

STATE OF ILLINOIS
93rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
REGULAR SESSION
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

154th Legislative Day

11/8/2004

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PRESIDENT JONES:

The regular Session of the 93rd General Assembly will please come to order. Would our -- will the Members please be at their desks? Will our guests in the galleries please rise? The invocation today will be given by Bishop James Austin of St. Luke Church of God, Chicago. Bishop.

BISHOP JAMES AUSTIN:

(Prayer by Bishop James Austin)

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 -- of the Journal.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Journals of Saturday, July 24, and Friday, November 5, 2004.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Maloney.

SENATOR MALONEY:

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

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Maloney moves to approve the Journals just read by the Secretary. There being no objection, so ordered. Channel 7 -- 7 seeks leave for permission to videotape the proceedings. Is leave granted? Chicago Tribune seeks leave to videotape and photograph the proceedings. Journal-Register seeks leave to photograph and -- and video the proceedings. WYCS {sic} (WICS) Channel 20 requests permission to videotape the proceedings. And WSIU Public Broadcasting seek leave. Illinois Channel also seeks leave. And the Associated Press also -- seek leave to record the proceedings. There being no objection, so ordered. Madam Secretary, Communications.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

November 4, 2004.

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Dear Madam Secretary - Please be advised I am resigning from my elected office as the State Senator of the 13th Legislative District in the State of Illinois. This resignation is effective immediately due to my election to the U.S. Senate and the urgent responsibilities in transition.
Sincerely, Senator Barack Obama.

November 8, 2004.

Dear Madam Secretary - This office is forwarding herewith copies of the Notice of Vacancy from the Democratic Legislative Committee of the 13th Legislative District declaring the existence of a vacancy in the Office of Senator of the 93rd General Assembly in the 13th Legislative District, as a result of the resignation of Barack Obama effective November 4, 2004. Also enclosed is the copy of the Democratic Legislative Committee's Certificate of Appointment for Kwame -- Raoul, who was appointed to fill the vacancy in the Office of Senator in the 93rd General Assembly..

PRESIDENT JONES:

Pardon me, Madam Secretary. Could we hold it down a little bit, please? Proceed. Proceed, Madam Secretary.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

...who was appointed to fill the vacancy in the Office of -- of the Senator in the 93rd General Assembly for the 13th Legislative District.

Very truly yours, Jesse White, Secretary of State.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Hendon.

SENATOR HENDON:

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, Members of the Senate, it gives me the great honor to introduce to you, if I could have your attention for just one moment, the newest Senator here in the State of Illinois, recently appointed, Senator Kwame Raoul. Let's welcome him to the Senate. Senator Raoul is -- he's joined by his lovely wife, Kali, and his family and friends. Let's welcome them all to the Senate. Senator Raoul.

PRESIDENT JONES:

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Senator Raoul, this'll be your first speak on the bill -- first time to speak on the Senate Floor, so I know you'll be very brief.

SENATOR RAOUL:

Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you to my colleagues and thank you for the warm welcome. I look forward to working with all of you all and rolling up my sleeves and getting to work, today.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Yeah. Welcome, Senator. You pass more bills when you're brief. Senator Halvorson, what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR HALVORSON:

For a point of personal privilege.

PRESIDENT JONES:

State your point.

SENATOR HALVORSON:

I would like the Senate to welcome some student Senate members from Governors State University. If they would stand, please, and let us welcome them.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Will our guests in the galleries -- rise and please -- and be welcomed by the Senate? Madam Secretary, Messages.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution...

PRESIDENT JONES:

Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 652, offered by Senator Forby and all Members.

Senate Resolution 653, offered by President Jones, Senator Collins and all Members.

Senate Resolution 654, offered by Senator Althoff and all Members.

Senate Resolution 655, offered by Senator Geo-Karis and all Members.

Senate Resolution 656, also offered by Senator Geo-Karis and all Members.

Senate Resolution 657, offered by Senator Althoff and all Members.

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Senate Resolution 658, offered by President Jones and all Members.

Senate Resolution 659, offered by Senator Viverito and all Members.

Senate Resolutions 660 and 661, offered by Senator Geo-Karis and all Members.

Senate Resolution 662, offered by Senator Brady and all Members.

Senate Resolution 663, offered by Senator Clayborne and all Members.

Senate Resolution 664, offered by President Jones and all Members.

Senate Resolution 665, offered by Senator Haine and all Members.

Senate Resolution 666, offered by Senator Petka and all Members.

