

79TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REGULAR SESSION

APRIL 12, 1976

1. PRESIDENT:

2. The hour of twelve having arrived, the Senate will
3. come to order. Will our guests in the gallery please...please
4. rise while we have the prayer by Father George E. Nelis, St.
5. Patrick Church, Springfield, Illinois.

6. FATHER NELIS:

7. (Prayer given by Father Nelis)

8. PRESIDENT:

9. Reading of the Journal.

10. SECRETARY:

11. Wednesday, March 31st, 1976, Thursday, April the 1st,
12. 1976, and Friday, April the 2nd, 1976.

13. PRESIDENT:

14. Senator Johns.

15. SENATOR JOHNS:

16. Mr. President, I move that the Journals just read by the
17. Secretary be approved unless some Senator has additions
18. or corrections to offer.

19. PRESIDENT:

20. You've heard the motion. All in favor will say Aye.
21. Opposed Nay. The Ayes have it. The motion carries. Senator Johns.

22. SENATOR JOHNS:

23. Mr. President, I move that reading and approval of the Journals
24. of Monday, April the 5th, 1976, Tuesday, April the 6th, 1976, and
25. Wednesday, April the 7th, 1976, be postponed pending arrival
26. of the printed Journals.

27. PRESIDENT:

28. You've heard the motion. All in favor will say Aye. Opposed
29. Nay. The Ayes have it and the motion carries. On your Calendar
30. for today, on Page 2, there appears Senate Bill 1542. That is
31. a printer's error. The bill has already been disposed of and
32. passed. You may strike it. Introduction of Bills.

33. SECRETARY:

1 Senate Bill 1695 through 1697.

2 PRESIDENT:

3 Rules Committee. Continuing introduction of bills.

4 SECRETARY:

5 Senate Bill 1698 and 1699.

6 PRESIDENT:

7 Rules Committee. A Message from the House.

8 SECRETARY:

9 A Message from the House by Mr. O'Brien, Clerk.

10 Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that
11 the House of Representatives has adopted the following Joint
12 Resolution and the adoption of which I am instructed to ask con-
13 currence of the Senate, to-wit:

14 House Joint Resolution 87

15 PRESIDENT:

16 Executive.

17 SECRETARY:

18 A Message from the House by Mr. O'Brien, Clerk.

19 Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that
20 the House of Representatives has passed bills with the following
21 title in the passage of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence
22 of the Senate, to-wit: House Bills...3155, 3359, 3360, 3362 and
23 3364, 3277, 3353, 3355, 3356, 3361, 3365.

24 PRESIDENT:

25 The bills just read will be on the Calendar tomorrow on the
26 order of first reading. They will not go to Rules until they have
27 a sponsor. For what purpose does Senator Rock rise?

28 SENATOR ROCK:

29 Just a question so that there is no misunderstanding. That
30 list of bills that came over from the House, I understand, are
31 supplemental appropriation bills.

32 PRESIDENT:

33 They are indeed, but they still have to have sponsors.

1. SENATOR ROCK:
2. I'd appreciate it...in otherwords, they'll show up tomorrow
3. on the Calendar, then we could, in fact, bypass Rules tomorrow.
4. PRESIDENT:
5. Absolutely.
6. SENATOR ROCK:
7. Thank you.
8. PRESIDENT:
9. Resolutions.
10. SECRETARY:
11. Senate Resolution 285, introduced by Senators Lemke, Daley,
12. Savickaš, Kosinski, Hynes, and D'Arco. It's congratulatory,
13. congratulating the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign
14. Wars.
15. PRESIDENT:
16. Senator Lemke.
17. SENATOR LEMKE:
18. I move for suspension of rules and immediate adoption of
19. resolution.
20. PRESIDENT:
21. Senator Lemke moves for the immediate suspension of the rules
22. for the immediate consideration of this resolution. All in favor
23. say Aye. Opposed Nay. The rules are suspended. Senator Lemke
24. now moves for the immediate adoption of this resolution. All in
25. favor will say Aye. Opposed Nay. The Ayes have it. The
26. resolution is adopted. Introduction of bills.
27. SECRETARY:
28. Senate Bill 1700.
29. PRESIDENT:
30. Rules Committee. Senator Howard Mohr.
31. SENATOR HOWARD MOHR:
32. Yes, Mr. President, I'd like the record to show that Senator
33. Harris is out on some official business. He'll be here before the
34. afternoon ends.

1 PRESIDENT:

2 The record will so show. Senator Netsch.

3 SENATOR NETSCH:

4 With the consent of the sponsor, may I have leave to be
5 shown as a cosponsor of ... of Senate Bill 1629?

6 PRESIDENT:

7 Is leave granted? Leave is granted. Senator Savickas.

8 SENATOR SAVICKAS:

9 Yes, Mr. President, there's been some concern on some of
10 the news media on how our attendance records are, and I'd like
11 to know, how do you we check our roll call? Are we ... to punch
12 in each day or ...

13 PRESIDENT:

14 The roll call is taken from the Floor by the Sergeant-At-Arms.

15 SENATOR SAVICKAS:

16 Well, I have a hunch he's made some mistakes in the past,
17 and I think we ought to improve on this system.

18 PRESIDENT:

19 It is also double checked by the Secretary and the Assistant
20 Secretary to obviate those mistakes. Senator Savickas.

