

STATE OF ILLINOIS
94th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
REGULAR SESSION
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

9th Legislative Day

2/16/2005

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

The regular Session of the 94th General Assembly will please come to order. Will the Members please be at their desk? Will our guests in the galleries please rise? The invocation today will be given by the Reverend Jean Hembrough of the Douglas Avenue (United) Methodist Church in Springfield.

THE REVEREND JEAN HEMBROUGH:

(Prayer by the Reverend Jean Hembrough)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Please remain standing for the Pledge -- Allegiance.
Senator Maloney.

SENATOR MALONEY:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Maloney)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Madam Secretary, Reading and Approval of the Journal.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Journal of Tuesday, February 15, 2005.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Hunter.

SENATOR HUNTER:

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

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Hunter moves to approve the Journal just read by the Secretary. Are there any objections? So ordered. Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 65, offered by Senator Bomke and all Members.

It is a death resolution.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Resolution Consent Calendar.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

And Senate Joint Resolution No. 10, offered by Senator Halvorson.

It is substantive.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Madam Secretary, Messages.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

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A Message from the President, dated February 15, 2005.

Dear Madam Secretary - Pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rules 3-1 and 3-2, I hereby appoint Senator Michael Jacobs as a member of the following Senate committees, effective immediately: Environment and Energy, Executive Appointments, Insurance, Pensions and Investment, and Revenue.
Sincerely, Emil Jones, Jr., Senate President.

Another letter, dated February 15, 2005.

Dear Madam Secretary - Pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rules 3-1 and 3-2, I hereby appoint Senator Antonio Munoz as Vice-Chairman of the Senate -- Senate Environment and Energy Committee, effective immediately.
Sincerely, Emil Jones, Jr., Senate President.

Another letter -- letter, dated February 15, from the President.

Dear Madam Secretary - Pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rules 3-1 and 3-2, I hereby appoint Senator Gary Forby to replace Senator Terry Link on the Senate Transportation Committee, effective immediately.
Sincerely, Emil Jones, Jr., Senate President.

Another letter, dated February 15, 2005, from the Senate President.

Dear Madam Secretary - Pursuant to the provisions of Senate Rules 3-1 and 3-2, I -- hereby appoint Senator Rickey Hendon as Co-Chairperson of the Senate Executive Appointments Committee, effective immediately.
Sincerely, Emil Jones, Jr., Senate President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Halvorson, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR HALVORSON:

For a point of personal privilege, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

State your point.

SENATOR HALVORSON:

Thank you, Mr. President and Members of the Senate. Today I have with me today a very special person. She's a Page for the Day. Her name is Lindsay Johnson. But with us also, we have Linda and Steve, her mom and dad, and sister, Laurén. So if we could all welcome them to Springfield, I would appreciate it.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Will our -- will the guests in the gallery -- please give them -- please stand? Madam Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senator Crotty, Chairperson of the Committee on Local Government, reports Senate Bill 22 Do Pass.

Senator Lightford, Chairperson of the Committee on Education, reports Senate Bills 64, 69, 176 and 211 Do Pass.

Senator Martinez, Chairperson of the Committee on Pensions and Investments, reports Senate Bills 21, 27 and 36 Do Pass.

Senators Cullerton and Dillard, Co-Chairpersons of the Committee on Judiciary, report Senate Bills 45, 53, 71, 72, 73, 74, 78, 100, 104, 135, 165, 174, 189, 194, 196, 208 and 241 Do Pass.

Senator Sullivan, Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture and Conservation, reports Senate Bills 123, 214 and 215 Do Pass.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Madam Secretary, Introduction of Bills.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Bill 408, offered by Senator Sandoval.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 409, offered by Senator Raoul.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 410, offered by Senator Forby.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 411, offered by Senator Forby.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 412, offered by Senator Forby.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 413, offered by Senator Wojcik.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 414, offered by Senator Jacobs.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 415, offered by Senator Righter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 416, offered by Senator Raoul.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 417, offered by Senator Schoenberg.

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(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 418, offered by Senator DeLeo.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 419, offered by Senator DeLeo.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 420, offered by Senators Harmon, Dillard and Roskam.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 421, offered by Senators Martinez and Sandoval.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 422, offered by Senator Sieben.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 423, offered by Senator Sieben.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 424, offered by Senator Radogno.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 425, offered by Senator Hunter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 426, offered by Senator Shadid.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 427, offered by Senator Maloney.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 428, offered by Senator Ronen.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 429, offered by Senator Dave Sullivan.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 430, offered by Senator Cronin.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 431, offered by Senator DeLeo.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 432, offered by Senator John Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 433, offered by Senator Radogno.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 434, offered by Senator Wilhelmi.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 435, offered by Senator Wojcik.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 436, offered by Senator Hendon.