Senate Resolutions 667, 668 and 669 offered by Senator Shadid and all Members.

Senate Resolution 670, offered by President Jones and all Members.

Senate Resolution 671 and 672, offered by Senator Risinger and all Members.

Senate Resolutions 673, 674 and 675, offered by Senator Link and all Members.

Senate Resolution 676, 677, 678, 679, all offered by Senator Haine and all Members.

Senate Resolution 680, offered by Senator Geo-Karis and all Members.

Senate Resolution 681, offered by Senator Shadid and all Members.

Senate Resolutions 682, 683, both offered by Senator Emil Jones and all Members.

Senate Resolution 684, offered by President Jones, Senator Watson, Senator Bomke and all Members.

Senate Resolution 685, offered by Senator Haine and all Members.

Senate Resolution 686, offered by Senator Clayborne and all Members.

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Senate Resolution 687 and 688, offered by Senator Link and all Members.

Senate Resolution 689, offered by Senator Jacobs and all Members.

Senate Resolution 690, offered by Senator Forby and all Members.

Senate Resolution 691, offered by Senator Lightford and all Members.

Senate Resolution 692, offered by Senators Lightford, President Jones, Senator Clayborne and all Members.

Senator -- Resolution 693, offered by Senator Shadid and all Members.

Senate Resolution 694, offered by Senator Geo-Karis and all Members.

Senate Resolution 695, offered by Senator Meeks and all Members.

Senate Resolution 696, offered by Senate President and all Members.

Senate Resolution 697, offered by Senator Shadid and all Members.

Senate Resolution 698, offered by Senator Sandoval and all Members.

Senate Resolutions 699, 700, both offered by Senator Geo-Karis and all Members.

Senate Resolution 701, offered by Senators Demuzio, Emil Jones and all Members.

Senate Resolution 702 and 703, all with the same sponsorship.

Senate Resolution 704, offered by Senator Brady and all Members.

Senate Resolution 705, offered by Senator Haine and all Members.

Senate Resolution 706, offered by Senator Viverito and all Members.

Senate Resolution 707 and Senate Resolution 708, with the same sponsorship.

Senate Resolution 709, offered by Senator Haine and all Members.

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Senate Resolution 710, offered by Senator Clayborne and all Members.

Senate Resolutions 711 and 712, offered by Senator Clayborne and all Members.

Senate Resolution 713, offered by Senator Dillard and all Members.

Senate Resolution 714, also offered by Senator Dillard and all Members.

Senate Resolution 715, also by Senator Dillard and all Members.

Senate Resolution 716, offered by President Jones and all Members.

They are all death resolutions.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Resolutions Consent Calendar.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

And...

PRESIDENT JONES:

Motion... Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 717, offered by Senator Collins.

It is substantive.

And Senate Joint Resolution 89, offered by Senator del Valle.

It is also substantive.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Link, what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR LINK:

Point of personal privilege.

PRESIDENT JONES:

State your point.

SENATOR LINK:

Today is another special day. I know we're all congratulating everyone about the election, but a long time ago, and it was either sixty-seven years ago or, I -- I have a problem sometimes with dyslexic, so it was either sixty-seven or seventy-six years ago, Ma and Pa Jacobs were celebrating the birth of their son, Denny. And I don't know if they were celebrating it, but we're going to celebrate it today, and I

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think we all should wish Senator Jacobs one of those two birthdays today. So, happy birthday, Senator Jacobs.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Burzynski, what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Thank you, Mr. President. Just a point of personal privilege.

PRESIDENT JONES:

State -- state your point.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Evidently this is a great day for at least two families in the State of Illinois, because Senator Luechtefeld is also celebrating his birthday today. But, Denny -- and he's not quite sixty-seven yet. Sixty-four, I think he told me. And so, not even close, he says, to your age, but maybe he should act it, you think? But anyway, so we have cake down here for Senator Luechtefeld, as well. Thank you.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Jacobs was raised right, Senator Burzynski, that's why he's a Democrat. Madam Secretary, Motions in Writing.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

I have Veto Messages with respect to Senate Bills 2273, 2374, 2847 and 2460.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Print it on the Calendar -- shall be printed on the Calendar. Introduction of Bills. Proceed, Madam Secretary.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

I also have motions with respect to Senate Bills 2395 and 2690 to accept the Governor's recommendations.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Madam Secretary, Introduction of Bills.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Bill 3390, offered by Senator Bomke.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 3391, offered by Senator John Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

And Senate Bill 3392, offered by Senator Welch.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bills.

