



EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION

SENATE JOURNAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS

NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1ST LEGISLATIVE DAY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2007

10:13 O'CLOCK A.M.

SENATE
Daily Journal Index
1st Legislative Day

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The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.
Senator Terry Link, Waukegan, Illinois, presiding.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

November 28, 2007

To the Honorable Members
Illinois General Assembly

Pursuant to 25 ILCS 15/3, I hereby notify you that the Governor has exercised his power, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, to call a special session of the 95th General Assembly at 10:00 a.m. on November 29, 2007. Attached please find a copy of Proclamation no. 2007-402 as filed in my office on November 28, 2007.

Sincerely,
s/Jesse White
Secretary of State

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation 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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the CTA asserts that without additional funding by January 20, 2008, it is prepared to raise cash fares as high as \$3.25 for rail passengers who pay cash, cut 81 bus routes, and layoff 2,400 employees; and

WHEREAS, Metra officials have warned riders to expect fares to increase up to 30 % if additional funding is not received by the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, according to the RTA, without additional funding, Metra will face a \$40 million deficit in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has been unable to reach a funding solution that is acceptable to its membership; and

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WHEREAS, a capital plan will focus resources in core areas including roads, schools, bridges, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, a proposed capital plan would leverage additional federal and local funds for infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, a proposed capital plan would support many jobs statewide;

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 November 29, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., to consider a bill that provides for long-term funding for the RTA, the CTA, Metra, and Pace as well as to consider a capital plan and a funding source for a capital plan.

s/Rod Blagojevich
Governor

Dated: November 28, 2007

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Senator Clayborne offered the following Senate Resolution and, having asked and obtained unanimous consent to suspend the rules for its immediate consideration, moved its adoption:

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF, that the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a majority of the members of the Senate has assembled, pursuant to the proclamation of the Governor, convening a Eighteenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the transaction of business.

The motion prevailed.
And the resolution was adopted.

Senator Clayborne offered the following Senate Resolution and, having asked and obtained unanimous consent to suspend the rules for its immediate consideration, moved its adoption:

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 2

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF, that the President appoint a committee of five to wait upon his Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that the Eighteenth Special Session of the Ninety-Fifth General Assembly is now duly in session in pursuance of his proclamation, and is ready to receive any message he may desire to submit.

The motion prevailed.
And the resolution was adopted.

Senator Clayborne offered the following Senate Resolution and, having asked and obtained unanimous consent to suspend the rules for its immediate consideration, moved its adoption:

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AT THE EIGHTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF, that a

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Committee of three (3) members of the Senate be appointed, two (2) members to be appointed by the President and one (1) member to be appointed by the Minority Leader, to approve any and all Journals of the Senate for all days of the Eighteenth Special Session of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly where such Journals, prior to adjournment SINE DIE, have not been approved by the body as a whole.

The motion prevailed.
And the resolution was adopted.

At the hour of 10:19 o'clock a.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand at recess subject to the call of the Chair.

AFTER RECESS

At the hour of 1:23 o'clock p.m., the Senate resumed consideration of business.
Senator Link, presiding.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

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A message from the House by
Mr. Mahoney, Clerk:
Mr. President -- I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has adopted the following resolution, to-wit:

HOUSE RESOLUTION 2

RESOLVED, that the Clerk inform the Senate that a majority of the House of Representatives has assembled, pursuant to the proclamation of the Governor, convening a Eighteenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the transaction of business.

Adopted by the House, November 29, 2007.

MARK MAHONEY, Clerk of the House

At the hour of 1:23 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that pursuant to the directive of the President, the Senate stand adjourned until Wednesday, December 5, 2007, in perfunctory session.