I just met with a provider in my district this morning amongst many others, but just this morning the occupational development center and it made me very keenly aware of the fact that even with this proposal, there is still a heavy debt burden that they are incurring because the state is six months, I believe, conservatively behind on the payments that they owe them on the contracts that they had for services. So they've gone to the bank, they've borrowed to the hilt, they have no more line of credit. This legislation, as well intended as it is, is not going to go towards any of the backlog debt. This is trying to soften the blow for the 2010 budget. Is that correct?"

McCarthy: "That is correct, but it's... it minimizes many of those cuts that they've been forewarned about. Some of those cuts will not be made because of this money. Now, this is not going to eliminate all of them, because we all know the budget deficit goes, you know, it seems like 9

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billion is... while it's not uniform across the board, you do hear that more than anything. So, you're talking about 25 percent, so that means 75 percent of those cuts would still be there. But hopefully, those department heads and maybe just by saying this on the House Floor we can encourage them to be more up-front with these people and... and tell them what the payment cycle is going to be as well and... because I know some of them in my area, as well as what you just stated about your area, have the same problems and many of them are going under because they can't wait..."

Brady: "Right."

McCarthy: "to get the... the payment cycle back. So, I would hope that the department heads, even if it's painful, you know, promise people only what they can give them on a timely basis and if they make their cuts accordingly, you know, that may sound, you know, cruel that it might hurt some people by them doing it that way, but I think in the long run that's a better business model for them and, you know, for our departments."

Brady: "And I... and I appreciate that answer, Representative, I appreciate all your efforts here as well as so many of my colleagues, but the fact of the matter remains is that this is not going to relieve present debt and money owed to some of these agencies, would be my interpretation of things from what's been described to me. This is looking to try and soften the blow in the future..."

McCarthy: "Yes, it is."



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Brady: "...and there is no guarantee for those who have been told by me, the DHS, we are not renewing a contact with you, that this automatically means somebody's going to get renewed. It's simply hoping to put more money towards the issue, soften the blow and then move forward from there. Is that fair?"

McCarthy: "I think that'd be fair, but I'm also hoping that some of the money that we... we put forward already in the budget on some of the first Bills we passed in order to reduce that Medicaid payment cycle, hopefully, that will... what is Medicaid eligible for these services, hopefully that will help them there as well. That money that we put forward already in order to... obtain some of the stimulus money from the Federal Government, hopefully, that's going to address some of that problems, but we do know that these payment cycles are outrageous and that they are, you know, hurting some very good providers. So, hopefully, between the fact that some things aren't cut and the money we already put in the cycle in order to receive that stimulus money, we will see a reduction in the payment cycle."

Brady: "And... and in closing, you know, simply that this particular idea and plan is many for maybe of us... many of us I should say, not the number one choice of ways to try and resolve this issue; however, this is something that we have immediate to try and help soften the blow. Also, do you have any feel for how the provide... the DHS agency will communicate with those who are waiting, extremely concerned, extremely frightened, downsizing already, told

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by July 1, their contracts won't be renewed. Do you have any idea on how that communication will go to them, how soon they might hear something, if this, in facts, does pass and go to the Senate?"

McCarthy: "Well, unfortunately, this is like one step in three or four steps. I would just hope they would act with the greatest urgency they can, as soon as in the next couple days we make some decisions here to say, is this all we're doing? Are we doing this plus another small step? Are we doing this plus the income tax? I mean, there's a... as soon as they get all that information, then they'll move forward. I don't think they'll do it on a piecemeal basis, like say, all right, we got the pension note thing forward and we'll tell them that. I think at some point the Governor's Office has to say, this is all we're getting from this General Assembly.

Brady: "Okay."

McCarthy: "And hopefully, he will get that message out to his departments' heads so they can get it off to the providers ASAP."

Brady: "Thank you very much, Representative."

McCarthy: "Thank you for your concern."

Brady: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lyons: "The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from Crawford, Representative Roger Eddy."

Eddy: "Thank you, Speaker. Would the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

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Eddy: "Representative, just so we're clear on a couple of issues that I think need clarification. There were two different versions of the mechanics involved initially as to how these notes would be executed. One version had those notes being sold directly by the state. One had the systems selling the notes. My understanding is the final version that we're voting on is the state selling the notes and the cash being paid in full to the pension systems."

McCarthy: "That is correct. The... the state will issue the bonds and the money will be distributed by the Comptroller and Treasurer as opposed to the Governor's Office of Management and Budget."

Eddy: "Okay. Second point, regarding the pension system and this payment. This... this will allow for the full actuarial calculated payment to be made to the pension systems in FY10?"

McCarthy: "Correct... correct."

Eddy: "So this... this is very much unlike a bond situation several years back where bonds were sold and the entire amount did not go in. This... this... this is totally different in the entire amount of those... those notes, the proceeds go straight to the pension system to make the full payment?"

McCarthy: "You're absolutely correct. All 100 percent will go, less the cost of issuing of the bonds which we found out the other day were, a very small amount, so..."

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Eddy: "Okay. And... and is there a calculated cost over the five years, the interest cost for this? Do you know what... you know what it's going to cost to borrow this?"

McCarthy: "After... after some concern last Wednesday when we talked about this, I did check with some large national banks, one in particular, but just to... and he estimated about three and a half percent would be the interest rate we'd get on the bonds here."

Eddy: "So, I think that might calculate into about \$250 million over the five years?"

McCarthy: "You're very close, 257.4."

