

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
99th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

39th Legislative Day

4/28/2015

Speaker Riley: "The hour of 12:00 having come and gone, the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois will come to order. Members and guests are asked to be in their seats, refrain from starting all laptop computers, silence all cell phones, and be in place for the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation. We'll be led in prayer today by Pastor Ben VanHyning, who is from the First Christian Church in Flora, Illinois. Pastor VanHyning is the guest of Representative Reis. Pastor."

Pastor VanHyning: "Would you pray with me. Almighty God, thank You for hearing our prayer today. Thank You for Your creation and the beauty and the power that we see in the spring and the green that is coming up from the ground. We recognize Your presence and Your power in that. We thank You for these Leaders today that are gathered here to do the business of the State of Illinois. We pray for them that You'll give these Leaders wisdom to make good decisions, strength to stand in the face of adversity and courage to do the right thing even when it may be difficult. I pray that You watch over them and bless them as they serve the people of Illinois together. And it's because of Your power we ask these things, Amen."

Speaker Riley: "We'll be led in the Pledge by Representative Ford."

Ford - 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 Riley: "Roll Call for Attendance. Leader Currie."

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Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. Please let the record show that Representatives Chapa LaVia and Mautino are excused today."

Speaker Riley: "Representative Brown."

Brown: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record reflect that Representative Fortner is excused today."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you. Mr. Clerk, take the record. With 115 Members present, we have a quorum. We're ready to do the business of the people of the State of Illinois. Representative Cavaletto, for what reason do you rise?"

Cavaletto: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Your point."

Cavaletto: "Thank you. I have today two Graces. We have Graced.. we have Grace Foltz and Grace Purcell from St. Theresa Salem High School as Pages. Let's welcome them to our Capitol."

Speaker Riley: "Welcome to Springfield. Enjoy your day. Representative Soto, for what reason do you rise?"

Soto: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Make your point."

Soto: "I just want to let the General Assembly know our colleague that today is my seatmate's birthday, her 21st birthday, Representative Ann Williams. Can you join me in wishing her a happy birthday? Happy birthday, Amiga."

Speaker Riley: "Happy 21st birthday. Representative D'Amico, for what reason do you rise?"

D'Amico: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Your point."

D'Amico: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next week, May 6, we're having the House-Senate softball game. So tonight at.. well, today at 3:30, we're going to have practice over at Washington and

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Amos at the park right there on the corner. So, come on out there and get some swings in. Let's get some practice. We want to make sure we bring that trophy back to the House. Thank you very much. That's 3:30 to..."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you. Representative Jesiel, for what reason do you rise?"

Jesiel: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Make your point."

Jesiel: "I... Today, I have from the Zion Park District the executive director and a couple of board members. And I'd like to welcome them to the House today."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you for coming to Springfield. Enjoy your day. Representative Sandack, for what reason do you rise?"

Sandack: "Thank you, Mr. Chair... Mr. Speaker. An inquiry of the Chair and maybe a point of parliamentary procedure."

Speaker Riley: "Make your point."

Sandack: "Thank you. I understand there may be a new interpretation of Rule 65, which is the Motion to reconsider Motions. And I understand that there's been some reinterpretation and/or new interpretation of how Rule 65 will be utilized. And I went back and looked at Rule 54 with respect to Motions laid on the table and I'd like know when this Rule changed, if it did occur, and if it would be voted on, if it is indeed a substantive Rule change?"

Speaker Riley: "It was my understanding that the Rule has been the same since the institution of the Rules, but I will get clarification for you and let you know."

Sandack: "Thank you."

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Speaker Riley: "Do you have a subsequent point or was that it? Thank you. Members, we're going to go to Order of Resolutions, page 4 on the Calendar. House Joint Resolution 26, Representative Zalewski. For the rec... Next, we have House Joint Resolution 34, Representative Brady. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "House Joint Resolution 34 is on the Order of Resolutions."

Speaker Riley: "Representative Brady."

