

STATE OF ILLINOIS
93rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

117th Legislative Day

4/21/2004

Clerk Mahoney: "House Perfunctory Session will now come to order. On the Order of Resolutions referred to the Rules Committee. House Resolution 801, offered by Representative Granberg. Committee Reports. Representative Mautino, Chairperson from the Committee on Insurance, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' Senate Bill 2339 and Senate Bill 2429. Representative Hoffman, Chairperson from the Committee on Transportation & Motor Vehicles, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' Senate Bill 2429, Senate Bill 2480; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' Senate Bill 2327. Representative Brosnahan, Chairperson from the Committee on Consumer Protection, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' Senate Bill 2148, Senate Bill 2378 and Senate Bill 2545; 'do pass as amended Short Debate' Senate Bill 2858. Representative Reitz, Chairperson from the Committee on Agriculture & Conservation, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' Senate Bill 2156, Senate Bill 2272, Senate Bill 2273 and Senate Bill 2457. Representative Joe Lyons, Chairperson from the Committee on

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Financial Institutions, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' Senate Bill 2707; recommends 'be adopted' Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 5856 and Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 6253. Representative Hamos, Chairperson from the Committee on Housing & Urban Development, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'do pass Short Debate' Senate Bill 2329 and Senate Bill 2820. Representative Flowers, Chairperson from the Committee on Health Care Availability & Accessibility, to which the following measure/s was/were referred, action taken on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: recommends 'be adopted' Floor Amendment #1 to House Bill 5818."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Perfunctory Session will now come to order. On the Order of Resolutions referred to Ru... House Rules Committee. House Resolution 797, offered by Representative Froehlich. House Resolution 806, offered by Representative Chapa LaVia. House Resolution 810, offered by Representative Brauer. House Joint Resolution 76, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 799, offered by Representative Moffitt. And House Resolution 819, offered by Representative Ryg."

Speaker Hannig: "The hour of 12:30 having arised the... arrived, the House will be in order. Will the Members please be in

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their seats. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops. Would you please turn off all cell phones and pagers and rise for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. We'll be led in prayer today by Father Louis Tosto with Christ the King Catholic Church in Wonder Lake, Illinois. Father Tosto is the guest of Representative Franks."

Father Tosto: "Mr. Speaker, Honored Members of the Legislature, as a pastor from... in an Illinois parish and also as a chaplain of fire protection district, the Wonder Lake Fire Protection District, I am honored for me to be here and pray this invocation on the occasion of Fire Service Legislature Day. Among all the million other things that are going on, we have so many groups here and so I pray for all of those and their causes. Our own chief, Chief John Rice, from the Wonder Lake Fire Protection District would've been here, but he is in Utica today along with many hundreds of fire fighters and emergency service personnel from all over the state. One of those great things that we, as a community, the State of Illinois, gather to help. And so we... we pray today for all our fire service and emergency service personnel, for all the other different groups that are here with their good and honorable causes. And we pray also for those in a tragedy that still haunts us today, it's also Holocaust Remembrance Day, and we pray for those in this most current tragedy, for the family of those who have died and... and families and for those of the various communities that were struck by

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this latest disaster. And so, let's join together today in prayer. God of many names and many faces, You know us as our Creator, our loving Father and our source of truth. Gathered here today, these men and women who serve as our State Legislators are generous in their service to their communities and conscientious in their efforts towards justice. Give them light and strength. Guide their deliberations by Your wisdom. Support their resolve by Your power. Help them to remain faithful to their commitment to public service and to the pursuit of justice and truth and the common good. May their minds be open to differing opinions and their hearts be open to those who are most in need. Give us peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our communities, in this state and in this nation and most of all, Almighty God, give us peace in the world. Amen."

Speaker Hannig: "And we'll be led in the pledge today by Representative Jim Watson."

Watson - et al: "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 justice and liberty for all."

Speaker Hannig: "Roll Call for Attendance. Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker and Members of the House. Because of damage done in their districts by last night's severe weather, Representatives Dugan, Mautino and McGuire are all excused today."

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Speaker Hannig: "And Representative Bost."

Bost: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let the record reflect that all Republicans are present."

Speaker Hannig: "Mr. Clerk, take the record. There are 115 Members answering the Roll Call, a quorum is present. Committee Reports."

Clerk Mahoney: "Representative Barbara Flynn Currie, Chairperson from the Committee on Rules, to which the following legislative measure/s and/or joint action Motions was/were referred, action taken on Wednesday, April 21, 2004, reported the same back with the following recommendation/s: 'approved for floor consideration' is House Resolution 791, offered by Representative Cross, House Resolution 799, offered by Representative Moffitt, and House Resolution 819, offered by Representative Ryg."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Bradley, for what reason do you rise?"

Bradley: "A point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "State your point."

Bradley: "Mr. Speaker, I would ask for a moment of silence here in the House of Representatives. The conflict in Iraq has reached out and touched my district directly. Jack Montague, one of the members of my district, from Pittsburg, Illinois, age 52, was one of the three people that worked for KBR, a subsidiary of Halliburton, which were killed in Iraq. We ask that this Body extend a moment of silence on behalf of he and his family and for all the

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men and women that are in Iraq at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "On page 11 of the Calendar under Resolutions is House Resolution 780. Mr... Mr. Clerk, would you read the Resolution?"

Clerk Bolin: "House Resolution 780.

