



TWENTY-FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION

SENATE JOURNAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS

NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1ST LEGISLATIVE DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008

1:05 O'CLOCK P.M.

SENATE
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The Senate met pursuant to a proclamation from the Governor to convene Special Session.
Senator James A. DeLeo, presiding.
Prayer by Pastor Jeff Smith, Modesto Christian Church, Modesto, 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

September 18, 2008

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

Dear Secretary Shipley:

Enclosed please find a copies of Proclamation No. 2008-366, filed in my office on September 22, 2008, by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich, calling for a Special Session of the 95th General Assembly, to begin at 1:00 p.m. on September 22, 2008.

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

Sincerely,
s/Jesse White
Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Illinois deserve to have full faith and trust in the integrity of governmental decision-making and the process by which taxpayer dollars are spent; and

WHEREAS, I am committed to enhancing public trust in government by promoting high ethical standards in the procurement process and other areas of State government, and by supporting strong measures to enforce those standards; and

WHEREAS, I have signed an Executive Order that implements enhanced ethical standards in the State procurement process as applied to all State agencies under my jurisdiction and control; and

WHEREAS, to ensure full transparency in government and its decision making, it is imperative that all State elected officials adhere to the same high standards in ethics, and avoid transactions that may appear to compromise the independence of governmental decisions; and

WHEREAS, political contributions by State contractors to State elected officials or to political organizations that make expenditures on behalf of such officers contribute to public cynicism regarding the integrity of the government procurement process; and

WHEREAS, the potential for conflicts of interest created by dual governmental employment jeopardizes public trust in government; and

WHEREAS, to promote transparency, it is crucial that those State elected officials who lobby or appear before a governmental entity on behalf of clients, for economic gain, be required to disclose such information; and

WHEREAS, to ensure accountability, it is important that all increases in pay, whether for members of the executive or legislative branch, be subject to the affirmative approval of the General Assembly; and

[September 22, 2008]

WHEREAS, I have proposed recommendations to House Bill 824 to enhance ethical standards by uniformly applying restrictions to political contributions by State contractors to all State elected officials who play a role in the procurement process, enhancing lobbying disclosures, prohibiting dual public employment, and requiring an affirmative vote for executive and legislative pay raises; and

WHEREAS, these measures are intended to and will increase transparency, accountability, and public confidence in government; and

WHEREAS, given the significance of ethics in government, it imperative that the General Assembly promptly engage in debate and discussion aimed at implementing comprehensive ethics reform in the State of Illinois.

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 (b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby call and convene the 95th General Assembly, in duly constituted quorums capable of conducting business, in a special session to commence on September 22, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., to consider measures aimed at formulating and implementing comprehensive ethics reform.

s/ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

Dated: September 18, 2008

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Senator Clayborne 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-FIFTH 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-Fifth Special Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the transaction of business.

The motion prevailed.
And the resolution was adopted.

Senator Clayborne 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-FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF, that the President appoint a committee of five to wait upon his Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that the Twenty-Fifth 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 Clayborne 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

[September 22, 2008]

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE TWENTY-FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF, that a Committee of three (3) members of the Senate be appointed, two (2) members to be appointed by the 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-Fifth 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 1:15 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 4:49 o'clock p.m., the Senate resumed consideration of business.
Senator DeLeo, presiding.

At the hour of 4:49 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand adjourned until Tuesday, September 23, 2008, at 10:01 o'clock a.m.