

STATE OF ILLINOIS
103rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
REGULAR SESSION
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

66th Legislative Day

11/8/2023

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The regular Session of the 103rd General Assembly will please come to order. Will the Members please be seated at their desks? The invocation today will be given by Rabbi Stern from Temple Israel, from Springfield, Illinois.

RABBI STERN: (Invocation)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Thank you. Thank you so much. Please remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Will Senator Halpin please lead us in the Pledge?

SENATOR HALPIN: (Pledge of Allegiance)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Mr. Secretary, Reading and Approval of the Journal.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Journal of February 2nd, 2023.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Hunter.

SENATOR HUNTER:

Mr. President, I move that the Journal just read by the Secretary be approved unless some Senators as additions or corrections to offer.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Hunter moves to approve the Journal just read by the Secretary. There being no objection, so ordered. Mr. Secretary, Reading and Approval of the Journal.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Journals of Monday, November 6th, 2023, and Tuesday, November 7th, 2023.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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Senator Hunter.

SENATOR HUNTER:

Mr. President, I move to postpone the reading and approval of the Journal just read by the Secretary, pending the arrival of the printed transcript.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Hunter moves to postpone the reading and approval of the Journal pending arrival of the printed transcripts, there being no objection, so ordered. Chris Webb from WCIA seeks leave to record and videotape the proceedings. There are no objections. Seeing no objection. Leave is granted. Mike Miletich from WAND TV seeks to record videotape the proceedings. Seeing no objection, leave is granted. Lisa Yuscus from Blueroomstream seeks to video stream the proceedings. Seeing no objection, leave is granted. And Clint DeRose from WGEM Gray TV seeks to audio and video record the proceedings. Seeing no objection leave is granted. Andrew Campbell from Capitol News Illinois seeks to videotape and record the proceedings. Seeing no objection, leave is granted. Mr. Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolutions 591 through 594, offered by President Harmon and all Members. They're celebration of life resolutions, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Resolutions Consent Calendar.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolution 590, offered by Senator Napoleon Harris. It is substantive.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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Senator Sally Turner, for what purpose do you seek recognition.

SENATOR S. TURNER:

Thank you, Mr. President. A point of personal privilege, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR S. TURNER:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen. I -- Today, I rise to introduce an exceptional young woman, Jorgi Dupureur. Miss Dupureur participated in Illinois Girls Lead summer program hosted by the office of the Lieutenant Governor this year, and the Illinois Council on Women and Girls. This program is open to girls in elementary, middle, and high schools across the State. And out of 225 applications, they only received 34 girls, and she was selected to be one of them. She's a senior at Olympia High School. Unit 16 was selected from the 44th District. She visited me and my staff in our Lincoln office in July, and I invited her back here to see how Session works. She's involved in organizations such as the Chamber Choir, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Student Council, National Honor Society, STEM, and is an active member of 4-H, and she's also a volleyball player. Miss Dupureur plans to attend Greenville University, majoring in Organizational leadership, and she'll play volleyball for them. I ask you for a warm welcome and extending your warmest wishes to Miss Jorgi. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Welcome to the Senate. Senator Stoller, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

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SENATOR STOLLER:

Point of personal privilege.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR STOLLER:

Yeah, thank you. I'm really happy to welcome into the Chambers, T.J. from Eureka High School, he's my Page for the Day and his mom, Joy. T.J. has a 4.0. He's a sophomore, and he comes from the -- the best county in Illinois, Woodford County, my home county. So, please give them a warm Senate welcome.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Welcome to the Senate. Senator Loughran Cappel, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR LOUGHRAN CAPPEL:

Point of announcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

State your announcement.

SENATOR LOUGHRAN CAPPEL:

The Senate Democrats will caucus at 11 a.m. for approximately one hour in the President's Office.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator McClure, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR MCCLURE:

An announcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

The Senate Republicans will caucus at 11:00 for approximately an hour in Room 400 in the Capitol.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The Senate will stand in recess. After caucus, the Senate will return for further Floor action. The Senate stands in recess to the call of the Chair.

(SENATE STANDS IN RECESS/SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senate will come to order. Ben Szalinski seeks leave for video -- for photos and audio. Is there any objection? Seeing no objection, leave is granted. Mr. Secretary, Introduction and Reading of Senate Bills for the first time.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Bill 2641, offered by Senator Holmes, an Act concerning regulation. Senate Bill 2642, offered by Senator Glowiak Hilton, an Act concerning employment. 1st Reading of the bills.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR VENTURA:

Thank you, for announcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR VENTURA:

Yes. I would like to introduce to the Senate, Sofia Reyes. She is a senior at Lockport High School. She participated in the Lieutenant Governor's She Leads Program, which is shadowing program of Senators. She completed three different days during the summer of shadowing me and is now down here to -- to see us do the hard work, in Springfield. So, if everyone could please welcome her and say hi, that would be fantastic.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Welcome to the Senate. Senator Bennett, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR BENNETT:

Personal privilege if we may, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR BENNETT:

Thank you very much. It's good to be back. It's been a few days here, but glad to see everybody. I also need to recognize, two of the folks that make my offices in the district work, and they do a very great job at this. And part of what they're trying to do is just learn more about State government, what's going on in the Senate, and what's going on in Springfield. So today, very fortunate to have with us, Nicole Mertel, who runs our office in Pontiac. She is the lady in charge of that place, I'm telling you, okay. Also is Morgan Caracci, who runs our office in Morris. And she runs that place like a just a well-oiled machine. And so, we're very glad to have him here be with us. We're glad to be working with them. And they're just, again, learning to be here for most part of the day. Glad to have them here. And if you would, please, would you help me give them a warm Senate welcome to here in Springfield. Would you?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Welcome to the Senate, and thank you for your service. Senator Fowler, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR FOWLER:

Thank you, Mr. President. Purpose of an announcement, please.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR FOWLER:

Thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate. Like many throughout southern Illinois, today, I am wearing blue in memory of Graham Joseph Hosman. Today, I rise to share the tragic passing of eight-year-old Graham Joseph Hosman. After a long battle with cancer, he went to be with our Lord, November the 3rd, 2023. Just a few days ago. He passed peacefully at his home in his daddy's arms, surrounded by loved ones. Graham was born October 6th, 2015, the first born of -- of three sons to Andrew and Jennifer Hosman of El Dorado, Illinois, where I was born and raised. In addition to his parents, he is survived by his younger brothers, Parker, 6, and Eli, 3. Paternal grandparents, maternal grandparents, his paternal great grandmother, as well as his maternal great grandmother. Many aunts and uncles and cousins are blessed to have shared in Graham's brief but impactful life this side of heaven. Graham will forever be remembered for his determination, perseverance, competitive spirit, keen mind, and his desire to please his loved ones. He is known for his compassion and tenderness shown to the elderly, the young, and the hurting. He steadfastly prayed for the needs of others. Humbly, submitted to endless intrusions to his person and taught us by example, the beauty of contentment, by his lack of complaining, no matter the pain he was going through. He loved dinosaurs, fishing in granddad's pond, building Legos and anything pertaining with a ball. He had hopes of becoming a preacher and a paleontologist. And assuredly, he would have excelled in both. Mr. President, Members of the General Assembly, Members of the Senate, please

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join me in a moment of silence for Graham Joseph Hosman and his family.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please remain standing for a moment of silence. (Moment of silence observed) Senator Hastings, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR HASTINGS:

Thank you, Mr. President. Point of personal privilege.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR HASTINGS:

Mr. President, Members of the Senate, I -- I rise today to mourn the loss of somebody very special not only to the 19th legislative district, but to the entire State of Illinois. My friend, Ruth Colby, passed away on October 15th of 2023. And I want to read a little bit about Ruth Colby and for those of you who don't know -- know her, you guys, you truly missed out on missing what I consider one of the most special people I've ever met in my entire life. For those of you who do know her, you guys know how special she truly was. She was the President of - President and CEO of Silver Cross Hospital since October 1st of 2017. She was the next Chair of the Illinois Hospital Association and previously serving as the CEO, she served as the Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer for 12 years. Under her leadership, the hospital earned national recognition in safety, quality, and experience. It opened Will County's first and only level three neonatal intensive care unit in 2022. She introduced an open-heart surgery program in 2019, and she championed the Midwest Institute for Robotic Surgery at Silver Cross in 2012. She

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forged partnerships and let me just say these partnerships, because they're so important, there - she -- she forged them with the leading health systems in Chicago to include the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab for inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services. She formed the partnership with the University of Chicago Medicine for Cancer Services and Neurosciences. The Rush University Medical Center for Lung Surgery is a partner with Silver Cross and Ann and Robert Lurie Children's Hospital for pediatric and neonatal services. She built the newest, the most modern, and the most servicing mental health treatment facility. That being the 110 bed Silver Oaks Behavioral Hospital on Silver Cross campus, it opened in 2019, with the help of the General Assembly. She expanded Silver Cross from 289 beds in 2012 to 348 beds today. She was named a Notable Woman in Health Care, a Notable Woman Executive Over the age 15 -- Over the age 50 but I swear she was 29. She was awarded the Citizen of the Year by New Lenox. And she left behind Don, her son David, her sister Judy, and the rest of a loving and caring family. I want to tell you guys just a -- something about Ruth. When Covid-19 happened, Ruth single handedly saved Will County. I will just say that. Not only did she provide refrigeration for vaccinations, she also provided mortuary services for those that had passed, most people don't remember that. When Ruth wanted a NICU, Ruth was going to get a NICU. She came down here to Springfield and petitioned each and every one of us that represented Silver Cross and everybody else to help get a grant to help build the NICU. When times got tough in any one of our lives, whether you lived in Will County or not, Ruth was there for you. I remember some tough times in our family. Ruth says, let's go to lunch. And she told it to you straight 100 percent of the time.

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Although you may not have liked it, Ruth told it to you straight and she did it with a smile. But I'll remember this the most - my mom had a stroke, I think about two years ago now, and it caused me to miss a significant amount of time here in the General Assembly. And I'll never forget going to the hospital, our entire Hastings family and for those you know the Hastings family we travel as a tribe and we had about 15, probably about 20 people in the lobby. And Ruth shows up and consoles our entire family. A couple weeks later, I go up to visit my mom and Ruth is there checking in on her without any prompt just to check in on her. That's the type of Lady Ruth Colby is, and that's the way Ruth Colby always was. And I'll tell you this, she is missed. She is a dear friend of mine and our families, and this entire Chambers. And, Mr. President, I just ask, after all the rest of the speakers speak, that I ask for a moment of silence. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Koehler, for what purpose -- Senator Rezin, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR REZIN:

Thank you, Mr. President. To the resolution, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR REZIN:

Thank you. I only had the opportunity to meet Ruth Colby, 1 or 2 times. Her hospital is west of my district, our paths have crossed at meetings dealing with the mental health crisis that we have and shared in the region. And when many hospitals were trying to figure out how do we handle the increase in mental health that

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we're seeing in our ERs and how do we pay for this? Ruth Colby said, "I'm going to build a facility for mental health. I am going to build a mental health hospital." And I said, "You know, we've been struggling with how to pay for it in the region." She goes, "It doesn't matter because it's the right thing to do." And that's who she was. And she built a mental health hospital that currently covers so many counties and a huge region in our area, and now is always full. So, we appreciate her foresight. I would say that as we decide in the world how we're going to be defined, many people are defined by their successes and business. Ruth Colby looked at, how am I going to leave this world a better place? And that is her legacy. That is her legacy. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

There is a moment of silence requested. Please, all those that can stand, please remain standing. (Moment of silence observed) Leader Koehler, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR KOEHLER:

Thank you, Mr. President, for the purposes of an announcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR KOEHLER:

I'd like to take a moment to recognize and honor Chris Neff from East Peoria who was tragically killed at the age of 49. Chris was a loving husband, father, son, and grandfather. He had, between his wife and him, they had 14 children and four grandchildren. He was a Laborers Local Union 165 member for the past 27 years and worked for United Contractors Midwest. While working on a construction site, Chris and his coworkers went to an assist with

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a two-vehicle accident. He began pulling debris from the street when another vehicle traveling southbound struck and killed him. Chris was selfless, and in a matter of moments, his act of kindness sadly ended in a tragic ending. I want to take this opportunity to remind everybody to always be alert and observe the reduced speed limits when it comes to construction zones, it does save lives. Chris was a good man and I'd like to ask for a moment of silence.
PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

A moment of silent requested. All those that can stand please remain standing. (Moment of silence observed) Senator Villivalam, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR VILLIVALAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. For purposes of an announcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Please state your announcement.

