

STATE OF ILLINOIS
99th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

81st Legislative Day

9/24/2015

Speaker Turner: "House will be in order. We shall be led in prayer today by Reverend Les Sinks, who is a minister from First Baptist Church in Anna, Illinois. Reverend Sinks is the guest of Representative Bryant. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off all cell phones and rise for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance."

Reverend Sinks: "Mr. Speaker and esteemed Representatives, I consider it an honor and an opportunity to be with you today. I'd ask you to bow with me in prayer. Holy and everlasting God, my heart echoes the words of Salmon when he said there is no other God like You in heaven above or in the earth beneath. Thou are compassionate, full of mercy, power and might are in Your hands. At Your discretion, people are made great and receive strength. Thank You for giving us another day to live in this land called America. We come before You in a time of great concern while finical institutions are failing around the world, soldiers are in harm's way yet today for our sakes, and the home and the family is in great question concerning their future. We recall the words of Your prophet Isaiah that said, have you not known, have You not heard, the Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the Earth. You do not faint or grow weary, Your understanding is unsearchable, You give power to faint and strength to the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary and the young will fall exhausted. But those that wait upon You shall renew their strength and mount up with wings like eagles, run and not be weary, walk and not be faint. By Your divine appointment, Members of this House have been selected to represent that precious mosaic of good people throughout

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our great state. We petition You this day to guide their thoughts, the intents of their hearts and minds in this House today in such a way that progress may be made and unity can be found. We finally plead with You, Heavenly Father, to not only deliver this great nation, but our great state as well. And we'll be mindful to give You the praise and glory, for it's in Your name that we pray, Amen."

Speaker Turner: "We shall be led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Representative Gordon-Booth."

Gordon-Booth: - 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 Turner: "Roll Call for Attendance. Representative Brown."

Brown: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record show that Representatives Bellock, Hays, Ives, Kay, Leitch, Moffitt, Phillips, Poe, and Winger are excused today. Thank you so much."

Speaker Turner: "With 97 Members present, a quorum is established. Mr. Clerk. Mr. Clerk, Committee Reports."

Clerk Hollman: "Committee Reports. Representative Mautino, Chairperson from the Committee on Rules reports the following committee action taken on September 24, 2015: recommends be adopted, referred to the floor is Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 4150. Representative Nekritz, Chairperson from the Committee on Judiciary - Civil reports the following committee action taken on September 24, 2015: do pass Short Debate is Senate Bill 163. Representative Rita, Chairperson from the Committee on Business & Occupational Licenses

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reports the following committee action taken on September 24, 2015: recommends be adopted is a Motion to Concur in Senate Amendment #1 to House Bill 3333. Representative Daniel Burke, Chairperson from the Committee on Executive reports the following committee action taken on September 24, 2015: do pass Short Debate is Senate Bill 2046. Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution 745, offered by Representative Meier. House Resolution 752, offered by Representative Batinick. House Resolution 755, offered by Representative Dunkin. House Resolution 759, offered by Representative Mussman. House Resolution 768, offered by Representative Rita. House Resolution 776, offered by Representative Chapa LaVia. House Joint Resolution 95, offered by Representative Dunkin. House Joint Resolution 96, offered by Representative Chapa LaVia. And House Joint Resolution 97, offered by Representative Lilly. And House Joint Resolution 98, offered by Representative Anthony. These are referred to the Rules Committee."

Speaker Turner: "Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Hollman: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 743, offered by Representative David Harris. House Resolution 746, offered by Representative Brady. House Resolution 747, offered by Representative Turner. House Resolution 748, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 749, offered by Representative Crespo. House Resolution 750, offered by Representative Demmer. House Resolution 751, offered by Representative... Representative Winger. House Resolution 753, offered by Representative Phelps. House Resolution 754, offered by Representative Welch. House Resolution 756,

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offered by Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 757, offered by Representative Barbara Wheeler. House Resolution 758, offered by Representative Verschoore. House Resolution 760, offered by Representative Verschoore. House Resolution 761, offered by Representative Acevedo. (sic-HR761 not meant to be read) House Resolution 762, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 763, offered by Representative Feigenholtz. House Resolution 764, offered by Representative Poe. House Resolution 765, offered by Representative Breen. House Resolution 766, offered by Representative Crespo. House Resolution 767, offered by Representative Crespo. House Resolution 769, offered by Representative Brown. House Resolution 770, offered by Representative Demmer. House Resolution 771, offered by Representative DeLuca. House Resolution 772, offered by Representative DeLuca. House Resolution 773, offered by Representative DeLuca. House Resolution 775, offered by Representative Franks. House Resolution 777, offered by Representative Hammond. House Resolution 778, offered by Representative Brown. House Resolution 779, offered by Representative Anthony. House Resolution 780, offered by Representative Wheeler (sic-Barbara). House Resolution 781, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 782, offered by Representative Reaves-Harris. House Resolution 783, offered by Representative Riley. And House Resolution 784, offered by Representative Riley.

Speaker Turner: "Leader Lang moves that the House adopt the Agreed Resolutions. All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the

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Resolutions are adopted. On Supplemental Calendar #1, we have Senate Bills on Second Reading. Senate Bill 163, Representative Lang. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "Senate Bill 163, a Bill for an Act concerning civil law. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Turner: "Third Reading. Senate Bill 2046, Representative Harris. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "Senate Bill 2046, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. Second Reading of this Senate Bill. No Committee Amendments. No Floor Amendments. No Motions are filed."

Speaker Turner: "Third Reading. Chair recognizes Representative Phelps."

Phelps: "Point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Turner: "Please proceed, Representative."

Phelps: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. As chair of the Illinois Sportsman Caucus, I filed today House Resolution 787, recognizing that this Saturday, September 26, National Hunting and Fishing Days. As you know, the Illinois sportsmen bring in multimillion dollars a year to our economy. And I just hope everybody gets out there and enjoy the great outdoors here in Illinois. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Representative. Representative Bennett, for what reason do you seek recognition."

Bennett: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. A point of personal privilege, please?"

Speaker Turner: "Please proceed, Sir."

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Bennett: "Thank you. I'd like to introduce a police detective, Nick Taylor, who came with us this morning from the wonderful City of Pontiac. And he's off to my left. So, if you could please give him a warm welcome from Springfield, please. Thank you. Thanks, Nick."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, and welcome to your Capitol. Representative Conroy, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Conroy: "A point of personal privilege."

Speaker Turner: "Please proceed, Representative."

Conroy: "Thank you, Speaker. I would like to introduce my third and favorite son, Brendan Conroy."

Speaker Turner: "Welcome to your Capitol. Representative Hurley, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Hurley: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Turner: "Please proceed."

Hurley: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to introduce my Page for a day, Amiri Rivers-Davis. He's a eighth grader at Whitney Young High School and happy to be here."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, and welcome to your Capitol. Will guests and staff please retire to the rear of the chamber. Members, please be at your seats. Mr. Clerk, House Resolution 785."

Clerk Hollman: "House Resolution 785, offered by Speaker Madigan and Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois learned with deep sorrow and regret of the death of our friend and colleague, State Representative Esther Golar of Chicago, on Monday, September 21, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Representative Golar was born in Chicago on April 16, 1944, one of 9 children; a lifelong resident of Chicago's South Side, she grew up in the West Englewood neighborhood, graduated from Richard T. Crane High School and Malcolm X College, and resided in the Englewood and New City neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Representative Golar made her mark as a dedicated public servant and local leader, building local organizations, advocating for greater public safety, and fighting for those who struggle; she was a coordinator for the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy for more than 15 years and an organizer for the Chicago Alliance for Neighborhood Safety, training residents to build friendlier and safer communities; she was a community service representative at Robert Fulton School and a resident board member of Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Inc.; strong in faith, she attended and volunteered at Trinity United Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Representative Golar's passion for helping others and improving the quality of life in Chicago and throughout the State led to her involvement in dozens of community and service organizations, including Children's Home and Aid, the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council, the Chicago Coalit... Coalition for the Homeless, LUBAA Women's Shelter, the Canaryville Little League, Teamwork Englewood, the Englewood Black Chamber of Commerce, Faith in Place, Ada S. McKinley Community Services, The Arc of Illinois, Faith Coalition for the Common Good, Illinois Action for Children, and the

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Anti-Violence Initiative at the University of Chicago School of Public Health; and

WHEREAS, Representative Golar worked for the Chicago Police Department on Chicago's South and West sides in the Troubled Buildings Unit and as a Community Policing Coordinator; a testament to her selflessness and loyalty, though she began her service with the Police Department on Chicago's South Side, after she was transferred to the West Side, she continued to help her coworkers on the South Side; and

WHEREAS, Repr... Representative Golar joined the Illinois House of Representatives in 2005; committed to constituent service, her constituents would often stop her at the grocery store, the pharmacy, and throughout the community asking for assistance; she did her best to deliver needed services, from street sweeping and street lighting to enforcing child support payments; she regularly attended events in the community, such as the Englewood Back to School Parade and the Resident Association of Greater Englewood's 'So Fresh Saturdays' series; she visited and met with constituents, and worked to build bridges and strengthen relationships for the betterment of local neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Representative Golar's legislative responsibilities were a reflection of her priorities and a determination to improve the lives of not only her constituents but all of Illinois residents; she fought for safer neighborhoods, stronger schools and additional educational resources for children, equal access to health care and economic development; she advocated for seniors, persons with disabilities, and for better wages and better standards of

