

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

96th Legislative Day

1/27/2016

Speaker Turner: "Members are asked to be at their seats. House Members are asked to be at their seats. We have all staff retire to the rear, please. We shall be led in prayer today by Dr. Michael Fogerson, who is the minister from Chester First Baptist Church in Chester, Illinois. Dr. Fogerson is the guest of Representative Costello. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off all cell phones, and rise for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Shhh. Thank you, Members."

Dr. Fogerson: "Let's pray. Almighty God, who rules and reigns forever, I pray for our state and for all those who guide and govern from this Capitol Building. Help them in every situation to know and to do the right things and the just things. I am praying blessing particularly for the peacemakers, those who are trying to make Illinois whole and complete. Please increase the influence of Leadership in this room who are working towards making Illinois secure, healthy and blessed. Amplify the voice of those who love You, Your kingdom and love their neighbor as themselves. I also pray You would minimize the impact of those who either by commission or omission support ungodliness, injustice and unrest. May Your Holy Spirit ever dwell in the hearts of these Legislators who let the barriers of fear and suspicion and hatred may fall. Where there is blindness, I pray for sight. Where there is darkness, I pray for Your light to shine. Where there is injury, I pray for Your healing to fall. Where there is division, I pray for vision and unity. I pray all of this in the name of Your Son, the Prince of Peace, Jesus and Amen."

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Speaker Turner: "We shall be led in the Pledge of Allegiance today by Representative Scherer."

Scherer - 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 Turner: "Roll Call for Attendance. Leader Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. The... let the record show that we have two excused absences this morning. One is Representative Arroyo, the other is Representative McAsey. Since last we met, Emily and Craig McAsey have welcomed a new daughter in their midst, Caroline Jane, baby sister to lovely Claire. So, I hope that you'll be pleased to know that this new Democrat will come visit us in Springfield soon."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Representative. Congratulations, Representative McAsey. Brown."

Brown: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please let the record show that Representative Reggie Phillips is excused today."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Representative. With 115 Members present, a quorum is esta... Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. I want to announce another new Democrat in our midst and that is the replacement for Representative... former Representative Frank Mautino. The new... the new kid on the block lives in Lan... LaSalle, Illinois. He and his wife Holly have three sons. He's managed restaurants for about 18 years and until recently served as Clerk of the Court for LaSalle County. Please join me in welcoming Andy Skoog."

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Speaker Turner: "Thank you. And welcome Andy Skoog. Representative, would you like to say a few words? Representative Skoog."

Skoog: "Hello, everyone. It's an honor and a privilege to be here to represent the 76th District. I look forward to working with each and every one of you. It's a great day so... first day to meet my secretary, first day to meet all of you, first day to see my office. So, it's an exciting day and I look forward to working with each and every one of you. Thanks."

Speaker Turner: "Thank you, Representative and welcome to the House of Representatives. Mr. Clerk, Senate Joint Resolution 37. Members, can we please bring the noise level down in the chamber. Shhh... Members, can we please bring the noise level down in the chamber. Thank you very much. Senate Joint Resolution 37, Leader Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. I move the adoption of the Resolution."

Speaker Turner: "Lady moves for the adoption of Senate Joint Resolution 37. All in favor say 'aye'; all opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. Mr. Clerk. Speaker Madigan in the Chair."

Speaker Madigan: "Ladies and Gentlemen, could everyone please take their seat. Would everyone in the chamber please take their seat and stop the conversations. Could every person in the chamber please take your seat so that we can welcome the Governor? Would everyone please take their seat? The regular Session will stand in recess. The Doorkeeper is recognized for an announcement."

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Doorkeeper Crawford: "Mr. Speaker..."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Doorkeeper."

Doorkeeper Crawford: "Mr. Speaker, the Honorable President Cullerton and the Members of the Senate are at the door and seek admission to the chamber."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Doorkeeper, please admit the Honorable Senators. Mr. Clerk. Mr. Clerk, is there a quorum present?"

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

President Cullerton: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A quorum of the Senate is present."

Speaker Madigan: "There being a quorum of the House and a quorum of the Senate in attendance, this Joint Session is convened. At this time we would like to announce dignitaries that have joined us today for the Governor's speech. First the Chief of Staff to the Governor, Mike Zolnierowicz. Mike. The Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti. The Attorney General Lisa Madigan. The Secretary of State Jesse White. The Comptroller Leslie Munger. The Treasurer Mike Frerichs. Congressman Darin LaHood. The Auditor General Frank Mautino. First Lady of Illinois Diana Rauner. First person of the Madigan household Shirley Madigan. The Chair recognizes the Majority Leader, Representative Currie."

