

STATE OF ILLINOIS
89TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

102nd Legislative Day

March 6, 1996

Speaker Daniels: "The House will come to order. The Members will be in their chairs. Those not entitled to the floor will please retire to the gallery. The Chaplain for the day is Reverend Dr. Eugene Green of Trinity CME Church of Decatur, Illinois. Reverend Green is the guest of Representative Julie Curry. Guests in the gallery may wish to rise for the invocation. Reverend Green."

Reverend Dr. Eugene Green: "Thank you Mr. Speaker. Let us pray. Eternal God, our Heavenly Father, we come together this day, we come to take care of the business of this House of the Senate and the Governor. We ask thy blessings upon this House because we feel that with Your love and the blanket of Your loving kindness be upon each one. We ask that You bless the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor and all of the staff that work here in the capitol. Bless the Representatives with a special blessing, give them Godly insight to their business. In Jesus name we pray, Amen."

Speaker Daniels: "We will be led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Representative Hartke."

Hartke: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Speaker Daniels: "Roll call for attendance. Representative Lang is recognized on the Democratic side of the aisle for excused absences."

Lang: "Wyvetter Younge is excused Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Daniels: "The record will so reflect. Representative Cross is recognized on the Republican side of the aisle for excused absences."

Cross: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, if the record would please reflect that Representatives Clayton and Pedersen are excused."

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Speaker Daniels: "The record will so reflect. Mr. Clerk, take the record. There are 114 Members answering the quorum call and a quorum is present. The House will now come to order. Committee Reports."

Clerk McLennand: "Committee Report from Representative Cowlshaw, Chairman from the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education, to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass as amended' House Bill 2664; 'do pass Short Debate' House Bill 3532. Committee Report from Representative Cross, Chairman from the Committee on Health Care and Human Services, to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do re-refer to Rules' House Bills 3650 and 3646. Committee Report from Representative Stephens, Chairman from the Committee on Executive, to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass' House Bill 3380; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bills 2918 and 3625. Committee Report from Rules offered by Representative Churchill, Chairman from the Committee on Rules, to which the following Joint Action Motions and Floor Amendments were referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back to the floor 'do approve for consideration' refer to the House Floor, Floor Amendment #3 to House Bill 1056. Floor Amendment #9 to House Bill 2230. Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 3177 and House Joint Resolution #93."

Speaker Daniels: "Supplemental Calendar announcement."

Clerk McLennand: "Supplemental Calendar #1 is being distributed."

Speaker Daniels: "The House will come to order. Representative

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Churchill is recognized."

Churchill: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, I now Move the adoption of House Joint Resolution #93."

Speaker Churchill: "Mr. Clerk, read the Resolution."

Clerk McLennand: "House Joint Resolution #93, be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the 89th General Assembly of the State of Illinois. The Senate concurring herein, that the two Houses shall convene in Joint Session on Wednesday March 6th at the hour of 12:00 noon. For the purpose of hearing his excellency, Governor Jim Edgar, present to the General Assembly his budget message for the fiscal year 1997, as required by Chapter 127, Section 28 of the Revised Statutes."

Speaker Churchill: "You've read the Resolution, is there any discussion? Being none, all those in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. House Joint Resolution #93 is hereby adopted. Representative Brunsvold."

Brunsvold: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, the Democrats would like a conference immediately for approximately 30 minutes. We will be back before the Governor's address."

Speaker Daniels: "That will be granted. The Democrats will caucus immediately in room 118. We will reconvene at the hour of 11:45. We will then go into Joint Session at the hour of noon. So, we will stand in recess until 11:45. Republicans will remain on the House Floor."

Clerk McLennand: "Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution #79, offered by Representative Feigenholtz. House Resolution #80, offered by Representative Feigenholtz. House Resolution #81 offered by Representative Granberg and House Resolution #82 offered by Representative Granberg. These are referred to the Rules Committee."

Speaker Daniels: "Attention Members of the House of

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Representatives, the House will reconvene in five minutes. All those persons not authorized access to the House Floor please retire to the gallery at this time."

Doorkeeper Rakin: "Mr. Speaker, the Honorable President Philip and Members of the Senate are at the door and seek admission to the Chamber."

Speaker Daniels: "Mr. Doorkeeper, please admit the Honorable Senators. At this time the House will stand at recess until the conclusion of the Budget address by the Governor, and as designated House Joint Resolution #93, the hour of 12:00 noon having arrived, the Joint Session of the 89th General Assembly will now come to order. Will the Members of the House and our esteemed guests from the Senate, please take their seats. Mr. Clerk, is a quorum of the House present?"

Clerk McLennand: "A quorum of the House is present."

Speaker Daniels: "Mr. President of the Senate, is quorum of the Senate present in this Chamber?"

Philip: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, a quorum of the Senate is present."

Speaker Daniels: "There being a quorum of the House and a quorum of the Senate in attendance, this Joint Session is convened. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, thank you. Today we are pleased to have in our presence several dignitaries. Let me start by introducing the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, Joan Walters. The Chairman of the Illinois Community College Board, a wonderful American and good friend to all, Harry L. Krisp, and a Marine. The Attorney General of the State of Illinois, Jim Ryan. The very popular, former Speaker of the House, George Ryan, Secretary of State. Former Member of the House, former Member of the Senate, and now the Treasurer of the State of

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Illinois, Judy Baar Topinka. Justice of the Supreme Court, Justice Honorable Ben Miller. The Auditor General of the State of Illinois, William Holland. And the Superintendent of the Schools for the State of Illinois, Joseph Spagnolo. Former Member of the House, and now Comptroller of the State of Illinois, Lolita Didrickson. And Ladies and Gentlemen, the First Lady of the State of Illinois, Brenda Edgar. The House recognizes the House Majority Leader, Mr. Churchill."

Churchill: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, would the Clerk please read Joint Session Resolution #4."

Clerk McLennand: "Joint Session Resolution #4 resolved that a committee of 10 be appointed. Five from the Speaker of the House and five from the Senate, by the President of the Senate to wait upon his Excellency, Governor Jim Edgar and invite him to address the Joint Session. Representative Balthis, Representative Noland, Representative Tenhouse, Representative Giles, Representative Schoenberg, Senator Bomke, Senator DeAngelis, Senator Raica, Senator Severns, and Senator Trotter."

Speaker Daniels: "Gentlemen, now move to the adoption of the Resolution. All those in favor signify by saying 'aye'; those opposed 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it and the Resolution is adopted. Pursuant to the Resolution, the following are appointed as committee to escort the Chief Executive. The appointments from the House are Representative Bill Balthis, Representative Duane Noland, Representative Art Tenhouse, Representative Calvin Giles, Representative Jeff Schoenberg. The Senate Members are Senator Larry Bomke, Senator Aldo DeAngelis, Senator Robert Raica, Senator Penny Severns, Senator Donne Trotter. Will the committee of escorts please convene at the rear of

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the Chamber and await his excellency, the Governor. I recognize the Doorkeeper for an announcement."

Doorkeeper Rakin: "Mr. Speaker, the Honorable Governor of the State of Illinois, Jim Edgar and his party, wish to be admitted to the Chamber."

Speaker Daniels" "Admit the Honorable Governor of the State of Illinois, Jim Edgar. Ladies and Gentlemen, the Governor of the State of Illinois, Jim Edgar. Governor Jim Edgar."

Governor Edgar: "Thank you, thank you. Speaker Daniels, President Philip, Justices of the Supreme Court, my fellow Constitutional Officers, Members of the 89th General Assembly, and my fellow citizens of Illinois. Five years ago today, a new Governor stood at this podium and delivered his first Budget to the General Assembly. I warned that State Government had been on a spending binge. It had been living beyond its means, spending money it didn't have. The Health Insurance Program for state employees had been deliberately underfunded, and so had Medicaid, the health care program for the poor. The underfunding helped to mask the state's serious fiscal problems and cause long delays and huge backlogs, when it came to paying medical bills. So, soon after I became governor, I urged the Legislature to work with me to halt the spending binge, to blow away the smoke, to shatter the mirrors, to put this state's fiscal house in order, and together we succeeded. Our fiscal house is in order. As you well know, it hasn't been easy. We began by making hundreds of millions of dollars in budget cuts, and then we cut again when the national recession played havoc with our revenues. It has taken five years of tough decisions and hard work. Five years of maintaining our commitment and discipline. We have battled federal mandates that reduced

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our flexibility and tied up our resources, but we have remained true to our course. We have held the line on taxes. We have downsized state government for the first time in anyone's memory. There are thousands fewer employees today under my control than there were when I became governor five years ago. We have eliminated well intended programs that no longer were essential. We have slashed fat from state agencies. We have demanded new economies and new accountability throughout state government. We have set new priorities and held fast to them year after year, budget after budget. Our commitment to more efficient and effective government has remained steadfast. Our revenues have increased because of Illinois' strong recovery from the national recession. As we have seen our economic development strategy pay off in thousands and thousands of new jobs, but we have resisted the temptation to add programs and return to the days of big government. Instead, we have used the revenue growth to return state government to sound fiscal footing and to fund education and other top priorities without demanding more from taxpayers. Because we made the tough budget decisions, we now have a healthy cash balance. Because we've shown restraint, I can now say today what I've wanted to say since I came into office five years ago, we can pay our Medicaid bills on time. No old bills, no backlog. We will be current and pay our bills more quickly than the state has done in at least a dozen years. And on top of that we can cut in half the assessments that hospital providers have been paying to help support the Medicaid Program. This budget also will reflect progress in several other areas. We will meet our commitment to fully fund our pension systems. We will manage cash flow without

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short-term borrowing. We will eliminate a 20 million dollar backlog of overdue workers' compensation claims. By holding lapse period spending to a minimum, we will free today's dollars for today's needs, rather than using them to pay yesterday's bills. Because we bit the bullet time and time again, Illinois is fiscally healthy today. We've accomplished all that without mortgaging our future to our children and grandchildren. We have done it without raising taxes on the hardworking men and women of Illinois. This budget celebrates the hard work we have done, but it doesn't ease the need for continued fiscal restraint and responsibility. This budget requires the same kind of belt-tightening we have done in the last five budgets. I'm holding the budget increase for my office to 3% and I'm counting on the same restraint from all the other statewide offices. We must continue to say 'no' to runaway spending. We must continue to devote our precious financial resources to those areas where our taxpayers' dollars accomplish the greatest good. Once again, we are going to hold the line on taxes while we move Illinois forward in educating our young, in building jobs for Illinois workers and reforming an out-of-touch welfare system and protecting children from abuse and neglect, in caring for the aging and mentally ill, in making our neighborhoods and communities safer, in preserving our land and lakes, and in providing a more secure future for tomorrow's generation. This budget is a blueprint that recognizes our progress and builds on it. It is a budget that will allow Illinois to boldly respond to the needs of the final years of the 20th century and to be prepared to confront the yet, unknown challenges of the 21st century. Once again, this budget makes education the top priority. And I do that because education is willing

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to make more effective use of the dollars we provide. We have been demanding and getting more accountability from the classroom at all levels, from Kindergarten through college. We have been demanding and getting reforms that I am convinced will bring better results. So, I am pleased to do our part by providing additional dollars in the form of increases at record levels. For the second year in a row, our schools will receive the largest increase they have ever received without raising general taxes. For the third year in a row, the requests from state colleges and universities will be fully funded. We are providing 99% of the request for elementary and secondary schools. The first time in anyone's memory that a governor's budget has come that close to fully funding elementary and secondary education requests. Seventy-three cents of every new dollar the state will spend, 73 cents of every new dollar the state will spend will go to education. That means an increase of \$332 million on top of the \$800 million increase we have provided to schools, colleges, and universities in the last three years. In all, it means six billion dollars in state funding for education. This can be done without raising general taxes, but we are asking the millionaire-owners of riverboat to share slightly more of their windfall profits with the state. If my proposal to restructure state revenues from riverboats is not adopted, the increases in education funding will not be realized, and our children will be shortchanged. I don't believe you will let that happen. The increase of \$112 million I am recommending for higher education brings the total for colleges and universities to nearly \$2 billion in taxpayer supported funds. It rewards the achievements of the Board of Higher Education and the higher education

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community throughout Illinois in streamlining programs. Already, there have been savings of \$120 million and more streamlining is in the offing. Smaller classes taught by regular faculty members, improved libraries and technology. Additional classes in English and Math so undergraduates can complete a four year degree in four years. Those are only some of the positive results we have seen. And others across the nation have taken notice. Recently, a California publication on higher education praised the Illinois initiative. It recommended that it become a model for similar reforms in California's higher education system, which is consistently rated among the best. And in this budget, our public universities here in Illinois will receive nearly \$40 million more to continue improving undergraduate education, minority student achievement and the use of technology. Our community colleges that serve as an aegis for work force preparation and lifelong learning will receive an additional \$12 million. This budget helps our higher education community lay the foundation for successful lives and careers for the state's young men and women. It also recognizes that for too many, the cost of college education still exceeds their means. This budget includes \$12.4 million to again increase state scholarship aid for poor and middle-class students. It raises the maximum grant to \$4,000 and brings the total program to more than \$250 million. The state scholarship program for veterans is fully funded at nearly \$22 million. This budget includes \$9 million in new financial aid for freshmen who have no family resources to pay for college. This budget also invests in our younger students. For the first time we are providing more than \$4 billion in state funding for elementary and secondary schools. We must

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assure those schools have both the flexibility and the ability to educate our young boys and girls. We must be sure that the youngest of our children today are prepared to meet the challenges in their early lives, whether it's in university classroom or the workplace. This General Assembly already has approved many of my initiatives to give schools the flexibility to experiment and innovate. Last year, we together achieved real reform in the Chicago public schools. We gave them the ability to make improvements, without having to overcome obstacles put in their way by a bureaucracy in Springfield. We empowered them to spend their money as they believed it would best benefit the 400,000 students there. This year you are moving to put legislation creating charter schools on my desk. This is real reform. It will lead to even greater successes for school children, their teachers, their parents, and their communities. This budget and it's \$220 million increase for elementary and secondary schools also will lead to greater successes for our schools. That increase is the largest increase in any state program area. It is the most important area of the budget. Without unquestioned support for education, without our continued commitment to Kindergarten classrooms, and university laboratories, too many of our children will fail and if they fail, we fail. This budget will allow the State Board of Education to narrow the gap between rich and poor school districts by pumping additional dollars into the general state-aid formula. It includes \$10 million for preschool programs that ensure kids entering Kindergarten are ready to learn. By investing another \$1 million in our Project Success Program, we will be linking community social service with a total of 750 schools in 180 communities

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throughout the State of Illinois. This budget includes more than \$10 million for the Lincoln's Challenge Program for disadvantaged high school dropouts and the National Guard's First Choice Physical Fitness and Substance Abuse Program. It helps to make classrooms safer by funding the Alternative Education and Violence Prevention Programs, recommended by the State Board of Education and the Attorney General. And it doubles to \$30 million my commitment to ensuring that our students are on the cutting edge of using new technology, such as the Internet. In the next few weeks, we can expect recommendations from the Ikenberry Commission on how to make our system for funding elementary and secondary education more equitable and fair. I'm hoping those recommendations will lead to dramatic changes for the remainder of this decade and into the next century. In the meantime, this education budget, the largest in the history of this state, gives more of our children, more of the tools they will need to lead productive and satisfying lives as adults. This budget moves Illinois forward on many other fronts. It cares for those dependent on government assistance, but it also moves them toward independence. It fully funds welfare reforms we've initiated requiring recipients to work or complete their education and no longer penalizing welfare clients who want to work. Since we began the Work Pays Program two years ago, three times as many AFDC clients are bringing home pay checks. More than 52 thousand people who were on AFDC two years ago, no longer need cash assistance because they have gained employment. In the Earn Fare Program launched only a few years ago, already has won national recognition for a success in helping thousands of former welfare recipients find and keep jobs. This budget also

