

STATE OF ILLINOIS
101st GENERAL ASSEMBLY
REGULAR SESSION
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

1st Legislative Day

1/9/2019

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GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Will the Members and our guests please be seated? Before we begin our formal ceremony this morning, I would like to take a moment personally, first, to welcome the new Senators who are first joining the Senate today. God bless you. Thank you for choosing public service. Welcome to your State Capitol. Thank you. Godspeed to you. And congratulations on being selected by the citizens of your district to represent them here in Springfield. To all of you, all the Senators here today and your family members, thank you for your service to the people of Illinois. God bless you and may you have a very successful one hundred and first gathering of this august Body. God bless you and thank you. With that, Article IV, Section 6 of the Constitution of the State of Illinois reads in part as follows: On the first day of the January Session of the General Assembly in odd-numbered years, the Governor shall convene the Senate to elect from the membership a President of the Senate as presiding officer. Credentialed representatives of the media have requested permission to record the proceedings. Hearing no objection, leave is granted. The following are appointed to the Committee of Escort for the members of the Judiciary: Senators Bennett, Sims, Gillespie, McClure, and DeWitte. Will the Committee of Escort please report to the front of the Chamber to escort the distinguished members of the Judiciary into the Chamber? Will the Members and our guests please rise? The invocation will be offered by Father Clete Kiley, Special Assistant to Cardinal Cupich, Archdiocese of Chicago. Father Kiley.

FATHER CLETE KILEY:

(Invocation by Father Clete Kiley)

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GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Will the Members and our guests please remain standing for the Presentation of the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance? The Colors will be presented by the Color Guard of Lincoln's Challenge Academy from Rantoul. Permission to post the Colors is granted. Senator Cunningham will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Cunningham)

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Please remain standing for our National Anthem, which will be sung by Chel Sgro.

CHEL SGRO:

("The Star-Spangled Banner", sung by Chel Sgro)

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

The Color Guard is now dismissed. Please be seated. I hereby appoint the following persons as temporary Senate Officers of the 101st General Assembly: Scott Kaiser, Secretary of the Senate, and Joe Dominguez, Sergeant-at-Arms. The Secretary will now read the Letter of Certification from the State Board of Elections of Senate Members elected on November 6th, 2018, to the 101st General Assembly. Mr. Secretary, please read the letter.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Have a letter dated December 3rd, 2018.

Dear Mr. Secretary - Enclosed is a list of individuals who have been elected to serve as Members of the State Senate in the General Assembly and have been duly certified by the State Board of Elections at their Board meeting on December 3rd, 2018.

Respectfully, Brent Davis, Director of Election Operations.

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The following Members are newly elected Senators: District 2, Omar Aquino, Chicago, four-year term; District 3, Mattie Hunter, Chicago, four-year term; District 5, Patricia Van Pelt, Chicago, four-year term; District 6, John J. Cullerton, of Chicago, four-year term; District 8, Ram Villivalam, Chicago, four-year term; District 9, Laura Fine, Glenview, four-year term; District 11, Martin A. Sandoval, Chicago, four-year term; District 12, Steven Landek, Bridgeview, four-year term; District 14, Emil Jones III, Chicago, four-year term; District 15, Napoleon B. Harris, of Harvey, fourteen -- a four-year term; District 17, Elgie R. Sims, Jr., of Chicago, four-year term; District 18, Bill Cunningham, of Chicago, four-year term; District 20, Iris Y. Martinez, of Chicago, four-year term; District 21, Laura Ellman, of Lisle, four-year term; District 23, Thomas Cullerton, of Naperville, four-year term; District 24, Suzanne "Suzy" Glowiak, Western Springs, four-year term; District 26, Dan McConchie, Hawthorn Woods, four-year term; District 27, Ann Gillespie, Arlington Heights, four-year term; District 29, Julie A. Morrison, of Deerfield, four-year term; District 30, Terry Link, Vernon Hills, four-year term; District 32, Craig Wilcox, of McHenry, four-year term; District 33, Donald P. DeWitte, St. Charles, four-year term; District 35, Dave Syverson, Rockford, four-year term; District 36, Neil Anderson, Andalusia, four-year term; District 38, Sue Rezin, of Morris, four-year term; District 39, Don Harmon, Oak Park, four-year term; District 41, John Curran, Downers Grove, four-year term; District 42, Linda Holmes, Aurora, four-year term; District 44, Bill Brady, Bloomington, four-year term; District 45, Brian W. Stewart, Freeport, four-year term; District 47, Jil Tracy, Quincy, four-year term; District 48, Andy Manar, Bunker Hill, four-year term;

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District 50, Steve McClure, of Springfield, four-year term; District 51, Chapin Rose, of Mahomet, four-year term; District 53, Jason Barickman, of Bloomington, four-year term; District 54, Jason Plummer, of Edwardsville, four-year term; District 56, Rachelle Aud Crowe, of Glen Carbon, four-year term; District 57, Christopher Belt, Cahokia, four-year term; and District 59, Dale Fowler, of Harrisburg, a four-year term.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Will Justice Mary Jane Theis of the Illinois Supreme Court please come to the Rostrum to administer the Oath of Office to the Members of the Senate?

JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

Thank you. Will Senators Belt, Curran, DeWitte, Fine, Sims, Stewart, Villivalam, and Wilcox, as well as Senators-elect Crowe, Ellman, Gillespie, Glowiak, McClure, and Plummer, please rise and be sworn? Please raise your right hand. Repeat after me: I - state your name - do solemnly swear I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and I will faithfully discharge the duties of the Office of State Senator to the best of my ability. Congratulations. Will the remaining Senators who were re-elected in 2018 please rise and be sworn? Then please raise your right hand. Repeat after me: I - state your name - do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and I will faithfully discharge the duties of the Office of State Senator to the best of my ability. Congratulations to all of you.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Mr. Secretary, please call the roll of the Senators of the

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101st General Assembly.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Senator Anderson. Senator Aquino. Senator Barickman.
Senator Belt. Senator Bennett. Senator Bertino-Tarrant. Senator
Brady. Senator Bush. Senator Castro. Senator Collins. Senator
Crowe. Senator John Cullerton. Senator Tom Cullerton. Senator
Cunningham. Senator Curran. Senator DeWitte. Senator Ellman.
Senator Fine. Senator Fowler. Senator Gillespie. Senator --
Glowiak. Senator Harmon. Senator Harris. Senator Hastings.
Senator Holmes. Senator Hunter. Senator Hutchinson. Senator
Jones. Senator Koehler. Senator Landek. Senator Lightford.
Senator Link. Senator Manar. Senator Martinez. Senator McClure.
Senator McConchie. Senator McGuire. Senator Morrison. Senator
Mulroe. Senator Muñoz. Senator Murphy. Senator Oberweis.
Senator Peters. Senator Plummer. Senator Rezin. Senator Righter.
Senator Rose. Senator Sandoval. Senator Schimpf. Senator Sims.
Senator Stadelman. Senator Steans. Senator Stewart. Senator
Syverson. Senator Tracy. Senator Van Pelt. Senator Villavalam.
Senator Weaver. And Senator Wilcox.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Thank you, Mr. Secretary. A quorum is present. It is the
intention of the Chair to begin organizing the 101st General
Assembly under the Rules of the 100th General Assembly until new
rules are adopted as part of the organization of the newly
constituted General Assembly. The next order of business is the
election of the President of the Senate of the 101st General
Assembly. As required by Senate Rules 12-4 and 2-2(b) of the 100th
General Assembly, thirty affirmative votes will be required to
elect the President of the Senate. Nominations are now open.

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Senator Emil Jones III is recognized for the purpose of placing a name in nomination. Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES:

Thank you, Governor Rauner and Members of the Illinois General Assembly. I rise to place in nomination for President of the Illinois Senate for the 101st General Assembly the name Senator John J. Cullerton. Now, some of you may know this, but some of you may not. I've been taking flight -- flight lessons in hopes of getting my private pilot license. It has been a lifelong dream. Anyway, here's what I can tell you about learning to fly. Taking off is the easy part. Give it enough gas and the plane pretty much will take off by itself. It's an exhilarating experience. You get to defy gravity. The sky is no longer a limit; it's your playground. Okay, then comes the hard part. Landing. What goes up must come down. Ideally, in one piece. Unlike takeoff, the plane will not land itself. And that is where your studies, your skills, practice, and your knowledge, patient instructor comes into play. Take off is fun. But let's face it, who remembers how well you take off. Land badly and people will fight to get off your plane. I wanted to tell this story because here in the Senate, John Cullerton is that patient, veteran flight instructor. Look, over the next few weeks, we're going to be filing all kinds of bills with all kinds of great ideas. It's the easy part of being a lawmaker. But, as Session goes on, each of us is going to have to figure out what we're going to pass and how we're going to do it. We're going to have to land that plane. And that is where I've come to appreciate John Cullerton as Senate President. It is why I rise today to recommend he continue in the job. He's here to help you land that plane. More importantly, if you pay

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attention, he's here to teach you how to land a plane. If it's your first bill, he'll help talk you down. He may even step in and grab the controls to avoid the crash. But, if you know what you're doing, he'll stay out of your way. He doesn't micromanage. Frankly, privately, he's quite proud of how independent Members of the Senate can be. But he's here to help you, if you recognize you need the help. And so as we prepare to takeoff on another Session, there's no one better here to have in the controls of the Senate than Senate President John J. Cullerton. I also want to - - want to add, over this last few years during the impasse, you noticed our President more than ever wanted to do a bipartisan deal. And this last May -- I've been coming to these inaugurations for almost forty years, even though I look about nineteen years old. This past May, we were able to vote on a budget, a bipartisan budget - all green lights was on that board. So I urge some of my colleagues on the other side, I notice when we do these inaugurations we always come together as a bipartisan support to support our Minority Leader, but I would love to support our President, John J. Cullerton, on a bipartisan effort. So I would like to hear all Yes votes for John J. Cullerton. Thank you.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Senator Jones nominates Senator John J. Cullerton for President of the Senate. Senator Cristina Castro is recognized for the purpose of seconding the nomination. Senator Castro.

SENATOR CASTRO:

Thank you, Governor. I'd like to second the nomination of John J. Cullerton as President of the Illinois Senate. When I first showed up here two years ago, I heard there was a rule that freshman lawmakers should be seen, but not heard. Well, some old