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PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Roskam, what -- for what purpose you rise?

SENATOR ROSKAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. A point of personal privilege. Mr. President, on the way down today, Senator Cronin was, let's say, taking a leadership role on the highway and I managed to get a copy of his driver's license, and his driver's license says that yesterday was his birthday. Now, he's not prepared to really celebrate with a cake or anything like our famous Senators, but he does have some old Halloween candy that's in his desk that he's happy to share later on.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Well, a belated happy birthday to our colleague, Senator Ronen {sic}. Senator Bomke, what purpose you rise?

SENATOR BOMKE:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I would move to suspend the rules..

PRESIDENT JONES:

Pardon me a minute, Senator. Can the Members quietly hold it down. Even you, Senator Barack. You got to hold it down here, too. Proceed, Senator.

SENATOR BOMKE:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I would move that we suspend the rules for the immediate adoption of Senate Resolution 684. It's a death resolution for William "Bill" Wozniak. We all knew Bill. Many of us saw him every day. We know that he was gunned down right here at the north end of the -- the Capitol. But it's important that we move on the -- death resolution today, as there is a ceremony for him tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock where there will be a planting of a tree. Thank you.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Bomke moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediate consideration and adoption of Senate Resolution 684. Those in favor, signify by saying Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Bomke now moves for the -- the adoption of Senate -- Senate Resolution 684. Is there any discussion? Senator Halvorson.

SENATOR HALVORSON:

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Thank you, Mr. President and Members of the Senate. Bill was always that first person you saw as you walked into the Chambers. He always had a smile on his face, and he couldn't wait to open the door for you so that he could help you carry everything in. I think this is one thing that shows how life is truly very, very short. Every one of us could be gone in a minute and there's nothing more precious than to be nice to other people and to live life to the fullest, and he did. And he's a credit to all of the people that work here in the Capitol. And I think we need to really just take that to heart and be a part of it, and to share with each other and work together and -- because none of us know when our last day is coming. It's just very sad that we had to wait for something to happen like this before we took it seriously. And -- and I just think that we need to continue to work together to fix some of the problems.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Watson.

SENATOR WATSON:

Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. I, too, want to just acknowledge Bill. I -- I'd get here early in the morning and he would, as Senator Halvorson mentioned, was the first person you'd see. And maybe a lot of you don't know about this about Bill, but he was very, very philosophical. I mean, he had a -- a passion about some beliefs of government and what should be done, and I couldn't -- I -- I had a very difficult time, every time I came in, getting by him. I mean, he -- he'd stop me and we'd talk and literally take me right to the elevator, and I couldn't get on the elevator until he -- till he finally got out what he wanted to say. But he was a wonderful guy, just a wonderful person. And -- and it just really shocked me when we -- when we heard this. And -- and -- and very disappointed, obviously, that something like this could happen in the -- in the people's house. You know, it's just a -- a very sad day for sure, and certainly a sad day for his family. And my sympathy goes out to them and -- and to the other guards who -- who -- had to be a very, very stressful time for them during all this time, and still is for that matter as we witness today, those of us that came back for the first time, the changes that have

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been made. So I just -- I just want to put out my -- my support for Bill, his family. They have a scholarship fund, I believe, Larry, that they put together. And -- and there are some things that they're doing that I think we ought to maybe all try to be a part of, because he was certainly a part of us. And he was very -- a very good person. So, we're going to miss him.

PRESIDENT JONES:

Senator Hendon.

SENATOR HENDON:

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President. I just wanted to join Senator Bomke and the other Senators in giving our condolences to Bill's family. He was one of the -- the nicest guys I ever met. His loss was felt throughout Illinois. On the west side of the City of Chicago many people called me from out of town - Ohio and Dallas Texas, and other places - when they heard about the tragedy of his loss. And -- and we just want to say a word of appreciation to all the guards and Secretary of State staff and the police for protecting us during this perilous times, and we just hope that we'll take a closer look at the mentally ill in this State and take it a little bit more serious. Because it's clearly that the person who did it was deranged and took a great man's life. And the person who did it had problems. No issues with Bill. No one had issues with Bill that I know. He was just a great guy and a class act all the way, and I just want to let him know we're here in the Senate and he's with the good Lord, and may he rest in peace.