Currie: "Thank you, Speaker. I move for the adoption of Joint Session Resolution 3."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Clerk, read Joint Session Rous... Resolution #3."

Clerk Bolin: "Joint Session Resolution #3."

Be it RESOLVED, That a committee of ten be appointed, five from the House, by the Speaker of the House, and five from the

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Senate, by the President of the Senate, to wait upon Governor Bruce Rauner and invite him to address the Joint Assembly."

Speaker Madigan: "Representative Currie has moved for the adoption of the Resolution. Those in favor say 'aye'; those opposed say 'no'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Resolution is adopted. Pursuant to the Resolution, the following are appointed as a committee to escort the Governor. The appointments from the House will be Representative Mary Flowers, Representative Jerry Costello, Representative Anna Moeller, Representative David Leitch, Representative Adam Brown. President Cullerton."

President Cullerton: "The appointments from the Senate are Senator Jacqui Collins, Senator Bill Cunningham, Senator Iris Martinez, Senator Sue Rezin, Senator Chuck Weaver."

Speaker Madigan: "Will the Committee of Escort please convene at the rear of the chamber and await the Governor. The Doorkeeper is recognized for an announcement."

Doorkeeper Crawford: "Mr. Speaker, the Governor of the State of Illinois, Bruce Rauner and his party wish to be admitted to this chamber."

Speaker Madigan: "Mr. Doorkeeper, please admit the Honorable Governor. Mr. Governor, please proceed."

Governor Rauner: "Thank you very much, President Cullerton, Speaker Madigan, Leader Radogno, Leader Durkin, Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti, Attorney General Madigan, Secretary White, Comptroller Munger, Treasurer Frerichs, Members of the General Assembly, thank you all for your service. To our distinguished guests and to the media, thank you for attending today. To the members of our National Guard, our servicemen

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and women and our veterans, thank you on behalf of a most grateful state. A unit of our Guard will soon deploy to Afghanistan. Let's keep them in our prayers. To our firefighters, first responders, Corrections officers and all those who keep us safe and protect us, thank you. To our State Troopers... to our State Troopers and all our local police officers from our smallest towns to our biggest city, thank you. The Illinois State Police do so many wonderful things to build relationships between our police and our communities. From midnight basketball leagues, to citizen police academies, to statewide holiday toy drives, our State Police officers are giving back. Among many of their community initiatives, Illinois State Police officers participate annually at the American Legion Youth Camp, and they sponsor the Team Illinois Youth Police Camp in Metro East, which they hope to replicate in the Chicago area this year. I want to recognize Master Sergeant John Merrifield, who leads the Illinois Youth Police Camp and is with us today. Thank you. Thank you, again... thank you, again, to all our officers for your service and your sacrifice. We deeply appreciate you. This past year, we've seen major storms, deadly tornados and recently, record flooding. In every instance, our emergency management team has been there with timely assistance, working hand-in-hand with the impacted communities and local officials. I am constantly in awe of the way our communities come together in times of trouble. This spirit of Illinois is what inspires me every day. James Joseph, our IEMA director, is with us today. For the work you do, all our first responders and emergency personnel, all you do, please accept

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our deepest appreciation. Thank you. Today we're gathered to discuss our great State of Illinois: our opportunities, our challenges, our goals for the future. We were all elected to do a job. Our job is to improve the quality of life for all the people of Illinois. That means more economic opportunity, to increase real incomes for all families: higher pay and lower cost of living for everyone. The key to that is excellent education and vocational training, combined with multiple career opportunities made available by companies competing to hire workers. Illinois is a wonderful place. Our people, our work ethic, our sense of community, our dedication to helping each other, our commitment to giving back, absolutely extraordinary. It's what makes our state a great place to live. We have the hardest working people in America. We have the best strategic location of any state, the most fertile fields, best agriculture. We are the heart of transportation in America. We have the commercial capital of the Midwest, the heart of America, in Chicago. We were the manufacturing center of America, and we had the... much of the best infrastructure in the country. We have the ability to lead the nation in growth and opportunity. And instead, jobs and people have been leaving our state. And we watch other states emerge from the Great Recession, while our employment and growth stagnates. We have fewer jobs today than we had at the turn of this century. Our average working family is making less than they were eight years ago. We are virtually tied for the highest property taxes in America, and we have far more layers of government and mountains of debt at every level. Unfortunately, Illinois's economy has been split in

