

STATE OF ILLINOIS
97th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

81st Legislative Day

11/8/2011

Clerk Bolin: "The House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Committee Reports. Representative Currie, Chairperson from the Committee on Rules reports the following committee action taken on November 07, 2011: recommends be adopted Floor Amendment #2 for Senate Bill 2408. Attention, Members. The Rules Committee will meet immediately in the Speaker's conference room. The Rules Committee will meet immediately in the Speaker's conference room."

Speaker Lyons: "Good afternoon, Illinois. Your House of Representatives will come to order. Members and guests are asked to please refrain from starting your laptops, turn off all electronic equipment, and stand for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. We'll be led today in prayer by Wayne Padget, the Assistant Doorkeeper. Wayne."

Wayne Padget: "Let us pray. Dear heavenly Father, we come, before You today praying that on this day You give us wisdom, guidance, and patience. Let us also pray for the men and women in all branches of our Armed Services. And Lord, humble us to remember that yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift. And that is why it's called the present. These things we ask in Your Son's name, Amen."

Speaker Lyons: "Nice job, Wayne. Representative Smith, will you please lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance."

Smith - 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."

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Speaker Lyons: "Roll Call for Attendance. Mike Bost, GOP status."

Bost: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let the record reflect that Representative Mathias and Representative Rose are excused on the Republican side of the aisle."

Speaker Lyons: "Thank you, Representative. Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie, Democrats."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record show that both Representative Howard and Representative McGuire are excused today."

Speaker Lyons: "Mr. Clerk, we have 113 Members present. Take the record. We have a quorum present and prepared to do the work of the State of Illinois. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "Committee Reports. Representative Currie, Chairperson from the Committee on Rules reports the following committee action taken on November 08, 2011: recommends be adopted Motion to accept the Governor's Amendatory Veto for Senate Bill 170. Representative Burke, Chairperson from the Committee on Executive, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on November 08, 2011, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass Short Debate' for Senate Bill 965, and Senate Bill 1587; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' for Senate Bill 72, Senate Bill 1640, Senate Bill 1750, Senate Bill 1849, and Senate Bill 1992; 'recommends be adopted' Floor Amendment #2 to Senate Bill 1865, and Floor amendment #3 to Senate Bill 1865; 'recommends be adopted as amended' House Resolution 550. Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution 9... House Resolution 584,

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offered by Representative Yarbrough. House Resolution 586,
offered by Representative Franks. House Resolution 587,
offered by Representative Poe. House Resolution 589,
offered by Representative Moffitt. House Resolution 590,
offered by Representative Pihos. House Resolution 596,
offered by Representative Saviano. House Resolution 605,
offered by Representative Saviano. House Resolution 609,
offered by Representative Ford. And House Resolution 610,
offered by Representative Ford. And House Joint resolution
48, offered by Representative Bradley."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Gaffney on a point of personal
privilege."

Gaffney: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like the
attention of the Members. Today, in the gallery, I have my
mother and my sister and my family up there and today is my
mother's birthday. So, if everybody could please give them
a warm welcome to the House."

Speaker Lyons: "Happy birthday, Mrs. Gaffney. Welcome to your
Capitol. We're proud of your son down here. Representative
Zalewski, for what purpose do you seek recognition,
Representative."

Zalewski: "A point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lyons: "Please proceed, Mike."

Zalewski: "Mr. Speaker, as everyone knows, we have the township
officials down here this week to visit us in Springfield.
And I just want to acknowledge one of my township
officials, Lyons Township Clerk, Mary Jo Noonan who's up in
the gallery. If everyone could give her a round of applause

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and all the township officials, I'd really appreciate it.
Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "Welcome township officials. We're proud to have you. Representative Phelps, for what purpose do you seek recognition, Representative."

Phelps: "I know it's early but a purpose of an announcement."

Speaker Lyons: "Please proceed."

Phelps: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Tomorrow morning at 7:30 at Representative Jerry Costello's office, the Illinois Legislative Sportsman Caucus will be getting together. It's on the south end of the Stratton, second floor. Love to have you. For the new Members, we will be collecting dues. So, love to see all of you there."

Speaker Lyons: "Thank you, Representative. Representative Jakobsson, for what purpose do you seek recognition."

Jakobsson: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to make an announcement, please."

Speaker Lyons: "Please proceed, Naomi."

Jakobsson: "I would like everybody to take notice. I believe you've received an invitation that IBHE is holding a retirement host for Don Sevenser this evening from 5-8 at Celtic Mist. Please come out and thank Don Sevenser for all the work he's done with IBHE."

Speaker Lyons: "Thank you, Representative. Representative Elaine Nekritz, for what purpose do you seek recognition."

Nekritz: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lyons: "Please proceed, Elaine."

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Nekritz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like the Body to welcome my husband's son who ...Mike Nekritz along with his cosuperintendent up at the Lakes Antioch High School, Jim McKay who have led a delegation of school superintendents from Lake County to advocate here today on... in opposition to some legislation. So, welcome, Mike and Jim."

Speaker Lyons: "Welcome to the Capitol. Glad you could be here. Representative Golar, for what purpose do you seek recognition?"

Golar: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to make an announcement."

Speaker Lyons: "Please proceed."

Golar: "This evening at 5:30, the Legislative Black Caucus will meet in M-1 in the Stratton Building. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "Thank you, Representative. Representative Currie on a Motion."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. I move to suspend the posting requirements so that House Resolution 608 can be heard in the Committee on Revenue & Finance."

Speaker Lyons: "Seeing no objection, we ask leave of the Body for House Resolution 608. All those in favor signify by saying 'yes'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution's adopted. The Motion's adopted. Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Ladies and Gentlemen, we'll start with the Supplemental Calendar, issues on Second Reading which will be moved to Third. Mr. Clerk, what's the status on the Senate Bill 72."

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 72, a Bill for an Act concerning insurance. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. Amendment #4

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was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments have been approved for consideration. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. Mr. Clerk, what's the status on Senate Bill 965?"

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 965, a Bill for an Act concerning transportation. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. Mr. Clerk, what's the status on Senate Bill 1587?"

