

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
90TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

98th Legislative Day

April 30, 1998

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The regular Session of the 90th General Assembly will please come to order. Will the Members please be at their desks, and will our guests in the gallery please rise? Our prayer today will be given by Father Thom Dennis, Cathedral (of the) Immaculate Conception, Springfield, Illinois. Father Dennis.

FATHER THOM DENNIS:

(Prayer by Father Thom Dennis)

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Please remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Senator Sieben.

SENATOR SIEBEN:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Sieben)

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

...Journal.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Journal of Tuesday, April 28th, 1998.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Butler.

SENATOR BUTLER:

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

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Butler moves to approve the Journal just read. There being no objection, so ordered. Committee Reports. Senator Butler.

SENATOR BUTLER:

Mr. President, I move that reading and approval of the Journals of Wednesday, April 29th, in the year 1998, be postponed, pending arrival of the printed Journal.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

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...Butler moves to postpone the reading and the approval of the Journal, pending the arrival of the printed transcript. There being no objection, so ordered. Committee Reports.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senator Mahar, Chair of the Committee on Environment and Energy, reports House Bills 3256 and 3631 Do Pass; and House Bills 3129 and 3257 Do Pass, as Amended.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Resolutions.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Resolution 202, offered by Senators Klemm, Geo-Karis and all Members.

It's a death resolution, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Consent Calendar. There's been a request by WCIA-Channel 3 to request to videotape. Is leave granted? Leave is granted. House Bills 1st Reading.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 2812, offered by Senator Madigan.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Will the Members please be in their -- in their seats? Will the Members please be in their seats? On page 9 of the Calendar is the Order of Constitutional Amendments and SJR 15. Senator Dillard, do you wish SJR, Constitutional Amendment, 15 to be considered? Mr. Secretary, read the resolution.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, 15, offered by Senator Dillard, as amended by House Amendment No. 1.

(Secretary reads SJRCA No. 15, as amended by House Amendment No. 1)

3rd Reading of the amended resolution.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. We have seen this before in slightly a different form, but I'm happy to be here now on the final passage stage to perhaps, hopefully, send this to the voters of Illinois in November to encourage us to let our citizens give us less government, more efficiency and at a lower cost, and that is consolidating the functions of the Treasurer and Comptroller's Office in Illinois. There are many compelling reasons to be for this. Just a couple are: We should streamline government whenever we can, and here we would combine two fiscal offices into one operation; and then there's the cost savings, which while it is impossible to tell you how many millions of dollars this will save, the taxpayers will have some efficiencies. I guess, most importantly, when I first looked at this amendment and I got the idea originally from Texas, where this was very successful, and our current State Treasurer, Judy Baar Topinka, has long been a big proponent, as have most of the editorial boards and many of the deeper thinkers about Illinois government and politics for the last twenty years. Most states combine these two offices, and I think when you have things that work successfully around the United States, we should copy them, especially when we can save money. But the safety factor of how do we make sure that the taxpayers' dollars are spent wisely, they're protected from any fraud or other problems that, sometimes in Illinois' earlier history, have been on people's minds. Let's talk about the safety factor. Things are different than twenty-five years ago. We now have a strong Auditor General with an independent authority to check our books. We have a Bureau of the Budget. We have the University of Illinois, who regularly looks at State finances.

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The Legislative Audit Commission provides tremendous oversight in the operations of State government. We now have something we didn't have twenty or thirty years ago, and that's a professional appropriation staff of our own here in the General Assembly, and I think the Members of the Appropriations Committees do a great job. Computer technology wasn't around when we wrote our Constitution in 1970. That provides a wealth of information quicker and more accurately than a human being could do at any time. And we have the first-ever Inspector General in the Office of the Treasurer to give an independent authority to investigate any problems. So, we've discussed this at length, and I just think it is now time. This matter has been discussed for a quarter of a century and it's now time to save several millions of dollars, put those dollars into other worthy programs, like education. I'd be happy to answer any questions. This bill was amended to change the name of this office, in the House of Representatives, but it still does the essential things that I think the taxpayers want: combines the Comptroller and the Treasurer into one office and saves people money, which we could use in other areas, like education. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Further discussion? Senator Hendon.

SENATOR HENDON:

Thank you, Madam President. Will the sponsor yield for a question?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

He indicates he will.

SENATOR HENDON:

Senator Dillard, just for -- I'm sure everyone in the Chamber knows, but the current Comptroller, whose job you're going to be eliminating, just for the record, who is that?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

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Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

Currently, today, Senator Hendon, it's Loleta Didrickson. We'll find out at the next election cycle, this November, who the successor Comptroller will be until the offices are eliminated, if this constitutional amendment is approved by us and the voters, in 2002.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Hendon.

SENATOR HENDON:

And is -- is the Comptroller doing a -- a bad job? Is -- is her work quality not at the level that makes it where we would keep this office? What -- what's inspiring you to eliminate this vital position in the State of Illinois? Is it -- is it -- is it that checks aren't coming on time or the bills aren't being -- what is the Comptroller doing wrong?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

I don't think this current Comptroller is doing anything wrong. But I want to do two things: I want to save money that we can use and put in other more important areas, like education, which would be my top priority. I know many of our colleagues, Senator Hendon, have other priorities where they might put several million dollars. I always believe it's important to eliminate payrollers or others and not have needless duplication. And through normal attrition patterns, we can eliminate a number of State employee positions, because you'll only have one office as opposed to two, meaning the more, I guess, bureaucratic structure of the office. And, I guess, most importantly, one-stop shopping is important to me. People are confused today, when they have a question about State finance. They don't understand the

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difference between the Comptroller and the Treasurer's Office. And I just think there ought to be one person that you can call to get your question answered about State government. And this is the way it's done in most states, and I think it makes sense for Illinois, especially when we can downsize government and save money and use those funds to put into other programs or tax relief.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Hendon.

SENATOR HENDON:

Well, I -- I'll conclude, because I know everyone is -- is ready to go home. But it's amazing to me, because I had a discussion with some of my Republican friends the other day and the concern was maybe we've over-consolidated in the Department of Human Services. For instance, sometimes you can over-consolidate. And I just see this as being similar to that. Secondly, I'd like to know: Who is the Republican nominee for this position in the fall, and doesn't it make it very awkward for them to be running for a position? If you were the Republican candidate for Comptroller, would you put your heart and soul into running for that office that -- knowing that Senator Dillard is about to eliminate it?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Is that a rhetorical question, Senator Hendon?

SENATOR HENDON:

No, I -- I'd really like an answer, because you have people running for this office and -- it wouldn't bother me if a Republican won or a Democrat won, but just -- you know, it's awful hard to run for Senator, even, if you know the office is being eliminated. How would the Republican candidate respond, and who is that candidate? I don't -- I don't know.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

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Senator Hendon, I think you know. Senator Demuzio.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Thank you very much. I'd like to ask the gentleman a question, if he would yield, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

He will yield.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Senator Dillard, let me ask a couple of questions here. First of all, I see where we are, in fact, changing the -- the Statute with respect to vacancies and affording the -- the State Financial Officer to be appointed by the Governor. I also notice that this constitutional amendment takes effect upon the approval of the amendment by the voters of this State, which would be in November of this year. Would we not -- with the election of the Comptroller and the Treasurer, who are up for re-election for four-year terms, would that not create three new -- three constitutional officers attempting to do the same function?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

Thank you, Senator Demuzio, for asking those questions, and I've thought about those myself. First of all, there will not be any overlapping of the Offices of the State Fiscal Officer, Comptroller and Treasurer. There won't be an appropriation for the SFO position until the year 2002. There won't be any salary for the SFO until 2002. This is -- this change is -- in the offices is being created in the Constitution in 1998 for organizational purposes only, and trailer and implementing legislation will flush out the State Financial Officer's duties and reconcile the Comptroller and Treasurer's statutory duties. I will say, when this left here in its original form, we had that section of the constitutional amendment in a little bit better

