

STATE OF ILLINOIS
93rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

1st Legislative Day

6/25/2004

Speaker Madigan: "The House shall come to order. The Members shall be in their chairs. We shall be led in prayer today by Lee Crawford the Pastor of the Victory Temple Church in Springfield."

Pastor Crawford: "Let us pray. As we go before His heavenly throne, most gracious and most kind God, eternal giver of life. Father, we ask that You would judge over us as we stand humbly before You as Your humble servants. Father, a people that is mindful of Your great favor that You have bestowed upon us and mindful of Your will that You have asked us to do. So, it is this day that we ask that Your most gracious presence would be upon us, that Your might would strengthen us, that Your spirit would guide us and that Your great and wise counsel would advise us. This we pray and ask in Your Son's name. Amen."

Speaker Madigan: "We shall be led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Representative Hassert."

Hassert - 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 liberty and justice for all."

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

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record show that Representatives Hamos, Mendoza and Osterman are excused today."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Bost."

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Bost: "Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. We'd like to report that Representative Mathias, Jerry Mitchell, Schmitz and Sommer are all excused today on the Republican side of the aisle."

Speaker Madigan: "Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. We have additional excused absences to report. Please show in the record that Representative Joe Lyons, Representative Scully and Representative Molaro are also excused today."

Speaker Madigan: "The Clerk shall take the record. There being 108 Members responding to the Attendance Roll Call, there is a quorum present. Mr. Clerk, please read the Proclamation of the Governor."

Clerk Mahoney: "Proclamation 2004-183.

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution requires the General Assembly to make appropriations for the expenditure of public funds for the fiscal year for state departments, authorities, and public agencies; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has not made appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for the expenditure of public funds for the Department of Transportation; and

THEREFORE, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 Subsection(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby call and convene the 93rd General Assembly in a Special Session to commence on June 25, 2004, at 12:00 p.m., to consider any legislation (new or pending), which will address directly the budget of the Department of Transportation for fiscal year 2005. Signed by Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor. Dated 20... June 24, 2004."

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Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Clerk, are there any other Resolutions?"

Clerk Mahoney: "Second Special Session House Resolution #1 and
Second Special Session House Resolution #2 are introduced."

Speaker Madigan: "Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. I move to suspend the rules so
that we can give immediate consideration to the adoption of
Second Special Session House Resolutions 1 and 2."

Speaker Madigan: "You've all heard the Lady's Motion. Is there
leave? Leave is granted. Chair recognizes Representative
Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Would the Clerk please read
Special Session House Resolutions... Second Special Session
House Resolutions 1 and 2?"

Clerk Mahoney: "Second Special Session House Resolution #1.

RESOLVED, that the Rules of the House of Representatives of
the Ninety-Third General Assembly be adopted as the Rules
of this Second Special Session, so far as the same may be
applicable, and that the Committees of the House of
Representatives of the Ninety-Third General Assembly,
including the House Journal Review Committee and their
membership, shall constitute the Committees of the House
during this Second Special Session. Second Special Session
House Resolution #2.

RESOLVED, that the Clerk inform the Senate that a majority of
the House of Representatives has assembled, pursuant to the
proclamation of the Governor, convening a Second Special
Session of the General Assembly, and are now ready for the
transaction of business."

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Speaker Madigan: "Representative Currie moves for the adoption of the Second Special Session Resolutions 1 and 2. All those in favor signify by saying 'yes'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. The Resolutions are adopted. Mr. Hannig in the Chair."

Speaker Hannig: "Representative Rose. Representative Rose, for what reason did you rise?"

Rose: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Hannig: "Yes, state your point."

Rose: "Mr. Speaker, I know we're at the point of sharing of joys and concerns today. And we have plenty to be concerned about, but I have a joy. My mother's here today in the gallery, Harriet Rose is with us. And I'd like us to give a special thanks to my mom in the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. "

Speaker Hannig: "The Chair recognizes the Gentleman from Cook, Speaker Madigan."