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(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 437, offered by Senator Wendell Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 438, offered by Senator Wendell Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 439, offered by Senator Wendell Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 440, offered by Senator Wendell Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 441, offered by Senator Righter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 442, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 443, offered by Senator Righter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 444, offered by Senator Righter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 445, offered by Senator Martinez.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 446, offered by Senator Martinez.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 447, offered by Senator Sandoval.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 448, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 449, offered by Senator Crotty.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 450, offered by Senator Crotty.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 451, offered by Senator Crotty.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 452, offered by Senator Crotty.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 453, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 454, offered by Senator Collins.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 455, offered by Senator Harmon.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

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Senate Bill 456, offered by Senator Munoz.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 457, offered by Senator Ronen.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 458, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 459, offered by Senator Wilhelmi.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 460, offered by Senator Winkel.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 461, offered by Senator Winkel.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 462, offered by Senator Maloney.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 463, offered by Senator Maloney.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 464, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 465, offered by Senator Haine.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 466, offered by Senator Haine.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 467, offered by Senator Haine.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 468, offered by Senator Haine.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 469, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 470, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 471, offered by Senator Martinez.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 472, offered by Senator Trotter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 473, offered by Senator Trotter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 474, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 475, offered by Senator Forby.

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(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 476, offered by Senator Trotter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 477, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 478, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 479, offered by Senator Shadid.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 480, offered by Senator Hunter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 481, offered by Senator Hunter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 482, offered by Senators Halvorson, Demuzio, Crotty, Haine, Munoz and Silverstein.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 483, offered by Senator Cullerton.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 484, offered by Senator Radogno.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 485, offered by Senator Halvorson.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 486, offered by Senator Halvorson.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 487, offered by Senator Martinez.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 488, offered by Senator Pankau.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 489, offered by Senator Pankau.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 490, offered by Senators Bomke and Watson.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bills.

Senate Bills {sic} 491, offered by Senator Righter.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 492, offered by Senator Wendell Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

And Senate Bill 493, offered by Senator Wendell Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

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1st Reading of the bills.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

At this time I would like to announce the Committee of Five Senators who will be appointed to escort the Governor to the House of Representatives: Senator Halvorson, Senator Meeks, Senator John Sullivan, Senator Pankau and Senator Althoff. Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 66, offered by Senator Emil Jones and all Members.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Madam Secretary, please read the resolution.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 66.

(Secretary begins to read SR No. 66)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Can we please have your attention for this resolution? Could we please have everybody quiet and listen to this resolution? Thank you.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 66, offered by Senator Emil Jones and all Members.

(Secretary reads SR No. 66)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Jones, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR E. JONES:

Thank you, Mr. President. And this is a point of personal privilege. It's my privilege to say, "Good-bye, old buddy". You know, I had the pleasure of serving with his father in the House, and his father was a little different than Denny. Now I'm having the pleasure to, not only serve with Denny -- had the pleasure of serving with Denny, but also to serve with his son, Mike. You know, in -- in the Jacobs' family, I know four generations of Jacobs'. I'm glad to get rid of this one that's leaving now. One thing I always admired and respected about Denny - he may disagree with you on some issues - that he was always very blunt. He said some things to me I won't even repeat here. He wrote me some letters, you know, and everything, but I never took it personal with him because I knew that was the way he was. I --

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as it was mentioned in the resolution, he's the "Father of Riverboats". And when Illinois was losing a lot of revenue to the State of -- Iowa, it was Denny Jacobs who came to the Legislature with legislation suggesting a way with which we could keep Illinois dollars in Illinois. And if he's called the "Father of Riverboats" in Illinois - I've been with him a couple of times on the riverboat - they don't treat him as -- as the father. They treat him like they treat everyone else. He -- he lose his money just like everyone else. But not only on riverboats, one thing I respect the most about him, he sat on the Environment and Energy Committee, and -- and the complications -- the -- the complicated issue as relate to telecommunications - and I was sitting with him one day and -- to really understand that particular issue and how it impact on the people of the State of Illinois - Denny Jacobs knew that issue, knew it well, knew all aspects of it. So, Denny, your leaving will actually be a loss to all of us in the Illinois Senate. And some of -- some of -- some of us really tried to push you out early, said, "We got to get rid of that Denny Jacobs." But -- but you have made a great contribution to the people of the State of Illinois. I'm proud to say that your father was a good friend; you are a good friend; your son, Mike, is a good friend. And I know Mike's kids. But -- but you're -- you're leaving. I don't want to see you on the Senate Floor anymore. And nor -- nor do I want to see you out there on the rail. I think we should pass a law that former Senators who become lobbyists, we should have a name plaque on that rail out there with their name. So, I think, we'll have one made up for you, Denny Jacobs. But you're all -- this is always your home. You can always come back here and perhaps we'll get to the Quad City. You and I can get on that boat again, because I know they have not treated you well. They have not treated you well. As the "Father", they should give you more benefits on those boats, not take things out of your pocket. But it's going to be wonderful, Denny, to serve with your son and I -- I'm quite certain we will establish the same type of relationship. And he is a person really cut from the old Jacobs' cloth. I listened to him yesterday. He began to speak on various issues and everything. But, Denny, we wish you well. We wish all the great things for you. And when we, hopefully, pass a

