



**TWENTY-THIRD SPECIAL SESSION**

**SENATE JOURNAL**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**

**NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**1ST LEGISLATIVE DAY**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2008**

**3:19 O'CLOCK P.M.**

**SENATE  
Daily Journal Index  
1st Legislative Day**

| <b>Action</b>                                      | <b>Page(s)</b> |
|--|----------------|
| Message from the Secretary of State .....          | 3              |
| Presentation of Senate Resolutions No'd. 1-3 ..... | 4              |
| Proclamation of Governor .....                     | 3              |

| <b>Bill Number</b> | <b>Legislative Action</b> | <b>Page(s)</b> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| SR 0001            | Adopted .....             | 4              |
| SR 0002            | Adopted .....             | 4              |
| SR 0003            | Adopted .....             | 4              |

The Senate met pursuant to a proclamation from the Governor to convene Special Session. Honorable Emil Jones, Jr., President of the Senate, presiding. Prayer by Pastor Michael Keppler, Springfield Southern Baptist Church, Springfield, Illinois. Senator Maloney led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

August 6, 2008

Honorable Deborah Shipley  
Secretary of the Senate  
Room 401  
State Capitol Building  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Secretary Shipley:

Enclosed please find copies of Proclamation No. 2008-314 and 2008-315, filed in my office on August 5, 2008, by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich, calling for a Special Session of the 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, to begin at 3:00 p.m. on August 12, 2008 and 5:00 p.m. August 13, 2008.

A notice and accompanying Proclamations have been mailed today to each Member's office.

Sincerely,  
s/Jesse White  
Secretary of State

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, in the past six years, the State of Illinois has made the largest investment under any administration in Illinois history in elementary and secondary education, investing approximately \$8.4 billion in new money for elementary and secondary schools;

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2009 budget contains an increase of \$360 million in education funding over the last fiscal year, including a \$32.5 million increase to expand early childhood education;

WHEREAS, since 2003, the State has increased the foundation level from \$4,560 to \$5,959 per student;

WHEREAS, despite these measures, there still exists vast inequities among school districts in the amount of per-pupil spending provided, with a disparity of more than \$17,879 in per-pupil operational spending between the highest and lowest spending elementary school districts in Illinois, \$14,005 in per-pupil operational spending between the highest and lowest spending high school districts in Illinois, and \$18,240 in per-pupil operational spending between the highest and lowest spending unit school districts in Illinois;

WHEREAS, these inequities are, in part, due to a reliance on property tax revenues as the primary source of school funding;

WHEREAS, these inequities require that alternatives to the State's reliance on property tax revenues as the primary source of school funding be considered;

[August 12, 2008]

WHEREAS, various proposals have been introduced through the years to alter the manner in which school districts receive funding in order to alleviate these inequities and ensure that every child in every school district receives the same high quality education;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that all necessary measures are taken to promote equity and equality in the State's education system; and

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 (b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby call and convene the 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, in duly constituted quorums capable of conducting business, in a special session to commence on August 12, 2008, at 3:00 p.m., to consider measures aimed at increasing school funding, improving the school funding structure, and eliminating any current inequities.

s/Rod R. Blagojevich  
Governor

Dated: August 5, 2008

**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS**

Senator Martinez offered the following Senate Resolution and, having asked and obtained unanimous consent to suspend the rules for its immediate consideration, moved its adoption:

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1**

**RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE TWENTY-THIRD SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF**, that the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a majority of the members of the Senate has assembled, pursuant to the proclamation of the Governor, convening a Twenty-Third Special Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the transaction of business.

The motion prevailed.  
And the resolution was adopted.

Senator Martinez offered the following Senate Resolution and, having asked and obtained unanimous consent to suspend the rules for its immediate consideration, moved its adoption:

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 2**

**RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE TWENTY-THIRD SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF**, that the President appoint a committee of five to wait upon his Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that the Twenty-Third Special Session of the Ninety-Fifth General Assembly is now duly in session in pursuance of his proclamation, and is ready to receive any message he may desire to submit.

The motion prevailed.  
And the resolution was adopted.

Senator Martinez offered the following Senate Resolution and, having asked and obtained unanimous consent to suspend the rules for its immediate consideration, moved its adoption:

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3**

**RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE TWENTY-THIRD SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF**, that a Committee of three (3) members of the Senate be appointed, two (2) members to be appointed by the

[August 12, 2008]

President and one (1) member to be appointed by the Minority Leader, to approve any and all Journals of the Senate for all days of the Twenty-Third Special Session of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly where such Journals, prior to adjournment SINE DIE, have not been approved by the body as a whole.

The motion prevailed.  
And the resolution was adopted.

At the hour of 3:30 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand at recess subject to the call of the Chair.

**AFTER RECESS**

At the hour of 5:43 o'clock p.m., the Senate resumed consideration of business.  
Senator Martinez, presiding.

At the hour of 5:44 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand adjourned until Wednesday, August 13, 2008, at 5:01 o'clock p.m.