

STATE OF ILLINOIS
93rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
REGULAR SESSION
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

106th Legislative Day

5/6/2004

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PRESIDENT JONES:

The regular Session of the 93rd General Assembly will please come to order. Will our Members please be at their desks? Will our guests in the galleries please rise? The invocation today will be given by Rick Williams -- Pastor Rick Williams of the Niantic Christian Church in Niantic, Illinois. Pastor Williams.

PASTOR RICK WILLIAMS:

(Prayer by Pastor Rick Williams)

PRESIDENT JONES:

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

SENATOR LINK:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Link)

PRESIDENT JONES:

Madam Secretary, Reading and Approval of the Journal.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Journal of Wednesday, May 5, 2004.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Haine.

SENATOR HAINE:

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, I move that the Journal just read by the Secretary be approved, unless a Member of the Senate has additions or corrections to offer.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Haine moves to approve the Journal just read by the Secretary. There being no objection, so ordered. WAN-TV {sic} and FOX-TV seek leave to tape the -- the proceedings. Is leave granted? No objections. So ordered. Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 524, offered by Senator Haine and all Members.

And Senate Resolution 525, offered by Senator Harmon and all Members.

They're both death resolutions.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Resolutions Consent -- Calendar. Senator Shadid, what purpose you rise?

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SENATOR SHADID:

Thank you, Mr. President. A point of personal privilege.

PRESIDENT JONES:

State your point.

SENATOR SHADID:

Mr. President, in the President's Gallery are constituents of the late Senator Vince Demuzio, Bill, Paula, Katie Manar, residents of Bunker Hill in Macoupin County. They are the parents and sister of our assistant Appropriation Director, Andy Manar. Katie works for the United States Army Corps of Engineers and has spent the last five months in Kuwait. She just arrived back home on Tuesday night. Would you please help me welcome them to Springfield?

PRESIDENT JONES:

Will our guests in the gallery please rise? Senator Patrick Welch, what purpose you rise?

SENATOR WELCH:

A point of order, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT JONES:

State your point.

SENATOR WELCH:

Senator Silverstein is not here. He's back in the district on legislative business.

PRESIDENT JONES:

The record shall so reflect. Senator Burzynski, what purpose you rise?

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Thank you, Mr. President. Just to let the record reflect that Senator Syverson is back in the district having a checkup on his recent shoulder surgery.

PRESIDENT JONES:

The record shall so reflect. Madam Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senators Cullerton and Dillard, Co-Chairpersons of the Committee on Judiciary, report Senate Amendment No. 2 to House Bill 575, Senate Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 3882, Senate Amendment No. 2 to House Bill 4135, Senate Amendment No. 2 to House Bill 4318, Senate Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 4949,

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Senate Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 6574, Senate Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill -- pardon me, to House Bill 6683, and Senate Amendment No. 3 to House Bill 7057, all Be Adopted.

PRESIDENT JONES:

We will now proceed to the Order of Resolutions Consent Calendar. With leave of the Body, all those resolutions read in today will be added to the Consent Calendar. Madam Secretary, has there been any objection filed to any resolution?

SECRETARY HAWKER:

There have been no objections filed, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Is there any further discussion? If not, shall the resolutions on the Consent Calendar be adopted? All in favor, signify by saying Aye. No Nays. Ayes have it. Motion carries. The resolutions are adopted. Senator Welch moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediate consideration and adoption of Senate Joint Resolution 79. Those in favor will signify by saying Aye. No Nays. The resolution is adopted {sic}. Senator Welch moves for the adoption of Senate Joint Resolution 79. All in favor of the resolution, signify by saying Aye. And Nays. Ayes have it. The resolution's adopted. Following the resolution for Senator Demuzio, Senate Joint Resolution -- 79, the Senate will stand and adjourn till the hour of 12 noon on Tuesday. And a point of information for all Members as it relate to our schedule for next week. We are scheduled to be in Friday, Saturday and Sunday. It is my intent for us not to be in those three days. Only on an emergency nature would we be in Session on Friday. So, I know many of you have concern, because you want to make your plans and do various things. So, it is the intent for us not to be in Session. We'll cancel the Session for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Senator Debbie Halvorson in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Will the Members please be in their seats? Will the staff please retire to the galleries? Will the Doormen please secure the doors? Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Joint Resolution 78, offered by President Jones and all Members.

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(Secretary reads SJR No. 78)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Shadid.