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riverboat piece of legislation this Session, it will bear your name "Father Denny Jacobs".

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Jones moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediate consideration and adoption for Senate Resolution 66. Those in favor, signify by saying Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. The rules are suspended. Senator Jones now moves for the adoption of Senate Resolution 66. Is there any discussion? Senator Sieben, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR SIEBEN:

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

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

State your point, Senator Sieben.

SENATOR SIEBEN:

Well, thank you, Mr. President. It's my pleasure, my distinct pleasure to stand and join with Senator Jones and the rest of the colleagues here to -- to say a few good things about our -- our -- our good friend -- Denny Jacobs and to join in this resolution honoring him today for his eighteen years of service. 1986, Senator Jacobs was elected to the State Senate; I was elected to the State House. So we were elected and sworn in on the same day in 1987, and for those eighteen years, we've worked cooperatively together on a lot of good issues that have benefited northwest Illinois, specifically, western Illinois, the Quad City region. Part of that time, I was in the Majority. Part of that time, I was in the Majority {sic}. Part of that time, Denny was in the Majority. Part of the time, he was in the Minority. Didn't make any difference - we worked together. If something was needed for the Quad Cities, we just changed the lead sponsor on the bill, depending on who was in the Majority, and we'd work to get -- together to get the job done. And it didn't make any difference whether we were sitting in the board room at Deere and Company or we were meeting with representatives of the credit unions in our area or the teachers' unions or whatever; it was always the same. It was the same Denny Jacobs. He's the real thing. What you see is what you get. He doesn't change with his -- change of his clothes or the way he dresses up, and most of the time back in the district, you wouldn't see him in a suit and tie. He'd just be Denny in a sport shirt and

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be the same guy wherever we met and whoever we met with. Didn't ask you what your politics were. He says, "What do you need to get done?" And we'd join hands and -- and get the job done. I noticed last week, after he submitted his resignation, there was a quote from Denny in the Dispatch, talking about his retirement, and he says, "I'm a dinosaur." Says, "My kind is extinct. I like backroom deals and those are just going by the wayside." Well, Denny did make some deals. He got the job done, but he was always open, he was always available, very transparent person. Wonderful wife, Mary Ellen, tremendous family, as I said yesterday when Mike was introduced. I got to give you a lot of credit, Mary Ellen, you've been with Denny, faithful wife and spouse, for, I don't know, forty-plus years, maybe close to fifty, I don't know, but what a -- what an honor and tribute to you to have not only supported and been the -- the one behind a great Legislator like Denny, but also to be the mother of a great new Senator here in the General Assembly. And as you might imagine, since Denny and I share several counties, in Carroll County and Whiteside County and Henry County -- fact, the new map -- the new map moved his district within three blocks of my house. I had to build a new house to be in my -- my new district. He now represents eleven hundred people in my hometown of Geneseo. So we've worked even closer together, and when he left the Senate, his parking place out here was number 6 and mine was number 5. I don't know how I got one number ahead of you, Denny, but enjoyed that close relationship all these years. Our offices worked very close together too. So when I called last Thursday to congratulate Mike on being sworn in, I talked with Dawn, who we work with frequently in the office. I said, "Dawn, anything you'd like me to say when we do Denny's resolution?" So, Dawn asked me to just -- two quick sentences here: "Denny, it has been a great run and we cannot believe it has come to an end. Thanks for everything. We love you and we will miss you. Pat, Dawn, Janet and Michele. P.S. - Denny, we spoke to the Pizza {sic} (Frank's Pizza) today and they have rejected your application for bartender due to your lack of qualifications." So, the people that know Denny best, love him. I love Denny Jacobs. I love the relationship we've had for eighteen years. I wish you and Mary Ellen and Mike the best. And, Mike, I look

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forward to working closely with you too on every issue that we can. Congratulations, Denny, and best wishes.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Geo-Karis.

