

STATE OF ILLINOIS
95th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE
FIFTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION

1st Legislative Day

8/12/2007

Speaker Hannig: "So, the House will be in order for the Fifteenth Special Session of the Illinois House of Representatives. So, again, we will be led in prayer today, again, by Lee Crawford, the pastor of the Cathedral of Praise Christian Center here in Springfield."

Pastor Crawford: "Let us pray. Father, bless this House and all those who dwell and work here and serve here. Amen."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Poe, you wanna lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance."

Poe - et al: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Speaker Hannig: "Okay. We're gonna take the Roll Call for Attendance on the... for the Fifteenth Special Session. Mr. Clerk, Roll Call for Attendance. Again, let the record show that Representative Collins and Currie are excused. And Representative Poe, do you have any excused absences on your side."

Poe: "Everybody excused but the four that punched in."

Speaker Hannig: "Mr. Clerk, take the record. There are 6 Members answering the Roll Call, we failed to have a quorum. So, Mr. Clerk, read the Governor's Proclamation."

Clerk Bolin: "WHEREAS, the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) is the financial oversight and regional planning body for the three public transit operators in northeastern Illinois: the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra commuter rail and Pace suburban bus; and

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WHEREAS, the RTA is an important public asset that generates an annual economic impact of more than \$12 billion to the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, over two million riders per day use the CTA, Metra commuter rail and Pace suburban bus; and

WHEREAS, downstate public transportation provides access to health care, the work place, and educational activities for individuals in Illinois' many downstate communities; and

WHEREAS, strengthening Illinois' transit system will enhance residents' quality of life by reducing pollution as well as traffic congestion; and

WHEREAS, revenues to support transit are not keeping up with increased maintenance, repair and transit costs potentially necessitating additional State funding; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution requires the General Assembly to make appropriations for the expenditure of public funds for the fiscal year for State departments, authorities, and public agencies;

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby call and convene the 95th General Assembly, in duly constituted quorums capable of conducting business, in a special session to commence on August 12, 2007, at 5:15 p.m. to consider funding for the Regional Transportation Authority, the Chicago Transit Authority, and downstate public transportation.

ROD BLAGOJEVICH

Governor

Dated: August 11, 2007"

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Speaker Hannig: "So, we're lacking a quorum and so, Representative Mitchell moves that we... that we adjourn to the Perfunctory Session tomorrow on Monday, August the 13th. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it and the Fifteenth Special Session of the House of Representatives stands adjourned."