Eddy: "Okay. And... and I think the issue there really, to put it in perspective, if some of the... some of the pension systems didn't receive their payments this year and had to sell some assets, they... they could be selling assets that, that maybe were maybe \$30 stock at the time they purchased them, because they're having to sell them now they may be a fraction of that and... and truly, the total amount that could be lost in... in an asset sale would be much more than... than the \$250 million cost that... that would be associated with short-term borrowing. Is that a fair characterization?"

McCarthy: "I think... I think that's a excellent and very fair appraisal. I think this would be a terrible time to sell assets off of our system."

Eddy: "Has... has the Governor's Office weighed in with you regarding their intention with this legislation?"

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McCarthy: "They support it completely. I mean, as far... I don't understand your question."

Eddy: "Well, this version..."

McCarthy: "As far as whether they're, I mean, they... they... they hope to get this on their desk very shortly. As I said earlier, I think this is the first step in two or three or four steps that they're hoping for, before we all leave here. But, I know they're very supportive of it and if... if we're fortunate to pass it here and then pass it through the Senate, I would expect for them to act on it very, very quickly."

Eddy: "Do you... do you think they're committed to the same purpose that the... the Amendment 4 represents here and that is that this money go to the most vulnerable for... for those in human services, for those contracts and for those citizens? Do you... you believe that they're committed? Have you heard from them?"

McCarthy: "I'd like... I haven't heard from them directly on Amendment #4, as we just put it on there, but I think the Governor's statement and many people from his staff statement make it very clear that they know that the human service providers are the ones where the most critical cuts have been, you know..."

Eddy: "Okay."

McCarthy: "...were unfortunately projected."

Eddy: "Thank you, thank you."

McCarthy: "So, I... I think it was right for us to do it that way and they... I'm sure they will honor that Amendment."

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Eddy: "Okay. Mr. Speaker, to the Bill. No one likes to borrow money. No one likes to be in the situation that we find ourselves in. But I think that this being an option on June 29, as we face severe cuts, especially to those populations that are most vulnerable, although this is not a solution to a problem that has taken six years to... to finally recognize, this is no solution. This keeps the wolves away from the doors while we work on the other pieces of this puzzle. Those other pieces to the puzzle include: reforms to the pension system, Medicaid reforms. We have to figure out a way and support job growth in this state. Job growth will help this state and it's something that's been ignored far too long. We need to support this today, but we need to do more work to solve the problem."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative, we'll give you another minute to finish your remarks. So, if you're done? Thank you, Representative Eddy. The Chair recognizes the Lady from Lake, Representative Kathy Ryg."

Ryg: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Ryg: "Representative, I... I just want to be... be sure again, the intent of this legislation was to ensure the pension system... the pension payment was made?"

McCarthy: "The original intent was to make sure that the full payment is made this year to the systems, the full contracted through the 1994 legislation, the actuarially determined necessary contributions will be made to every one of the five state-funded systems, yes."

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Ryg: "Okay. And... and this plan allows us to address our budget deficit through the borrowing?"

McCarthy: "By providing that payment through these bonds that we're going to issue, that allows \$2.23 billion in budget relief. So, it's not new money, but instead of the, out of the \$9 billion where the cut is, this will take about a fourth of it out of the way. So I say, it's the first step, and what I know the Governor's Office is hoping is a multi step thing. But I think it's worth doing, even if it's, you know, just one step. It's still \$2 billion in... in programs that will still be there helping some of our very, you know, severely needy people. So, I'm... I'm happy that we're getting this first step forward and we'll see what happens during the next couple days for the steps two, three, and four."

Ryg: "Thank you. To the Bill. I think it's important to recognize that the intent of this Bill is to allow the state to meet its commitment in terms of the pension payments that we are overdue in fulfilling. But what Amendment 4 does, is really a very preliminary stopgap measure that moves in a positive direction, but as previous speakers have said, does not solve the problem for our human service agencies who have already moved forward with implementing the drastic budget cuts, closing programs, and services that are designed to meet the state's citizens who are in most in need of our state safety net. And in conjunction with closing those programs, they are laying off employees. So, where we're in need of putting people

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to work, and having the safety net for people to get what they need to return to their fullest potential, we are just putting a little bit, a little drop in the bucket of what those needs are. So again, it's very important, but I'm sure as some of the previous speakers have noted, our providers are still contacting us saying this does not solve the problem. It's one very important piece of the puzzle, but on June 29 we have a lot more work to do. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from Winnebago, Representative Dave Winters."

Winters: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Winters: "Representative McCarthy, one of the questions I had is on the asset smoothing, where instead of taking a market hit on the year when the market collapses and our assets become less valued, the way I understand this is that you would take the... the market loss and spread it in even terms over the next five years."

McCarthy: "Or... or the market gain that is above..."

Winters: "Correct."

McCarthy: "above the assumed increase every year."

Winters: "Right."

McCarthy: "Which is between eight and eight and a half percent on the different systems."

Winters: "So... so if I could lay this out in real numbers, hypothetical numbers though, that the market fell enough that it required us to put five billion dollars more into



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the... the pool of money that we have invested. You would then say that for the next five years we'll put a billion dollars each year in. The second year, the market went the other way and we gained ten billion dollars. We would still have to put a billion in from the previous year but then we would credit it two billion of that ten billion dollar gain. Is that... do those numbers work?"

McCarthy: "I think essentially you're..."

Winters: "Okay."

McCarthy: "...on the target there, but..."