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, Denny Jacobs is one of the most caring people I know. I echo the sentiments voiced by the President of the Senate about him. But I want to say that he has been most supportive of women, women's causes, and of the minorities. And, Denny, I shall miss you, but I think your son, Mike, is going to do a good job, 'cause you told me what to do to him if he doesn't. So, I want to congratulate you on your departure and your wonderful wife -- by the way, you have Mediterranean in your family; your wife is part Italian. And I just want to tell you that we love you, we will miss you, but we will see you, and I hope you do come back because you are an outstanding person. You have served your city, your State and your country well. God bless you and your family and God bless America.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Dave Sullivan.

SENATOR D. SULLIVAN:

...you -- thank you, Mr. President, I'm tempted to move the previous question, but I'm sure there are many -- too many speakers who want to say something about Denny. Denny, I just want to thank you. You've been a friend and a mentor to me. It's been great times working with you on the Energy and Environment Committee. You've taught me a lot about telecom and electricity and we've gone through a lot of interesting issues together over the years. It's been quite an education. But I've enjoyed the last few weeks, listening to you speak with your friend Spike O'Dell on WGN Radio. And it probably aggravates you, but it's kind of amusing, every time Spike always -- refers to you as the "Grandfather of Riverboat Gambling", and I know you're -- you're only the father. So I know it probably rubs you a little the wrong way and Spike's probably having a little fun with you when he does that. But, you know what, Denny, I think, has been upset with me for about a year now, since one night we were playing -- playing a friendly game of cards and -- we both

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got dealt very good hands, and so the pot got -- got pretty big and, Denny, I'm going to apologize, but I -- it's really Coach Luechtefeld's fault that I got the -- the hand I got. Denny was dealt a jack-high straight flush. In any hand of poker that's pretty good -- pretty good hand. Unfortunately for Denny, Coach Luechtefeld gave me a royal flush. So when the pot kept growing bigger and bigger, I ended up walking away with it. So I'm sorry, Denny, but just blame Coach on that one. But we really are going to miss you. You have been a great asset here. We certainly welcome Mike. Rumor is that Mike might be a bigger asset to us on the softball field, but I -- I think Senator Hendon is hoping for, as we take on the House. But we want to wish you and Mary Ellen all God's speed. Thanks, Denny.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Wojcik.

SENATOR WOJCIK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Members of this august Body. I would be remiss if I did not say good wishes and good luck to you, Denny. We've been good friends for these eighteen years. You've been by my side with many of the issues I had regarding gaming and my special interest for the disabled family, and you worked so hard to have that amendment put in for me. Mary Ellen, I loved our dinners that we had and especially the one in New York. We keep saying we want to go back there, don't we? But I -- there's always a joke I say about when a man retires and he goes back home: You have to watch your kitchen. Because when my husband retired, he took over my kitchen. So now, I'm going to also tell you, Denny, don't feel bad, because when I go to the riverboats, they don't pay me either. So we're all in the same shoes. Good luck. Godspeed. And I hope your name will be on the rail.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Viverito.

SENATOR VIVERITO:

Thank you, Mr. President. I'm really honored to be able just to say a few words about Denny. We all know how capable of a Legislator he is, and probably the most unique thing I can say is, when you first come to the Senate, Denny Jacobs was always there for each and every one of us. And probably the best thing

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I could say, he truly is the most unique. I think he's a David {sic} (Damon) Runyon of the -- of the Senate. And along with his son coming in now, the lovely family that he has, I think, we're going to miss him and we wish you the very best, Denny. God bless.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Hendon.

SENATOR HENDON:

Thank you, Mr. President. Actually, I wasn't going to say anything, but I keep hearing everybody get up, lie about Denny, like he's some great guy or some angel or something. And everybody knows Denny -- that's not the Denny that I know, you know. So I had to get up and just set the record straight. Denny, I'm glad that you're leaving. I really am. We got Mike. Yes, we got a good softball player, but now I don't have to listen to you complain and I don't have to have you come by -- come by and pinch me on my side. I never figured out what that was all about, Denny, you know? Senate Bill 101 or what? I don't know what was going on. But I'm not going to miss that at all. And I remember when I -- I -- I used to really love Denny, 'cause he's probably the only guy in the Senate shorter than me, you know, so I -- you know, I got that Napoleon complex. So I was glad about that. I do want to say when my great friend ran for Secretary of State, I think he got two votes in the whole State - that was mine and his. So, I wish you well, my friend, and good luck. Godspeed.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

Senator Clayborne.

