



SENATE JOURNAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS

NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

70TH LEGISLATIVE DAY

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2007

10:06 O'CLOCK A.M.

SENATE
Daily Journal Index
70th Legislative Day

Action	Page(s)
Presentation of Senate Resolution No. 298.....	3
Presentation of Senate Resolution No. 299.....	4
Presentation of Senate Resolutions No'd. 294 - 297	3

Bill Number	Legislative Action	Page(s)
SR 0298	Committee on Rules	3
SR 0299	Committee on Rules	4

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.
Senator Rickey R. Hendon, Chicago, Illinois, presiding.
Prayer by Pastor Bob Armstrong, Living Water Church Interdenominational, Springfield, Illinois.
Senator Maloney led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Wednesday, July 18, 2007, was being read when on motion of Senator Crotty, 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.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 294

Offered by Senator Hultgren and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Thomas W. Saylor, Sr., of Winfield.

SENATE RESOLUTION 295

Offered by Senator Hultgren and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Robert M. Coombs of Winfield.

SENATE RESOLUTION 296

Offered by Senator Haine and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Calvin Neunaber of Bethalto.

SENATE RESOLUTION 297

Offered by Senator Dillard and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Elizabeth Jean “Betsy” Caprini of Clarendon Hills, formerly of Hinsdale.

By unanimous consent, the foregoing resolutions were referred to the Resolutions Consent Calendar.

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

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 298

WHEREAS, Postsecondary education is increasingly necessary for success in the modern workforce; and

WHEREAS, Affordability of college is an ongoing concern for students, families, and State policymakers; and

WHEREAS, The cost of textbooks is a substantial and escalating burden for students; and

WHEREAS, Other states have undertaken measures to curtail the rising expense of textbook purchases; and

WHEREAS, The Senate of the 94th General Assembly passed Senate Resolution 692, directing the Board of Higher Education to study the feasibility of textbook rental programs and other cost-saving measures to lower the cost of textbooks to students; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Higher Education conducted a comprehensive study, which included surveys of institutions of higher learning, private and campus bookstore owners and operators, publishers, faculty, and students; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Higher Education issued a report of its findings and a list of options for

[July 19, 2007]

reducing textbook costs that could be considered by the State, college and university campuses, faculty, bookstores, and publishers; and

WHEREAS, Many of the options identified in the Board of Higher Education's report were incorporated in a package of bills, Senate Bills 325, 326, and 327, that passed unanimously out of the Senate of the 95th General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bills 325, 326, and 327 have not received a hearing in the House of Representatives of the 95th General Assembly; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that each public university and community college shall undertake measures to reduce the cost of textbooks to students, based on, but not limited to, cost-saving measures contained in "A Report on the Feasibility of Textbook Rental Programs and Other Textbook Cost-Saving Alternatives in Illinois Public Higher Education", released in January 2007; and be it further

RESOLVED, That each campus may consider such measures as enhanced book buy-back programs, book swaps, reserves, and e-reserves of required textbooks, adherence to deadlines for adoption of textbooks, disclosure to faculty and students of relevant information for the purchase of required textbooks and course materials, and creation of textbook advisory committees to recommend policies concerning adoption of new editions and unbundling of textbooks and supplementary course materials and to assist faculty in adoption of least-cost materials when appropriate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That public universities and community colleges where the majority of students receive required textbooks and course materials through a textbook rental program are exempt from the directives of this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, That each public university shall report to the Board of Higher Education and each public community college shall report to the Illinois Community College Board on the cost saving measures they have implemented to reduce textbook expenses for students on or before March 1, 2008; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board shall jointly report to the chairpersons of the Senate Appropriations III committee, the Senate Higher Education committee, the House Appropriations-Higher Education committee, and the House Higher Education committee on or before April 1, 2008 on the findings and conclusions regarding campus efforts to reduce textbook costs to students, along with any recommendations for further action; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the chairperson of the Board of Higher Education, the chairperson of the Illinois Community College Board, and the president of each public university and community college in this State.

Senators Garrett and Millner offered the following Senate Resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Rules:

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 299

WHEREAS, Lake Michigan is a valuable fresh water resource for the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Pollution in Lake Michigan is a long-running problem for the citizens of the State who use the Lake as a primary source of drinking water; and

WHEREAS, The beaches of Lake Michigan provide a significant source of tourism income for the State of Illinois and other states bordering the Lake; and

WHEREAS, The British Petroleum oil refinery in Whiting, Indiana is planning an expansion that
[July 19, 2007]

would increase the refinery's discharges into the Lake significantly, including 54% more ammonia (for a total discharge of 1,584 pounds of ammonia per day) and 35% more sludge (for a total discharge of 4,925 pounds of sludge per day) on a daily basis, running contrary to years of efforts to clean up the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, Ammonia promotes algae blooms that can kill fish in the Lake and the sludge that will be discharged into the Lake by British Petroleum is full of concentrated heavy metals; and