Brady: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Joint Resolution 34 just simply seeks in honor of President Abraham Lincoln and his death anniversary of this weekend, throughout this state and especially the City of Springfield, to have the flags flown at half-mast in his memory and honor. And I ask for a 'yes' vote."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Joint Resolution 34 pass?' All in favor state by saying 'aye'; all opposed 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. House Joint Resolution 34 is passed. House Joint Resolution 35, Representative Brady. Out of the record. House Joint Resolution 38, Representative Lilly. Out of the record. House Joint Resolution 42, Representative Yingling. Proceed."

Yingling: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is to honor a fallen soldier in my district, Sar... Army Specialist Dimock and to rename a portion of Illinois Route 120 after him. I would appreciate an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Joint Resolution 42 be adopted?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Record yourself, Members."

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Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this measure, with 114 voting 'yea', 0 voting 'nay', 0 voting 'present', House Joint Resolution 42 is hereby adopted. House Joint Resolution 47, Representative Flowers."

Flowers: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Joint Resolution 47 is calling for May 27 to be recognized as Indigent Day. And I move for its adoption."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Joint Resolution 47 be adopted?' All those in favor say 'aye'; all those opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Joint Resolution 47 is hereby adopted. House Joint Resolution 48, Representative Flowers."

Flowers: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Joint Resolution 48 is calling on the Illinois Congressional Delegation to support legislation which would extend the federal financing of the Children's Health Insurance Act. And I move for its adoption."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Joint Resolution 48 be adopted?' All those in favor say 'aye'; all those opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Joint Resolution 48 is hereby adopted. House Joint Resolution 51, Representative Reis."

Reis: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Joint Resolution 51 designates the Burnt Prairie interstate exit at mile marker 117 the Robert J. 'Pud' Williams Memorial Exit. Pud Williams was the Director of Agriculture for the State of Illinois from 1972 to '76 and was very, very instrumental in Democratic county politics in White County. And I urge your support. Thank you."

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Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Joint Resolution 51 be adopted?' All those in favor vote 'aye'; all those opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this record, with 113 voting 'aye', 0 voting 'nay', 0 voting 'present', House Joint Resolution 51 is hereby adopted. House Joint Resolution 52, Representative Kelly Burke.

Burke, K.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. HJR52 creates the Higher Education Commission on the Future of the Workforce. The goal is to get hard evidence on how well we are matching degree production with the needs of the workforce. I ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Joint Resolution 52 be adopted?' All those in favor vote 'aye'; all those opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Record yourself, Member. Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this record, with 113 voting 'aye', 0 voting 'nay', 0 voting 'present', House Joint Resolution 52 is hereby adopted. House Joint Resolution 53, Representative Drury."

Drury: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Joint Resolution 53 creates the Behavioral Health Prison Diversion Commission to look at ways of diverting people into mental health treatment and behavioral health treatment instead of into our prisons."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Joint Resolution 53 be adopted?' All those in favor vote 'aye'; all those opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take

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the record. On this measure, with 113 voting 'aye', 0 voting 'nay', 0 voting 'present', House Joint Resolution 53 is hereby adopted. House Joint Resolution 58, Representative Drury."

Drury: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Joint Resolution 58 calls on the State Board of Education to look at all the different exams that are out there with respect to Common Core and determine which one is the best test that can be given to our kids. I ask it be adopted."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Joint Resolution 58 be adopted?' All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Joint Resolution 58 is hereby adopted. House Resolution 170, Representative Williams."

Williams: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This Bill simply designates a specific date in March as Epilepsy Advocacy Day. And I'd ask for an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 170 pass... be adopted?' All those in favor say 'aye'; all those opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 170 is hereby adopted. House Resolution 173, Representative Phillips."