WHEREAS, The Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence was founded in 1994 and is a publicly and privately supported not-for-profit organization; it was created to significantly raise Illinois worldwide competitiveness by improving the performance of its institutions and businesses; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence has created an award patterned after the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the award is an annual recognition of Illinois organizations that have demonstrated exemplary approach, deployment, and results in their overall quality systems and processes; it is presented to organizations that serve as role models for quality, customer satisfaction, and performance excellence; and

WHEREAS, The Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence has awarded St. Mary's Good Samaritan, located in Centralia and Mt. Vernon, the 2003 Lincoln Gold Award for Achievement of Excellence; and

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WHEREAS, In addition, ten other Illinois organizations were recognized with the 2003 Lincoln Bronze Award for Commitment to Excellence for their earnest efforts to adopt and apply continuous improvement principles; these recipients include the City of St. Charles; Community Consolidated Schools District 59 in the Elk Grove Township; Consolidated School District 158 in Huntley; Friendship Junior High School in Des Plaines; Grainger Parts Division, a division of W. W. Grainger, Inc. in Northbrook; Holmes Junior High School in Mt. Prospect; Memorial Health System in Springfield; Pekin Public Schools District #108 in Pekin; VIVA USA, Inc. in Rolling Meadows; and West Suburban College of Nursing in Oak Park; and

WHEREAS, Award recipients were formally honored at the Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence Ninth Annual Recognition Ceremony, hosted by Michael J. Birck, Tellabs' Chairman and CEO, on December 2, 2003; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize The Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence and its efforts to assist Illinois organizations to strive for performance excellence; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Lincoln Foundation For Performance Excellence and

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each 2003 Performance Excellence Award recipient as an expression of our respect and esteem."

Speaker Hannig: "And on the Resolution, the Lady from DuPage, Representative Pihos is recognized."

Pihos: "I am proud to stand today to support and recognize the Lincoln Foundation for Business Excellence because for the past decade they have supported businesses and institutions throughout our state. They are here in the gallery with me today and I hope they would please rise to listen to this. Their goal has been to put Illinois organizations on the map. And they have succeeded. They have done tremendous work in helping companies and organizations to improve their business performance and become more successful. The foundation is helping Illinois organizations continuously improve their performance by encouraging, developing and highlighting excellence among all five sectors of the economy: industry, service, healthcare, education and government. Investing in quality principles and performance excellence pays off in increased productivity, satisfied employees and customers and improved profitability for both customers and investors and that's good for our Illinois economy. When you were chosen for recognition by the Illinois Lincoln Foundation you can be assured you have earned it. The foundation awarded St. Mary's Good Samaritan in Centralia and Mount Vernon the 2003 Lincoln gold award for achievement of excellence. Another 10 Illinois organizations have received the 2003 Lincoln bronze award for commitment to excellence. Please

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join me in a warm Springfield welcome in recognizing the Lincoln Foundation board members and staff and the 2003 award recipients with us in the gallery today."

Speaker Hannig: "The Lady has moved for the adoption House Resolution 780. And on that question, the Lady from McHenry, Representative Kurtz is recognized."

Kurtz: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to reiterate what Representative Pihos said about the Lincoln Foundation and the wonderful work that they do from the heart. One of the schools mentioned was District 158 in Huntley and I would like to congratulate them especially, because we are overrun with new students every year, hundreds and hundreds on new students come in and the fact that Huntley was able to... to cope with this and continue their excellence and innovative programs. So, congratulations to all of the schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "The Represen... the Gentleman from Sangamon, Representative Poe."

Poe: "Yeah, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I just wanted... if the people from Memorial Health System of Springfield, if they'd stand up, we'd like for them to stand up and congratulate 'em. They're here in my district and let's give 'em a big hand."

Speaker Hannig: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Krause."

Krause: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also join in to recognize the achievements that have been mentioned in the Resolution and in particular to also join in to congratulate

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Consolidated School District 59 in Elk Grove Village, Holmes Junior High in Mt. Prospect and the VIVA USA in Rolling Meadows for an outstanding work, outstanding hard work. And again, extend congratulations to each and every one of them. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "The Lady from Cook, Representative Mulligan."

Mulligan: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to honor Friendship Junior High School from our area that is also being honored today. And hope that they would stand up and let us know where they are."

Speaker Hannig: "All in favor of the Resolution say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. Representative Fritchey, for what reason do you rise?"

Fritchey: "Thank you, Speaker. Purpose of an announcement."

Speaker Hannig: "Yes, state your announcement."

Fritchey: "The House Judiciary Committee originally scheduled for 1 p.m. this afternoon will be canceled. We all be back next week."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Holbrook, for what reason do you rise?"

Holbrook: "For the purpose of an announcement. The tourism industry has got a lunch over for us in the east corridor here today. They have cheesecake and mostaccioli, some items like that. They're the great industry that produces jobs, not indigestion. Come on over."

Speaker Hannig: "On page 11 of the Calendar is House Resolution 740. Mr. Clerk, would you read the Resolution?"

