

81ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3RD SPECIAL SESSION

NOVEMBER 8, 1979

HB 2796  
3rd reading  
11-8-79

1. PRESIDENT:

2. All right, the hour of noon having arrived, the 3rd Special  
3. Session of the 81st General Assembly will come to order. Reading  
4. of the Journal. Senator Nega.

5. SENATOR NEGA:

6. Mr. President. I move that reading and approval of the  
7. Journals of Wednesday, October the 31st, Thursday, November the  
8. 1st, Tuesday, November the 6th, and Wednesday, November the 7th,  
9. in the year 1979, be postponed pending arrival of the printed  
10. Journals.

11. PRESIDENT:

12. You've heard the motion. All in favor signify by saying  
13. Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. So ordered. On the Order  
14. of House Bills 3rd reading, is House Bill 2796. Read the bill,  
15. Mr. Secretary.

16. SECRETARY:

17. House Bill 2796.  
18. ( Secretary reads title of bill )  
19. 3rd reading of the bill.

20. PRESIDENT:

21. Senator Shapiro.

22. SENATOR SHAPIRO:

23. Well, Mr. President, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate.  
24. House Bill 2796, as it is before us, amends the State Sales Tax  
25. to reduce from four to three percent the tax on food for human  
26. consumption, which is to be consumed off the premises where it  
27. is sold, other than alcoholic beverages and food which is been  
28. prepared for immediate consumption, and prescription and non-  
29. prescription medicines, drugs, medical applicances, and insulin,  
30. urine testing materials, syringes and needles used by diabetics  
31. for human use. Further explanation of...of the bill, food for  
32. human consumption, but not restaurant meals, carry out, or to  
33. go orders, or alcoholic beverages. Prescription and non-prescription

1. medicines and drugs and medical appliances, which includes  
2. bandages, canes, aspirin, cough syrup, wheel chairs, et cetera,  
3. and then the insulin the diabetic materials are really self-  
4. explanatory. The costs of this bill, because of the reduction  
5. of the one percent, in the remainder of FY '80, will cost  
6. approximately forty-seven million. In FY '81 it will be  
7. a hundred and two million. FY'82, a hundred and twelve,  
8. FY'83, a hundred and twenty-three million, and up to a hundred  
9. ...FY '84, a hundred and thirty-five million, for a total cost  
10. through those years, of five hundred and nineteen million. That  
11. pretty much in a nut shell explains what is in the bill. If  
12. there are any questions, I will attempt to answer them. If not,  
13. I would appreciate a favorable roll call.

14. PRESIDENT:

15. Any discussion? Senator Grotberg.

16. SENATOR GROTEBERG:

17. Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the Senate. It's  
18. the only game left in town, and, of course, I'm going to vote  
19. for it, but not without remembering the fact that we're probably  
20. putting the silliest arrangement on the retail field, and the  
21. consumer that has been devised in a long time. Now, I laid  
22. on everybody's desk this morning a copy of the DeKalb Chronicle  
23. of November 22nd, 1934, "the Senate will complete work on the  
24. Sales Tax," it says, and if you read down a little ways, if you've  
25. still got your eyes small enough to read that fine print, it says,  
26. that they hope that that two cent Sales Tax will raise three  
27. million dollars a month, or thirty-six million dollars a year,  
28. eighteen million dollars per penny. Ironically that was put  
29. on in the...depths of the depression to solve a depression,  
30. they raised the taxes. We're talking about tax cuts these  
31. days to end a...an inflationary spiral. I don't know how  
32. all that works, all I know is it took them thirty hours down  
33. here in a Special Session to put on the Sales Tax. If you read