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two; one part with modest growth and the other part in decline. There are areas within 90 minutes of O'Hare Airport that compete with other expensive megacities around the world. Thanks to global transportation infrastructure, first-class universities, and world-class cultural amenities, white-collar communities in the Chicago area have mostly been able to overcome the financial mismanagement that is now strangling Chicago and Cook County. But it's difficult for the rest of the state. Harvey, Blue Island, Kankakee, Rockford, East Moline, Peoria, Decatur, Danville, Mt. Vernon, Marion, these communities have to compete with other states like Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Tennessee, Texas, South Carolina and too often, we've been losing. In recent years, we've lost more than 300 thousand manufacturing jobs. Many of you have argued that we should try to... we should, should not try to compete with other states because that would be a race to the bottom. Well, the numbers prove otherwise. Factory workers in Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Tennessee, and South Carolina, when you adjust for the cost of living, now make more than workers in Illinois. That's unacceptable. Factory workers in Texas are now making more than Illinois workers even without adjusting for the cost of living. That's outrageous. We should be kicking Texas' tail, but the numbers don't lie. We are losing the race for good-paying jobs. And as jobs have moved to other states, we have a smaller tax base and less money to invest in education, infrastructure and quality of life here. Instead of letting Indiana and Texas take our workers, let's go compete and take their jobs. Illinois's existing policies were meant to help working

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people and the middle class, but are now having just the opposite effect. To see more people employed at high pay, we need to stop crushing employers. To create good jobs, we need more job creators. Now, I understand that union leaders and trial lawyers are putting pressure on you to keep the status quo, but if we don't offer a competitive environment for businesses, pretty soon the unions won't have any more jobs to unionize and the trial lawyers won't have any more businesses to sue. All I'm asking for... all I'm asking for is a return to balance in this state 'cause we don't have it now. We don't have competitive balance and jobs are leaving. To bring good jobs to Illinois, we have to make Illinois a place where it's good to do business. We must fix our workers' comp system, labor regulations, liability costs, and property taxes that make us uncompetitive and push job creators out. The cost of workers' comp is the biggest factor driving our job losses. If we simply aligned our workers' comp costs with those of a state like Massachusetts, which is hardly a bastion of conservatism, we can save state and local taxpayers over \$300 million a year, while protecting those who suffer workplace injuries, and grow more careers at higher wages. Let's get it done. One of the most critical ways to lower our cost of living and compete for more good jobs is to reduce our proc... property tax burden. We have the second-highest property taxes in the country. They are crushing homeowners and small business owners from one end of the state to the other. In many cases, people are paying more in property taxes over the course of living in their home than the original purchase price. That's ridiculous. The government should not

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be making more off a home than its owner. Last year, Lieutenant Governor Sanguinetti led a bipartisan task force that identified 27 ways to streamline and reduce costs on local governments. It is a groundbreaking report and a roadmap for reform. Thank you Evelyn, for your leadership. Now, I know some items in the report are easier to pass than others, so let's pass the easier ones first. We don't have to pass them all day one. We do need to get started on consolidation and mandate reduction right now. The families of Illinois are tired of waiting. To create true long-term property tax relief for our taxpayers, we've got to give local governments a way to control their costs. Some have said local control is impossible, and yet many in this chamber have embraced it before, voting repeatedly to give Chicago more control in its contracting and collective bargaining rules. We should not force other mayors and school boards to come to Springfield to beg for more control. Let's give local control now so homeowners can afford their houses and our communities can compete for jobs with neighboring states that have far lower property tax burdens. Reducing... reducing our tax burden is not only about taxpayers and their property taxes; it's also about citizens and their government. Like it or not, there's a serious deficit in public trust when it comes to government in Illinois. Citizens... That's true... It's true unfortunately. Citizens don't trust their government and businesses don't either. We pay for this trust deficit in lost economic growth. Victims of a widely held perception that everything in Illinois is lobbyist tested, special interest approved. We need to regain public trust. We need to restore employer

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confidence that Illinois is a safe place to do business, so they will invest more here, growing more high paying jobs, and expanding our tax base. That starts with fundamental changes: term limits and redistricting reform. The people of Illinois deserve the chance to vote on term limits. The ste... the State Supreme Court made it clear that it takes legislative action to put term limits on the ballot. This is the year to make that happen. I was told... I was told last year that the Legislature only takes up constitutional issues in years when we hold statewide elections. Well, I look forward to a vote on term limits this session. President Obama... President Obama has come out strongly in favor of both term limits and redistricting reform. Just two weeks ago at his State of the Union Address, President Obama pressed for nonpartisan redistricting reform saying, we have to end the practice of drawing our districts so that politicians can pick their voters and not the other way around. I agree and the President... and the people of Illinois agree. The only... the only reasons not to do this are pure partisan politics and a desire to cling to power. The vast majority of all Illinois voters, Democrats and Republicans, are in overwhelming support of both term limits and redistricting reform. The time for excuses and blame is over. The time for action is now. Let's get it done. Change is hard. Reform is difficult, but we can't just raise taxes again. We know that doesn't work. While the 2011 tax hike was in place, our credit rating was downgraded five times. We barely made a dent in our bill backlog, state support for schools was cut, our unfunded pension liabilities went up \$28 billion, and our