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form, and it went over to the House of Representatives and they decided to change the implementation schedule. And actually, I notice that Speaker Madigan had filed House Amendment No. 2 to Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, 15, which would have corrected and maybe cleared up some of the questions, Senator Demuzio, that you just asked. But Speaker Madigan decided, for whatever reason, to withdraw his amendment. Maybe he wanted this to die. I don't know what the Speaker's ideas were. But I will tell you, even as it's drawn today, there are no problems, and it'll go on the books, if the voters approve this, for organizational, or clarificational, purposes only. And the SFO position will not begin until 2002, and there shall be no problems in the continuity here. And again, we control that process - we, the Legislature - by trailer legislation.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Demuzio.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Well, thank you very much. I, frankly, can't concur with anything that you've indicated. First of all, the Governor can appoint the vacancy immediately upon this being approved by the voters. For all I know, he could appoint the loser of the Treasurer or the Comptroller's race to serve for -- for the period of time in which the Comptroller and the Treasurer would be elected to a four-year term. Now, what do you do with the section that says the State Financial Officer's Duties. It says the State Financial Officer, in accordance with the law, shall maintain the State's central fiscal accounts, and order payments into and out of the accounts and shall be responsible for safekeeping -- the -- and investments of money and securities deposited with him or her, and for their disbursement. We're going to have three financial officers for a period of four years if your -- if the voters approve this amendment. What happens with the bond houses? What



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happens with our securities? What happens with our deposits? I think this is -- you know, this -- this thing is not well-thought-out. It is a proposal that ought to die. It's a -- contrary to everything that the Committee on Executive of the Illinois Constitutional Convention talked about, in terms of making sure that there was a separate office of Comptroller and Treasurer. It seems to me that when you indicate that this is simply going to be an -- an office that's going to be established with no money, I would -- I would venture to say that when someone wants to deposit the money of the State, or have questions about it or its investments, I would venture to say that this invites a whole bunch of lawsuits, it seems to me. The proposition that we sent out of here in the Senate to the House far exceeds the proposition as it came back, and therefore, I rise in opposition.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Any further discussion? Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you, Madam President. I'd like to ask a question of the sponsor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

He'll yield.

SENATOR WELCH:

Senator Dillard, I'm not sure I understand where the savings are going to come from. That seems to be the main reason that is being used to pass this legislation. When we had our Appropriations meeting on Tuesday, Comptroller Didrickson appeared, and I ask her, specifically: If her office was merged with the Treasurer's Office, where would the savings come? How much of her budget would be saved in this combination? And, Senator, her response was very instructive and illuminating to me. What she said was: All of the savings will come from the Treasurer's Office reductions. Now, where do you see the savings

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coming from?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

First, I see them coming personnel-wise, right off the top. A new combined office would need only one chief of staff, one legislative liaison, one press secretary, and I could go on and on. And, of course, you'd be eliminating the cost of one constitutional officer: that person's salary, that person's limousine, that person's residence in Springfield. There'd also be substantial savings in rent, data processing and other areas. And while I have said that I can't give you an exact dollar figure, they saved almost ten million dollars in Texas. And I don't know what part of the State you represent, Senator Welch, but ten million bucks sure could be used by the schools in my district.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Well, I think that was kind of a cheap shot, Senator. I'm serious about asking where the money is being saved because we're talking about a thirty-five-billion-dollar budget, and you're talking about saving the cost of a car for one year, the cost of -- an -- cost of -- actually, your -- your State Treasurer has two press secretaries that are extremely highly paid, over sixty thousand dollars each. So is -- if we just paid them a reasonable salary, Senator, we would -- we would eliminate that particular cost. But, you know, it's amazing to me that the argument that you've made is that, well, we now are computerized, so we can catch these glitches; we've got an Appropriations Committee that is catching these mistakes. Ladies and Gentlemen, the biggest scandal we've had here in years, the MSI scandal, occurred while