SENATOR VILLIVALAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. I wanted to take a moment, a few moments, to speak about the celebration of Diwali, which will be taking place this Sunday, November 12th. This Diwali is a festival of lights, and it takes place typically during the end of October or early November of each year. Diwali derives its name from the Sanskrit word Deepavali, meaning row of lamps. The Diaz, or lamps that are lit by millions of people, are handcrafted little cups decorated with bright colors and lit in rows along the foundation and balcony of buildings. Diwali is considered to be one of the most biggest and grandest holidays of the Hindu Calendar. Diwali is celebrated by millions of Hindus, Jains, Buddhists and Sikhs, and each religion marks different events and stories. Diwali is celebrated by more than 4 million Indian Americans in the U.S. and

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by millions worldwide. It celebrates new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil, symbolically represented by a festival of lights. Those who celebrate Diwali traditionally light small oil lamps throughout their homes, craft flower garlands, share sweets and launch paper lanterns after dark. This holiday signifies good over evil, knowledge over ignorance, and hope over despair. It's a celebration about open doors, open minds, and open hearts with the sweetness of life celebrated through tasty treats and more. This celebration serves as a reminder that we will make it through dark times, a reminder to nourish our inner flames so that we can be sources of joy as well as goodness within this world, and that we can come together to bring the light of ourselves to each other within the community. Our communities that observe Diwali are grateful to live in a welcoming state that values the religious and cultural diversity of its residents. In that vein of -- of in the vein of celebrating Diwali, we have ordered a sweet known as Gulab Jamun and they will be delivered to the offices of our members and staff. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Jerry Nowicki from Capitol News seeks permission to photograph the proceedings. Is there any objection? Seeing none. Leave is granted. And Mawa Iqbal from WBEZ-FM seeks leave to audio record the proceedings. Is there any objection? Seeing none. Leave is granted. Committee on Assignments will meet in the back of the Chamber, the front room. Committee on Assignments. Leader Koehler, in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER (SENATOR KOEHLER)

Senator Aquino, in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chair of the Committee on Assignments reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Floor Amendment 2 to House Bill 1440 and Floor Amendment 3 to House Bill 3641; Re-referred from the Executive Committee to the Assignments Committee - Floor Amendment 3 to House Bill 2473. Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chair. Senator Lightford, Chair of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Floor Amendment 3 to House Bill 2473. Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Mr. Secretary, Messages from the House.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Message from the House by Mr. Hollman, Clerk. Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has concurred with the Senate in the passage of a bill of the following title, to wit: Senate Bill 690. Together with the following amendment which is attached, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit: House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 690. Passed the House, as amended, November 8th, 2023. John W. Hollman, Clerk of the House.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Ladies and Gentlemen, we'll be moving to page 3 of the printed Calendar for House Bills 3rd Reading. Starting with House Bill 1358, there's a change of sponsorship to Senator Glowiak Hilton. House Bill 13 -- House Bill 1358. Senator Glowiak Hilton seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 1358 to the Order of

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2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 1358. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 1, offered by Senator Glowiak Hilton.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Glowiak Hilton, on your amendment.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

I'd like to adopt the amendment and explain it on 3rd Reading.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

So, is there any discussion? All those in favor say, Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 2, offered by Senator Glowiak Hilton.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Glowiak Hilton, on Floor Amendment No. 2.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

Yes. I'd like to adopt Floor Amendment No. 2 and explain that one on 3rd, also.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? All those in favor say, Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendment reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

3rd Reading. Now, on 3rd Reading. Mr. Secretary, please read

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the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 1358, an Act concerning State government. 3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Glowiak Hilton, on your bill.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

Thank you, Mr. President. House Bill 1358, as amended, is the fifth fiscal year 24 sunset omnibus bill that will extend multiple sunsets to expire over the next six months. This is a non-controversial bill. It just extends various task forces, studies, and reports.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Senator Tracy, for what purpose do you seek recognition? Senator Tracy.

SENATOR TRACY:

Thank you, Mr. President. I have questions of the sponsor, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Sponsor indicates she'll yield. Senator Tracy.

SENATOR TRACY:

Senator Glowiak, there's quite a few sunsets and extensions in this bill, along with some other things, so it's a pretty big bill. And I was just wondering, as it pertains to the court reporters, is -- is there a reason why their sunset is only one year?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Glowiak Hilton.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

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This is in negotiation at this point, and this will just continue negotiations on the specifically, the shorthand reporters' issues.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Tracy.

SENATOR TRACY:

That's true. And -- and I believe the court reporters situation and their sunset was on an earlier bill but got removed because they were asking for a five-year extension along with the others that were in the bill. But for some reason theirs was taken out of that bill and then put in this bill that you have and I'm just wondering if there's a rationale for that.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Glowiak Hilton.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

Well, at this moment, this is in the Supreme Court being discussed. And so, we're waiting for that. So, we are assuming if we give that a year, a lot more information will come from them.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Tracy.

SENATOR TRACY:

Thank you. Thank you for that answer. What I'm also wondering is the effective date, I'm presuming, would be January 1st of this bill. Is that correct or will it be? What -- what date will this bill be effective?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Glowiak Hilton.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

It would be immediate effect, and each one of them has a

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different expiration date.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Tracy.

SENATOR TRACY:

I didn't understand, if you said, what the date for the court reporters effective date is?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Glowiak Hilton.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

The date on it is January 1st, 2025, but it does become effective immediately.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Tracy.

SENATOR TRACY:

Do we have any concerns that the court system may have issues with operating if the Court Reporters Act sunsets January 25 and we haven't extended their sunset?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Glowiak Hilton.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

We can always continue it. We could always extend the sunset if we need to.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Tracy.

SENATOR TRACY:

Thank you for that. And to the bill, I would just say...

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR TRACY:

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To the bill. What if we don't? What if we overlook it? I'm sure the court reporters are going to keep it in the mind. But at risk is a whole court system. And so, I just wanted to bring it to the Body that it's a very short time frame. And I appreciate Senators Glowiak working on this bill. A lot of different sunsets, a lot of different provisions. But I do think it's very telling that this is only one year, even though the Supreme Court is looking at it. Court reporters are vital to the functioning of our Illinois legal system. And so, I hope that we will revisit this very soon, because we'll have chaos. And -- and if we think our court systems are backed up now, they would be more -- more backed up if we let this sunset. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Any further discussion? Seeing none. Senator Glowiak Hilton, to close.

SENATOR GLOWIAK HILTON:

Mr. President, I have been in fairly constant discussions with the court reporters. I don't think that they're going to let this fall off at the end of January of 25. So, I'm just hoping to have support of the bill and appreciate a Yes vote. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The question is, shall House Bill 1358 pass. All those in favor vote, Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 54 voting Aye, 2 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, House Bill 1358, is declared passed. Moving on to House Bill 2104, Senator Villivalam. Mr. Secretary, read the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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House Bill 2104, an Act concerning education. 3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Villivalam, on your bill.