SENATOR CLAYBORNE:

Thank you, Mr. President and Members of the Senate. It is indeed my pleasure to stand up here and -- and recognize my good friend, Denny Jacobs. And before I go into the things that I want to talk about, I was sitting here thinking about in nineteen -- early parts of the -- of the '90s and the late '80s, when the City of East St. Louis was literally dying and were very in a -- in a very depressed state, when policemen were using their own cars and fire trucks were -- were being jump-started to get to the fire, and Denny stepped forward, and it may not have been -- there's a lot of controversy over this, but -- but for the

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riverboat in East St. Louis, it would probably be an abandoned city. Denny, I want to thank you for your courage on that and the many people who have benefited in terms of jobs, housing, being able to send their kids to college and make a decent living. I do want to thank you for your -- your courage on that. I appreciate Denny because a lot of times -- and I -- I've never figured this out and I'm still trying to figure this out. There were two people that I knew who always knew the inside on everything. One was Senator Vince Demuzio and the other one was Denny Jacobs. And they still haven't told me how do I find out all the inside, but maybe he'll share that with me. But I went to Denny for advice, went to Denny for direction, and I knew always that Denny was very informed, that he would be honest with me, regardless of whether he agreed with it or not. And I appreciate you for that -- that, Denny, because you set the tone for a lot of decisions that I made and how I began to interact with my other colleagues. I also want to say that when I was growing up, my father told me, he said, "In life, son, you will -- you will come across many associates," he said, "but very few friends." And, Denny, I truly view you as a friend and I wish you good luck and Godspeed. And I will make sure that Mike stays in line. God bless you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Shadid.

SENATOR SHADID:

Thank you very much, Mr. President. I don't get up very often to say nice things about people, but the last one was Vince Demuzio. And, Denny, you are a real person who understands what this Legislative Body is all about. You represent the real world, because you understand them out there. And we need more people like you. You're a good friend, and you've become a real good friend the last several months and I appreciate that. And by the way, you know, when our picture was in the paper, you were smoking that cigarette, blowing it in my face, I didn't mind it 'cause I used to smoke and -- but I think that that's the reason why the Governor put that seventy-five-cent tax on -- or he wants to put it on, thinking that he was going to help you quit smoking. But I'm going to tell him that you quit smoking and -- and -- because Emil Jones stopped you from smoking up on the

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Floor here. And I just want to remind Sieben and make him aware, Senator, that you didn't realize that your house was not supposed to be in your district, it was supposed to be in Denny's district, and you thought that it was just close. Well, they made a mistake when they had that little computer thing and -- but you're okay. And, Denny, I just want to stop by saying, you're a good guy, good friend, you have a great family, and I want to wish you the best and I really mean that. Thank you very much for being my friend.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Munoz.

SENATOR MUNOZ:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I, too, rise to join my colleagues to honor a great man, Senator Denny Jacobs, and say a few words for him. I was elected to this great Body in '99. I had a little office on the Mezzanine. And in that little office -- on that floor was Senator Jacobs, former Senator Jimmy Rea, Senator Bowles and Senator Molaro. And during them two years, we came {sic} great friends on that floor, and when it was time for us to move on, everybody was pretty sad, but I was still able to be with Denny. And, lo and behold, because of Senator Shadid wanting to sit to -- next to Senator Hawkins {sic} (Hawkinson), I was able to sit here, 'cause I surely didn't have enough seniority to be back here. So, in the last four years, I've been able to sit with him, next to him, and also be an office mate to him. Senator Jacobs, you have been a mentor. You have been a teacher. You have been a great advisor. But most of all, you've been a great friend, and I thank you for that. God bless you and your family and I love you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Peterson.

SENATOR PETERSON:

Thank you, Mr. President. Denny, it's been great working with you, and I know, as you said, the Legislature has changed, but you haven't. Your word was your bond, and sometimes when we had agreements and things changed, you stuck to your word. And we all appreciate that. Working with you has been a great pleasure. I will miss you. I know many of us on both sides of

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the aisle will miss you. And we wish you and Mary Ellen the best and a wonderful and long retirement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Lightford.