PRESIDENT JONES:

The question is, shall -- shall Senate Resolution 684 be adopted. All those in favor, signify by saying Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. The resolution is unanimously adopted. Senator Halvorson in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

President Jones, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR E. JONES:

Madam President, I move to suspend the rules for the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 716.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senate President Jones moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediate consideration and adoption of Senate

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Resolution 716. Those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Madam Secretary, please read the resolution.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 716, offered by President Jones and all Members.

(Secretary reads SR No. 716)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Jones.

SENATOR E. JONES:

Yeah. Thank -- thank you, Madam President. Today marks the end, as well as a beginning, for our colleague, former colleague, Senator Barack Obama. This is the second ending I've had with this dynamic young man. Nearly twenty years ago on the far south side of the City of Chicago, I had my first meeting with him. Working -- he was working with a group as an organizer for the Development Communities Project. It dealt with the social issue as relate to school dropouts, drug prevention programs. And they were getting on the politicians, then, to get in there and do a job. And I told him then, I said, "Well, we can work together. You haven't got a deal on the House side. Come on in the office." And we -- we forged that relationship. Began -- set forth -- put together programs to deal with the critical issues that impacted our communities. And I enjoyed working with him, but one day he -- he called me and said, "You know, I'm thinking about leaving. I want to go to law school." I tried to discourage him. I tried to keep him out there, because you know, usually when people come to you with a problem it's, one thing, but when they have the solution to the problem, it's another. So it's an easy thing for me. But he went on to law school, as you all know by now, and he did quite well. Became President of the Harvard Law Review. I didn't see him again until he came back to Chicago to work on voter registration and things of that nature. Then one day he said he's running -- he's going to be running for the Senate district over in -- from Hyde Park community. And he became our colleague. It's been a warm working relationship. Each of you know him as he -- as relate to his legislative duties. He's never been abusive in debate. He's always been one to explain

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his side of the issue. He's been one who was willing to work with anyone, and that's quite evident by him becoming the -- the top vote-getter for any public official in the State of Illinois this past election, more votes than any other elected official has ever received in the State. He's going to do us well in Washington. He's -- he -- he -- he will not be in the majority, but he know how to work with the majority and to get things done. He's been a friend all those years. Many of us, who joined in and supported him, even you on the other side of the aisle, recognize his intellect and the qualities of him. That's why four out of every ten Republican voted for him. He's going to do Illinois well. He's going to do us justice, again. I'm proud to see him go. I hate for -- to see him leave, and that -- that's the dilemma you are faced with in a situation like that. My proudest moment in politics, when we were in Boston at the convention, and I looked around at Terry Link and tears was running down his eyes. So I didn't feel bad about the tears coming down my eyes, because here was a young man that we were so proud of, who -- who did such an excellent job, and now, all across the nation, people love him. Those of you who were not there, I was on the elevator at the Hilton that Monday before he gave the speech, and -- with delegates from around the country. So they were introducing themselves, telling each other what state they were from. A lady looked at me. She said, "I know where you're from." She said, "You're from Alabama." She was looking at the Barack Obama button I had on. And I -- and I told her, "No. That's -- that's your keynote speaker for the convention." After he gave that speech, everyone who had a Barack Obama button, people were begging saying, "I've got to have one." And he -- in his speech, and the part I liked about it most, and sometimes you look at campaigns and people talk about this guy's a conservative, he's a liberal, he's black, he's white, he's Hispanic, he's Indian. We are all Illinoisans. And if you noticed during his fight on critical issues on this Floor, when he passed legislation dealing with racial profiling, dealing with videotaping of confessions and interrogations, he stuck to the issue. Even though at one point in time the issue was before us before, but those bills passed nearly unanimous because he said we are one people. We are Illinoisans. And I'm

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quite certain, during his tenure in Washington he's going to represent all of us as Illinoisans. So we're very proud of you, Barack. And at the conclusion, I think we will give you leave to speak from the rostrum up here, and that you will do a tremendous job. So I hate to see you go. We wish you well. This is the second time you're leaving me, but -- but we all wish you well, 'cause you know -- we -- you're going to do a tremendous job for all of us.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator -- Senator Jones.

SENATOR E. JONES:

Madam Secretary, do our colleague have leave to speak from the rostrum?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Leave is granted. Senator Jones now moves for the adoption of Senate Resolution 716. Is there any discussion? Senator Obama, to speak from the Podium.