1. it carefully, you'll find that they got in and out in thirty  
2. hours, and between Henry Horner, and Ed Kelly they worked out the  
3. deal. We've been on this issue now, for about three years,  
4. finally getting rid of one cent on groceries. The first thing  
5. that will happen is that groceries will go up, at least, one  
6. cent on a dollar, the next thing is, Jim Zagel will come in  
7. here for a special appropriation, for about a hundred inspectors  
8. to see to it that the merchants are...differentiating between  
9. Corn Flakes and panty hose, and the training programs that have  
10. to go on in the big stores, it's a National Cash Register  
11. nightmare, if I were you I'd rush out and buy some of that  
12. stock, because it's going to go up in Illinois. We've already  
13. allowed for grocery tax exemption, or refunds for the elderly  
14. and the circuit-breaker, and medicine, one hundred dollars a  
15. year. We've forgotten about that, for the very needy, at least,  
16. at the food stamp portion of their support, there is no Sales  
17. Tax. I think it's an imposition, and therefore, I regret that  
18. my own concept of an across the board cut, so that everybody  
19. knows what the name of the game is, was not able to be placed on the  
20. bill yesterday, or even heard. For the retailer in this State  
21. of Illinois, I apologize, I've been in your corner on everything  
22. else, I'm not going to turn my back on you now, vocally I'm going  
23. to vote for this bill, but try to wait and see, just like the  
24. RTA Tax, the price did not come down. The concept of tax reduction  
25. is to save money for the consumer. This will not save anything  
26. in the first year.

27. PRESIDENT:

28. Further discussion? Senator Gitz.

29. SENATOR GITZ:

30. Mr. President, and members of the Senate. I just wanted to  
31. comment, Senator Grotberg had referred us to this article, he did  
32. not underline a portion it said, "in this connection it developed that  
33. Horner conferred with Mayor Kelly of Chicago recently and is understood  
to have assured him that if there is a surplus in the Sales Tax.

1. over State government needs it will go to relief."

2. PRESIDENT:

3. Further discussion? Senator Maitland.

4. SENATOR MAITLAND:

5. Thank you, Mr. President, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the  
6. Senate. Little did I realize last Spring that I would stand in  
7. support of any kind of legislation in the Fall that would re-  
8. move the Sales Tax from food and drugs. As you...as you know  
9. I spoke very strongly against that legislation last Spring. I  
10. happen to believe that it was a fair tax, it was a tax that  
11. every single one of us in the State paid. I have repeatedly  
12. supported legislation that would assist those less fortunate  
13. than myself. I have supported legislation to provide relief  
14. for those on fixed income. I see nothing, quite frankly wrong  
15. with a family going to a grocery store, and saying that  
16. a certain percent of that money is going back into the system  
17. providing the necessary things that they get from the government.  
18. Education of three, or four, or five kids, police, fire protection,  
19. and what have you. I happen to think that's fair, but I heard  
20. on the Floor of this Senate the other day, much talk about the  
21. need for all of us as Legislators to be willing to compromise  
22. from time to time, and I accept that responsibility, I think  
23. it is necessary, therefore I intend to support this legislation.  
24. I would hope also, those who were a hundred and eighty degrees  
25. away from my position back then and as late as yesterday, will  
26. also support this compromise, and, in fact, then really we have  
27. at least provided some tax relief for the citizens of Illinois.  
28. Not my favorite tax relief, I shall be back next Spring working  
29. on those endeavors, I think, that are more important, but for now  
30. I urge an Aye vote on 2796.

31. PRESIDENT:

32. Further discussion? Senator Sangmeister.

33. SENATOR SANGMEISTER:

1. Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the Senate.  
2. It is very interesting to hear some of the endorsements  
3. of this bill this morning, when all we needed was one more yesterday  
4. and we would really be giving the people some meaningful tax  
5. relief, as it is now we will give the people their penny that  
6. the Governor wants, and the token isn't that I think it stands  
7. for. There were many of us that talked this morning and I want  
8. to know that we got the votes with the people that were with me  
9. on the amendment yesterday to withhold this tax relief if we want  
10. to. We don't really think that's particularly responsible to  
11. do that either, as little as this tax relief is, so we decided  
12. not to do that, we'll go along with this, but I've already filed,  
13. it's on the Secretary's Desk right now, a bill has been filed with  
14. an amendment that will give meaningful tax relief through the  
15. Sales Tax media which the Governor now feels obviously is the  
16. way to go, and next Spring we're going to be back with the  
17. same amendment, and all of those of you who are now speaking  
18. that this is such great tax relief to the people, remember us  
19. next Spring when that bill comes up.