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living for the middle class and struggling families; one of the first laws she passed was aimed at increasing state payments to vendors of homemaker, chore, and housekeeping services for the purpose of increasing employees' wages and providing health insurance; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her nearly 10 years in the House of Representatives, Representative Golar served as House Chairwoman of the Legislative Black Caucus, Chair of the Elementary and Secondary Education: School Curriculum and Policies Committee, Chair of the Public Policy and Accountability for Education Committee, and Chair and Vice-Chair of the Housing and Disability Services committees; her committee membership included service on the Elementary and Secondary Education, Child Support Enforcement, Health Care Availability and Accessibility, Human Services Appropriations, Elementary and Secondary Education Appropriations, and Crim... Judiciary-Criminal Law Committees; and

WHEREAS, Representative Golar's legislative achievements include the Senior... Senator Penny Severns Memorial Award for her advocacy for persons with disabilities, the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Leadership Award, and the Safer Foundation's CARRE Visionary Award for her outstanding contributions to eliminate barriers to employment for people with criminal records; and

WHEREAS, Representative Golar was adored and respected by her friends and colleagues and will be remembered for her resolve, her commitment to public service, her devotion to faith, her kindness, her sense of humor, and for bringing levity to

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sometimes tense moments with her gift of song; her quiet nature and friendly demeanor were a reflection of her warm personality, but she never hesitated to rise and fight for the disadvantaged, the most vulnerable and those who struggle; and

WHEREAS, Representative Golar was a loving sister, the proud mother of Tiffany Golar, and the devoted grandmother of Briana Golar, Toni Common, Ananea Common, and Jayden Golar; and

WHEREAS, The death of Representative Golar is deeply felt by her family, friends and all who knew and loved her, and her presence at the State Capitol will be greatly missed; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with her family and friends, mourn the passing of State Representative Esther Golar; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Representative Golar as an expression of our deepest sympathies and respect."

Amazing Grace - Bagpiper, from Illinois State Police District 6, Captain Steven Riesenberg."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Leader Riley."

Riley: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Esther Golar, 1944 - 2015. She did a lot in that dash. We should all be concerned about what we do in the dash, so we'd be remembered. She did so much. You know, often, we have a very lofty responsibility. Everybody knows that. Representatives in the House in the greatest state in this union. And sometimes we'll be self-deprecating and sometimes people will say, oh, these folks

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aren't doing anything. All they do is fight. Sometimes we do. At the same time, for the lofty responsibility that we have, people forget and sometimes we forget that we laugh and we cry and bleed. You know, we're... we're people. We're people. Given to the heights of greatness and some of the worst personal frailties. But you know, Esther liked movies too. I remember an... an old, famous movie, *The Wizard of Oz*, where the Tin Man said, I... I know I have a heart because it's breaking. And... and mine is. All these years I've been here, since 2007, we've lost a lot of great souls. And I just went through that panoply of names. I remember them all and so do you. Esther and her courage, what courage, what... what an example. Members, you know she got off of her death bed to come down here and vote for an issue, representing her views and her responsibility. I will never forget that. We should all be an example to that type of courage, that kind of dedication to duty. And for the people listening, you know, we... we do. We have hearts and we bleed, and we... we're just like you. Just like you. And that's something that should always be remembered. Esther loved all of us. No matter if whether you had an ideological fight with her, she loved all of us. She showed it. But on that bed in Northwestern, she told us, she told me. You couldn't make out some of the things she was trying to tell us, but I made some of it out. And she talked about unity. She talked about service. I could make those words out. Sticking together. Such a large percentage of our job that we do... do down here is all green lights or mostly green lights up there. A small percentage, we're going to have those differences. But it is the kind of caring and

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leadership that Esther always exuded that tells us how... how to do our jobs, how to love each other. I have to say, Esther got upset at... at one point and I made out another word, talking about being sorry. For what, Queen Esther, for... for what? Maybe she was concerned about... I don't know what it might have been. But those are things that she said, all the way to the end. So you knew they were sincere. Esther would break out in song. And... and one... there's one thing I want to explain about those songs, 'cause there's some things that have been said in the media that, you know, God bless them for... for talking about our colleague and... but someone said bringing attention to herself. That's an insult. She didn't do that. Many, you know, many of us in church, you know, we hear the Psalm, make a joyful noi... noise unto the Lord, all the earth sing His praises. That's what she did. That's what she did. A lot of those songs, she kind of made up on the fly. And she was touched by her spirit, and her conviction, and her ideology. She just came up with those songs. People do that. I might not do that, you may not do that, but she did it. Very, very genuine. So, you know, you have to go into a lot of things, sociology, and all kinds of other things to understand why she did it. But she did it because it was coming from her heart. Very, very genuine. So we are here today, in this chamber to mourn, because our hearts are heavy. But it's also to celebrate that great life, that great dash, that great legacy that Esther left for all of us. I remember a song and even though I can carry a tune, I'm not going to sing it. It was an instrumental, by the way. But there was a saxophone player that had a song that said... it was called *My*

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Heart Sings. Came out in the '60s and one of the things it said was, my heart sings for the legacy of Martin Luther-King, someone who Esther loved and exemplified. My heart sings for many things. Well, my heart sings because of all the other souls that have left this place, we should never forget. My heart sings because I was friends and remember Esther Golar, my heart sings. My heart sings just for that one thing. And I'm sure yours do too. Mr. Speaker, I know there are other people who want to speak. I would ask that... that all of us, all of her brothers and sisters in the House, be added to the Resolution as cosponsors and that after the last speaker has spoken, we observe a moment of silence for our departed Member, Esther Golar. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Representative. Representative Tryon."

Tryon: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Difficult, but necessary to... that we take this time to remember Esther. We all walk through these doors, many of us don't know each other, but we make the commitment to work together. And for those new Members who come in, the people who are in your class, no matter whether you're Republican or Democrat, you feel a unique closeness to them, even the class after you. Because, like many of you, you learn this process together and you grow in this experience together, and that's what my relationship with Esther was like. We grew in the legislative experience together. And she was always fair. She always asked you to work with her. She always questioned if you had a disagreement in a very professional manner. She would come to me, she didn't call me Representative, she didn't call me Mike, she

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just called me Tryon. And she said... would say, Tryon, come here a minute. Can you help me on this? And I would listen to her and I think maybe I had been elevated to the likes of those people who are known by one name like Paladin or Madonna, you know. But it was just Tryon. And I... I truly enjoyed working with her. She taught me a lot about Englewood and some of the... the problems that I... I got... tried to get my arms around. And we talked seriously about things, like, gun violence and gun violence prevention. And... and I learned about her district, as well as she learned about my district. She will be missed by many people on our side of the aisle because she had the same convi... convictions that Representative Bellock had when it came to some of the social service agencies and some of the social service programs. And they worked well together and it was good to see them work together on that. But when I think back on my experience and... and what a good person she was to work with, at least from what I saw, I would probably summarize her relationship with most people here in two words, and that is a class act. And Esther will be missed dearly by... by both sides of this aisle."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Jackson."

Jackson: "Esther Golar was my seatmate, my colleague, and my friend. She was a compassionate individual, and her strength and compassion will be missed by all who knew her. A true advocate of citizens, she changed the lives of many people ne... who never had the privilege of knowing her. This inspiring woman whose primary focus was helping people, regardless of who they were, a true public servant. Her presence will not be forgotten."

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Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Leader Lang."

Lang: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, we think of ourselves often here as a family. And we are in many ways, a family. And from time to time, some of our Members retire, and it's bad enough when people you've worked with very closely for a number of years retire. It's so much more difficult when one of us leaves this way. Esther had a deep commitment for her constituents. She was always near my seat during her 10 years in the House and we spent a lot of time talking. And virtually every conversation we had was about how it affects her constituents, how it affects the downtrodden, and it affects the voiceless. Esther was not one of the loud mouths on this floor, like some of us, but she was powerful in her silence. She was powerful in her own quiet way to pass a message on to tell someone how she felt about something. And oftentimes, even to say to me, hey, say this in debate, this will go well. And I would say, Esther, why don't you say it? She said, oh, you'll say it better. Well, I don't know that I would say it better because Esther was a person with heart, and a person with soul, and a person who understood why we were here. She had an abiding faith in this institution, even through all our dysfunction sometimes, and even through all our failures sometimes. She believed that the House of Representatives, she didn't have that much good to say about the Senate, but she felt that the House of Representatives was a place where good things could happen, and she wanted to be deeply involved in that. She was a person who, as we say, learned how to disagree without being disagreeable. And there's a lesson here for all of us. And I heard Mike Tryon's comments about

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her desire when she had an issue or a Bill to walk the floor, both sides of the aisle, and look you in the eye and tell you why her Bill was important and why it was going to help someone. I remember Esther's first Bill. I don't remember what it was, but those were in the days when Bill Black and I were assigned to grill new Members, some of you may remember this. And after about my third of about 200 planned questions, Esther ripped into me and made me speechless, which as you know, is a rare occasion on this House Floor, and we became instant friends. We spent a lot of time talking. I learned much about her. Esther was a person who asked good questions, understood the answers, and if she didn't understand the answers, she would tell you and work... work it through with you. We're going to miss you, Esther. We're going to miss your voice, as quiet as it was. We're going to miss your tenacity. We're going to miss your heart. Would that all of us had the heart of Esther Golar, this would be a much better Body. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Ammons."