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recognizes the great need to provide support services to those men and women who must care for young children are earning their way to self-sufficiency. Included in this budget is \$40 million new dollars in child care programs for welfare clients for learning job skills, looking for jobs, and gaining employment. Our initiatives to move people from welfare to work are producing the kind of results we all want. Welfare reform works for those on welfare and it works for the taxpayers. But, we must build on the progress, not rest on it. We must invest in the programs that will save more dollars and more families. In Illinois, as many as 80% of families involved in our child welfare system abuse alcohol or other drugs. More than half of the parents admit they have been intoxicated in front of their children. Even more sadly, 50% of the children served by DCFS have asked their parents to quit using drugs. We must help them quit. The parents are the problem today. If we do not act, the children will be the problem tomorrow. My budget recommends we use \$3, million in a pilot program next year to target AFDC clients with substance abuse problems and to require those parents to seek treatment. It also includes more than \$13 million for treatment services in parents and children referred by DCFS. We also will devote new resources to collecting child support from deadbeat parents, money that often can make the difference between single parents living on welfare or living on their own. Today there are 250,000 paternity cases in Illinois involving AFDC recipients. We will continue to privatize some collection efforts. We will beef up and expand our efforts to determine paternity, so that we can force fathers to live up to their parental responsibility. Parents should be paying that child

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support, not the taxpayers. And when we must use taxpayer dollars to address family problems, we must use them effectively and efficiently. By the end of the month I will issue an executive order advancing my plan to consolidate our human service agencies. That reform will replace several departments with a streamline agency that is responsive to its clients and to the communities. More efficient, more effective delivery of services to individuals and families who need and deserve our help. That has been our mission and will continue to be our mission. And this budget will help us to carry it out. For the second year in a row, I am proposing we spend more money on community-based services than we do on state institutions when it comes to meeting the needs of those with mental disabilities. We are also building on the shift to community treatment. This budget provides 7.2 million new dollars to assure that each person discharged from a State mental hospital is linked with appropriate case management to adjust to community living. It also provides an additional \$22 million to help keep ailing senior citizens and people with disabilities in their homes, rather than nursing homes. We also will provide over \$4 million to enable community agencies to investigate more than 5,500 reports of elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation. This budget also increases state funding for protecting children from abuse or neglect by \$25 million, bringing the total to almost \$1.4 billion. Among other things, we will increase our efforts to find permanent and loving homes for these children. Last year 1,500 children were adopted. With a \$10 million increase in adoption funding we expect that number will increase to 2,500 by next year. That will

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represent a 67% increase over three years in the number of children placed with families that will love and nurture them. This budget also protects children and adults from crime and other threats to public safety. We will add 64 state police officers next year. We also will bolster our efforts to solve crimes by providing the funds to open a new crime lab in Chicago this summer and train scientists to staff it. This budget also increases funding to keep offenders behind bars by \$73 million. Last year this Legislature and I put a new truth-in-sentencing law on the books. Criminals must pay the price for their unlawful and violent behavior. They must be put in prison and kept in prison for as long as possible. That means more prisoners and more prisons. Its as simple as that. You can't tell your constituents that you're tough on crime and not vote for additional prison space. Some of you have tried to do that, but we're not going to let you get away with it. This budget includes funding to open more than 3000 new prison beds next year, and on top of the 2,600 that will open this year. It also includes capital funding for a new adult prison and a new juvenile facility to open even more beds to house those who break the law. It includes funding for a prison at the former Meyer Mental Health Center in Decatur for at least 300 women, the fastest growing segment of our inmate population. Last year partisan politics blocked approval of the Capital Budget, which included funds for new prisons. If that happens this year, funding for prison expansion, that I just mentioned, will be in jeopardy and the opening of the Supermax Prison at Tamms for our most dangerous and unmanageable inmates will be delayed. The Capital Budget also includes funding for upkeep of existing prisons. We need to protect our

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investment in these costly penal institutions. We need to make sure that security is not compromised by deteriorating physical and mechanical facilities. As I said in my state of the state address a few weeks ago, 'pick another partisan fight this year to refuse to fund prison construction and upkeep is absolutely irresponsible.'. We must be tough on crime and we also must be smart on crime. This budget includes \$4 million to expand the prestart program for inmates who have served their time and are about to be released. The 50 additional parole agents, we will expand job opportunities, educational skills, and the substance abuse counseling that can help prevent those inmates from returning to a life of crime on the streets. This budget responds to today's needs, but it also anticipates and answers the needs of tomorrow. Included in this budget is more than \$12 billion in Conservation 2000 funds to preserve our natural resources, guaranteeing that future generations enjoy open land and clean water. It allows us to move forward with initial development of Side 'M' in Cass County. It allows the Department of Agriculture to step up its efforts in promoting soil conservation programs to prevent erosion and protect valuable topsoil that can never be replaced. It includes \$1.2 billion for highway improvements that I will announce in the next few weeks, as well as \$324 million for Mass Transit Systems throughout Illinois, and \$6.5 million to help keep Amtrack trains running. It offers expanded assistance to help new businesses start and thrive. Nearly 3 million new dollars to train Illinois workers and continued aid to help Illinois exporters succeed in the markets of the world. Our economy is strong and still growing and we must do everything we can to ensure that it

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keeps growing. This budget also includes more than \$600 million in capital funding to address critical repairs and construction not approved by this General Assembly last year and to meet new demands. That capital funding becomes more crucial with everyday that passes. I talked earlier about prisons. It also is irresponsible to refuse funding for projects in other key areas. Without it, new educational facilities to give our colleges and university students state of the art learning opportunities will not be built. Without it, \$245 million in necessary maintenance improvements will be postponed again. Roofs will continue to deteriorate and leak, heating systems will fail, and we will pay an even greater price in the future. Without it, we lose the opportunity to create new jobs for Illinois workers. Our capital program, together with the State Highway Plan will result in the creation of 50,000 jobs in the private construction industry. We should not again turn our backs on those jobs, those workers, and their families. We cannot afford not to make that investment in our states infrastructure. Let's move ahead for the good of our people, for the good of Illinois. There are many responsibilities facing government today. Many competing interests for our limited dollars, many avenues for opportunity, many areas for growth. This budget recognizes there are limits to what state government can and should attempt. Like your budgets at home probably is, this budget is tight. If a dollar gets added in one area, a dollar has to be taken away from another. This budget balances the needs of Illinois today with our resources today. It does not spend money we don't have. It spends what we do have wisely. It does not raise taxes on the hard working Illinoisans. It again makes education

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our highest priority. It invests in our children, our businesses, our future. It gives the neediest of our citizens the lifeline they need. This budget recognizes the strengths of our economy today and the austerity of the past. This budget does not retreat from the fiscal accountability we have demanded. But reenforces our resolve to even greater discipline. This budget promotes better government, not bigger government. It is a budget that will help us working together, make a great state even greater. It is a blueprint for the future, a future of continued compassion for our people and confidence in them. A future of commitment and common sense. A bright tomorrow filled with success and security for all of Illinois. Thank you."

Speaker Daniels: "Will the Committee of Escorts please come forward to escort the Governor from the chambers. Committee of Escorts please come forward to escort the Governor from the chambers. The President of the Senate is recognized for a motion."

Philip: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, I Move that Joint Session do now arise."

Speaker Daniels: "The President of the Senate has moved that a Joint Session do now arise. All those in favor signify by saying 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it and the Joint Session will now arise. The House will come to order. Those not entitled to the floor will please retire to the gallery. We're going to start, Ladies and Gentlemen, we're going to start with Second Readings, we are then going to go into Third Readings. The Clerk for an Executive Order."

Clerk McLennand: "An Executive Order has been filed by the Governor Jim Edgar. An Executive Order changing the name

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of the Commissioner of Banks and Trust Companies to the office of Banks and Real Estate and transferring to it the rights, powers, duties, and functions in the office of the Savings and Residential Finance. Filed with the Clerk March 6, 1996. Referred to the Rules Committee."

Speaker Daniels: "Mr. Clerk, could you... Mr. Doorkeeper, Mr. Doorkeeper, please clear the chambers of those not entitled to the floor. Ladies and Gentlemen, those not entitled to the floor, please retire to the gallery. We are back in Session. House Bills Second Reading. House Bill 1056. Representative Leitch, read the Bill, Mr. Clerk."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #1056, the Bill has been read a second time previously. Committee Amendments #1 and 2 were adopted. Floor Amendment #3 offered by Representative Leitch has been approved for consideration."

Speaker Daniels: "Representative Leitch."