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Clerk Bolin: "House Resolution 740, offered by Representative Rose.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois are pleased to honor citizens of the state who have made significant contributions to the military; and

WHEREAS, Owen E. Stanfield was born on July 12, 1922; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stanfield valiantly served his country in the U.S. Army; he was a member of K Company, 110th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division; he was in 5 major battles and was captured and taken as a P.O.W. in the Battle of the Bulge; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stanfield was recognized by the military for his heroic efforts; he received the P.O.W. Medal and Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal and Ribbon, the Bronze Star Medal and Ribbon, the World War II Victory Medal and Ribbon, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Honorable Service Lapel Button World War II, and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with One Silver Battle Star; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stanfield was further honored with the American Campaign Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Ribbon, the Expert Infantry Badge, and the Overseas Service Ribbon; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Stanfield married his wife, Betty, on October 25, 1947; he is the proud father of 2 children, Gary (Teresa) Stanfield and Sandra (Larry) Hanner, and the grandfather of 2 grandchildren, Chris Stanfield and Stephanie Stanfield; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we honor Mr. Owen E. Stanfield for his significant contributions to the military and his willingness to serve his country, and if necessary, sacrifice his own life for our liberty; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Stanfield as an expression of our many thanks, respect, and esteem."

Speaker Hannig: "And on the Resolution, the Gentleman from Champaign, Representative Rose."

Rose: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen, we have with us today a true hero, someone that has served his country, someone who has earned a Bronze Star. Representatives in this Body, I'd like you to take note, Owen E. Stanfield and his wife Betty, are with us today in the gallery above me. And Owen and Betty, would you please stand today so that we may recognize you. If... if I may, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen, there's a very famous picture from World War II of the allies entering Paris after the invasion. There's a U.S. Army Jeep and a couple

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Jeeps driving passed the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, Owen Stanfield was one of the individuals in the Jeeps. So, we have with us today a true hero, a wonderful individual, a great friend of mine and I would urge passage of this Resolution. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Thank you, Representative Rose. On the Resolution, all in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. On page 12 of the Calendar is House Resolution 801. Representative Burke."

Burke: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This is a Resolution that honors the life of Emmett McNamara. And I would ask for the Clerk to read the Resolution. Ladies and Gentlemen, this is a Death Resolution."

Speaker Hannig: "Mr. Clerk, would you read the Resolution?"

Clerk Mahoney: "House Resolution 801, offered by Representative Burke and Representative Granberg.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois were saddened to learn of the death of Emmett V. McNamara Sr. of Villa Park on Wednesday, March 3, 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McNamara was born in 1926 in Villa Park; he attended York High School in Elmhurst; he married Jeanne McNamara in 1964; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. McNamara was a great patriot and defended his country during World War II in the U.S. Army; he served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater as a corporal; and was honorably discharged in January of 1947 having earned the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon, the Victory Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Army of Occupation Medal for Japan; upon his return home, he became an electrician; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McNamara was a devoted union activist for many years; he was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 701 from 1967 to 1990 and represented the interests of that union in State Government for nearly 40 years; and

WHEREAS, In his work as a lobbyist for the I.B.E.W., Mr. McNamara was a staunch ally of blue collar working families and was instrumental in passing of much legislation that benefited all of the hard-working citizens of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Mr. McNamara was a former acting chairman and member of the DuPage Airport Authority; he was a devoted family man, and he believed that if every person would help his or her neighbor, no person would be without help; to his friends in Springfield, he was known as "Smokey"; and

WHEREAS, The passing of Emmett V. McNamara Sr. has been deeply felt by many, especially his wife, Jeanne McNamara; his children, Emmett Jr., Eugene, Kathleen Bakken, and Edward

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Sr.; his grandchildren, Michael, Edward Jr., Aidan, and Emily; his siblings, Earl, Kathleen, Rita Sheehan, and Eugene; and his many nieces and nephews; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of Emmett V. McNamara Sr., and we extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Emmett V. McNamara Sr. as an expression of our deepest sympathy."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Burke, do you have some words you'd like to share with..."

Burke: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise to support this Resolution and I might add my brief comments to this important commemorative Resolution and suggest to you that Monday, March 1, began for me in much the usual way. Preparing for the drive to Springfield, checking to see what was on the schedule, et cetera, the phone rang and it was Emmett. He was calling to tell me that he had gotten light bulbs that I needed for my security lights at my condo here in Springfield. I thanked him for getting the bulbs at his electrician's discount and suggested to him that he just drop them off at the office and I'd give him a check tomorrow to pay for it. Well, Ladies and Gentlemen, if you knew Emmett, that would

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never do. He insisted that he replace the bulb himself, because as he said, I didn't know how sensitive these bulbs were and he was certain that I would mess it up. I insisted to Emmett that he shouldn't go to any trouble. I said, Emmett, you haven't been feeling well and I certainly wouldn't wanna put you out. And certainly, his response was typically Emmett, anything for you pal, I'll have it done before you get to Springfield. Emmett indeed replaced the bulb and then determined that the entire security light system needed to be rewired, along with the heating system, the air conditioning system and whatever else he could find there, suggesting that a shoemaker must've done the electrical wiring at the condo building. So, Tuesday Emmett was busy making calls to his union friends here in Springfield to get bids on the work that he insisted should be done. As always, he would take care of everything. Tuesday evening I met him over at Remy's where he told me that his leg was bothering him and he was going back to the hotel, take a hot bath and go to bed. As we now sadly know, that was Emmett's last evening with us here in Springfield. Emmett's last day was like every other day of his life, doing for others, greeting people in the Capitol from the janitor to the Governor. Never at a loss for words, never at a loss for names, never at a loss to lend a hand to a stranger or a friend. John Burner, who is Emmett's very dear friend, asked me to lend his comments to this memorial today. And John, for you, 'While Emmett's stories would sometimes be long and often exaggerated, as a