Winters: "Good. I understand the... the way that this is being implemented. Now, is it going to be used for the next fiscal year, the one, the fiscal year 010 that starts on Wednesday?"

McCarthy: "No. It'll be... it'll be... the first time it'll be used into the actuarial evaluations will be for the mandatory payment in fiscal year 11."

Winters: "Okay. So, it has no effect. Passing this Bill will not... there's no smoothing taking place for next year?"

McCarthy: "Correct. The amount that was certified by the systems, you know, a couple of months back..."

Winters: "Is already certified."

McCarthy: "...is still there and that's the one we're aiming for on this year's budget."

Winters: "Right. That's the 2.2 billion. Now, to that area of the Bill, the way, again, my understanding is that we are borrowing from Wall Street 2.23 billion and we will be paying back over the next..."

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McCarthy: "Five years."

Winters: "...five years about 2.5 billion, in rough numbers, 500 million a year for the next five years."

McCarthy: "Correct."

Winters: "Now..."

McCarthy: "If the anticipated three and a half percent number is what we get."

Winters: "The line I want to go on is how much GRF money is going into the pension payment this year. The way I understand it, our normal cost that is earned by the employees that worked, or will be working the next year, our normal cost is 1.375 that we have to put in to cover the retirement benefits of the current employees for the next year. 1.375."

McCarthy: "I'm told it's 1.5 and 1.2 of that is GRF."

Winters: "Okay. Our numbers are fairly close."

McCarthy: "Correct."

Winters: "We also have a debt service of \$544 million from the bonding that was done four or five years ago."

McCarthy: "Correct."

Winters: "Okay. Those two figures then, are approximately \$2 billion coming out of GRF 1.8 to 2 billion out of GRF. Next year's... we don't have the 2.2 billion that we're... and we're going to have to put that in next year also, aren't we? Isn't the payment going to be over \$4 billion out of GRF?"

McCarthy: "We will have less than short-term borrow, we're hoping next year to make some money available in the

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budget, but you know, the formula will work on what the outstanding liability is. That's what the 2.2 billion is."

Winters: "Right."

McCarthy: "That's the payment, the payments we did not make in the past."

Winters: "And even though there's..."

McCarthy: "The 2 billion you're talking about with the normal cost plus the pension obligation bond notes that added up to close to the 2 billion as you said, that will go on. But then the systems will come up, I would think that the number will probably be in the same ballpark."

Winters: "Right. The best numbers that we have at this point is, our funding needed this year is 4.04, of which we're borrowing 2.2. Next year's number is 4.23, about 200 million more than this year plus a \$500 million payment on the borrowing on the \$2 billion borrowing. So, we're up to \$4.7 billion next year and we're really only putting in 2 billion of real money this year, plus the 2.2 of borrowing. But actual money coming out of our general revenue is about 2 billion and next year's goes to 4.7. Do you have any anticipation of where that money is going to come from?"

McCarthy: "Well, hopefully, the... a lot of the revenue numbers that are down today, when we're... when we're here at the end of May next year, we won't be looking at revenue numbers where our income tax is down, you know, over a billion dollars, our sales tax revenue is down. So, hopefully, if the, you know, construction trades get back to work and the economy does rebound"

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Speaker Lyons: "Representative Winters, your time has expired. If you could please conclude your remarks, we'd appreciate it."

Winters: "I will. Thank you very much, Speaker. My point is, that next year we have already dug almost a \$2.7 billion hole and if we're anticipating the market coming back over the last five years we've had actually fairly good revenue growth and it has never exceeded \$1.2 billion. So, we've already way exceeded any natural revenue growth even if the economy comes back next year. Borrowing is not the answer, it is simply digging a hole that we're going to step into next year and it's going to be a bigger hole than we started with this year. Thank you very much."

Speaker Lyons: "The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from Cook, Representative André Thapedi."

Thapedi: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Thapedi: "Representative, I see that you have a majority of the retirement systems that appear to be in support of this Bill. Is that correct?"

McCarthy: "I hope so."

Thapedi: "Okay."

McCarthy: "You're correct."

Thapedi: "What is the position... what is the position of the judges retirement system? 'Cause I don't see any indication on my analysis with respect to their position."

McCarthy: "The... you know, the judges retirement system and the General Assembly retirement system are part of SERS. So

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most of the time they don't weigh in on an individual basis. The... in the past, if it's going to cost the judges a nickel they will weigh in against it though, but so, by them not weighing in against it I think that... that's a pretty positive sign."

Thapedi: "I certainly understand that. I wouldn't want to invite any litigation, obviously, from the judiciary. So, would it be fair to say then that the judges are in support of this proposition?"

McCarthy: "I'd say that it's probably... just... just say they have no position, would be fairer."

Thapedi: "All right. Thank you, Representative."

McCarthy: "You're welcome."

Speaker Lyons: "The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from Cook, Representative Harry Osterman."

Osterman: "Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Osterman: "Representative, I appreciate your working with both Representative Ryg and Feigenholtz to have the Amendment 4 focus on social service programs. But as they have said and others will say, we still have a long way to go. You had indicated that there's... this is step one and there's step two, three, and four that we're going to deal with in the next few days. What are those step two, step three, and step four, that we can look forward to?"

McCarthy: "I'm... I'm probably better equipped to talk about the steps that I support, so... I... I know that there are different plans out there with different numbers adding up.