Phillips: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This reaffirms our solidarity with Israel in the midst of the growing international crisis in the Middle East. I think this is a very important Resolution for the House, the State of Illinois to reaffirm our passion with the Israelite people and the growing crisis that's there. I also believe it's very important for this House and this state and our United States to be in with our State of Israel. As our Good Book says in Genesis, you know,

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we that stand with the people are blessed and we that stand against them will be cursed. So, I'd like your support on this. Thank you very much."

Speaker Riley: "The Chair recognizes Representative Monique Davis."

Davis, M.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish he would respond with the real reason. I'm sorry. We couldn't hear him and I don't know what this Resolution says. But I would really appreciate him telling us."

Phillips: "This Resolution..."

Speaker Riley: "Representative... Representative Phillips, if you please."

Phillips: "Yes. Thank you, I'm sorry. This Resolution just confirms our standing with our ally Israel in the Middle East."

Davis, M.: "What does your Resolution say?"

Phillips: "Once again, it's just asking the people of the State of Illinois and this House to stand with the people in Israel, so our... our support that they're our strongest ally in the Middle East against the ISIS regime and the other parts of... that's come against them in Israel."

Davis, M.: "Don't we already stand with Israel?"

Phillips: "Well, I'm just reaffirming that. Are you willing to reaffirm our support for the Israelite people?"

Davis, M.: "But is it..."

Phillips: "That's all I'm asking."

Davis, M.: "My ques... Let me just ask. It's not against anyone. Is that correct?"

Phillips: "No. It's not against anyone."



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Davis, M.: "Okay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Phillips: "You bet."

Davis, M.: "Thank you, Mr.. Representative."

Phillips: "You bet."

Speaker Riley: "The Chair recognizes Representative Jack Franks."

Franks: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Riley: "He indicates he will."

Franks: "Representative, I was listening to the debate and I want to make sure and to clear up a few things. 'Cause our analysis was talking about the President... or the Prime Minister of Israel coming to speak to the... to our Congress, but that already happened and there's nothing in the Resolution dealing with that. Is there?"

Phillips: "No, Sir."

Franks: "Okay. This Resolution is simply a reaffirmation of our standing policy that we will be with our strongest ally in the only democracy in the Mid-East. Is that correct?"

Phillips: "That's correct."

Franks: "But it also talks about the real threat of Iran toward Israel because Iran, as you know, in... and their last President denied the Holocaust, denied many of the issues of the Second World War. And they've also said that their stated purpose is to destroy Israel, yet this Resolution points out the fact that Israel is our ally and they are threatened by Iran. Isn't that correct?"

Phillips: "Yes, Sirree. Thank you."

Franks: "I think this is..."

Phillips: "Keep going."

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Franks: "...I think this is a Resolution that... Well, let me ask you this. How did you come up with this Resolution?"

Phillips: "Well, Sir, I've been a born again Christian for many, many years and I enjoy reading the Bible and I just think it's important we stand with Israel in this time. That's about it. I guess, kind of, the Holy Spirit gave it to me."

Franks: "I think it's important that we... that we stand with our friends in their time of need. I think that's something that this country has always done. And I think Israel is always in peril because they're surrounded by people who wish to do them harm and to push them into the sea. So, I think this is a proper Resolution. It's one that I appreciate you bringing forward. And I'm going to bring over a slip to ask if I can be a chief cosponsor on this."

Phillips: "Yeah. Thank you very much. It's also fitting to know that last week on Thursday was the 67th anniversary of the Israel becoming a state... a nation."

Franks: "And I appreciate you bringing that up. And if you haven't been, I'd encourage you to go. I happened to be there once on the anniversary of the new date, it's called Yom Haatzmaut, and it's incredible because everybody at a certain time in the entire country stops. A siren will go and no matter where you are, if you're on a road, or you're driving, everyone stops, everyone gets out of their car, everyone remembers those who gave so much to... for the creation of the State. And it's an incredible sight. So, if you haven't been, I'd encourage you to go."

Phillips: "Thank you. Yes, I will."

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Speaker Riley: "The Chair recognizes Representative David Harris."