WHEREAS, The increased discharge into the Lake runs counter to a provision of the federal Clean Water Act that prohibits any downgrade in water quality near a pollution source, such as the British Petroleum refinery; and

WHEREAS, Indiana State regulators are allowing British Petroleum to install equipment that mixes its toxic waste with clean lake water about 200 feet offshore, and actively diluting pollution in this way is banned in Lake Michigan under Indiana law; and

WHEREAS, The Indiana Department of Environmental Management granted British Petroleum the first-ever exemption to allow the pollution "mixing zone" in Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Environmental regulators remain unsure about the ecological effects of the relatively new refining process that British Petroleum plans to use and the increased discharge into Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, State and federal environmental regulators have agreed that there is not enough room at the British Petroleum site to upgrade the refinery's water treatment plant; and

WHEREAS, The United States Environmental Protection Agency has not objected to the State of Indiana's decision to allow the increased discharge by British Petroleum; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we strongly urge the United States Environmental Protection Agency to follow a strict interpretation of the federal Clean Water Act to minimize any additional pollution into Lake Michigan; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge the United States Environmental Protection Agency to prohibit the Whiting, Indiana British Petroleum refinery from increasing the refinery's current discharges of ammonia and sludge into Lake Michigan until the ecological and environmental impact of the increased discharges is fully understood by federal and state environmental regulators; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge the United States Environmental Protection Agency to require more investigation into the possibility of expanding the British Petroleum refinery's water treatment plant before allowing the refinery to proceed with current plans for increased pollution discharge into Lake Michigan; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois delegation to the United States Congress to take legislative action against any planned increase in the discharge of pollution into Lake Michigan that is contrary to the federal Clean Water Act and threatens the health of the environment of this State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be delivered to each member of the Illinois delegation to the United States Congress, to the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Stephen L. Johnson, and to the Great Lakes National Program Manager for the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Mary A. Gade.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

A message from the House by
Mr. Mahoney, Clerk:

[July 19, 2007]

Mr. President -- I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has adopted the following joint resolution, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to-wit:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 69

WHEREAS, Postsecondary education is essential in the modern economy; and

WHEREAS, The demographics of Illinois' population are changing dramatically and rapidly; and

WHEREAS, The demands of employers in every sector of the economy require ever-higher levels of educational attainment; and

WHEREAS, The National Conference of State Legislatures issued a Blue Ribbon Commission report, "Transforming Higher Education - National Imperative, State Responsibility", in October 2006, calling for the development of a state higher education agenda; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Higher Education has the statutory responsibility for higher education master planning; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Board of Higher Education undertake a master plan for Illinois higher education through the creation of a Task Force on Higher Education and the Economy to study the challenges and opportunities facing higher education, the State's workforce needs, demographic trends, and higher education funding and student financial aid; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the Board of Higher Education and be composed of 4 members of the General Assembly, one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, one appointed by the President of the Senate, and one appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and 20 members appointed by the Governor, from nominees recommended by the Board of Higher Education, as follows:

- (1) a president or senior administrator of a public university;
- (2) a trustee of a community college;
- (3) a president or senior administrator of a community college;
- (4) a representative of the independent, not-for-profit education sector;
- (5) 3 business leaders from statewide business associations, an Illinois-based corporation, or the Illinois Workforce Investment Board;
- (6) a leader of a civic or nonprofit organization or foundation;
- (7) a leader of the healthcare industry;
- (8) an expert in student financial aid;
- (9) a school district superintendent;
- (10) a labor leader representing a statewide labor organization;
- (11) 2 faculty members or academic professionals from community colleges;
- (12) 2 faculty members or academic professionals from public universities;
- (13) one faculty member nominated by the Faculty Advisory Council to the Board of Higher Education;
- (14) one student nominated by the Student Advisory Committee to the Board of Higher Education;
- (15) one nationally recognized leader in higher education policy; and
- (16) a representative of the proprietary education sector; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the master plan shall do the following:

- (1) define the public needs for higher education, through collection and analysis of data about the State's (i) social conditions, including age, race and ethnicity, family structure, family income, regional differences, educational attainment, population migration, and health characteristics; (ii) economic conditions, including industry mix, importing and exporting, economic strengths, effects

[July 19, 2007]

of globalization, State gross domestic product, tax collections, new business starts, regional differences, personal income, and healthcare quality and availability; and (iii) educational conditions, including governance and coordination, finance, achievement gaps, student pipeline issues, healthcare and professional education, institutional focus, and regional differences;