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person he was as solid as anyone can aspire to be. His belief in unionism and solidarity without question was as strong as any labor leader that ever came before him. His conviction to solidarity spread to anyone that needed or asked for help. Emmett never questioned the need. He would do what it took to help his friends in the labor movement and sometimes he would go out of his way to help management. The cost, nothing. He would say, like I always said, if you need it, we all need it. Emmett always had a lot of those, 'like I said's'. When John Burner began in Springfield, Emmett was asked by his predecessor to lead John around the Capitol for two weeks. He was also told if he didn't think that John fit the job or if he just didn't care for the way John comported himself he would turn him loose. Well, John must've done something right. Eight years later they have been still walking the halls together. The day before he left us in charge... Emmett has opened so many doors and introduced me to more people than I can remember. But he could remember more names than Dale Carnegie. Those that have been around for a few years knew if they saw one of us the other was not too far behind. Emmett was my mentor, my teacher, my confidant, my friend, I miss him. Emmett's daughter, Kathy, said at the service, Emmett wanted to know at the 'pearly gates' if Jesus, the carpenter, was in the union. I can assure everyone Jesus is now a card carrying carpenter. And if heaven was not the brightest place as advertised, it is now as Emmett has rewired the place. Few people are acknowledged as one

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name, but our friend was Emmett.' John Burner. Ladies and Gentlemen, to Jeanne, to Kathy, Eugene, Emmett, Eddie and especially little Eddie, the entire family, Ladies and Gentlemen, are with us this afternoon, your husband, your father, your pa, was a remarkable man that shared generously with all who encountered him in life. Let his spirit of giving, caring and great humor be remembered. I certainly could never compare my loss of one of the greatest friends and mentors of my life to your loss, but please know that whether it be here in Springfield or wherever I may go, Emmett will forever be just around the corner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from DuPage, Representative Daniels."

Daniels: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. And thank Representative Burke for a moving tribute to a great man. Those of us from DuPage County knew Emmett McNamara as a great individual, but a very close personal friend of Speaker Bill Redmond, who was Speaker of the House from 1975 to 1981, not only his close friend, but also his mentor as well when Bill Redmond was Speaker. And of course, Emmett went on to become a member of the DuPage County Airport Authority and his wife, Jeanne, has served us in many capacities in DuPage County. Now, some of you may know, as you could gather, that Emmett was a Democrat. So, it may be unusual for a Republican from DuPage County paying this great tribute to this wonderful man. And he was a union man and he was a Democrat through and through

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and loved his politics and loved his state. But what a great individual and what a great person it was to know and to share some time with him. Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, this truly was a wonderful person who loved his country, who loved his work, who loved the people in the General Assembly in the State of Illinois. He really will be missed. And to his family, we send our heartfelt prayers and thoughts and thanks to you for allowing him to serve us in so many capacities. To Jeanne and the children, we send you our best, our love and our thanks for all that you have done for us as well. God bless you, Emmett."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Clinton, Representative Granberg."

Granberg: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. For all of us who had the privilege and pleasure, and it was a privilege and pleasure to know Emmett, our lives have truly been marked and changed. He was one of the most compassionate individuals who loved people and was worried about people and did everything he could to help them with their lives, working people in particular. And we'd see him meandering the halls of the Stratton Building or the Capitol and it was always, hey, boss, hey, pal. And he'd come by the office and say, hey, pal, you got a minute. And he'd sit down and an hour later he'd leave and say, oh, I have to get going. And he was just so sincere, I mean that was his nature. He wouldn't say a bad word about anyone. And always a smile on his face. Always with the Pall Malls until the last three months. Just a truly

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wonderful human being. And there are numerous stories we can talk about Emmett and in fact, Dan asked me to mention that we will be having a reception for Emmett at Norb Andy's later this afternoon, this evening around 6:00. So, please feel free to come by meet the family, they're wonderful people and tell them stories because they've heard some already. And Emmett is... I remember when we did utility deregulation and I was in charge of the labor negotiations and we would sit and do... shuttle diplomacy over in the Myers Building by Augie's. And one time we hit another stalemate and it was Friday when we adjourned. And Emmett said, hey, pal, he said, why don't we work on this. I said, okay, Emmett. So, we continued working until 11:00 on a Friday night on labor negotiations doing diplomacy with the utilities and the labor unions and then at Emmett's request we went to Norb Andy's, and I had to be persuaded to join, and we talked some more. I think he put it on my bill, too, as a matter of fact. But he was just a... truly a wonderful human being. And the German and Swedish people, which I am one, are not known for clever sayings, so Emmett, to you, with your past, may the road rise to meet you, as you would say, may the wind be always at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall soft upon your fields, may you be in heaven an hour before the devil knows you're dead, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Parke."