SENATOR VILLIVALAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. House Bill 2104 is a constituent led initiative. Excuse me. It would essentially add water safety to the curriculum that addresses safety in our schools. It's an issue -- issue in my district and other districts around my district, due to the increase in drowning incidents. And it passed the House unanimously. It passed the Senate Ed -- Ed Committee and would ask for an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is -- is there any discussion? Seeing none. The question is, shall House Bill 2104 pass. All those in favor vote, Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all -- have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 55 voting Aye, 0 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, House Bill 2104, is declared passed. Moving down to the bottom of page 3 is House Bill 3641. There is a change of sponsorship on this bill. House Bill 3641, Senator Cunningham. Senator Cunningham seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 3641 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 3641. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 1, offered by Senator Joyce.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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Senator Joyce, on your amendment.

SENATOR JOYCE:

Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to withdraw the amendment.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Mr. Secretary, are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration? Amendment 1 is withdrawn. Mr. Secretary, are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 2, offered by Senator Joyce.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Joyce, on Amendment No. 2.

SENATOR JOYCE:

Mr. President, I'd like to withdraw the amendment.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Amendment 2 is also withdrawn. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 3, offered by Senator Cunningham.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Cunningham, on Floor Amendment No. 3.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. Amendment No. 3 adds a provision to the original bill related to 9-1-1 fees. I move for its adoption. I'd be happy to explain it further on 3rd Reading.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

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SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

3rd Reading. Now on 3rd Reading, Mr. Secretary, please read the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 3641, an Act concerning State government. 3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Leader Cunningham, on your bill.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

Thank you, Mr. President. As is often the custom, during the Veto Session, we move omnibus legislation to achieve a goal of cleaning up some existing legislation and various Scrivener's errors and sunset extensions. This bill is -- is one of those vehicles. I can go over a few of the highlights. It does several things. Extends the repeal date for the State police regarding the awarding of grants. It makes changes to the Crimes Victims Compensation Act to allow multiple applicants to receive repayment for burial expenses, align some definitions of -- of -- of -- for foster family homes and qualified residential treatment programs for the Child Care Act. And as I mentioned previously, it adds a provision that extends a surcharge for prepaid phone card -- cards in the city of Chicago to help pay for 9-1-1 services. I know of no opposition to the bill. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Senator McClure, for what purpose do you seek recognition.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

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Questions for the sponsor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The sponsor indicates he'll yield. Senator McClure.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

Thank you, Mr. President. Senator, there was a sunset extension for penalty enhancements for firearm related offenses and that's been taken out of this legislation. So, why has that been removed from the legislation?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

That is correct, Senator. Decisions have been made that it would be better if that provision ran as a standalone bill. So, it is no longer in this omnibus piece of legislation.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator McClure.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

So, are we going to hear that bill today? Do you know?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

I'm sorry, I -- I don't know the answer to that question.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator McClure.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

Thank you. To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

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Thank you. I'm not sure how to speak to the sunset portion that was removed. But you know, what's in this bill is fine. The bill is fine. But to remove a protection for the citizens of our State when they are being ravaged by gun violence is really troublesome. And so, I really hope that we hear that bill today or tomorrow and vote on that provision, because there's a reason why our Attorney General supports it. There's a reason why so many folks support it, because it's going to help protect our State and save lives. This is not the time to -- to go against protections of our citizens, against people that would commit gun crimes. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Any further discussion? Senator Fowler, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR FOWLER:

Thank you, Mr. President. Will the sponsor yield, please?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Sponsor indicates he'll yield. Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER:

Thank you, Mr. President. Senator, my understanding is what I see is that there's also some provisions in this legislation for the Day and Temporary Labor Services Act. Can you give us a little description of -- of what that is, please?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

Thank you, Senator, for that question. My understanding is this provision was included in the belt or quest for several business associations that will make it easier for them to pay

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fringe benefits by giving them a couple of different options.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER:

Thank you, Senator. And my understanding is this actually will extend this legislation, this part of the legislation pertaining to our staffing agencies into the spring Session, from what was originally under House Bill 2862 which when it passed the General Assembly this last spring, we, found some -- some major flaws that our staffing agencies found. So, is that -- is that true that this will be extended?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

Yes it is, Senator.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER:

Thank you, Mr. President. To the bill, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR FOWLER:

Thank you, Mr. President. And thank you, Senator Cunningham, for your work on this. I had -- had many, as many of us had here in the Senate, staffing agencies that had saw -- had noticed some major flaws in House Bill 2862. So, extending this into the spring Session so they can continue negotiations is a huge benefit. And I thank you so much and I appreciate that. And I would like to ask everyone to support this legislation. Thank you.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Any further discussion? Seeing none. Senator Cunningham, if you would like to close.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

I ask for your Aye votes.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The question is, shall House Bill 3641 pass. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 56 voting Aye, 0 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, House Bill 3641, is declared passed. Andrew Adams from Capitol News Illinois seeks leave -- permission to photograph and record the proceedings. Is there any objections? Seeing none. Leave is granted. Moving to the top of page 4 on the Secretary's Desk for Concurrences - Senate Bills 1769, Senator Ventura. Mr. Secretary, read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendment No. 2 to Senate Bill 1769. Signed by Senator Ventura.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

Yes. House Floor Amendment 2 adds additional language to the definition of the passenger vehicle as it relates to this Act, so that it does not include any vehicles procured by IDOT as a part of their consolidated vehicle procurement program. The rest of the language remains the same as the Engrossed bill that we passed in the Senate. I recommend Do Adopt and urge, an Aye vote.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Senator McClure, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR MCCLURE:

Questions for the sponsor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The sponsor indicates she will yield. Senator McClure.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

Thank you. So, with this amendment now what vehicles are included in the legislation?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

Yes. So, it's still all passenger vehicles procured by the State except for law enforcement, emergency vehicles will be removed by definition, and the IDOT consolidated vehicle procurement program.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator McClure.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

And at what point does the bill take effect when these vehicles have to be purchased?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator -- sorry, Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

As they purchase new vehicles after January 1st, 2030, they will need to purchase zero-emissions vehicles or convert ones -- at -- new vehicles, at that time.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM:

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Senator McClure.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

Okay, so what is the cost going to be to the taxpayers of this State?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

I don't have that estimate, as it will be a rolling purchasing price. However, each vehicle stands to save \$12,000.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator McClure.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

The exclusions to this mandate, why are they there? Why -- why does every vehicle not have to be purchased, if it's an EV?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

So, as you know, after the State passed CIJA, there was a goal to have a million EVs on the road by 2030. This is our State doing their part to move towards that direction. This will help us strengthen our infrastructure. As more cars come onto the market, we'll be able to fill in any gaps that we see, as we continue to invest in this infrastructure.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator McClure.