Ammons: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Certainly, it is a sad day for us all in this House and in the state. But I really am thankful that I had the last eight or nine months to get to know Representative Golar. When I came into this House, I had followed, for years, many excellent Representatives in this House that I have so much respect for, and she was one of those persons. Something that Esther and I connected on right away, and I'm thankful that I got a chance to go and speak to her on past Friday in the hospital, and one of the members of the family says, Esther, do you know who this is? And she

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said, yes, Ammons. And it was really a pleasure to be able to spend a moment of transition with her that we don't often get to do. Life and death are part of the life cycle and we respect that, but it's always very difficult when it actually happens. But when I came into this House, Esther, who I am so thankful to be able to sit in front of her seat, would often say, Ammons, you need to say this. You need to say this. And she would do me like that, Lou. And when I saw something in a Bill that I didn't think was good, she was always willing to listen to influence her decision ultimately. We are truly going to miss her, but I'm going to also miss her ability to encapsulate, in song, the experiences of the people. The Negro spirituals, which she would often change the lyrics to, are a cultural expression of African-American people from the time that we set foot on this side of the globe. And those songs are not just songs. They are songs of organizing. They are songs of spirit. They are songs of connectivity. And they're cultural icons in the experience of African-American people. Those songs cross ethnic barriers and she was able to use the songs to share the message of the people. I only hope that I'm able to stand anywhere near her level of service. And we will truly miss her. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Dunkin."

Dunkin: "Yes, I've known Representative Esther Golar... What... she was here for 9, 10 years? Much has... much has been said of what I wanted to speak on, but let me speak on some of the lighter side of my relationship with Esther Golar. I drove her down here a few times and a few times back up towards the City of Chicago, since we were district mates, if you will.

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Now, if you all thought Esther Golar enjoyed singing or just sort of randomly singing here, you should have been in the car with us a couple of times when she requested for me to change my Pandora to Johnnie Taylor radio. And if you really want to see or understand the social or the fun side of Esther Golar, go to Pandora and put in there, Johnnie Taylor. This lady must have sung for about two and a half hours from here to Chicago. And I tried my best to sing with her, but she was in her glory. She was laughing and singing and just... I said, Esther, you remind me of my mother growing up when my mother was partying. And we sang and laughed, and sang and laughed. And that really started a strong, and positive, and a respectful relationship that I had for her. She reminded me of a mature, seasoned, black woman who cared and loved her community. And that was projected here in this chamber. We started talking about healthy diet and taking care of ourselves. And so, she started bringing fruits, and apples, and oranges, and water to the committees that she chaired, right to her desk, right here. And I know Chuck Jefferson and I used to enjoy, as most of all of us here. And she was always someone who was just grounded. She wasn't rich, she wasn't poor. She was love. Love for all the people here in this state, and her actions as a Legislator exemplified that. So I'm immensely proud to have known her, to have debated sort of privately with her, and to have laughed most of the time with her. She is definitely someone that I looked forward to seeing when I come to my seat, just to stop by and to pause because she reminded me of my community; her spirit, my aunts,

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my mother. And so, we have in... indeed lost a giant and someone who will be missed. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Reaves-Harris."

Reaves-Harris: "Representative Esther Golar was actually family to me, and I didn't find that out un... until I came to the House. When I came here her niece, Kim, posted on Facebook that now she had an aunt and a cousin in the General Assem... Assembly. So the next time we were in Session I went to Esther and I was, like, Esther, we're family. I didn't know that. She was, like, those Lawsons, right? And I was, like, okay? So I kind of left it alone. I didn't know what she really thought... considered us being family. Her brother is married to my dad's first cousin. They've been married for over 50 years. But this past Friday I went to go visit Esther in the hospital, and my cousin Marietta and her husband Amos was there, so I said they've been married for over 50 years And when they saw me they said, that's Pam, that's Calvin's daughter. That's... that's family, that's cousin. And it was such a relief because I had always considered her family, even though I wasn't... I wasn't very close to her. They're... they're much older. They're closer to my older brothers and sisters, so I was a baby. So I wasn't around them much, but when they said that, I felt this sense of okay, I am family. They do consider me family of hers. And so, we were sitting in the hospital room and there were several people in the room, but I think because the door was open, she heard a lot of commotion outside at the nurse's station. And so, she thought people were in the room and so she started, you know, she was like, I want people to leave. And they... she was, like,

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who's in here? And so, Marietta started listing people. She's, like, Marietta's here, Amos is in here, her niece. And then... and she was, like, well, they can stay and they can stay. And then they said, Pam is in here, too. She was, like, okay, she can stay. And I really, at that point, felt like I was family. I didn't get a chance to work with Esther on any Bills, and that will be my loss. She was a very strong woman, but nonetheless, she was very kind, very helpful, being my first year in this... in the House and I will truly miss her. And I know her family appreciates all of the loves, and... or the... the... the flowers. She just had tons of flowers in her room and they appreciate it. They appreciated the support. And I'll just miss her. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Pritchard."

Pritchard: "I think all of us have been in our districts the last few weeks and heard the comments from our constituents about their frustration with what we do here in Springfield. The fact that we don't seem to get along and can't reach consensus on anything. And that's when I tell them about people like Esther, where we were able to work together on a lot of Bills in education. We were able to reach consensus on a lot of differences. And she lifts up a great example for all of us here today when we can't reach consensus on important issues for our state. If she leaves a legacy, may that be that we try even harder, and with renewed vigor, to live the kind of lives that she led, of concern for others, of trying to work cooperatively, and trying to bridge the differences that we inevitably have. You know, we don't have any guarantees when we enter this life as to how long we'll live or what we'll be

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able to do. But many scholars and philosophers believe that when we have accomplished our mission we are called home. So we can only gather that, maybe Esther was called home because she had accomplished some of her mission, and that was to leave a great example, to leave an... a legacy of love and to leave the vision that we can work together."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Lilly."

Lilly: "Lady Esther, beautiful, classy, wore the best jewelry, was very proud to be a State Representative. And she was proud of each one of us. She was very honored to serve with us. She came to Springfield every Session wanting to help. And as we read the Resolution, her dash as Representative Riley mentioned, was full of her opportunities to help in her community, in her family, and here in Springfield. When I first came into the General Assembly, Esther was one of the first Legislators on the floor looking ready. But in later days, Esther became one of the last Legislators on the floor, and now I know why. But she came in with bag, and bag, and she would stop by my desk and say, here. And I'm, like, What... what is it? Your breakfast. I made you breakfast this morning. And she would do this... she would take it out of these bags and she would make me breakfast. I don't know if she made the rest of you breakfast, but she made me breakfast and that made me feel special, and it helped me. If I could be half as determined and dedicated as Esther was, I would be happy. I will be successful. She is resting in peace with her Heavenly Father, who she truly, truly loved. And with her loving parents, 'cause she truly loved her family. Her journey here on Earth fed us with food and love. She's my queen, my sister-

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mother, my Esther. And as she did, I do too. I love each of you. God bless you."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Brady."

Brady: "Esther was a lady that I first met shortly after her swearing in. We talked on... on a lot of different things, and I got to know her better the few times that I got on the train in Bloomington-Normal in my district. She'd be on the train coming down here. And she was surprised the one day when I got on and she said, Brady, and flagged me over to sit with her. And I sat with her and we had a nice visit here. And she talked about my... my district, asked me questions about my district and why, where was that. And I said, hey, I'm right across from the train station, Esther. You've got to come sometime to my district when we're riding through the train. We'll get you off and we'll take you around. She said, I'd like to do that Brady. And I said, we'll... we'll make it happen. And of course, we all say those things and a higher being in charge decides what's going to happen to us. And I would... would have conversations with her when I would go by her desk and stop, and I'd always get the look, and then she'd say, hey, Brady. And I'd say, Esther, how are you today? I said, I've got a vote that I got to ask you for; I got a Bill. She'd say, is that one of those body Bills? I'd say, actually, yes it is, Esther. And she would say something and Brady. And I said, you know, Esther, my first name's Dan. She said, that's a nice first name, Brady. And the last day that I spoke to her when she was here on the House Floor, we all know how sick she was. How terribly she felt sitting there, but she was here. And she still, in her time of despair and illness,

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took time to visit, act like the pain that she was in wasn't as bad as we knew it was 'cause her face showed that. She was a kind, gentle woman. And her grace will be what leads her home. She'll be missed. Rest in peace, Esther."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Sims."