SENATOR SHADID:

Thank you, Madam President. Deanna, Brad, Stephanie, Demuzio family, it gives me great honor and a pleasure to be able to say some words about Vince. When I came to the Senate in May of 1993, a very good friend of mine, who I'm sure you knew, Jack Livengood - and he used to work for the State Treasurer's Office - he told me, "When you get down to Springfield, you look up that guy Demuzio. That's the first thing you should do." So I always do what I'm told, you know. And so I said, well -- I did. I went to Vince's office. He was sitting at his desk, and I introduced myself. He says, in his gruff voice -- you know how Vince sort of came off being pretty gruff, and if you didn't know him, you'd be scared to death, you know? So he -- he said, "Well, if you're a friend of Jack Livengood's and he sent you down here, then you're going to be a friend of mine." So those words, I'll tell you, when Vince says you're his friend, you can go to the bank. That's the kind of guy he was. Vince steered me in the right direction and gave me some good advice. He was always giving me advice, 'cause he knew how I was. I needed advice, so... And the first advice he gave me was, he says, to make sure that my campaign coffers were always full. And then he proceeded to write me a check for my campaign account. I've never forgotten that. And as the years go by, I've realized that Vince knew what he was talking about. Because if you don't have an opponent, I'm sure you know you will have one if you don't have any money in your bank and in your campaign account. You know, another story I'd like to tell -- and when I got down here I didn't have a secretary because the other one left with Vince's good friend, Dick Luft. And -- and so I didn't have a secretary for three or four weeks and I was getting all kinds of advice on who I should hire and why I should hire any particular person. And, you know, I -- I had been around a little bit and I was very careful who I was going to hire. And so I finally did interview a young lady and she was recommended by two very good friends of mine, and I respected their recommendation. And I interviewed her and I hired her.

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And so the next day I'm on the Floor, it's about like here, and Vince is over there sitting down in his chair, and he comes up to me and says -- nudges me on the arm, he says, "Well, you hired a secretary, didn't you?" Well, Emil, you were absolutely correct that Vince knew everything going on, and he should have been in the CIA. So, I said, "Yeah," and I act like I wasn't too happy about it. Turned around and walked away, went to the bathroom. Well, he followed me in there. He said, "What's the matter with you?" He said, "What are you upset about?" I said, "Well, now that you ask me, I'm going to tell you what I'm upset about. After I hired her, I found out she was Italian and I thought she was Lebanese. And then I found out she had some relationship with you, some kind of a relative." I said, "That's why." And I walked away from him. Needless to say, he followed me and grabbed me and told me some things I can't mention here. And so I found out this: That if Vince thought he could intimidate you, then you were in trouble. Well, that -- knowing me, I retaliated, and we became the best of friends. I can't tell you, really, how much I loved that guy. He's a guy you could count on. We have seen many sides of Vince Demuzio. And, to me, he was one of the best legislators and one of the best people I know. I'll just give you one other example. When my son, George, was -- was diagnosed with cancer, Vince was like a rock, and I knew that my son got a friend. Him and my son, George, had many conversations and those conversations helped my son keep his spirits up. Excuse me. President Kennedy once said that one man can make a difference and every man should. Vince Demuzio was one of those rare people. He made a difference as a husband, father and grandfather. And I think he made a difference in the lives of all of us, and he made a difference in the benefit of the citizens -- to the benefit of the citizens of this State in his work, which he truly loved, as the Senate's most longest-serving Member. You know, in life it doesn't matter what we own or how much we have. Cars, houses, money. What matters most is how we lived and how we loved. Vince lived with us and loved us. He always tried to understand the way other people felt. Vince -- Demuzio made it matter to others that he was there for his family, there for his friends, and there for the people of this great State. And for those of

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us who were privileged to know him and loved him, we'll miss him very, very much. Catherine, his mother, lost a son. Deanna has lost a husband. Brad and Stephanie have lost a father. We have lost a friend. And the people of the State of Illinois have lost a great leader. I was visiting with Denny Jacobs and we were wondering what Vince was doing upstairs with the big guy. And Denny says, "Well, I'll tell you what. He hasn't been there very long, but you can bet assured that he's got everything under control and organized." That's the kind of guy he was. Let us all here who remain behind to do the people's work dedicate ourselves to do it the way Vince would have wanted us to -- to do, with the people's interest first and foremost. And, Deanna, just something personal. I have a -- during the time we were up here, every once in a while I'd run over there and hug Vince. You know, I just might get carried away some time, come over and hug you. Don't take it wrong. And my wife, Lorraine, understands 'cause she loves you also. Thank you very much.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Watson.