20. PRESIDENT:

21. Further discussion? Senator McMillan.

22. SENATOR MCMILLAN:

23. Mr. President, and members of the Senate. I rise in opposition  
24. to this bill. What I do here with this vote won't be particularly  
25. popular with my constituents, or with anybody else in the State,  
26. but I can do it with a clear conscience. I also don't expect  
27. to really influence anybody's vote, because I think everybody's  
28. mind is made up, and they're ready to hit the switch and go home,  
29. but I really have a couple of things to say to the taxpayers of  
30. Illinois. Senator Grothberg has said very eloquently how this  
31. specific tax relief package is really a cruel, cruel hoax, and  
32. I won't go into details, but as he made very clear, it's really  
33. not going to end up being any benefit to anybody, but what we came

1. up with was a handful of pennies of relief, that we can  
2. say to the people of Illinois, yes we provided you with  
3. some tax relief, but I think it's really a hoax because of  
4. a lot of other things. It doesn't even begin to measure up  
5. to what people should have expected. We heard a lot yesterday  
6. about the tax relief that was promised, but, in fact, when  
7. the Thompson Proposition went to the people it wasn't promising  
8. tax relief, if you read what it says, it said shall legislation  
9. be enacted and the Constitution be amended to impose ceilings  
10. on taxes and spending by the State, by units of Local Government,  
11. and by School Districts, ceilings on taxes and spending. Well  
12. that question went to the people a year ago yesterday, they  
13. spoke and they were pleased, and they had hope, the Legislators  
14. heard what they had to say, and the Legislators trembled a little  
15. bit, because the bureaucrats and the tax eaters also heard, and  
16. they were scared that maybe the taxpayers were finally going  
17. to have the upper hand, well what happened in one year? We had  
18. a proposal to limit taxes and spending, it was reasonable,  
19. in fact, it was too weak if any thing, but it was reasonable,  
20. it was dumped in a sub-committee, by the same people that are  
21. giving you a handful of pennies today. What was the result, we  
22. spent, and we spent, and we spent, last Spring, and last Summer  
23. and this Fall, we increased the entitlements of people, Senator Rock,  
24. very courageously, yesterday pointed out, how precious little  
25. there is left in the State kitty which...with which we could  
26. really provide some relief for a handful of pennies we dumped  
27. a real possibility for limits. The same thing on limits to  
28. local units of government, we had a proposal, it was dumped by  
29. the House Revenue Committee, by those that are giving you a  
30. handful of pennies today, and what would...did we do, look at  
31. what we did in this Body, this Senate voted to increase the  
32. taxing authority for the Chicago Park District, a tax increase  
33. without a referendum, and we're giving you a handful of pennies

1. to say we're doing something for you, we had a truth in  
2. taxation package, that was dumped in the House, and local  
3. units of government have increased their levies fifteen  
4. percent, thirty percent, fifty percent, whatever, and  
5. we tried to get the bill...a motion was filed to get it  
6. out of committee so we could do something about it, and  
7. they wouldn't even allow it to be called, and you can't  
8. say it was Republican versus Democrat politics, those were  
9. Republican bills, and that wasn't why they were killed,  
10. because we had a bill over here that was a half way  
11. decent bill, that would have provided some limits, and it  
12. was a Democrat bill, but they wouldn't even call it for a  
13. vote last Spring, and now the same people are giving the  
14. taxpayers of Illinois a handful of pennies, instead of  
15. saving some dollars. There were proposals to increase the  
16. grants on circuit-breakers where for a small amount of money  
17. we could have given...we could...given a large amount of dollars  
18. to the people who needed it, that was dumped for a handful  
19. of pennies. We had a proposal to increase the Income Tax  
20. exemption, which has gone up and up and means that the effective  
21. tax rate has gone up and up, that was killed, that was dumped  
22. for a handful of pennies. We had a proposal to index the  
23. exemption, that was dumped for this handful of pennies, and  
24. then we got to the Corporate Personnel Property Tax Replacement,  
25. and we passed a bill, which really provided more than was  
26. needed. And the final straw on that particular thing is,  
27. this Christmas, when some child is not going to have too great  
28. a Christmas, his father can tell him, that the Legislature  
29. provided a few pennies of tax relief, but that kid would have  
30. a much better Christmas if his dad had a job, that didn't go  
31. to Indiana or Iowa, because of what we did in the tax structure.  
32. I really don't speak out of any bitterness today. I didn't receive  
33. any threats, nobody charged my actions as criminality, nobody