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Parke: "Almost 20 years ago I came down here from a suburban area, which was primarily business oriented, and so it was pretty easy for me to support the business communities issues and their positions on these issues. But I wasn't long after being down here that Emmett came to me and introduced himself and said that he wanted to make a point that he was able to work with Republicans and convince them that some of the labor issues were worthy of our consideration. He always prided himself on telling other labor guys that it really would be to their advantage to reach out to us on the Republican side also. And I was always pleased when he made a point of introducing me to other labor guys, saying, hey, this is somebody you can talk to, he isn't always gonna vote with ya, but at least he'll listen to ya. And I've always been proud of that relationship that I had with Emmett and that he was able to do it. He was a source and probably in some ways the only source that I had for many years down here on labor issues. And I would go to him and ask him, what does this Bill really mean to your guys and why is it something that your... that you want. And he would explain to me those issues, the majority of the time I did not go with him on those issues, but there were times when he made a good case and I found that I was able to vote with him on some of those issues. He also opened doors for me in just letting people know that I was somebody that people could work with. And I will tell you that I will miss his stories, 'cause I would seek him out just to hear what the local scuttlebutt

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was and what was going on in the Capitol. I found that he was a great source, a great friend and I will miss this man, Emmett McNamara."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Lang."

Lang: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the first people I met who was not a Member when I came to Springfield was Emmett. And Dan Burke is correct, Emmett was known by one name. He's like Prince or Cher it just... or Madonna, Emmett. And everyone knew who Emmett was. And I would sit with him for hours at Play It Again Sam's, of course neither of us had anything alcoholic. And he would just introduce me to people as they came in the door and after a while, many months over there with Emmett, I eventually met everybody in the Springfield that I needed to know. He also was the person who really attuned me to issues regarding organized labor. I, of course, was a person who would be leaning in the direction of wanting to help organized labor, but Emmett really taught me about these issues. He made me understand why they're important to individuals and families and the economy of the State of Illinois. And so Emmett was truly one of my mentors in this town, one of the people who took me under his wing and made me understand why this city works and where it doesn't work and what we could do to make things better. And then you would watch Emmett work this building and he was a master at working this building. And for those in the labor movement who sit back in their offices in Chicago, and downstate and all over, but never actually come to Springfield and like to

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sit in their paneled offices and talk the game about how important organized labor is, they need to know, if they don't already, that Emmett was here doing it for them. Emmett was the emissary, not only the electricians from whence he came, but for all of organized labor. And so, when Emmett spoke on an issue involving organized labor to one of us in our offices, Emmett was speaking the gospel of organized labor and he made you understand, he didn't just say it, he made you understand from deep inside of him what that was all about. And so, I had great respect for this man and developed a very close personal friendship with Emmett and with his family. We're thrilled that the family is here today. We'll certainly miss Emmett, but we will not forget Emmett. What we learned from him, how we reacted with him and how he worked this building is something that will always be with us. To the family, we care about you, we'll still be here for you and whenever you need us, feel free to call on us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from DuPage, Representative Biggins."

Biggins: "Yeah, thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Thirty years ago I was a newly-elected township official in DuPage and a member the party across the way here. And one of the first people I met was Emmett, who did not live in my township, but I... through Bud Loftus' efforts and Chuck Hickman, names that are familiar to many here, I was introduced to Emmett and I began a long

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series in a few short year's time of a lot of lengthy phone calls. And some of you... in those days we only had one phone in the house and only one line, so my wife had to remind that the kids were young and I had to sometimes end those conversations. But Emmett had all kinds of wonderful experience that he could relate and advice to give, suggestions and was a constant friend to me. I then went off to other business activities and would see Emmett from time to time as residents of DuPage County. And then when I came back and joined this Body, Emmett was there to greet me and we had some wonderful times together. A little different, we both were a little older. Jeanne's kids, I know little Emmett was always at Emmett's... big Emmett's shoulder or leg or somewhere as he would peek around the different meetings at night. He would just keep his children with him whenever he could to come and take part in the meetings that we had. Emmett could talk, but he could also... he could always listen, too. And he was somebody that would do anything to help you. And he still did it now when I came in on this side of the aisle, and whatever I could do to help him he would do. And he... one of my proudest moments down here is a little one, I don't think I've ever mentioned before, but a few years ago he asked me to vote for a Bill and I was... they tried to verify me off and I was one of the few on... the only one on this side that happened to vote for that particular Bill. But I stayed in the room and so I stayed on that Bill. But my own side didn't get me off the Bill. But Emmett was very

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active, as you know, he can talk, wonderful talker. And in those days the phone was called the horn and Emmett would call... everything was the horn, I'll get on the horn, I'll do this and do that. And as I see his lovely wife upstairs and served so well in our county in another position and I'm reminded of the contributions Emmett's made through my 30-year span of knowing him and being his friend and always remembering that if I could... if I ever had any need or a question I could always turn to him and he'd do the best he could to help me. So, I remember Emmett that way and his family and I salute them all and thank them for the opportunity to know him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Adams, Representative Tenhouse."

Tenhouse: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I remember meeting Emmett McNamara and the first thing... it took about, as Representative Burke said, it took about 30 seconds for him to find out everything that he could find out about you. And when he heard that my grandmother's name was Mahaffey and that my grandfather was a union... very active in the union carpenters, he couldn't... he just couldn't help but understand how a good, Irish, union, Democrat father... grandfather could produce a Republican. He worked on that from that point on. And one of the things was he would always try to... he always brought that up and, ya know, the funny thing is we spent a lot time at dinner and visiting. Regardless of your politics, Emmett McNamara was your friend. And frankly, I can... ya

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know, I've never met you before Jeanne, but I know you, because we were regaled with stories from the entire family whenever you'd sit and sit with Emmett and visit about what was going on. But more than anything else, I think Emmett McNamara is a throwback. And I mean this very positively, he is a dinosaur. Because in this age where it seems though partisan politics rules this House and rules this state and rules Washington, D.C., Emmett McNamara brought an air of civility. Regardless of whether... how you voted on a particular issue, it didn't change his attitude, you were still his friend. And I think that is something, a lesson that can be taught to each and every one of us here. I wanna just say that I miss our dinners, but I'll think about Emmett often. And I can't help but think that right now up at the 'pearly gates' probably Grandpa Sorrill and him are arguing about whether the union carpenters or the electricians are more important. I'm betting on Emmett McNamara. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative McAuliffe."