SENATOR WATSON:

Excuse me. Thank you, Madam President. Deanna and Brad and Stephanie and the Demuzio family, we welcome you here and we're sorry for the circumstances by which you have to be here. Deanna, will be seeing more of you as time goes on. And we'll obviously welcome you at a later time to this process. It's kind of -- I think it's -- well, we'll talk about that at a different time. I -- I want to tell you, I attended the funeral on -- on Saturday and George was asked -- George Shadid was asked to do the -- the eulogy for -- for us in the Senate. George, you did a great job, and I was proud to have you representing us and -- and your best wishes to the family and -- and your memorializing of Vince, a very great, great friend and leader of this State. Vince was a gentleman. We all -- and as you said, you didn't always think so. If you knew Vince, you didn't always think he was a gentleman, 'cause he -- he'd grab your hand and he'd almost like want to break it. Have you ever -- did he ever did that to you, where he'd grab your hand and just -- like he's going to break it in half? I'd go, what is

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this all about? You know, but he's -- that was his style if you -- you're right, George. If he thought he could intimidate you, he'd do it. That was his way of getting things done. And he was -- he was very, very effective. Very effective of it. We -- we represented neighboring districts, and, in fact, Vince represented a good portion of -- of my home county at one time. And I'd get here -- and he'd read the Greenville Advocate. I mean, he was -- he read -- he must -- I don't know how many newspapers he must read every day to -- to have been able to keep up with what was going on in his district, because his constituents and his people back home, that's what he cared about. That's -- that's who mattered most to Vince Demuzio. And I -- you know, here I am, I'm from Greenville and he'd have my Greenville Advocate right there on his desk telling me what's going on in my hometown - a very, very constituent-oriented legislator. And we all -- I think Vince Demuzio exemplified everything that's good about this process. He was so proud to serve here. He had such an institutional knowledge and he had such a respect for the process that we all should - and I said this earlier, I said this the other day - we all should emulate the example that -- that Vince Demuzio brought to this Chamber. I mentioned the fact that we had neighboring districts. When -- in 1982, I -- I -- I was elected to the House in '78, and I came over here in '82 after the remap, and I had to move. Some of you've been involved in those kinds of things in the past called the "remap". The line was drawn through Bond County, and my home was in -- in fact, Vince Demuzio was on the ballot when I went in to vote in 1982. I couldn't even vote for myself. So, anyway, the -- the line of the district went right through my front yard. And so I had Vince -- I said, "Vince, I'd like for you to come out" - and we've got this line posted so we know exactly that we're in the district - "and I want you -- you stand on one side, I'll stand on the other side. We'll shake hands. Click. Take a picture." And we did that. And the front yard -- he -- he represented my front yard. And we -- we joked about that a lot. We joked about that a lot. And he was -- that's one thing about him, his sense of humor, that -- that really kind of brought reality to what we do here, that we don't need to necessarily take ourselves so seriously. The Audit

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Commission. I see Bill Holland's here, our Auditor General. I served with Vince on the Audit Commission, and it was mentioned in the -- in the resolution, for many, many years. That -- and if you haven't done that, that's something, as Members, that you ought to look to do. You get a great opportunity to interact with directors and really find out the nuts and bolts of what's happening. But Vince had a real passion for the Audit Commission. In fact, I thought at one point in time that's what he was going to do, is become Auditor General. But he really did. He loved to grill these -- the directors would come in and you'd have a finding, an audit finding. There'd be a problem in an agency and Vince was the first one - didn't matter who it was that came in to that -- that Commission - that would talk about the problems, and "get your act in order. Get it straightened out. We represent the people of this State." And he was always concerned about the integrity of the process here in -- in Springfield, whether it was the director of an agency or here on the Senate Floor. One thing I think that -- that we're all going to miss, at -- many of us, is when -- and I've said this to people back home when -- when -- that if an issue divides this State from a geographic point of view, which oftentimes it happens -- I always say there's three geographic areas in this State. There's Chicago. There's the suburbs, collar county area. And then there's the rest of us downstaters. I always was comfortable when Vince Demuzio was in the room and -- that he would protect the interests of downstate. And -- and he was able to work -- he -- he -- he climbs to the level of a Majority Leader with the philosophy of very parochial in his views about this process and representing downstate interests. So -- and here he was Chairman of the Democrat Party. I believe the only downstater maybe to have done that. He -- so even though he was parochial in his views and the way he presented himself, he had the respect. He had the respect of people and -- and his own -- his own colleagues. To be able to rise to that level is -- says a lot about the man. Says a great deal about the man. You know, the -- I mentioned the respect for the Senate and that's certainly -- the institutional knowledge that he had. You know, the last Floor action, unfortunately, that -- that Vince -- not necessarily unfortunately. It'll be something I'll always