SENATOR MCCLURE:

Thank you. To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

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SENATOR MCCLURE:

Thank you. So, at this moment in time, China accounts for more than 75 percent of battery cell production, in the entire world. And as I think most of us are aware, it's been in the news all over the place, China just strengthened restrictions on graphite, which is a key -- a key mineral needed for the production of electric vehicle batteries. They produce 65 percent of the world's mined graphite. By the way, China is the biggest polluter on the planet. The amount of carbon dioxide emitted from China every year doubles the amount that the United States produces. And so, there are several problems with this bill. The first is that we are not a rich State, financially. We don't even know how much this is going to cost. Second is that - as of now, this is essentially going to be money going to the biggest polluter in the world. And where are they going to do with that money as they produce these materials, these batteries, they are going to pollute the world even more. So, this is really not an anti-pollution bill. It is a anti-taxpayer bill. And the fact that it doesn't take effect until 2030, when we don't know what the world's going to look like at that moment should cause all of us to be concerned about why we would press the green button today. There are plenty of discussions we can have between now and then to do this in a responsible way. Once, hopefully, the United States is more of a battery producing country and everything else, but right now, we're not there. And an article, I just read this morning, said that the United States is not going to be able to keep up with China or be competitive with China, in this market for another 10 to 20 years. So, for those reasons, while I -- I appreciate where the Senator is coming from, trying to make the State a less polluted place.

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What this bill amounts to is essentially an empty press release as we give more money to the world's biggest pollutant, and we cause our taxpayers to foot the bill. Therefore, I urge a No vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any further discussion? Senator Rose, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR ROSE:

A couple of questions of the sponsor, if I may.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The sponsor indicates she would yield. Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

So, I'm -- I'm fascinated by the exceptions. What are the exceptions to this mandate?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

Yes, it calls -- carves out law enforcement. And then by definition, IEMA vehicles, because they are emergency vehicles, are not included in the definition of passenger. And this new amendment from the House carves out the IDOT, as part of their consolidated vehicle procurement program.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator -- Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

What is the consolidated vehicle procurement program?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

So, it is my understanding that IDOT purchases vehicles that

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are used by PACE to then have a ride share for people to and from their work, and those particular vehicles are housed at one of the ride shares homes. And so, because they don't know who would have that house -- house at their location and where the charging stations would be for that vehicle, it made more sense to cut them out at this time.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

So, why are we letting anybody out? I mean, if the goal here is to be green and help the environment, why shouldn't the police cars be green?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

It is my opinion that they should also be green.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

Then why aren't they, in your bill?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

There was some discussion about the need for infrastructure in the southern part of our State. As you are aware that our State has put millions of dollars into putting more infrastructure. In fact, they're looking at every 50 miles along our highways to have charging stations. And so, in an effort to start moving this forward in our State, we were -- we cut law enforcement out for

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the moment. But I assure you, I will take another bite at the apple.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

I have no doubt about that latter part. But, let me just say, Aha! Exactly! The point of the question, and I appreciate the honesty with which you answered it. But let me translate, the reason that the IEMA and ISP and the emergency vehicles aren't in this, is because we can't guarantee they'd actually get where they're supposed to go. Why? Again, to the honesty of -- of the sponsor, because the infrastructure doesn't exist -- the infrastructure doesn't exist. So, let's go to the other vehicles that are in this, the passenger vehicles. Department of Corrections has multiple passenger vehicles, as they transplate -- transplant inmates around the State of Illinois, are they exempt or are they simply run out of electricity and sit on the side of the road?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

Yes. I want to be very clear. The words I said, is not the infrastructure doesn't exist. I said, that there are concerns and this allows us the time to address those concerns. So, we continue to expand our infrastructure to guarantee that people feel safe and the ability to get from point A to point B. But just like I can't guarantee a combustible engine, today, can drive all the way to California without stopping at a gas station. It too, would run out of gas. We want to just make sure that people feel comfortable, in their job duties, before we move forward. But I will remind you

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that this is a concurrence with a House amendment for IDOT and not for law enforcement.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

So, the question was; "Does the safety exemption apply to Department of Corrections, or will they be stuck on the side of the road?"

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Ventura.

SENATOR VENTURA:

I don't understand your question, this isn't a safety concern.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Rose.

SENATOR ROSE:

Well, I -- I think you do understand my question, but never mind. To -- to the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR ROSE:

Listen, I enjoy the fact, very much that you described it as a concern, that there's no infrastructure in downstate Illinois. As someone who represents, I don't know, 13 counties in downstate Illinois, let me just go ahead and confirm, as a matter of fact, that there is no infrastructure. So, if you're moving inmates from Kankakee to Big Muddy and you run out of electricity, you're stuck on the side of the road. Universities, are they going to be able to go from UIC to Carbondale for a conference? I mean, look folks,

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the exemptions that have been put into this expose the fallacy of the bill in the first place. This is nothing but another green press release, to say we're doing something and I guess, okay, we are, we're going to have all these passenger cars that, you know, go an hour and a half and stop. By the way, if you really want to go somewhere, get a hybrid. I have a hybrid, it's fantastic. I get like 500 miles on that sucker. I get out of Illinois faster than you guys in Chicago can, because you'll be stuck on the side of the road in your green vehicle. Vote No.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any further discussion? Senator Koehler, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR KOEHLER:

To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR KOEHLER:

Yes, I rise in support of this bill. I think it's good for Illinois to lead by example. As the Senator from the only district that actually makes cars and trucks, right now, that are electric. I think it's also good that maybe we look to next spring or sometime in the future saying, shouldn't we give Illinois vehicles the first preference? Hopefully this, as we see Stellantis build out its electric plant in Belvidere, we can convince Ford that they can start converting into electric cars. I think it's a -- a good message to the automotive - electric automotive industry and we should be leading by example. I vote -- I'm going to vote Yes on this.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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Any further discussion? Seeing none. Senator Ventura, to close.