Sims: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Dynamic. Dedicated. Phenomenal. Empowering. Those are the few of the words I would think about when I think of Esther. Many of us have referenced today, September 2, the day that Esther demonstrated her dedication, not just to this chamber, but to the 13 million people that we represent across this great state. Esther literally risked her life to come here to represent the people that we represent every day. Esther, against doctors' orders, came here to carry out the duty that she swore to. The duty that each one of us stood there, standing on the stadium at... in the auditorium at the University of Illinois, Springfield, and said we would do. Esther lived it. Esther was dedicated to ensuring that the least of these were protected. Her presence here that day was just a microcosm of the dedication that she showed every day representing the people of her district and the love that they showed to her because of the entru... the... the faith that they'd entrusted her with. She knew that that was the last day she was going to walk through those doors. And I think that many times, we take that walk for granted. We took for granted that we will be back and we will be able to walk through those doors again. Well, that's never promised to us and Esther knew that. When Esther came here she knew, when she left, I could see in her face that she knew that was the last time she was walking through the

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doors of the Illinois House of Representatives. But she knew that she had a dedication that was greater than her. She knew that she had a responsibility that was more important than her. It was not about... she... she never... Esther never believed in the power of one. She believed in the power of all. She believed that in order for you to get things done, you needed to be in the arena. You needed to be dedicated. You needed to be present. And she showed that. You know, I had the... the good pleasure to be with her during her final days. And as of many of us did, we got the chance and the opportunity to visit with her. And to hear the words of wisdom coming from her, the challenge for each one of us to do and be better. Esther challenged us. She challenged us to do what we said we would, which is improve the quality of life for the least of these. She challenged us. Right now, I know that Esther is smiling down, and she's looking at us, and she's singing a song. She's sitting there with the Father, and He has said to her, servant, job well done. She's sitting there, and she's looking, and she's pointing that finger at us, as she sometimes could, and she is saying to us, do better. She is saying to us, be better. She is saying to us, do not forget those who do not have a voice. You have to be that voice. Esther is saying to us, there is much work to be done, and if it is going to be done, you are going to do it. The love that we each feel for Esther right now, let it not go away when we take our moment of silence. Let us remember the love that we feel for her and the love that we feel for each other. Let us remember the respect that we have for this chamber, the respect that we have for the peop... the men and women back

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home, the... the children back home who are work... who are waiting on us and need us to do all that... all that we can to improve their quality of life, because that is the legacy that Esther would want for us. The legacy that Esther would want is that we will be better for the people that we represent. Esther, I love you. We all love you. You have taught us so much. Your wit, your wisdom will be truly missed. But I think that there was one instance in the hospital room that encapsulated Esther. As much pain as she was in, we were there and there was... Jehan's daughter was there and her grandchild was there, and Esther mustered through the pain to say, where are the babies? Bring me those babies. She was what... she wanted to make sure that she could just reach out and touch them, that they knew that she was loved, that they were loved by her, and that they were always going to be protected. And that... that just to me embodied who Esther was, who Esther will be... who Esther will always be, and the legacy that she will leave to us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Costello."

Costello: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I love Esther Golar. I loved Esther Golar. She was a terrific, terrific, incredible person. We all served with Esther Golar. She served her constituents, she served the state. But what I love and admire most about Esther is the way she served the Lord. And the way she wore her faith on her sleeve. Every day, every time you were around her, every time you talked to her she wore her faith. And we could all, and we should all, learn from that. And what I will miss the most, when I would work a Roll Call,

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and Esther would turn around and look at me like no one else and say, I got you, Costello."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Hernandez."

Hernandez: "Thank you, Speaker. I didn't have a chance... I didn't have a chance to say goodbye. Esther was a grand lady. She exerted peace and love in this chamber. And it was truly through her song. Her song, at least for me, gave pause to what was occurring in this chamber. Often, it does look like we're always at each other. But she did exert that coming together when her song made us pause. She's truly a grand lady. And she leaves us with that spirit. She was a friend. She will be missed. Thank you, Esther."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Soto."

Soto: "Thank you. Thank you, Members. Thank you, Speaker. I just wanted to say, she will be missed. I was very close to her. We worked together on the Educational Task Force on school closings and she was always there. Anytime we picked up the phone, even though she had two jobs. She was working hard to help her daughter pay tuition for her college tuition. So I had the opportunity to get to know her. I felt like she was family 'cause I saw her often. And she... I just have to say she's going to greatly be missed by all of us. And I know that we all care about each other. And yes, some of the Members have said we become family when we're here. So let's try to do better and act like that. So I just wanted to say thank you for, you know, having the opportunity to, all of us, working with her. We've been blessed to be able to cross paths with someone like her. She's amazing. She's going to be missed, and I know I'm going miss her a lot. Thank you."

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Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Will Davis."

Davis, W.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Esther was a fantastic lady.

We've all gotten a chance know her, and get to know her, and learn about her, what have you. I always thought that I had a great connection with Esther. When I served as Joint Chair of the Black Caucus, she was the House Chair. And she and I would talk and try to work together to try to do things on behalf of our caucus, but more... more importantly, do things that we thought were good for people here in the State of Illinois. When we were last here in Springfield and I had no idea how sick she was, I don't really pry into things of that nature, but clearly she wasn't well. But before the end of Session, before I left the chamber, I walked over to her and said, 'Hello.' I kissed her hand and rubbed her hand, and then I walked away. I would have never thought that that would have been the last time that she would ever come back to this chamber. But we always talk about what we want to do and what we will do, but we all have to realize that we are not in control. There's someone else who's in control of any and all of this. There is someone else. And like was said before, it was that time. The Lord said, Esther, it's time for you to come home and be with me. And we have to respect that that... that that was it, and that was her time here. But let's think about the legacy that she left us, what she would encourage us to do, the way she would want all of us to proceed. And not to say that she would want us to get along all the time, she understands and understood the differences that we all have, with respect to our districts and the people that we represent. But I know she would always want us to do the right

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thing for the people on behalf of the people in the State of Illinois. So as we stand here today and talk and share and... and reminisce, let us not forget what she would want us to do collectively, as a Body on behalf of the people of the State of Illinois."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Leader Durkin."

Durkin: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I met Esther, she was probably 48 hours on the job, many years ago and she was a newly-minted Member of the House of Representatives assigned to a committee that I had a Bill at. And I went up to her and I lobbied her on the Bill, and I talked to her about it and I asked her why I needed her support. She says, I'll be with you. And I said, well, if you need to... you're a brand new Member, maybe you should talk to staff. And she goes, no. And I said, well, I mean, you can run it up the flagpole, up to Leadership. She goes, no. And... turns out I did need her vote, and it passed out of committee. But I can say that I've not had that luxury with any other freshman Members since then. But I think it... that's the type of person she was. She wasn't a partisan, we all know that. And you know, we... we divide ourselves sometimes on the floor, but it was not in her blood, it was not in her spirit, it was not in her heart. I will remember Esther as someone who is kind, caring and helpful. And we should all hope that when we leave this... this chamber, or if we leave this Earth, it is... that is how we will be remembered. And folks, I guess, you know, this to me it was quick, it was sudden. We never know when our number is up. So let's make the best of it."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Wallace."

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Wallace: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the last 10 months or so, I've had the pleasure of sitting next to Representative Golar. And in that short time I learned so much. She was... I'm laughing because I think of some of the times she would sneak jokes in. She was very serious most of the time and had such a stern voice. And sometime you didn't where she was coming from, but you knew that it was coming with love, whatever she would say to you. And some of the more heated debates that we had in the spring, she often talked about how we do need to fight and the very same things that she said over the last week or so as many of us visited her. She would say some of those things here. And I'll never forget, one day she said during one of the debates, what we need is a revolution. And I said, well, what do you mean, Esther? And on that very day she sang on the floor that *We Shall Not be Moved*. And for her, the revolution was about the love and the compassion that she expressed to everyone. I don't know a person who has come in contact with her, who didn't say how caring she was, and she didn't make a difference. If you were staff, if you were a colleague, if you were whomever, she didn't make a difference. She just loved everyone. And so, in these last months that I've had the opportunity to sit here, in addition to learning how to stay levelheaded, how to treat everyone equally, and how to just, stick to the task and do what you need to do, I also learned that sometimes we suffer in silence. So I sat right next to her, and I'm sure Eddie knows and feels the same way, and not once did I ever hear her complain about anything. Not, you know, we get headaches sometimes, or we're hungry, or we're tired or whatever, she

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never complained about anything. And I didn't know she was ill until September 2. But everything that's been said here, was just so her. All the bags, you know, I always wondered how she's going to fit everything under the desk. Sometimes it came under my desk. We would put the... the fruit in the baskets, and yes she cooked breakfast. Ammons and I had the pleasure of getting fried tilapia from time to time in the morning, sealed in foil. All the fruit sealed in nice little baggies, so that you could take it with you wherever you needed to go. And just the encouragement. When I first got here, I felt like this chamber, even having watched you guys as a staff member, I thought the chamber was, like, herding cats. And it's loud, you know, you never know what's going on. But Esther was able to say, well, this is what's happening right now, and this is what is going to happen next. And she just always walked me through it those first weeks here. And for that, I'm forever grateful. I do want to say, for the record, for her... her daughter Tiffany. I want to thank Tiffany for sharing her mother with us, for sharing her mother with the 6th District, and for sharing her mother with the State of Illinois. It is not an easy task to be separated from your family, as we all are when we come here. And so, we owe her family a certain debt. But I'll... I'll just close by saying that, the last couple of times... or the second to the last time I went to visit her, Esther said to Representative Welch and I, that she won't be afraid, so that we're not afraid. And that is just who she was. And that was the type of grace that she had and the type of care that she had for everyone around her. And so, I'm just grateful for having the chance

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to have her in my life. I am happy that she is at peace now, and that I know her legacy will live. And I hope that we will all take the words that she shared over the last several weeks of her life to heart, to be united, to fight, to have strength, to have courage, and to not be afraid. Thank you."

Speaker Turner: "Chair recognizes Representative Flowers."

Flowers: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I think about Esther Golar, I really think about the Book of Esther. And the Book of Esther was about a courageous woman who risked her life for... to serve her God, and for the people that she served. And when you think about all the conversations that's been articulated here today, that is so befitting of Esther Golar. I, too, had the pleasure of visiting her on several occasions in the hospital, and all she wanted to do was to talk about me carrying on, carrying on. Do what we have to do for the people. That's Esther Golar, and because Esther Golar was here, for such a time as this, we will always have a song in our heart. Thank you, Esther, and rest in peace."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Gordon-Booth to close."