SENATOR LIGHTFORD:

Thank you, Mr. President. Denny, I just wanted you to know that at a woman's point when she's carrying a child and experiencing different things, I would come and sit right before you every morning, not feeling well, cold, and you always made sure that you acknowledged me by saying, "Good morning, beautiful," no matter how bad I felt, no matter how ugly I looked. And I said to you on one day, "I mean, is this like something you do for all pregnant women?" And you said, "Yes." But, I just want you to know that that meant the world to me, and in spite of you smoking cigarettes, blowing the smoke my way constantly, I -- I kind of got used to that because I just appreciated you. And I just want you to know that as a new Member coming in, I met you over the summer, and you probably don't remember this, but that was my first encounter with you, the summer of '98, and you embraced me and you began to send support my way immediately and that meant a lot to me coming in as a new Member, as a young woman. And your wife and daughters are just beautiful. Every NCSL vacation, we have fun together. I -- in Chicago, you guys were the first people to show up to see the Dells at the Black Caucus event. And you're just so much fun. I love you. I wish you luck. Mike is already bumping shoulders with me, but I appreciate him being here too. So, good luck, God bless you, your beautiful wife and your daughters. And thank you for all you've done for us.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Cullerton.

SENATOR CULLERTON:

Yes. Mr. President, can we move the previous question? Or -- this is getting -- No. No, we can't do it? All right. I'll -- I'll give a speech then. You may recall the last time we had someone retire. I pointed out that -- and I'm not positive if I have covered all the possibilities, but I think there's four ways of leaving here: You can die - that's got to be the worst; getting indicted would not be a good thing - we'd have to leave

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if you get indicted; you could lose an election - can't be happy, but it's, you know, better than the other two; but the best way to leave is to retire with a full pension. And that's what -- and that's what Denny's doing; retiring with a full pension. Denny and I were seatmates. I appreciated all that secondhand smoke I was getting and I -- I said, "Maybe I could slide over one seat, Denny." And then he started giving cigarettes to Tony, so it didn't -- I should have stayed next to him; it didn't make any -- any difference. But the -- the loss is really going to be ours. It's the institutional memory that someone has by being here for as long as Denny has that is such a tremendous asset for all of us. Being able to have your son succeed you is -- is unbelievable. I -- I -- I think that would be something that all of us would just really treasure if that was something that we could do. It's also going to be interesting when you start to lobby your son and he tells you the first time, "No, dad, I don't agree with you on that bill." That's going to be a highlight, perhaps, if you're lobbying. I don't know if that's happened yet; he's only been here a few days. But -- but truly, truly, we are going to -- you're going to -- you -- you might miss us a little bit, Denny, but we are truly going to miss you and the institution is going to miss you. I wish you the best of luck.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Martinez.

SENATOR MARTINEZ:

Thank you, Mr. President. I, too, stand with my colleagues today. I remember a couple of years ago when I came to the General Assembly and I -- I first met Denny Jacobs, and what I loved about him was his smile. He always has a smile no matter what. And one of the things that he said to me at the very beginning, that I usually -- I usually vote with the Latino Caucus. And in our hearts, I want to say that -- thank you, thank you for being a friend to the Latino community. I know that I'm going to miss you. I -- I -- sitting with you as your Vice-Chair in the Insurance and Pensions, you've taught me a lot. Now I am Chairman of the Pensions - and that's kind of scary. The good thing about it is that I have a Jacobs actually sitting in the same room with me. So I'm going to feel reassured that there

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is a Jacob {sic} in the room. Thank you, Denny, again, on behalf of the -- of the Hispanic community for being such a good friend to us, always being there when we needed that one vote. I -- you came through for me a couple of times this past Session when I needed that thirtieth vote, and I thank you. And I'm going to really miss you. I'm going to really miss you a whole lot because you are one wonderful human being and you're caring. You know, and -- and your nature of just being such a caring individual has -- is going to leave a very void here in the General Assembly, but I know that we're -- you're going to be around probably a whole lot more than ever. And we're glad that you are -- you have your son filling in your spot and we're going to make him an honorary Latino Caucus member also. Thank you, Denny, and I love you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Demuzio.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Denny, what can I say? We go back many, many years. All through going to conventions, having all sorts of fun, different conferences. And, Mary Ellen and -- and Denny and Vince and I had shared a lot of -- lot of good memories. And I just wanted to say, Denny, congratulations and -- on your retirement. It's a -- it's well deserved. You've -- your institutional knowledge is quite known here in the -- in the Senate and it's going to be missed. Denny was always there, has been there for me these last -- almost a year. And, Mary Ellen, take good care of him. And enjoy that retirement, get to do all the fun things that you want. And, Senator Mike, don't pay too much attention to him. Look, on occasion, just, you know, kind of do your own thing, you know. So, again, Denny, good luck and I wish you well from the Demuzio family. Love you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Link, for closing remarks.