Leitch: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Floor Amendment #3 fine tunes Committee Amendment #2. It made a couple of technical changes which were requested at the very last minute and I would move for it's adoption."

Speaker Daniels: "Representative Black in the chair."

Speaker Black: "They've heard the Gentleman's motion on that question, is there any discussion?"

Speaker Black: "Yes, the Gentleman from Bureau, Representative Mautino."

Mautino: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, I simply rise to support the Gentleman's amendment, it cleans up and gives us an agreed amendment which is the end of about a two and a half year negotiation that Representative Leitch and I have been working on. And so I would just ask all Members to support the adoption of this amendment and the further passage of the Bill."

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Speaker Black: "Further discussion, the Gentleman from Cook, Representative Lang."

Lang: "Thank you, will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Black: "He indicates he will."

Lang: "Representative, my understanding is that People's Gas and Northern Illinois Gas are on board on this and there is a compromise with all parties, is that correct?"

Speaker Black: "Representative Leitch."

Leitch: "That's correct."

Speaker Black: "Representative Lang."

Lang: "I would just like to compliment the Sponsors of the Bill along with the proponents for coming up with a resolution to a problem that's been long-standing. It's got my vote, thank you."

Speaker Black: "With no one else seeking recognition, Representative Leitch to close."

Leitch: "Just ask for favorable approval, thank you."

Speaker Black: "You've heard the discussion on the Gentleman's motion. Should Floor Amendment #3 be adopted to House Bill 1056? All those in favor signify by saying 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. In the opinion of the chair, the 'ayes' have it, and Floor Amendment #3 is added to House Bill 1056. Mr Clerk, are there further amendments?"

Clerk McLennand: "No further amendments."

Speaker Black: "Third Reading, Mr. Clerk. The order of House Bills Second Reading appears House Bill 2230. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #2230. A Bill for an act that amends the School Codes. Second Reading of this House Bill. Committee amendments #1,2, and 3 will refer to subcommittee. Floor amendments #4, 5, and 6 have been referred to Rules. Floor amendment #7 has been adopted.

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Committee amendment #8 has been adopted and floor amendment has been approved for consideration and is offered by Representative Cowlshaw."

Speaker Black: "So, on that question, the Lady from DuPage, Representative Cowlshaw."

Cowlshaw: "Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Floor amendment #9 to House Bill 2230 is a technical amendment which is necessary because the subsection designations by letter of the alphabet were incorrectly done. All this amendment does is change the term subsection 'E' to subsection 'H'. There is absolutely no change in the meaning of the Bill. It is simply a letter of the alphabet that was not inserted into the draft of the language correctly."

Speaker Black: "You've heard the Ladies motion, and on that are there any questions? With no one seeking recognition, the Lady from DuPage, Representative Cowlshaw to close."

Cowlshaw: "I move the adoption of floor amendment #9 to House Bill 2230 and urge my colleagues to vote 'yes', thank you."

Speaker Black: "You've heard the Motion to adopt floor amendment #9 to House Bill 2230. On that, all those in favor please signify by saying 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. In the opinion of the chair, the 'ayes' have it. Floor amendment #9 is adopted to House Bill 2230. Mr. Clerk, any further amendments?"

Clerk McLennand: "No further amendments."

Speaker Black: "Third Reading. Mr. Clerk, on the order of House Bill, Second Reading there appears House Bill 2533. Read the Bill please."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #2533. A Bill for an act concerning long term care. Second Reading of this House Bill. Committee Amendment #1 was adopted. No floor amendments. A

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fiscal note and a state mandates note have been requested on the Bill as amended and have been filed."

Speaker Black: "Third Reading. On the order of House Bills, Second Reading appears 2571. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #2571. The Bill has been read a second time previously. Committee amendment #1 was adopted, committee amendment #2 failed, no floor amendments, no note requests."

Speaker Black: "Third Reading. Again, on the order of Second Reading appears House Bill 2612. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #2612, a Bill for an act that amends the Wildlife Code. Second Reading of this House Bill. No committee amendments, no floor amendments, no note requests."

Speaker Black: "Third Reading. On the order of House Bill, Second Reading appears House Bill 3177. Mr. Clerk, please read the Bill."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #3177. A Bill for an act that amends the Public Aid Code. Second Reading of this House Bill. Floor amendment #1 has been referred to Rules and has been approved for consideration and is offered by Representative Schakowsky."

Speaker Black: "And on that Motion, the Lady from Cook, Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "Thank you Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This amendment refers to the Bill that the Governor spoke about in his budget message that would require persons receiving AFDC to have drug treatment programs if they need it. This was a demonstration project. All this amendment does is say that the rules

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that would accompany this demonstration project would be adopted through the normal procedures as opposed to the emergency rule making process. This would allow for some greater input from the experts and the public and in no way would diminish, and in fact, it would enhance this Bill and make the demonstration program even more effective. So I would urge in an effort to make this an even better Bill the adoption of Floor Amendment #1."

Speaker Black: "Now, you've heard the Lady's Motion and on that are there any questions? The Gentleman from Jersey, Representative Ryder is recognized."

Ryder: "Would the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Black: "She indicates she will."

Ryder: "This is the first time I've had to say that in a year, it's interesting. Now, as I understand it, this is an amendment that you discussed in committee, Health Care and Human Services, is that correct?"

Speaker Black: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "That is correct."

Speaker Black: "Representative Ryder."

Ryder: "And further, it's my understanding that because of your objection to the emergency rule process, that the Sponsor of this Bill agreed to allow this amendment to come out, is that right?"

Speaker Black: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "Well, I am assuming that that's the case and I am very grateful for it."

Speaker Black: "Representative Ryder."

Ryder: "So, please tell me then. The substance avoids the emergency rule process, then how do we deal with the rules of this Bill or this amendment that your talking about?"

Speaker Black: "Representative Schakowsky."

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Schakowsky: "It would go through the regular rule making process, through JCAR and so it would not interfere in any way with the implementation of the Bill."

Speaker Black: "Representative Ryder."

Ryder: "Representative, do you know if emergency rules would not have gone through JCAR as well?"

Speaker Black: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "Of course it would have gone through JCAR, the testimony that led to this amendment being offered was that the public would have more opportunity for input, into the formulation of the rules."

Speaker Black: "Representative Ryder."

Ryder: "Representative, allow me to explain, in the form of a question of course, that the process in JCAR is that emergency rules have to then be followed by permanent rules. Permanent rules of course have public input. Emergency rules also have the opportunity for the public to comment. They simply go in effect immediately upon filing, and therein cause the dilemma that you discussed in committee. And I assume it was for that reason that you're sponsoring this amendment."

Speaker Black: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "You are precisely correct."

Speaker Black: "Representative Ryder."

Ryder: "And Representative, is this not a amendment that the Rules Committee has decreed should come directly to the floor and not be referred to committee."

Speaker Black: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "Well, believe me I was as surprised as you might have been to see it on our desks and yes, I guess it's been deemed important enough to come right to the Floor."

Speaker Black: "Representative Ryder."

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Ryder: "So Representative, does this mean that you're going to curtail your discussion of the nefarious activities of that Rules Committee or perhaps tone down the rhetoric concerning the majority party as far as the manner in which we're treating your particular amendment."

Speaker Black: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "Well actually, I've generally left it to others to discuss the nefarious activities of the Rules Committee and have declined to do so myself, and may in fact do so in the future. I'm not sure though."

Speaker Black: "Representative Ryder."

Ryder: "Then in conclusion, I would assume Representative, that you would take it upon yourself as a beneficiary of this wonderful amendment to spread good feelings and cheer among your Members as to what it is that is accomplished today, so that they would refrain from such activities in the future. Can I count on your assistance in doing that Representative?"

Speaker Black: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "Well, I'm certain that if this pattern continues of our wonderful amendments emerging from committee that these warm feelings will be spread all over our side of the aisle."

Speaker Black: "Representative Ryder."

Ryder: "Representative Black, if the Legislator is going to hedge her bets and make conditional acceptance, then I don't know that we are in a position to perhaps consider this Bill. We'll have to discuss it. Are you willing to take it out of the Record? Thank you Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Black: "I took that shaking of your head to mean you don't want it out of the Record, is that correct Representative? And on the Lady's Motion, is there any

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further discussion? No one seeking recognition, Representative Schakowsky to close."

