



FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

SENATE JOURNAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS

NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2ND LEGISLATIVE DAY

FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2007

10:40 O'CLOCK A.M.

NO. 2

[July 6, 2007]

SENATE
Daily Journal Index
2nd Legislative Day

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The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.
 Senator Debbie DeFrancesco Halvorson, Crete, Illinois, presiding.
 Prayer by Dr. Richard Ahlgrim, Berean Baptist Church, Springfield, Illinois.
 Senator Maloney led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Thursday, July 5, 2007, was being read when on motion of Senator Hunter, further reading of same was dispensed with, and unless some Senator had corrections to offer, the Journal would stand approved. No corrections being offered, the Journal was ordered to stand approved.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

A message from the House by
 Mr. Mahoney, Clerk:
 Mr. President -- I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has adopted the following resolution, to-wit:

HOUSE RESOLUTION 2

RESOLVED, that the Clerk inform the Senate that a majority of the House of Representatives has assembled, pursuant to the proclamation of the Governor, convening a First Special Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the transaction of business.

Adopted by the House, July 5, 2007.

MARK MAHONEY, Clerk of the House

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

Senator Harmon offered the following Senate Joint Resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Rules:

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1

WHEREAS, Article XIII, Section 5 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 requires the State to provide pension benefits to members of State-sponsored retirement systems; and

WHEREAS, The State of Illinois supports five retirement plans on behalf of State employees, university employees, teachers, judges, and members of the Illinois General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, It is the State's responsibility to provide adequate funding to support State pension liabilities so that future generations are not held responsible for current expenses; and

WHEREAS, Deferrals of the State's obligations to its annuitants contributed to an unfunded pension liability in State-sponsored systems of \$19 billion in 1995, which grew to \$43 billion in 2003, resulting in a funded ratio of 48% in 2003, the worst funded ratio of any of the fifty States and significantly under-funded in comparison to the national average of 91.1% among 101 public retirement systems, according to the 2003 Public Fund Survey conducted by the National Association of State Retirement Administrators; and

WHEREAS, Because of this crisis, unless changes are made, commitments to State employees will become a significant burden on future generations; and

WHEREAS, Annuitants of the State's benefit systems rely on the security provided by pension benefits to meet their daily necessities, including food, housing, and healthcare; and fairness requires that Illinois keep its obligations and commitments to those who have earned it and will work for it in the

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future; and

WHEREAS, Over the next three years, in order to meet the statutory funding formula, the State will be required to increase annual contributions to the pension systems and debt service on outstanding pension obligation bonds, reducing available State resources to fund growth in other core services provided by the State, such as education and health care, to less than \$200 million of natural revenue growth per year, representing less than one percent growth per year in these critical areas; and

WHEREAS, Further deferrals of the State's pension liabilities will force future generations to pay billions of dollars in additional interest on the unfunded liabilities of the State between fiscal years 2008 and 2045; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, that the State's pension funding system is in a state of crisis, and that the State will continue to unnecessarily pay billions in interest costs alone if the unfunded pension liability does not receive an immediate and significant infusion of funding, the General Assembly is in agreement that a solution to this crisis must be adopted prior to adjournment of 2007 Spring Session of the Ninety-Fifth General Assembly; this action is necessary to adequately secure existing pension obligations, reduce long-term interest costs on current obligations, more effectively manage State funding requirements, and ensure that future new revenues will not be consumed solely by escalating pension contributions.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

**OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

EMIL JONES, JR.
SENATE PRESIDENT

327 STATE CAPITOL
Springfield, Illinois 62706

July 6, 2007

Ms. Deborah Shipley
Secretary of the Senate
Room 403 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Madam Secretary:

Pursuant to Rule 3-2(c), I hereby appoint Senator Iris Martinez to temporarily replace Senator John Cullerton as a member of the Senate Revenue Committee. This appointment is effective immediately.

Sincerely,
s/Emil Jones, Jr.
Senate President

cc: Senate Minority Leader Frank Watson

**OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

EMIL JONES, JR.
SENATE PRESIDENT

327 STATE CAPITOL
Springfield, Illinois 62706

July 6, 2007

Ms. Deborah Shipley

[July 6, 2007]

Secretary of the Senate
Room 403 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Madam Secretary:

Pursuant to Rule 3-2(c), I hereby appoint Senator Debbie Halvorson to temporarily replace Senator Jeffrey Schoenberg as a member of the Senate Revenue Committee. This appointment is effective immediately.

Sincerely,
s/Emil Jones, Jr.
Senate President

cc: Senate Minority Leader Frank Watson

REPORT FROM RULES COMMITTEE

Senator Halvorson, Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, during its July 6, 2007 meeting, reported the following Senate Resolution has been assigned to the indicated Standing Committee of the Senate:

Revenue: **Senate Joint Resolution No. 1.**

POSTING NOTICE WAIVED

Senator Harmon moved to waive the six day posting requirement on **Senate Joint Resolution No. 1** so that the bill may be heard in the Committee on Revenue that is scheduled to meet July 6, 2007. The motion prevailed.

COMMITTEE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Senator Harmon, Chairperson of the Committee on Revenue, announced that the Revenue Committee will meet today in Room 400, at 1:00 o'clock p.m.

EXCUSED FROM ATTENDANCE

On motion of Senator Righter, Senator Murphy was excused from attendance due to business in his district, and Senators Cronin, Dillard and Radogno were excused from attendance due to family business.

Senator Link asked and obtained unanimous consent to recess for the purpose of a Democrat caucus.

Senator Righter asked and obtained unanimous consent to recess for the purpose of a Republican caucus.

At the hour of 10:53 o'clock a.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand at recess subject to the call of the Chair.

AFTER RECESS

At the hour of 2:36 o'clock a.m., the Senate resumed consideration of business.

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Senator Halvorson, presiding.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE FILED

The following Committee amendment to the Senate Resolution listed below has been filed with the Secretary and referred to the Committee on Rules:

Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Resolution

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEE

Senator Harmon, Chairperson of the Committee on Revenue, to which was referred **Senate Joint Resolution No. 1**, reported the same back with the recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Under the rules, **Senate Joint Resolution No. 1** was placed on the Secretary's Desk.

At the hour of 2:37 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand adjourned until Saturday, July 7, 2007, at 1:50 o'clock p.m.