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remember. And I don't know if you were here, Deanna, when -- when Stan Weaver -- yes, you were here. 'Cause we had the reception in my office. But when -- and I understand that Vince actually rested a couple of days so that he'd have the strength to be able to deliver the -- the eulogy and the statement in behalf of Stan Weaver. Is -- is that correct? So, the -- that tells you -- here's a guy who was suffering, had to be suffering. We don't know how bad it was. We have no idea. But what he wanted to do, in some of his last days of his life, he wanted to come here and say good things about a former Senator and friend, Stan Weaver. I mean, that just says volumes about the character, the character of the individual we're -- we're speaking of here today. So, on behalf of -- of this caucus -- and I thank you for letting me be a part of this -- this ceremony today and for asking me to participate. I do appreciate that very much. And you have -- you and your family, Deanna, have -- have our deepest sympathies and -- and we're going to have -- when you -- when you arrive here, why, the -- the legacy will continue. The legacy will go on. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you, Madam Present. Members of the Demuzio family, fellow Senators, Ladies and Gentlemen, friends of Vince Demuzio all, we are here today to commemorate, to recall and to celebrate the life and times of one of the greatest Members ever to serve in this Body, the State Senate of the State of Illinois, Vince Demuzio. Robert F. Kennedy once said that each of us must become involved in the actions and passions of our time or risk being judged never to have lived. All of us must make choices in our lives, and Vince's choice to go into public service certainly met the challenge set forth by Robert Kennedy. Thirty years ago Vince was sworn in as a new Senator. Two years later he rebelled against the Senate Leadership and held up the organization of the Body for five weeks through one hundred and eighty-six roll calls for the Presidency of the Senate. For that opportunity and that work on Vince's part, he was dubbed a member of the "Crazy Eight" along with seven of his colleagues. And what seemed an annual basis down here, he would recall to us

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Members, in particular the newer Members, how downstate didn't have their own leader at the time, how committees didn't represent independent interests outside of Chicago and how new Members were expected to be seen and not heard. But like the old warrior recalling his past battles and showing his scars, Vince would recall those days and those fights as if they were yesterday. A few years later Vince fought one of his most famous battles when a landfill was found to be leaking toxic waste in his own district. The placement of landfills at that time was determined with little or no input from your local community. All that was required was a State permit. Vince led the fight to give the average man and woman the right to say no to a landfill in their backyard. He wanted it required that something as simple as public hearings be held in a local community before any siting of a landfill took place. That bill, the Local Solid Waste Disposal Act, even today, is known as Senate Bill 172 and has been known so for the last twenty-four years. But, you know, Vince could be very pragmatic when he was a Member. Here, not too long ago when I was sitting next to Vince, he -- he was in here and he was thundering, as he sometimes did. He was adamant about not confirming this nominee for another term in office in one of the State boards. He absolutely was going to make sure that person was defeated. He wanted me to help him the next day when the list of nominees came up before the Senate. So the next day I was here. We're ready for a battle and -- and the report listing the appointments was being read, and I noticed that the nominee Vince wanted to defeat was read out and Vince hadn't done anything. And I asked Vince, "Vince, wasn't that the person just yesterday you said you wanted to defeat?" And Vince said, "Son, sometimes things go bump in the night around here, and last night something went bump." And -- and then he started that laugh of his that was just contagious and all you could do was just laugh with him. In his later years, Vince returned to college to receive a Master of Arts degree in education and public policy. His commitment to education issues in Illinois and his knowledge of the subject made many of us wonder what that school could possibly teach him. Although he didn't retire from the Senate to become a professor, he was a teacher, and he

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taught us by word and example how to get legislation passed, how to build coalitions, how to show leadership when needed and how to follow when that -- when that was the better course to pursue and how to accommodate colleagues when they have differing opinions. In short, he taught us what a Senator should be. When I think of Vince, I'm reminded of something that Shakespeare wrote. He wrote that, "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries." But, you know, we are the fortunate ones here that Vince Demuzio took that challenge of running for State Senator because of his passion for helping people and his actions on their behalf. And all of us are better, better Senators and better people, for having Vince Demuzio as our colleague and friend. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Geo-Karis.