21 SENATOR SAVICKAS:

22 Maybe we should have...punch in at whenever we're due here
23 at noon or whatever the time is we open the Session, just punch
24 in as they do in the House.

25 PRESIDENT:

26 Well, we'll give that some real ... punchy kind of consideration.

27 SENATOR SAVICKAS:

28 Why not.

29 PRESIDENT:

30 Senator Vadalabene.

31 SENATOR VADALABENE:

32 Yes, thank you, Mr. President. I don't have anything of any
33 importance at this particular time. I just want to see if my micro-

1 phone is working. Thank you very much.

2 PRESIDENT:

3 It...it is indeed. Any further business to come before the
4 Senate? Senator Berning.

5 SENATOR BERNING:

6 Thank you, Mr. President. Yes, one thing I'd like to get
7 this cord extended a little so I can get the microphone up. I'd
8 like unanimous consent to be shown as a cosponsor of Senate Bill
9 1629, please.

10 PRESIDENT:

11 Is leave granted? Leave is granted. Introduction of bills.

12 SECRETARY:

13 Senate Bill 1701, 1702.

14 PRESIDENT:

15 Rules Committee. House Bills on 3rd reading. House Bill 3170,
16 Senator Hickey.

17 SECRETARY:

18 House Bill 3170.

19 (Secretary reads title of bill)

20 3rd reading of the bill.

21 PRESIDENT:

22 Senator Hickey.

23 SENATOR HICKEY:

24 Mr. President, 3170 is really a perfunctory thing. There
25 was provision made in House Bill 1693 last Session to provide for
26 Federal funds to be used for...Federal reinsurance funds to be
27 used for the Scholarship Commission to pay off loans that were in
28 default, and at first, it was sought that there wasn't any subsequent
29 legislation necessary. HB 3170 was introduced in the House and
30 passed and then there were differences of opinion as to whether
31 it should be brought to the Senate Floor. Late in February, they
32 decided that they did need the extra authorization of House Bill
33 3170 going through. This does not involve any State funds. This

1 involves Federal reinsurance funds which...the purpose of which
2 was already provided for in House Bill 1693, and everyday that
3 this goes by the Scholarship Commission is having to pay two
4 hundred and eighty-eight dollars in interest on money that they've
5 used for this purpose, and we need to replace this. As I say,
6 it's really a perfunctory thing. I've talked to the leadership
7 in both Houses, and to Senator Weaver, Senator Hynes. There's
8 no disagreement as I understand whatsoever about...about this,
9 and I...I would ask for a favorable vote. Thank you.

10 PRESIDENT:

11 Senator Berning.

12 SENATOR BERNING:

13 Yes, if I might ask the sponsor one question.

14 PRESIDENT:

15 She indicates she'll yield.

16 SENATOR BERNING:

17 Does this three million four hundred thousand represent the
18 total that is in default, or is this one year's default, or can
19 you tell me?

20 PRESIDENT:

21 Senator Hickey.

22 SENATOR HICKEY:

23 That's the amount that could be used, but actually they're
24 currently holding about one point five million in claims by lenders
25 that will be paid as soon as HB 3170 ... and it would never go
26 over that three point four.

27 PRESIDENT:

28 Senator Berning.

29 SENATOR BERNING:

30 I apparently didn't make myself clear. Is the three point
31 four the total default at this point?

32 PRESIDENT:

33 Senator Hickey.

1 SENATOR HICKEY:

2 No, I think not. I think that that is...that is a cap which
3 could be used this way, but the default at this point is one point
4 five.

5 PRESIDENT:

6 Any further discussion? Senator Course. Would the members
7 be in their seats. Senator Course is recognized.

8 SENATOR COURSE:

9 Will the sponsor yield to a question, please?

10 PRESIDENT:

11 She indicates she'll yield.

12 SENATOR COURSE:

13 Senator Hickey, is there any attempt made to recover some
14 of these funds or ... do we just write them off?

15 SENATOR HICKEY:

16 I'm sure that there are attempts made to recover these funds.
17 There are...there are ... legal procedures which are followed and
18 they're set up for default, death, disability, and so forth.
19 This particular measure does not go into those provisions.

20 PRESIDENT:

21 Any further discussion? The question is, shall House Bill 3170
22 pass. Those in favor will vote Aye. Those opposed will vote Nay.
23 The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Take the record.
24 On this question, the Ayes are 39, the Nays are none, with 3
25 Voting Present. House Bill 3170 having received the constitutional
26 majority is declared passed. Resolutions.

27 SECRETARY:

28 Senate Resolution 286, introduced by Senator Shapiro and
29 all Senators. It's congratulatory..

30 PRESIDENT:

31 Senator Shapiro.

32 SENATOR SHAPIRO:

33 Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, I move

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1 for the suspension of the rules and the immediate consideration
2 of this resolution. It is merely a congratulatory.