1. took any cheap shots, nobody in my district lost a job, and  
2. nobody in my district was offered a job, nobody even offered  
3. to ask what my price was for my vote on this, and I've had  
4. a lot of encouragement from almost a majority of this Body  
5. who know what kind of a hoax this is, and know that it's bad  
6. government, and bad economics, and really rotten politics, but  
7. this strange and painful deal has been made, and the votes  
8. will be delivered today, and a handful of pennies will come  
9. out to a few people, but I for one, say when spending continues  
10. to climb, and when Real Estate Taxes continue to climb, and  
11. when your Income Tax effective rate continues to climb, by  
12. God that is just a little bit too high a price for me, and I'm  
13. going to vote No.

14. PRESIDENT:

15. Further discussion? Senator Hall.

16. SENATOR HALL:

17. Thank you, Mr. President, and Ladies and Gentlemen of  
18. the Senate. You know as this day goes, or as the last few  
19. days, it never ceases to amaze me, yesterday it was really  
20. horrible, it wasn't a little measly pennies like today.  
21. All of the sudden now this bill becomes a sham, little  
22. pennies, couldn't give them two cents next year, and now  
23. you're not giving them enough, and the same people who wouldn't  
24. give us the extra vote that we needed to put this bill where  
25. it should be, is up today saying that it's a sham, it's little  
26. people, it's a sham we just...to offer people something. Now,  
27. I stand here today, and I listened, and it amazes me that people  
28. who cannot get loans to buy homes, we tell them, oh, but we'll  
29. take the interest rate off, we'll raise the rates that's going  
30. to help you. You know what's happening to people who are  
31. buying cars, oh, it's not the shortage of gas, oh, it's not that  
32. that causing us to have...not be able to purchase automobiles,  
33. that isn't the cause that the automobile industries are in the



1. situation they're in, know the way we're goin to cure this,  
2. is we're going to raise the interest rate on buying cars.  
3. I don't know it's...it's beginning...it's beyond my comprehension  
4. how Gentlemen and Ladies can sit and say and tell you, it's  
5. like telling a fellow who's never eaten, and he's hungry and  
6. he's out in the cold, just sit there and don't eat, it's going  
7. to be better, and all the time you're feeding your own, but  
8. don't worry it's going to get better, so now I'm going to  
9. support this bill, because...that I believe that we ought to  
10. give them something. It's not to my liking, but now it's  
11. going to be interesting to see the people who won't supply  
12. the votes to make this bill get over.

13. PRESIDENT:

14. Further discussion? Senator Geo-Karis.

15. SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

16. Mr. President, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate.  
17. We've heard much rhetoric about it, but I think it is important  
18. for us to be responsible, and the responsibility we have is  
19. to get some meaningful tax relief without putting the State  
20. of Illinois in the same precarious financial position that  
21. the City of New York now stands, and when you compare a billion  
22. and a half dollars over four years to six hundred and some  
23. million dollars, there's a big difference, and the...this bill  
24. is the...practically identical with the original...House Bill 2564,  
25. which called for the first phase one percent, and I think it's  
26. responsible and I think we should also remember that your side  
27. would not let us have an increase in personal Income Tax exemptions,  
28. your side wouldn't let us have any real estate tax relief, your  
29. side wouldn't...would not let us tax...index our payment...our  
30. income...our tax to our income, and your side of avoided  
31. everything except one bill, and here we are, and we're forced  
32. to support this bill, and I support it gladly, because, at least,  
33. it's some tax relief for the people back home.