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we have computerized all of our records, while we have the Appropriations Committee checking expenditures. So, in spite of the great move forward in intellectual property that we've had, as far as creating computers, they didn't catch this, because what happens is these contracts are let underneath the guidelines that we have, as to how much has to be bid for contracts or how much has to be explained. There is always going to be a way around these. To say we're going to eliminate one oversight position seems, to me, to be false economy. You're saving a few dollars, yes. In a thirty-five-billion-dollar budget, I think it may be more important to spend some money to try to keep an eye on the money that we're spending. People in my district certainly are concerned about ten million dollars. But you know what? They're more concerned about the thirty-five billion that we won't have an extra eye watching over. That's what they're really concerned about, Senator. And I'm surprised that you would make such a cavalier statement, because I know you're -- you're a very intelligent Senator, and you're -- frankly, I think you're a -- a very good Senator. But it seems to me that -- that you're raising the wrong issues here. This economy issue is the same one we heard when Pat Quinn cut the House by one-third. What happened to that money? What happened to that streamline money? It didn't last. It was -- it was a smoke screen for somebody to get elected. And I know you're not using for that -- that purpose, but that's what Pat Quinn did. And the savings aren't there. They were immediately absorbed into other agencies, and it costs more to run the House now than it ever did. You know, when the Constitutional Convention was created, it was created so that it would be nonpartisan. It was created so that it would be a group of individuals that didn't really contain very many legislators. And that was done for a reason: so that they could deliberate without the baggage that the legislators had carried, all the

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lobbyists lobbying them that they had owed promises to. And so the Constitutional Convention came up with the idea of having both the Comptroller and a Treasurer. And, you know, Robert Frost once wrote that: before I tore down a fence, I'd ask why it was put up in the first place. And I think that's what we have to ask on this. Once again, we're trying to eliminate an oversight position on the budget that was created after the scandals of Orville Hodge, after the scandals of Otto Kerner, who went to jail, and I don't think we're saving a lot of money, and this is a false economy. In addition, once again, we are taking away the right of the voters to elect officials. We're, once again, taking a position and -- eliminating it so the voters don't have a say. You know, when we eliminated, in that Constitutional Convention, the Superintendent of Education, I think that was a big mistake. And now we have people coming to us, "What's happening with this money on the bonding provision?" "Well, those are rules set by the Superintendent of Education. We can't do much about that." Well, if we had an elected Superintendent of Education, the voters could do something about that. But we eliminated that with the same arguments here: "Well, we're going to economize; we're going to -- we're going to roll this into another office." I just think that what we're doing here is chipping away at the democracy that we have in the State of Illinois. Once again, we're eliminating an elective office; we're taking the voters' rights away; we're telling them they're going to save money, when it's a false promise, and everybody here knows it. Everybody knows here that, in three or four or five years out, there won't be any savings on this. We know that. So I think that we should vote against this. I think we should leave things the way they are. If we want to eliminate an office, let's look at the Lieutenant Governor or some other office. These two offices should stay separate, and I would urge a No vote.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Further discussion? Senator Fawell.

SENATOR FAWELL:

Thank you very much. Will the sponsor yield for a question?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

He indicates he will.

SENATOR FAWELL:

Senator Dillard, when we sent this amendment over to the House, I believe we did not have a -- a State Fiscal Officer in the original Constitution. Is that right? I mean, constitutional amendment.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

That's correct. We called it the State Treasurer. And the House of Representatives also, as Senator Demuzio pointed out, changed the implementation schedule to create a SFO position. They did that on November 3rd. And, so they changed it. Speaker Madigan filed an amendment, and withdrew it, that might have clarified it a little more artfully. But we called it Treasurer and they changed the name to State Fiscal Officer.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Fawell.

SENATOR FAWELL:

So the State Fiscal Officer was -- was the result of Senator's -- I mean, of Representative, and -- and Speaker, Madigan's legal opinion that this would be a better way to do it?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

The actual amendment that changed the name to State Financial Officer was that of Representative Bugielski; however, Speaker

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Madigan filed House Amendment No. 2, which he later retracted or withdrew, that would have corrected the implementation schedule, made it more like that which we passed here.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Fawell.

SENATOR FAWELL:

Could you tell me who's in control of the House? I mean, who's the Majority Party...

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR FAWELL:

...and who's the Minority Party?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

Senator Fawell, you know, as this has come back over and we've read this three times in its entirety, this is really now the House Democrats version of combining the offices of the Comptroller and Treasurer. And being the go-along kind of guy that I sometimes tend to be, I just defer to Speaker Madigan's judgment on how this should be drafted.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Further discussion? Senator Collins.