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economic growth fell to half the national average. Raising taxes without improving our ability to compete will not help the people of Illinois, and in fact, it will make things worse. While all of us are continuing to negotiate over reforms to grow jobs and lower taxes, our administration is not waiting to take action. We are moving ahead to make government more effective and provide our taxpayers with major long-term savings. Let's review some of our actions. Over the past year, we eliminated more than half a billion dollars in state spending through department action and began the process of getting out from under our 80 consent decrees that have accumulated from decades of mismanagement. We reformed the EDGE program to eliminate 'special' deals and now only provide credits for job creation. We banned the revolving door of state officials turning lobbyists to make money off the programs they designed. We began a comprehensive review of Illinois police procedures and other states' best practices for handling use of deadly force between officers and community residents. We began the process to sell the Thompson Center. We implemented fraud reduction efforts that prevented \$188 million in improper unemployment insurance claims. Under Director Felicia Norwood, we took action at HFS that will net state taxpayers more than \$250 million, improving redetermination and rightsizing the entities providing care coordination. Thanks to the leadership.. thanks to the leadership of Director George Sheldon, DCFS is producing better outcomes for children while saving taxpayer money by moving more children from shelters to foster homes. These efforts by Directors Sheldon and Norwood are only the

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beginning of a complete transformation of the way we provide health and human services here in Illinois. Historically... It's a big deal; it's a big deal. Historically the state has spent most of its resources, tens of billions of dollars, on a broken patchwork of reactive, expensive, and ineffective interventions. After decades of such uncoordinated spending, Illinois residents are sicker and no better educated, while some of our most vulnerable communities suffer from unconscionable levels of unemployment, violence and incarceration. Our transformation puts a strong new focus on prevention and public health, pays for value and outcomes rather than volume and services, makes evidence-based and data-driven decisions and moves individuals from institutions to community care to keep them more closely connected with their families and communities. Now, I know many of you have been working on these issues for years; I ask for your support. Together, we can finally bring Illinois up to par with the best run states, helping make us far more compassionate without dramatically increasing costs and in some cases, reducing costs. One of our biggest taxpayer protection initiatives is to take on the compensation costs of our State Government. Most of our state employees are terrific, hardworking public servants. They deserve to be well paid and receive higher compensation in the future, but it should be based in part upon higher productivity and shared benefit in taxpayer savings rather than just seniority. Unfortunately, the compensation demands being made by AFSCME leaders are out of touch with reality. Adjusted for the cost of living, we already have the highest paid state employees

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in America. Und... undeterred and unashamed, AFSCME is demanding \$3 billion more in overall compensation. That \$3 billion should go into our schools and human services not into our government bureaucracy. Our state employees... our state employees are paid almost 30 percent more than Illinois taxpayers are in their own jobs for the same work. That is just not fair and it's time we restore balance between taxpayers and State Government. And it's not just the eye-popping price tag on these easy-to-see costs that's hurting us. Taxpayers are also losing from the hidden costs of work rules buried in previous contracts. Because of these work rules, State Government has seen AFSCME file grievances against volunteer campground hosts for educating visitors about a state park, against volunteers at a veterans home who answered calls in a reception area, against the supervisor who pitched in to eliminate a backlog of tax returns. That's not right. And unfair work rules have allowed state workers to manipulate overtime policies to boost their pay, costing taxpayers tens of millions of dollars. We've paid \$22 million in overtime for the 15-minute roll call that occurs at the beginning of shifts. Our former Auditor General has also highlighted, as ripe for abuse, the practice of so-called shift-swapping, where workers use sick time for a regular shift, but then get paid overtime to work a later shift that same day. We need to install common-sense into our union contracts. One of our... one of our most critical actions we can take to save taxpayers' billions of dollars, while offering state workers a fair deal that protects their retirement, is to enact Constitutional Pension Reform.