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

Madam President, and Deanna and family, the Demuzio family, and friends and relatives of Vince Demuzio, I was in the House when I first met Vince, the -- I'm the next perennial over here, going on thirty-two years in the Legislature, but my fond memories of Vince are many. Vince didn't even mind that George Shadid was not Italian. In fact, he was very good to George Shadid. And Vince was the kind of person who liked everyone. The -- one of the fondest memories we had, of course, is when the Jewish Federation invited a number of legislators to go to Israel. Vince and Deanna were with us. We had a ball. He had a great mind of research. He wanted to research everything. We -- Deanna would have to pull him out places to get him moving 'cause we had to keep going. And he just loved it, because Vince was born with a thirst for knowledge. He never stopped researching. Deanna was right there with him. We would sing in the bus and we would chat away. We went to all the places that the Jewish Federation took us. And it was a wonderful, wonderful trip. But, you know, I knew Vince so many years. I always found him to be a very caring person, a very sharing person. He always wanted to protect the underserved and the underdog. Vince had a heart as big as a house, and I know he's up there now watching us. And I'm just so glad that we're going

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to have Deanna come here, because I'll tell you, Vince lived for his family. He lived for his community. And when you talk about Senate Bill 172, I was a great supporter of it, about the -- against the landfills, because he knew what he was doing. He was ahead of the rest of us. And I want to tell you that I always found him to be pleasant. He never carried a grudge. He might get mad at people, but he never carried a grudge. And he was faithful to his family, to his community, to his State and to his country. I don't feel we've lost him, because he'll be with us in spirit. And I know he's up there checking with my family and I'm sure they're asking -- him, am I behaving. I hope he tells 'em I am. But anyway, I just want you to know Vince Demuzio will never be forgotten in the annals of this Senate and of the whole State - as far as I'm concerned, the whole country - because he was a rare, caring, sharing individual. And he really cared and really researched his subjects. I feel very fortunate to have known Vince and Deanna.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Viverito.

SENATOR VIVERITO:

Thank you, Madam President, Members of the Senate, Demuzio family. When I first came to the Illinois Senate in 1995, I felt like a new kid on the block, very naïve about the legislative process and humbled by the taunting responsibilities that lay before me. Vince Demuzio approached me, extended his hand and welcomed me to the Senate. Since that moment almost ten years ago, when Vince's simple gesture made me feel at home, I have had a great deal of admiration and respect for him. I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve with Senator Demuzio on the Legislative Audit Commission, where I was impressed with his insight when asking the tough questions. It was a pleasure to be a Member of the Rules Committee with him as the Chairman. It was on the Rules Committee where I developed a deep appreciation of his knowledge and legislative issues and complete understanding of the difficult and technical legislation that was before him. Senator Demuzio and I are Americans of Italian descent. Our ancestors immigrated from {sic} this country from Italy. I had the opportunity to visit Italy. In traveling the countryside, I met and spoke with many

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people. The one singular observation both my wife and I left with was the fact that family take care of family from generations to generations. Excuse me. I noticed the same concept when I visited Vince and Deanna at their home in Carlinville. His son, his daughter, along with their families, live in a close proximity to the Demuzio homestead. I thought I was back in Italy. The grandchildren come and go out of the house freely. What a tribute to an individual when such devotion and love are given freely, without contingencies, but Vince was such a person who would inspire attributes such as these. All of us feel the loss of Vince Demuzio, a great statesman who spent over a quarter of a century in this State Senate. We will miss him because he was our peer, he was our colleague, he was our leader. And I will miss him. He was all of our friends, and I am thankful that I was given the opportunity to meet such a special human being. Thank you, Deanna, for allowing me to say these few words. I wanted to check it with you to talk about our history. I felt warm and compelled to do that. We, as Italian-Americans, know the value of family and you live it every day. And I'm grateful that I had the opportunity to meet you. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Dillard.