Gordon-Booth: "It's... it's hard to... it's hard to imagine that we're standing here today. We often do this for a lot of people within our communities. We've even... we have even done this for... for other Members. But for us, for me, to be standing here today talking about Esther being gone is just something that's still hard for my body to accept. She would want me to get through this, so let me get it together. Representative Flowers just embodied exactly who Esther was. Esther's parents, Esther's mother, who shared the same name as my mother and spoke a prophetic word when they named Esther,

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Esther. I believe in the power of names. And when they gave Esther that name, Esther's story was already written. So what happened on September 2, what happened this past Monday, it was already written. And I have found myself at times, being angry, because I wished that Esther would have not come on September 2. I wish that she would have stayed in that hospital bed and got better because people need Esther. I need Esther. I can't help it. I'm selfish. I miss her so bad. Esther wasn't just my colleague, she was my friend. I have ex... I got it... I got it. Matthew 22:39 'Love your neighbor, as you love yourself.' How many of us live like that? We have to question that. 'Cause if there was one person who did that, it was Esther. Every story as, you know, we visited with Esther, all these people would be coming in from the community, from the neighborhood, from the city, all over. Everybody had the same story about Esther. And it was always of love, and of compassion, and it was for other people. When I think about... we all are going to miss Esther in this Body, in this institution, but what I think about most we're going to miss about Esther is from my personal relationship with her. Esther was not a person who I only talked to from January to May. I talked to Esther all the time. I've experienced a lot of loss since I've been here. I lost a mom, I lost a mother, a brother. I lost a son. And Esther was always the one that would coordinate that big 50-passenger bus to come to my house, with all the Members who wanted to get on, to come check on me and bring me food, like I need to eat again. And that's just who Esther was. I would... when my mom passed I sort of... I had this... I remember walking around... around this

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place looking sort of dazed for a long time. And Esther would always check on me, and she would say, what's going on, let's pray. Let's pray. And so Esther became... Esther was my best friend, and she became my confidant. We would talk together. We would pray together. We would gossip together. I would come to her with my challenges, with my weaknesses, and she would always have a good word. As it relates to the things that goes on in this place, Esther, no matter what, no matter how crazy this place gets, and we all know that this place gets crazy, Esther would always somehow know how to go to the word of God, and bring the word of God into whatever it is that we are dealing with. And we know some of the stuff that goes on in here don't have nothing to do with God. But Esther... but Esther knew how to make it make sense. And because she could make it make sense, we could sort of wrap our minds around it and deal with it yet another day. And so her... Esther's way, I'll call it, is something that... is something that I... I hope to... that I hope to carry. I hope that all of us are a little bit better for having known Esther. If we don't do anything else in Esther's memory, is that no matter who it is that we have to challenge, rather it be our own Party, rather it has to be our interest, we need to always, always put people first and do it with courage, and do it with bravery. Because when Esther came down here, that was nothing short of courageous. That was nothing short of bravery because Esther did not want to leave here. Let me tell you, she was not ready to go. And anyone that visited her, she... you knew it. She wanted to fight because she wanted to stay here. And so, when she made the decision to come down here,

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when she knew what the potential outcome could be, she knew, her doctor told her, you might die on the way down there; you might die on the way back. She said, I got to do the right thing. I got to support my people. And that's what she did. And that's what we must continue to do. Representative Riley has asked for a moment of silence, and after that moment of silence, Representative Lilly has taken the pleasure of giving us the *Amazing Grace* on our desks. After our moment of silence, if we could all join together one last time in remembrance of Esther in singing *Amazing Grace*."

Speaker Turner: "The Body shall take a moment of silence. Thank you. Representative Gordon-Booth, would you like to lead us? Thank you."

Gordon-Booth: - et al "*Amazing Grace*."

Speaker Turner: "Representative Riley has requested that all Members be added to House Resolution 785. Seeing no objection, all Members will be added. Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth moves that the House adopt Resolution... House Resolution 785. All those in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. The Resolution is adopted. Thank you, Members. Representative Brown."

Brown: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Republicans request an immediate caucus in Room 118 for one hour."

Speaker Turner: "The Republicans will reques... will recess immediately in Room 118, and the Democrats will be at ease."

Speaker Lang: "The House will be in order. Representative Lang in the Chair. On page 5 of the Calendar, there are... under the Order of House Bills-Second Reading, there appears House Bill 685, Mr. Bradley. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

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Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 685, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. This Bill was been read a second time on a previous day. No Committee Amendments. Floor Amendments 1 and 2 have been approved for consideration. Floor Amendment #1 is offered by Representative Bradley."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Bradley."

Bradley: "This is the 14th time of calling the Governor's property tax proposal. I would ask for an 'aye' vote on this Amendment."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Sandack on the Motion. Sponsor yields."

Sandack: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representative Bradley, thank you for coming to see me today and asking for my vote. I appreciate that. It was a deviation from the first fur... 15 times, 'cause I believe this is the 16th time..."

Bradley: "Is this? I thought it was 14."

Sandack: "...I believe it's 16..."

Bradley: "Okay."

Sandack: "...but we won't get bogged down in how many... how many times we've had this. But it seems to me... you've... each and every endeavor, you've said this is the Governor's Bill; it's an identical Bill. But that's not the case because his Bill is one Bill. You've split it in two, correct?"

Bradley: "It is split in two."

Sandack: "Okay. So you like... you've made this Motion either 14, 15, or 16 times, that's truly identical."

Bradley: "Correct."

Sandack: "But your proposition is you're splitting the two Bills in half. So what I would suggest for the 17th time, because we know it's not going to pass, why don't you put them

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together, and actually put the Governor's Bill on the floor, in its existing format?"

Bradley: "And... and as you know, if this were adopted and the second Amendment were adopted, that's what we'd have."

Sandack: "Well, I... I don't know that, because all I do know is you... you keep making same Motion, it fails, and we go through this exercise again. And we... we know what that is. It's futility, identified and defined. Mr. Speaker, to the Motion. I... again, I appreciate the Sponsor coming to speak with me. It doesn't change the fact that this is not the Governor's Bill, in the Governor's Bill's entirety. It's one Bill that this Gentleman, the Sponsor, has split into two for political purposes. We know that now. Maybe we'll see it a 16th, 17th, 18th or 20th time. It doesn't change the fact that it's not a legitimate Bill. It just cements the fact that we're going through this process of wasting time, which is a shame. Vote 'no', vote 'present'. We know it's not going to pass. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Gentleman's Motion will vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 41 voting 'yes', 16 voting 'no', 8 voting 'present.' And the Amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "Floor Amendment #2 is offered by Representative Bradley and has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Bradley."

Bradley: "This is the second piece of Floor Amendment #2. It'd be the prevailing wage collective bargaining portion of the

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Governor's proposal. If adopted, along with the Amendment that was just adopted, it would be the Governor's proposal identically. I do not support this Amendment, but I know there are folks in here that do."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Sandack, the Sponsor yields, Sir."

Sandack: "To the Motion..."

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor does not yield, then."

Sandack: "...thank you. The Sponsor needn't yield. I would just recommend to my colleagues on my side of the aisle that maybe it's time not to vote at all on this ridiculousness, and not give it a lick of credence, because it deserves no more attention than it's already, unfortunately, gotten. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Amendment will vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are none voting 'yes', 60 voting 'no'. And the Amendment fails. Mr. Clerk."

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

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. Leader Turner now moves that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for purpose of a subject matter hearing on police training and mental health, in accordance with guidelines established by the Speaker. Those in favor of the Motion will say 'yes'; opposed say 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Motion is adopted. And the House hereby resolves into a Committee of the Whole."

DISSOLVE INTO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DO NOW ARISE

Speaker Lang: "The House shall be in order in regular Session. Representative Lang in the Chair. Mr. Clerk, House Bill 4150. Please read the Bill."

Clerk Hollman: "House Bill 4150, a Bill for an Act making appropriations. This Bill was read a second time on a previous day. No Committee Amendments. Floor Amendment #1, offered by Representative Greg Harris, has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Harris."

Harris, G.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. So this... Bill of the Amendment #1 to House Bill 4150 basically deals with five issues, and I'd like to go through what those issues are. Four of those issues have to do with testimony we heard here in Committee of the Whole for mental health providers and law enforcement. The other issue, you may have noticed some folks around the Capitol today, probably several thousand of them, wearing yellow. You know, whether it's yellow ties, or yellow jackets, or yellow t-shirts, who are down here to save Early Intervention. So the fifth element of this legislation deals with Early Intervention. So I would like to just go through each of these five items and explain what it does, and then I would be happy to answer any questions. First, regarding law enforcement, we heard from Sheriff Dart, from the Chief of Police of different towns in Illinois, and from Mr. Smoot from the Police Association about the detrimental effect that the lack of police training grants

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has had on police preparedness across our state. So one element of this Bill is \$12 million in Other State Funds, and I'm going to emphasize this is Other State Funds. These are funds that are not General Revenue Funds of the state but come from the Traffic and Criminal Surcharge Fund that are used for training grants to law enforcement. So there's \$12 million for that in the Bill and \$5 million for victim assistance to families, you know, who have become victims of very serious crime; murder, rape, sexual assault, et cetera. So, those are the two law enforcement portions of this Bill, neither of them are GRF Funds. The next two items I'd like to talk about do include some GRF Funds. The first is to provide \$85 million for the first four months of this fiscal year for mental health services that were not covered under the Federal Court order for the consent decrees that are requiring us to pay Medicaid... mental health services for Medicaid patients. So, as many of you are aware, the Federal Court in absence of a budget has ordered us to pay some mental health services, but only for Medicaid eligible patients. This puts our providers in a terrible situation, as you heard from the witnesses who spoke because, you know, many of the folks who come in are eligible for some services, not others. And they particularly called out mental health supportive housing and the Psychiatric Leadership Grants which are not Medicaid expenses, but are GRF expenses. So this... this Bill would provide for both those expenses and all non-GRF mental health to serve people in community settings across the State of Illinois for the first four months of this year. The last is probably the most important part of this piece of legislation,

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and this regards our Early Intervention. Early Intervention for toddlers from zero through three is probably the best investment our state can make. You know, identifying these kids in about 3.5 percent of children who are born every year have developmental delays. By identifying these youngsters, by giving them therapy early in their life, we can literally change... we can literally change the trajectory of a person's entire life. We can make it possible for them to get into kindergarten and proceed normally. We can keep them out of Special Education. We can help them develop in ways that, you know, just were unimaginable years before because of an investment of several million dollars early on in their lives. And here's another thing that, you know, we learned at the rally this morning, and that is that these babies can't wait, you know. The babies can't wait because for every month that their developmental delays are not addressed, there is retrogression. And it will takes months, if not years, to overcome the negative effects that these young people have if they do not get the appropriate interventions at a early age. So this is an \$82 million amount. This would cover a full year of Early Intervention. Ladies and Gentlemen, not only would this save us tens and tens and tens of millions of dollars in coming years in costs, it would help these babies. It would help these families. It will help our communities. And it's one of the kindest, most generous investments in the future we can make. Ladies and Gentlemen, I'd be happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Brown."