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 1587, a Bill for an Act concerning the State Police. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. No Committee Amendments or Floor Amendments have been adopted. No Motions are pending. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. Status of Senate Bill 1640."

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 1640, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. Amendment #2 was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. The status on Senate Bill 1750."

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 1750, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. Amendment #1 was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments have been approved for consideration. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Hold that Bill on the Order of Second Reading. Senate Bill 1849, Mr. Clerk, status?"

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 1849, a Bill for an Act concerning gaming. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. Amendment #2

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was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. Senate Bill 1992, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 1992, a Bill for an Act concerning State Government. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. Amendment #2 was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. Ladies and Gentlemen, on page 4 of the Calendar, Representative Harris has Senate Bill 1335. What's the status on that Bill, Mr. Clerk?"

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 1335, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. The Bill is read for a second time on a previous day. Amendment #2 was adopted in committee. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 1335, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Third Reading of this Senate Bill."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Greg Harris."

Harris, G.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This Bill is a gut and replace Amendment. It affects only the county of Cook. I repeat, it affects only the county of Cook. We're doing this at the request of Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas. This cures a glitch in the law whereby property taxes that are not fully paid by the first of November could be ordered sold by the Circuit Court. This would extend to July of the succeeding year the date the taxpayers would have especially in this difficult economy, to make their payments on their second installment

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of their property tax bill. This is good for three years. I would be happy to take any questions. I think this is a good Bill to help our citizens as they struggle to make ends meet."

Speaker Lyons: "You've heard Representative Harris's explanation on Senate Bill 1335. Is there any discussion? Seeing none this Bill will require 71 voted for passage. 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? Dunkin, Feigenholtz, like to be recorded? Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this Bill, there's 111 Members voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 1 Member voting 'present'. This Bill, having received the Constitutional Supermajority, is hereby declared passed. Mr. Clerk, on page 3 of the Calendar, Representative Franks has House Bill 3793. What's the status on that Bill, Mr. Clerk?"

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 3793, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. The Bill was read for a second time on a previous day. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. Read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 3793, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Lyons: "The Gentleman from McHenry, Representative Jack Franks."

Franks: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that we all heard loud and clear from property owners who are outraged and shocked when they open their property tax bills. Home values have

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plummeted in recent years, but the tax burden on those properties continues to skyrocket. Just this morning, the Chicago Tribune reported that more than 46 percent of all single family homes with a mortgage in the Chicago area were underwater, in this year's third quarter, far more than the nation as a whole. The percentage of homes in the Chicago area with negative equity rose 9 percent from the second quarter. Homeowners are understandably upset that they can be taxed more and more on less equity. And how are the homeowners suppose to pay these taxes? Their salaries aren't going up and folks are living paycheck to paycheck. In the midst of a housing and mortgage crisis, we must act to provide relief to property owners struggling to get by. And that's why we introduced this Bill. Our Bill provides that property taxes cannot go up at all in any year in which the gross value of property in a taxing district decreases. Now, under a current law, taxes can go up by the rate of the consumer inflation or 5 percent whichever is less. Now, that was fine when property values were steadily increasing, but now as home values are declining, the law is having the opposite affect. It is hurting homeowners and kicking them when they're down. Now, this is important to know that this Bill, and you've heard a lot of rhetoric, but it's important to know that this Bill will maintain the revenues that local units of government have received. It just won't allow for automatic increases when property values decline. They will get the same amount of money as the year before. And there still is a mechanism for a referendum if the taxing bodies require additional funds.

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This requires openness and accountability and this is really a truth in taxation Bill. I'm going to give you some examples. In McHenry County, which I represent, many of the local taxing units raised their rates an average of 9.4 percent and that of the... out of the 132 taxing bodies received last May, only 5 lowered their rates and 1 kept it the same. 126 other taxing bodies raised taxes an average of 9.4 percent. And a recent study from the Civic Federation confirmed which should be obvious to all homeowners that property tax bills are rising, while home values are falling. The study also pointed out that in the collar counties where residential and commercial properties taxed at the same rate the effective rates have gone up. For example, in Harvard, which I represent, the effective rate rose 35 percent."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative, we'll be using the timer on this, so if you could conclude your opening remarks then we'll go... go to the time."

Franks: "I need a... I need another few moments."

Speaker Lyons: "I'll give you another minute."

Franks: "It rose 35 percent from 2008 to 2009. You know, government at all levels must always look for opportunities to increase efficiency and do more with less. And as families tighten their bel... tighten their belts to make ends meet, we must ensure that government does the same. The goal must be to ensure property levels... levies are fair and equitable. The current PTELL Law is neither. The premise that government should get automatic increases at a time when its citizens have less is contrary to the ideals

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that this nation was founded on. And to expect higher returns at decli... at a time of declining asset values is contrary to all economic realities. It doesn't happen in the business world and it must not happen in government. Hopefully, this Bill will stimulate discussion on how the state funds education and health and pension obligation. But taxing bodies are acting as though they are the victims when, in fact, it is the property owner and the taxpayer which is getting victimized by an unfair and outdated system and we must rectify the system. If we fail to do so, there will be additional foreclosures and bankruptcies which will further hinder our economic recovery. It's our duty to act; it's our duty to protect our constituents and fundamental fairness demands it. I'll be happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Eddy, two minutes."

Eddy: "Thank you. Will the sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "Sponsor yields."

Eddy: "First an inquiry of the Chair, if I could."

Speaker Lyons: "Inquiry, Roger."

Eddy: "Was there a... an approved process for Pages to be handing out literature related to a positions or support or on a Bill? I thought there was a rule against... I thought there was a House Rule against Pages handing out either support or opposition positions on Bills. Was that approved by anyone?"

Speaker Lyons: "Well, I believe the Rule says, Representative, that there is a Rule for Pages not to do so but not restricting Members."

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Eddy: "Well, I believe Pages were handing this out. Representative... Maybe I can ask Representative Franks. Did you direct a Page to hand this out?"

Franks: "Yes, that's my fault. It's not the Page's fault. I asked her to put that out. I thought you guys would be here at noon not at two. I was hoping to talk to each of you..."