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rules are made to be broken and here I am. I'm a passionate Mexican-American woman. I am plain spoken with strong opinions. Clearly, John Cullerton and I are cut from the same cloth. There have been times the past two years when I've gotten -- gone to him to forcefully make my case on an important issue. He sits there, quietly, unemotional, listening. And inside, that part of me asking -- inside, there's a part of me asking: "Why aren't you as passionate as I am?" But here's what I've learned about John Cullerton and -- and why I'm standing here today to make this speech to second his nomination for Senate President. It's not that he doesn't care. It's not that he lacks emotion. It's that in his head, the wheels are already turning. He's already trying to figure out how to address the issue and solve the problem. He's trying to figure out how to help me, because he wants to help me. And he will do the same for any of us in this Chamber. In a political world filled with entirely justifiable outrage, John Cullerton is a calm, guiding force for getting things done. Simply put, he's on our side. He takes this job - the job of being a leader for the entire Senate - seriously. He's not here to pick fights or force agendas. His goal is to bring as many people together as possible. But that's how laws get passed and how -- that's how change happens. You know, there's a picture from two years ago that has always struck me. It's one of President Cullerton and Leader Radogno at the Sun-Times making their case for the grand bargain to end the budget impasse. They are sitting next to one another. They're smiling - clearly comfortable in working together to solve a major problem. And when I see that picture I think: This is what bipartisanship should look like. This is what leadership looks like. This is how government should

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work. And we all should want government to work. That picture made me proud to be a Member of the Illinois Senate. Illinois is functioning again because of them, and because of us. John Cullerton is a leader we can all turn to. He brings us together - at the same time, encourages independent thinkers. You can push back. He's not afraid of debates. Trust me, I've had few -- many of 'em. He recognizes he doesn't always have the answers. He recognizes the strength of being a leader comes from the strength of his Members. John Cullerton encouraged me, a freshman lawmaker, to speak up. When I did, I was heard. Heading into today, I was asked why am I voting for John Cullerton. Here's why: Because he's a fair-minded leader who listens to others and puts the State first in doing what's right. And that's why I stand to second the nomination of John J. Cullerton to be President of the Illinois Senate. Thank you.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Senator Castro seconds the nomination of Senator John J. Cullerton for President of the Senate. Senator Andy Manar is recognized for the purpose of seconding the nomination. Senator Manar.

SENATOR MANAR:

Thank you, Governor. Ladies and Gentlemen, I, too, rise to second the nomination of John J. Cullerton for President of the Illinois Senate in the 101st General Assembly. As many of you know, for three years, I had the privilege of serving our Caucus as President Cullerton's Chief of Staff. And during that time - and my wife Trista, who's sitting behind me, can attest to this - I could probably count on one hand the number of days that he and I didn't talk. So it would be an understatement to say that I've

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had a unique window into the Presidency of John Cullerton. And I learned a lot during those three years, about him, about this place, and about democracy. For example, I learned how important his wife Pam is to him. And I learned that their wedding anniversary is September the 8th. I want to tell you how I learned that day. Back in 2011, on the day that I announced I was running for -- for this seat in the Senate, I traveled the 48th District, with stops here in Springfield and Decatur and Taylorville, Hillsboro, and the last stop was in my hometown of Bunker Hill, where I've lived my entire life. I would tell you today that I was a little nervous about that last stop, because I was worried that there weren't going to be a lot of people there and that the crowd wasn't going to be built. And when I walked in the room, the room was packed wall to wall with friends and family and neighbors and classmates that I had known my entire life. And that's an incredible feeling. We've all felt it - being surrounded by people who -- who want you to succeed. And there, standing in the corner, quietly, of that large room full of people, were John and Pam Cullerton. So why do I know that John and Pam's anniversary is September the 8th? Well, that was my announcement day. And all the places they could have spent their anniversary that day, they spent it at the community center in Bunker Hill. They drove five hundred and seventy-five miles round-trip - pre-Tesla - pre-Tesla - to support me, a potential Member of the Caucus. So that evening, when I thanked John and Pam for making the trip to Bunker Hill and I said I was a little surprised to see you both, John said three very simple words to me. He said, "It was important." "It was important." So if I wrote a book about John Cullerton's public service, those three words - "it was important" - would be

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an appropriate title for the book. But I can't write that book today. I can't write it because there are still chapters to be written in that book. There is more to be said about John Cullerton and much more to be done in John Cullerton's public service. We all know that John Cullerton is always willing to pull up a chair to any table to help solve a problem. He enjoys being in the middle of a disagreement, not because he is disagreeable, he is not, but he enjoys being in the middle of opposing sides to try to craft a path forward. We all know that he encourages us - you heard what Senators Castro and Jones just said - he encourages us to speak out and to speak up and to be heard in our Caucus. We all know that John Cullerton values the other side of the aisle. He knows what it's like to not be in the majority and he understands the value of compromise. Time and again, we have seen evidence of all of these things during the course of his time as Senate President. But the reason that I would present to you today that we should elect him lies not in his past and his past accomplishments, but rather in his future and our future as a Senate. It lies in the urgency and the depth of what I believe is the heavy charge staring at the Legislative branch of government right now -- starting right now, for the next two years. And it lies in what I know, for certain, without doubt, John Cullerton is capable of. I've spent a good portion of my life in this room - there's a lot of familiar faces here that I haven't seen in many years - going back to when I was in high school, tagging along with Senator Vince Demuzio, who spent three decades here, who respected this institution. I remember the first time I was here I wore a suit that didn't quite fit right and a tie that was always a little too long. And I've seen some brilliant moments of public

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service here in the Senate. And I would admit, I've seen some not so brilliant moments of public service as well from time to time. But most of all, I've learned that the Illinois Senate is the most diverse and eclectic group of individuals gathered in America today. And through that diversity and our Constitution, the true nature of democracy plays itself out here each and every day. And that's a tough, tough business. It should be a tough business. So regardless of where we all come from or which party we happen to belong to or what our backgrounds are, I think we can agree today that we have sizeable challenges ahead in our great State. And if we're going to meet those challenges and if we're going to solve the problems of our great State, the fifty-nine of us, this institution has to operate in a manner that's conducive to problem-solving. And our Constitution directs us to choose from among its membership a leader. And the good news is, we have one among us who has proven time and again that he hasn't just done what it takes, but he has what it takes to move us forward, to deliberately lead us in the direction of problem-solving. So, Governor Rauner, I'm proud to stand today to second the nomination of my friend John J. Cullerton for President of the Illinois Senate for the 101st General Assembly. Thank you.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Senator Manar seconds the nomination of Senator John J. Cullerton for President of the Senate. Senator Jil Tracy is recognized for the purpose of placing a name in nomination. Senator Tracy.