SENATOR LINK:

First thing, Mary Ellen, my deepest sympathy. It's going to be a long haul for you, and I know a travel agent that will book flights for just you. You're going to need it. I don't know about anybody if they know that Denny is a man of his word. Rickey, first of all, he got three votes in that statewide race.

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I was the third. Denny promised me in that statewide race that - you know, I knew Denny for a lot of years before I came into the Senate. He called me up and I was the county chairman - still am - and he called me up and he said, "I want to come into your central committee meeting." I said, "Denny, don't worry, come in. You're always invited. I can hold off the endorsement, you show up, you go in there." Well, that was eleven years ago. I'm still waiting for Denny to show up. But I brushed it off since, you know, things in statewide campaigns happen. So I get elected to the Senate and my first committee meeting, I'm a nervous person, I -- I -- I really was scared at that committee meeting, and Denny was the Minority Spokesman. And I sat next to Denny and I said, "Denny, I have no idea what I'm doing. You're going to have to be there for me. You're going to have to show me what I'm going to do and what I have to say when I have to say it." He said, "Don't worry, I'll always be there for you." That was the last meeting Denny was ever in that committee. He got switched to another committee. So I started getting hesitant about Denny's word a little bit. And then Denny and I would make a few little road trips. We would take a little venture north of here. And what Denny said in his remarks the other day, he said -- about you have to know when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em - well, Denny, if you knew when to hold 'em and knew when to -- fold 'em, I'd probably be about ten thousand dollars richer today, because sticking around with you and not folding and holding cost me a lot of money. And, also those rides back home - I -- I can actually call you a very "deer" friend, because, with Denny, we're riding back and we encountered a deer on the highway, and I won't tell you what time of day that was. But I was always the designated driver because I don't drink. So, you know, it was very interesting listening to Denny at that time of the morning. But so, you know, when everybody talks about this institutional knowledge, I got a different perspective of institutional knowledge around here. I heard the part after we leave this Chamber from Denny and it was very interesting. But I have to say, Denny, there was a lot of things that can be said about you and a lot of good things and a lot of -- and we did travel together. We went to a lot of cities together and we had a lot of fun. Our wives were together. We had a lot of good

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times. But one thing that Denny did, he was always there for me. I had an opportunity to serve as Presiding Officer today for the first time ever, and I don't think that would have happened without Denny Jacobs, because Denny was there mentoring me from day one. Denny said, "These are the steps you have to take. You have to do this. You have to do that." And I listened. And his advice was never wrong. Emil, sometimes it was a little hesitant, but, I mean, he was always there with a guiding light for me, and he was there because he knew what was going on in this building. And he was, as Senator Cullerton said, the institutional knowledge that you can't replace. You can't just expect it to happen. He asked me a favor the other day and, Denny, it's an easy favor. He said, "Watch over Michael." And I felt it was like handing a gavel over to somebody, and it's an easy request. But I hope and I just hope in my statement that I could be one-tenth of not only the Senator, as of the person that you are. Denny, I miss you already and I will always love you. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Ladies and Gentlemen, the question is, shall the Senate Resolution 66 be adopted. All those in favor will say Aye. All those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. At -- Aye. All those in favor will say Aye. All those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Ladies and Gentlemen, at this time, with leave of the Body, we'd ask -- if it's okay, we'd ask Senator Jacobs to make some remarks from Senator Jacobs' seat. Leave is granted. Senator Jacobs.

SENATOR DENNY JACOBS:

Hey, I'll -- I'll accept the vote. I'll accept the vote. Let me just say thank you from the bottom of my heart to all of you for all the help you have -- you have given me over the years. I thought about allowing my wife to do the rebuttal, but she'd have to negate all of the nice things that were said. You know, I couldn't help but look up there and -- and see Senate Resolution 66, and I think, really, all we had to do is add one more 6 and we might have had the job done, you know. So, you know, there's a lot of discussion about, you know, whether or not I've been a little outspoken and et cetera. And, you know, one

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of the favorite things that -- that I think happened to me that really drew this to my attention, when our -- when our illustrious Governor, who's going to give his budget address today, was looking for some people to, perhaps, help him run the State, I said, "You know, I wouldn't mind being the Director of DCEO; I'll throw my hat in there," and whenever they went through all of the background and the investigation, one of the questions they asked, "Have you ever done anything that would embarrass the Governor?" Now, what the hell kind of a question is that to ask me? You know? My answer was, "Governor, I have done things that embarrassed me, so, of course, they're going to embarrass you." So -- so, it -- it's been fun. Anybody that says that they can stand in this Body and not really feel it tug at your stomach and -- and -- and really tug at your heart, it does that. There's a special bond that is created amongst all of us. You know, Rickey said I always come up and give him a little pat on the side. Rickey, it wasn't a pat; I was really frisking you. But it -- it -- it really does. You know, you just create things. Todd -- Todd made many nice remarks, and -- and I appreciate that, Todd, because this is about working together. It's about trying to do what is best for the State of Illinois. And whenever you have seatmates and office mates like Tony, you know, it comes around and -- and it builds those special bonds and it becomes a love affair. I can remember, as Jimmy was talking about, with the -- the riverboat gaming. If I remember properly, at that time East St. Louis had even sold their city hall. They didn't even have a city hall. So a lot of good things have come about, you know, willing taxation, by -- by a number of things. But let me just say, you know, thank you from the bottom of my heart. I'll never forget you and I hope you don't forget me. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Madam Secretary, Resolutions, please.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Joint Resolution No. 11, offered by Senator Rutherford and all Members.

It is a death resolution.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Resolutions Consent Calendar.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

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And Senate Joint Resolution, Constitutional Amendment, No. 12, offered by Senator Dahl.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Althoff, for what purpose do you rise, ma'am?

SENATOR ALTHOFF:

Point of -- point of personal privilege.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Please state your point.

SENATOR ALTHOFF:

Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, I have with me today a young lady not only from my district, but also who I call a friend, Kristen Dahlman, from the High School -- of Marengo. She's a freshman. Her parents Duane and Lou are also in the gallery, directly behind me. Might I respectfully ask that we welcome them to Springfield?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Thank you very much. Would our guests in the gallery please rise and our guest on the Floor be welcomed? Welcome to Springfield. Senator Garrett, for what purpose do you rise, ma'am?

SENATOR GARRETT:

Thank you, Mr. President. I'm rising in purpose of an announcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR GARRETT:

The State Government Committee will be meeting today at 2:30 in A-1.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

State Government in A-1 at 2:30. Thank you very much. Senator Forby, for what purpose do you rise, sir?

SENATOR FORBY:

Point -- point of announcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Please state your announcement, sir.

SENATOR FORBY:

Labor Committee will meet at 3:30 in Room 400.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Labor Committee today in Room...

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SENATOR FORBY:

400.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Room 400. Thank you, sir. Senator Demuzio, for what purpose do you rise, ma'am?

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

For an announcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Licensed Activities has been canceled for today at 3:30.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Licensed Activities is canceled. Senator Harmon, for what purpose do you rise, sir?

SENATOR HARMON:

To make an announcement, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Please state your announcement, sir.

SENATOR HARMON:

The Revenue Committee will meet today at 2:30 in Room 400.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Revenue at 2:30 in Room 400. Revenue Committee will meet in Room 400, 2:30. Thank you. Ladies and Gentlemen, we're going to start the Introduction of Bills. The Committee on Escort has already been announced. We ask them to please go over and get in place and all Members go over to the House Floor before the hour of noon. So, Madam Secretary, Introduction of Bills.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Bill 494, offered by Senators Rutherford and Althoff.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 495, offered by Senator Wendell Jones.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 496, offered by Senator Dahl.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 497, offered by Senator Dahl.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 498, offered by Senator Dahl.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 499, offered by Senator Rauschenberger.

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(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 501, offered by Senator Hendon. Pardon me,
Senator -- Senate Bill 500, offered by Senator Hendon.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 501, offered by Senator Hendon.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

And Senate Bill 502, offered by Senator Rauschenberger.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bills.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Madam Secretary, House Bills 1st Reading, please.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

House Bill 180, offered by Senator Risinger.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 197, offered by Senator Geo-Karis.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Pardon me, that's House Bill 197.

House Bill 328, offered by Senator Collins.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

House Bill 335, offered by Senator Collins.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

House Bill 337, offered by Senator Pankau.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

And House Bill 601, offered by Senator John Sullivan.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bills.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 67, offered by Senator Geo-Karis.

It is substantive.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Okay. Once again, let me remind all Members, please report to the House Chambers. There being no further business to come before the Senate, the Senate stands adjourned until the hour of 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 17th, the year 2005. The Senate stands adjourned.