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Some plans are... are very forceful, looking to replace all 9 or 10 billion dollars, whatever the deficit spending is correct right now. But as I said, this is just part of it, but I think everyone of those parts is going to end up eliminating some of the cuts that we know are very severe. I feel comfortable moving forward at this time. I think it's a reasonable measure. I think the state will be able to pay it back in the following years and I know that at the end of the day, whatever else is decided in the next couple days, without this we'd be making 2.2 billion in cuts for sure, because I don't think anything else adds up to that total number without this first step of the 2.2."

Osterman: "I agree that the size of the hole that we're staring at is not going to be accomplished in one fell swoop and it needs to be built on. But I also need to stand up and say that we can't just do one small thing and then walk away, because this Bill now is going to give latitude to the Governor to help fund or help minimize the cuts in some social service programs, but it's going to go nowhere near resolving all of those cuts. And those are devastating cuts and all of us in the Body have gotten emails and have been contacted. This also focuses solely on human service programs and it does not cover programs like early childhood education. So significant cuts that would eliminate in the City of Chicago pre-school, that does not, is not dealt with in this Bill. So, there are significant spending pressures that are still out there and holes for this Body to deal with before we adjourn our... our... our work

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and... and... and leave. And I think that all of us need to acknowledge that we can't just do this and walk home. Child care is another instance where over 125 thousand families are staring at options of eliminating all of child care services they get. And I'm not sure that that's covered by this. The one last point I want to make is that this gives the discretion to the Governor on how to fund those. Are we going to see in a Bill how that's going to be spent?"

McCarthy: "I'm told there will be an appropriation Bill."

Osterman: "And is that going to be a House Appropriation Bill or is that going to be the Governor's Appropriation Bill?"

McCarthy: "It will probably be a joint effort."

Osterman: "Okay. Well, I look forward to hearing how... it should be a joint effort. And it's my hope that that will solve some of these questions that I still have and I'll reserve how I'm going to act on that when I hear about that and more importantly, how we deal with the hole that we have because there are real life... real life effects that we have that are right at our doorstep now and all of us, regardless of where you live in the state, have to step up and deal with this now. So, I look forward to working with you on that."

McCarthy: "Thank you and I would just say I don't disagree with anything you said."

Speaker Lyons: "The Chair recognizes the Lady from Cook, Representative Sara Feigenholtz."

Feigenholtz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

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Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Feigenholtz: "You know, Representative McCarthy, one of the things that's been very confusing about this process that I'm sure you would agree, is that we're seeing a lot of numbers floating around, we're doing this in a very piecemeal way. I don't think that anybody refutes the fact that we need to come up with elements, pieces of this as a puzzle, right?"

McCarthy: "I agree."

Feigenholtz: "So... so of course, do you know, we're going to be passing a piece of legislation after this that spends this \$2.2 billion. Is that correct?"

McCarthy: "That's correct."

Feigenholtz: "Okay. Because as I read Amendment #4 I see that there is a wide berth and broad discretion in the Amendment on how this is going to be spent. It does talk about funding services provided by community-based human service providers to insure that we continue assisting the most vulnerable of our citizens. You would consider that relatively broad, would you not?"

McCarthy: "I would and I... I took encouragement at the end of last week and people like yourself who I respect for their expertise in this area, I was happy to have their support and say this is the, you know, a good way to move forward. And I think all of us in the chamber look at certain people who are experts on these human services areas, like I said before, like yourself and Representative Ryg and Representative Mulligan and Coulson and Bellock from the



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other side and we would hope that your expertise would help us keep these department heads', you know, feet to the fire in making sure that they are going to be requesting funding for the cuts that would be the most severe."

Feigenholtz: "Well, I just want to caution everyone that again and I think I mentioned this last week that there's great temptation right now to spend all of this money on Medicaid but... but I... all of the people who sit on the Human Services Committee know that there are services in the community that are community-based that we provide that are non Medicaid matchable, that are extremely cost effective and have demonstrated cost benefit analysis. There's an orange sheet going around, that's being passed around by people who represent the workers and the clients of these programs and I am very concerned about what is going to go into the spending of this \$2.2 billion. Do you have any details?"

McCarthy: "I don't have exact line items now. I just hope that by adding Amendment #4 that the Governor's Office and our appropriation people take the expertise of those people I mentioned earlier into heart and make sure that the... the cuts that we're avoiding are cuts that are going to make significant differences in the lives of the people looking for these services."

Feigenholtz: "There's still a... to the Bill, Ladies and Gentlemen. There is still a major, major cut after we pass this Bill in the Human Services budget. It is barely a Band-Aid, barely. It's going to allow us to take, to inhale and exhale once, I think, because there will still

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be some very, very devastating cuts if we don't come up with other revenues. I'm concerned about child care of course, the community care program, foster children, \*ADAP\* and so many other things. I was at an event last night where the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago that takes care of people statewide and a myriad of programs from elder care to child care to autistic kids are going to lose \$14 million in funding. So, although I really would like to see how this money is spent, and talk to the Leaders and the Governor's Office about this, it's, you know, it's an opportunity to take a breath, but it's certainly not the whole deal. We really have to come back and get serious."

Speaker Lyons: "The Gentleman from DeKalb, Representative Bob Pritchard."

Pritchard: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Pritchard: "Representative, I may have missed this a little bit earlier, but could you explain what you mean by vulnerable citizens in this Amendment?"

McCarthy: "Are you talking about the language in the Amendment?"

Pritchard: "Yes."