SENATOR COLLINS:

Thank you, Madam. A question of the sponsor, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

He indicates he'll yield.

SENATOR COLLINS:

Senator -- Senator Dillard, first, I -- I guess, a statement. I think the issue here has gone beyond, Senator, whether or not one is for or against the elimination of the Comptroller's Office, you know, or what you call it, whether you call it Chief Fiscal

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Officer or whether you call it Comptroller. The major problem here is you're -- you're dealing with the time schedule on the constitutional amendment, but the implementation schedule, notwithstanding the name, this is all wrong. And it's -- it is a very serious issue here. Because what you have -- Senator Demuzio was talking about here, this issue comes effective upon approval by the voters, which is in November of this year. You have four whole years here with the creation of a new office, and the other confusion is the chief executive of that office is not supposed to be elected until four years from now; however, more confusing, you have written into this amendment itself that the Governor can appoint. Now, the issue here is whether or not the Governor is going to appoint, within this next four years, a Chief Financial Officer, or will this office be operating. You say it need to be there for organizational purpose. You say that it will be no funding involved. You're not making any sense here. Now, what you have here, for whatever reason, you've got a mistake. You've got a bill that is -- amendment that is flawed, that need to be either put back or -- or not moved at all. You've got time to do it two years from now, if you want to do it and do it right. This amendment should not move in this state. You know it, I know it, and everyone else know it that's responsible here. And maybe -- maybe, that's what Madigan recognized, too, and maybe that's why he didn't put the amendment on. Notwithstanding why he didn't, why are you moving this amendment, and you know it is technically flawed and it is totally not the intent of the creation of this office to appoint someone within the next four years?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

I'm moving forward to try to save money, and it -- this has been a paramount concern of editorial writers and those who follow

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State government who have said we should combine these two offices for the last couple of decades, and that's why I'm moving forward with it. Primarily to save money, but because we think it's good government to combine the two offices.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Collins.

SENATOR COLLINS:

Senator, it has nothing to do with saving money, because, here again, if this office is going to be created as of November or December, or January of next year, you're not going to be saving any money. You're going to waste four years of creating a new office, while we still operate the Treasurer's Office and the Comptroller's Office the next four years. You have four years. So now, what you've done, you have compounded the expense of operating the fiscal agencies of this State by creating a new one for four years. That makes no sense if you're talking about saving money.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Further discussion? Senator Geo-Karis.

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

Madam President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, briefly, as my colleague on the other side said: Why deprive the people from having a vote? That's why we're asking for this vote, to let the people decide whether we can save some money, since there are about four hundred employees in both offices. And I think it is incumbent upon us to try and save money for the people of the State of Illinois and still give them the most efficient service, and I support the amendment.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Further discussion? Senator Carroll.

SENATOR CARROLL:

Thank you, Madam President and Members of the Senate. While I



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support the idea of downsizing government and, in fact, had proposed eliminating another constitutional office, this is a Constitution. It is not easy to change. It has to be read word by word, with great detail. The emphasis is in the language. This is, in my opinion, fatally flawed, however. Not only have you done some things that we might have to do, like taking away the double protection on -- on having two signatures on short-term bonds, but the way, as I understand it, this is now crafted, yes, it will create a new position the moment approved by the voters. There is no doubt about that. So there will be a third fiscal officer. Equally important, because of the way the schedule of transition is written, should there become a vacancy in the Office of Treasurer or the Office of Comptroller between the time this is approved by the voters in November and four years and two months later, there is no authority - no authority - and therefore a prohibition, on replacing either of those positions. So the State would be without a Treasurer or without a Comptroller for the remainder of that time. Should the Treasurer or Comptroller resign or die or be ineligible for office, we would be absent one, and therefore, for that length of time - two, three, four years - the State would be in fiscal chaos. You would not have the person who could keep the books. You would not have the person who could write the checks, who could sign the bonds. The transition schedule is, in and of itself, faulty because it eliminates the position four years from now, but it eliminates the ability to replace upon the people's approval. So you have that four-year gap where we would be in total fiscal chaos. The idea is great, but we got to live with the language. The language, in my opinion, is fatally flawed and it should be changed.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Further discussion? If not, Senator Dillard, to close.