Harris, D.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And just a brief comment to the Resolution and to follow up what the previous speaker said. Let me count on my hand... on my hand and my fingers the number of democracies in the Middle East. The number of democracies in the Middle East: Israel. I don't get past one. There is only one democracy in the Middle East and that's Israel and for that reason alone, it deserves our support. But I'd also like to mention one other thing. Some of you may be aware, as the previous speaker said, that Iran which is an enemy of Israel and the leaders of Iran have denied that the Holocaust ever took place. There is a trial taking place in Germany right now where a guard from the death camp of Auschwitz has admitted taking part and seeing atrocities taking place, guarding people as they were led into gas chambers, seeing German SS soldiers beating a baby to death. You cannot deny the eye witness account of the person on trial in Germany, that... that former Auschwitz guard. Wonderful Resolution, send it out here on unanimous consent. I congratulate the Sponsor for putting it forward."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 173 be adopted?' All in favor state by saying 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 173 is hereby adopted. House Resolution 174, Representative Brady. Out of the record. House Resolution 184, Representative Bellock."

Bellock: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. House Resolution 184 just encourages the continued use of vaccines for children,

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adolescents and adults to ensure the safety and health of the citizens of this state. There's nothing controversial in this Resolution."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 184 be adopted?' All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 184 is hereby adopted. House Resolution 186. Representative Poe. Out of the record. House Resolution 189, Representative Hoffman."

Hoffman: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This would simply urge Congress to restore the \$1 billion of federal funding for what's called the FutureGen Project. The FutureGen Project was ready to go and had substantial state commitment as well as private funding when the \$1 billion from the Federal Government was pulled. I ask for a favorable Roll Call."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 189 be adopted?' All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 189 is hereby adopted. House Resolution 194, Representative Will Davis."

Davis, W.: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. House Resolution 194 is an initiative of the Student Board of Education at Thornton Township District 205. T.J. Shirley was a very popular teacher as well as a track coach, even dating back to my days as a student there in the '80s. Upon his passage, a lot of the students were very sad to hear that he passed away and it's the effort of the Student Board of Education that they rename the track at Thornridge

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High School after... or in the name of T.J. Shirley. I ask for the adoption of the Resolution."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 184 pass... or be adopted?' All those in favor say 'aye'; all those opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 180... 194 is hereby adopted. House Resolution 195, Representative Will Davis."

Davis, W.: "Thank you very much again, Mr. Speaker. House Resolution 195 simply reaffirms the Illinois sister... sister-state and sister-city relationships with Taiwan and expresses continued support for its entry into tran... into the Trans-Pacific Partnership and extends support for Taiwan's participation in international organizations. I ask for the adoption of this Resolution."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 195 be adopted?' All in favor state by saying 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. House Resolution 195 is hereby adopted. The Chair recognizes Representative Will Davis."

Davis, W.: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Make your point."

Davis, W.: "Ladies and Gentlemen, you know that today is Parks Day here at the State Capitol. Many of you have been downstairs visiting with representatives from your park district, so I'd like to do two things. First of all, I would like to acknowledge and welcome the Commissioners of the Dalton Park District in the South Suburbs who are joining us

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in the gallery, in the red shirts. We would ask that you stand and be recognized."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you so much for coming to your Capitol. Enjoy your day."

Davis, W.: "And... and secondly, Mr. Speaker, being an elected official is a fantastic thing, obviously something that we all enjoy. But when... when you decide to call it quits, you know, I'm sure making that decision can be bitter sweet. So Ladies and Gentlemen, I'd like to acknowledge Brenda Britt-Cox and ask her to please stand, of the Riverdale Park District, who is serving her last term after serving 12 years as a park commissioner. So, please give her a round of applause."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you very much for your service. The Chair recognizes Representative Sandack."

Sandack: "Thank you, Speaker. I'm glad I was recognized because I think on two occasions for reasons perhaps oversight, myself and one of my colleagues sought to speak on a Resolution. We weren't recognized. So, I know we're moving along quickly. I would just ask a little bit of patience occasionally 'cause I know Representative Davidsmeyer wanted to talk on one as well."