SENATOR OBAMA:

Well, the -- thank you. Thank you. Obviously, a bittersweet moment. Thank you, President Jones, for your gracious comments. Having sat in your seats during resolutions, I know not to make a mistake of being long, and I know Denny Jacobs would say something if I were. But I have a very simple message and that is thank you, because everybody here has been extraordinarily gracious to me during the years that I've served here. Not only my fellow colleagues, but also the staffs have just shown themselves to be outstanding public servants. And I know that oftentimes, you know, people are cynical about politics and they're cynical about government and oftentimes they talk about Springfield as if what we do down here is not in service of the people. And yet, when I look around the room, Republican and Democrat, what I've come to know during the eight years that I've been here is that each and every one of you are here for the right reasons and that you care deeply about your constituents, and that you are putting in enormous effort and enormous work to ensure that our children have a better life than the one that we've enjoyed. And for that, I'm extraordinarily grateful to all of you. And I'm grateful to all that I've learned from each and every one of you, because

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everybody here, in some fashion, has taught me something, and has provided me new insights, new knowledge, has -- has made certain that the blind spots that I came here with, and the narrow parochialism that I think all of us sometimes have in terms of representing our particular district, that by meeting and discussing and deliberating in a civil fashion, as we do here, I think all of us take away a little piece of each other. And we end up having a broader world view that hopefully will serve us well as we continue to do this important work. So, I'm going to miss everybody here tremendously. I am appreciative and grateful to President Jones, as well as Republican Leader Watson, for your efforts at guiding this difficult ship. I know sometimes it seems like it's herding cats, being in charge of this -- this Chamber, because we've got a lot of strong-minded, opinionated people. But you both do an outstanding job, and I have to give special credit to President Jones for his friendship and support, because if it weren't for him, I don't think I would be standing here today. So, thank you so much. This is not, obviously, the last time I hope to be in this Chamber. I'm going to be in this Chamber frequently, and I'm looking forward to working with each and every one of you to make sure that when I'm in Washington that I'm doing my best to represent the entire State of Illinois. So, thank you everybody. I appreciate it. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Watson.

SENATOR WATSON:

Well, thank you, Madam President. This is maybe -- I tried to get recognition earlier and -- and would've liked to have had the opportunity to -- to say a few words before Barack spoke, but, first of all, Barack, I want to wish you well and I know that -- in fact, when you were in Greenville and you came by the drugstore, they said all you did was buy a pack -- a pack of gum. I would've liked to have seen, you know, share the wealth a little bit, but unfortunately, I was out of town when you were there and people asked me, "Would you have gone over there to the Pantry Restaurant to have been -- been with your fellow Senator?" And I said, "Absolutely, yes." I would have been glad to -- to have welcomed you to my home community and -- and

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feel that you have represented us well. And when we left the last few days of -- of Session, I think it was the last day of Session when we -- we extended time, and you were getting ready to go to Boston and I told him -- I told Senator Obama, I said, "You know, we differ a great deal in our philosophies, our politics. We -- we talk on the Floor as if we're just vehement enemies, but that isn't the case at all." And I said, "When you go out to Boston and when you deliver that speech before the Democrat National Convention, you represent all of Illinois and you do us proud." And little did I know what would happen. I mean, a lot of people thought you were going to be a multitude -- there was going to be a multitude of people that would be the keynote address. I mean, that's what we were told. You were the man. You were the guy. And you did a wonderful job before your fellow Democrats. You represented us proud on this side. And you, more importantly, represented Illinois proud in the manner in which you conducted yourself and the speech that you gave. So I congratulate you on that. I know that you will represent us well in -- in Washington. We'll probably disagree a great deal on issues. You will hear from us. I appreciate the opportunity to even -- he's got an appointment with me this afternoon. Comes in my office at 2:30. I have a very long list -- a very long list, Senator. But we -- we do wish you well. And keep your -- your feet on the ground, and if you need any humility, you know where you can find it, right back here in the Illinois State Senate. Good luck to you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Is there any further discussion? Seeing none, Senator Jones, do you wish to close?

SENATOR E. JONES:

Yeah. Thank --thank you, Madam President. I would like to invite all of you this evening to a special reception at the Hilton, 7 p.m. to 9 in -- 7:30 to 9 at the Hilton. All of you are invited. You did get a flyer on it. But it'd be a special reception we're holding in honor of Senator Barack Obama.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

The question is, shall Senate Resolution 716 be adopted. All in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. There being no further business to come

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before the Senate, the Senate stands adjourned until the hour of 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 9th, 2004. The Senate stands adjourned.