McAuliffe: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I had the opportunity to meet Emmett McNamara before I served in the General Assembly. I came down here to pick up my dad, we were going on a hunting trip. And they said your father's office is right in there. So, I walked in and behind the chair there's a skinny Irishman smoking a cigarette, doing a crossword puzzle. And I said, hi, I'm Mike McAuliffe, he's like, I'm Emmett. And just

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like the previous speaker said, everyone knew him as Emmett. While I was waiting for my father I had an opportunity to sit and talk, what we call like Irish talk and I felt just like I was back in the northwest side of the City of Chicago telling tales and maybe a couple of stretches there... here and there and reminiscing about, ya know, what it's like to be down here and be an electrician and all the other things that Emmett brought to each of us. And then I remembers also, when I first got elected a couple years later, Emmett was one of the first ones that came up to me and said, ya know, kid, you'll be fine, everyone loved your dad and you'll do fine. And, ya know, I always remembered Emmett's special place in his heart, my father and also to myself and his wonderful family, who I met last night. So, thank you very much for sharing Emmett with us and we'll never forget him. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Burke moves for the adoption of House Resolution 801. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. Representative Burke."

Burke: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen. I would ask that all Members of the House be added to this Resolution."

Speaker Hannig: "And we will instruct the Clerk to do so. Thank you, Representative Burke. Representative McCarthy, for what reason do you rise?"

McCarthy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to make a Motion. I'd like to make a Motion to waive the posting requirements

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so that the state... the Committee on the State Toll Highway can hold its hearing in Buffalo Grove on Friday. We neglected to post it, but it will be held Friday morning at 10:00 in Buffalo Grove and I understand that the other side has agreed to waive the requirements."

Speaker Hannig: "Okay. So, the Gentleman moves that we waive the posting requirements for the meeting in Buffalo Grove. Okay. Is there any objections? There being none, then the Gentleman's Motion is accepted. Representative McKeon, for what reason do you rise?"

McKeon: "Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of an announcement."

Speaker Hannig: "State your point."

McKeon: "The Labor Committee for this afternoon at 3:00 has been canceled. I repeat one more time. The Labor Committee will not meet today as scheduled."

Speaker Hannig: "On the Supplemental Calendar that's being distributed is House Resolution 799. Mr. Clerk, would you read the Resolution?"

Clerk Bolin: "House Resolution 799, offered by Representative Moffitt.

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Major Arthur 'Artie' Gene Ecklund; and

WHEREAS, Arthur 'Artie' Ecklund was born in Galesburg on May 5, 1943; and

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WHEREAS, Major Ecklund was drafted into the United States Army in 1966, attended basic training at Fort Bliss, Texas and was later commissioned as an officer at Fort Sill Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Major Ecklund completed helicopter training at Fort Walters, Texas and Fort Rucker, Alabama; he graduated from training as a Huey gunship pilot to later serve his country as an Army air control pilot in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Major Ecklund arrived in Vietnam in November 1968 with the 183rd Aviation Company of the United States Army's 1st Aviation Brigade; and

WHEREAS, On April 3, 1969, Major Ecklund and his U.S. Air Force observer, Captain Perry Jefferson, were flying a visual reconnaissance mission out of Phan Pang airbase when their helicopter was shot down by enemy fire; and

WHEREAS, Thirty-five years to the date of his disappearance, on April 3, 2004, Major Ecklund was laid to rest; and

WHEREAS, The family of 'Artie' Ecklund remember him as a devoted and generous son and brother, as well as an ambitious and self sufficient individual; and

WHEREAS, 9,087,000 United States military personnel courageously served their nation in the conflict in

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Vietnam; 58,169 military personnel were killed in the line of duty and 1,870 were declared to be missing in action from this conflict; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we honor Major Arthur 'Artie' Ecklund along with all who knew him and loved him and extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of Major Arthur Ecklund and his willingness to serve our country, which led to him making the ultimate sacrifice; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Major Arthur Ecklund as an expression of our deepest sympathy and appreciation."

Speaker Hannig: "I'd like to advise the Body that this Resolution... that this Resolution is honoring a gentleman who was killed in the Vietnam War. So, I would... I would please ask for your patience and your silence as we... as we speak to a gentleman who courageously gave his life for our country. And Representative Moffitt is recognized on the Resolution."