McCarthy: "I believe these are, you know, pretty well-known, people that are... are... are getting services through the state, through different places that help the developmentally disabled, the mentally ill. These are very

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vulnerable citizens who without these services, you know, could have their situation go in a negative way,"

Pritchard: "So, I was just looking for your legislative intent if we could to help guide the Governor's Office as he might look at allocating this funding. You're looking then, for vulnerable to mean citizens that need assistance for the daily activities of life and health."

McCarthy: "Yeah. When we say the most vulnerable, these are ones that, you know, in many case have no one else who can provide these services for them and as I said we know this is just a partial step forward, so hopefully, the department heads can be very specific in helping those that are the most vulnerable."

Pritchard: "Thank you for that clarification. Ladies and Gentlemen, to this Bill. This is, has been described, a partial step towards looking at solving our state's budget in fiscal problems. It definitely requires additional reforms, additional cuts in the budget, a prioritization. And I know the Governor's staff is probably listening to this debate. I hope they take to heart the meetings they had with the various caucuses last week and the suggestions that were given. It's time for action. It's not time to just bury our feet in one solution. We've got to be creative about this, because there are serious issues before us. We're losing some federal match. We're putting people out on the street one at a time. We're supposed to be creating jobs, not firing people. We're looking at programs that will save us money in the future if we but

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spend a dollar today to provide the appropriate education or job training or other assistance that is given. I think it's prudent that we really take a close look at this budget and start looking at how we balance it, how we balance the budget instead of just continuing to borrow from the future and pass our debts on to future generations. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Will Davis."

Davis, W.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Davis, W.: "Representative, I think my concerns are very similar to some of what's been conveyed by other Members, as it relates to how this doesn't quite get us to where we're trying to go, but this is obviously going to help. Some of the concerns that I've had as I've talked to individuals over the last couple of weeks or so is about getting accurate numbers. So, if we do this, this is another as it's indicated \$2.23 billion. So, if you add that into where we are now and there's still a need for cuts, so... so are the cuts now at... at 50, are they at 70 percent, 75 percent, 80 percent? What... what is this, where does this get us? Can you... can you answer that for me?"

McCarthy: "Well, I'd say that this reduces the deficit by about 25 percent, so there'd still be a little, to my numbers, a little bit less than 7 billion that will be cut if we don't do anything else but this. So, but I think those arguments, I can understand people want to, you know, make

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it very clear and I think in my opening remarks I made it clear. This does not solve the whole problem in any way. It is a significant step forward, but it's just a first step forward. So, there will be... there will be, if nothing else is done but this, there's still going to be some very, very serious cuts in many of the agencies across our state."

Davis, W.: "Well, I'm... I'm clear there's still going to be a need for cuts, even the proposals that have come before us, whether it's the one and a half percent tax increase, even the two percent tax increase we've talked about. Still there's still going to be a hole that needs to be filled one way or the other, so I'm clear that there is still a need for... for cuts. But as we add this money to the pot, so to speak, and we still talk about cuts, I guess my concern is still, what gets cut, what doesn't get cut, what gets filled, what doesn't get filled? As the Amendment talks about, the Amendment says community-based human services. And I think Representative Osterman kind of alluded to that human services, while it's a broad term, may not be broad enough to cover all of the types of other human services as I'll define it to some degree that exists that may be affected by these cuts. So... so are we talking about just those programs that come out of DHS? What about DCFS? What about... what about all those other programs when we talk about women and children?"

McCarthy: "This is human services with a small 'h' and a small 's', so it includes like the Department of Aging,

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Department of Children and Family Services, things of that nature."

Davis, W.: "Okay."

McCarthy: "I was assured of that by, you know, some of the architects of that fourth Amendment."

Davis, W.: "So, while we call it human services, we're still talking about the broad range of services..."

McCarthy: "Right. I think..."

Davis, W.: "...that we provide from different agencies other than what may be under Human Services."

McCarthy: "That is the legislative intent and I think it does spell that out. Now, the educational cuts he talked about, no. That will have to be handled at a... at a... at a further step forward."

Davis, W.: "Right."

McCarthy: "But I think most of us would understand that some of these services that are talked about, we're talking life and death. I mean as bad as it be that you don't get a year of preschool, that can be made up in the future. I think the first step we have to go forward are things that could, you know, put people really in harm's way."

Davis, W.: "Right. What I... what I think is missing..."

McCarthy: "I mean, I hope those other cuts don't have to be made, I'm not advocating for those other cuts, so. But... but I do think they are less severe as far as the life and death struggle than some of the cuts we're talking about here."

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Davis, W.: "Okay. Well, let me be... let me be quick. What I think is missing from this, though, is the word balance. Because when you think about the African-American communities where a number of these services reside and... and where they are, if you make cuts in these programs the cuts in my opinion and I don't necessarily have numbers to support it are deeper in African-American communities than they are in other communities or the... or the impact, the social impact of making cuts in our communities is much deeper. So, what I think is not represented here and maybe it can be is the idea of balanced cuts. Whatever those cuts have to be, that they're balanced. Now that doesn't mean that they are necessarily across the board. If you say a percentage across the board. But maybe they need to be balanced and that may represent different numbers in different places. So, I hope that as we work through this that... that folks will be sensitive to the fact that cuts in certain communities have a greater impact than in other communities as well. And before my time runs out, the other thing that I just want to ask you, is making sure that I understand this, so are we selling a bond to get this money? Are we selling something?"

McCarthy: "They're called general... general obligation bonds. Correct."

Davis, W.: "We're selling something, correct."

McCarthy: "Correct."

Davis, W.: "And when we sell bonds as a state, there are a number of other, organiz... No, I won't say organizations..."