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Brown: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please excuse Representative Unes for the remainder of the evening."

Speaker Lang: "Thank you, Sir. Mr. Sandack."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Sandack: "...for a few questions? Thank you. Representative there's... I don't think anyone that will argue the point that these aren't important services. I want to take a different tactic. Assuming this Amendment and the Bill passes and should be signed by the Governor, how would these fun... how would these services be paid for under existing circumstances?"

Harris, G.: "Well, if you look at the total, the total of GRF is about 116 million for one year of Early Intervention and four months of mental health services. So if we were to just look at the state's checking account today, if you were to go on Comptroller Munger's website and look at the cash balance available today, we could just write a check today, and cover these services for the entirety of this legislation. So the funding is there. This is not billions of dollars. This is not, you know, an extravagant amount. This is a small amount that we could afford to pay each month."

Sandack: "Well, yeah... Representative, if you look at the Comptroller's checking account day-to-day, that number changes day-to-day, correct?"

Harris, G.: "Yes."

Sandack: "Okay. so while we may look at it today, and Shypothetically maybe you have, and maybe there is the ability to fund all yearly services, but you know we're on a path right now because, I think the Senate Democrats have been

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very vocal, and there's some arguing about whether it's 90 or 95 percent. But we've already spent, or we're on a path to spend, way more than what the revenue is being taken in by the state. You understand that, yes?"

Harris, G.: "Well, I would just say this, Representative. I certainly understand what you're talking about. But what we're here talking about is where are our values? What are our values? You know, we've pa... you know, I think, you know... we've passed, and the Senate has passed, an education budget which the Governor said is a value of his. It is in effect. And it... it is spending money as if we had a full budget. I think that these amounts, these relatively small amounts for us, but that are huge things for Illinois fam... Supporting these is just the right thing to do. It talks about, you know, who we are as a people, who we are..

Sandack: "Well, Greg..."

Harris, G.: "...as a state and what we, you know... want to give to our families."

Sandack: "I think... look, I appreciate that, and I... I... and again, no one's going to quibble with the importance these programs have. But when are you going to fund these values you say that are so important? Because we can continually talk about all the important things that need to be accomplished, but they're only accomplishable if they're funded. And so what I'm going to suggest is, we can piecemeal this time and again unless you're willing to do a tax increase to fund what it is you're asking us to give to the Governor. It's... it's hollow, isn't it?"

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Harris, G.: "I think that, you know, ever since we talked about House Bill 4141 back in May, when I presented Early Intervention the first time, which we voted for. You know, I think I was very clear in saying then, and I will say again, I think raising revenue is the thing to do. I listen to what the Civic Federation has to say. I listen to what Moody's, and Fitch, and Standard & Poor's have to say. They all say the same thing, that we need to address our revenue; we need to address some of our expenses. This is one that we need to approve though. It's \$82 million and you know, people talk about our budget is 60 billion or... or I'm sorry..."

Sandack: "Sixty billion?"

Harris, G.: "...32 billion or 38 billion. I... I was accounting non-GRF money."

Sandack: "Okay."

Harris, G.: "But you know, 32 billion, 30... 38 billion. This is 82 million out of \$32 billion and we can afford this and we should pay for it."

Sandack: "And... and Greg, we... it is a small portion of the overall component of the... of the budget, no question about it. There's only a few areas that aren't subject to continuing appropriations; consent degrees, court orders, or the small... the one portion of the budget that the Governor signed, education. So if we're on a trajectory to spend, right now 32 billion, without those other items, adding everything else we add after it is basically an unfunded add-on, isn't it?"

Harris, G.: "Well, here... here's the problem, too, that we are forcing onto our community providers..."

Sandack: "I'd like you to answer the question, if you don't mind."

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Harris, G.: "...and our fam... But it... you know, there... there's complexities to this as you know. And I'm not..."

Sandack: "There are."

Harris, G.: "...going to go on a screed here. But I just want to, you know, explain, you know, one of the problems that our community providers, and I think the Comptroller and the agencies are going to face in determining of those children and families who come into the system for Early Intervention. Some are going to be Medicaid eligible under certain circumstances, you know, other children are going to be ineligible under other circumstances. So, you know, this is going to be a continuing problem for the \$82 million which includes the... \$82 million which includes the Medicaid funding. You know, we're going to be able to provide for all these kids and not have to go through the exercise of differentiating child A from child B, you know, in neighboring households."

Sandack: "Thank you, Representative. I... I don't think that came close to answering my question, but I appreciate that information. To the Bill, Mr. Speaker. The Gentleman said today there is cash available for the Comptroller to pay this entire revenue or the entire program, \$176 million right now, write a check. Except there's \$3.4 billion in unfunded bills that have been already accrued to providers of a myriad of services, who haven't been paid already. So the idea that a check could just be written is kind of how we got in the problem we're at right now, right? A little bit here, a little bit there, well intended all, important everything. Pretty soon you're talking real money, Everett Dirksen would say."

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So, folks, this is not the way to budget. This is well intended programs that need to be funded, but they need to be funded in the context of an overall budgeting program that makes sense on a macro level. This doesn't make sense on a macro level because we know we're not going to be able to fund it. And when the Gentleman says it's just a pittance and it's important, and we... and I... and I personally... He says, I personally back a tax increase. Good. Then put your vote on it. Because the process we have put through... put... put out there to this... to this moment has been so insufficient. It has been promising groups money that we don't have. And it's easy to make that promise. It's easy to feign concern and say, man, I want to help you. Who doesn't? But the real hard part is funding it, and we have not done that. This is not a legitimate budgeting exercise. It's, again, an exercise in futility for the cameras and for people to say, look, I tried to get those people to vote for this, but they're... they're intractable and they're... and they're mean-spirited. No one wants to see these programs go by the wayside. They should be funded, but they should be funded in the context of an overall budget. We're not doing it right. We haven't done it right. We're still doing it wrong. Vote 'no', vote 'present', or don't vote. This is not the way to go about this. It's wrong. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Riley."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Riley: "Thank you. Representative Harris, you had your hearing today, I... I wasn't able to... to come. Let me just ask a couple

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of questions. You know, when people look at some of these programs and they talk about cuts, that's one thing. You can look at a budget and you can see dollars cut out of it. That's easy to see. But much like things like changing the DON score, the impact can be viewed as even worse by dent of a policy. Was anything said about the increase of a child's delay to 50 percent, and what that would do in terms of those children who would be elig... eligible for services?"

Harris, G.: "Well, Representative, I think in all the hearings we've had, the parents, the providers, the specialists in... in childhood development have come in and said, this would be devastating if the developmental delay eligibility requirement were... were to be raised from 30 to 50 percent. But I just want to point out, that... that issue is not before us in this legislation. This legislation..."

Riley: "(unintelligible)"

Harris, G.: "...fully funds Early Intervention at the 30 percent level, at the existing level. So this legislation does not change eligibility at all. If you had a child who was eligible for Early Inter... Intervention now, he or she would be eligible should this Bill pass and become law. This is simply to provide enough funds that those families who need Early Intervention services for their kids are going to be able to continue to get them."

Riley: "Okay. And you know, you were talking about the folks who were down here in the rotunda. Many of them were from my area, and actually help put this event on. So in many ways it showed the kind of intense effort to lobby us to pass something that's really, really necessary. And so, I appreciate

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everything you've do... you've done. To the Bill. House Bill 4150 is something that really needs our attention. It... it's clear what the impact of Early Intervention does, with regard to helping children with developmental delays, and it's something that I will be supporting. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Scherer."

Scherer: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. I've been a teacher for over 30 years, and one of the things that I taught were teachers going back to get their master's degree and.. and how to teach. And one of the classes that I taught was all about the windows of opportunity in children's learning. Well, this Early Intervention is all about those windows of opportunity. The windows of opportunity can't wait. We can't come back 10 years from now, in the year 2025, and say, oops, we made a mistake. We should have provided those services. These kids wouldn't be having all these problems at age 10, 11, and 12 if we'd have dealt with it when they were zero, one, two, and three. We can't wait. That's why we can't wait because the window slams shut. And we're going to just sit here, and we're going to say, well, we have this problem; we have that problem. We're dealing with human lives here. We are not dealing with inanimate objects. It's not something that you sell in a corporation. Many, many people in my district are affected by this. I feel very passionately about this. It's time to take a stand, and the stand is for the children of the State of Illinois."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Davis."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

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Davis, W.: "Representative, and hopefully you saw some of what I saw, but I thought I saw some comments by the Comptroller as it relates to Early Intervention funding. Did you see those comments in the past week or so?"