Speaker Riley: "Well, let me just tell you this and I want to go on the record for saying this. And I... you have a right to make your point. I did not see..."

Sandack: "I... I'm sure."

Speaker Riley: "...any names on the screen."

Sandack: "Oh, I wasn't accusing you. Just... thank you for recognizing me and I appreciate it, Sir."

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Speaker Riley: "You're welcome. The Chair recognizes Representative Anthony."

Anthony: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I rise as a point of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Make your point."

Anthony: "Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, please join me in welcoming my good friend, Chris Baker and his wife, Lisa Baker, who are the founders of INK 180, who does tremendous work when it comes to sex trafficking and human trafficking. Welcome Chris and his wife to the Capitol. Thank you guys for coming."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you for coming to your Capitol. Enjoy your day. The Chair recognizes Representative Tabares."

Tabares: "I rise on the point of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Make your point."

Tabares: "I'd like to introduce my Page for the day, Hope Clark. She's here with her family and her friends. Can we give her a warm welcome to Springfield?"

Speaker Riley: "Thank you for coming and enjoy your day. The Chair recognizes Representative Ford."

Ford: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on a order... of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Make your point."

Ford: "I'm very lucky today. I have three Pages serving us today and helping us to do what we do best and that is... they're right there Linnea, Annaliese and Sonja. Let's give them a warm welcome and show them a good time in Springfield. I also..."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you so much for coming."

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Ford: "Oh, one more. Also I have a very special person to me that's here. It's my nephew. He's 17 years old and on our way down he told me, I'm so happy to be coming to Springfield on such a positive trip. So, thank you and welcome Ja Juan Catchings. Welcome."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you so much for coming to your Capitol. Enjoy your day. The Chair recognizes Representative Lilly."

Lilly: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."

Speaker Riley: "Make your point."

Lilly: "Yes. Each year the women of COWL we sponsor an event that is rememberable throughout the year, which is Capitol Capers. And each year we do ask you to participate. This year May 13 will be a little different. We'll be featuring Second City; however, we also will be featuring some of you. Please if you're interested in being some of our special acts, please contact me today. May 13 is our tradition to raise funding for women to continue their education and their growth in the policy process. Capitol Capers, May 13 and you can be involved. And there are other special tickets for you as well. And many of our members here at the floor you can see. You can see Representative Burke, you can see Representative Nekritz. Please we need you to support us as always. God bless you all."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you very much. Next, we're going to move to House Resolution 198. House Resolution 198, Representative Hurley."

Hurley: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. House Resolution 198 recognizes July 2015 as Special Olympics Month in Illinois. In July of 1968, the first games were held and there was 1 thousand



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people that participated from 26 U.S. states and Canada. And in 2013, there was 4.4 million athletes and as many as 80 thousand events annual. I would appreciate this Resolution be adopted."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 198 be adopted?' All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 198 is hereby adopted. House Resolution 223, Representative Anthony."

Anthony: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, today we are proud to recognize Mr. John W. E. Thomas, the first black Member of the Illinois General Assembly. John Thomas was born a slave in Alabama in 1847. He learned at an early age how to read and write. And as a teenager during the Civil War he engaged in the dangerous work of teaching literacy to more than three dozen slaves, a crime under the laws of the Confederacy. A few years after the war, John Thomas moved to Chicago with his wife, Maria and their daughter to start a new life, where he opened a grocery store and he continued his passion for education by working as a teacher. Thomas was elected to the Illinois General Assembly in 1876, leaving in 1879 to study law and earn admission to the Illinois Bar before being reelected to this House for two more terms serving from 1883 to 1887. As a Member of the Illinois House, Thomas sponsored and passed Illinois's first Civil Rights Law to ban racial discrimination in public places. John Thomas was a trailblazer, a man of faith, a man of principle and a leader who... who helped make it possible for other blacks to seek and win election to the Illinois

