



SENATE JOURNAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS

NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

126TH LEGISLATIVE DAY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2008

12:35 O'CLOCK P.M.

SENATE
Daily Journal Index
126th Legislative Day

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The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.
 Senator Iris Y. Martinez, Chicago, Illinois, presiding.

The Journal of Thursday, January 17, 2008, 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.

The Journal of Wednesday, January 23, 2008, 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.

The Journal of Wednesday, January 30, 2008, 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.

The Journal of Wednesday, February 6, 2008, 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.

The Journal of Thursday, February 7, 2008, 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.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES FILED

The following Committee amendments to the Senate Bills listed below have been filed with the Secretary and referred to the Committee on Rules:

Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 1864
 Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 1867
 Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 1908

The following Committee amendments to the Senate Resolutions listed below have been filed with the Secretary and referred to the Committee on Rules:

Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Joint Resolution 65
 Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Resolution 310

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

Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 1702

COMMUNICATION FROM MINORITY LEADER

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE
 FRANK C. WATSON
 STATE SENATOR
 51ST SENATE DISTRICT

February 8, 2008

Ms. Deborah Shipley
 Secretary of the Senate

[February 13, 2008]

403 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Madam Secretary:

Pursuant to Rule 3-5(b) and (c), I hereby appoint Senator Dale Righter to resume his position as a member of the Senate Rules Committee. This appointment is effective immediately.

Sincerely,
s/Frank Watson
Senate Republican Leader

cc: Senate President Emil Jones
Senator Dale Righter
Assistant Secretary of the Senate Scott Kaiser

COMMUNICATION

**ILLINOIS STATE SENATE
CAROL RONEN
SENATOR**

February 7, 2008

Hon. Rod Blagojevich
Governor
207 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Hon Langdon Neal, Chairman
Chicago Board of Election
Commissioners, Suite 800
69 West Washington
Chicago, IL 60602

Hon. Eugene C. Schuller
47th Ward Democratic Committeeman
4237 N. Lincoln
Chicago, IL 60618

Hon. Albert Porter
Illinois State Board of Elections
100 W. Randolph Street
Suite 14-100
Chicago, IL 60601

Hon. Deborah Shipley
Secretary of the Senate
403 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Hon. Carol Ronen
48th Ward Democratic Committeeman
5539 N. Broadway
Chicago, IL 60640

Hon. Jesse White
Secretary of State
213 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Hon. Patrick J. O'Connor
40th Ward Democratic Committeeman
5850 N. Lincoln
Chicago, IL 60659

Hon. David Fagus
49th Ward Democratic Committeeman
P.O. Box 268261
Chicago, IL 60626

Hon. Emil Jones, Jr.
Senate President
327 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Hon. Tom Sharpe
46th Ward Democratic Committeeman
4250 N. Marine Drive, Suite 2314
Chicago, IL 60613

Hon. Bernard L. Stone
50th Ward Democratic Committeeman
6199 N. Lincoln, 2d Floor
Chicago, IL 60659

Dear Sirs:

Pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/25-2(2), I hereby tender my unconditional resignation as State Senator from the 7th Legislative District of Illinois, effective February 10, 2008.

Sincerely,
s/Carol Ronen

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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

February 13, 2008

[February 13, 2008]

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

Dear Ms. Shipley:

This office is forwarding herewith copies of the Notice of Vacancy from the Democratic Legislative Committee of the 7th Legislative District declaring the existence of a vacancy in the Office of Senator in the Ninety-Fifth General Assembly in the 7th Legislative District, as a result of the resignation of **Senator Carol Ronen**, effective February 10, 2008.

Also enclosed is the copy of the Legislative Committee's Certificate of Appointment for **Heather Steans, 5348 N. Lakewood, Chicago, Illinois 60640** who was appointed to fill the vacancy in the Office of Senator, in the 95th General Assembly for the 7th Legislative District, along with her Oath of Office.