Eddy: "Well, no matter when we're here..."

Franks: "...but being two hours late sort of threw me off the game."

Eddy: "No matter when we're here, Representative, the rules are the rules. And basically..."

Franks: "Well I apologize. Don't read it."

Eddy: "Thank you. Will the sponsor yield."

Speaker Lyons: "Sponsor yields, Representative."

Eddy: "Representative, you gave quite an eloquy related to why this is so important and ...and it was almost like a press conference you will holding there while you were presenting the Bill. Do you have any idea what this might do to service providers like police departments, and fire departments, and other government entities?"

Franks: "Sure. I met with a lot of them and I know you have as well. You know, last year in the State of Illinois we finally did something important. We passed a Resolution saying we're only going to spend how much we actually bring in and this year we had to make very tough decisions on what the state had to spend. And we had to make cuts in areas where none of us really wanted to but we had to because we had less. But the local government somehow think they're immune to the realities of what's going on in the

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world and what they have now is automatic increases even when citizens have less. So, I understand there is going to be an effect, but the fact is they're not getting less money than the year before, they're getting the same amount. And the only... only in Illinois, only in Illinois would someone who said they get the same amount consider that a cut."

Eddy: "Representative... Mr. Speaker, to the Bill. He's obviously going to grandstand throughout this whole process. So, there's... I'm going to go to the Bill. I'm going to tell you what this is going to do to school districts. Those school districts, who by the way have made cuts, if you want to talk to school personnel about how many teachers were cut in this state, how many teachers aides were cut in this state, when transportation was cut by \$90 million. Representative, I don't think, if I were you, I would characterize local governments as swimming in money right now. Quite the contrary. I think I would characterize the fact that those same governments are struggling to make ends meet. We're laying off teachers; we're cutting transportation routes. This is the set of rules these governments were given to play by. This set of rules has been in effect for eight innings of the game, and here in the bottom of eighth inning you wanted to have four outs for your team and three outs for the other. You want to change the rules and you want to do it for the most nefarious of reasons. You want to do it to be a golden guy when it comes..."

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Speaker Lyons: "Roger, we'll give you another minute. We'll give you another minute. Go ahead."

Eddy: "Thank you. Representative, I'm going to tell you what's going to happen when you... if this Bill passes. If this Bill passes, those governments that you think are swimming in money are going to be cutting more teachers, they're going to cut back on protections to your fire and police for the citizens of the state and they're going to do it because they can't control some cost either. If you've not noticed, the cost of diesel fuel is up, the cost of food is up. Those school districts have to play by the rules. That's all they ask is to know what the rules are. I hear people saying they should plan three years ahead. They should have a five-year plan. You want to tell me how a school district can have a three-year plan when halfway through the game you want to come along and change the rules? The state aid formula for schools allows districts with property wealth to access that wealth with a cap. Now, you want to cap the caps. You want to change the rule in the middle of the game. I don't think it's fair. I know what you're trying to do, I see this as a more political vote, a stunt, than I do any good public policy and I hope everybody sees through that and either votes 'no' or 'present' on this Bill."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Osmond."

Osmond: "I would like to relinquish my time for Representative Eddy, please."

Speaker Lyons: "The time yielded to Representative Eddy."

Eddy: "Thank you. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I want you to just consider yourself in the position of any local

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government that would have to change the way that they consider services whether it be a school district, a fire department, a police department, or any other public service that you have. I want you to consider that for a second because the popular thing to do would be to vote for a Bill that supposedly, supposedly, is going to provide property tax relief when it really doesn't. What it will do is it will cause services to be cut to students, to citizens, to people who count on their government to provide services. There's nothing wrong with the idea that everybody has to... to do a little less or a little more with less now, but they're doing it. I submit to you the fact that in this budget we had to cut \$90 million out of the transportation line item. And to see the Governor cut another \$90 million out, school districts are already dealing with that. They're dealing with lay-offs; they're dealing with cuts. Fire departments and police departments are dealing with less already. That's already happening, and it's happening as a natural result of the bad economy. This will just make it worse. Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you again, I know this is a tough vote, but this is not good public policy. I would request respectfully that you vote 'no' or you vote 'present' and stop this thing before it damages our communities across this state."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Zalewski."

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

Speaker Lyons: "Sponsor yields."

Zalewski: "Representative, I ...I have the deepest amount of respect for the fierce amount of taxpayer advocacy that you

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do in this Body. I think you're voice of fiscal responsibility, a voice that says that we need to do more with less but on this particular Bill from one caucus Member to another I implore you to take it out of the record. You are forcing some of us to choose between doing what is right and doing what is popular. There is ...is there any way you would consider taking this Bill out of the record, working with some of us who see the... see what you're trying to do, but in the same token, realize the effect it's going to have on the communities we represent that are governed by PTELL and we can work towards a solution that everybody could agree with."

Franks: "Mike, I appreciate your comments, and you were... you've been very eloquent on this issue and you asked me some questions in the committee as well. But I think we need to be clear that this is not a cut and it's been ...it's been portrayed by that... that way by the opponents. I don't see when you get the same amount of money as the year before how that is a cut. And then here in the state we had to cut our budgets a few percent, which would actually be less than what the imp... what was the implications of this Bill. My concern is that I'm worried that we're going to drive people out of their homes and the property taxes continue to increase and there's no correlation on property values now and with the increase in ...in the taxes. It's not... I understand this is not a panacea and the reason we're in this mess is because the State Legislature has failed to adequately fund education properly. We have not lived up to our constitutional obligation to be the primary source of

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education funding, but hopefully this will stimulate that discussion more. I know many people that tried..."

Speaker Lyons: "Gentlemen, one more minute. Representative Zalewski."

Zalewski: "Yeah. Just to the Bill, Mr. Speaker, and again, I ...I recognize certainly what the Representative is trying to do, but I've heard from my village presidents, my communities, the first responders that are up there in the gallery that this will hurt them. And despite the good intentions of the Sponsor and despite what may be coming our way if we cast a 'no' vote on this Bill it's the right thing to do to vote... to vote 'no'; it's the popular thing to do to vote 'yes'. I urge a 'no' vote on this Bill."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Mike Tryon."