SENATOR DILLARD:

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Thank you, Madam President. I'll try to make my closing brief. I just want to answer Senator Carroll on if the Treasurer or Comptroller, for whatever reason, in this next four-year term upcoming, would not be able to finish their term. On page 3, section {sic} (subsection) 3, under the Schedule, it says, "those provisions {sic} (portions) eliminating the offices of the Treasurer and (the) Comptroller take effect upon the conclusion of the terms of the Treasurer and Comptroller elected in 1998." And if you read this section of the Constitution as a whole, should the Treasurer or Comptroller be incapacitated, get indicted, or whatever reason we would need a new Treasurer or Comptroller in the 1998 to 2002 period, I still believe that the current procedure for reappointing somebody to go into those positions would still prevail. Let me just close by saying, while Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, 15 is not perfectly drafted as it came over from the House, it is the best version we have in the constitutional time allotted to pass this amendment, which has been looked at for twenty years and is supported by numerous groups, including most of the editorial boards of the State of Illinois. The intent of this resolution is to save taxpayers' monies by consolidating the offices, and that goal is the paramount consideration of mine and we know it's worked well in Texas. There shall not be overlapping offices for the SFO, Comptroller and the Treasurer. There won't be any appropriation for the SFO until the year 2002. I can't imagine a Legislature, no matter what political party, is going to appropriate money for an SFO until the year 2002, when the first time that person is duly constituted to sit in that position. There won't be a salary for the SFO until he or she is elected in 2002. So while somebody can concoct a wild scenario, while the Governor might appoint somebody named a State Fiscal Officer, that person's not going to have any money, it's not going to have any offices. And most

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importantly, trailer and implementing legislation will flush out the duties of the SFO and reconcile the Comptroller and Treasurer's statutory duties. And again, I don't care who controls which Chamber of the Legislature, we are not going to throw the State of Illinois into any kind of question or limbo with our finances. And no matter who is in control of each Chamber, we will do it responsibly by trailer legislation. The office is -- the new office is created in the Constitution in 1998 for organizational purposes only, and while we may all bicker all day long that we would like to draft the implementation schedule differently than Speaker Madigan and his friends in the House of Representatives wanted it drafted, this will work and it will work well. We've waited many years to combine these two offices. And I say, let's put it to the voters, and the time is now. Thank you very much, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Dillard moves the adoption and approval of Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, 15, with House Amendment No. 1. The question is, shall Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, 15, with House Amendment 1 be adopted and approved. Pursuant to Section 2, Article XIV of the Illinois Constitution, amendments must be approved by three-fifths of the Members elected. Those in favor, vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record, Mr. Secretary. The -- on that question, there are 32 Ayes, 14 Nays, 13 voting Present. And the Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, 15 failed to receive a three-fifths constitutional majority and is declared lost. Senator Philip.

SENATOR PHILIP:

Point of personal privilege.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

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State your point, Senator Philip.

SENATOR PHILIP:

Thank you, Madam President. I've been informed that Senator Bob Madigan has become a grandfather for the first time last night, the old dog that he is. A bouncing -- bouncing baby girl. It's long overdue. She doesn't have a name yet, though. If anybody's got any suggestions, if you'd drop him a little note on a name, he would appreciate it. Congratulations.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Congratulations, Senator Madigan. Senator Cronin, for what reason do you rise?

SENATOR CRONIN:

For purposes of an announcement with respect to business that's on the agenda today. Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, 52, I move that we take that out of the record. Just want to inform the Body that an identical -- excuse me, House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 20, I move that we take that out of the record. The reason is that the identical Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, No. 52, that we voted on and passed out of here earlier in the Session, was passed out of the House yesterday on a roll call of a 114 voting Yes, 1 voting No, 1 voting Present. So we have voted on the measure and -- and it's on its way to the ballot in November. So HJRCA 20 is not necessary for us to consider. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Geo-Karis, for what reason do you rise?

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

Point of personal privilege.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

State your point.