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General Assembly. He was also a Republican as were most blacks in the post-Civil War period for several generations. This fact is especially significant here in Illinois, the Land of Lincoln, the Great Emancipator. It was, after all, the Republican Party who passed three critical Amendments to the U.S. Constitution after that war was abolished... after that war that abolished slavery, bestowed citizenship to all former slaves and granted the right to vote. The Party of Lincoln was then and remains today the Party of equality and opportunity for all Americans, regardless of racial or ethnic background. Today in Washington, D.C., a black Republican the honorable Tim Scott serves his State of South Carolina in the United State Senate. And from the State of Utah a young black woman, Mia Love was elected to Congress as a Republican last year. There have been and will continue to be black men and women who in Congress as State Legislators all of... all over the country who are Republicans working to advance the policies of individual liberty, free enterprise and smaller government in the tradition of our forefathers. There is now... there is no better time than now for black men and women to become engaged in our political process and run for public office. Black Members of this General Assembly and other public Bodies should be welcomed and respected by their feath... fellow colleagues of color... colleagues of color regardless of what political Party they identify with. I am humbled to be one of the many heirs of the legacy of John W. E. Thomas here in the Illinois General Assembly. If you will like to learn more about John W. E. Thomas's life and career, there is an outstanding book published by author David Joens, titled

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'From Slave to State Legislator: John W.E. Thomas, Illinois' First African American Lawmaker. The book is well worth the read and we are grateful to the author who joins us here today for chronicling the life and legacy of this chamber's very first black Member, Republican. It's an honor to serve here and I ask that all my colleagues join me in adopting House Resolution 223 to help honor the life and legacy of our first black Member, Republican John W. E. Thomas of Chicago... of Illinois. His family joins us today as well. They're sitting right back here, in back of the... in the gallery. Could you please stand so that people can acknowledge you. It's been a long time coming, but now it's done. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you. Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Bolin: "House Resolution 223, offered by Representatives Anthony and Sims.

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we commend the work, success, and memory of John William Edinburgh Thomas, the first African-American member of the Illinois House and the Illinois General Assembly; and be it further RESOLVED, That we commend the work of David A. Joens, Archivist of the State of Illinois, for his work in researching the life of John W.E. Thomas, published in his 2012 book "From Slave to State Legislator: John W.E. Thomas, Illinois First African American Lawmaker", published by the Southern Illinois University Press; and be it further

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RESOLVED, That suitable copies this resolution be presented to the Black Caucus of the Illinois General Assembly and to David A. Joens of the Illinois State Archives."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 223 be adopted?' All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 223 is hereby adopted. House Resolution 201, Rep... Leader Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker and Members of the House. The a... American woman who works full-time year-round outside the home, earns approximately 79 cents for every dollar earned by a man. That number has changed over time. It was as little as 59 cents in 1963, so we are making progress. But this Resolution is a reminder that we need to pay more attention to the wage gap between men and women. The National Committee on Pay Equity has defined April 14, 2015 as the moment at which the average full-time year-round working woman in this country has made as much money as the average full-time year-round working male did the previous year altogether. So it takes us an extra quarter to catch up with men's wages. This Resolution is a reminder that we have more work to do. I appreciate your 'aye' votes."

Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House Resolution 201 be adopted?' All in favor state by saying 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And House Resolution 201 is hereby adopted. Senate Joint Resolution 16. We're on page 11 of the bulletin. Senate Joint Resolution 16, Representative Golar."

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Golar: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senate Joint Resolution 16 makes recommendations for the spring 2015 waiver requests from School Code mandates. SJR16 modifies several waiver requests to shorten the length of requests and retroactively approves three requests. The remainder of the request is unchanged. SJR16 approves and modifies school district waiver request. The waiver modifications are set up in such a way that the General Assembly must explicitly disapprove or modify a waiver request if the request is not agreeable. If the General Assembly fails to explicitly disapprove a waiver in whole or in part within 60 days of the first Session day following the release of the waiver report, being it May 2 for this report, then the waivers are granted. To the Body. Voting 'yes' means that you approve of modifications and the school district waiver applications outlined in SJR16. Voting 'no' means that you support the original school district waiver applications without any changes. And I urge an 'aye' vote."