3 PRESIDENT:

4 Senator Shapiro moves for the suspension of rules for the
5 immediate consideration of this resolution. All in favor will
6 say Aye. Opposed Nay. The rules are suspended. Senator Shapiro
7 now moves for the immediate adoption of this resolution. All in
8 favor will say Aye. Opposed Nay. The Ayes have it. The resolu-
9 tion is adopted. Introduction of bills.

10 SECRETARY:

11 Senate Bill 1703.

12 PRESIDENT:

13 Rules. Any further business to come...Senator Harber Hall.

14 SENATOR HARBER HALL:

15 Mr. President, on the order of 3rd reading, is Senate Bill
16 31 that I would like to have brought back to the order of 2nd
17 reading for purpose of amendment. The amendment is filed with
18 the Secretary.

19 PRESIDENT:

20 Is leave granted? Leave is granted. Senate Bill 31 is now
21 on the order of 2nd reading. Senator Harber Hall is recognized.

22 SENATOR HARBER HALL:

23 This amendment is...does two things. It makes a technical
24 correction of thirty-two dollars a day per...per diem that was...
25 erroneously in there and makes it thirty-six which it properly is.
26 And the second and more important, is that the language in the
27 bill now says - on the warrant of the Comptroller out of any money
28 in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated - indicating
29 that when members of the General Assembly are paid, they would
30 only be paid after every...everyone else is paid, and I think it's
31 probably better if the appropriation is made just like any other
32 function of State government and not selected out as something
33 that would only be paid if...under certain conditions. So, I

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1 would move adoption of this amendment.

2 PRESIDENT:

3 Any further discussion on Amendment No. 2? Any further
4 discussion? Senator Hall moves the adoption of Amendment No. 2
5 to Senate Bill 31. All in favor will say Aye. Opposed Nay.
6 The amendment is adopted. Senator Hall.

7 SENATOR HALL:

8 Mr. President, I wonder after intervening business if you'd
9 call this on 3rd reading today?

10 PRESIDENT:

11 I'd be delighted if there is any intervening business. I'm
12 just not sure there's going to be any other. Is there, Mr.
13 Secretary. Introduction of bills. Any further amendments? 3rd
14 reading. Now, we get to the introduction of bills.

15 SECRETARY:

16 Senate Bill 1704 and 1705.

17 PRESIDENT:

18 Rules. Resolutions.

19 SECRETARY:

20 Senate Joint Resolution 69, introduced by Senator Palmer.

21 PRESIDENT:

22 Senator Palmer.

23 SENATOR PALMER:

24 Yeah. Mr. President and members of the Senate, on the
25 committee to investigate the problems concerning the administration
26 of Unemployment Insurance Act, this resolution is to extend the
27 time, the reporting time. I ask that the rules be suspended, the
28 immediate consideration of this resolution and its adoption.

29 PRESIDENT:

30 Senator Palmer moves for the suspension of the rules for the
31 immediate consideration of this resolution. All in favor say Aye.
32 Opposed Nay. The rules are suspended. Senator Palmer now moves
33 for the immediate adoption of this resolution. All in favor will

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1 say Aye. Opposed Nay. The resolution carries.

2 SECRETARY:

3 Senate Resolution 287, introduced by Senator Lane. It's
4 congratulatory.

5 PRESIDENT:

6 Senator Lane. On his behalf, Senator Carroll moves the
7 suspension of rules for the immediate consideration of this
8 resolution. All in favor will say Aye. Opposed Nay. The
9 rules are suspended. Senator Carroll moves for the adoption of
10 this resolution. All in favor will say Aye. Opposed Nay. The
11 resolution is adopted. Senate Bill 31, Senator Harber Hall.

12 Read the bill.

13 SECRETARY:

14 Senate Bill 31.

15 (Secretary reads title of bill)

16 3rd reading of the bill.

17 PRESIDENT:

18 Senator Harber Hall.

19 SENATOR HARBER HALL:

20 Mr. President and fellow Senators, this is the monthly pay
21 bill. It's been changed somewhat, mostly on technical questions,
22 and proper phraseology in the bill, simply provides for monthly
23 pay of all members of the General Assembly. It also provides that
24 they would...the appropriations would be made for this purpose
25 similar to other appropriations for other State agencies. I don't
26 know that it has any provisions that aren't well know to every
27 member of the Body. It's been discussed and talked about for
28 sometime. I would note that a majority...a great majority of
29 this Body are shown as cosponsors of the bill. I now ask that
30 you support the bill by your favorable vote.

31 PRESIDENT:

32 Senator Kenneth Hall.

33 SENATOR KENNETH HALL:

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1. I...I'd just like to ask question of the sponsor, if he'd
2. yield.