SENATOR DILLARD:

Thank you, Madam President and Members and the Demuzio family. Welcome, Deanna, under tough circumstances. This has been a difficult few months for the Illinois Senate. We've lost not one, but two great Majority Leaders. And we also lost Senator DeAngelis, and this week we lost Ralph Dunn, too. I first met Vince in 1977, when he and I were both skinny guys with jet black hair, and I was an intern to the Senate Education Committee and the next year being the full staffer to the -- to that particular committee. And there I was impressed by Vince's love for education and his love for this institution. There are a lot of legislators who talk a great game about education and education reform and what we're going to do for education, but Vince Demuzio was one of the few Members that I have ever met who would risk his political career to improve public education. Vince was also a great champion for the University of Illinois

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at Springfield, his alma mater, and he worked closely with me when I sponsored the bill to give each university its own governing board. And true to Vince's Democratic leaning, he would yell at Senator Weaver and myself, and he came down to meet with Governor Edgar, who championed this proposal, to make sure that the faculty's collective bargaining and staff collective bargaining rights were not impinged when we made that major change. When I worked for Governor Thompson and Governor Edgar, I can tell you that both of those gentlemen held Vince on a list of probably the three or four "most respected legislators" list. And Governor Blagojevich, also, just recently I think, puts Vince on that list by making sure that Vince was the shepherd of his controversial State Board of Education plan. As a Senate staffer and a gubernatorial aide, Vince always treated me with respect. And I can tell you, having been a staffer in this Body, that among the Members there have not been many of us who have ever been as respected by the staff and respected back like we were by Senator Demuzio. We've got our "Fab Five" over here: Senator Rauschenberger and Dave Syverson and Chris Lauzen and Brad Burzynski, and they're a force but I can tell you when I first started here, there was never a better force for good in this Chamber than the Crazy Eight. And I talked to Senator Netsch just in the last couple of days about those great times. And Vince was so proud to be a member of that group of people who held this hostage -- or, this Chamber hostage for a better good, time and time again. It was my honor to serve with Vince and Stan Weaver the last few Sessions as a Member of the Rules Committee, and it was awesome to watch those two giant of men from the State Senate go at it like two brothers back and forth in that Anteroom so many times. And when Vince would get mad with Senator Weaver, he would always say, "Oh, Stanley." And Stan would give him some Italian-Louie Viverito ethnic slur back, and Vince would come up with that hearty laugh. And the two of 'em were -- were brothers in -- brothers in a bond of their love for this institution, its decorum and its -- its history. I used to kid Vince that when I passed away, I wanted Vince to do the eulogy at my funeral. I will never forget the hair-raising tributes of Vince to former Senator Sam Vadalabene in Edwardsville and the

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beloved Penny Severns over in Decatur. Vince was truly a -- a man who -- who was a -- a tremendous eulogizer for his colleagues when they passed away. Finally, during the Thompson and Edgar administrations, there were a number of us, led by former Senator Jack Schaefer, former Representative Tom Ryder, who's up in the gallery, that used to go out to dinner. And it was -- and Vince and Deanna were part of that group. And it was a bipartisan group who traded stories, and it was a group from the Governor's Office and the Legislature working together in just a -- a friendly fashion - something that is all too often missing in this Capitol Building today. So, let me close by saying, I know that beyond that gruff demeanor, there was a man with a heart of gold. And may God bless your family, Deanna and Brad. The Illinois General Assembly is going to miss -- miss Senator Demuzio and his love of this legislative process very, very much. And certainly the people of Illinois will miss him. His district will miss him. But, again, going back to that love for public education, believe me, the schoolchildren of this State will miss him. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Hendon.

SENATOR HENDON:

Thank you, Madam President, Deanna and the family, Members of the Senate. Well, Pat Welch has quoted Shakespeare, and George Shadid has quoted President Kennedy in describing Vince. I guess with the Vince I know, I'm going to have quote Richard Pryor or Chevy Chase or Dan Aykroyd. This man had jokes, you-all, and it was great to sit in President's row with Vince. And on those days when Pate Philip and Stan Weaver was giving us hell and Watson was all tough, and -- you know, I -- when I was younger, I got all flustered and upset, Vince would call me over and tell me a joke and it would bring me back to reality. And I mean, everything -- he never told a joke that wasn't funny. Every joke was funny. And he would take pictures out of the newspaper. I was asking Bobby Molaro, could we remember them. He took a picture of Bobby Molaro out of the paper and changed the -- the caption and the heading, and I think he put Bobby in a skirt or something. It was so funny. I must have laughed for three or four weeks in a row nonstop. I always give Adeline