SENATOR TRACY:

Thank you, Governor Rauner and Members of the 101st General Assembly. I rise before you today to nominate Senator Bill Brady.

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When the 100th General Assembly was sworn in, by -- then Leader Christine Radogno, she recognized Senator Bill Brady's experience and leadership by naming him as Deputy Minority Leader. Throughout the early days of the 100th General Assembly, Senator Brady worked closely with his legislative colleagues to achieve a bipartisan solution to the budget impasse that was crippling our State. Leaders {sic} Radogno's confidence in Senator Brady was certainly well-placed, and when she left the Senate after the "grand bargain" stalled, we chose Senator Bill Brady as our new Leader. As a strong representative of central and downstate Illinois, Senator Brady brings an important balance to the leadership of the General Assembly. With his undeniable integrity and dedication to good government, he has proven his ability to work across the aisle and advance the Caucus' legislative agenda. That is why I proudly stand before you to -- to nominate Senator Bill Brady to serve as our next Senate President. Thank you.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Senator Tracy nominates Senator Bill Brady for President of the Senate. Senator John Curran is recognized for the purpose of seconding the nomination. Senator Curran.

SENATOR CURRAN:

Thank you, Governor Rauner. I rise today to second the nomination of Bill Brady as Senate President of the 101st General Assembly. Throughout his tenure as our Leader, Senator Bill Brady has demonstrated what strong leadership looks like and how it can benefit all people of this State, all regions. Today, as the Senator fortunate to serve and represent the 41st District in the Illinois Senate, I'm proud to have Bill Brady as our Leader in the Illinois Senate. He understands the challenges we face, as well

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as the opportunities that await us. Illinois needs strong leadership, and with Bill Brady as our Senate President, we will have that. So I stand to second the nomination of Bill Brady as Senate President of the 101st General Assembly.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Senator Curran seconds the nomination of Senator Bill Brady for President of the Senate. Senator Dale Fowler is recognized for the purpose of seconding the nomination. Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER:

Thank you, Governor Rauner. Ladies and Gentlemen of the Illinois Senate - and congratulations to our new Members - it's been an honor to serve my first term as Illinois Senator and I -- I really appreciate Leader Brady's friendship and leadership during my first term as an Illinois Senator. Leader Brady has the ability to reach across the aisle to find common ground on difficult issues, as well as consider the effect of legislation on different regions of the State. His mindfulness of others helped produce historic school funding reform, helping to ensure that every child in Illinois has access to quality education. Leader Brady was instrumental in last year's negotiations which helped produce a bipartisan balanced budget, which demonstrated to Illinois residents what we can accomplish if we all work together. It is within this spirit of bipartisanship and recognizing his ability to lead on the important issues facing the citizens of this great State of Illinois that I second the nomination of Senator Bill Brady of Bloomington as the next President of the Illinois Senate. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Senator Fowler seconds the nomination of Senator Bill Brady

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for President of the Senate. If there are no further nominations, Senator Iris Martinez is recognized for the purpose of making a motion.

SENATOR MARTINEZ:

Governor Rauner and Members of the Senate, I move the nominations for the Office of President of the Illinois State Senate for the 101 General Assembly be closed.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

Senator Martinez has moved that nominations be closed. All those in favor of the motion, indicate by saying Aye. Those opposed, Nay. In the opinion of the Chair, the Ayes have it. The motion carries, and the nominations are closed. The Secretary will call the roll of the Senators. Each Senator should answer the roll by stating one of the names nominated or by voting Present. Please call the roll, Mr. Secretary.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Senator Anderson. Senator Aquino. Senator Barickman. Senator Belt. Senator Bennett. Senator Bertino-Tarrant. Senator Brady. Senator Bush. Senator Castro. Senator Collins. Senator Crowe. Senator John Cullerton. Senator Tom Cullerton. Senator Cunningham. Senator Curran. Senator DeWitte. Senator Ellman. Senator Fine. Senator Fowler. Senator Gillespie. Senator Glowiak. Senator Harmon. Senator Harris. Senator Hastings. Senator Holmes. Senator Hunter. Senator Hutchinson. Senator Jones. Senator Koehler. Senator Landek. Senator Lightford. Senator Link. Senator Manar. Senator Martinez. Senator McClure. Senator McConchie. Senator McGuire. Senator Morrison. Senator Mulroe. Senator Muñoz. Senator Murphy. Senator Oberweis. Senator Peters. Senator Plummer. Senator Rezin. Senator Righter.

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Senator Rose. Senator Sandoval. Senator Schimpf. Senator Sims.
Senator Stadelman. Senator Steans. Senator Stewart. Senator
Syverson. Senator Tracy. Senator Van Pelt. Senator Villivalam.
Senator Weaver. And Senator Wilcox.

GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER:

The results of the roll call are as follows: Senator John J.
Cullerton, thirty-nine votes; Senator Bill Brady, eighteen votes.
Senator John J. Cullerton, having received the constitutionally
required number of votes, is hereby declared elected President of
the Senate of the 101st General Assembly. Will Senator John J.
Cullerton and Justice Theis please come to the Rostrum?

JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

It's a very large Cullerton family. Right? ...(inaudible)...
Would you raise your right hand and repeat after me? I, state
your name,

SENATOR J. CULLERTON:

I, John J. Cullerton,

JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

Do solemnly swear

SENATOR J. CULLERTON:

Do solemnly swear

JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

That I will support the Constitution of the United States

SENATOR J. CULLERTON:

That I will support the Constitution of the United States

JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

And the Constitution of the State of Illinois

SENATOR J. CULLERTON:

And the Constitution of the State of Illinois

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JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

And I will faithfully discharge the duties

SENATOR J. CULLERTON:

And I will faithfully discharge the duties

JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

Of the Office of Senate President

SENATOR J. CULLERTON:

Of the Office of Senate President

JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

To the best of my ability.

SENATOR J. CULLERTON:

To the best of my ability.

JUSTICE MARY JANE THEIS:

Congratulations, Senator.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Thank you. In 1841, William Henry Harrison was sworn in as the 9th President of the United States. Standing outside, in the cold, he delivered a two-hour inaugural address. It was so long, in such bad weather, that he contracted pneumonia and died a month later, having accomplished nothing. That's why I'm glad we do this indoors and why I promise to try to keep it brief. Welcome to a new year, a new Senate, and a new Illinois. You are in the right place, at the right time, to make a difference. Let's start by being realistic. We didn't get elected to save the world. Voters put us here to make Illinois better. And together that's exactly what we're going to do. None of us got here on our own. Our friends and families all sacrificed. I know from the voluminous ticket requests that many, if not most, of those friends and family are here. We owe them all a "thank you" and a round of

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applause. Governor Rauner, thank you for presiding over today's ceremony. And on behalf of the Illinois Senate, thank you for your public service. We may have had our differences from time to time, but you took on a challenge when others merely complain from the sidelines. Thank you, and I wish you and your family the best. Now, we have several distinguished guests. So I'm going to start at the top. I know everyone is tired of me introducing her as the speaker of my house. So here's a little known fact. She is also the chair and the lone member of the Cullerton house rules committee. Ladies and gentlemen, my wife, Pam Cullerton. And she's here with the growing Cullerton caucus that, in addition to our five children - Maggie, John and his wife Rachelle, Garritt, Kyle and Josephine - now includes three grandchildren - Cormac Hooper, Edie Josephine Hooper, and our newest member, little Ella James Cullerton, born December 4th. I'd like to thank Illinois Supreme Court Justice Mary Jane Theis for administering our oath. And I'm also honored for joining us, Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Lloyd Karmeier. I'd like to thank Lincoln's Challenge Academy Color Guard and today's singers: Chel Sgro and Tiffany Mathis. I'd also like to thank Reverend Clete Kiley for the invocation and Rabbi Andrea London for the benediction. I'd like to welcome back to the Senate, former Senator and current State Treasurer, Michael Frerichs. And please welcome Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti. We are also joined by my friend Loretta Durbin on behalf of U.S. Senator Dick Durbin, Springfield Mayor Jim Langfelder, former Senate President Emil Jones and his wife Dr. Lorrie Jones, former Secretary of the Senate Linda Hawker, and former Congressman Bill Enyart and his wife Annette Eckert. Thank you all for being here. I also have two guests visiting

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from the great state of Missouri, Tom and Becky Minogue. Tom is Chairman of the law firm Thompson Coburn. That's where I work. He's here to get an idea of what I do when I'm not there. So if you would be so kind as to give Tom and Becky a warm, Senate welcome, it might get me an excused absence. And there's one final, special guest here today, the Mayor of Chicago, Rahm Emanuel. Mayor, welcome to the Senate. Thank you for your eight years of service to the City. You have led Chicago through tough times and made a great improvement. We're honored that you chose to ascend {sic} (attend) our inauguration. Thank you. Now for all of you Senators. We have fifteen new Members joining us. You collectively make this one of the most diverse gatherings this Chamber has ever seen. So, within that caucus, we've got mechanical engineers and mathematicians, offensive linemen and Air Force instructors, lawyers and labor organizers, former staff and former staff interns. And if you want to get specific, Senator DeWitte can design you a new kitchen and Senator Plummer will sell you the materials to build it. So you've all been through Member training. By now, it's probably a blur. So here's my version. My office is in the back hallway. It's Room 327. The door is always open. That door is the door to the women's room. That door is the door to the men's room. The green button on your desk is for -- to vote "Yes". The red button is to vote "No". The yellow button? That's a "Present" vote. It's kinda in-between. True story. When Barack Obama first ran for President, he was criticized for voting "Present" too often here in the Senate. You may remember that. Since then, this Chamber, by the way, has underwent a complete renovation. All the voting buttons were tossed in a box and later reinstalled. So what I'm trying to say

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is that one of you, and I have no idea who it is -- for all I know, it could be you, Senator Belt, or it could be Senator Rezin -- but one of you has President Barack Obama's "Present" button. So use it wisely. I also want to welcome back all the returning Senators. I would especially like to thank Senators Jones, Castro, and Manar for their kind words. You know, such truthful comments are so rare in today's politics. Looking around this Chamber, there are new and old faces. When you take all fifty-nine of us together, the average length of service in the Senate is barely seven years. So we're a healthy mix of new ideas and institutional knowledge, and that's a formula for getting things done. To Leader Brady, congratulations. The Republican Caucus chose wisely in turning to you for leadership. You're going to be -- and I really mean this -- a "super" minority leader these next two years. I really mean that. Now, as Senate President, my philosophy is to keep the Senate on the -- on the path Members set. I am honored to have earned your trust and support. Whether you voted for me or not, I welcome you to the Senate. There can, will, and should be disagreements. But this Chamber handles them with respect and responsibility. We are here to do the same job. The people Senator Righter represents deserve the same respect as the people that Senator Sandoval represents. So let's remember that. Because we make things better when we work together. That started ten years ago, with a bipartisan impeachment trial and a unanimous Senate vote to remove a Governor from office. That made Illinois better. We all knew our school funding system didn't work. For years, people tried and failed to change it. This Chamber got it done. Senators Manar and Brady and Lightford and Barickman and others -- on both sides of the aisle -- led the way. And Governor