1. PRESIDENT:

2. Further discussion? Senator Mitchler.

3. SENATOR MITCHLER:

4. Mr. President, and members of the Senate. As you well  
5. know 37 votes joined with your side of the aisle in passing  
6. a meaningful Sales Tax reduction. All five percent would be  
7. off, but then the wheels start turning, and this is the final  
8. compromise. Not only on this side of the aisle, but primarily  
9. on your side of the aisle, and also over in the House, and this  
10. is the compromise that came out of the original mandate by your  
11. side to this side, that this was the only type of tax relief  
12. we'd have in FY '80, and it's one cent coming off the Sales  
13. Tax on food and non-prescription medicine, effective January  
14. 1, 1980. Now, we'll be back in the Spring, I'll be back here,  
15. and let's hope we can sit down together, and get those that  
16. constructed this limited Sales Tax relief together with us,  
17. in the House, and then come up with some meaningful relief, but  
18. let's stop fighting amongst ourselves, right now we have fought,  
19. we've been back and forth, and this is the final package that we  
20. have come out in, in a compromise, or whatever you want to call  
21. it, this is it, let's vote for it, give it to the people, we'll  
22. all be back here next year, the same set up, unless you want  
23. to quit or don't want to come back, or the good Lord willing  
24. takes you, but then we can get on with the business and prove  
25. to ourselves that we can compromise even more, and come up with  
26. some more meaningful tax relief. So, this is the compromise that  
27. we give effective January 1, 1980. Vote Aye.

28. PRESIDENT:

29. Further discussion? Senator Newhouse.

30. SENATOR NEWHOUSE:

31. Thank you, Mr. President. I will be mercifully brief, but  
32. I have to confess to everyone here, I think I'm getting pretty  
33. mellow. I...I agree with everybody who spoke up to this point.

1. I agree with Senator Mitchler, we ought to stop fighting.  
2. I agree with Senator Geo-Karis, that it's the last thing  
3. we got, I agree with Senator Grothberg, this is a lousy  
4. bill. I agree with Senator McMillan, I agree with Senator  
5. Maitland, that we ought to compromise. I agree with Senator  
6. McMillan, this ain't no compromise this is complete  
7. capitulation. I'm going to vote for this lousy bill,  
8. and I suppose all the rest of us will too.

9. PRESIDENT:

10. Further discussion? Senator Knuppel.

11. SENATOR KNUPPEL:

12. Boy, I've been working for some relief on Sales Tax on  
13. food and drugs for nine years. This ain't much, but it's a  
14. step in the right direction, and you know Dizzy Dean used to  
15. call those close plays at first base, he'd say he's safe  
16. by a heifer step. This is a heifer step.

17. PRESIDENT:

18. Further discussion? Senator Collins.

19. SENATOR COLLINS:

20. Thank you, Mr. President. I think Senator Sangmeister  
21. expressed my sentiments and in addition to being one of the  
22. co-sponsors of the bill that he prefiled today, I've  
23. also filed two other bills that I think will get to the heart  
24. of the matter, yesterday. The issue really at hand, and that  
25. is to eliminate the conflict, the most obvious conflict of interest  
26. that exists in this Body among the members...many of the members  
27. of Chicago, and their job here in the Illinois Senate, and that  
28. is to eliminate double dipping. I know that it is an issue that  
29. has been discussed many times, has been before this Body, and  
30. you tried to regulate it, but it is quite obvious you cannot  
31. regulate it, we have to eliminate it. Another bill also,  
32. eliminating the most obvious conflict of...interest, and that  
33. is double dipping pension, that is another area that we must

1. eliminate, and I'm going to be asking all of you for your  
2. support.

3. PRESIDENT:

4. Further discussion? Senator Keats.

5. SENATOR KEATS:

6. I move the previous question.

7. PRESIDENT:

8. That motion will be in order. Two more members have indicated  
9. they wish to be heard. Senator Wooten.

10. SENATOR WOOTEN:

11. Thank you, Mr. President. Just briefly in response to  
12. Senator Geo-Karis's comments, and I suppose partly in response  
13. to Senator McMillan. It is true that we had an inordinate number  
14. of tax relief measures, and I suppose if you want the General  
15. Assembly to behave in a totally irresponsible manner, we just  
16. pass them all down to the Governor, let him riffle through that  
17. and see what would look good for him, and pick one, and that would  
18. be it. I think too often we pass over to the Governor what  
19. is really our sole authority, the Governor does not raise or  
20. lower taxes, the Governor does not appropriate or refuse to  
21. appropriate money, he can stand in the way, he can approve, but  
22. we do it, not the Governor, and I just think it's silly to  
23. say well, whatever you want to do Governor, here's a bunch  
24. of ideas you pick out the one you like. That is not responsible  
25. legislative action, and it's true it came down to a pretty much...  
26. a partisan vote, but let me tell you what it took on this side  
27. just to get to that point where we could single out one form  
28. of tax relief, and express that as the will of the Legislature,  
29. that's the only way we should ever operate, that is the only way  
30. this Chamber should ever function. We decide, and then we give  
31. it to the Governor. We don't just pass along everything that  
32. sounds halfway good, and let the Governor pick and choose  
33. among it. Our difficulty, Ladies and Gentlemen, is that we continually

