

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

1st Legislative Day

8/12/2007

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

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 Senator Mattie Hunter.

SENATOR HUNTER:

(Prayer by Senator Mattie Hunter)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

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

SENATOR HUNTER:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Hunter)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

Mr. Secretary, Communications from the Secretary of State.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

I have a letter from the Secretary of State, dated August 10th, 2007.

Dear Secretary Shipley - Enclosed please find copies of Proclamation No. 2007-264 and 2007-265, filed in my office on August 10th, 2007, by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich, calling for a Special Session of the 95th General Assembly, to begin at 9 a.m. on August 11th, 2007, and 5 o'clock p.m. on August 12th, 2007. A notice and -- accompanying Proclamations have been delivered today to each Member's Springfield office.

Signed, sincerely, Jesse White, Secretary of State.

(Secretary reads Proclamation No. 2007-265)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

The Senate of the 95th General Assembly is assembled in its Fourteenth Special Session. Under the practice of this Body since the 88th General Assembly, the rules adopted by the 95th

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General Assembly and its officers and committees are in effect for the continuous period of the 94th {sic} General Assembly, including any Special Session. Senator Hunter.

SENATOR HUNTER:

Mr. President, I'd like for us to recognize some very important guests that we have in the -- the gallery today. They are the parents of Giovanni. Let's -- I'd like to welcome Mr. Vito and Dee Randazzo, here of Springfield. And Giovanni's grandparents are visiting here all the way from Carini, Sicily. Giovanni is getting married this Saturday and they traveled so far just to be with their grandson, and the grandmother, Margaret Cole, of St. Albans, West Virginia. Let's welcome them to the Senate.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

Would our guests in the gallery please rise? And welcome to the State Senate. Senator Brady, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR BRADY:

Couple of inquiries of the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

State your inquiries.

SENATOR BRADY:

Mr. President, the first inquiry deals with the eleven-month or twelve-month budget we sent -- passed in this Chamber, along with the House, and sent to the Governor. Can you tell me if the Senate -- President of the Senate has signed that and if the House Speaker has signed it, and if the Governor now has possession of it?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

Senator -- Senator Brady, we're not certain. We'll have to

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get back with you tomorrow on that question. Senator Brady.

SENATOR BRADY:

...tell me if the Senate President has signed it?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

We'll have to get back with you tomorrow on that. We are not certain. Senator Brady.

SENATOR BRADY:

The second question: The Governor has asked us to deal with a thirty-day budget. Has he presented anything to this Chamber for us to act upon?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

Not to our knowledge. Senator Brady.

SENATOR BRADY:

And final, I think: The House Speaker has decided that these Special Sessions are irrelevant and has suggested to his Members that he not -- that Members not bother to show up. We have scheduled Special Sessions and regular Sessions tomorrow at noon. The House has chosen not to show up. Is the Senate President advising us to participate tomorrow? There was also a rumor that he would cancel. And how many days can we be in Session and the House not be in Session or show up perfunctory?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

Senator Brady, to your first question, the Senate does have business to do tomorrow. We have legislation from the House that's in the Senate. We will be dealing with that. Your second question, again, was what?

SENATOR BRADY:

To be honest, I think I asked three questions in one. This -- the Senate -- we will be in tomorrow. You've answered that,

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which means the Senate President, unlike the Speaker of the House who has little regard for the Governor's Messages, would like us to be here. Correct?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

That is correct and we do have business to conduct. Senator Brady.

SENATOR BRADY:

And the last question is, if the House fails to show or simply shows up perfunctory or -- or fails to have a quorum, how many days can we be in until they provide a quorum?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR SULLIVAN)

The Constitution says three days, but by the fact that they have -- that they will be in perfunctory Session, it is our understanding that that meets the requirements of the Constitution. There being no further business to come before the Senate, the Fourteenth Special Session of the Senate stands adjourned until Monday, August 13th, 2007, at 2:14 p.m. The Special Senate {sic} of the Senate stands adjourned.