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

Speaker Lyons: "Sponsor yields."

Tryon: "Representative Franks, you and I have had many conversations about this Bill. We've been talking about an Amendment that would set this Bill up as a truth in taxation, require a publication."

Franks: "Right."

Tryon: "Or if you're going to raise the rate any, that you'd have to publish the percentage of the rate increase, the amount that's going to generate for \$100 thousand of assessed valuation. I know that you... you like that idea, and you know, I still think that's... that's one approach to start the conversation at the local level on whether or not we want to raise tax rates. It used to be, prior to the tax cap, that's what taxing bodies talked about. You talked

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about raising the rates, you were concerned about the rates, you didn't have the tax cap, you knew what your levy was, you knew what the rates were going to do and you knew you were raising taxes. Now, it's just become ...the levy becomes kind of perfunctory where you understand what the tax cap does. When you vote, you understand how much money you're going to get and that's just what comes through and that's wrong as well. So, you know, I understand the need to try to do something. While this Bill, unless I ...we need to clarify this issue for the record. This Bill says it fixes and establishes and freezes the tax extension base. Is that correct? I just want to make sure that the tax extension base is the actual dollars and not the sum total of all the rates which would normally be called the tax extension rate, but there is no definitions here; therefore, for the record I want to make sure that we're talking about the tax extension base meaning only the dollars so that a unit of government got exactly the dollars they got last year."

Franks: "Correct."

Tryon: "No matter what happened to the EAV, correct?"

Franks: "There will be no cut to what they got the prior year."

Tryon: "Okay. Now this is an unusual time period. I don't think in our lifetimes we've ever seen an economy that has looked like it does now. This is at... the tax cap was really designed to operate in an economy where the EAV was increasing above the CPI not to have an increasing CPI and a decreasing EAV. So, that's creating this problem of people's tax... appearance of the tax..."

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Speaker Lyons: "Representative Tryon, we'll give you another minute."

Tryon: "Okay. So, my question to you is, Representative Franks, would you support an Amendment that would put a sunset date on this of 24 months, let this go for two years?"

Franks: "I've talked to some people about this, and I've asked for some response and I actually talked to some folks who are representing Chicago Public Schools. They haven't gotten back to us. But if it's something that it could be.. that would be work and help we would consider doing that in the Senate for sure."

Tryon: "So, you'd support an Amendment, a sunset date on this in an Amendment in the Senate?"

Franks: "Yes."

Tryon: "Okay. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Mike Fortner."

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

Speaker Lyons: "Sponsor yields."

Fortner: "Representative, I know we spoke a couple weeks ago after you had presented the Bill on Second and I just wondered if there is any new information. As I understood it looking at the text of the Bill this has to do with whenever the equalized assessed value drops on a year to year basis would trigger the provisions of your Bill. Is that right?"

Franks: "Well, it... I thought about that more after we spoke, professor, because we... you made me study it. And I was looking at what we're doing..."

Fortner: "Thank you. Glad we had a chance to study it."

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Franks: "That's right. Well, I want... 'cause you ask a very good question because right now how PTELL works it's the aggregate of the three years. Representative Tryon and I were talking about that and maybe getting off the triannual basis. That's something else I think we should look at as well. But as it works now, and were not changing the function of how PTELL works. It's the triannual basis and if it... and how it's averaged because you gave me an example of what happens if it goes down two years and up one year and then you get that hit. Well, that's exactly what happens now. So, we're not changing that and we're saying when you... 'cause they're constantly redoing the evaluation. So, we're saying that what's been good... we're not changing any of that process."

Fortner: "Okay. Well, then to the Bill. The concern I have with this Bill and the example that I brought to the Representative's attention is that whereas I understand in a year where the value goes down the concern of the property owner who'd be... why should I have to pay more taxes in a year when I know my property value went down. But if you had a particularly severe single-year downturn you could be followed by one or even two modest increases where things are going back up again. And what we would find is that the average over three years would continue to decline so you actually could have a situation under this legislation where the freeze on the levies would not be just for one year but for as many as two or even three years to pay on how the..."

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Speaker Lyons: "Representative, we'll give you another minute. Go ahead."

Fortner: "Thank you, Speaker. Depending on how the assessment average works out. I think this is a certainly an unintended consequence and one that would have dramatically more impact to units of local government than the Bill has already been discussed by other speakers. For that reason, I would certainly urge the Sponsor to, as one of the previous speakers also had indicated, pull this bull... Bill back. Let's work to make this something that makes sense for the taxpayer and doesn't just do the expedient thing right now. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Jim Sacia."

Sacia: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, could I ask of you if this should reach the requisite number of votes that they be verified?"

Speaker Lyons: "So noted, Representative."

Sacia: "To the Bill. Ladies and Gentlemen, I... certainly Mr. Franks knows that I hold him in the highest esteem. I think he's an outstanding Legislator and certainly studies the lesson of everything that he works on. I think over my adult lifetime I have seen property values escalate far more than I have seen property values decline in the past several years. And throughout those golden years, accepting the fact that PTELL was put in for a very good reason, many, many, many times communities did not keep up with amounts of money they could have been charging for taxes based on values of property. One of the things that Representative Franks made in his opening comment was I

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hope that this Bill stimulates discussion. I hope it does well... as well. I think there's a great opportunity for us here to discuss it and as my distinguished colleague the professor just noted we really need to talk a great deal more about this before we drop the hammer and totally gut in many cases that's what we would do our school districts, our municipalities, our first responders. This is a well-intentioned Bill; it is soup that is not made. I have not asked the Sponsor to yield, but I would ask him, would he consider making McHenry County a pilot project for this particular piece of legislation?"

Franks: "I... I... no, I appreciate that, Representative, but it's... it's an issue that encompasses all areas of I... PTELL. But here... PTELL when it was first introduced in 1991 I don't think anyone ever anticipated the kind of declining values that we're seeing now."

Speaker Lyons: "Gentlemen the time has expired. We'll give you another minute. Let Jack..."

Sacia: "Right."