Yours truly,
s/Jesse White
Secretary of State

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

NOTICE

Changes in the **Ninety-Fifth** General Assembly

SENATE

Appointment

Heather Steans
5348 N. Lakewood
Chicago, Illinois 60640
Appointed: February 10, 2008
Filed: February 11, 2008

Vacancy

Carol Ronen
7th Legislative District
Resigned: February 10, 2008
Filed: February 11, 2008

cc: Communications Department
House Speaker Madigan
House Minority Leader Cross
Legal Department
Legislative Affairs
Office of the Governor
Secretary of State
Senate President Jones
Senate Minority Leader Watson
State Board of Elections

Ms. Jackie Price
Director, index Division
Office of the Secretary of State
111 East Monroe Street
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Director Price:

[February 13, 2008]

Please be advised that the Democratic Legislative Committee for the 7th Legislative District met on January 7, 2008 and declared that a vacancy exists in the office of Senator in the 95th General Assembly for the 7th Legislative District of the State of Illinois as a result of the resignation of Carol Ronen.

You are hereby notified of the vacancy in the office of Senator in the General Assembly for the 7th Legislative District of the State of Illinois as a result of the resignation of Carol Ronen.

Dated: February 10, 2008

s/Patrick O'Connor/CR
Committeeman Patrick O'Connor

s/Thomas Sharpe
Committeeman Tom Sharpe

s/ Eugene Schulner/CR
Committee Eugene Schulner

s/ Carol Ronen
Committeewoman Carol Ronen

s/David Fagus
Committeeman David Fagus

Committeeman Bernard Stone

**CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT TO FILL VACANCY IN
THE OFFICE OF SENATOR IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

WHEREAS, a vacancy currently exists in the office of Senator in the General Assembly for the 7th Legislative District by reason of the resignation of Carol Ronen, who was duly elected Senator from the 7th Legislative District, as a candidate of the Democratic Party, in the General Election held on November 7, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Committee of the Democratic Party of the 7th Legislative District has declared the existence of the vacancy in said office and has voted to fill the vacancy in said office as required by Section 25-6 of the Election Code; and

WHEREAS, Carol Ronen received a total number of 38,353 votes at the general election held on November 7, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the total number of vote necessary to appoint a successor to fill the vacancy in the office of Senator in the General Assembly from the 7th Legislative District is 19,177; and

WHEREAS, Heather Steans, who resides at 5348 N. Lakewood, Chicago, Illinois, 60640, received a total of 38,353 votes to fill the vacancy of said office; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Legislative Committee of the Democratic Party of the 7th Legislative District of the State of Illinois hereby appoints Heather Steans, a member of the Democratic Party, to the office of Senator in the General Assembly from the 7th Legislative District of Illinois.

Dated: January 7, 2008

s/Patrick O'Connor/CR
Committeeman Patrick O'Connor 7,046 votes
votes

s/ Tom Sharpe
Committeeman Tom Sharpe 6,826

s/Eugene Schulner/CR
Committeeman Eugene Schulner 6,047 votes
votes

s/Carol Ronen
Committeewoman Carol Ronen 12,651

s/David Fagus
Committeeman David Fagus 5,783 votes

Committeeman Bernard Stone 0 votes

January 7, 2008

[February 13, 2008]

Ms. Jackie Price
Director, Index Division
Office of the Secretary of State
111 East Monroe Street
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Director Price:

Pursuant to Section 25-6 of the Illinois Election Code, please be advised that the attached is a duly executed Certificate of Appointment to fill the vacancy in the office of Senator in the 7th Legislative District for the 95th General Assembly which certifies the appointment of Heather Steans, who resides at 5348 N. Lakewood, Chicago, IL 60640, to fill the vacancy in the office of Senator in the 95th General Assembly for the 7th Legislative District by the resignation of Senator Carol Ronen.

s/David Fagus
Chairman
Democratic Legislative Committee
7th Legislative District

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF COOK**

OATH OF OFFICE

I, Heather Steans, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Senator in the 95th General Assembly for the 7th Legislative District of the State of Illinois to the best of my ability.

s/Heather A. Steans

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10 day of February, 2008.

s/Kim Antes
Notary Public IL State

February 8, 2008

Dear Committeeman Ronen:

Please accept this correspondence as my proxy for any and all votes which might be taken, procedural and substantive, with regard to filling the vacancy in the Senatorial seat which you are vacating.