Madigan: "Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen, Representative Black. Please be quiet, Mr. Black. I think everyone knows that the Governor has issued another proclamation for a Second Special Session. This particular proclamation in one of the whereas clauses reads that the General Assembly has not made appropriations for the fiscal year 2005 for the expenditure of public funds for the Department of Transportation. It is true that the Legislature, House and Senate, have not taken final action on an appropriation for the Department of Transportation, but it also true that the House passed Senate Bill 3338 on May 31, a vote of 85-32

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and that particular Bill does provide an appropriation for the Department of Transportation. So, the House has done its job. My plan is to do as I did yesterday, to move that this particular Special Session be put into the schedule that we had already established. My expectation is that the Governor will call yet another Special Session, because he has said to me and he has said to others that he thinks that everybody should stay in Springfield through this particular weekend, down to the end of the fiscal year. And it would appear as if he is going to use the authority given to his office in the constitution to accomplish that goal. For my part, as I've explained earlier, we had established a schedule which would permit us to come in on short notice. That schedule using the regular Session would not have called for the expenditure of per diem allowance. When the Governor calls for a Special Session it also requires an expenditure of per diem allowance for both the House and the Senate. If my plan were to be followed we'd actually be saving money for the state, money that could be used, as the Governor likes to say for education, public health, public safety. You've all heard those three buzz words many, many times. So, whatever money is spent today on per diem allowance could've been spent for education, public health, public safety. The Governor is exercising his authority under the constitution disagrees with that. So, Mr. Speaker, my Motion would be as it was yesterday that we... this Special Session be

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adjourned to the regular Session Perfunctory schedule which has already been established."

Speaker Hannig: "The Gentleman from Cook, Speaker Madigan, moves that the House adjourn to the already established schedule that has been distributed to the Members. Is there any discussion? The Gentleman from Cook, Representative Parke."

Parke: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Speaker. Is it your understanding then that even though we've adjourned to the call of the Chair, which will be Monday, that you believe that we actually will be called in on Saturday and Sunday?"

Madigan: "That is my expectation."

Parke: "So, as soon as we adjourn here another proclamation for a Special Session will be called for Saturday and then Sunday and then we'll go in... Do you believe Monday will be a Special Session, Mr. Speaker?"

Madigan: "If the Governor continues in his pattern, he will call another Special Session for Monday. So, on Monday there will be a Special Session and a regular Session. We will come into the regular Session."

Parke: "Well, ya know, many of us have articulated that we feel that as House Members that we're simply pawns in this chess game of politics going on here in Springfield and in a way it's sort of like punishing us, because many of us had plans for this weekend and we're achieving nothing by being here. It just doesn't make sense, especially when it's gonna cost the taxpayers money for Saturday and Sunday and perhaps even Monday. Many of us don't understand what

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we're doing here and why we are here at this point in time. Does... has anybody articulated from the Governor's Office what again we're trying to achieve by being here on Saturday and Sunday when we don't even have legislation from the Senate yet on which we could take action?"

Madigan: "I believe the Governor would say that he feels that everyone should be here to participate in the legislative process and that that will help bring a resolution to the budget impasse. I believe that would be his statement."

Parke: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

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

Winters: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a pretty emotional time and I'm wondering if the... the denizens of the second floor have maybe looked at some of the pax... tax credits that we approved last year and reviewing some of the movies filmed in Illinois. Did they in fact, is there any kind of record that they have rented Groundhog Day and have been reviewing that? It seems like all we're doing is everyday coming down and doing nothing and then repeating the previous day's action, which was to do nothing. Please pass the word to Blockbuster that the Governor's credit card for Blockbuster should be rescinded. Thank you."

Speaker Hannig: "Speaker Madigan now renews his Motion that the House adjourn to the already established schedule that has been distributed to the Members. All in favor say 'aye'; opposed 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned."