

STATE OF ILLINOIS
95th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THIRD SPECIAL SESSION
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

1st Legislative Day

7/7/2007

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senate will come to order. Madam Secretary, Communications from the Secretary of State.

SECRETARY SHIPLEY:

I have a letter dated July 6, 2007.

Dear Secretary Shipley - Enclosed please find copies of Proclamation No. 2007-230 and 2007-231, filed in my office on July 6, 2007, by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich, calling for a Special Session of the -- I'm sorry, 95th General Assembly, to begin at 2 p.m. on July 7th, 2007, and 2 p.m. on July 8th, 2007, respectively. A notice -- a notice and accompanying Proclamations have been mailed today to each Member's Springfield office.

Sincerely, Jesse White, Secretary of State.

(Secretary reads Proclamation No. 2007-230)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

The Senate of the 95th General Assembly is assembled -- has assembled its Third Special Session. Senator Peterson, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR PETERSON:

Thank you, Madam President. On behalf of this side of the aisle, I would like to inform the Chair that although we look sparse on this side, we do know where everybody is. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

I guess that's more than we can say. Senator Righter, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR RIGHTER:

Thank you, Madam President. First, it -- it's wonderful to see that you've joined us here today, rather than the theater

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that I here is going on across the street. Actually, on a serious note, Madam President, I rise to question the presence of a quorum and would request an attendance roll call on that matter, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Ladies and Gentlemen, Senator Righter has questioned the fact that we -- the presence of a quorum. So, Madam Secretary, please ring the bell. All Members within the sound of my voice, please come to the Senate Chambers. Will all Members within the sound of my voice please come to the Senate Chambers? Thank you. Senator Righter, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR RIGHTER:

...at this time, I would withdraw my motion to question the presence of a quorum.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Thank you, Senator Righter. Under the practice of this Body since the 88 -- 19 -- the 88th General Assembly, the rules adopted by the 95th General Assembly and its officers and committees are in effect for the continuous period of the 95th General Assembly, including any Special Session. There are three organizational resolutions that will be adopted today. These resolutions inform the House that the Senate is ready to conduct business, create a Senate Committee of five to wait upon the Governor, and create a Senate Committee of three people to approve the Journals for the Senate for all days of the Special Session. Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY SHIPLEY:

Senate Resolution 1, Third Special Session, offered by Senator Clayborne.

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(Secretary reads SR No. 1)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Clayborne moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution 1. All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Clayborne now moves for the adoption of Senate Resolution 1. Those in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY SHIPLEY:

Senate Resolution 2, Third Special Session, offered by Senator Clayborne.

(Secretary reads SR No. 2)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Clayborne moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution 2. All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. And the rules are suspended. Senator Clayborne now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution 2. Those in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Madam Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY SHIPLEY:

Senate Resolution 3, Third Special Session, offered by Senator Clayborne.

(Secretary reads SR No. 3)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Clayborne moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution 3. All those in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are

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suspended. Senator Clayborne now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution 3. Those in favor, say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Senator John Jones, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR J. JONES:

Thank you, Madam President. And might I say, first off, that you look very chipper today in Springfield, on a Saturday, July the 7th, of 2007, and it's -- it's great to be here with you. But I have an inquiry of the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

State your inquiry.

SENATOR J. JONES:

I believe we're in Special Session No. 3 right now, and it's my understanding from -- from word around the Capitol here is the Governor has several more ready to file, probably No. 4 or No. 5 tomorrow. I think there's -- what the word is around the Capitol is that there may be as many as ten more ready to be filed. I know that your caucus had a meeting with the Governor yesterday, and -- and I -- I have a question of the -- of the Chair, because last year when he was campaigning for -- for Governor, for reelection, he made a statement, at least once, that if we didn't resolve the electric rate issue, that he would call a Special Session to deal with that. So I'm wondering, do you have any insight that one of these future Special Sessions is going to cover the -- the electric rates?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR HALVORSON)

Senator Jones, I do not have any special insight, but I will look forward to finding out as soon as I can for you. And by the way, where else would anybody want to be. How nice to see you

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also. There being no further business to come before the Senate, the Third Special Session of the Senate stands adjourned until 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10th, 2007. The Special Session of the Senate stands adjourned.