Very truly yours,
s/Patrick J. O'Connor
Alderman/Committeeman
40th Ward

February 8, 2008

Cook County Democratic Party

To Whom It May Concern,

[February 13, 2008]

I give my proxy to Committeeman Carol Ronen to vote for the placement of Heather Steans as the State Senator of the 7th Legislative District of Illinois effective immediately.

Sincerely,
s/Gene Schulter
Committeeman, 47th Ward

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EMIL JONES, JR.
SENATE PRESIDENT

327 STATE CAPITOL
Springfield, Illinois 62706

February 13, 2008

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

Dear Madam Secretary:

Please be advised that I have appointed Senator Heather Steans to the following Senate Standing Committees, to be effective immediately:

Human Services
Insurance
Local Government

Very truly yours,
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

February 13, 2008

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

Dear Madam Secretary:

Pursuant to Rule 3-5(c), I hereby appoint Senator Donne Trotter to replace Senator Rickey Hendon as a member of the Rules Committee. This appointment is effective immediately.

Very truly yours,
s/Emil Jones, Jr.

[February 13, 2008]

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

February 13, 2008

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 Gary Forby to replace Senator Martin Sandoval as a member of the Appropriations I Committee. This appointment is effective immediately.

Very truly yours,
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

February 13, 2008

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 Donne Trotter to replace Senator Rickey Hendon and Senator Kwame Raoul to replace Senator Ira Silverstein as members of the Executive Committee. These appointments are effective immediately.

Very truly yours,
s/Emil Jones, Jr.
Senate President

cc: Senate Minority Leader Frank Watson

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

[February 13, 2008]

EMIL JONES, JR.
SENATE PRESIDENT

327 STATE CAPITOL
Springfield, Illinois 62706

February 13, 2008

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 replace Senator Martin Sandoval as a member of the Local Government Committee. This appointment is effective immediately.

Very truly yours,
s/Emil Jones, Jr.
Senate President

cc: Senate Minority Leader Frank Watson

REPORTS FROM RULES COMMITTEE

Senator Halvorson, Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, during its February 13, 2008 meeting, reported the following Legislative Measures have been assigned to the indicated Standing Committees of the Senate:

Higher Education: **Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 1908.**

Human Services: **Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 1864.**

Pensions and Investments: **Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 1702.**

State Government and Veterans Affairs: **Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 1867.**

Senator Halvorson, Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, reported that the Committee recommends that **Senate Joint Resolution No. 65** be re-referred from the Committee on State Government and Veterans Affairs to the Committee on Rules.

Senator Halvorson, Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, reported that the following Legislative Measure has been approved for consideration:

SJR 65

The foregoing resolution was placed on the Secretary's Desk.

COMMITTEE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator Maloney, Chairperson of the Committee on Higher Education, announced that the Higher Education Committee will meet Thursday, February 14, 2008 in Room 409, at 10:30 o'clock a.m.

Senator Demuzio, Chairperson of the Committee on State Government and Veterans Affairs, announced that the State Government and Veterans Affairs Committee will meet Thursday, February 14, 2008 in Room 409, at 9:30 o'clock a.m.

[February 13, 2008]

Senator Halvorson, Chairperson of the Committee on Executive, announced that the Executive Committee will meet Thursday, February 14, 2008 in Room 212, at 9:30 o'clock a.m.

Senator Schoenberg, Chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations II, announced that the Appropriations II Committee will meet today in Room 212, at 3:00 o'clock p.m.

Senator Sullivan, Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture and Conservation, announced that the Agriculture and Conservation Committee will meet Thursday, February 14, 2008 in Room 409, at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Senator Harmon, Chairperson of the Committee on Judiciary Civil Law, announced that the Judiciary Civil Law Committee will meet today in Room 212, at 1:30 o'clock p.m.

Senator Trotter, Chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations I, announced that the Appropriations I Committee will meet today in Room 212, at 4:00 o'clock p.m.

Senator Crotty, Chairperson of the Committee on Local Government, announced that the Local Government Committee will meet today in Room 409, at 1:30 o'clock p.m.

