



SENATE JOURNAL

STATE OF ILLINOIS

NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

37TH LEGISLATIVE DAY

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009

12:42 O'CLOCK P.M.

SENATE
Daily Journal Index
37th Legislative Day

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Bill Number	Legislative Action	Page(s)
SJR 0059	Committee on Assignments	5
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The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.
 Senator Don Harmon, Oak Park, Illinois, presiding.
 Prayer by Rabbi Michael Datz, Temple B'rith Sholom, Springfield, Illinois.
 Senator Jacobs led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Thursday, April 2, 2009, was being read when on motion of Senator Hunter, further reading of same was dispensed with, and unless some Senator had corrections to offer, the Journal would stand approved. No corrections being offered, the Journal was ordered to stand approved.

The Journal of Wednesday, April 15, 2009, was being read when on motion of Senator Hunter, further reading of same was dispensed with, and unless some Senator had corrections to offer, the Journal would stand approved. No corrections being offered, the Journal was ordered to stand approved.

REPORTS RECEIVED

The Secretary placed before the Senate the following reports:

Personal Information Protection Act Report, submitted by Western Illinois University.

The Homeless Prevention Program Annual Report for FY 2008, submitted by Department of Human Services.

Independent Living 2008 Annual Report, submitted by Department of Human Services.

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability's Monthly Briefing, March 2009, submitted by Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability.

Illinois Human Services Plan, April 2009, submitted by Department of Human Services.

Fiscal Years 2008, 2009 & 2010 Human Services Plan, submitted by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

Fiscal Years 2008, 2009 & 2010 Human Services Plan Revised April 6, 2009, submitted by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

State Services Assurance Act Report, submitted by the Department of Labor.

Report Pursuant to Public Act 87-522 (Flex time), submitted by the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission.

Illinois Emergency Food and Shelter Program and Supportive Housing Program, submitted by the Department of Human Services.

The foregoing reports were ordered received and placed on file in the Secretary's Office.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES FILED

The following Floor amendment to the Senate Bill listed below has been filed with the Secretary and referred to the Committee on Assignments:

Senate Floor Amendment No. 4 to Senate Bill 2009

The following Committee amendments to the House Bills listed below have been filed with the Secretary and referred to the Committee on Assignments:

[April 21, 2009]

Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 2539
Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 3779

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

JOHN J. CULLERTON
SENATE PRESIDENT

327 STATE CAPITOL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

April 21, 2009

Ms. Jillayne Rock
Secretary of the Senate
Room 401 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Madam Secretary:

Pursuant to Rule 3-2(c), I hereby appoint Senator Ira Silverstein to temporarily replace Senator Louis Viverito as a member of the Senate Committee on Assignments. This appointment is effective immediately and will automatically expire upon adjournment of the Senate Committee on Assignments.

Sincerely,
s/John J. Cullerton
Senate President

cc: Senate Minority Leader Christine Radogno

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 218

Offered by Senator Haine and all Senators:
Mourns the death of Jewel Ray Lane of Collinsville.

By unanimous consent, the foregoing resolution was referred to the Resolutions Consent Calendar.

Senator Hultgren offered the following Senate Resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Assignments:

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 219

WHEREAS, The Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, located in Wheaton, Illinois, has been established as an Illinois not-for-profit corporation and has been designated a 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service; and

WHEREAS, The Midwest Shelter was officially opened on January 20, 2007, and has been in continuous operation ever since; and

WHEREAS, That organization's purpose is to provide transitional services to homeless veterans of the United States military so that they can return to useful and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, The problems of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan continue to reveal serious

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problems of mental illness, substance abuse, alcoholism, unemployment, and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, There is an obvious and growing need for such a facility for veterans returning from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs in the past has provided some funds to the Shelter from the Illinois Veterans Assistance Fund; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate recognize that the State has a major responsibility to its growing number of veterans who have served, and will be serving, in the United States military services; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we strongly urge the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs to provide technical and financial services to the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans so it can continue to provide needed services to homeless veterans of the United States military as soon as possible; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be delivered to the Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Senator Pankau offered the following Senate Resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Assignments:

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 220

WHEREAS, In times of economic downturn, states look to reduce spending and remain within their available resources; and

WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is currently facing an unprecedented fiscal crisis; and

WHEREAS, The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 has been duly passed by the United States Congress and was signed into law on February 8, 2006 by President George W. Bush; and

WHEREAS, Among its many provisions, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 provides changes to the Medicaid program that would save the State of Illinois hundreds of millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, The State has not yet fully implemented the Act three years after it became law; and

WHEREAS, The State is looking for a responsible approach to eliminate its staggering deficit; and

WHEREAS, Implementing the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 is a responsible approach to reducing this deficit; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we do hereby direct the Governor and the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to immediately submit a plan of implementation of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for approval; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the Governor and the Director of the Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

Senator Althoff offered the following Senate Joint Resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Assignments:

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 59

[April 21, 2009]

WHEREAS, The "With Wings and a Halo - R.E.A.C.H. a Child" program was created to reach out to children across Illinois that find themselves in a crisis situation, whether they are being treated in a Children's Hospital, a domestic violence situation, an automobile accident, or are temporarily homeless or in distress; and

WHEREAS, The mission of R.E.A.C.H. (Reading Enjoyment Affects Childhood Happiness) a Child is "to put a smile on the face of a child in a time of need" through the gift of a book; the program has been a big success in Illinois, with R.E.A.C.H. a Child delivering over 60,000 books nationally in the last 14 months, including 2,200 B.A.C.K. (Become A Cheerful Kid) packets filled with 10 to 12 books each, to the Illinois State Police; and

WHEREAS, The signature red backpacks of the R.E.A.C.H. a Child program are in 4,000 - 5,000 squad cars and ambulances throughout Illinois; the backpacks are found in Cook, McHenry, Lake, Kane, DuPage, LaSalle, Sangamon, and Will Counties, as well as the entire State Police fleet of squad cars; and

WHEREAS, Over 45,000 children's books have been donated to children in crisis situations with the help of these first responders, police officers, Sheriff's offices, and State patrol officers; over 7,500 squad cars and EMS ambulances in Illinois are waiting to get involved in this "B.A.C.K. Packets" program as well; and

WHEREAS, The R.E.A.C.H. a Child program allows first responders to build better relationships with the community youth, help children at their most vulnerable moment in a crisis situation, and promote literacy and crime prevention; and

WHEREAS, There is a tremendous need for more investment and support for the R.E.A.C.H a Child program; the program survives solely on financial donations, in-kind donations, and volunteers to continue to provide the B.A.C.K. Packet program to the various police, fire, and emergency service vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Demand for the R.E.A.C.H a Child program is growing rapidly at the State and national level; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, that we applaud the extensive efforts of the "With Wings and A Halo - R.E.A.C.H. a Child" program in the State of Illinois and support efforts to expand the program further; and we declare June 27, 2009 to be "With Wings and A Halo-R.E.A.C.H. a Child Day in the State of Illinois; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the national and Illinois chapters of the With Wings and a Halo Organization.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON ASSIGNMENTS

Senator Clayborne, Chairperson of the Committee on Assignments, during its April 21, 2009 meeting, reported the following Legislative Measures have been assigned to the indicated Standing Committees of the Senate:

Energy: **Senate Floor Amendment No. 4 to Senate Bill 2009.**

Judiciary: **Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 2539.**

Public Health: **Senate Committee Amendment No. 1 to House Bill 3779.**

COMMITTEE CANCELED

[April 21, 2009]

The Chair announced that the Agriculture and Conservation Committee scheduled to meet today at 1:00 o'clock p.m. has been canceled.

At the hour of 1:05 o'clock p.m., the Chair announced that the Senate stand adjourned until Wednesday, April 22, 2009, at 12:30 o'clock p.m.