Harris, G.: "You'll have to refresh my memory. Which ones was she talking about? The one's where she said she wanted to pay it all?"

Davis, W.: "Well, I don't know if it was a matter of her wanting to pay it, but she felt that it was necessary that we push money out the door to pay these services."

Harris, G.: "So, the Comptroller, you're saying, said it was necessary to push money out the door for these services?"

Davis, W.: "Absolutely. Because as many of us, you know, over time, when we have questions about different aspects of the budgeting process, we reach out to our capable staff and we ask questions. And one of the questions that I have been asking about Early Intervention funding, subsequently, we found out that the Comptroller was trying to get in front of this dialogue a little bit. In front of this conversation and making... I think, more or less making statements that if there's money available, I'm going to pay these services. Are you aware of that?"

Harris, G.: "I am now and I... I think that's very admirable. Because I think this is a wonderful investment as the previous speaker said."

Davis, W.: "Right. So... so to the extent in which someone from the Governor's administration recognizes the importance of Early Intervention funding instead of waiting until such actions, like we're doing right now, she got out in front of the

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conversation, recognizing that there's a need to pay Early Intervention... Early Intervention funding, that these services are indeed critical, that they are necessary. And that we should be paying for these types of services because, if nothing else, because of the population that they serve. Some of the most vulnerable and critical young people are receiving these types of services all over the State of Illinois. So I was happy that she recognized the need to push these dollars out the door and to pay for the services that are being rendered by those that provide Early Intervention services. So I... I just wanted to see if you were aware of that."

Harris, G.: "Thank you."

Davis, W.: "Thank you. Now, to the Bill. So yes, here we are again, as the Gentleman on the other side of the aisle has eloquently pointed out. Here we are again going through this process. And what I hear often is that, you know, we shouldn't be going about budgeting this way. Well, I happen to agree with the Gentleman, that we shouldn't be going about budgeting this way. There's no reason why we should not be able to have a... a decent intellectual conversation about determining exactly what our level of spending is, and then working collabora... collaboratively to spend at what el... whatever level we decide. But the problem is, the Gentleman on the second floor keeps telling that side of the aisle that he doesn't want to talk about the budget. That he only wants to talk about non-budgetary items and that that's what's most important. Well, how are we ever going to get to a conversation about the budget if no one on that side of the aisle is willing to tell the guy on the second floor that,

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while we agree that we need to talk about workers' comp and some of the other structural reforms that you are purporting, but there's the budget. And that we need to continue to talk about the budget, and that the budget should not be held hostage by non-budgetary items and structural items. Now, for if any of you think that I don't think that those things are important, if that's what the Governor wants to do, fine. I'm with him. If he wants to make changes to workers' comp, to try to move that pendulum a little bit more toward business than where it is, we should be talking about that. And we should be having that conversation, but it shouldn't be done in lieu of talking about funding for Early Intervention, or any of the other critical services that we've been coming down here week, after week, after week to talk about. Passing Bills where you get 'yes' votes on our side of the aisle and 'red' and 'yellow' votes on that side of the aisle. We should not be doing this. I agree, but it's only going to stop when you Gentlemen and Ladies on that side of the aisle, tell the guy on the second floor that we want to have a conversation about the budget, and that we should do it without regard to some of the other structural things that you want to talk about. That's what we should be talking about, Ladies and Gentlemen. So as my colleague asked one of his colleagues to give him more time to speak 'cause I'm sure he wants to rebut some of what I'm saying, and that's fine. That's fine. Let's talk about the budget, Ladies and Gentlemen. Let's have that conversation where we can have an intellectual conversation about whether we spend 36, 38, 32, it doesn't matter. But we should talk about that without regard to any of the other

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conversations that I'm concerned that the other guy, the guy on the second floor, is telling all of you, don't do that, don't do that, don't do that. So when you guys tell him that you want to talk about the budget and that we should not be holding the budget hostage to structural reforms, to workers' compensation. When you tell him that, then we can have the intellectual conversation about the budget that the Gentleman is talking about, so that we can determine, as a Body, what our levels of spending should be to make sure that we are providing resources whether it's Early Intervention or any of the other things that we've come down here, week after week, to discuss. So only when that happens, will we get past this, pass a budget, and move forward. And then, we can sit and talk about workers' compensation and all the other things that the Governor wants to talk about. So, I hope, I plead, I implore you, let's have a discussion about the budget. Let's put everything else aside and talk about the budget. Talk about that. And we should be able to do that without it being marred and wrapped in a conversation about structural reforms. So when you all are ready to have that conversation, I'm ready. Thank you very much."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Kifowit."

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

Speaker Lang: "Sponsor yields."

Kifowit: "Representative Harris, we were told that the state was going to fund some Early Intervention services. Does that... did that consent decree cover all Early Intervention or just a partial amount of Early Intervention services?"

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Harris, G.: "Okay. My understanding, and I think this situation is still a little fluid in the court, is that it was to cover all Early Intervention services. Yeah, I think there's still a verification going on with the court and the providers to be sure that people are being paid, and at what rates."

Kifowit: "So in a sense, this Bill covers our court obligation to pay this because that's what was deemed in the consent decree?"

Harris, G.: "This is also being sure that, you know, we go on record legislatively as saying, it is a priority, for the... those who wish to state that it's a priority, to support Early Intervention, to support law enforcement training, and mental health services."

Kifowit: "And then, in... in your opinion, in your years, I... I've been relatively new to this, how... In your years, has there ever been budgeting by the courts such as this?"

Harris, G.: "This is the first year, I think, you know, since I've been here, we've been through this process. You know, these consent decrees exist for reasons through... through the history of Illinois. But this is the first year we've gone through this process. And the reason these consent decrees exist is to be sure that, you know, adequate services are being provided equally to those who are in most in need across our state."

Kifowit: "Thank you. And Speaker, to the Bill. Here we have a situation where other Republican Governors were able to do a budget. Other Governors were able to work with the General Assembly to do a responsible budget. And right now, the Leadership of the Governor's Office is to budget by court

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orders, and budget by consent decree and have no responsibility whatsoever. There are individuals in yellow in the gallery. And I would like to make a note again, from the other side of the aisle, the quote was, 'When are you,' pointing to us, 'going to fund these services? When are you willing to do a tax increase?' Pointing the finger, not taking any responsibility, yet again. No responsibility for a solution. No responsibility for a working environment to fund those that need services the most. Pointing the finger is showing which side of the aisle doesn't want to work together. Which side of the aisle would rather point fingers? You, you, you do a tax increase. And that side of the aisle is not talking about corporate loopholes. Is not talking about two-thirds of corporations not paying any income tax. Is not talking about alternative funding. So those individuals want to say, you're playing politics? Well, the point is, those individuals pointing their finger, only focusing on a tax increase, is disingenuous. Disingenuous to the Early Intervention individuals. Disingenuous to those that need us the most. What this Bill does is it properly funds services we are obligated and we should fund. What this Bill does is take at least one Appropriation Bill out of the court system. Are we going to get sued for mental health services? Damn straight, we are. Are we going to get sued again if it turns out that Early Intervention isn't fully funded? Are we going to get sued for other obligations that we have to provide as a responsible state? We are. So those individuals on the aisle want to keep having the state go to court. They want to keep dragging this out. They want to keep advocating their

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responsibility to the people of Illinois for show, for show. This is not... We've had Republican Governors. We've had budgets. We've had both sides of the aisle work for budgets. This individual that we have sitting on the second floor wants to maintain the status quo of corporate welfare, rather give \$100 million to corporations in tax breaks, rather than give \$100 million for Early Intervention. The yellow shirts in the aisle and everybody at home need to take that into account. We are not talking about addressing corporate welfare to help pay the children... to help fund the children and to help services go to those who need it. Those side of the aisles are not looking that way. Maintaining corporate welfare over child welfare is wrong. We need to pass this Bill because it will get us out of the court system, and it will fund Early Intervention and services in mental health that we need. And we need to start talking about the corporate welfare of the state and not putting the corporations above the children. The children should provide... preside, and the children should be first, not the other way around. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Flowers."

Flowers: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Bill. I just want to say that these speak... these children cannot wait. And for the speaker on the other side of the aisle that said the hardest part is the funding. Sir, I beg the difference with you. I would like for you and others to join me in calling for the second floor to call for a financial transaction tax. And I'll show you that funding is not going to be difficult at all. We will have more than enough funding to deal with the developmentally disabled children. We will have more than

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enough funding to address education. We would have more than enough funding to deal with the infrastructure, the roads, and the bridges. We will have more than enough funding to do all the things that we need to do in regards to all of our pensions. So please help me. It's not hard. It's not hard at all. Join me in calling for a financial transaction tax. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Anthony."

Anthony: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield my time to Representative Sandack."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Sandack."

