

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
95th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
TWENTIETH SPECIAL SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

1st Legislative Day

7/9/2008

SR0001	Adopted	3
SR0001	Resolution Offered	2
SR0002	Adopted	4
SR0002	Resolution Offered	4
SR0003	Adopted	4
SR0003	Resolution Offered	4
Senate to Order-Senator DeLeo		1
Prayer-Pastor Michael Keppler		1
Pledge of Allegiance		1
Communications from the Secretary of State		1
Secretary reads Proclamation No. 2008-268		1
Senate Stands at Ease/Reconvenes		4
Senate Stands in Recess/Reconvenes		5
Adjournment		5

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

The Senate will please come to order. Will the Members please be at their desks? Will our guests in the galleries please rise? The invocation today will be given by Pastor Michael Keppler, from Springfield Southern Baptist Church, here in Springfield. Pastor.

PASTOR MICHAEL KEPPLER:

(Prayer by Pastor Michael Keppler)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Please remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Senator Maloney, to lead in the Pledge, sir.

SENATOR MALONEY:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Maloney)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Madam Secretary, Communications from the Secretary of State, please.

SECRETARY SHIPLEY:

Yes. I have a letter -- letter dated July 3rd, 2008.

Dear Secretary Shipley - Enclosed please find a copy of Proclamation No. -- I'm sorry, 2008-268, filed in my office on July 2nd, 2008, by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich, calling for a Special Session of the 95th General Assembly, to begin at 1 p.m. on July 9th, 2008. A notice and accompanying Proclamation have been delivered today to each Member's district office.

Sincerely, Jesse White, Secretary of State.

(Secretary reads Proclamation No. 2008-268)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Thank you, Madam Secretary. The Senate of the 95th General Assembly is convened in its Twentieth Special Session. Ladies

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
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7/9/2008

and Gentlemen, can I have your attention, please. For the purposes of an announcement, the Chair would like to recognize - - may I have your attention, please. Members, we have a new doorperson. Sherry Mitchell is here today. Sherry Mitchell is the second female ever to serve in that post. She has a military background and we'd like to welcome her to the Illinois State Senate. Welcome. Okay, Ladies and Gentlemen, under practice of this Body since the 88th General Assembly, the rules adopted by the 95th General Assembly, its officers and its committees are in effect for the continuous period of the 95th General Assembly, including any Special Session. Senator Crotty will be added to the roll call. We can start now. There are three organizational resolutions that must be adopted today. These resolutions inform the House that the Senate is ready to conduct business, create a Senate Committee of five to wait upon the Governor, and create a Senate Committee of three people to approve the Journals for the Senate of all the days that we are in Special Session. So, starting with, Madam Secretary -- Mr. Secretary, Resolution 1, please.

ACTING SECRETARY KAISER:

Senate Resolution 1, Twentieth -- Special Session.

(Secretary reads SR No. 1)

Sponsored by Senator Link.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Senator Link moves the -- moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution No. 1. All those in favor will say Aye. All those opposed will say Nay, and the Ayes have it. And the rules are suspended. Senator Link now moves the adoption of Senate

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
95th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
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1st Legislative Day

7/9/2008

Resolution No. 1. Those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted. Senator Dillard, for what purpose you seeking recognition, sir?

SENATOR DILLARD:

Thank you, Mr. President. Just an inquiry of the Chair. I know for the last couple years we've had numerous Special Sessions, but since we left this august Capitol of ours in May I know that a judge, I believe it's Judge Leo Zappa, entered an order that we are to convene these Special Sessions at the time the Governor sets. And I'm just wondering what's your interpretation of -- do we have a little fudge factor? Today I noticed we started at like one-thirtyish. You know, do we have some time or are we going to have the authorities come in here and lock us up now that we're under a court order to convene these Special Sessions exactly, immediately when the Governor issues the call? Just an inquiry of the Chair. What's -- what's our procedure? Shall we be shaking in our boots when we start late and what -- what impact do you think that order has on our daily Calendar?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

The practice of this Body, which was not part of the lawsuit - it was the other Chamber - that we have always taken notice when we get the proclamation from the Governor issuing Special Session - the one that was issued for these two days issued a 1 o'clock start for the Senate - and we try and keep to that schedule as close as possible. Tomorrow the proclamation does indicate 10 o'clock, so we will be starting at the hour of 10 o'clock tomorrow too. Thank you for your inquiry, Senator. Okay, Madam Secretary, continuing on Resolutions, please.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
95th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
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7/9/2008

SECRETARY SHIPLEY:

Senate Resolution 2, offered by Senator Link, Twentieth Special Session.

(Secretary reads SR No. 2)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Senator Link moves to suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution No. 2. All those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Now, Senator Link moves the adoption of Senate Resolution No. 2. Those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it and the resolution is adopted. And finally, Madam Secretary, Resolution No. 3, please.

SECRETARY SHIPLEY:

Senate Resolution 3, Twentieth Special Session, offered by Senator Link.

(Secretary reads SR No. 3)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

Thank you, Madam Secretary. Senator Link moves the adoption -- suspend the rules for the purpose of immediately adopting Senate Resolution No. 3. All those in favor will say Aye. All those opposed will say Nay. And the Ayes have it, and the rules are suspended. Senator Link now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution 3. Those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed will say Nay. The Ayes have it, and the resolution is adopted.

(SENATE STANDS AT EASE/SENATE RECONVENES)

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
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7/9/2008

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DeLEO)

The Senate will come to order. The Special Session -- the Twentieth Special Session will stand in recess to the call of the Chair.

(SENATE STANDS IN RECESS/SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR LINK)

There being no further business to come -- the Senate will come to order. There being no further business to come before the Senate, the Twentieth Special Session of the Senate stands adjourned until Thursday, July 10th, 2008, at 10:01 a.m. The Special Session of the Senate stands adjourned.