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Rauner signed that reform. And our schools, all across Illinois, are better because of it. A two-year budget impasse threatened the very fabric of our State. It ended when we took charge. And Illinois is better because of it. We did those things. And now, we must come together and do more. All right. So, by now, I know you're probably thinking: "Okay, I thought he said he was going to be brief". Don't worry. I'm getting there. Through all the troubles the State has faced, we've always fallen back on two strengths: outstanding workforce and a world-class transportation network. But, in 2019, both need our help. So here's what we're going to do. We're going to train thousands of workers with the skills needed to walk into the workforce and succeed. We will do this because nearly half of the five hundred and eighty thousand manufacturing workers in Illinois will retire over the next decade. Jobs - good, high-paying jobs - are available. Health care, transportation, and skilled trades need workers. The problem? The problem is finding people with the specific skills employers want coupled with the basic skills workers need to succeed. Richland Community College over in Decatur is solving that problem. It's solving it by partnering with local employers and economic development officials. Together, they identify and bridge gaps between what employers want and what the workforce has. For example, school officials know local manufacturers need welders and milling machine operators. But when they talked to employers they found out that what they needed most from workers was basic dependability. The result was a unique curriculum change. An essential skills component was added. It teaches people how to be responsible, employable professionals. Things like: wear a suit to an interview, why it's important to be punctual, and

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professional behavior in the workplace. And it works. Before this change, only a handful of graduates went to work after finishing the program. But since it was added, thirty-two out of thirty-three people went straight to jobs. Businesses like it. Labor loves it. Last year, the budget we approved allowed Richland Community College to expand that program. We are joined today by two gentlemen responsible for the program's success. Please welcome Courtney Carson, who oversees the training, and Chris Valdez, President of Richland Community College. So I think we should expand that program statewide. I want to see it work in Danville and Rockford and the Quad-Cities and southern Illinois, Chicago's West Side, and south suburbs. I want to see it expand to train Illinois workers for solar, wind, and other renewable energy industries. If you want to bring businesses to Illinois, offer them workers who are second to none. And together, they will make Illinois better. At the same time, across the suburbs of Chicago, thousands of workers take Metra trains to work. Or, at least they try to. Some Metra cars date back to the Eisenhower administration. They are plagued by breakdowns and delays. The aging fleet is in dire need of investment. And so, too, are numerous downstate roadways and institutions. US Highway 24 is a vital economic link along the Illinois River between Peoria and Fulton counties. Hundreds if not thousands of workers use it daily to get to and from the area's major employers. They share the road with semis hauling materials in and out of manufacturing and chemical plants. We need to expand more of US 24 to four lanes. It'll make life better and workers -- for workers and businesses. Now ten years ago, we approved a statewide construction program. We did it because we had gone too long without investing in the

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people, employers, and systems that make Illinois great. We did it to symbolize a new chapter in Illinois government. And it's time to do it again. This Session is not about me. It isn't about the House Speaker, or the Governor. It's about the people of Illinois and making our State better. It's about doing things like providing a living wage for honest work, because I think the employers of this State value their workers just as much as workers value their jobs. And we want both to succeed. Raising the minimum wage is the right thing to do. And if you got all the way to the Illinois Senate and can't do what's right, what's the point? Right? So as I wrap up, I want you to ask yourselves: How do we see success this year? But, before you answer, remember what failure looks like. We've seen it. We've had a State with no budget. It's a State where their social service agencies closed their doors. It's a State where colleges and universities are starved of cash while thousands of our students go elsewhere. We will not be defined by failures of the past. As the saying goes: The world only spins forward. And today, a new chapter in Illinois history opens, just for us. The people back home have no tolerance for impasse and infighting. They want us to get things done. They want us to make Illinois better. And, together, that's exactly what we're going to do. So welcome to the 101st General Assembly. Welcome to a new year, a new start, and a brand-new Illinois. Thank you. The next order of business is the election of the Minority Leader of the Senate. Senator Syverson.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

Thank you, Mr. President, and congratulations. I would like to ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Republican Members of the Senate to declare Senator Bill Brady as the Minority Leader of

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the Senate of the 101th {sic} General Assembly. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Syverson requests unanimous consent on behalf of the Republican Members of the Senate to declare Senator Bill Brady the Minority Leader of the Senate of the 101st General Assembly. Is leave granted? Leave is granted. Senator Bill Brady is declared Minority Leader. Congratulations. The Chair recognizes Senator Brady.