3. PRESIDENT:

4. He indicates he'll yield.

5. SENATOR KENNETH HALL:

6. Senator, who wants this bill?

7. SENATOR HARBER HALL:

8. All the...all the citizens of this State who are not members
9. of the General Assembly.

10. PRESIDENT:

11. Senator Savickas.

12. SENATOR SAVICKAS:

13. Mr. President, would the Senator yield for a few questions?

14. PRESIDENT:

15. He indicated he will?

16. SENATOR SAVICKAS:

17. Senator, there are some concerns, evidently the people of
18. Illinois were concerned, that the Legislators receive this yearly
19. check and also it deprives the State Treasury of using these
20. funds throughout the year and gain the interest. Has any det-
21. ermination been made what effect by receiving a monthly check it will
22. have on State income tax or the Federal income tax proportions?
23. What effect it will have on our pension fund which now receives the
24. full amount at one given time instead of dividing it up monthly?
25. Our health insurance, what effect monthly payments will have on our
26. health insurance premiums, if the premiums will go up because
27. now the health insurance doesn't have the use of this lump sum
28. money? Senator, I think these are questions that should be answered
29. and determined before we just rush out and because someone quoted that
30. the State would earn two hundred thousand dollars by paying monthly.
31. It might be that in the long run our pension system, our health insurance,
32. the State use of the income tax money and the Federal government's
33. use of the income tax money plus the additional cost of issuing

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1. checks which would be multiplied twelve times, not once. What
2. this costs if we're only concerned that the taxpayer's were
3. concerned with saving two hundred and thirty thousand dollars,
4. we might be fooling them by voting this legislation out, and in
5. the long run costing them additional monies. I think we should
6. have answers to these questions before we vote on this bill.

7. PRESIDENT:

8. Senator Harber Hall.

9. SENATOR HARBER HALL:

10. Well, that was a very long question. I'll attempt to answer
11. some of the parts that I digested from the long statements that
12. he made. First of all, the Legislative Pension Fund is the
13. strongest in the State, that I'm familiar with. There may be
14. others stronger, but we have several hundred different pension
15. funds, but the Legislative Pension Fund is as strong as any I
16. know, and these...eliminating the small amount of interest that
17. would be earned by withholding money for the Pension Fund im-
18. mediately upon payment at the beginning of year, is negligible
19. and would have no effect on the Fund. Secondly, I have talked
20. to the Comptroller of the State who says he writes hundreds of
21. thousands of checks each month and the cost of giving every
22. member his monthly paycheck, rather than once in January is
23. negligible also. So, you can...we can dismiss with your fears
24. on that, Senator. The other questions you raise about the savings
25. to the State, I concede somewhat that the nominal...the nominal
26. amount of interest to be earned from the amount of the members of
27. the General Assembly being paid monthly, is spread out over the year,
28. is not significant, and I don't use that as an argument whatsoever,
29. so, I think it's only right, and you and I know the main purpose of
30. this is to bring the system of compensation for members of the General
31. Assembly in line with all other public bodies, including the
32. Congress, including the cities, including the counties of our
33. State and in fact, every other business, private or public business,

1. and I think it's only right that the State of Illinois bring their
2. payment in line with that. So, if there are no further questions...

3. PRESIDENT:

4. Senator Savickas.

5. SENATOR SAVICKAS:

6. Yes, Senator, your answers weren't very productive ...information.
7. First of all, it's my understanding that the Legislative Pension
8. System is not as sound as you're trying to make it out to be. It's
9. not one of the strongest pension funded systems in the State.
10. Second of all, your answers were very evasive when you say it's
11. just negligible. You have no figures, so, it's obvious that no
12. study was done to promote this bill other than for the sake of
13. publicity purposes and for the election. I think it's ... we
14. shouldn't be concerning ourselves on the way we look, but on what
15. is right for the people of Illinois. If it's going to cost the
16. people of Illinois more money to provide our checks monthly,
17. they should be told this. They shouldn't be fooled and said - well,
18. we don't know, it's not going to be too much, it might cost a
19. little more, but we want to just keep it in the tune with everybody
20. else. In this day and age, when we have, as you will be screaming
21. very shortly when the budgets come out, that we're spending too
22. much money. If this is just another way of spending more money
23. of the taxpayers of Illinois. I think they should know it. I
24. think we should have figures. The figures should be there - what
25. it's going to cost, what we are going to save. And if those
26. figures justify it and not just campaign rhetoric, if the figures
27. justify it, then I say - right, there is no argument against it.
28. At this point, no figures have been produced, it's always negligible,
29. it's always, well, it looks like it will be better, but there's
30. ...there's no concrete facts, no concrete figures and I would oppose
31. preceding on this bill until we do get some concrete facts and
32. figures.

33. PRESIDENT:

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1. Senator Graham and the Chair has noted that Senators Lemke,
2. Bell and Johns have asked to be speaking on this question.
3. Senator Graham.
4. SENATOR GRAHAM:
5. Mr. President and members of the Senate. I listened, quite
6. intently, to the questions propounded by Senator Savickas and can
7. understand the sincerity of he...he asking those questions and
8. trying to get some answers to the problems that perhaps he has
9. been confronted with...with regard to this bill. The leadership of
10. the Senate, after having talked with most of our members, profess
11. the impact of this proposed type of legislation, pro and con,
12. and decided that we would join with Senator Harber Hall and many
13. of you when this bill was moved from the committee on to the
14. Floor of the Senate for action. I think perhaps that we have
15. reached a time in our legislative lives when our actions are an
16. open book, and sometimes when the book is open, the people that
17. read it, don't understand it, so, I'm not sure that this will
18. allay all of their fears with regard to the character and the abilities
19. of the members of the General Assembly. I think the people that
20. want to criticize us fail to remember that percentage wise in
21. every walk of life, we have those that...that have not treated
22. their responsibilities and their positions as fairly as they should.
23. I think in the General Assembly our percentage is no greater, or
24. ...or probably no smaller. I think, even in the clergy, we have
25. that, reminds me of a story of a clergyman that was sure someone
26. stole his bicycle, and he was in church the next Sunday and he
27. was berating his congregation and he was reading to them the
28. Ten Commandments, and when he got down to the one that said -
29. thou shall not commit adultery - he remembered where he lost...
30. left his bicycle. So, I think if some of the people would assess
31. their own lives, they wouldn't be so quick to condemn us. I think that
32. we have been forced into doing something that we shouldn't do...
33. that has been brought light...that we should have done, and I