Senator Crotty, Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Human Services, announced that the Human Services Committee will meet Thursday, February 14, 2008 in Room 400, at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Senator Raoul, Chairperson of the Committee on Pensions and Investments, announced that the Pensions and Investments Committee will meet Thursday, February 14, 2008 in Room 400, at 4:00 o'clock p.m.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 509

Offered by Senator Haine and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Nadia Johnson Barnerd Miller of Godfrey.

SENATE RESOLUTION 510

Offered by Senator Hunter and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Michael Seaton of Chicago.

SENATE RESOLUTION 511

Offered by Senator Haine and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Helene J. Hernandez of Alton.

SENATE RESOLUTION 512

Offered by Senator Hunter and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Arnette Harmon Moseberry of Chicago.

SENATE RESOLUTION 513

Offered by Senator Link and all Senators:
Mourns the death of former Chicago Bears Coach Jim Dooley of Lake Forest.

SENATE RESOLUTION 514

Offered by Senator Link and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Robert Michael Buhai of Highland Park.

SENATE RESOLUTION 515

Offered by Senator Haine and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Ernest A. Tosovsky, Jr., of Edwardsville.

SENATE RESOLUTION 516

Offered by Senator Haine and all Senators:

[February 13, 2008]

Mourns the death of the Reverend John Franklin Simpson, Jr., of Moro.

SENATE RESOLUTION 517

Offered by Senator Schoenberg and all Senators:

Mourns the death of John Barry McRaith of Lincolnwood.

SENATE RESOLUTION 518

Offered by Senator Collins and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Beverly Hynes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 519

Offered by Senator Collins and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Mamie Ruth Chapman.

SENATE RESOLUTION 520

Offered by Senator Lightford and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Jacqueline Hendry.

SENATE RESOLUTION 521

Offered by Senators Demuzio - Bomke and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Joyce Lee Sowerby of Thayer.

SENATE RESOLUTION 522

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Bruce Frederick Newton of Aurora.

SENATE RESOLUTION 523

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Wesley Brazas.

SENATE RESOLUTION 524

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Melvin E. "Mel" Dunn of Marco Island, Florida, formerly of Geneva.

SENATE RESOLUTION 525

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Dr. John E. Berthoud.

SENATE RESOLUTION 526

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Earl E. Paul, Sr., of Aurora.

SENATE RESOLUTION 527

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Frank Whiting, Jr.

SENATE RESOLUTION 528

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Robert Tuttle.

SENATE RESOLUTION 529

Offered by Senator Haine and all Senators:

Mourns the death of James. T. Costello of Granite City.

SENATE RESOLUTION 530

Offered by Senators Pankau – Watson and all Senators:

Mourns the death of Albert Lee "Bert" Daniels of Bridgman, Michigan, formerly of Elmhurst.

SENATE RESOLUTION 531

[February 13, 2008]

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Betty Gorndt Cameron.

SENATE RESOLUTION 532

Offered by Senator Lauzen and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Carla Marquita (Harvey) Gomez of Elgin.

SENATE RESOLUTION 533

Offered by Senator Dillard and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Dick Pierce of Lisle.

SENATE RESOLUTION 534

Offered by Senator Dillard and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Dr. Ben C. Turski of Naperville.

SENATE RESOLUTION 535

Offered by Senator Dillard and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Madonna Wallace Weldon.

SENATE RESOLUTION 536

Offered by Senator Wilhelmi and all Senators:
Mourns the death of George A. Hartley of Orland Park.

SENATE RESOLUTION 537

Offered by Senator Wilhelmi and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Carol L. (nee Kuzma) Allen of Joliet.

SENATE RESOLUTION 538

Offered by Senator E. Jones and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Dr. Gwindelle Wilson Ponder of Chicago.

SENATE RESOLUTION 539

Offered by Senator Bomke and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Lillie Mae "Li" Kruger of Chatham.

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

Senator Righter announced a Republican caucus to begin immediately upon adjournment.

At the hour of 1:01 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand adjourned until Thursday, February 14, 2008, at 11:00 o'clock a.m.