SENATOR BRADY:

Thank you, Mr. President, and congratulations to you. Governor Rauner and other honored guests, thank you for being here with us today. It's an important day for us and your presence is ever -- ever welcome and grateful for. To my Senate Republican colleagues for your kind words and continued faith in me in the ability to serve as your Leader, I thank you. To all of those who have taken the solemn oath for the first time - Republican or Democrat - welcome! Serving in the Illinois Senate is a job like no other, and I look forward to working with each and every one of you. To those who have taken the oath again, like myself, let us remember that we've done -- remember what we've done and redouble our efforts as we face hard decisions that need to be made. The people of Illinois deserve nothing less than our best efforts. I would also like to thank the residents of Central Illinois for placing their faith in me as their State Senator. And most of all, I want to thank my family, especially my wife Nancy, for their continued love and support. I've strived to work across the aisle - with President Cullerton for many, many years, not just as President of the Senate, but working together, and with other

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Members of both caucuses, and in both Chambers. I'd like to find commonsense solutions that we could all come together for to solve problems. It was in that spirit of bipartisanship that we passed historic education-funding reform, that Governor Rauner signed, enhancing the educational opportunities for every child in this State. It was in that spirit that, last year, we came together to pass a balanced budget, that Governor Rauner signed, that advanced the interests and needs of our State. It's my hope that we can continue those efforts. Inaugurations are an important opportunity to turn the page, to a fresh start, and to find common ground on the important issues facing Illinois. As this 101st General Assembly begins its work, let us remember how our collective -- how we collectively forged and produced results for the people of Illinois. Let us remember that the work we do now will leave a lasting impact on Illinois citizens and families. Thank you for this opportunity. And God bless you.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

The benediction will be offered by Rabbi Andrea London, Beth Emet, The Free Synagogue.

RABBI ANDREA LONDON:

(Benediction by Rabbi Andrea London)

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

I now welcome Tiffany Mathis to the Podium for a special musical selection.

TIFFANY MATHIS:

(America the Beautiful/God Bless America sung by Tiffany Mathis)

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

The following Senators are appointed to the Committee of

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Escort for the Governor: Senators Belt, Ellman, Glowiak, Oberweis, and Weaver. Will those Senators please come forward to escort the Governor from the Chamber? Will the Senators appointed to the Committee of Escort for the members of the Judiciary - Senators Bennett, Sims, Gillespie, McClure, and DeWitte - please come forward to escort the distinguished members of the Judiciary from the Chamber? It's the intention of the Chair to begin organizing the Senate of the 101st General Assembly. Mr. Secretary, Communications.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

I have a letter dated January 9th, 2019, from President Cullerton.

Dear Mr. Secretary Kaiser - Pursuant to Rule 3-5(c), I here -- hereby appoint Senator Kimberly Lightford as Spokesperson of the Senate Committee on Assignments. In addition, I hereby appoint Senator Terry Link and Senator Don Harmon as members of the Senate Committee on Assignments. These appointments will expire upon adjournment of the Senate Committee on Assignments. If you have any questions regarding these appointments, please contact my Chief of Staff, Kristin Richards, at your convenience.

Signed, Senator John J. Cullerton, Senate President.

Also have a letter on file from Senator Bill Brady, Minority Leader.

Dear Mr. Secretary - Pursuant to the temporary Senate Rules of the 101st General Assembly, I hereby appoint Senator Dale Righter to serve as the Minority Spokesperson for the Senate Committee on Assignments and Senator John Curran to serve as a member of the Committee. These appointments are effective immediately.

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Signed, sincerely, Bill Brady, Minority Leader.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Now the Senate will stand at ease -- I'm sorry. Mr. Secretary, Resolutions.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Yes. Senate Resolution 1, offered by Senator Muñoz.

And Senate Resolution 2, offered by Senator Lightford.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

The Senate will stand at ease to allow time for our guests to exit the Chamber. The Committee on Assignments will meet immediately in the President's Anteroom. Members, please remain in the Chamber as we have further business to conduct. The Senate will stand at ease. (at ease) The Senate will come to order. The Senate will come to order. Members, please be at your seats. Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Senate Resolution 1 and Senate Resolution 2.

Signed by Senator Lightford, Chairperson.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

The Senate Calendar has been printed and distributed. On the Calendar is Senate Resolution No. 1. On the Calendar is Senate Resolution No. 1. Mr. Secretary, please read the resolution.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Senate Resolution 1, offered by Senator Muñoz.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Muñoz, to explain the resolution.

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ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Senate Resolution 1.

(Secretary reads SR No. 1)

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Muñoz, to explain the resolution.

SENATOR MUÑOZ:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Senate Resolution 1 elects the officers of the 101st General Assembly: Tim Anderson, Secretary of the Senate; Scott Kaiser, Assistant Secretary of the Senate; Joe Dominguez, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Derek {sic} (Dirk) Eilers, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. President, I ask for its adoption.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Muñoz has moved the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 1. Is there any discussion? If not, the question is, shall the Senate -- shall the Senate adopt Senate Resolution No. 1. All those in favor will signify by voting Aye. Those opposed, by voting Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Secretary, please take the record. On that question, there are 58 Ayes, none voting No, none voting Present. Senate Resolution 1, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared adopted. On the Order of Resolutions is Senate Resolution No. 2. Mr. Secretary, please read the resolution.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Senate Resolution No. 2, offered by Senator Lightford.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Lightford, to explain the resolution.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

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Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, Senate Resolution 2 does a number of actions. It encompasses the Rules for the Senate of the 101st General Assembly. It retains the Rules of the Senate of the 100th General Assembly with the following changes: Number one, eliminates the Gaming Committee; number two, renames the Government Reform Committee, the Government Accountability and Pensions Committee; it renames the Licensed Activities and Pensions Committee, the Licensed Activities Committee; it increase the size of Committee on Assignments from three to two to four to two; it eliminates the position of President Pro Tempore; and it makes a change to Floor access to reflect the Senate's longstanding customs. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Lightford has moved the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 2. Is there any discussion? Senator Righter.