1. put ourselves in a supine posture, as Legislators, we don't  
2. exercise our functions, we don't care that deeply, at least,  
3. it seems that way, we don't care deeply enough about our  
4. prerogative. Now, whether it came out originally as a partisan vote  
5. or not, the fact is, that was the will of this Body, and I  
6. think that's the only thing that ought to be expressed to  
7. the Governor, what we finally decide as a collective group,  
8. whoever has the majority, that's our role, to behave in any  
9. other manner is simply irresponsible, and I think what we  
10. did was responsible. One other point, we should by rights  
11. defeat this bill, no question about it, because that would  
12. make the turn of the screw very tight indeed, when our new  
13. bill comes up in January, and we would be just that closer  
14. to real effective tax relief. It's going to make the fight  
15. just a little bit harder, but I believe that the will of this  
16. Body will remain the same, and we'll give him that one bill  
17. again, at least, I'd certainly hope so. The reason we can't,  
18. quite frankly, is because what we do is mediated by the press,  
19. and the stage has already been set, that if we don't pass this  
20. out, then it was all fun and games, the Governor and the  
21. Legislature in collusion to raise your hopes and then dash  
22. them down again. Personally I would like to just draw a veil  
23. over this for the next couple of months so we could defeat  
24. it, come back and really get the job done, but as practical  
25. politician we must live in a practical world, and only the head-  
26. line penetrates. So, we're obviously going to have to pass the  
27. bill, but don't bring up the point that this is just one of  
28. many things, good ideas that were defeated, that's exactly  
29. what we're all about. It is our job, if we have been fiscally  
30. responsible, it's not the Governor, get that straight, it's us.  
31. If we're irresponsible, it's us, not the Governor, he can't  
32. appropriate, he can stand in the way, he can approve, but he  
33. can't do it, we do it. If he vetoes, we override, we sustain, but

1. it's our action, and it's right and proper, that we make the  
2. sole choice, and what we did was absolutely correct, we give  
3. him one option, and I hope that's the way we always behave.

4. PRESIDENT:

5. Further discussion? Senator Regner.

6. SENATOR REGNER:

7. Yes, Mr. President, and members. This bill as it stands  
8. right now is a farce as far as tax relief is concerned. We  
9. had the tax indexing issue before us last year, it was defeated  
10. along with the Governor's help, it's a farce as far as tax  
11. reform is concerned, because over the last two years he's  
12. worked very effectively against the tax limitation amendment  
13. which now has passed the House, but it will be before us next  
14. Spring. It's a burden on business as Senator Grotberg pointed  
15. out, it really doesn't do anything for the taxpayers as Senator  
16. McMillan very eloquently pointed out. Now, could we have had  
17. either one of the other two forms of tax relief, you bet you  
18. we could. This year alone, the State of Illinois is going  
19. to have several hundred million dollars of windfall profits  
20. in their taxes...tax revenues, because of inflation. We're  
21. going to have over a hundred million dollars excess profits  
22. if you want to call it that on the Sales Tax, on gasoline  
23. sales alone, so we could have had both of the other items. The  
24. Governor opposed both of those others too, and when I called  
25. the tax indexing bill last June I had no votes on the other  
26. side of the aisle. It's very unfortunate, because I think  
27. both of those two items would have been much better than  
28. this kind of thing, because it is not tax reform, but like  
29. Senator...Maitland...I'm going to vote Yes on it, because  
30. I just don't feel like answering a lot of phone calls, a  
31. lot of letters that are going to come, because the news  
32. media has purported this to be tax relief, which it is not.

33. PRESIDENT:

Further discussion? Senator Daley.