Schakowsky: "I would urge the adoption of this amendment, and then we can proceed ahead with the Bill that would deal with AFDC recipients having substance abuse problems getting treatment, before getting benefits."

Speaker Black: "You've heard the Lady's Motion and discussion. All those in favor of voting to accept Floor Amendment #1, to House Bill 3177, signify by saying 'aye'; those opposed 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. Floor Amendment #1 has been adopted to House Bill 3177. Mr. Clerk, any further amendments?"

Clerk McLennand: "No further amendments."

Speaker Black: "Third Reading. Representative Leitch in the Chair."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Leitch in the Chair. Mr. Clerk, we will now proceed to the order of Third Readings House Bills. Read House Bill 2659."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #2659, a Bill for an act that amends the Property Tax Code. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Black."

Black: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This Bill was amended in committee by Committee Amendment #2 and that becomes the Bill. This Bill, I bring to you as a result of a situation I encountered in my district about a year ago with some property taxpayers approximately 25 of them in fact, who had received a Tax Bill and who had paid their Tax Bill on time for all of the years applicable that they owned the property. But, suddenly in a hand-written note on the Tax Bill, it was explained to them that because of an administrative error they had not been assessed, let's say

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a Fire Protection District or a Library District or some other taxing body for however many years that error was made. Further-more, these constituents of mine were told that even though this was hand-written and an administrative error, that these taxes were due and payable by the date of the last installment. They could not enter into any time-payment mechanism. In two cases, these Tax Bills, these back Tax Bills were more than \$10 thousand. I inquired to the Taxpayers Federation and was shocked to find out that there is no statute of limitations in Illinois on these kinds of administrative errors. Now, these are not taxpayers who didn't get a Tax Bill and are trying to say 'gee, I didn't get a Tax Bill, I just assumed I didn't owe anything.' They had gotten a Tax Bill, but one or more of the taxing bodies in their area had not been coded properly on their Tax Bill because of an administrative error. What this Bill says is that the statute of limitation will henceforth be two years, if it's an administrative error, not the fault of the taxpayer. I'm aware of no opposition to the Bill. It does not give any chance for someone to hide behind this Bill and say, 'Well, I didn't get a Tax Bill, therefore, I figured I just didn't owe one.' We're not trying to give cover to anyone who does that. What we are trying to do is to give legitimate protection to taxpayers, property taxpayers, who simply through administrative error are then expected to pay all applicable back taxes with no chance of appeal, no chance of due process, and not even a chance to enter into a timepayment mechanism. I'd be glad to answer any questions that you have."

Speaker Leitch: "The Gentleman's moved for the approval of House Bill 2659, and on that question, is there any discussion?"

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The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Dart, what purpose do you rise, Sir?"

Dart: "Thank you, will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Leitch: "He indicates he will."

Dart: "Representative, this was the subject of some debate and give and take in the committee. One of the concerns that was originally brought forward in the committee was the definition of 'administrative' error because I don't think that there was anybody in the committee that disagreed with what you were trying to do and the problem you were trying to alleviate. There was a concern, however, on just how broad we were making this. Could you, for the purpose of legislative intent, give us what is going to be, the definition of 'administrative error', what is encompassed under this?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Black."

Black: "Very good question. One of the things we've changed in Committee Amendment #2, is we did make it very clear that this does not pertain to an assessment error of any kind. You already have due process for assessment errors. What we go on to say then is, that administrative error includes but is not limited to. Failure to include an extension for a taxing district on the Tax Bill, an error in the calculations of the tax rate or extension, or any other mathematical error by the County Clerk or a defective coding by the County. It further states administrative error shall not include a failure by the county to send the Tax Bill to the taxpayer. It does not include the failure of the taxpayer to notify the assessor of any change in tax-exempt status of his or her property. And it does not include any error concerning the assessment of the property."

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Speaker Leitch: "Representative Dart."

Dart: "Thank you very much Representative. Just a final inquiry on that same line. Is it your intent for this purpose for this Bill to be utilized in the very small number of cases where these sort of rather egregious areas occur?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Black."

Black: "It would certainly be my intent. I would hope that we would have none of these errors. I was truly shocked and appalled when this happened in my district last year. Of the thousands of parcels, there were only 25 coding errors. So, I don't think this is going to result in dozens and dozens or hundreds and hundreds of cases. But it will in fact, give protection to those who are inadvertently, through no fault of their own suddenly asked to pay rather large sums of back taxes on administrative error."

Speaker Leitch: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Murphy, for what reason do you rise?"

Murphy: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this Bill and as Chairman of the Revenue Committee, I wanted to point out this was released from the Revenue Committee with bipartisan support, 10 voting 'favor', 1 voting 'present'. Representative Black worked very hard with our Revenue Committee and brought this Bill before us on two occasions. Any opposition that have been voiced or concerns or questions were well addressed in his legislation and we're very happy to report this favorably out of committee. When you can have people reaching into the taxpayers pockets, going all the way back to 1968, because of an error that they committed, this is egregious, whether it's for \$1. dollar or \$10 thousand. We need this legislation to rectify. It's good government, it's pro-taxpayer. I urge your full support, thank you."

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Speaker Leitch: "The Gentleman from Logan, Representative Turner.

For what purpose do you rise, Sir?"

Turner: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Leitch: "He indicates he will."

Turner: "Representative, there is an administrative error, there is therefore a shortfall to a taxing district, and my question is, is the county or the assessor then made to make up the shortfall to the taxing district, and if not, is there any liability?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Black."

Black: "Mr. Speaker, do I have to answer that question? He's a lawyer."

Speaker Leitch: "No, I think you're at some disadvantage."

Black: "I think it is a very good question and the Bill is silent. There is certainly no 'hold harmless' language in this, and I don't believe there is any assignment of liability. I can't believe that the administrative error would be so egregious that there would be an actual, you know a harmful, that any harm would result to a taxing body. I suppose that's possible. I'll be very honest with you I never thought of that."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Turner."

Turner: "You, at least, don't foresee any liability on the county or on the assessor then for having made the error and they would, therefore, have to go back to the taxing district and make up for the shortfall, at least to your knowledge?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Black, with another challenge."

Black: "John, I'm really not sure. I know we took the assessment practice completely out of this Bill, because there's already due process. And I'm not sure I follow you on the liability trail back to the person who made the error or the entity that made the error, is that what you're asking

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me?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Turner."

Turner: "If the taxing district did not get the proper amount of tax money, my question is are they going to then come back to the county through the assessors office and insist that the county reimburse them because they had a shortfall in money that they would have otherwise received, but for the negligence?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Black."

Black: "To the best of my knowledge, I don't think this Bill would enhance anyone's ability to come back and seek redress for an error, and it certainly doesn't prohibit them from seeking that, you know, hold them harmless from that injury through the courts. The Bill is just simply silent on that."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Turner."

Turner: "Thank you. I have no further questions."

Speaker Leitch: "Seeing no further discussion, Representative Black to close."

Black: "Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I just urge an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Leitch: "The question is 'Shall House Bill 2659 pass?' All those in favor shall vote 'aye', all those opposed shall vote 'nay'. The voting is open. This is final action. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. And on this question, there are 111 voting 'aye', none voting 'no', and House Bill 2659, having received a Constitutional Majority is hereby declared passed. Mr. Clerk, read House Bill 3186."

Clerk Rossi: "House Bill 3186. A Bill for an act amending the Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan Act. Third Reading of

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this House Bill."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Winters."

Winters: "Thank you Mr. Speaker. House Bill 3186 would authorize the Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan Board to establish separate family composite premium rates for eligible members of the same family. They were not allowed to do that before, they each had their individual rates. It also limits to 60 months, instead of the previous permanent time period. The maximum period for which CHIP must impose a 10% premium surcharge for eligible persons who have a preexisting condition. There are a number of people that have been paying in past the actuarially sound period, and this would remove that surcharge. I'd be willing to answer any questions."

Speaker Leitch: "The Gentleman from Bureau, Representative Mautino, for what purpose do you rise, Sir?"

Mautino: "Question of the Sponsor."

Speaker Leitch: "He indicates he will yield."