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Nearly everyone in this chamber today understands the need for it. We have the worst unfunded pension liability in the nation and because of that nearly one in four dollars we spend in the state budget goes towards making pension payments. Over the last 10 years, we've gone from contributing \$1.4 billion a year; this year scheduled to pay \$7.6 billion. Now, over the summer, our administration developed a pension plan that would provide more than \$2 billion in relief to cities, counties, universities and school districts, in addition to the state. And while it remains my hope that the General Assembly is interested in providing more comprehensive help to every community, we cannot wait any longer to help the state. So as a first step toward bipartisan compromise, President Cullerton and I have agreed to support his pension proposal that will save \$1 billion a year from four of the state pension plans. I have instructed administration attorneys to work with the Senate President's staff to finalize language as soon as possible. When they do, I urge both chambers to pass it without delay. One of the... one of the biggest impediments... one of the biggest impediments holding back our efforts to lower taxpayer costs and improve services is our antiquated information technology system. We are a model of inefficiency and ineffectiveness. Right now, Illinois ranks among the three highest spending states on IT, but we are... and that's not just recent, that's for years... but we are one of the worst states for digital services delivered to the public. Too many of our agencies' systems can't communicate with each other. They are vulnerable to cyberattacks and are extremely expensive to maintain.

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Illinois State Government needs a digital revolution and this week I created a secretary-level position to see this mission through. The Department... the Department of Innovation and Technology will allow us to consolidate, modernize and streamline our IT systems, to better serve taxpayers and businesses while fostering innovation among employees. Current State CIO, Hardik Bhatt, is with us today... Hardik, where are you?... Hardik? He will lead... Hardik will lead our transformation to improve service and productivity and allow Illinois to be more proactive in the quickly changing world of IT. Now, it's not just in IT where we need to make Illinois government faster and more responsive. Our Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity is hampered by red-tape, and a slow bureaucracy that make business development and job recruitment more difficult. Our other states have moved to public-private partnerships to boost economic development efforts, while Illinois has stood still. Last year, we introduced legislation to create a P3, but it stalled in the Legislature. This year we will move forward with a revised version that will laser focus on sales, marketing and customer service to increase our competitiveness for job creation and investment. This morning the Illinois Business and Economic Development Corporation filed Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State, the first step towards bringing our economic development efforts into the 21st century. In the days ahead, I will be signing an Executive Order formally establishing our collaboration. Now... now to save taxpayers money, we must also change the way we buy our goods and services. In order to counter the procurement system of uses

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prior Governors... we all know who they were... the General Assembly passed the 2009 Procurement Reform Law. Unfortunately, that law is creating far more problems than those it was designed to correct. The law more than tripled the time it takes to complete an RFP process, taking the process from 2 or 3 months to 9 to 12 months. The solution... the real solution is comprehensive procurement reform, both legislative and administrative, that maintains necessary ethics and transparency safeguards, streamlines bureaucracy, offers greater flexibility to agencies, and follows best practices from other states. Done properly, we believe this can save Illinois taxpayers more than \$500 million a year. We look forward to working with this Legislature to get that done. Now, let's talk about one of the most significant transformations underway in our administration. Last year we created a bipartisan commission, led by our Director of Public Safety, Rodger Heaton, to propose reforms to our criminal justice system. The Commission earlier this month recommended 14 reforms that can help us achieve our goal of safely reducing the state's prison population by 25 percent by 2025. They recommended we enhance rehabilitation programming in our Corrections system and implement risk/needs assessments and evidence-based programs that target underlying issues that contribute to criminal behavior, particularly cognitive behavioral therapy and substance abuse treatment. These and other reforms will lead to fewer victims of crimes, a better pathway back for ex-offenders, and safer communities for all. State Senators Michael Connelly, Karen McConnaughay, Michael Noland, and Kwame Raoul, and Representatives John Cabello,

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Scott Drury, Elgie Sims, and Brian Stewart, served on the Criminal Justice Reform Commission. Thank you all for your hard work on this critical issue. With your help, let's pass your recommendations into law this year. Finally.. finally, let's talk about the single most important thing we do together as a community and that is educate our young people. I know each of you in this chamber share my passion to make Illinois schools the best in the nation. I'm excited to work together to make that a reality. We in Illinois are blessed with wonderful teachers. I want to thank the thousands of educators across our state for the excellent work they do each and every day for our sons and daughters. The key.. the key to rising family income, more high-paying jobs and a better life for everyone in Illinois, is to have a high-quality, fully-integrated education system from cradle to career, from early education, to K-12 public schools, to outstanding community colleges and universities, all the way to coordinated job training and technical training later in life. To drive that result, we are committed to eliminating wasteful bureaucracy, putting more money into our classrooms, freeing up our teachers to teach and holding our schools truly accountable for results. We... we have 10... we have 10 long-term goals. This Legislative Session we will begin. Number one, we want to work closely with President Cullerton to significantly increase state support for education, focusing our additional resources more on low-income and rural school districts so we can provide high quality classrooms in every community, without taking money away from other districts. Second, we got to provide proper funding for early childhood