Speaker Riley: "The Chair recognizes Representative Sandack."

Sandack: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Riley: "She indicates she will."

Sandack: "Representative, this is kind of an annual rite of passage, this waiver request or waiver report. In comparison to years prior, how many mandate waiver reports or waiver request have there been this year? Are we seeing more, the same, or less?"

Golar: "Well, I think it only... 72 in total and 58 to the General Assembly."

Sandack: "Seventy-two in total and 58..."

Golar: "To the General Assembly."

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Sandack: "All right. And is that, in your memory, a higher number than the last previous years?"

Golar: "It's about average, Representative."

Sandack: "All right. And... but this is an annual rite of passage. Do you see any need for us to actually start to, you know, address mandate relief for schools?"

Golar: "Well, I think... I'm carrying a Bill... House Bill 3535 and it talks about these mandates. So, I think as we go forward... actually, the School Management Alliance has asked that I set up a subject matter hearing. And I think we'll be doing that soon."

Sandack: "Well, thank you. And to the Resolution. I commend the Sponsor for recognizing... she has a Bill that I hope she moves. Mandate relief is something that's needed now more than ever as financially difficult situations the state has and schools have become more pronounced. We're asking schools to do more with less. We're actually mandating that they do more with less and it's becoming more onerous on them and they're getting away from frankly the core mission of educating our students with all these layers of mandates. That said, I... I join and suggest supporting this Resolution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Riley: "The Chair recognizes Representative Pritchard."

Pritchard: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield?"

Speaker Riley: "She indicates she will."

Pritchard: "Representative, is this Resolution similar to the mandate waivers that we heard in the House Education Committee?"

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Golar: "The subject matter hearing, yes. That's correct. And the one that we did in the Committee of Curriculum and Policies."

Pritchard: "So, how many of these waivers deal with P.E.?"

Golar: "There's six."

Pritchard: "And they're... they're complying with our state policy that they can only ask for I believe it's two waivers... two different years of waivers."

Golar: "So, three waivers. One... one would be the initial request and that lasts for two years. And two renewals after that."

Pritchard: "So, there's also waivers in here that deal with tuition. Under what conditions do school districts ask for tuition waivers?"

Golar: "Most of them have to do with if the parent works at the school."

Pritchard: "So, the district considers that part of the compensation."

Golar: "I would not say that, Representative, but..."

Pritchard: "Well, I mean, they don't obviously give waivers to any other parent."

Golar: "It allows them to count ADA for the... for that particular waiver."

Pritchard: "Well, I thought it was the tuition for an out-of-district resident is what we were dealing with."

Golar: "It waives the tuition, Representative."

Pritchard: "Right. It waives it because they're an employee."

Golar: "Without the waiver they would have to pay."

Pritchard: "So, it's part of the employee benefit. There's also waivers in here that deal with driver's education."

Golar: "Could you repeat that, Representative?"

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Pritchard: "There are also waivers in here that deal with driver's education."

Golar: "Yes."

Pritchard: "What are the districts basically asking for here? Is it a higher tuition fee?"

Golar: "They're asking to be allowed a higher fee."

Pritchard: "Higher than \$250?"

Golar: "Yes."

Pritchard: "Are there any districts asking for a waiver to use a private company to do the driver's ed instruction?"

Golar: "Not... not this one, Representative."

Pritchard: "I know that is a possibility and that is a way some districts are saving dollars."

Golar: "But it's not in this particular waiver."

Pritchard: "Correct. And this Resolution comes over from the Senate and how was it voted on over there?"

Golar: "Unanimous voting, Representative."

Pritchard: "Okay. Thank you, Representative."