SENATOR VENTURA:

Yes, I hold before me a document of 24 pages showing the locations of EV charging stations in the southern part of our State. So, the infrastructure does exist and we need to continue to expand on this. With that said, I would urge an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The question is, shall Senate concur in House Amendment No. 2 to Senate Bill 1769. All those in favor vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 37 voting Aye, 18 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendment No. 2 to Senate Bill 1769, and the bill is declared passed. Moving back to page 3 on House Bills 3rd Reading, going to House Bill 1440. There is a change in sponsorship to Senator Joyce for House Bill 1440. Senator Joyce seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 1440 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 1440. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 2, offered by Senator Joyce.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Joyce, on Floor Amendment No. 2.

SENATOR JOYCE:

Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to adopt the amendment and explain it on 3rd.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration? I'm sorry. Is there any discussion? All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes, I think, have it. It's adopted. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

3rd Reading. Now on 3rd Reading. Mr. Secretary, please read the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 1440, an Act concerning safety. 3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Joyce, on your bill.

SENATOR JOYCE:

Thank you, Mr. President. House Bill 1440, as amended, extends the sunset for one year on the sentencing guidelines for individuals with prior firearm with violent convictions who have subsequently were convicted of aggravated use of a weapon or unlawful use of a weapon by a felon. Entertain any questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Is there any discussion? Senator Curran, for what purpose do you -- excuse me. Leader Curran, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR CURRAN:

To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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To the bill.

SENATOR CURRAN:

I just want to encourage us support for this proposal. I know this was originally an initiative of our Attorney General, when he served in the Illinois Senate. This is a very complex issue. But certainly, when we're talking about those that commit crimes of this intentionality, in reckless disregard for -- for safety. I -- I think it is a good proposal and -- and I appreciate the Senator's championing this, in this extension, to continue to work on this very complex issue. And I would encourage an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Any further discussion? Just a reminder that as this has an immediate effective date, this requires 36 votes. Seeing no further discussion. Senator Joyce, would you like to close?

SENATOR JOYCE:

Thank you, Mr. President. I ask for an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The question is, shall House Bill 1440 pass. All those in favor vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 42 voting Aye, 12 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, House Bill 1440 is declared passed. Moving along to House Bill 2473, Rezin. Senator Rezin seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 2473 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 2473. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 3, offered by Senator Rezin.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Rezin, on your Floor amendment.

SENATOR REZIN:

Thank you, Mr. President. The amendment becomes the bill, and I'd like to explain on 3rd, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? All those in favor say, Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. Are there any further Floor amendments... Excuse me. The Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted. And are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Not -- 3rd Reading. Now, on 3rd Reading. Mr. Secretary, please read the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 2473, an Act concerning regulation. 3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Rezin, on your bill.

SENATOR REZIN:

Thank you, Mr. President. Legislation here today was carefully and intentionally written with the support of President Harmon, Mary; his staff and Scott from our staff, and other stakeholders, in order to ensure that it thoroughly and specifically addresses the concerns that the Governor stated in his Veto Message of my original legislation. More importantly, it forces all sides to negotiate a new comprehensive nuclear reactor

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program in Illinois. This bill addresses the concerns over the potential side of advanced nuclear reactors that can be built once we left our State's archaic nuclear moratorium. Under this bill, small modular reactors that are less than 300 megawatts will be allowed to begin the permitting process beginning, January 1st, 2026. Additionally, I believe we have addressed the Governor's desire for State level oversight, in addition, to the already stringent oversight laid out by the federal government. This law would make IEMA, the lead agency for that oversight which is consistent with the current operations of our State's already existing nuclear fleet. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Office of Homeland Security will be directed to establish rules for reactor decommissioning, environmental monitoring, and emergency preparedness by January 1st, 2026. This will be done with consultation from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Furthermore, this legislation authorizes the Governor to commission a brand-new study to research the State's role in guiding the development of small modular reactors and makes conforming statutory changes, including updating references to IEMAs preexisting Illinois law. To clarify, this law does not supersede federal law or regulations on nuclear power plant. And does not affect the current nuclear fleet at the six traditional power plants within the State. The federal regulatory permitting process already takes 6 to 8 years. So, if we want to take advantage of the amazing advancements in new nuclear technology that have occurred over the past couple of decades and not fall behind the rest of the states within the nation, we need to act now. 24/7 - 365 days rain or shine, nuclear is powering America's clean energy future. Nuclear provides clean, reliable, and secure energy that

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we can count on to help reach our clean energy goals here in Illinois. With the passage of this legislation, we provide our State with the opportunity to truly embrace the next generation of nuclear technology and all of the benefits that it offers. Thank you, and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Leader Koehler, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR KOEHLER:

Yes, to the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR KOEHLER:

First of all, I want to really, thank, Senator Rezin for your perseverance on this, this is an important issue. And while it may be true that "small modular reactors", "SMRs" may not be viable right now, some people predict 5, 10 years is when they'll be rolled out in the commercial market. It's important because right now is when people are making decisions on their future direction of their energy needs. Already, I know of a place in Illinois where a company wants to look at a carbon free future, and they're thinking about SMRs as possibly fitting into their particular situation. If we're really serious about decarbonizing our environment, I think we have to look at this and allow for all kinds of options. This is one option in how we're going to get there, and we need to take it seriously. So, I again, I appreciate the sponsors support and I encourage a Yes, vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

For further discussion. Senator Rose, for what purpose do

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you seek recognition?

SENATOR ROSE:

To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR ROSE:

So, I do a fair amount of hooting and hollering around here from time to time, but I want to stop for a minute and stand back and look at this process. To Senator -- Leader Koehler's point, that was just made, this is how policy is supposed to be made. And I want to salute both Senator Rezin and President Harmon and everyone on both sides and the staffs for taking the time to do this right over many, many years, quite frankly. Many years. This is how it's supposed to work. When we're standing up together as a -- as a bipartisan coalition in the State, planning for the future of our State. That's how this process is supposed to work. So, I'm really excited to vote Yes for this bill. And I'm going to stand with Leader Koehler and everybody else who votes Yes, because this is how it's supposed to work. This is the future of Illinois. This is the future of energy, in Illinois. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

For further discussion. Senator Joyce, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR JOYCE:

To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR JOYCE:

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Thank you. And I also rise and commend the sponsor for all the work done on this bill. Illinois has been a leader in energy across our nation for decades, and as we move towards a clean energy future and we start taking certain types of energy offline, we have to have something to replace all those megawatts. The moratorium on nuclear power from 1987 was something that my family was involved in. My father was the one who sponsored the bill to ban nuclear waste in the State of Illinois, it was a concern. As technology changes, we need to make sure that we change with it. This is a good step. There's a lot of new manufacturing that we're trying to push in the State of Illinois. They have to get that power from a reliable source, and our electric grid is challenged at this point. So, I -- I also commend the sponsor. I appreciate all the work she did on this, to get this right. This is a good piece of legislation. It's something that we have to look forward to in the future. I ask for Members on our side of the aisle to support the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

And with further discussion, Senator Bennett, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR BENNETT:

To the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR BENNETT:

Some of my comments are very similar to what we have just heard, but I appreciate comments from both sides of the aisle. We're all in Illinois, we're all concerned about energy, the technology that we have experienced years ago, continues to change,

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continues to grow. The world has changed and continues to grow as well. The need for energy does nothing but continue to increase and continues to -- to rise over so many ways. It's time for this bill and again, I appreciate everyone's efforts. Senator Rezin, the President, and everyone else involved. It's time to move forward. I ask for an Aye vote, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

And our last speaker. Leader Curran, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR CURRAN:

To the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

To the bill.