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education while setting rigorous benchmarks for program performance, so we can continue to be national leaders in this important work. Third, we need to give school districts more flexibility when it comes to bargaining, contracting, and bidding to save taxpayers money, while enabling districts to pay higher teacher salaries. Fourth, let's empower our universities and community colleges to reduce their administrative costs, the work rules, pension liability, unfunded mandates, and then offer additional financial support to those schools that show real progress in putting more resources in the classroom where it belongs. Let's support more partnerships between high schools, community colleges and local employers so that our young people, who are not going to university, can receive the training, the step into good-paying careers to beginning in their teenage years. The sixth priority is to develop a comprehensive, consistent, objective student growth measure, not necessarily based on the PARCC system, so we can track our students' progress in each grade towards college or career, holding our schools accountable for results while eliminating unnecessary testing and bureaucratic mandates. Let's support programs... let's support programs that create more quality school choice options for low-income children stuck in failing schools. Let's create new quality schools of choice for our disconnected youth as a way to get them back in school. Let's consolidate... we can consolidate the majority of our councils and task forces under the P-20 and Early Learning Councils in order to decrease the bureaucracy, increase high-quality outcomes for our learners, and improve the coordination of

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these working groups. And finally, number 10, this year we'd like to create a Cabinet on Children and Youth so we can better align our health and human services with our cradle to career education initiatives in order to provide higher quality, fully integrated services for our young people. This... this education agenda is bold and transformative. Change is difficult, but by working together, we can make it a reality. The people of Illinois deserve nothing less than the best education system in America. Now, we all know, all of us... all of us in this chamber had a difficult year together in 2015, as we debated a budget with structural reform. But it is not too late for this General Assembly to make historic progress for the people of Illinois. We came together to solve a budget crisis early in 2015. We came together to improve our unemployment insurance system, benefiting employers and workers alike. We came together to pass historic criminal justice reforms and much needed police reforms. If each of us commits to serious negotiation based on mutual respect for our coequal branches of government, there's not a doubt in my mind we can come together to pass a balanced budget alongside reforms. If we work together, Illinois can be both compassionate and competitive. I'm convinced... I'm convinced there is a way we can build the economic growth of states like Texas, with the heart and compassion of states like Massachusetts. In fact, in deep-blue Massachusetts, Democrats passed Collective Bargaining Reform for local governments to save their taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars. They figured out how to make workers' compensation costs half of ours. And they put in rigorous student growth measures to

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hold their schools accountable for results. Our job in this Capitol is to improve the lives of all the people of Illinois through more economic opportunity, better educational opportunity, and more value for their hard-earned tax dollars. To achieve a grand compromise, we must cast partisanship and ideology aside. We must break from the politics... we must break from the politics of the past and do what is right for the long-term future of the state. I'm ready and it's my genuine hope that you are too. Let's continue this journey together. Illinois can't wait any longer. Thank you. Thank you all. God bless you. God bless the United States of America, and God bless our great State of Illinois. Thank you."

Speaker Madigan: "Will the Committee of Escort please come forward to escort the Governor from the chamber. The President of the Senate is recognized for a Motion."

President Cullerton: "I move that the Joint Session do now arise."

Speaker Madigan: "The President of the Senate has moved that the Joint Session do now arise. All those in favor say 'aye'; those opposed say 'nay'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Joint Session will now arise. The regular Session will come to order. Mr. Lang. Mr. Lang in the Chair."