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Geo-Karis credit for saving my life here in the Senate. She was the woman. Vince was the man. Saved my life. Kept me from having a stroke or heart attack and going crazy in here. Vince was hilarious. I remember when a newspaper reporter put out a picture with Governor Blagojevich on one side of the river and the Democratic Senate on the other side of the river, and he had on a big old white hat. We had these black hats, like we were the bad guys. And Vince took the cartoon and he changed it, and took the rope, slung it over the Governor's head and pulled him over to our side of the river. And it would be great if we were on that same side of the river right now with those white hats, working together. My -- first time I met Vince I was a young committeeman and the blacks were mad. We were upset. Everything was wrong. We -- doggone, we want to go see this Chairman of the Democratic Party. So, we went down. We saw Vince Demuzio. "Who is this Demuzio, aar aar." I was really crazy then. Fifteen minutes into the meeting we had forgot what the blacks were mad about. Vince just charmed us. We were mad when they replaced him with Gary LaPaille. That's why we ran him out of here. It's the truth. My greatest picture of Vince Demuzio: George Shadid had Vince in one of those nightmare grips. You know, George and -- and the President, they used to be football players or something. George had Vince's head like he was still the sheriff, right? And Vince's head was about to explode. George was choking him, and Vince was -- and he was laughing hysterically. The rest of us would have been crying. Vince was cracking up. It is my favorite picture. I will always remember Vince as a great, great friend. And one time, and I'll be through, I got in trouble with the President. I was bad. President told me to knock somebody off, and I didn't know he just meant, you know, with a little pistol. I had the machine gun out. President told me, "Boy, you done messed up. You got to go." I had to call my friend, Vince. I'm like, "Vince, they're about to do me in, Vince. What am I going to do?" Vince said, "Kiddo, don't worry about it. I'll talk to him." He said, "Don't you call him no more. You keep your powder dry and I'll talk to the President for you," and I'm still here, so I guess it worked. Vince, you know, there's a photograph book of all the softball games and Vince was at them all. I remember

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the first time we won, Vince told me it was the first time he'd been here, twenty years or so, we won. We almost won yesterday, Vince, and we dedicated the game to you. I was going to give you my MVP trophy, but you know, it's so shiny and bright, I just let you hold it for a minute. I'm going to take her home to the West Side. God bless you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Harmon.

SENATOR HARMON:

Thank you, Madam President, Mrs. Demuzio, Members of the family. On one of my first days in the Senate as the Session was breaking up, Senator Demuzio came right down this aisle and stopped in front of my desk, right where your family's sitting right now, and he gave me that look of his - equal parts affected disdain and genuine affection. And he said, "Well," and I started to fumble through my -- my freshman questions, and he just put his hand up and said, "Come on, kiddo." And he led a whole bunch of us - Reverend Meeks, Senator Collins, Senator Sandoval, Senator Martinez - into his office and he held court with a -- stories of the Senate and the colorful characters that have passed through the Chamber. And each story had a lesson for us to learn, and it was obvious, his -- his love of the institution and his commitment to making sure that each new Member was mindful of the honor to serve. So, on behalf of all the new Members and all who were once new, who sought shelter under his broad wings, I say thank you, Vince, and Godspeed. So say we all.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

President Jones, to close.

SENATOR E. JONES:

Thank you, Madam President. To Deanna, Stephanie and Brad and the entire Demuzio family, this is a very, very difficult time as we celebrate the life of our colleague, our Majority Leader, and -- and our good friend, and my -- my very good friend, Vince Demuzio. I recall when I first met Vince, his wife. Stephanie and Dave [sic] were little children, and we were -- I believe we were at the Hilton, my wife and my kids. And I recognized Vince simply because he kept looking up, you know, the tall building. And I was from Chicago. He's from down a

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way. I was in the House. But we became friends, and as they went through that count, that long Senate President count in the Senate, the hundred and eighty-sixth ballot, I said -- I said to myself, I didn't know he was that crazy, you know... But over the years we had been such good friends, and when I became the Minority Leader, he came to me. He said, "I'm going to sit next to you because there's a person in our caucus that's worse than the -- Crazy Eights who's trying to get next to you." And I'm glad that he did. That was Rickey Hendon's friend, you know. So, we've been seatmates for the last twelve years. And as I spoke Saturday, he was a walking encyclopedia. He knew everything about this institution that he served, and he loved it and loved it well. And I called him my in-house CIA. And, Frank, I always knew when you were going to have a caucus meeting. I knew everything that you were going to say. I believe that you conversed with him of the things and positions that you were taking. So -- but we knew all of this. He knew everything that was going on. Sometimes I said, "How'd you know that?" But he knew it. He knew what was going on in the Governor's Office, everywhere in this Capitol, and he loved this place. He loved this place. And sometime in those tough caucus meetings and Denny Jacobs is raising heck with me and John Cullerton and Rickey Hendon going crazy, ended up Vince and I would talk. He'd say, "Well, you know, being the lead dog, you got to get used to little bites in your rear-end, you know." So... But he was a good friend, a trusted, loyal friend. He loved education. He loved the children of this State and believed that we should do everything within our power to see that they can live up to their potential through education. What I liked about him most is that too often we found in this Body individuals -- "I can't vote for that 'cause that's going to Chicago. I can't." He never approached issues, at it relate to one region versus the other region, be it in Chicago, be it downstate. He wasn't parochial in his thinking. If it's good for Chicago, it's good for downstate. Not once did ever say, "Well, I can't vote for that 'cause my people in my district won't like me voting for that." You've heard those conversations many, many times. He took Illinois as one State, and the critical issues that came up, sometimes he would ease up