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companies, or businesses that get involved in the selling of these bonds. So, is there any language specific to the fact that these bonds have to be dealt with... with Minority Bond Council, minority bond (inaudible)

McCarthy: "(inaudible) statutes that all the general obligation bonds have to handle all the procurement things including the... the percentages of minority investment and stuff."

Davis, W.: "Okay. So... so you're saying that's because of that's how we deal."

McCarthy: "I... these are general obligation bonds, so I... I would be shocked if that wasn't true that they're going to be under all of those same requirements."

Davis, W.: "Okay."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Davis, we'll give you one minute or so to please conclude your remarks."

Davis, W.: "Absolutely. Well, I think that's important because again, even though we're focusing on the human services and... and all the impact that this is going to have, it's still money of the taxpayer state and there's still some of us that have interests at what we spend state money or that we do things with... with taxpayer dollars that we do them in a broad spectrum, so it's important to me and I think other Members of the Black Caucus that this money is dealt with and that we do bring in minority companies to help deal with this money or how... however that works out. So I certainly hope that that is a part of this."

McCarthy: "I... I think you've made some great points and I think that the latitude we're giving these department heads, I



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hope they are listening to your remarks now, that they should be cognizant of the fact that maybe a 10 percent cut in certain areas would be much more drastic than a 10 percent cut across the board. So I think that was a great point and I hope by giving the discretion to these department heads, they can acknowledge that too and try to send the money where it'll do the most good. So, I think that was a very valid point you made."

Davis, W.: "And... and if you are indeed, or continue to be the lead on this, I certainly hope that when you have conversations with other Members as you've talked about those that... that deal with human services probably on a more regular basis than the rest of us, but the fact that many of us have human services and we're concerned about the impact of those services in our districts, that those conversations can be broadened to include more Members as well."

McCarthy: "I appreciate that. I will try to do my best for it, but I also think the people I mentioned earlier are kind of our... kind of our experts in it, they're going to keep an eye on the department heads and see where they're making the changes as far as using this money to its best advantage, so."

Davis, W.: "I appreciate that but I just want to make sure that as I've articulated in terms of... in terms of these cuts in... in African-American communities that someone is there that maybe represents to their needs."

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McCarthy: "I will make sure that I mention that to the Governor that that was an important point that came out during the discussion here today."

Davis, W.: "I appreciate it. Thank you."

McCarthy: "Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "Leader Tom Cross."

Cross: "Thanks, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. I... I... I think if, and... and some of this may be repetitive and I'll try to keep my comments short. I think everybody in this floor would, if this was an isolated Bill and taken out of the context of today would probably not embrace it and we would all point out the downsides of borrowing to solve a problem. But we've... we unfortunately find ourselves in a bit of a dilemma to say the least and it doesn't... it's not worth repeating why we're in this, we all have our theory on it. We certainly feel strongly on... on... on our theory of how we got into this mess. And I think it's unfortunate that while we're going to find two and a half billion dollars today, you can't walk away with any feeling of euphoria or being ecstatic about it, because it is at the best going to minimize some pretty significant cuts. So we, you know, a lot of times we like to be out here and say, great job and we'll... we'll move on for another... move on to another day. That's not the case here. But what I do want to point out is that we do find ourselves in a very difficult situation and it would have been easy for us perhaps to say this isn't a problem we caused, we don't want to... you... you go solve it yourselves, we're not going

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to participate, but the feeling on this side of the aisle is that we have to find some solutions right now to some of what we're facing and I look at Beth Coulson up there as a cosponsor and I think about Betty... Patti Bellock and David Leitch and Rosemary Mulligan and so many others on this side of the isle that care deeply about human services as do I think many, if not all in the chamber. But these folks are very, very conscientious and spend many hours and... and days at home and around the state working on it. And the thought was we have a responsibility to work with you. And get this resolved and diminish or minimize the potential pain. And I do want to thank the Speaker for holding this Bill last week. This was going to be called the last day we were in Session. And a number of our Members had some concerns and said if we're going to do something we don't really think is a smart thing to do, let's at least make sure that the money's directed in the right way. And that is the reason for the language directing the money to community based human service providers. And people on this side felt very strongly about that and will continue to feel very strongly about that, 'cause that's where we're seeing potentially significant harm. And this is a way to minimize that. So, bipartisanship does work. It's something maybe we ought to try on a more regular basis. And there are solutions to a variety of problems around here and this is an example of one of those. So, to the Sponsor and to the Speaker, thank you for listening. And to the Governor's Office, I hope

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you, as an office, are listening to the desires and the interests of those on this floor and their desire to protect community service providers, those that provide services to our most needy, who, I don't think appreciate the approach that's been taken by the Governor's Office the last few weeks in scaring people almost to death and alarming people to the point of almost hysteria. We don't want that and we don't need that. And I'm hopeful that today is a step to prevent that. So, Representative McCarthy, thank you for taking the lead on this Bill and thanks for the opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to say a few words. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "The Lady from DuPage, Representative Patti Bellock."

Bellock: "I just wanted... thank you, Leader Cross, for your comments, Speaker Madigan and Representative McCarthy. Because the entire human service safety net in this state has already been started to be dismantled in this last week. There is a hysteria in the world of human services today, out there, so I want to thank all of you for your leadership today in working with everyone to support this Bill. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Rosemary Mulligan."

Mulligan: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "The Sponsor yields."

Mulligan: "Representative, how do you classify this Bill? Do you classify it as an appropriation Bill or a Budget

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Implementation Act that gives revenue in a lump sum to the Governor to do what he wants with some legislative intent in the Bill?"