Franks: "It wasn't created to work at a time with declining values. All this does is update a 20-year-old law that is actually harming folks instead of helping them at this time. And I know, like where you live, I presume that your ...your values for your farmland is probably going up..."

Sacia: "Very much."

Franks: "...so I don't think this would effect your county because if the farmland values are going up, and I've seen the prices recently, then it wouldn't matter because as long as the values are increasing in your area this would

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not apply. This only applies in areas where it's declining.
So I think we need to have it statewide."

Sacia: "My great respect for the Sponsor aside, I would encourage a 'no' vote. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Elaine Nekritz."

Nekritz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill, I believe we've all heard that the Sponsor's justification for this legislation is that during times of declining property values school districts, and this is targeted primarily at school districts since they get most of the property tax, need to be suffering cuts just as the state has. The Sponsor's correct. The state has made cuts, but that argument conveniently ignores the fact that the state cuts have been imposed on the very school district impacted by this legislation. Decisions made by this General Assembly have already cut revenues for schools. We've reduced the ADA block grant, the GSA hold harmless, special education, gifted, and other grant programs. We've cut general state aid. To somehow pretend that those cuts have not had an impact on the school budgets is disingenuous. School boards in my area have made cuts, I've heard all about it. Two of the districts have, in fact, negotiated hard freezes on teachers and administrators salaries. No staff, no raise. Class sizes have already increased. Staff has been laid off and programs cut. In addition to the false premise for this legislation that school districts have not been making cuts, this Bill is a blunt instrument that fails to take account of the variety of factors that play into what we know is a wildly complicated calculation of real estate

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taxes. The legislation doesn't distinguish, for example, betw... whether the EAV goes down a dollar or it goes down \$100 million. The outcome is the same, regardless. The Bill does not distinguish between a declining EAV resulting from declining property values which is again what the Sponsor's been talking about or a decline in EAV that results from a change in the multiplier or a change in assumptions about the assessments or a large number of property tax appeals. The outcome is unfortunately the same, regardless. Finally, the legislation fails to contemplate the situation where a decline in value might be the result of one taxpayer. I represent a school district that where one taxpayer, one property constitutes about 25 percent of the value of the ...the EA... their total...

Speaker Lyons: "Representative, we will give you another minute."

Nekritz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So when that single taxpayer goes down, this legislation goes into effect regardless of what's happening to the homeowners in the area. None of these nuances or complexities are dealt... are addressed in this legislation. Finally, nothing in this legislation will dictate that property tax bills go down. We already have a cap. But the bills in my area went up 5, 10, 20 percent not as a result of the cap or the increase levy, but as an increase of the relative values of property. So, nothing in this legislation will assure that property tax bills stay the same or go down. It won't do anything about that. So, I urge your 'no' vote."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Will Davis."

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

Speaker Lyons: "Sponsor yields."

Davis, W.: "Representative, I don't know if I'll be as eloquent as the previous speaker or as aggressive as some of the other speakers, but let me just ask a question. So, when you're ...in your opening statement about this Bill you gave an example of Harvard, I think, was one of the communities that you mentioned. So, what's the impact of this Bill on a poor district?"

Franks: "I'm... I'm sorry. On a poor district?"

Davis, W.: "On... on a poor community, a community that's already suffering."

Franks: "Well, it's not going to... here's the deal and I'm not sure I've articulated this correctly because I heard the last speaker argue and I... I never said that school districts haven't made cuts. What I'm saying is that the locals will get the same amount of money as the previous year. If the taxing body believes that they need additional funds, they'll have to ask the taxpayers to do so. That's all... it's all it says."

Davis, W.: "But... but Representative, how many... how many referendum have... have you ever heard that have passed?"

Franks: "We've passed them in my communities all the time. That's how we fund... in McHenry County, for instance, that happens all... but in Chicago I know they never run them."

Davis, W.: "Which is... which is, well, even in my area which is why I asked you maybe you have an example of a less fortunate community than yours. People who say, fine, we'll pay the extra money to make sure that our taxing bodies are

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taken care of. But in my communities, you know, people don't necessarily have that luxury. So when referendum are put out there, they don't pass. Good intention, but they don't pass for obvious reasons. So, I'm just... that's why I asked."

Franks: "Well, I'm not..."

Davis, W.: "Is there something specific to a poor community that needs help?"

Franks: "Well, I guess I would have to disagree with your premise that they're not being taken care of. Because I believe that if a taxing body gets the same amount of money as the year before, that's not a cut. And maybe we look at it differently, but the argument that I'm hearing is we're getting cut. But I'm saying only in Springfield the people argue that way. It's not... in the real world if you... if you get the same amount of money as the year before most people are pretty happy."

Davis, W.: "Well, I wasn't one of those that said what... whatever statement you made."

Franks: "Oh, I know. Oh, I know."

Davis, W.: "I didn't... I didn't say that. But again you use Harvard as..."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative, we'll give you another minute."

Davis, W.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And that's why I just asked if you had an example from a community different than Harvard..."

Franks: "Well..."

Davis, W.: "...that... that can help me better, you know, understand the impact of what you're suggesting."

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Franks: "Well, I can give another... I can give you a different example 'cause I can't... I haven't given one particularly but Representative Tryon and I met with our assessors and he was explaining a few years ago how his house was taxed. And ...and what he had said is a few years ago he was paying 1.5 percent of his assessed value as a tax and now it's almost 4. So could you imagine owning an asset and you're paying more than twice of what ...of what you were paying just a few years ago. It just... fundamentally it's unfair to our taxpayers, but we still have this safety valve. You know, if there's growth, if the values increase or if they want to run a referendum. I just think I... I just think it's desperately necessary to keep people in their homes."

Davis, W.: "But none of which the three things you just mentioned are likely to happen in some of the communities that I represent."

Franks: "Well, I just don't think they're going to be as harmed as the opponents keep saying they are."

Davis, W.: "Well, so... so, you would admit that we don't necessarily know..."

Frank: "No."

Davis, W.: "...what the impact is going to be. So what about taking Representative Sacia's advice, and just using your own area as an example of this, as a way to show and demonstrate. Now that doesn't necessarily help me because obviously our areas are different."