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1 think that the people of this State have rightfully demanded,
2 been aroused to the point that they did demand, that we take some
3 action in this regard. I'm not so sure that if we remember back
4 to the ethics and the campaign disclosure and all those things,
5 if we have yielded to pressures that we really didn't understand.
6 I do have a feeling, however, that people in...in the times of a
7 economic crunch, expect us to do the things that we're supposed
8 to do and to indicate to them that we're willing to bite the
9 bullet and help them and help our state. I think that's what we're
10 trying to do here today. And despite the fears that will be
11 created by this bill, ...despite the inconvenience and despite
12 the fact that we're departing from tradition, there are those who
13 have abused the privilege that was given them. There are those
14 who have put us all in a bad light. To those I say - shame on
15 them - to those of us who are willing to submit that this is
16 something we should do, I say - good for us - and for those that
17 are going to print it, I hope they get it straight, so, the
18 people back home can read it.

19 PRESIDENT:

20 Senator Lemke.

21 SENATOR LEMKE:

22 My...I'm not familiar with the Senate rules, but isn't
23 there supposed to be a fiscal note on this bill if it's going to
24 cause problems financially for the State, benefit them, or if it's
25 going to cost us money? And there's no fiscal note I...I see on
26 this bill. What's the cost of this to the State,..government?
27 I mean I can see actuary costs, I can see accounting costs, I can
28 see all kind of costs involved in processing this, but there's
29 been no...no facts or figures. We hear Senator Hall talk about
30 generalities, but I thought all bills that effect the finances of
31 the State should have a fiscal note. Is there a fiscal note on
32 this?

33 PRESIDENT:

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1 The question of the fiscal note is a question which by
2 statute can only be raised at the order of 2nd reading. We're
3 on 3rd reading, now, so, that question becomes moot.

4 SENATOR LEMKE:

5 I understand that, but this is one of the reasons why
6 we shouldn't be pushing these bills over and...and then what we end
7 up with is money coming out of the General Revenue Fund, and then
8 we can't...you can't educate our children, and we can't do a
9 lot of things, because the money is not there, and it's costing
10 us money. And we do these things in...in...haste because...

11 PRESIDENT:

12 Well now, Senator, let me just say that nothing is done in haste
13 as respects this bill. This bill has been on 2nd reading twice,
14 once last week and once this morning. So, I want the record to
15 reflect that it is not done in haste. I want...just protective
16 of the Chair, I must say that it was not done in haste. It's
17 been on 2nd reading twice, at which time the fiscal note question
18 may have been presented. You may continue.

19 SENATOR LEMKE:

20 All right. I think that maybe we should bring this
21 back to second and have a fiscal note on this, because I can see
22 a lot of complications in our financial structure in the State
23 of Illinois caused by this.

24 PRESIDENT:

25 This bill is numbered 31, I would point out for the record,
26 which would indicate it's been here quite sometime. Senator Bell.

27 SENATOR BELL:

28 Well, thank you, Mr. President, members of the Senate. You
29 know, I'm one of those individuals that got my pay in advance as
30 ...as; I guess all of us here have in the past. And as we go on
31 back to our district, we've had, many of us, to address ourselves
32 to the electorate back there in reference to that advance pay.
33 And as you know as well as I, that our people don't get paid that

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1 way, and they really don't understand why why we get paid that
2 way, and it makes little difference to talk about the historical
3 perspectives, that that's the way it's always been done, and that's
4 traditional, and so, I support this bill a hundred percent. I
5 think it is something that the people of the State of Illinois de-
6 mand of their...of their representatives in the General Assembly, but
7 I'd like to say this before I close my remarks in support of this
8 bill. I really don't think, Ladies and Gentlemen, that we members
9 of the General Assembly have done a bad job in addressing this
10 pay problem in reference to the legislature, because historically
11 up to about 1968 or '69, and I wasn't here then, the amount of pay
12 that went into the legislature, into the membership was relatively
13 nominal, and I believe it was with the Constitution of 1970 that
14 the perspective of paying a legislator more on a full-time basis
15 really came into fruition. And that during the years of...in
16 fact, it was 1973 when we first got the pay schedule of seventeen
17 thousand five hundred, and during the year of '73 and '74, we were in
18 the nation and in this State on an economic increase, and nobody
19 particularly addressed themselves to this particular problem.
20 However, with the sliding of the economy, it was on my...as my
21 recollection not until December or January of 1975, January of
22 1975, that the issue really became one of some crucial import.
23 And I would submit to my colleagues here to members of the press,
24 ladies and gentlemen in the gallery, that for a Body such as
25 this in the General Assembly to address itself to this issue in
26 this period of time, in just a little over a year, to react to
27 the needs, and the demands, and the wants of the people of the
28 State of Illinois in reference to this problem, I think it's
29 pretty good. I think it's...I think it's responding as we're
30 elected to do to our electorate, and that we are doing so in a
31 timely manner. We have two hundred and thirty-six members of the
32 General Assembly from a tremendously diversified state, all the way
33 from Cairo to the gold coast of Chicago, from Quincy to Kankakee,