SENATOR CURRAN:

In my district, I represent Argonne National Laboratory. I'm fortunate enough to represent one of our 17 national science laboratories. I -- I remember, get to go over there from time to time very neat place, going over there with Deputy Leader Rezin. She knows them well, and they know her well, and we met with the nuclear scientists over at Argonne. As Deputy Leader Rezin led me through, this whole technology, and she was so well versed in it, and I -- I know slightly more than I knew then, and I knew nothing then. And so, I really enjoyed that. But she has really led on this issue, new nuclear supports, small communities manufacturing, and it provides good paying jobs. I want to commend Deputy Leader Rezin for the perseverance shown with this legislation and this initiative. I know she's doing it on behalf of constituents, all our constituents throughout the State and, you know, important industries, manufacturing. She never gave up on this. And I know

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she got a lot of help, from the other side of the aisle, which, is just a fantastic display of how this works. I want to particularly thank the Senate President, you know, when we started this year, at the beginning of the year he said he wanted to work together when we could. I think, going above and beyond, and working with Deputy Leader Rezin, on this legislation getting it to this point, certainly showed, you were good to your word. And so, I certainly want to commend you on that, as well. Compromise and working together allows us to win for all our communities. This is certainly an example of that process. And I -- I -- this is a good day for this Body as we consider -- consider this piece of legislation. And I ask for your Aye vote. Thank you.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

With no further discussion. Senator Rezin, to close.

SENATOR REZIN:

Thank you, Mr. President. You know, I appreciate everyone's support here today. This has been a long journey. I mean, we've worked on this bill in a bipartisan manner for well over a year. I mean, this is what good policy looks like in the State of Illinois. This is what good policy looks like for this country. And to be able to have the conversations that make sense and take what I thought was a good bill that we initially passed in here, and with many of our -- with the Governor's Office and many with the unions and all of the groups input, we've taken a very good bill and made it even better. And that's what I believe that we have here, as well. There's so many people, in this room, that I would like to thank. But I would be remiss if I also did not thank my sponsor in the House, Representative Lance Yednock. He is my friend across the aisle. As I say, he understands this energy as

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well because all of this is in our backyard. And more importantly, Representative Yednock knows that the skilled labor and that skilled workforce that we have in this State is one of the biggest assets that the State of Illinois has in producing this kind of energy. So, he spent as much time as we spent over in the Senate. He spent a lot of time in the House educating his House Members about the importance of this bill. So, I want to make sure that I acknowledge him, as well. I'm here, today, asking for an Aye vote. I'd love to send this bill over to the House and have my friend across the aisle, Representative Lance Yednock, pick up the bill in the House. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The question is, shall House Bill 2473 pass. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 44 voting Aye, 7 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the constitutional required constitutional majority, House Bill 2473, is declared passed. The Committee on Assignments, if we can please have the Committee on Assignments meet in the back room. Committee on Assignments. Leader Koehler, in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER (SENATOR KOEHLER)

Senator Aquino, in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The Senate will come to order. Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senator Lightford, Chair of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned:

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Referred to Executive Committee - Motion to Concur with House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 690; Be Approved for Consideration - House Bill 779. Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Mr. Secretary, Resolutions.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolution 596, offered by Senator Fowler and all Members. It is a celebration of life resolution, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Resolutions Consent Calendar.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Resolution 595, offered by Senator DeWitt. It is congratulatory.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Everyone for just an announcement. The Executive Committee has been posted for a 3:30 hearing in Room 212. Executive Committee will have a committee hearing at 3:30 in Room 212. Mr. Secretary, Senate Bills First Reading.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Bill 2643, offered by Senator Doris Turner, an Act concerning health. 1st Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The Senate would stand in recess. After Executive, the Senate will return for further Floor action. The Senate stands in recess to the call of the Chair.

(SENATE STANDS IN RECESS/SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senate will come to order. Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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Senator Castro, Chair of the Committee on Executive, reports Motions to Concur - House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 690 and House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 1988; and Accept Amendatory Veto Motion to House Bill 2878 Recommend Do Adopt.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Mr. Secretary, Introduction and Reading of Senate Bills for the first time.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Senate Bill 2644, offered by Senator Morrison, an Act concerning State government. 1st Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

For Senators with(in) the sound of my voice, if you can make sure you're making your way to the Senate Chambers, as we will be taking up final action, very soon. If Members of the Senate can make their way to the Chamber so we can get on with the evening and on to final action.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

If all Senators can please come to the Senate Chambers to get on with Floor action. If all Senators can please come to the Senate Chambers so we can get on with Floor action. Ladies and gentlemen, we're going to be moving to final actions. Supplemental Calendar No. 1. On the Secretary Desk of Concurrence -- Senate Bills, Senate Bill 690, Castro. Senator Castro. Sorry, Mr. Secretary, read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House, in the adoption of their Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 690. Signed by Senator Castro.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Castro.

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SENATOR CASTRO:

Thank you, Mr. President. Senate Bill 690, as amended, validates certain tax levies for community and mental health boards created or levied after January 1st, 1994, but before the effective date of this Amendatory Act. Senate Bill 690, also amends the Election Code to prohibit a township from placing a community mental health public question on the 2024 primary or general election ballot if a community mental health public question was approved, via referendum, in the same township, at the 2022 general election. Senate Bill 690 further provides that if a community mental health board has been established by a county with a population of less than 500,000 and the board is funded in whole or in part by a special mental health sales tax, the largest municipality in the county with at least 125,000 residents may appoint 2 additional members to the board. I ask for an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Is there any discussion? Seeing none. The question is, shall Senate bill concur in House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 690. All those in favor vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 38 voting Aye, 15 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 690 and the bill - - and the bill is declared passed. Continuing on to Senate Bill 1988. Mr. Secretary, read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

I move to concur with the House in the adoption of their Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 1988. Signed by Senator Castro.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Castro.