Speaker Lang: "Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Hollman: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 887, offered by Representative Bryant. House Resolution 888, offered by Representative Bryant. House Resolution 891, offered by Representative Rita. House Resolution 893, offered by Representative Bellock. House Resolution 894, offered by Representative Franks. House Resolution 895, offered by

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Representative Verschoore. House Resolution 896, offered by
Representative Batinick. House Resolution 899, offered by
Representative Nekritz. House Resolution 900, offered by
Representative Turner. House Resolution 901, offered by
Representative Beiser. House Resolution 903, offered by
Representative Durkin. House Resolution 904, offered by
Representative William Davis. House Resolution 905, offered
by Representative Evans. House Resolution 906, offered by
Representative Bradley. House Resolution 907, offered by
Representative Jones. House Resolution 908, offered by
Representative Gordon-Booth. House Resolution 909, offered by
Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 910, offered by
Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 911, offered by
Representative Fine. House Resolution 912, offered by
Representative Brown. House Resolution 915, offered by
Representative Bourne. House Resolution 916, offered by
Representative Bourne. House Resolution 918, offered by
Representative Unes. House Resolution 920, offered by
Representative Barbara Wheeler. House Resolution 921, offered
by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 923, offered by
Representative Bradley. House Resolution 924, offered by
Representative Bradley. House Resolution 925, offered by
Representative Butler. House Resolution 928, offered by
Representative Chapa LaVia. House Resolution 929, offered by
Representative Phelps. House Resolution 933, offered by
Representative Hammond. House Resolution 934, offered by
Representative Ford. House Resolution 935, offered by
Representative Moeller. House Resolution 936, offered by
Representative Bradley. House Resolution 937, offered by

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Representative Bradley. House Resolution 938, offered by
Representative Yingling. House Resolution 939, offered by
Representative Jesiel. House Resolution 940, offered by
Representative Jesiel. House Resolution 941, offered by
Representative Jesiel. House Resolution 942, offered by
Representative Phelps. House Resolution 943, offered by
Representative Phelps. House Resolution 946, offered by
Representative Riley. House Resolution 947, offered by
Representative Durkin. House Resolution 948, offered by
Representative Brady. House Resolution 949, offered by
Representative Brady. House Resolution 950, offered by
Representative Bill Mitchell. House Resolution 951, offered
by Representative D'Amico. House Resolution 953, offered by
Representative Hernandez. House Resolution 954, offered by
Representative Winger. House Resolution 955, offered by
Representative Phelps. House Resolution 957, offered by
Representative (sic-Bill) Mitchell. House Resolution 958,
offered by Representative Crespo. House Resolution 959,
offered by Representative Dunkin. House Joint Resolution 108,
offered by Representative Hernandez. House Joint Resolution
111, offered by Representative Brady. House Joint Resolution
112, offered by Representative Brady."

Speaker Lang: "Leader Currie moves for the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the Agreed Resolutions are adopted. Mr. Clerk, committee announcements. Members, please listen to the committee announcement."

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Clerk Hollman: "The Higher Education Committee will meet at 3:00 this afternoon in Room 114. Higher Education is meeting in Room 114 at 3:00 this afternoon."

Speaker Lang: "Chair recognizes Representative Bryant."

Bryant: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would just like to acknowledge... I have a young man here from my district today, Zac Jorgenson, is here with his father, it is our intention for Zac to be able to Page for me today, but with all the other events going on, he didn't get a chance to do that. So just want to acknowledge Zac Jorgenson here today from Virgins, Illinois."

Speaker Lang: "Welcome, Zac. Thank you for being here. Chair recognizes Representative Barbara Wheeler."

Wheeler, B.: "Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed."

Wheeler, B.: "I would like to remind all the Ladies of the General Assembly that February 17 is wear red Day for the importance of heart information and association. So please remember to wear red on February 17. An e-mail will be coming to remind you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

Speaker Lang: "Could we have some order in the chamber, please. We're... we're going to be adjourning shortly. You can continue your conversations shortly. Could we have some order in the chamber, please. Chair recognizes Mr. Tryon."

Tryon: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise for a point of personal privilege."

Speaker Lang: "Please proceed, Sir."

Tryon: "For those of us can remember last year's Inauguration, we had a welcoming reception that was hosted by our good friend

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in health care and long-term care, Dean Switzer. Shortly after that event, Dean passed away and left a big hole in many of our hearts in this chamber because we had worked with him for so many years. Tonight a group of those peop... Members of that industry and Legislators and other sponsors are hosting a memorial welcome back to Springfield event at the Abraham Lincoln from 7 to 1 a.m. We'll have food and live music there provided by the Boat Drink Caucus. In behalf of Senator Harmon, myself and Chad Hays and the Yo Caucus, we would like to invite you to the Abraham Lincoln any time between 7 and midnight. Thank you."

Speaker Lang: "And now, leaving perfunctory time for the Clerk, Leader Currie moves that the House stand adjourned until Thursday, January 28 at the hour of 8:30 a.m. That's right. That's right, 8:30 a.m. You just be out all night, Mr. Franks. Those in favor say 'yes'; opposed 'no'. The 'ayes' have it. And the House does stand adjourned until Thursday, January 28 at the hour of 8:30 a.m., except for Mr. Franks."