Mautino: "The changes that you're making, if I understood correctly will take the preexisting condition payment and then require that to made for the first five years as opposed to throughout the life, is that correct?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Winters. Representative Winters."

Winters: "That is exactly correct."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Mautino."

Mautino: "And then additionally, would be able to offer a family rate for those who are...who have more than one child who is currently enrolled in the program, or prospectively would enroll one or more children in the program, is that correct?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Winters."

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Winters: "It could be children or a spouse, but yes, if there's more than one person that qualifies, it would allow a discount for the family rate."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Mautino."

Mautino: "To the Bill, I simply rise in support of the legislation. I see this to be a great benefit to some of the families who, because of the price of the current CHIP policy, which can run up to 4 or \$5 thousand per child that's enrolled, becomes cost prohibitive on these people who in the normal insurance market are uninsurable. So I think it would be a great assistance to those families that we can't serve at this point and also would ease the burden under the preexisting condition. I ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Leitch: "Is there any other discussion? The Representative from Kankakee, Representative Novak, for what purpose do you rise, Sir?"

Novak: "Yes Mr. Speaker, will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Leitch: "He indicates he will."

Novak: "Representative Winters, does this do anything for the premiums that the people have to currently pay now? Does this increase them or lower them?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Winters."

Winters: "It will lower the premium for about 400 people who will now qualify for the family reduction."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Novak."

Novak: "Will their deductible consequently become higher then?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Winters."

Winters: "No, it will not."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Novak."

Novak: "Can you tell me what the maximum deductible is under the CHIPS program, for an individual?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Winters."

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Winters: "Yes, there are three options: a \$5 hundred deductible, \$1 thousand deductible, or a \$25 hundred deductible at their option, and different premiums to go along with those."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Novak."

Novak: "Yes, thank you. Will this require any additional appropriation to fund these changes that you are proposing?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Winters."

Winters: "No, this will not take any additional GRF funding. It is all funded through the premiums."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Novak."

Novak: "Thank you, no further questions."

Speaker Leitch: "Is there any other discussion. Representative Winters to close."

Winters: "Thank you Mr. Speaker. Again this is a Bill that will reduce the health insurance premiums for approximately 400 families with no additional tax money involved, and I'd appreciate a 'favorable' vote."

Speaker Leitch: "The question is 'Shall House Bill 3186 pass?' All those in favor shall vote 'aye'; all those opposed shall vote 'nay'. The voting is open. This is final action. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this question there are 112 voting 'aye'; none voting 'nay', and House Bill 3186, having received a Constitutional Majority is hereby declared passed. Mr. Clerk, read House Bill 3230."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #3230. A Bill for an act that amends the Illinois Public Aid Code. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

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Roskam: "Thank you Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, House Bill 3230 is a straight forward measure. It cleans up an ambiguity in the Public Aid statutes right now that law enforcement officials can approach and receive the information from a Public Aid case file that relates to a Public Aid recipient, where there is an outstanding warrant for that person's arrest. The measure is supported by Public Aid, the Illinois Sheriff's Association, and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police. It was reported unanimously from the Privatization Committee. I don't know of any opposition, but I'd be happy to answer any questions to the best of my ability."

Speaker Leitch: "The Gentleman's move for approval, House Bill 3230, and on that question is there any discussion?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Hartke, for what purpose do you rise?"

Hartke: "Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Leitch: "He indicates he will."

Hartke: "Representative Roskam, what has precipitated this Bill, what problems exist out there now, that we're doing this?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "Representative, like a lot of good ideas, I was watching T.V. and was outraged at like a '20-20' story or '60 Minutes' or one of those in another state where there was a problem with an outstanding warrant against a felon who is receiving Public Aid. The Public Aid officials in that state were denying access to the law enforcement officials. That's outrageous. That is fringe thinking and just bizarre. I checked with the research unit in Illinois and asked them what the current state of the law was and they pointed out an ambiguity in the statute. The signals are not clear right now. Public Aid is generally cooperating

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on this basis and they've been very cooperative with me on this legislation. One other thing in a little expansive answer beyond your question, but you need to understand. The scope of this Bill is narrow. We don't have the authority to go into AFDC files and so forth, because that's a federally funded program, which is a whole different nightmare. This is only limited to those Public Aid case files where there is only state funds involved."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Hartke."

Hartke : "What I hear you saying Representative, is that what we're trying to do is maybe codify and make clear what Public Aid is now doing with their current practices, is that correct?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "According to the testimony in the Privatization Committee from the law enforcement officials, there are stories of law enforcement officials in Illinois seeking that information occasionally, and not getting it because of the ambiguity in the law. This is just trying to clean that up and take away any doubt in anybody's mind, so that Public Aid knows that they have an affirmative obligation to give that information."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Hartke."

Hartke: "No further questions. I have no further questions, thank you."

Speaker Leitch: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Schakowsky, for what purpose do you rise?"

Schakowsky: "Thank you Mr. Speaker, will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Leitch: "He indicates he will."

Schakowsky: "Are any law enforcement agencies registered as supporters of this Bill?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

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Roskam: "Yes Representative. The Illinois Sheriff's Association and the Illinois Association of Chiefs' of Police."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "Why are you just doing Public Aid recipients? For example, what are the confidentiality rules? Let's say someone who has a license with the Department of Professional Regulation or...and the police need to know where someone lives. I'm sure there are lots of state agencies where people are registered. Why are we just focusing here on Public Aid recipients?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "Cause that's all I thought of. I'm willing to sit down with you in 10 minutes after we pass this out and come up with a Roskam/Schakowsky Bill that would take this on, because I think that what's good for the goose is good for the gander."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "Well, I mean it does strike me that there is this sort of presumption that we're more likely to find criminals as Public Aid recipients than as other users of state services and other people who register with the state. And it just seems to me, that particularly since my understanding is that current practices that these names are given to law enforcement officials that this Bill is probably not necessary and it does send a message that we view Public Aid recipients maybe as slightly more criminal than others. Do you agree?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "No, I don't agree. I mean that's conclusionary language on your part and I respect your perspective. The fact of the matter is, that Public Aid recipients, it seems to me are unique in the fact, that they are the special

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beneficiaries of transfer payments. And if your the special beneficiary of a transfer payment, I think that kind of does put you in a different class than a license holder. But, I am willing to work with you Representative, to go after anybody within reason who we can pass a Bill that's constitutional, that would open up the records on people who are at large. I don't know what the state of the law is right now in terms of the relationship with physician licenses, attorney licenses, accountant licenses, and so forth, but I'd be happy to work with you on that."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "It would seem to me that an obvious inclusion would be, for example, all of those providers who also get money through the Department of Public Aid. Pharmacists, or physicians, or others who law enforcement might be looking for because they've potentially defrauded the public. Would you be willing then to take your Bill out of the Record and to work on it so that it is more inclusive and less singling out of public aid recipients?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "No, I'll elect to move forward on this Bill, but I'd like to talk to you about expanding the concept generally. And I'm sure that we can come up with something that you and I are both comfortable with and we could pass out of here with I bet you 100+ votes."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Schakowsky."

Schakowsky: "To the Bill. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I think it's not especially clear why this Bill is necessary. My understanding is that the Department of Public Aid does in fact cooperate with law enforcement. And that the message of this Bill, I think sends a very bad...is a negative one about Public Aid recipients, by simply

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singling them out. And until we have discovered a real problem and until we make it more inclusive of others, I would recommend a 'no' vote."

Speaker Leitch: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Davis."

Davis: "Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask the Representative, if this was requested by the Department of Public Aid or was it requested by the State Police?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "No, Representative, it was just my own legislative initiative. Imagine that."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Davis."

Davis: "Is there a particular problem you're attempting to solve?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "Representative, the problem that I'm trying to solve is the ambiguity in the law right now. I can go through in detail a four page memo from the Legislative Research Unit in terms that the citations that represents the ambiguity in the law. Right now the Public Aid Code does not give a single clear message to employees of the Department of Public Aid in terms of their responsibilities when law enforcement comes. The conversations that I have had with Representatives of the Illinois Sheriff's Association and the Illinois Association of the Chiefs' of Police is that there are times when they are not able to get that information and they should be. They should be able to be. So that's why I took the initiative and put the Bill in."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Davis."