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to me. He would say, "Well, you know, my boys downstate got to have a little something." You know. And we did it. We took care of it. But I appreciate the fact that he never played one -- one entity against the other. These were great, great times. One thing I always liked about him, a lot of times people would be traveling the State campaigning for office statewide. His home, his home was always open to his friends. Sometime his enemies. You would stay the night there and go ahead and do what -- the things you got to do, but his home was always open. And the days that we spent here in Session, sometimes late, Vince always took that trip home to Deanna and the family. He loved his home, the Demuzio Compound, as we call. Any of you have been down there, he's got to show you all around the compound, you know, all the family here and so forth. And he loved Blackburn College in particular, where he was a trustee, and he proposed many projects. He was -- we were sitting here one day talking about one of our late colleagues, Senator Sam Vadalabene. We was doing Illinois First. And he said Sam Vadalabene used to go around and brag how his district had sunk two feet as we -- because he was able to get so many projects in his district, capital projects, and Vince said, "I'm going to beat him. I'm going to beat him." But he did beat him, because I think that his district did sink a little bit. You may have some floods down there in the 49th District as a result. But the Demuzio Expressway. There were some things left un-complete. So, the -- the Demuzio Expressway will be the road with which those cement trucks can go down there and finish taking care of things he left incomplete, and I pledged to him that those things would happen. In talking to him the Saturday before he passed, we talked about many, many things. He talked about the education bill, Senator del Valle. He talked about some initiatives that are still hung up, and I told him, I said, "You know about those 'coal brothers,'" and he said, "Yeah, that's bad, bad news." For those of you who don't know who the coal brothers are, you know, they would reveal their head at certain times, but he said, "Keep an eye on them," and I pledged to do that for him, my good friend. Deanna, we all loved him, and I loved him like a brother. I loved him for his knowledge and his respect for this institution. I loved him for his wealth of

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knowledge on every given issue, especially the major issues, because he would take the time to research and make sure when he got on this Floor to speak, that he was speaking from facts. Too often persons jump, they speak, "This is not constitutional," but he would go back and get the debates of Con-Con. He had the history of it and all this here, and within our caucus, he was always that calming force, with the facts. We will miss him, but he will live on. He'll live on through all of us. And he did chair the Rules Committee. He was a very fair individual. I actually jumped on him, said, "Why you let all those Republican bills out of the committee, you know?" But he was very fair. So, he's upstairs there now, and I -- Vince, if you're listening, get on the rules committee. I'm quite certain you could be chairman of that committee. That's the committee that'll decide who gets in and who gets out. 'Cause tomorrow we will come knocking, and we want admittance. But since we have a majority up there, you know, you can make sure that your friends get in, even Rickey Hendon, if necessary. But we loved this guy, and -- and being my seatmate all these years, he would be gruff at time, but we knew his heart was very big and he was friendly. And I really appreciate what he did with the newer Members, bringing them into the fold, breaking them in, teaching them the ways of life, and even the staff. He would -- he would get the younger staff persons. He would -- would sit and talk to them and teach them and mentor them on their way, like Dave Gross and -- or Tim Drea. He's not on the Floor, but Dave Gross and folks. So, he'd sit down. He'd mentor these individuals and so they could grow and be respected by all. We're all going to miss him. We all will miss him, but he will be with us each and every day. And this Body is a better Body because he did serve. So, with that Madam Chairman, I move to suspend the rules for the immediate consideration of this resolution.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senate President Emil Jones moves for the suspension of the Senate rules for the immediate consideration and adoption of Senate Joint Resolution 78. All in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senate President Emil Jones now moves for the adoption of Senate Joint

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Resolution 78. All those in favor of this resolution, please rise. The Senate is now adjourned. Senator Burzynski, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Thank you, Madam President. The Republicans will be in caucus immediately following our adjournment. Thank you.