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction of Resolutions. Senate Joint Resolution 33, offered by Representative Bourne and Senate Joint Resolution 34, offered by Representative Bourne is referred to the Rules Committee. House Resolution 889, offered by Representative McSweeney. House Resolution 890, offered by Representative McSweeney. House Resolution 892, offered by Representative Cabello. House Resolution 897, offered by Representative Guzzardi. House Resolution 898, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 902, offered by Representative Thapedi. House Resolution 914, offered by Representative

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Mayfield. House Resolution 917, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 922, offered by Representative Christian Mitchell. House Resolution 926, offered by Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 927, offered by Representative Winger. House Resolution 931, offered by Representative Bill Mitchell. House Resolution 932, offered by Representative Moffitt. House Resolution 944, offered by Representative Zalewski. House Resolution 945, offered by Representative Kifowit. House Joint Resolution 107, offered by Representative Hammond. House Joint Resolution 109, offered by Representative Bourne. House Joint Resolution 110, offered by Representative Bourne. House Joint Resolution 113, offered by Representative Currie. House Joint Resolution 114, offered by Representative Willis. House Joint Resolution 115, offered by Representative Pritchard. House Joint Resolution 116, offered by Representative Chapa LaVia. These are referred to the Rules Committee. Introduction and First Reading of House Bills. House Bill 4516, offered by Representative Zalewski, a Bill for an Act concerning liquor. House Bill 4517, offered by Representative Davis, William, a Bill for an Act concerning State government. House Bill 4518, offered by Representative Davis, William, a Bill for an Act concerning State government. House Bill 4519, offered by Representative Davis, William, a Bill for an Act concerning State government. House Bill 4520, offered by Representative Davis, William, a Bill for an Act concerning State government. House Bill 4521, offered by Representative Durkin, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. House Bill 4522, offered by Representative Hoffman, a Bill for an Act concerning local

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government. House Bill 4523, offered by Representative Hoffman, a Bill for an Act concerning education. House Bill 4524, offered by Representative Conroy, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. House Bill 4525, offered by Representative Phelps, a Bill for an Act concerning finance. House Bill 4526, offered by Representative Nekritz, a Bill for an Act concerning public aid. House Bill 4527, offered by Representative Burke, Daniel, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. House Bill 4528, offered by Representative McAsey, a Bill for an Act concerning safety. House Bill 4529, offered by Representative Sandack, a Bill for an Act concerning State government. House Bill 4530, offered by Representative Cavaletto, a Bill for an Act concerning public aid. House Bill 4531, offered by Representative Cavaletto, a Bill for an Act concerning public aid."

Clerk Bolin: "House Bill 4532, offered by Representative Nekritz, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee benefits. House Bill 4533, offered by Representative Phelps, a Bill for an Act concerning liquor. House Bill 4534, offered by Representative Phelps, a Bill for an Act concerning safety. House Bill 4535, offered by Representative Phelps, a Bill for an Act concerning transportation. House Bill 4536, offered by Representative Walsh, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. House Bill 4537, offered by Representative Flowers, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. House Bill 4538, offered by Representative Bryant, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. House Bill 4539, offered by Representative Brady, a Bill for an Act concerning appropriations. House Bill 4540, offered by Representative

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Evans, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 4541, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. House Bill 4542, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. House Bill 4543, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning correctional officers. House Bill 4544, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 4545, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 4546, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning revenue. House Bill 4547, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning wildlife. House Bill 4548, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning criminal law. House Bill 4549, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning elections. House Bill 4550, offered by Representative Reis, a Bill for an Act concerning correctional officers. House Bill 4551, offered by Representative Bradley, a Bill for an Act concerning safety. House Bill 4552, offered by Representative Andersson, a Bill for an Act concerning aging. House Bill 4553, offered by Representative Burke, Daniel, a Bill for an Act concerning public employee benefits. House Bill 4554, offered by Representative Flowers, a Bill for an Act concerning regulation. House Bill 4555, offered by Representative Bennett, a Bill for an Act concerning State government. House Bill 4556, offered by Representative Bennett, a Bill for an Act concerning elections. House Bill 4557, offered by Representative Bennett, a Bill for an Act concerning civil law. House Bill 4558, offered by Representative Bennett, a

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Bill for an Act concerning wildlife. House Bill 4559, offered by Representative Bennett, a Bill for an Act concerning public aid. House Bill 4560, offered by Representative Currie, a Bill for an Act concerning local government. House Bill... First Reading of these House Bills. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."