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

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Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, we have another new grandfather here on this side of the aisle. Mary Elizabeth O'Malley was born as the grandchild of Senator Patrick O'Malley. So we now have two new women coming into the Senate.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Congratulations, Senator O'Malley. You don't look old enough to be a grandfather. Senator Myers, for what reason do you rise?

SENATOR MYERS:

A point of personal privilege, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

State your point.

SENATOR MYERS:

I have visiting today, in the President's Gallery, Charleston Middle School from my area. Had lunch with them not too long ago. And they're here with Vickie Baker, Molly Craig, Karen Garrett and Nina Camp, their chaperons for today.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Welcome to the Senate. Resolutions.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Joint Resolution 64, offered by Senator Cronin. It's substantive, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

We're going to go to the Order of 2nd Reading. Page 5 of the Calendar, House Bills 2nd Reading. House Bill 1612. Senator Parker, do you wish that bill read? Out of the record. House Bill 2306. Senator Mahar. Out of the record. Senate Bill -- I mean, House Bill -- 2326. Senate -- House Bill 2326. Senator Molaro. Do you wish the bill read? Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 2326.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

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3rd Reading. House Bill 2411. Senator Mahar. Out of the record. House Bill 2447. Senator Geo-Karis. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 2447.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

House Bill 2503. With leave of the Body, we'll -- I'm sorry, 3rd Reading. House Bill 2503. With leave of the Body, we'll return to that. House Bill 2510. Senator Klemm. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 2510.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. House Bill 2700. Senator Dillard. Senator Dillard, on House Bill 2700? Out of the record. House Bill 2729. Senator Weaver. Out of the record. House Bill 2746. Senator Fawell. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 2746.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. The Committee on Transportation adopted Amendment No. 1.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Have there been any Floor amendments that have been approved for consideration?

SECRETARY HARRY:

No further amendments reported.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. With leave of the Body, we'll go back to Senate -- House Bill 2887. House Bill 3000. Senator Hawkinson. Out of the record. House Bill 3162. Senator Dillard. Out of the record. House Bill 3248. Senator Hawkinson. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 3248.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. House Bill 3254. Senator Walsh. Out of the record. House Bill 3279. With leave of the Body, we'll return to that bill. House Bill 3463. Senator Lauzen. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 3463.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. House Bill 3481. Senator Maitland. Senator Maitland, on House Bill 3481? Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 3481.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. House Bill 3484. Senator Cronin. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 3484.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

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2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. House Bill 3500. Senator O'Malley. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 3500.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. House Bill 3790. Senator O'Malley. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 3790.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. House Bill 3793. Senator Fitzgerald. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 3793.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. House Bill 3843. Senator Shadid. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 3843.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

2nd Reading of the bill. No committee or Floor amendments.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

3rd Reading. Committee Reports.

SECRETARY HARRY:



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Senator Weaver, Chair of the Committee on Rules, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Conservation - Senate Joint Resolution 63; to the Committee on Executive - Senate Joint Resolution 64 and House Bill 3844; to the Committee on Public Health and Welfare - House Bill 3435; and Be Approved for Consideration - Senate Amendment 1 to House Bill 3000.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

We'll now proceed to the Order of Resolutions Consent Calendar. With the leave of the Body, all of those read in today will be added to the Consent Calendar. Mr. Secretary, have there been any objections filed to any resolution on the Consent Calendar?

SECRETARY HARRY:

No objections filed, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Any discussion? If not, the question is, shall the resolutions on the Consent Calendar be adopted. All those in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The motion carries. The resolutions are adopted. Resolutions.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Joint Resolution 65, offered by Senator Weaver.

(Secretary reads SJR No. 65)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR KARPIEL)

Senator Weaver moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of the immediate consideration and adoption of SJR 65. Those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. The rules are suspended. Senator Weaver has moved for the adoption of SJR 65. Those in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Any further business to come before the Senate? If not, pursuant to the adjournment resolution, Senator Weaver moves the Senate stands adjourned until

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noon on Monday, May 4th. I hope everybody remembers that we will be here on Monday, May 4th, noon. Have a nice weekend.

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