Moffitt: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have an additional death Resolution that... considering today. I want to thank several people that are in attendance up in the gallery. The Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans'

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Affairs, Director Roy Dolgos, Lisa Tisdale, the liaison, representatives of VFW, AMVETS and the Lieutenant Governor's Office are with us. Yesterday, today, as well as several other times in the last year, the Illinois House of Representatives has paused to pay tribute to a fallen soldier. Some of you are aware that I often times wear a POW/MIA bracelet, which I have here on my desk today. Today we are paying tribute to the soldier whose name is on that bracelet, a soldier from Vietnam War, Major Arthur Ecklund, who was shot down April 3, 1969 and then just two and one half weeks ago, April 3, 2004, the remains of Major Ecklund were laid to rest in a Galesburg area cemetery 35 years to the day after he was shot down in Vietnam. Major Ecklund's parents, Ralph and Edith Ecklund, are here with us today. Ladies and Gentlemen, they waited 35 years, 35 years to determine the sure fate of their son. Their long wait further shows the impact of war, it's not only on soldiers, but on family and friends back home. The families also pay a huge price and deserve our thanks, they deserve our appreciation, they deserve our support and now in this case, they deserve our condolences. The Ecklund family have been serving their country and paying a high price for our freedoms for many years. Major Ecklund's father, Ralph, who's with us today, served in World War II, and his son, young 'Artie', was two years old before his dad ever had the privilege of seeing him and holding him, because he was serving his country. To the Ecklund's, we realize that there are no words that are adequate to fill

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the void that was left by the loss of your son. However, we hope that you will accept the very grateful appreciation of the Illinois House of Representatives on behalf of the citizens of Illinois for your sacrifice and for the service and sacrifice of your son, Major Arthur Ecklund. Your son died a hero, your son remains a hero. We stand here today as free Americans only because of the thousands of brave soldiers, like Major Arthur Ecklund, who have served and protected this country since our beginning and continue to serve us today. Ralph and Edith Ecklund in the east balcony, would you stand up? Thank you. We're honored to have you here today. But for that service, for that dedication, for that sacrifice that was shown by your son, Major Arthur Ecklund, the Members of the Illinois House of Representatives, on behalf of the people of Illinois, say thank you, God bless Major 'Artie' Ecklund, God bless Ralph and Edith Ecklund and God bless America. We thank you for that. It's been an honor to wear his bracelet. And at no 35 years, he was 26 years old when he was shot down, Ralph you waited two extra years to even... even hold him, and you've waited another 35 years to find his final fate. Those efforts are appreciated. It's a reminder of the high cost of war as we are recognizing some that are also paying that sacrifice here in the current war. For that, we say thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Fayette, Representative Stephens."

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Stephens: "Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a... it's an honor to stand here and speak on behalf of a man that I didn't know, but I knew some men like him. He flew a low observation fixed-wing aircraft in Vietnam. Those are used when the troops on the ground are engaged in battle, they need a vantage point wherein to call in... from which to call in artillery or air strikes or air support because their lives are on the line. And men like 'Artie' Ecklund, they could chose to make a decision to be with those soldiers and be with them and be right over them and do the right thing or they could maybe edge off to the side of the battle zone. I don't have the exact details about how 'Artie' was killed, but I can tell you that I know that he was in the middle of that battle, doing what he was trained to do, not shirking at all. And I wonder sometimes, I know back then not everyone in America appreciated everything that every soldier did. Sometimes we... we forget that it's us, the politicians, that start the wars and we forget that the young men like 'Artie' have to fight them and hopefully, finish them. We're honored today to have Owen Stanfield in the gallery behind me, World War II Veteran, Bronze Star winner. We talked about Representative Bradley's district we lost another soldier, Representative Granberg district, Patoka, young Lance Corporal Marine was buried on Monday in a touching ceremony. I asked Edith earlier, I said, ya know, it's been a long, hard day for ya, I know, and there's a lot of emotion in your heart, and what a strong woman you are. And she looked up at me and

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she said, 'It's been a long, hard 35 years.' At what a price, what a price we pay. And ironically, Mr. Speaker, I received an e-mail yesterday from my son who is in Baghdad and I wish you would just bear with me. I had told him about the young man from Patoka that we had lost and I think maybe he was speaking in response not just about the Lance Corporal from Patoka, but about a larger issue, and that is soldiers who give the ultimate sacrifice. And my son says, I'm sorry to hear about the boy from Illinois. Hopefully, his death serves as a reminder to those back home that we're still fighting a war over here and that freedom and liberty hang in the balance. Tell as many people as you can that the people that we're protecting in this city thank us everyday for being here and they beg us not to leave. I'll tell them that a boy from my state died, that a boy from my state died here recently and the women and children will cry and hand me flowers to lay on his grave. Just random women and old men we talk to on patrol will thank us as we pass by and they'll hang black flags for us when we tell them that our friends have died. He reminds me that... well, he closes by saying this, and this isn't just about Iraq or just about Vietnam or just about any war, but all wars. The vast majority of people here are good, hardworking people and a few expletives deleted are forestalling the birth of a beautiful nation. And that's where we come in. Enough said, says my son. We have sent men and women into battle for now centuries and we'll send them again in the next century. Edith reminded

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me that it's a lot easier to go than it is to send, it's much easier to go off into battle. And she reminded me that her son died doing exactly what he wanted to do, he loved his job, he loved the esprit, he loved fighting for freedom. She reminded me that it was hard to stay home. The Ecklund's have had to wait 35 years, as our nation has. And Representative, I salute you, a lot of us wore those bracelets for awhile. As a Vietnam Veteran I wore one for a while, but even my... my heart grew weary and I just didn't have the... what it took, like you did, to care and to wear that bracelet, you'd have worn until you died. And I know that 'Artie' appreciates that. We need more men like you. The world needs more men like 'Artie' Ecklund. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "The Lady from Kane, Representative Chapa LaVia."