Davis: "Well, according to our analysis, the State Police can now obtain addresses from any agency on a person with an outstanding warrant. And my fear would be that this would limit them to obtaining those addresses only for Public Aid

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recipients, whereas currently, the way the law is stated, they can go to the State Board of Education, they can go to any agency. And if there's an outstanding warrant they can, you know, provide them with an address. But, if we pass this legislation, only the Department of Public Aid can provide the State Police with addresses simply with an outstanding warrant, unless they go to court. See, they don't have to go to court now. But, with this legislation, those other agencies will have to have some court order before they provide the Illinois State Police with that...those addresses."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "Representative, the good news is that your analysis is incorrect. Let me explain. According to the Legislative Research Unit, the law as it relates to the Public Aid Code only, and that's all this Bill does, just amends the Public Aid Code. It doesn't have anything to do substantively with any of the other components of the Illinois statutes that you mentioned. So get those completely off the table. We're just focused on the Public Aid Code."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Davis."

Davis: "I don't think it'll be constitutional then, if you're only saying that only one group of citizens can have this information provided without a court order. What is it about a Public Aid recipient that removes constitutional rights from them in your eyes?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "Representative, there is no constitutional protection under even the the most, well I won't characterize any interpretation of the Constitution, but there is no constitutional right to receive Public Aid benefits and have that information shielded from law enforcement when

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you are at large from the law. That's not what the case supports. That is a fringe position. That is not the main-stream in terms of constitutional interpretation. And this Bill, if you and I are in agreement, if your early criticism of the Bill, Representative, was that it's unnecessary and duplicitous then now you can't come back and make the argument that says that it's unconstitutional."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Davis."

Davis, M.: "To single out a group of citizens, Public Aid recipients, you're saying their file can be given to the state police without a court order, but no other group of citizens in the State of Illinois have to have that happen to them?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "Representative, the state police, if that were what the Bill did, in other words, if the state police could just come in and knock on the door at Public Aid and say 'I want the file of Mr. XYZ, give me that file now'. I wouldn't support that Bill. That's goofy. That's a bad idea. But there has to be, this is, there has to be an outstanding warrant, which means that there is already some adjudication of this process."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Davis."

Davis, M.: "Suppose Representative Roskam, there's an outstanding warrant for a person who works for the State Board of Education. What happens?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "I don't know. But I know that you and Representative, well the Representative who previously spoke and I, I think we're going to have an opportunity to sit down and talk about how to broaden this concept. I'm not talking about

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that today. I'm talking about this today."

Speaker Leitch: "Your time's expired. I'll give you one more minute to bring your remarks to a close, Representative."

Davis, M.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just think that you're singling out one group of citizens and they happen to be very poor or indigent citizens. To say that their rights are not equal to those of other citizens who work for other state agencies, I agree with my colleague, Schakowsky, this is a very bad piece of legislation and you are treating one group differently. Currently if a subpoena, I'm sorry, if an outstanding warrant is issued, any court can demand any agency to provide an address. But you want to bypass that and say, 'well, these are poor people so you just go in there and let them get their files'. I don't think you really want to do that and I don't think the State of Illinois does either. I think we should all vote 'no'. This is a very bad piece of legislation. It sets a very bad precedence. It's removing the rights of some people that others enjoy and it's wrong. I'm not saying I want to hide these people from the state police, but let's not give them fewer rights than you or I might have if the state police wanted our addresses. Thank you."

Speaker Leitch: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Dart."

Dart: "Thank you. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Leitch: "He indicates he will."

Dart: "Representative, I'm trying to figure this one out myself here. From what the information I've gotten from the Department of Public Aid and the like, I don't see where the problem exists right now. I agree with what you're trying to do. I mean, in attempt to get a hold of people who are out on an arrest warrant. Now is Department of Public Aid presently not divulging this information to law

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enforcement officers?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "On occasion, yes."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Dart."

Dart: "Can you give me a handle on how often and who brought this problem to light and is this in violation of court orders?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "That was the testimony, Representative Dart, from the Illinois Association of the Chiefs' of Police and the Illinois Sheriffs' Association. Now if you want to, I can read a five page memo in terms of stats and citations and we can do the 'horse and pony' show from LRU. There's an ambiguity in the law. The law doesn't give a clear signal to Public Aid and what I'm trying to do today is say, 'hey, it's a very simple concept. If you are outstanding, if there is a warrant out for your arrest, you shouldn't be the beneficiaries of public assistance'. And the State of Illinois should hold that information quietly and hold it over here when law enforcement is trying to get it. It's a simple Bill, notwithstanding the 'red herrings' that are trolling today."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Dart."

Dart: "Has Public Aid acknowledged that there is a problem here? Do they want this codified too, then?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "I don't want to over-characterize Public Aid's acknowledgement of a problem. Because they think everything's clean and happy and everything's fine. That's not the signal I'm getting from law enforcement. And the further we look into this, the further we find that there are some difficulties. Have I made the representation that this is a cataclysmic change or that there are axe

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murderers that are out that are at large because of a Public Aid case file? No. This is a simple Bill. It went through 24-0. Theoretically, it's on Short Debate. I'm flattered to have this much airtime, but I really don't think it deserves it."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Dart."

Dart: "Representative, I mean, your idea is simple and I can't understand the debate. I guess the problem becomes that there is, no, I don't need the statistics read to me. I guess the problem has come that our information, we're getting different information here. The Department of Public Aid saying that there isn't a problem, that they do this right now and so our curiosity is peaked by the concern of why we doing something the department saying they're doing already and my experience, too, from a court room is when there's an arrest warrant out for somebody, the law enforcement through state attorneys and the like can subpoena these records right now. So I guess that's where the debate keeps coming up, is that we're trying to figure out if this is a solution looking for a problem or not. And you have information that there is a problem here and that this is going after a legitimate problem?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "I don't mean to be cavalier, but the information that I was going to read to you is not statistics, it's boring, but it's not statistics. It is the citations that are ambiguous and the recommendation from the research unit in terms of how we can clean this up. Again, I come back and say the representation from the law enforcement community is, there is a problem out there. Now I don't think that and I'm not trying to be critical of Public Aid, but come on. It's time to do this."

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Speaker Leitch: "Representative Dart."

Dart: "Just a couple of quick questions and just for clarification purposes. There's nothing in this Bill which is going to do anything to cut Public Aid or do anything to the payment. You would do nothing to do that and in your humble opinion, this is merely codification of a procedure that's already being done, but this is to clear up some ambiguity that's out there?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "There is nothing that cuts Public Aid so the direct answer, Counselor, to your question #1 is, no. Question #2, I think it may be the generally understood policy, but it's not happening all the time. And if this General Assembly with a strong vote from Representative Tom Dart will send the clear signal that felons have nowhere to hide in Illinois, particularly in the Public Aid code, then I think we can get this thing done."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Dart. The Gentleman from Madison, Representative Stephens, for what reason do you rise, Sir? Representative Stephens."

Stephens: "Would the Gentleman yield for a question?"

Speaker Leitch: "He indicates he will."

Stephens: "Representative Roskam, you mentioned the cavaliers and then you mentioned axe murderers. Now what's this all about?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "The only question I'll yield to is to Move the previous one."

Speaker Leitch: "The Gentleman from McHenry has...Representative Skinner, for what purpose do you rise, Sir?"

Skinner: "I mercifully Move the previous question."

Speaker Leitch: "The question is, 'Shall the question be put?'"

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All those in favor say 'aye'; all those opposed say 'nay'.
In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it.
Representative Roskam to close. Representative Roskam."

Roskam: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the
House, for an opportunity to explain this good government
Bill. It's straightforward and I would appreciate an 'aye'
vote."

Speaker Leitch: "The question is, 'Shall House Bill 3230 pass?'
All those in favor shall vote 'aye'; all those opposed
shall vote 'nay'. The voting is open. This is final
action. Have all voted who wished? Have all voted who
wished? Have all voted who wished? Mr. Clerk, take the
record. And on this question, there are 100 voting 'aye',
4 voting 'nay', 9 voting 'present'. This Bill, having
received, House Bill 3230 having received a Constitutional
Majority, is hereby declared passed. Mr. Clerk, House Bill
3368. Representative Brady."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #3368, a Bill for an Act that amends
the Illinois Vehicle Code. Third Reading of this House
Bill."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Brady."