Franks: "Right."

Davis, W.: "But for some or for many in this chamber, who have communities like the ones that you represent, maybe that

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might be a way of doing this. So, maybe that might be an opportunity."

Franks: "Well, we didn't know what the effects would be on the cuts that we had to do either and the cuts that we're still talking about today..."

Davis, W.: "Well, we..."

Franks: "...and I understand the Speaker's going to have some veto overrides as well like..."

Davis, W.: "Well, if you're talking about the cuts to Medicaid, we know what's happening there. So some of these cuts we know are very clear what's going to happen."

Franks: "But there's also a finite resource. And we can't continue to tax people more when they have less to give."

Speaker Lyons: "Representatives, your time has expired."

Davis, W.: "Understood. Thank you"

Speaker Lyons: "Representative McCarthy."

McCarthy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield? Representative, I just want to make something clear. Under... Representative Nekritz made a statement about whether the EAV went down 1 dollar or 10 million dollars the penalty would be the same. Is that true?"

Franks: "I don't look at it ...I don't look at it as a penalty. Let's change the vernacular here. Right now, if the..."

McCarthy: "The freeze, it would be the same."

Franks: "Yeah. Well, the fact is right now under PTELL you automatically get an increase of 5 percent or the CPI, whichever is lower"

McCarthy: "Okay."

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Franks: "Okay. But there's no corollary if the property values are falling because the way the Bill was written it wasn't written that way because no one anticipated this. I don't at it as a penalty. I look at it as a way of preserving peoples homes. When you have 46 percent of homeowners who are underwater on their mortgage, if we continue to increase their property taxes they are going to walk. And when they walk, all of our property values go down. What's that going to do to the local governing bodies. We need to keep people in their homes."

McCarthy: "You've made that point very well."

Franks: "Thank you."

McCarthy: "And I think you even answered my question somewhere in there, but the answer was yes. And also could you tell me is the... whether the school district has met... has met its funding rates? Like there's an education rate; there's a bonding rate. I mean, some districts have been very frugal in their use of that and are nowhere near their cap. While there's others that are, you know, right at the cap. And then this kind of a reduction would, you know, affect them if they're already at their cap. But it seems like districts that at sometimes are already spending like 60 percent of their education cap, they'd be... not penalized, they would have this affect them as well as anybody who is already at their education rate or the... or their total rate."

Franks: "They wouldn't be getting... they would not be getting more than what they had the prior year. And that's the answer I can give you. Under the PTELL laws that it is now

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the aggregate extension base is used in calculating any increase allowed, and for most taxing districts the aggregate extension base is the previous year's..."

McCarthy: "Yeah, but if a person is at their maximum allowable rate..."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative, I'll give you another minute, one more minute."

McCarthy: "Thank you, Speaker. If a district is at their maximum allowable rate and their EAV goes down, they will have a reduction to match that... the rate times their EAV, correct? They'd have a built in thing if they... if they're already taxing at their maximum allowable rate. Where a district that's not at their rate, they would just raise their rate in order to..."

Franks: "Right."

McCarthy: "...achieve the amount of money they want."

Franks: "Well, I... I think they ought to be commended for being fiscally prudent and not asking the taxpayers for more than what they needed, but they shouldn't then also get a windfall simply because they didn't tax up to a rate that they could have."

McCarthy: "Well, they don't have a windfall because they're still under the PTELL. And this only affects counties under PTELL, correct?"

Franks: "Only under PTELL, and only, only, only if property values are declining."

McCarthy: "Okay. I'm going to sit down and lis..."

Franks: "And hopefully... hopefully next year we won't... we'll never have to... this law won't go into effect."

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McCarthy: "I was going to say, I was going to sit down unless you had more things to say, but I guess you did. So, thank you, Representative."

Franks: "Thanks."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Dennis Reboletti."

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

Speaker Lyons: "Sponsor yields."

Reboletti: "Representative, I'm undecided right now on this because I understand the concept when home values in my township have been down 12 percent on average and I'm sure the commercial/industrial might even be more worse than that. With respect to this Bill, is there any relief for any of the local government agencies based on our unfunded mandates?"

Franks: "No, but I'd be happy that you introduce that Bill."

Reboletti: "I... I'd like you to amend this Bill. What about the fact that the state has not paid the bills that we owe these local governments with this. Could we amend the Bill to reflect that as a concern?"

Franks: "No, I think that's a good follow-up Bill. This Bill is going to run clean, though."

Reboletti: "And the other issue is wouldn't a Home Rule community still be able to raise their levy and a non-Home Rule would not be able to. So, this would not be able to impact..."

Franks: "That's exactly what PTELL is right now. We're not changing the underlying PTELL. I think you've asked good questions but we're dealing with the PTELL law and we're amending the PTELL law to who it mat... you know, and who it

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affects. Ultimately, as I said in the beginning on the discussion, maybe after this Bill passes we can get serious about changing how we fund our schools."

Reboletti: "Well, I..."

Franks: "It's really been the legislature's failure to act and failure to make sure that these folks get paid appropriately that were in this position. But because we're in this crisis, that's why we have to respond to it."

Reboletti: "Well, I..."

Franks: "It's our fault; we should clean up our own mess."

Reboletti: "I know that we need property tax reform. We've talked about pension reform here forever; we've talked about all types of reform. My concern is doing reform and not doing it right can be more problematic and cause more issues down the road. I would just ask you, Representative, if you would take the Bill out of the record, consider some Amendments. I'd like to do this property tax reform the right way. Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Franks to close."