Chapa LaVia: "Thank you, Speaker. Many of you know that I am a retired Army Officer and I don't know Major Ecklund. But I do know this, I am part of the Illinois AMVETS, I part of Post 84, I'm part of MOA, I'm part of my local military organizations, because as young people we often forget those people that laid down their life for us so that we can sit in these chairs that we sit in. So, people like the Major that came before me as an Army Officer, there are gonna be quite a few after me and continue throughout history. We need to respect these people. Any time I come across a veteran, regardless of what war they were in, I always acknowledge them and thank them for what they've

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given me as an American citizen. And we should hold this sacred. I would be honored to be placed on that Resolution. And I know, too, our entire Veterans' Affairs Committee would like to be on that... that Resolution. And part of the House, I'm sure everybody here would be. But never forget that, that part of our blood and who we are and what we do, those soldiers that in war, that came before us are still here and we need to respect that. We were... we need to respect that. That's like, it's our family, they are family members, their son died for us. So, please always respect that. And thank you very much. And God bless your family."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Winnebago, Representative Sacia."

Sacia: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Representative Moffitt, thank you for bringing forward such an important Resolution. Representative Stephens said it very well, the Vietnam era was a very different time than what we're living today. That was my era, I'm the age that 'Artie' would've been. I'm the father of an active duty Army helicopter pilot who just came back from Iraq and will soon be returning again. So, I can only imagine the anguish that the Ecklund's are dealing with. When I was a much younger man I was a smoker and in the Army I carried a lighter, a Zippo, that many of us that are veterans remember well. And during the Vietnam era many of us had a insignia on the side, and I know as I rehearse it from memory you will all remember it. It

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simply stated, 'God and the soldier, all men adore, in time of strife, in time of war. When the war is over and all is righted, God is forgotten and the old soldiers slighted.' There is nothing that could make me feel prouder than to know that Representative Moffitt brought this great Resolution forward and that all of us stand in honor of 'Artie' Ecklund and prove that that poem is wrong. He is not slighted, God is not forgotten, our country is again at strife, but thankfully this time, whether we support the war or support... don't support the war, we see the signs everywhere that we support our troops. 'Artie' Ecklund truly died a hero and his memory will live on forever. Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Ecklund, thank you, Ecklund family. You gave us a great hero. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Moffitt now moves for the adoption of the Resolution. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 799 is adopted. Representative McCarthy, for what reason do you rise?"

McCarthy: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to announce that the Higher Education Committee that was scheduled for 4:00 this afternoon is canceled. The House Higher Education Committee scheduled for today is canceled. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "And Representative Davis, for what reason do you rise?"

Davis, W.: "Point of personal privilege, Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "State your point."

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Davis, W.: "Speaker, in a time when we often hear about a number of negative things that are going, particularly in minority communities, I'd like to take the opportunity to tell the Members of this chamber about a very important group of young people that are visiting in the chamber today. If they would please stand up and be recognized. I'd the Members of the House to recognize the 2004 Illinois Kids Wrestling Federation State Championship, Harvey Park District Twisters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Hannig: "Welcome to Springfield. Representative Howard, for what reason do you rise?"

Howard: "Yes, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to move that the posting requirements be suspended for Senate Bill 3007."

Speaker Hannig: "You've heard the Lady's Motion. Is there any objections? Then all in favor say 'aye'; all opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Lady's Motion is adopted. Any further items to come before the House? Represen... Mr. Clerk, would you... just to remind the Members, why don't you read the committee schedule for this afternoon."

Clerk Mahoney: "Committee Schedule. Elementary & Secondary Education Committee will meet at 1 p.m. in Room 114. The Human Services Committee will meet at 1 p.m. in D-1, the Stratton Building. Jud-I will meet at 1 p.m. in C-1. The Gaming Committee will meet at 3 p.m. in D-1. Local Government Committee will meet at 3 p.m. in C-1. Registration & Regulation Committee will meet in Room 114

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at 3 p.m. State Government will meet at 3 p.m. in Room 115. Tourism Committee will meet at 3 p.m. in Room 122-B. Appropriations-General Services Committee will meet at 4 p.m. in Room 118. Appropriations-Public Safety Committee will meet at 4 p.m. in Room 114. Commerce & Business Development Committee will meet at 4 p.m. in Room C-1. The Environment & Energy Committee will meet at 4 p.m. in Room D-1."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Turner. For what reason do you rise?"

Turner: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Assembly. I'd like to announce that next week we will have softball practice in preparation for the annual House/Senate softball game, which is scheduled for May 5. So, bring your gear down next week and Tuesday we will have practice. For those guys who aren't familiar with the 16-inch ball, leave your glove at home, you won't need it. But next Tuesday we will have practice after Session."

Speaker Hannig: "Mr. Clerk, I'm advised there's an additional committee announcement."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Judiciary-I Committee has been canceled."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Giles. For what reason do you rise?"

Giles: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm just calling to... I'm just rising to remind the Members of the Elementary & Secondary Education Committee that we will meet right after we adjourn."

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Speaker Hannig: "Okay. Now, allowing for perfunctory time, Representative Currie moves that the House stand adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 22 at the hour of 12 noon. All in favor of the Motion say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Perfunctory Session will now come to order. Reading of Senate Bills-First Reading. Senate Bill 3183, offered by Representative Franks, a Bill for an Act concerning taxation."

Clerk Mahoney: "House Perfunctory Session will now come to order. House Resolution 820 is referred to the Committee on Rules, offered by Representative Madigan. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session now stands adjourned."