Golar: "Thank you."

Speaker Riley: "The Chair recognizes Representative Hammond."

Hammond: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Resolution. I would like to thank Representative Golar for bringing this important Resolution forward. Dealing particularly with tuition waivers for children of employees of school districts where they are struggling getting their children to school in another school district while they, in fact, are working and teaching in another is oftentimes very traumatic for the children. So, Representative, I want to thank you for this legislation."



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Speaker Riley: "The question is, 'Shall House... 'Shall Senate Joint Resolution 16 be adopted?' Representative Golar, let me let you close."

Golar: "First of all, I just want to thank... this is my first time carrying this waiver. I appreciate the comments. It is so important in regards to this particular issue with mandates. And so, as we go forward for next year, we will be looking at improving and many of the questions that Representative Pritchard brought up are very good points and I want to thank Representative Hammond and Representative Sandack for their... their concerns. And we will move forward and try to do big and better each year in regards to mandates."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you, Representative Golar. This is a record vote. The question is, 'Shall Senate Joint Resolution 16 pass?' All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'nay'. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Mr. Clerk, take the record. On this question, with 111 voting 'aye', 0 voting 'nay', 0 voting 'present', Senate Joint Resolution 16, is hereby passed. Mr. Clerk, Adjournment Resolution."

Clerk Hollman: "House Joint Resolution #70, offered by Representative Currie.

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that when the two Houses adjourn on Thursday, April 30, 2015, the House of Representatives stands adjourned until Tuesday, May 05, 2015 at 12:00 o'clock noon, or until the call of the Speaker and the Senate stands

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adjourned until Tuesday, May 05, 2015, or until the call of the President."

Speaker Riley: "Leader Currie moves for adoption of the Adjournment Resolution. All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. The Adjournment Resolution is hereby adopted. Representative.. Leader Currie."

Currie: "Thank you. Just for the record to show that Representative Conroy is excused today."

Speaker Riley: "Thank you. Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Hollman: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 418, offered by Representative Cavaletto. House Resolution 420, offered by Representative Feigenholtz. House Resolution 421, offered by Representative McAsey. House Resolution 422, offered by Representative Poe. House Resolution 423, offered by Representative Winger. And House Resolution 425, offered by Representative Reis."

Speaker Riley: "Leader Currie moves for adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Agreed Resolutions are hereby adopted. Mr. Clerk, committee announcements."

Clerk Hollman: "The following committees are meeting this afternoon. Meeting at 1:00 is Agriculture & Conservation in D-1, Insurance in Room 114, Public Utilities in 413. Meeting at 2:00 is Environment in 413, Judiciary-Criminal in D-1. Meeting at 3:00 is Elementary & Secondary: Licensing Oversight in Room 114, Human Services in C-1, and Judiciary-Civil in 413. An announcement that tomorrow the State

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Government Administration Committee has been canceled. State Government Administrations for tomorrow has been canceled."

Speaker Riley: "And now, allowing for perfunctory time for the Clerk, Leader Currie moves that the House of Representatives stand in adjournment until Wednesday, April 29 at the hour of 1 p.m. All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the House of Representatives is hereby adjourned."

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House Bill 4206, offered by Representative Ford, a Bill for an Act concerning education. House Bill 4207, offered by Representative Ford, a Bill for an Act concerning State government. First Reading of these House Bills. Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution 417, offered by Representative Bellock. House Resolutions 419, offered by Representative Flowers, House Resolutions 424, offered by Representative Greg Harris. House Joint Resolution 67, offered by Representative Hays. These are referred to the Rules Committee. Introduction and First Reading of Senate Bills. Senate Bill 374, offered by Representative Hoffman, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 1129, offered by Representative Cassidy, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. Senate Bill 1629, offered by Representative Gordon-Booth, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. Senate Bill 1630, offered by Representative Demmer, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. Senate Bill 1747, offered by Representative Cassidy, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. First Reading of these Senate Bills.

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There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."