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1 to Joliet, to Decatur, and so on and so forth, and that you know
2 as well as I do, the amount of time that we spent in hammering
3 out issues amongst one another where we try to represent our own
4 common viewpoints of our district, but colleagues on this
5 particular issue, you know, this particular issue the people of
6 the State are standing unified when they say to us - hey, no more,
7 let's get yourselves into gear like we are paid. I happen to
8 think that that's the thing we should do. I support this bill,
9 Mr. President. Thank you, very much.

10 PRESIDENT:

11 Senator Johns.

12 SENATOR JOHNS:

13 Thank you, Mr. President. I rise in support of this bill.
14 I think it's an antiquated measure that we've been living with.
15 It's abnormal. It gives an image of greed to this Body. It destroys,
16 to me, the spirit of dedication that I know exists here. If the
17 cost are of any measure, I think it would be worthwhile to restore
18 the public confidence that this might do. Our young people today
19 are not heading toward State government or Federal government be-
20 cause really the image that we have is tarnished. This would help
21 young people think twice about the actions that we take here, and
22 it might make them more interested in becoming leaders in govern-
23 ment rather than leaders in business. It's my understanding that
24 the payroll ceases upon the death of an individual, rightfully
25 so. It also will cease upon the resignation of an individual, and
26 rightfully so. I applaud this move. I think it's long overdue.
27 I think it's worthwhile, and I implore the rest of the colleagues
28 here to vote in the affirmative. Thank you, Mr. President.

29 PRESIDENT:

30 Senator Knuppel.

31 SENATOR KNUPPEL:

32 Mr. Chairman and members of the Body. Certainly, the people
33 of the State of Illinois want this legislation. Whether they want it

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1 understandingly or not, is another thing. What this really con-
2 stitutes is a cut in salary for those of us who have taken our
3 salary at one time. There have been abuses and that is un-
4 fortunate, and I regret those where people have taken and...their
5 salaries, resigned or died and those have not been repaid by
6 their estates. But, there is another feature about this that I
7 see that disturbed me a little bit. I probably won't be around
8 to make...for it to make too much difference, but what this is,
9 and if you'd listened to Senator Bell, you'd have heard it under-
10 neath. This moves us inexorably toward a full-time General
11 Assembly. Those people who can take this money as a chunk and
12 can...can gain subtenance from other source of income, who have
13 the independence to come here and not necessarily to have to
14 rely on this money will be soon removed, because you will find
15 full-time legislators who want their check once a month like
16 the man who works in the factory, and they will be full-time
17 employees the year around. There'll be people who'll come here
18 and collect it that way, and they'll work that way, and then
19 they will say to the people of this State of Illinois - I'm
20 worth as much as a State's Attorney in a county of thirty thousand,
21 I'm worth as much as a circuit judge in a county of ten thousand,
22 I want forty-two thousand, five hundred dollars a year, and in-
23 exorably, we move toward that end, and I'm going to vote for this,
24 because this is truly what the people want, but do they realize
25 that within ten years, within ten years, I stand here and predict
26 that you will be paying legislators, because the greater part of
27 them, if you read Kenney Watson the other morning, he pointed out
28 that more and more people are becoming full-time legislators or
29 listing themselves as this, that you will have by far the greatest
30 number of your people in this Body, full-time legislators drawing
31 salaries of forty-two thousand five hundred dollars a year. I
32 can make a nice living without the seventeen thousand five hundred
33 I get. I like to get it in a chunk and invest it someplace. That's not

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1. what my constituents want. They want me to draw it in twelve
2. separate checks as the way they do, and by doing that, I'm sure
3. that that I'm taking a pay cut and...and this makes my salary
4. look even more paltry compared to the State's Attorney in my
5. county who is going to be getting...in some of my counties who
6. is going to get...be getting forty-two thousand five hundred,
7. but I'm telling you, not because you don't understand it, because
8. you. You're caught in the same situation I am. You realize that
9. this is what the people want. Eighty-six percent of the people
10. want this. But you also know that when we pass this, and when
11. we pass legislation like the bill that's being circulated where
12. you can't have conflicts...of interest, and so forth, and there's
13. no way that a man can vote and not have a conflict of interest on
14. something that we are moving inexorably as I have said to a full-
15. time General Assembly. This is a small step in that direction.
16. I'll support it, because eighty-six percent of my people want
17. me to support it, but I am truly, because I...I am unable to ex-
18. plain to them, and I realize this, I am voting really against
19. their best interests, but I am voting the way they want me to.