Sandack: "To the Bill. So we've heard some interesting speeches, one of which sounded like a campaign speech. Can't wait to hear more of it later on when she's in the western suburbs, telling people she's not for a tax increase. Can't wait for that. So today, we just heard, there's a financial transaction tax we should have, and there's these amorphous corporate loopholes. Bring the Bills. Bring them. Put them on the board. That shouldn't be too hard for the Party in charge of this Legislature, this entire chamber and the other chamber. If you want to put a tax, put it on the board. And let's duke it out and let's put... let's see who's who in the zoo and where things lie. The idea that it's somehow the Governor's responsibility to do a budget is laughable. There was a budget that came out of here. It was 4 billion out of budget, 4 billion, and everyone's going to go back and say, it was those bad Democrats. They just won't fund our stuff. Those big meanies won't fund our stuff. Put a tax Bill on the board and own it. If you want to fund everything and there's... that's...

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let's do it. Pay for it. Because telling people, I want to do this. I want to do that. I want to help you. I want to help everyone. And then not have the temerity, the guts, the moxie to pay for it is an empty, hollow promise. So I agree with the Gentleman from Homewood. I don't know where he went. He's right, we ought to have a legitimate budget process. We haven't had one yet. We haven't had one yet. We've not gone through the exercise of actually prioritizing what should be paid, and how we're going to pay for it. No, we had a spending plan. Remember, you guys pitted it. We're not going to do a budget, we're going to do a spending plan. Well, fantastic. Then pay for your spending plan. That's all. Pay for it. Quit asking, quit demonizing, quit pointing the fingers. You own this chamber. Own the tax increase. Or instead, let's truly work together and you know, the idea that, you know, these structural reforms are in the way of budgetary relief, they are one and the same. Because go back to 2011. Many of you put that vote on that midnight tax increase that was temporary. Would cure all the ills of Illinois's financial problem. It cured none of the ills because the spending addiction has absolutely no correlation to a tax increase. Taxing more imposes no spending discipline. We've learned that lesson. Repeat, spen... taxing more imposes no spending discipline. So the idea that taxes, taxing this amorphous, wealthy class that doesn't pay anything, supposedly, will make all the ills go away, is absolutely a false promise. You want to intelligently and... by the way it's difficult. Doing a budget is difficult. But you have to do the spending, and you have to pay for the spending. You can't just say let's

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spend 'x', 'y,' and 'z'. Let's do all these great things, and then not own how to fund it. That's disingenuous. It's dishonest. And the idea that there... that the... the Minority Party in this chamber is to blame for your failure to put a tax increase on the board is absolute folly. So if these are your values, and I suggest they're good values, pay for them. Pay for them. Otherwise, let's work together and figure out the priority for this state in total, not in part, and then how to fund all those values in an ordinary, honest way rather than this charade, which we've continued to play. By the way, it's your charade. The Speaker calls us here, not the Governor. The Speaker calls us down here. So remember that, folks. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "Representative Conroy."

Conroy: "Thank you, Speaker. To the Bill. Babies from zero to three don't care about grandstanding. They don't care about blame. They need to be cared for before they get to school. An awesome thing happened today and I hope everybody in this chamber saw it. Those hundreds of families that came today to fight for their babies, they don't have a high-paid lobbyist. Those people got together because of what they believed in. They believe in babies. They believe in children. They believe in education. And guess what, guys? They pay taxes. And so do all the people that support them. I think it's time we start listening to our constituents; we start doing what's right for our children. And I think it's time we stop blaming. Every single person in this chamber knows we have to talk about revenue. Let's stop holding non-budgetary things over the heads of people that can least afford it, and let's have those

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discussions. Let's talk about revenue. Let's stop blaming each other, and let's put our children first."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Harris to close."

Harris, G.: "Okay, Ladies and Gentlemen, we've heard... as we do sometimes, we've heard about a lot of different topics. Some of which are in this piece of legislation, most of which are not. So let me just review what we're actually voting on today for those of you who are... want to keep score. What we are voting on today is whether or not you wish to fund the federal pass-through money for law enforcement in the State of Illinois. And the Motor Fuel Tax... or the... I want to get this right... the Traffic and Criminal Surcharge Fund money. This is non-GRF money that goes to provide training for local law enforcement agencies. What we are talking about here is the GRF money for the first four months of mental health to match those funds that are going in with Medicaid and provide services that Medicaid does not provide, such as Supportive Housing and the Psychiatric Leadership Grants. But most importantly, what this Bill does is it provides one year. One year of funding for \$82,500,000 in GRF for Early Intervention. Something everyone says they believe in. The Com... Comptroller says, apparently, that this is something she's going to prioritize and wants to send this money out right away. Evidently, she thinks she has the cash. So there's two ways to vote. You vote 'yes', that's the green button, in favor of Early Intervention and in favor of law enforcement. Or you vote anything else, and that's a 'no'. So Ladies and Gentlemen, I urge you to push the green button. Thank you."

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Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Gentleman's Motion on the Amendment will vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 54 voting 'yes' and 13 voting 'present'. And the Amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk."

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

Speaker Lang: "Third Reading. The Chair recognizes Representative Wallace."

Wallace: "Thank you. I rise for a point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

Wallace: "I simply want to say on this day, September 24, 2015, happy 60th birthday to my mother, Sandra Wallace, who couldn't be here today, but she's watching us live. So happy birthday, mom."

Speaker Lang: "Happy birthday, mom. Page 12 of the Calendar, under the Order of Resolutions, there appears House Joint Resolution 77, Mr. Smiddy. Out of the record. House Joint Resolution 88, David Harris. Out of the record. House Joint Resolution 92, Mr. DeLuca. Please proceed, Sir."

DeLuca: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen. Thomas Cellini was a lifelong resident of Chicago Heights. He was a strong member of the community, who in 1956 started an auto repair business. His small business became a corporation in 1960. And Thomas Cellini passed away on June 9, 2015, from Huntington's disease. Huntington's disease is a degenerative brain disease that destroys the motor skills of the victim. Cellini is survived by his wife, Barbara, 5 children, 15

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grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. And House Joint Resolution 92 designates a portion of East End Avenue between 26th Street and Sauk Trail in South Chicago Heights as the Honorary Thomas Cellini Way. And it requests that the Illinois Department of Transportation erect signs and plaques giving notice to the name of the Honorary Thomas Cellini Way. And I ask for its adoption."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Resolution will vote 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Please record yourselves. Mr. Clerk, please take the record. On this question, there are 76 voting 'yes', none voting 'no'. And the Resolution is adopted. House Resolution 659, Mr. Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan. Out of the record. House Resolution 679, Representative Williams. Representative Williams. Please proceed."

Williams: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill... this Resolution just acknowledges the Americans with Disabilities Awareness Day. And just to recognize the 25th anniversary, which is long past, but I think it's important to recognize, especially in terms of the current discussions, in terms of funding for those who need it most. So I'd ask for a supportive vote."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Resolution say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. House Resolution 687, Mr. Bradley. Please proceed."

Bradley: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is simply a request by Illinois Coal to allow more time to respond to the federal rules. It's simply asking for more time to respond to these

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rules, which have been formulated for the last six years, and would like more than 60 days to respond."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Resolution say 'yes'; opposed say 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. House Resolution 707, Mr. Riley. Please proceed."

Riley: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Bill... House Resolution, rather, 707 basically does this. Many of you remember, I had House Resolution 548 about a month or so ago that passed out of this House. The problem is this. I really need more consensus on the Bill. There were some members who were absent who were in committee when we had a large discussion about what this Resolution did and didn't, regarding a high-speed rail project. There was a little bit of confusion, you know, as to whether or not some of the issues that were brought up, and basically this was a bipartisan thing, there were issues that were brought up on both sides of the aisle that I addressed. One of the members was not present and there was some discussion as to whether I was going to make some changes to the Bill. I did not say I was going to do that. But what I wanted to do was to come and present a new Resolution with a few more new items that add some clarity to the Bill. And I think that, especially as I appear before the committee again, I told them what I was doing. That I was going to bring this Bill... bring this Resolution with the changes that were made. No one had any problems with it. But I'd just like to get more than 70-something votes on a Bill that I think would bring together economic development across this entire state. Looking into a high-speed rail project that would go, essentially, from O'Hare to the north, all the way down

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through East St. Louis on the south. And so, that's what this Bill basically does. It basically rescinds what was in 548, adds the necessary changes, and I'm asking for a full support on that Bill."

Speaker Lang: "Those in favor of the Resolution say 'yes'; opposed say 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. Members will rise. The Chair rec... recognizes Representative Barbara Wheeler."

Wheeler, B.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. District 64, or this whole Body, has had a pretty rough couple of weeks. District 64 lost another officer in the line of duty. A McHenry County Sheriff Deputy was shot in the line of action. He was going to a domestic violence call last October. He suffered an enormous physical pain, surgeries, had lots of ups and downs. It seemed like when he was taking 10... steps forward in his recovery, he took 20 steps back. It's been a rough couple of weeks. Unfortunately during rehab, the officer, Dwight Maness, died because of his injuries from October... last October, 2014. So I'd like to have a moment of silence for him and his family, and again for the District 64."

Speaker Lang: "Body will take a moment of silence. Thank you Members and Representative. And now, leaving perfunctory time for the Clerk, pursuant to House Joint Resolution 85, the House will adjourn 'til Tuesday, October 20 at the hour of 12 noon, or until the call of the Speaker."

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution 761, offered by Representative Acevedo is referred to the Rules Committee. Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House Bill

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4296, offered by Representative Verschoore, a Bill for an Act concerning transportation. House Bill 4297, offered by Representative McDermed, a Bill for an Act concerning education. House Bill 4298, offered by Representative Hoffman, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. House Bill 4299, offered by Representative Nekritz, a Bill for an Act concerning safety. House Bill 4300, offered by Representative Franks, a Bill for an Act concerning budget implementation. First Reading of these House Bills. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."