Franks: "Well, I appreciate the energy on the floor and I know people are passionate about this issue. We all are. But let's be very clear what this Bill does. It does not take away anybody's money. And the notion that somehow that government should get automatic increases every year regardless of what the citizens have to give is just wrong. Now the original Bill helped 20 years ago, but times have changed and the PTELL law must be amended because what was first passed 20 years ago instead of helping our citizens is driving them out of their homes. This is a Bill that

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does not cut the amount that local bodies receive from the year before; they will get that this year. Nothing in this Bill would not allow the local taxing bodies to ask the citizens for more money. This is just stopping the stealth tax increases that happen every year. We have to get away from the mindset that government will continue to grow unabated regardless of the citizen's ability to pay. We can not do this to our citizens. We must protect them; this Bill will do it. And with... and if we do... do a sunset provision, that could take away a lot of the angst. We're waiting to hear from some of those interested parties. And I'm happy to have that amended in the Senate if necessary, but this is a Bill that really can't wait. And if you see the statistics that are happening in our state with record foreclosures and record bankruptcies and people losing their homes it affects each and every one of our constituents. Please vote 'aye'."

Speaker Lyons: "Ladies and Gentlemen, this Bill will require 71 votes to pass and Representative Sacia has asked for a verification. So, Members, vote your own switches. All those in favor of the passing of House Bill 3793 vote 'yes'; those opposed vote 'no'. The voting is opening. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Colvin, Connelly, Flowers. Mr. Clerk... Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this Bill, there are 34 Members voting 'yes', 73 Members voting 'no', 5 Members voting 'present'. And the Bill fails. Mr. Clerk, what's the status, on page 5 of the Calendar, of Senate Bill 2408?"

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Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 2408, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. The Bill was read for a second time on a previous day. Amendment #1 was adopted in committee. Floor Amendment #2, offered by Representative Mautino, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Mautino on Floor Amendment #2."

Mautino: "Thank you. This Amendment is identical to language which passed through here in the first part of the Veto Session. And it creates a new line item appropriation for the chairman of the local panel, under the Labor Relations Board and appropriates zero dollars to that line. And also under the State Lottery it appropriates zero dollars to that line. The reason that this is necessary is because when we passed the budget on those two positions there was no line where we could actually pay these people. So, it corrects a mistake. It comes at the request of the Comptroller. I'd ask for adoption."

Speaker Lyons: "You've heard the Gentleman's explanation. Representative Davis, do you want to wait 'til we put this on Third for your question? This is the Amendment. Okay. All those in favor of the adoption of Floor Amendment #2 signify by saying 'yes'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And Floor Amendment #2 is adopted. Anything further, Mr. Clerk?"

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

Speaker Lyons: "Third Reading. And read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "Senate Bill 2408, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. Third Reading of this Senate Bill."

Speaker Lyons: "Leader Frank Mautino."

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Mautino: "Thank you. And we passed this Bill out unanimously. We need to actually create a line in the budget for those two positions so that these positions can actually be paid. Be happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Will Davis. Sponsor yields."

Davis, W.: "Thank you very much. One of the positions you said is the superintendent of the State Lottery?"

Mautino: "Yes, that's correct."

Davis, W.: "So, if I'm not mistaken we privatized the Lottery, correct? Did we not privatize the Lottery? Don't we have private managers for..."

Mautino: "No."

Davis, W.: "We don't..."

Mautino: "Just certain operations within the Lottery. The Lottery itself is still a function of the state. There's certain operations: IT, control of the machines, setting up placement that are, but the actual function of the Lottery is still under the state jurisdiction."

Davis, W.: "It's still under the state jurisdiction."

Mautino: "Correct."

Davis, W.: "Okay. Does the... does the superintendent position currently exist?"

Mautino: "Yes. We just forgot to put a line in the budget for it."

Davis, W.: "And who is that person right now?"

Mautino: "Mike Jones."

Davis, W.: "Mike Jones?"

Mautino: "Mike Jones. Sounds like a fine upstanding young man."

Davis, W.: "Okay. Mike Jones."

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Mautino: "He's obviously there. We'd like to pay him just... I'm sure his family would appreciate it too."

Davis, W.: "Okay, Rep... Well, I was just curious about that, Representative. Okay. Thank you very much."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Roger Eddy."

Eddy: "Thank you. Would Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Lyons: "Sponsor yields."

Eddy: "Representative, this just seems kind of odd that we would create a line item and have a zero appropriation. I mean, what... what's the point? If it... if it's a line item, shouldn't we be putting some money in there otherwise isn't basically useless?"

Mautino: "It is... These two salaries are actually paid out of the Comptroller's contingency fund, but we didn't have that line within the budget to authorize her to go and pay these people. So, the money is there. We don't need any... we just need basically a line so she has the authority to pay them."

Eddy: "So..."

Mautino: "And this is the Comptroller's Bill by the way."

Eddy: "Yeah, but where's the money going to come from, the 2 percent authority to move money in or was there an appropriated amount already in that line?"

Mautino: "She has a contingency fund in her current budget allocation right now, which is actually designed to pay for this and other unforeseen items."

Eddy: "So, we're creating a line that she can put money... she can then transfer money into to take care of those contingency fund issues?"

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Mautino: "The idea behind the fund to do these things, for example, if the Legislator passes away in office and there's a payout that's necessary, it was an unexpected expense, she has the allocation authority to do that. And that's... this is the language that she needs to be put in place so that she can pay these two positions from her contingency."

Eddy: "Okay. I get that part. I'm just wondering where the money's coming from, if it's a zero appropriation. I suppose from that authority to move money into that line."

Mautino: "It's... her contingency is ...is GRF."

Eddy: "Okay. All right. I just I... I'm not sure there's anything wrong with it. I... I suppose she needs to do it; I certainly support it. I'm just trying to figure out why we would appropriate zero into a line."

Mautino: "Yeah."

Eddy: "But if she has authority..."

Mautino: "In her ...in her existing budget she has a..."

Eddy: "Okay."

Mautino: "...we don't need to put an additional line or an additional number in because she has the discretionary authority..."

Eddy: "Okay."

Mautino: "...within her contingency fund."

Eddy: "Okay. Thank you."

Mautino: "And she has the money to do this."

Eddy: "Thank you."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Mautino to close."

Mautino: "Appreciate an 'aye' vote."

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Speaker Lyons: "Okay. Ladies and Gentlemen, this Bill will require 71 votes for passage. All those in favor for the passage of Senate Bill 2408 vote 'yes'; those opposed vote 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Representative Evans. Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this Bill, there's 113 Members voting 'yes', 0 voting 'no', 0 voting 'present'. This Bill having received the Constitutional Supermajority, is hereby declared passed. Representative Roger Eddy on a Motion."