20. PRESIDENT:

21. Senator Donnewald.

22. SENATOR DONNEWALD:

23. Yes, Mr. President and members of the Senate. I noticed that
24. this particular subject is one of the constitutional initiative
25. petitions and we're remedying that...or that we're attempting
26. remedy it and probably will by Statute. Of course, if you want
27. to follow through, my good friends in the Senate on both sides of
28. the aisle, I think you have to take into consideration another
29. one of those initiative petitions, and that is, of course, ethics
30. and conflicts on voting on things that affect yourselves, there-
31. fore, you want to follow through just exactly as you are on the
32. one initiative petition. I don't think that any Senator here
33. should be allowed to vote on this particular bill.

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1. PRESIDENT:

2. Senator Demuzio.

3. SENATOR DEMUZIO:

4. Thank you, Mr. President. I'll be very brief. I go along
5. with Senator Bill...Bell's comments that the people of Illinois
6. are certainly demanding this legislation. There is very, very
7. few people in Illinois that receive their pay in advance, and
8. there is no reason whatsoever that we, as legislators, ought to
9. set ourselves as...as above those individuals who...who are the
10. average working class of this...of this State. It's up to the
11. Legislature to reform itself. Yes, there have been abuses in the
12. system. There have been abuses in the salary that has occurred
13. here since...since I came here in January and certainly this is
14. a good bill. Ought to be passed now and the people of Illinois
15. will recognize that the Illinois State Senate has taken the
16. leadership in attempting to reform itself. I rise in support
17. of the measure. Thank you.

18. PRESIDENT:

19. Any further discussion? Senator Bell, do you care to
20. close the debate? Senator Hall, I'm sorry. Senator Harber Hall.

21. SENATOR HARBER HALL:

22. Well, in concluding this debate, Mr. President, I'd just like
23. to say that I have the same concerns that Senator Knuppel expressed
24. so well about the trend to full-time legislature. I think if I
25. have an opportunity to campaign this year, I'm going to tell the
26. people as would...about the same thing he has said before us today,
27. and that is that the full-time legislature is not in their interest,
28. and those candidates who aspire to the positions in the General
29. Assembly and think that their people want to hear that they're
30. going to be full-time legislators should be explained that they
31. really had better think that one out. The people I talked to when
32. I do discuss a full-time legislature certainly do not want it.
33. The citizens do not want it. They know it means more money.

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1 They know it means a bigger bureacracy, and they also know, as
2 they've seen with the United States Congress, that it means
3 more detachment of their Congress and less control of...of
4 government, so, I do agree on that point. However, the fact is,
5 that we should not ethically, morally, or with the people's interest
6 in mind, isolate ourselves and put ourselves a plane that other
7 people cannot, by any account, aspire to themselves, so, with
8 one last word about the Pension Fund, I would suggest, and I
9 was very proud on March 3rd, when so many of you asked to be co-
10 sponsors of this legislation, I want no...certainly no pride
11 in...in bringing it before you, but I am happy that most of you
12 see the need for this, and I want to say that those who don't,
13 while I respect your view and your sincerity in...in explaining
14 your arguments against this bill, I would suggest to you that the
15 Pension Fund probably would be strenghtened by your vote against
16 this if the Citizens are aware that you did indeed vote against
17 it, because it would probably mean...involuntary retirement for
18 you. With no further explanation, I would solicit your support
19 for Senate Bill 31.

20 PRESIDENT:

21 The question is, shall this bill pass, Senate Bill 31. Those
22 in favor will vote Aye. Opposed Nay. The voting is open. Have
23 all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, the
24 Ayes are 45, the Nays are none, with 7 Voting Present. Senate Bill
25 31 having received the constitutional majority is declared passed.
26 Senator Graham.

27 SENATOR GRAHAM:

28 I'm sure that Senator Mohr had asked the Senate to acknowledge
29 the fact that Senator Harris had another commitment and was unable
30 to be here. I think that it would be well for us to note that
31 Senator Harris was one of the movers that helped get this bill out
32 of committee, and had be been here, I'm sure that light...that
33 green light would have been burning brightly.

1. PRESIDENT:

2. The record will so show. Senator Demuzio.

3. SENATOR DEMUZIO:

4. Mr. President, I rise on a point of personal privilege.

5. PRESIDENT:

6. State your point.

7. SENATOR DEMUZIO:

8. Seated in the southeastern gallery, the...we have three
9. distinguished members of Greene County that are visiting the
10. Legislature today, Mrs. Ava Nell Jackson and her son, Mr. ...
11. Mr. Jackson and his wife, if they would please rise and be
12. recognized by the Illinois Senate.

13. PRESIDENT:

14. Senator Knuppel.

15. SENATOR KNUPPEL:

16. On a ...point of personal privilege...

17. PRESIDENT:

18. State your point.

19. SENATOR KNUPPEL:

20. ...Mr. President and members of the Body. Seems like I
21. read some place when you took over as President, that we were
22. going to cut out all this falderal about these congratulatory
23. messages and introducing people from the balcony, and wasting the
24. other fifty-eight Senators time doing this. Just where is...
25. what's the status of that rule?