McCarthy: "Well, as we stated earlier, this does not appropriate the money, so I certainly would not consider it an appropriation Bill, but I... I would consider it a budget relief Bill. And I think that we know what the budget... or budget. deficit relief Bill. We know that the numbers have been thrown around and I think we've all acknowledged that this is a step forward, a small step, but a necessary step. And then we'll see what other steps are made before we leave here and then the Governor can act accordingly."

Mulligan: "So, I guess there's the undecided... that everyone agrees that this will not fill the amount of money that we actually need, that we're still going to be short revenue that this may cover 70 percent of what the actual human service needs are. Is that correct?"

McCarthy: "I think that's a good approximation."

Mulligan: "So, there are a number of different consent decrees and things that are out there where people are getting ready to file suits as soon as this is over. So 70 percent may be ambitious in some areas because some of the ones that have consent decrees will get everything that they need or a good portion of what they need so that their needs will be fulfilled because by law, we will have to do that or the Governor's people will have to do that. Is that not correct?"

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McCarthy: "I think that's correct and I think that the discretion that we gave the department heads in Amendment #4, hopefully will instruct them to look at those consent decrees and other things that... so we don't end up spending more good money after bad, by trying to defend ourself in a position that we can't. So, hopefully, the discretion will help with that, but it doesn't answer everything because it's... it's not a total solution."

Mulligan: "But we are handing over a lump sum to the Governor for his agencies to make the decisions of where this money actually goes, is that..."

McCarthy: "Well, we are... we are putting that lump sum forward so that the Leadership, your Leader, my Leader, the Leaders from the Senate and the Governor's Office together can work toward appropriating that money in order to reduce different cuts and appropriate it to the areas that will make it the most effective. We are still going to do the appropriation Bill at... at one point, though, so we still have control over that. I don't think it's like we're just giving it to him and you do this. He can work with your Leader, my Leader, the Senate Leaders and together hopefully, they'll come up with some spending patterns that will help as we said before, help reduce the affect."

Mulligan: "So, this Bill is amended so it has to go back to the Senate for the Senate to pass and then it would then go to the Governor?"

McCarthy: "Correct."

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Mulligan: "And the Governor can do what he wishes. Is... is this..."

McCarthy: "Well, I think... I think in the budget discussions that are being held by the Leadership with the Governor, they need to know, is this step going forward? They're going to need to know the other step, like the un... the thing we don't want to mention, the income tax vote at some point. But I think at some point Leadership means you've got to say, this is coming forward or it's not coming forward. This... I hope, that this is going to be positive. And then we'll see what other measures come out this week. And then the Governor's people, along with the four Leaders are going to have to say this is the way we're going to... finally, we're going to have to show some leadership by saying we can all keep talking about what might be available, but at some point we've got to say this is what's available and make the appropriate appropriations."

Mulligan: "All right. But when we walk out of here and we pass this money over, we still have not solved the problem. For years we have neglected human services, we have not fully funded them. My understanding, unless you're part of the Medicaid source that we have to pay in order to get our stimulus money that everybody else is going to go to somewhere between 120 and 130 days. When we walk out of here, this'll be a pretty bad budget. To... to the Bill. I certainly can't criticize my colleagues for working hard because of what was out there before was considered a doomsday. What I do have a real problem with is that we no

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longer do a... a proper appropriation process, nor do we take seriously as Legislature our ability to direct what we should have in a budget and how to solve a problem. So when we leave here, we will be passing along to the Governor these lump sums that are still going to scare agencies because some programs you can't run 75 percent of, you can't run 50 percent of. You know, 100 percent wasn't enough in some instances because we don't pay our bills on time and they've borrowed and so, they're really in a crunch. Philanthropic giving..."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Mulligan, your five minutes have expired. If you could conclude your remarks in the next minute, we'd appreciate it."

Mulligan: "I will conclude. I think we should be able to do better in solving these problems and I think we're going to have to come back and solve them. And if we don't solve them by the end of this year, we're going to have a real problem next year because this economy is not picking up."

Speaker Lyons: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Elaine Nekritz."

Nekritz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. It's pretty clear that in decades past our... our... our budget decisions have resulted in the hole in which we find ourselves. And while we didn't create it, we're left with having to address it. So, I believe this legislation is important to... to allow us to make the full pension payment for fiscal year 2010 so we don't even... so we don't get even further behind in... in... ..in that regard. But as so many of my



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colleagues have said, that no one should believe that this will solve the budget crisis we have before us today, and while it will help, but in no way fully address the human services portion of the budget, there are dozens if not hundreds of other valuable programs that... that are not going to be addressed in this way at all. Those include, I believe, it's about a billion dollars in education... educational grant programs for K-12, the Monetary Assistance Program which allows low-income students to attend college and get their degree. And that... that one I find particularly distressing, just because we're making decisions today to... to cut that program that will have long-term economic ramifications for this state, because if those students are not getting an advanced degree, they're going to be stuck in low-wage jobs that may or may not be available and not fully contributing as much as they could to the economic stability of this state. So, I think that's a... a terrible tragedy that we're not going to be addressing that. And then on the transportation side, as I've said numerous times, we are going to be looking at cuts to the Amtrak operating budget which is in the grand scheme of this... of this deficit of over 9 billion, a paltry 28 million. But when we do that, we are risking the billions of dollars in stimulus money that... that might be coming here to really build up our... our rail system and the passenger rail system and.. and in addition, the freight rail system, both of which in... in many ways are the backbone of our transportation economy here in Illinois.