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you, Mr. President. Simply rise in support of the resolution. My only concern is that with six Members sitting around the Committee on Assignments, we have -- may have to get a bigger table in that small room back there. Other than that, I rise in support of the resolution. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Okay. The question is, shall the Senate adopt Senate Resolution No. 2. All those in favor will signify by voting Aye. Those who -- those who all will vote -- those opposed will vote No. The voting is open. ...voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Secretary, take the record. On that question, there are 57 Ayes, none voting No, and none voting Present. And Senate Resolution, having received the

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required constitutional majority, is declared adopted. The Senate is now operating under the Rules of the Senate of the 101st General Assembly. Mr. Secretary, Communications.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

I have a letter dated January 9, 2019.

Dear Secretary Anderson - Pursuant to Rule 3-5 of the 101st General Assembly, please be advised that I have appointed the following Senators to serve on the Committee on Assignments: Senator Kimberly Lightford, Chairperson, and Senators Terry Link, Antonio Muñoz, and Don Harmon as members. These appointments are effective January 9th, 2019. If you have any questions regarding these appointments, please contact my Chief of Staff, Kristin Richards, at your convenience.

Signed, Senator John J. Cullerton, Senate President.

I also have a letter dated January 9th, 2019.

Dear Mr. Secretary - Pursuant to the Senate Rules adopted on January 9, 2019, I hereby appoint Senator Dale Righter to serve as the Minority Spokesperson on the Senate Committee on Assignments and Senator John Curran to serve as a member of the Committee. These appointments are effective immediately.

Signed, Senator Bill Brady, Republican Leader.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

The Senate will stand at ease for a few minutes. The Committee on Assignments... Sorry. Mr. Secretary, another Resolution. Sorry.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Senate Resolution No. 3, offered by Senator Link.

And Senate Resolution No. 4, offered by Senator Hunter.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

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The Senate will stand at ease for a few minutes. The Committee on Assignments will meet immediately in the President's Anteroom, if there's room. Members who -- are asked to remain in the Chamber. The Senate will stand at ease. (at ease) The Senate will come to order. Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Senate Resolutions 3 and 4.

Signed, Kimberly A. Lightford, Chairperson.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Supplemental Calendar No. 1 has been printed and distributed. On Supplemental Calendar No. 1 is Senate Resolution No. 3. Mr. Secretary, please read the resolution.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolution No. 3, offered by Senator Link.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Link, to explain the resolution.

SENATOR LINK:

Thank you, Mr. President. Senate Resolution 3 notifies the House -- notifies the House of Representatives that the Senate has organized by the election of officers and is now ready to proceed with the business of this Session.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Link has moved the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 3. Is there any discussion? If not, the question is, shall the Senate adopt Senate Resolution No. 3. All those in favor will signify by voting Aye. Those opposed will vote Nay. The voting

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is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Secretary, please take the record. On that question, there are 56 voting Aye, none voting No, and none voting Present. Senate Resolution No. 3, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared adopted. On the order of Resolutions is Senate Resolution No. 4. Mr. Secretary, please read the resolution.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolution No. 4, offered by Senator Hunter.

SENATOR HUNTER:

Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Hunter, to explain the resolution.

SENATOR HUNTER:

Senate Resolution 4 directs the Secretary of the Senate to prepare the Senate Journal and to furnish it -- furnish it to the Legislative Printing Unit for -- to print copies.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Senator Hunter has moved the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 4. Is there any discussion? If not, the question is, shall the Senate adopt Senate Resolution No. 4. All those in favor will signify by voting Aye. Those will -- will vote No, who are opposed. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Secretary, please take the record. On that question, there are 57 voting Aye, none voting No, none voting Present. Senate Resolution No. 4, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared adopted. Mr. Secretary, Communications.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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Have a letter dated January 9th, 2019.

Dear Secretary Anderson - Enclosed please find the Senate Session Calendar for the 2019 Session of the 101st General Assembly. If you have any questions, please contact my Chief of Staff, Kristin Richards, at your convenience.

Sincerely, John J. Cullerton, Senate President.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Mr. Secretary, Introduction of Bills.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Bill 1, offered by Senator Lightford.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 2, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 3, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 4, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 5, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 6, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 7, offered by Senator Steans.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 8, offered by Senator Martinez.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 9, offered by Senator Bennett.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 10, offered by Senator Manar.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

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Senate Bill 11, offered by Senator -- President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill -- Senate Bill 12, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 13, offered by Senator Link.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 14, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 15, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 16, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 17, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 18, offered by Senator Cunningham.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 19, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 20, offered by President Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 21, offered by Senator Morrison.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 22, offered by Senator Oberweis.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 23, offered by Senator McConchie.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 24, offered by Senator Link.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 25, offered by Senator Morrison.

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(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 26, offered by Senator Curran.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bills.

PRESIDENT CULLERTON:

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, can I have your attention, please? At this time, I am proud to announce my Senate Democratic Leadership team. The Majority Leader will be Senator Kimberly Lightford. Assistant Majority Leader, Senator Terry Link. Assistant Majority Leader, Senator Antonio Muñoz. Assistant Majority Leader, Senator Don Harmon. Assistant Majority Leader, Senator Iris Martinez. Assistant Minority {sic} Leader, Senator Dave Koehler. Majority Caucus Chair, Senator Mattie Hunter. Majority Caucus Whip, Senator Jacqueline Collins. Majority Caucus Whip, Senator Martin Sandoval. And Majority Caucus Whip, Senator Linda Holmes. There be -- there being no further business to come before the Senate, the Senate stands adjourned until the hour of 9:30 on Thursday, January 10th. The Senate stands adjourned.