SENATOR CASTRO:

Thank you, Mr. President. As amended, Senate Bill 1988 provides that when a Cook County assessor makes revisions that increases a property owner's assessment, the assessor shall continue to accept appeals from the taxpayer for a period of at least 30 business days from the later of when the assessment notice was mailed or was published on the assessor's website. This amendment was driven by opposition from the Cook County Assessor's Office. The assessor's office still remains opposed. Many folks in, especially in the Cook County area, especially many of my constituents, have been hit by the higher assessments. This is an opportunity to give them some relief and another tool to give them an opportunity to appeal those assessments. I, aside, I ask for an Aye vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Is there any discussion? Seeing none. The question is, shall Senate concur in House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 1988. All those in favor vote, Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 48 voting Aye, 6 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, the Senate does concur in House Amendment 1 to Senate Bill 1988, and the bill is declared passed. Moving on to Motions in Writing to Accept the Specific Recommendations of the Governor - House Bill 2878. Mr. Secretary, read the motion.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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I move to accept the specific recommendations of the Governor as to House Bill 2878 in manner and form as follows: Amendment to House Bill 2878. In Acceptance of Governor's Recommendations: Amend House Bill 2878 on page 117, by deleting parentheses, comma, and close parentheses in line 8, and by deleting everything before the period in line 9. Dated 11/07/2023, and signed by Senator Castro.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Castro.

SENATOR CASTRO:

Mr. President, I wish to move to concur the Governor's specific recommendations.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Seeing none. The question is, shall the Senate accept the specific recommendations of the Governor to House Bill 2878, in the manner set forth in the motion? The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 53 voting Aye, 0 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. The specific recommendation of the Governor as to House Bill 2878, having received the required constitutional majority, are accepted. Will the Committee on Assignments please meet in the back room -- in the back of the Chamber front room. Committee on Assignments meet in the back of the Chamber. Leader Koehler, in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER (SENATOR KOEHLER)

Senator Aquino, in the Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Mr. Secretary, Committee Reports.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

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Senator Lightford, Chair of the Committee on Assignments, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Be Approved for Consideration - Floor Amendments 1 and 2 to House Bill 779. Signed, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford, Chair.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Samantha Smylie from Chalkbeat, Chicago, request permission to take notes of the proceeding. Is there any objection? Seeing no objection. Leave is granted. Back to Supplemental Calendar No. 1 House Bills 3rd Reading we have House Bill 779, Sims. Senator Sims seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 779 to the Order of 2nd Reading. Leave is granted. On the Order of 2nd Reading is House Bill 779. Mr. Secretary, are there any Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 1, offered by Senator Sims.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Sims, on Floor Amendment No. 1.

SENATOR SIMS:

Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to adopt the amendment and debate it on 3rd.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? All those in favor will say Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for -- the Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted. Are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

Floor Amendment No. 2, offered by Senator Sims.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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Senator Sims, on Floor Amendment No. 2.

SENATOR SIMS:

Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to adopt the amendment and debate it on 3rd.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? All those in favor say, Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it, and the amendment is adopted. Are there -- are there any further Floor amendments approved for consideration?

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

3rd Reading. Now on 3rd Reading, Mr. Secretary, please read the bill.

SECRETARY ANDERSON:

House Bill 779, an Act concerning State government. 3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Sims, on your bill.

SENATOR SIMS:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. House Bill 779 is a consumer protection driven pawnbroker modernization bill. It came about following lengthy negotiations between the industry, the Department of Financial and Professional Regulations, and Advocates. It represents an agreed compromise measure in the best sense of the term, and one that everyone should be proud of. This bill contains important and potentially transformative data disclosure that will give regulators, industry advocates, and this Body the insight we need to ensure that the

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law will provide fair access to capital -- to capital public needs. And that data collected over the next few years, I remain committed to being involved in this process of reviewing the data with all stakeholders, and if necessary, reconvening parties for potential amendments to further the goals of this bill. Now to the contents. The bill creates a sliding scale for financing, the higher the pawn the lower the finance charge. It prohibits the use of auto title pawn loans, it mandates annual training for pawnbroker employees, it includes requiring written disclosure of fees possibly exceeding the value of the item pawned, and it requires an annual report of the summary of pawns. Mr. President, I want to state to this Body, for this Body, the commitment from myself and the Department, that the information that will be drawn from this bill will be fairly evaluated and disseminated to the General Assembly, the public, and all stakeholders. With that, I'd answer -- answer any answer, any questions.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Is there any discussion? Senator Erica Harriss, for what purpose do you seek recognition?

SENATOR E. HARRISS:

Question of the sponsor, please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Sponsor indicates he'll yield. Senator Harriss.

SENATOR E. HARRISS:

Thank you. My question is on the legislative intent. In regards to the license cap number, in the bill, is there an intention of best number being set below the current number of brokers?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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Senator Sims.

SENATOR SIMS:

Senator, there was no discussion of reducing the cap. The current cap stays in place but that would be -- there would be -- that would be the cap that exists. Right now. There is exist -- there is a cap of 250 licenses and that -- that would stay the same.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Harriss.

SENATOR E. HARRISS:

So, the intention is that no current pawnbrokers will be put out of business by this cap.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Sims.

SENATOR SIMS:

Senator Harriss, I -- I actually, I appreciate that question. Thank you very much for bringing that point up. That's why we are having this modernization process and creating this framework that will modernize. We are making sure that we protect those small mom and pop operations. This -- this modernization bill allows for that. And there was -- there was absolutely not going to be mom and pop shops put out of business, but in fact, it will allow for them to grow and to make sure that they contain -- they continue to provide the product that the consumers want.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

Senator Harriss.

SENATOR E. HARRISS:

Thanks very much for that clarification. Appreciate it.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

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Any further discussion? Seeing none. Senator Sims, would you like to close?

SENATOR SIMS:

Vote, Aye.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR AQUINO)

The question is, shall House Bill 779 pass. All those in favor will vote Aye. Opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Have all voted who wish? Take the record. On that question, there are 52 voting Aye, 0 voting Nay, 0 voting Present. Having received the required constitutional majority, House Bill 779 is declared passed. There being no further business to come before the Senate, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on the 9th day of November 2023. The Senate stands adjourned.