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So, we still have some very significant challenges ahead of us and... and I hope we are up to the task."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative McCarthy to close."

McCarthy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I... I do appreciate the comments. I think we have been very much up-front on this to say this is not the total package; this is not going to eliminate all the pain that's out there, but it is a step forward. I think it is a conservative enough step that we can support it. I've been always diligent, I think, in watching the payments to the pension system. This allows us to make the system paid. The payback is a five-year level payment, so I think that is something that we can look at and while the economy may not come back completely, I think we are headed in the right direction and hopefully, our revenue numbers will come up next year to make our decisions a little bit easier. But I really appreciate the... the comments. I know that they came from the heart of the Members. And I would appreciate a 'affirmative' vote on Senate Bill 415."

Speaker Lyons: "The Gentleman moves for the passage of Senate Bill 415. This Bill requires a three-fifths majority of 71 votes in order to pass. The question is, 'Should Senate Bill 415 pass?' All those in favor signify by voting 'yes'; those opposed vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Connie Howard? Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this Bill, there are 101 Members voting 'yes', 7 Members voting 'no' and 0 one voting 'present'. This

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Bill, having received the Constitutional Majority of Three-Fifths, is hereby declared passed. Representative Lang, a point of personal privilege?"

Lang: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen. At the end of May, you'll recall we passed four Bills that deal with capital construction. We passed some substantive Bills regarding capital and we passed a Bill regarding the funding for a capital Bill. We had known for sometime on this floor that we needed a capital Bill in the State of Illinois. The prior Governor talked about it, we talked about it, the current Governor talked about it. We're at a point in the State of Illinois where we have over 10 percent unemployment. And a capital Bill not only would have fixed the infrastructure of Illinois, which has been badly in repair, but it would have put thousands and thousands, maybe 100 thousand of our out of work citizens to work in the State of Illinois. This would have been Illinois's economic stimulus package. During the negotiations on the capital Bill, Governor Quinn pronounced both publicly and privately to Legislative Leaders that if we would only send him a capital Bill, he would sign such a Bill. And so after a lot of work on both sides of the aisle and in both chambers in a bipartisan way, knowing how badly we need this capital Bill for all sorts of reasons, we sent... we passed a capital Bill. We passed the funding for a capital Bill. Many people on the floor of this House voted for that funding holding their nose, saying they weren't for many different parts of it; the video gaming or

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the alcohol taxes or the increased driver's license fees or the candy tax, et cetera. But we did what we had to do to make sure we could pass a capital Bill with the assurance of the Governor of the State of Illinois that he would sign that Bill and put those people to work. Well, Ladies and Gentlemen, less than 30 minutes after we passed the capital Bill, the Governor of the State of Illinois announced he wasn't going to sign that series of Bills. The Governor of the State of Illinois, in fact, announced he was going to do exactly what he had promised what he would not do, which is hold those Bills hostage for other purposes. Now, while I share the Governor's view that we need more money for our budget and that we should not short change human services, the fact is that the Governor gave us his word that he would sign those Bills. He gave the people of the State of Illinois his word that he would sign those Bills. And when he did not sign those Bills, I filed Motions to reconsider on all of those Bills and I did it not because I wanted to change those Bills, not because I thought we did the wrong thing, and not because of any other reason that, we had just gone through six years of a Governor who didn't tell it to us the way it was. We had just gone through six years of a Governor that attempted to use the Illinois General Assembly as his own personal play toy. And you and I, for those six years, were fed up with that. And so I felt, Ladies and Gentlemen, that if this Bill was not going to be signed immediately, better it should be in our control than the control of someone who had told us he

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would sign the Bills, but was not going to sign the Bills. I thought that was a good idea then, I think it's a good idea today. However, in the hopes that this Governor who has been talking for now for the last several days about how well the General Assembly has passed the capital Bills, but oh golly gee, they aren't on my desk. I think we should send him those Bills. Now, the fact is, Ladies and Gentlemen, he has not committed to sign those Bills. He's given speech after speech, press conference after press conference, and as early as today in a Leader meeting said, well, you know, that... that terrible, rotten Representative Lang won't send me those Bills, so I can't act on them. He didn't say so I can't sign them; he said be... so I can't act on them. So, I don't know what he's going to do with those Bills, but we have thousands and thousands and thousands of Illinoisans out of work. We have bridge repairs, road repairs, transit repairs, schools to build. We have all of that need to spend \$30 billion on capital and so today I withdraw those Motions and send these Bills to the Governor, but I do so with the hope... I do so with the hope that all of us will make our voices heard on the second floor to encourage Governor Quinn to sign the Bills. These Bills need to be signed for the good of the State of Illinois. And while I support more revenue in the budget, it is unconscionable to withhold his signature on those Bills. So, I hope you will join me. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw all four Motions on House Bills 255, 312, 2400, and 2424. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

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Speaker Lyons: "Motions are recognized and withdrawn. The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from Bond, Representative Ron Stephens. For what purpose do you rise, Sir?"

Stephens: "Mr. Speaker, couldn't that all have been avoided?"

Speaker Lyons: "And now, Representative Barbara Flynn Currie moves that the House stand adjourned, Special Session One stands adjourned to the hour of 1 p.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, June 30. So, allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk, all those in favor of adjournment 'til tomorrow will signify by saying 'yes'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned until the hour of 1 p.m., Tuesday, June 30."