



TWENTY-SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION

SENATE JOURNAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS

NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1ST LEGISLATIVE DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008

2:12 O'CLOCK P.M.

**SENATE
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The Senate met pursuant to a proclamation from the Governor to convene Special Session.
Senator James A. DeLeo, presiding.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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

September 22, 2008

Honorable Deborah Shipley
Secretary of the Senate
Room 401
State Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Secretary Shipley:

Enclosed please find a copy of Proclamation No. 2008-372, filed in my office on September 22, 2008, by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich, calling for a Special Session of the 95th General Assembly, to begin at 2:00 p.m. on September 22, 2008.

A notice and accompanying Proclamations have been mailed today to each Member's office.

Sincerely,
s/Jesse White
Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, approximately 1 in 150 children born in the United States are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, making it more common than all types of pediatric cancer, diabetes, and AIDS combined; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorders affect children regardless of race, ethnicity, or social status; and

WHEREAS, proper diagnosis and treatment are critical to the development of children with autism spectrum disorders; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder can allow parents to initiate behavioral therapy, a common treatment that is more effective early in life and which, when begun early, has been shown to provide greater gains in language and IQ scores; and

WHEREAS, necessary therapy and treatment for the thousands of Illinois children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders can cost up to \$5,000 a month per child; and

WHEREAS, currently, only people covered by large group insurance policies (with 50 or more beneficiaries) can obtain coverage for children with autism spectrum disorders, and even then, they can only receive inpatient and outpatient mental health services; and

WHEREAS, despite strong support, the General Assembly has failed to pass a bill requiring insurance companies to cover the costs of diagnosing and providing children with autism spectrum disorders needed occupational, physical, and speech therapies, psychiatric and physiological services, and applied behavioral therapies.

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

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a special session to commence on September 22, 2008, at 2:00 p.m., to consider any measure mandating that insurance companies cover costs associated with diagnosis, therapy, and treatment for children with autism spectrum disorders.

s/ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
Governor

Dated: September 22, 2008

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 TWENTY-SIXTH 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 Twenty-Sixth 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 TWENTY-SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF, that the President appoint a committee of five to wait upon his Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that the Twenty-Sixth 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 TWENTY-SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION THEREOF, that a 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 Twenty-Sixth 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.

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At the hour of 2:19 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand at recess subject to the call of the Chair.

AFTER RECESS

At the hour of 4:49 o'clock p.m., the Senate resumed consideration of business.
Senator DeLeo, presiding.

At the hour of 4:49 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand adjourned until Tuesday, September 23, 2008, at 10:02 o'clock a.m.