

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
93rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
THIRTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

1st Legislative Day

7/14/2004

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

The Senate will please come to order. Will the Members please be at their desks? Will our guests in the galleries please rise? The invocation today will be given by Pastor Rick Wenneborg, of the Chatham Christian Church, in Chatham, Illinois.

PASTOR RICK WENNEBORG:

(Prayer by Pastor Rick Wenneborg)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

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

SENATOR LINK:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Link)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

We have leave to video the proceedings today for Pearl Video Productions, a Division of NBC. Hearing no objection, leave is granted. Madam Secretary, Communications from the Secretary of State.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

July 13, 2004.

Dear Secretary Hawker - Enclosed please find a copy of Proclamation 2004-206, filed in my office on July 13, 2004, by Governor Rod -- R. Blagojevich, calling for a Special Session of the 93rd General Assembly, to begin at 12 o'clock p.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2004. A notice and accompanying Proclamation has been mail today to each Member's Springfield office.

Sincerely, Jesse White, Secretary of State.

(Secretary reads Proclamation No. 04-206)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

The Senate is convened in the Thirteenth Special Session of the 93rd General Assembly. Under the practice of this Body since the 88th General Assembly, the rules adopted by the 93rd General Assembly, its officers and committees are in effect for the continuous period of the 93rd General Assembly, including any Special Session. At this time, there will be a Rules Committee meeting immediately in the President's Anteroom. The Rules Committee will meet immediately in the President's Anteroom. There -- there are three organizational resolutions

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that will be adapted today -- adopted today, excuse me. These resolutions inform the House that the Senate -- Senate is ready to conduct business, create a Senate Committee of five to wait upon the Governor, and create -- create a Senate Committee of three people to approve the Journals of -- for the Senate for all days of Special Session. Madam Secretary, Resolutions, please.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 1 from the Thirteenth Special Session, offered by Senator Welch {sic}.

(Secretary reads SR No. 1)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Halvorson moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution No. 1. All those in favor will say Aye. All those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Halvorson now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 1. Those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution No. 2 from the Thirteenth Special Session, offered by Senator Halvorson.

(Secretary reads SR No. 2)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Once again, Senator Halvorson moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution No. 2. All those in favor, say Aye. All those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Halvorson now moves that -- the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 2. Those in favor of the adoption will say Aye. Those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Senator Althoff, for what purpose do you rise, ma'am?

SENATOR ALTHOFF:

Point of personal privilege.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Please state your point.

SENATOR ALTHOFF:

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Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Senate, we have a very important birthday on this side of the aisle today. Senator Kay Wojcik is celebrating her birthday. We have a wonderful carrot cake over here in the corner, and I would ask that we recognize her birthday and give her excellent felicitations on this day.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Wojcik, a very, very happy birthday. Senator Wojcik, for what purpose do you rise, ma'am?

SENATOR WOJCIK:

First of all, I thank you for the nice applause, but I have to tell you, I'm only a one year older. In 1991 I had my birthday here on this illustrious day. So, when they ask you about how old you are, I'm one year older than I was in 1991.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

That's good.

SENATOR WOJCIK:

But thank you all. It's my favorite cake, so enjoy it and have a good day.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Wojcik, on behalf of all the Members of the Illinois General Assembly and especially the Senate, we wish you a very happy birthday. Senator Burzynski.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Thank you, Mr. President. I -- I -- I just arise for a -- a comment and a suggestion to the Members of the Body. First of all, if -- if we could start planning ahead and if all of the Members that have birthdays over the next sixty days to get together, perhaps you could pool your resources and we could do a great barbeque some place. But, secondly, I think I'll look ahead to my birthday next year. But, also, I'd like to point out to the Members of the Body that the State Fair begins August 13th and runs through the 22nd, and if you don't have your room reservations yet, you best get them. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Thank you, sir. Thank you for that announcement. Okay. Madam Secretary, further Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

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Senate Resolution No. 3 from the Thirteenth Special Session, offered by Senator Halvorson.

(Secretary reads SR No. 3)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Halvorson moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution No. 3. All those in favor will say Aye. All those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Halvorson now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 3. Those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Once again we have Ron Burgundy of Channel 4 TV here in Springfield asking -- seeking leave of the Body to videotape or record the proceedings. Hearing no objection, leave is granted. Senator Trotter, for what purpose do you rise, sir?

SENATOR TROTTER:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. Rise for -- point of personal privilege.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Please state your point, sir.

SENATOR TROTTER:

Thank you very much. I would like the Members of this august Body to join with me in welcoming one of our colleagues from the great State of Georgia. They finished their budget and -- in April.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Trotter.

SENATOR TROTTER:

Some people know how to get it right. Eventually we'll get there as well. But, Members of the Body, please join with me in welcoming State Representative Stan Watson from Georgia.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Representative Watson, welcome to Springfield, sir. It's a pleasure to have you here. Senator Trotter.

SENATOR TROTTER:

And then he's also joined here with another one of his friends and colleagues from Georgia, as well, and that's James Reichman.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

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Welcome -- welcome to the Illinois State Senate, sir. Okay. Ladies and Gentlemen, there being -- being no further business to come before the Senate for the Thirteenth Special Session, Special Session stands adjourned to Perfunctory section -- Session on Friday, July 15th {sic}, the year 2004.