(2) review existing policies to determine how the Illinois higher education system operates and meets the public needs of this State in such areas as (i) preparation for the workplace and college, including kindergarten through grade 12 student development, teacher and school leader preparation, dual enrollment, curriculum alignment between kindergarten through grade 12 schools and higher education, use of placement examinations, high school graduation standards, and college entrance requirements, the need for remedial coursework in colleges and universities, adult education and adult literacy, mechanisms for feedback on student and graduate performance, data systems, efficiency and productivity, marketing, and financial implications; (ii) postsecondary participation, including institutional and sector capacity, underrepresented groups, distance education, off-campus degree completion opportunities, dual enrollment, counseling, advising, and other student services, adult education, healthcare, graduate and professional training, certificate and workforce training, data systems, efficiency, and productivity, marketing, and financial implications; (iii) affordability, including adequacy of campus funding, tuition and fee policies, financial aid programs and policies (including need-based aid, merit-based aid, institutional aid, waiver programs, savings programs, loan programs, healthcare, and graduate professional training), the relationship between public funding, tuition and fees, and financial aid, data systems, and efficiency and productivity, (iv) degree completion, including counseling, advising, childcare, and other student services, underrepresented groups, off-campus degree completion, transfer agreements, the Illinois Articulation Initiative, the Course Applicability System, stop-out and dropout intervention, student goals less than a degree, and data systems, efficiency, and productivity, (v) research and economic development, focusing on critical workforce needs, workforce development, adult education and retraining, research and development, applied research activities, technology transfer, retention of graduates, health care provision and training, regional cultural resources, data systems, efficiency, and productivity, and financial implications; and (vi) learning, including student assessment, use of placement exams, achievement gaps, remediation, and student performance feedback systems; and

(3) provide recommendations for statewide goals for higher education, sector and institutional roles and responsibilities, accountability measures, coordination strategies, and a schedule for implementation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Higher Education may draw on the expertise and research of national educational consultants and State institutional policy centers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the House and Senate higher education and higher education appropriation committees may hold hearings to explore such issues as college preparation, degree persistence and completion, affordability, the needs of nontraditional students, the effect of demographic trends on enrollments, student services, and degree completion, finance and student aid, deferred maintenance and capital needs, and other topics as determined by these committees; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Higher Education shall present a preliminary report to the Task Force on its findings and conclusions based on the collection and review of data, its audit of existing policies, and public hearings; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Higher Education shall provide quarterly progress reports to the Governor, legislative leaders, the House and Senate Higher Education Committees, the House Appropriations - Higher Education Committee, and the Senate Appropriations III Committee, with the first report to be completed within 3 months after the appointment of the Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall establish a public comment period and mechanisms, including public hearings and a web-based outlet for written testimony, to gather evidence and viewpoints of the public, institutional administrators, students and families, faculty, employers, local civic and educational leaders, and other interested parties and stakeholders regarding the preliminary report; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall create a master plan and public agenda for higher education that shall consider, but not be limited to, all of the following:

[July 19, 2007]

- (1) demographics of the State's population;
- (2) the State's economic and educational conditions;
- (3) educational attainment levels and needs of the State's residents;
- (4) integration of prekindergarten through grade 12 schools and postsecondary education in goals, outcomes, and data collection;
- (5) student pipeline issues, including college readiness, articulation to college, and postsecondary retention, transfer, and graduation rates;
- (6) adult learners;
- (7) workforce readiness;
- (8) college affordability and trends in higher education financing, financial aid, and student debt and alternatives to maximize efficient use of resources;
- (9) capital needs and deferred maintenance at public colleges and universities;
- (10) future academic and financial pressures for public higher education, including retention of faculty and staff;
- (11) innovation in approaches to teaching and learning;
- (12) the role of higher education in the global competitiveness of the State;
- (13) the value of academic research;
- (14) partnerships involving prekindergarten through grade 12 schools, higher education, and business; and
- (15) productivity and accountability; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report to the General Assembly and the Governor on or before August 15, 2008 with a master plan and public agenda for Illinois higher education that includes each of the following:

- (1) goals for academic preparation, participation in postsecondary education, affordability, degree completion, research and economic development, and learning;
- (2) responsibilities for educational sectors and financial implications;
- (3) accountability measures;
- (4) coordination; and
- (5) timelines and responsibilities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the Governor, the Chairperson of the Board of Higher Education, the Chairperson of the Illinois Community College Board, the Chairperson of the State Board of Education, the Chairperson of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, and the President of each public college and university in this State.

Adopted by the House, June 20, 2007.

MARK MAHONEY, Clerk of the House

The foregoing message from the House of Representatives reporting House Joint Resolution No. 69 was referred to the Committee on Rules.

At the hour of 10:11 o'clock a.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand adjourned until Friday, July 20, 2007, at 10:00 o'clock a.m.