26. PRESIDENT:

27. It's in a state of what might be described as a moribund state.
28. I agree totally with you, Senator, that that was, of course, the
29. plan. As respect to resolutions, it would only be effective if
30. we could get both the House and Senate to do the same thing. So
31. long as the House does not have the resolution with reference to
32. resolutions, it does not have any impact here to try to enforce
33. one. I understand what you're saying, but it's a way of life around

1 here, it seems. Senator Knuppel.

2 SENATOR KNUPPEL:

3 Well, it does cost the taxpayer's money, and I notice, you
4 know, some of these full-time legislators that are so concerned
5 about the cost and so forth. I...I...I'd like to see us cut it
6 out. I mean if we're really concerned, let's get down to business,
7 let's hammer this stuff out, let's forget these congratulatory
8 messages and all this other falderal, and let's do business. If
9 we're serious, I...I'm sure this is what's going to happen to the
10 General Assembly. They're going to be here all the time, and
11 about two-thirds of the time is going to be used up with these
12 congratulatory messages, and introductions, and dancing around
13 for the benefit of the public.

14 PRESIDENT:

15 Senator, that's an old expression. It always depends on
16 whose ox is being gored. Senator Course.

17 SENATOR COURSE:

18 Yes, Mr. President and members of the Senate. I'd like to
19 make one observation. The people of the State of Illinois were
20 also opposed to a pay raise for the legislators, but the press
21 should take note of this here. They should look at the roll
22 call and then compare it to the legislators who voted against a
23 pay raise for the legislators, who spoke against the pay raise
24 for the legislator, the twenty thousand dollars, but didn't
25 hesitate to take it, and they took it in one lump sum, they took
26 it year after year, and it was perfectly all right, then. But,
27 I don't see these people rising now and saying - Well, I was
28 wrong in taking this pay raise. I'll give it back to the people
29 of the State of Illinois, because the people of the State of
30 Illinois didn't want us to have a pay raise. But, these are the
31 people who are voting for this legislation and sit on their hands
32 and do nothing, and then they'll go back and tell their people -
33 Well, I voted against the proposition that we have to take our pay

1 raise a year at time, but I didn't vote against the pay raise.

2 PRESIDENT:

3 Any further discussion? Senator Latherow.

4 SENATOR LATHEROW:

5 Well, thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to rise on a
6 point of personal privilege.

7 PRESIDENT:

8 State your point.

9 SENATOR LATHEROW:

10 But, while I'm stating that, I'd like also to make an
11 observance. You know, I think you talk about what the people
12 want. I think many of these young people who come down as
13 children and are introduced in the balcony go home and talk more
14 about that than they do. And I kind of think that the people
15 that come down here kind of enjoyed it. So, my point of personal
16 privilege, Mr. President, was, sitting in the gallery are the
17 son...daughter and son-in-law of Senator Ozinga and, of course,
18 they brought along their grandson, Curt. Bill and Janice Hoffman
19 and grandson, Curt, I wonder if they'd rise and be recognized
20 by the Senate.

21 PRESIDENT:

22 Introduction of bills.

23 SECRETARY:

24 Senate Bill 1706 and 1707.

25 PRESIDENT:

26 Rules.

27 SECRETARY:

28 Senate Bill 1708, introduced by Senator Egan.

29 (Secretary reads title of bill)

30 PRESIDENT:

31 Assignment of bills.

32 SECRETARY:

33 1st reading of the bill. Senate Bill 1709 through 1711.

1 PRESIDENT:
2 Rules. For what purpose does Senator Palmer arise?
3 SENATOR PALMER:
4 Personal privilege, Mr. President.
5 PRESIDENT:
6 State your point.
7 SENATOR PALMER:
8 ...Since Senator Knuppel does want to speak on his own
9 behalf, I'd like to introduce some people in the gallery. But,
10 to your right...the...from his districts...from Senator Knuppel's
11 district are here to greet him.
12 PRESIDENT:
13 Senator Weaver.
14 SENATOR WEAVER:
15 Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to announce a Republican
16 caucus in the morning. It'll probably be around 9:15 in Room
17 400, 9:15, Room 400.
18 PRESIDENT:
19 For what purpose does Senator Chew arise?
20 SENATOR CHEW:
21 I want it to bring it to the attention of Senator Weaver that
22 there's a Finance and Credit Regulations meeting at 8:30 tomorrow
23 morning and some of your members are on that committee.
24 PRESIDENT:
25 Senator Weaver.
26 SENATOR WEAVER:
27 You had just one bill, I think, on that committee. I'd hoped
28 that by 9:15 or 9:30 why we'd be able to...thank you, Senator Chew.
29 PRESIDENT:
30 Any further discussion? We have another introduction of bills
31 there? One introduction of bills.
32 SECRETARY:
33 Senate Bill 1712, introduced by Senator Hynes, Partee, Rock,

1 Donnewald and Bruce.

2 (Secretary reads title of bill)

3 1st reading of the bill.

4 PRESIDENT:

5 Assignment of bills. Any further business to come before
6 the Senate? The Chair will make the announcement that the
7 Rules Committee will meet at 1:45 in the Office of the President.
8 Senator Rock moves that the Senate stand in adjournment till
9 tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m. All in favor say Aye. Opposed
10 Nay. The Senate is adjourned.

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