1. SENATOR DALEY:

2. Mr. President, and fellow Senators. First of all this  
3. is at least a step forward as compared to just a few months  
4. ago when the Governor vetoed the bill entirely, so I think  
5. the effect of Republicans and Democrats in the House, and  
6. the League of Women Voters the UAW, Mine Workers, Steel  
7. Workers, I Pack Urban League, Metro Seniors, community  
8. groups throughout the State had a great effect upon the  
9. General Assembly. I guess we're not all happy with the  
10. bill as it is, but it's a step forward, I salute those  
11. Senators who voted yesterday to amend the bill, the 27.  
12. I respect those that voted No or voted...were absent, or  
13. voted Present, I respect their opinion. I think it's at  
14. least a step forward, I'd like to salute Senator Sangmeister,  
15. and Senator Rhoads, and those who will be sponsoring a bill,  
16. prefiling a bill immediately, and we'll hear this issue again  
17. when we come back in January. We have helped business, with  
18. the elimination of Sales Tax and machinery, which is greatly  
19. needed as well as...Corporate Personal Property Tax for  
20. big business, and we talk about Real Estate Tax relief,  
21. I think everybody's looking for a formula, whether you're  
22. rich or poor, but, at least, the elimination of the Sales  
23. Tax affects the Senior Citizens, and affects the poor, affects  
24. the working class, and especially affects all of us. Thank you.

25. PRESIDENT:

26. Any further discussion? All right, Senator Keats has  
27. moved the previous question. All in favor signify by saying  
28. Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. Senator Shapiro may  
29. close. The question is, shall House Bill 2796 pass. Those in  
30. favor will vote Aye. Those opposed will vote Nay. The voting  
31. is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish?  
32. Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question,  
33. the Ayes are 54, the Nays are 1. None Voting Present. House  
Bill 2796, having received a constitutional majority is declared

1. passed, and the bill having received the affirmative vote  
2. of three-fifths of the members elected is effective immediately  
3. upon its becoming a law. Resolutions.

4. SECRETARY:

5. Senate Joint Resolution No. 3 offered by Senator Savickas.  
6. ( Secretary reads SJR No. 3 )

7. PRESIDENT:

8. Senator Savickas moves...Senator Savickas has moved to  
9. suspend the rules for the immediate consideration and adoption  
10. of Senate Joint Resolution No. 3, which is the adjournment  
11. resolution, adjourning the 3rd Special Session, sine die.  
12. All in favor signify by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes  
13. have it. The rules are suspended. Senator Savickas now  
14. moves the adoption of Senate Joint Resolution No. 3. All  
15. in favor signify by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have  
16. it. The resolution is adopted. Pursuant to that resolution  
17. Senator Savickas moves that the Senate 3rd Special Session  
18. stand adjourned sine die. Any discussion? All in favor signify  
19. by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The Senate in  
20. the 3rd Special Session stands adjourned. Senator Keats for  
21. what purpose do you arise?

22. SENATOR KEATS:

23. I rise for a...I rise for a point of personal privilege  
24. and the member I wanted to talk to has just walked into the  
25. washroom, so he'll hear me as I speak. You know in our debates  
26. we sometimes argue points of economics, and I sometimes think  
27. that if the economic knowledge in this Body were cloth it couldn't  
28. make a G string, but that isn't the real point. We had one  
29. member get up today, in particular, and several others saying  
30. the only reason people are voting for this is because special  
31. interests wants this and special interests want that. Well, I  
32. want to merely say, if that member himself is a crook, and likes  
33. to think of himself as a crook, that's his own business, but you  
know some of us around here are honest, and some of us do attempt



1. to vote on principle, and I get damn sick and tired of  
2. having a member get up whose attendance record is not one  
3. of the better ones anyway, and get up and always say you  
4. guys are just doing what the special interest want, you  
5. know as well as I do some things are right and some things  
6. are wrong, and I don't give a damn what anyone else says  
7. when it talks about a free money market, that happens to  
8. be a classic economic position, and I'm sick and tired of  
9. being called a crook by someone whose knowledge of economics  
10. probably is questionable.

11. PRESIDENT:

12. All right the Senate will stand in recess until the  
13. hour of 2:30.

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RECESS

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