Eddy: "Thank you. I move to suspend the posting requirements on Senate Bill 1538."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative makes the Motion for suspend... to suspend posting. Seeing no objection, all those in favor signify by saying 'yes'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Motion carries. Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Bolin: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 585, offered by Representative Riley. House Resolution 588, offered by Representative Pihos. House Resolution 591, offered by Representative Reboletti. House Resolution 592, offered by Representative Franks. House Resolution 594, offered by Representative Jackson. House Resolution 595, offered by Representative Rita. House Resolution 597, offered by Representative Reis. House Resolution 598 and 599, offered by Representative Coladipietro. House Resolution 600, offered by Representative Jakobsson. House Resolution 601, offered by Representative Leitch. House Resolution 602, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 603,

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offered by Representative Bradley. House Resolution 604, offered by Representative Zalewski. House Resolution 606, offered by Representative Osmond. And House Resolution 607, offered by Representative Ramey."

Speaker Lyons: "Representative Jefferson moves for the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. All those in favor signify by saying 'yes'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Agreed Resolutions are adopted. Representative Barickman."

Barickman: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lyons: "For what purpose do you seek recognition, Sir?"

Barickman: "I have a point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lyons: "Please proceed, Representative."

Barickman: "Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, I'd like to recognize two individuals who are with us today from my district. In the chambers today is Mike Shively and Clayton Carley. I'd ask them to stand. Mike and Clayton are from Iroquois County. Mike Shively currently serves as the State FFA President and Clayton's currently serves as the State FFA Treasurer. These posts are a one-year term and they're going to spend the next 12 months literally traveling around our state talking about building leadership within the agriculture and education community and serving as ambassadors for FFA and for our agriculture industries. So, I ask that we all recognize them today and welcome them to Springfield."

Speaker Lyons: "Congratulations, gentlemen, welcome to your Capitol. Representative Randy Ramey, for what purpose do you seek recognitions."

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

Speaker Lyons: "Please proceed, Randy."

Ramey: "Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I just heard in your last recitement the Agreed Resolutions and you mentioned House Resolution 607 that I presented. Is that correct?"

Speaker Lyons: "Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Resolution 607, offered by Representative Ramey, is on the Agreed list."

Ramey: "That... that's fantastic. I like to bring the attent... the Body's attention to this Resolution. House Resolution 607 was put in in regards and want to celebrate the 11th World Championship of the St. Louis Cardinals that was won on October 28. And as many of you know, today is the perfect day for that Resolution since I do have my red jacket on which was the original intent of this jacket as I first started wearing it six years ago. But I'd just like to say, as we all watched as the Cardinals and the Rangers played a great World Series, game six will go down in World Series history as probably one of the greatest games ever played. And due to the magnificent managerial skills of Tony LaRussa, the St. Louis Cardinals went on to win game seven and we have the 11th World Championship and the second most won by any team in... in the Major League Baseball. So, I thank you for adding that Resolution to the Agreed Bills."

Speaker Lyons: "On behalf of the White Sox Legislative Caucus, Randy, congratulations to you. Representative Eddy."

Eddy: "Just wondered if Representative Ramey had heard the rumor that Theo Epstein and Albert Pujols were having coffee this afternoon in Chicago..."

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Speaker Lyons: "Mr. Clerk. Ladies and Gentlemen, there's a updated schedule for committee meetings so heads up. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "The following committees will meet at 3:15 this afternoon: the Revenue Committee in Room 114, the Insurance Committee in Room C-1, the State Government Administration Committee in Room 413, and the Elementary & Secondary Education Committee in Room D-1. At 4 p.m. today two committees will meet: the Human Services Committee will meet in Room 115 and the Veterans' Affairs Committee will meet in Room C-1. At 4:30 this afternoon one committee will meet: the Personnel & Pensions Committee will meet in Room D-1."

Speaker Lyons: "And now, seeing no further business to come before the Illinois House of Representatives, Representative Barbara Flynn Currie moves that the House stand adjourned to the hour of 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 5. Allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk, all those in favor of adjournment signify by saying 'yes'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned 'til 10 a.m. tomorrow morning, Wednesday, November 9. Have an enjoyable evening, everyone."

Clerk Bolin: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Committee Reports. Representative Bradley, Chairperson from the Committee on Revenue & Finance, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on November 08, 2011, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'recommends be adopted' Floor Amendment #2 to Senate Bill

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92, and Floor Amendment #7 to Senate Bill 2147. Representative Monique Davis, Chairperson from the Committee on Insurance, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on November 8, 2011, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'recommends be adopted as amended' House Resolution 450. Representative Franks, Chairperson from the Committee on State Government Administration, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on November 8, 2011, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'recommends be adopted' House Resolution 466. Representative Chapa LaVia, Chairperson from the Committee on Elementary & Secondary Education, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on November 8, 2011, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass short debate' for Senate Bill 634; 'do pass as amended short debate' for Senate Bill 1226; 'recommends be adopted' House Resolution 487. Representative Greg Harris, Chairperson from the committee on Human Services, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on November 8, 2011, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass as amended short debate' for Senate Bill 1377. Representative McAuliffe, Chairperson from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to which the following measures were referred, action taken on November 8, 2011, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'recommends be adopted' Floor Amendment #4 to Senate Bill 40. Representative McCarthy Chairperson, from the Committee on Personnel & Pensions, to which the

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following measures were referred, action taken on November 8, 2011, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass short debate' for House Bill 3865; and 'recommends be adopted' Floor Amendment #2 to Senate Bill 512. Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House Bill 3880, offered by Representative Phelps, a Bill for an Act concerning wildlife. First Reading of this House Bill. Second Reading of House Bills. House Bill 3865, a Bill for an Act concerning the public employee benefits. Second Reading of this House Bill. Second Reading of Senate Bills. Senate Bill 634, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Second reading of this Senate Bill. Senate Bill 1226, a Bill for an Act concerning education. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. Senate Bill 1377, a Bill for an Act concerning health facilities. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."