Brady: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the
House. This Bill is an issue to clean up our present
system. As we all know, Illinoisans are required to have
proof of insurance in their vehicle when driving a car.
Situations have occurred where someone's been ticketed for
not having the proof of insurance in their car. They have
taken that to court and often times they have mailed in a
certificate to the court to expedite the judicial process
which indicates they do have insurance. Presently the law
provides it to be a Class A misdemeanor to display evidence
of insurance that is fraudulent or not valid. This simply

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extends that to court and officers of the court and what that will do is it will enable us to crack down on people who are providing the court with false or fraudulent information. I ask for your support."

Speaker Leitch: "The Gentleman's moved for the approval of House Bill 3368. And on that question, is there any discussion? Seeing none, Representative Brady to close."

Brady: "Thank you. I'd appreciate your support."

Speaker Leitch: "The question is, 'Shall House Bill 3368 pass?' All those in favor shall vote 'aye'; all those opposed shall vote 'nay'. Voting is open. This is final action. Have all voted who wished? Have all voted who wished? Have all voted who wished? And on this question, there. Mr. Clerk, take the record. And on this question, there are 113 voting 'aye', none voting 'nay', and House Bill 3368, having received a Constitutional Majority, is hereby declared passed. Mr. Clerk, read House Bill 3396."

Clerk McLennand: "House Bill #3396, a Bill for an Act to revise a law by combining multiple enactments and making technical corrections. Third Reading of this House Bill."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Biggert."

Biggert: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a agency Bill from the Legislative Reference Bureau to create the first 1996 General Revisionary Act. It combines multiple versions of sections amended by more than one public act, renumbers sections of various acts to eliminate duplication, corrects obsolete cross references and technical errors, makes stylistic changes, and general revisionary Bills make no substantive change in the law, but are essential to maintain the state's statutes and I would ask for your support and happy to answer any questions."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Lang, for what purpose do you

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rise, Sir?"

Lang: "Thank you. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Leitch: "She indicates she will."

Lang: "Representative, as you know this is a 915 page Bill. It moved from Second Reading to Third Reading just yesterday. We have not had a chance to analyze this Bill at all. We would wonder if you would take this Bill out of the Record and give us a chance to take a look at it?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Biggert."

Biggert: "Representative Lang, it has been on the Calendar and I think that it was on your computers, yesterday."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Lang."

Lang: "Should I take that as a 'no'?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Biggert. Representative Lang."

Lang: "Well alright, since the answer is 'no' and since I don't have a Bill analysis, would you turn to page 609 of the Bill for me, please? By the way, we'd like to remove this from Short Debate, Mr. Speaker, if it's on Short Debate. Joined by the requisite number."

Speaker Leitch: "So indicated. It's now on long-winded debate. Representative Lang."

Lang: "Do you have that page, page 609? Can you turn to line 15? Are you making any changes on line 15 on that page? No? Alright, can you turn to page 281? You don't have a page 281?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Biggert."

Biggert: "281?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Lang."

Lang: "Can you turn to line 5 on that page? Are you making any changes on that line?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Biggert."

Biggert: "No."

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Speaker Leitch: "Representative Lang."

Lang: "So far you've had two pages where you're not making too many changes. How about page 912?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Biggert. Representative Biggert."

Biggert: "Page 912, they're no changes."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Lang."

Lang: "Why do we have a page 912 if there's no changes on it? This is a revisory Bill. What's the purpose of the page?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Biggert."

Biggert: "Representative Lang, in all of our Bills we print parts of the statute that have no changes in them so that the statutes are complete in the areas where we have made changes. I believe that you have excerpts which you received from LRB which condenses all of the changes into pages, different excerpts which probably numbers about 30 pages."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Lang."

Lang: "Well, thank you for that, Representative. No one has any idea what you just said to me. Can you turn to page 77 of your Bill please?"

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Biggert."

Biggert: "Representative Lang, if you really have not had a chance to read this and would like to read it, I would be willing to take it out of the Record until tomorrow morning."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Lang."

Lang: "Well, I thank the Representative. I do think that's what I asked about ten minutes ago. Thank you for your indulgence and we'd be happy if you would do that for us."

Speaker Leitch: "Mr. Clerk, take the Bill out of the Record. Committee Announcements."

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Clerk McLennand: "The following committees have been cancelled for Thursday: Aging Committee scheduled for 10:30 has been cancelled, Education Appropriation Committee will hold an informal hearing tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. in Room 114. Again, Education Approp. Committee will meet tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. in Room 114 for subject matter only. And Aging Committee scheduled for 10:30 has been cancelled."

Speaker Leitch: "Representative Black now moves that the House stand adjourned until Thursday, March 7th, 1996 at the hour of twelve noon. All those in favor signify by saying 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And allowing for Perfunctory time for the Clerk, the House now stands adjourned until Thursday, March 7th, 1996 at the hour of twelve noon."

Clerk McLennand: "House Perfunctory Session will be in order. Introduction - First Reading of House Bills. House Bill #3704, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act making appropriations. The House Perfunctory Session will stand in recess 'till the hour of 5:00 p.m. Those Members signed up for computer training this afternoon here on the House floor. We'll be conducting it on the far left side of the chamber. Those Members that are involved in computer training today, this afternoon on the floor. We'll be conducting it on the left side of the Chamber. Thank you."

Clerk McLennand: "The House Perfunctory Session will be in order. Committee Reports. Committee Report from Representative Skinner, Chairman from the Committee on Privatization, Deregulation, Economic and Urban Development, to which the following Bill was referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back with the following recommendation: 'do pass' House Bill 3512. Committee Report from

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Representative Andrea Moore, Chairman from the Committee on Elections in State Government, to which the following Bill was referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back with the following recommendation: 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 3166. Committee Report from Representative Zickus, Chairman from the Committee on Consumer Protection, to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass' House Bill 3271; and 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 3349. Committee Report from Representative Hughes, Chairman from the Committee on Counties and Townships, to which the following Bills were referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back with the following recommendations: 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 3141; and House Bill 3436. Committee Report from Representative Persico, Chairman from the Committee on Environment and Energy, to which the following Bill was referred, action taken on March 6, 1996, reported the same back with the following recommendation: 'do pass as amended Short Debate' House Bill 2747. Message from the Senate. I'm directed to inform the House of Representatives that the Senate has concurred with the House of Representatives in the passage of the Bill with the following title, House Bill 2251, together with Senate Amendment #4. It passed the Senate 'as amended' March 6. In addition, the Senate has informed the House that the Senate has concurred with the House of Representatives in the passage of a Bill with the following title, House Bill 226, together with Senate Amendments #1, Senate Amendment #2, in the adoption of which they have asked a concurrence of the House. The House Perfunctory Session will now stand in recess 'til the

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hour of 6:00 p.m..."

Clerk McLennand: "House Perfunctory Session will be in order.

The House Perfunctory Session will now stand in recess 'til Thursday, March 7th at the hour of 9:00 a.m."

Clerk McLennand: "The hour of 9:00 having arrived, the House recessed Perfunctory Session will be in order and will stand in recess until the hour of 10:30."

Clerk McLennand: "House Perfunctory Session will be in order.

Introduction - First Reading of House Bills. House Bill #3706, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act amending Public Act 89-0022 to provide supplemental appropriations and/or legislative transfers and/or substantive changes for various state agencies. House Bill #3707, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act making appropriations for the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities. House Bill #3708, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act making appropriations in various human service agencies. House Bill #3709, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act providing for the ordinary contingent and distributive expenses of the office of the Secretary of State. House Bill #3710, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act making appropriations for the ordinary and contingent expenses of the office of the State Treasurer. House Bill #3711, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act making appropriations and reappropriations to the Department of Transportation. House Bill #3712, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act making appropriations to various public safety agencies. House Bill #3713, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act making appropriations and reappropriations to various environmental agencies. House Bill #3714, offered by Speaker Daniels, a Bill for an Act making

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appropriations and reappropriations. Introduction/First Reading of these House Bills. Being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session stands adjourned and the House will reconvene for the 103rd Legislative Day at 12:00 noon."

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