

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
87th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

82nd Legislative Day

January 8, 1992

PRESIDENT ROCK:

The hour of 11:45 having arrived, the Senate will please come to order. Will the Members be at their desks, and will our guests in the gallery please rise. Our prayer this morning by the Reverend Anthony G. Tzortzis, St. Anthony's Hellenic Orthodox Church, Springfield, Illinois. Father.

THE REVEREND ANTHONY G. TZORTZIS:

(Prayer by the Reverend Anthony G. Tzortzis)

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Thank you, Father. You, too, have a nice day. Reading of the Journal, Madam Secretary.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Journals of Wednesday, November 6; Thursday, November 7; and Friday, November 8, 1991.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL:

Thank you, Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I move that the Journals just read by the Secretary be approved, unless some Senator has additions or corrections to offer.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

You've heard the motion as placed by Senator Hall. Is there any discussion? If not, all in favor, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The motion carries, and it is so ordered. Senator Hall. Oh. Okay. Message from the House.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

A Message from the House by Mr. O'Brien, Clerk.

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has adopted the following joint resolution, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

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House Joint Resolution 89.

Adopted by the House, January 8, 1992.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

House Joint Resolution 89, Senator Demuzio.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Well, thank you, Mr. President. House Joint Resolution 89 is the resolution, I guess, that calls for us to meet with the House in the convening of the Joint Session this afternoon at 12:00 noon for this purpose of hearing from his Excellency, Governor Jim Edgar. And I would move to suspend the rules for the immediate consideration and adoption of House Joint Resolution 89.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. Senator Demuzio has reluctantly moved to suspend the rules for the immediate consideration and adoption of House Joint Resolution 89. This is the resolution that calls for us to meet with the House in Joint Session in about ten minutes, for the purpose of hearing his Excellency. All in favor of the Motion to Suspend, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The rules are suspended. Senator Demuzio now moves the adoption of House Joint Resolution 89, which calls for us to meet in Joint Session in about ten minutes. All in favor, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The resolution is adopted. All right. Ladies and Gentlemen, prior to our going over to the well of the House to hear the -- to escort the Governor, the Committee of Escort from the Senate will consist of Senators Vadalabene, Cullerton, Palmer, Senators Maitland and Butler. If those five individuals would please await his Excellency at the front door of the House Chamber, we will -- all right. Prior to our going over, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have some special guests. If I can have your attention. If we can have your attention for just a moment. Senator John Cullerton has some special guests, who have traveled to Springfield to be with us. And I would ask

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and yield to Senator Cullerton for the purpose of introduction.

SENATOR CULLERTON:

Thank you, Mr. President. I'm joined on the Podium with Senator Fawell to welcome the Spartans of St. Francis High School in Wheaton, Illinois, which is located in Senator Fawell's district. They are the Class A State Volleyball Champions, and the girls -- their record was 40 and 2. And I'd like -- they were ranked, by the way, number three in the nation. They were ranked number one in the State by the News-Gazette. And I'd like to introduce their coach, Peg Kopec, who would introduce the members of the team who have traveled here. Okay. So, may I please introduce the -- the coach, Peg Kopec.

COACH PEG KOPEC:

(Remarks by Coach Peg Kopec)

SENATOR CULLERTON:

Yes. I have a motion to have Senate Resolution 900 removed from the Consent Calendar, and ask for the immediate consideration and adoption of Senate Resolution 900. All in favor, say Aye. All opposed, No. The Ayes have it. And now I move for the adoption of Senate Resolution 900. All in favor, say Aye. All opposed, No. The Ayes have it. So, the resolution is adopted. Thank you very much, girls.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. Ladies and Gentlemen, we have passed House Joint Resolution 89, calling us for -- to convene in Joint Session with the House in about two minutes, so I would ask the Members to please walk over to the House Chamber and be graciously admitted, as we always are. Senator Philip, for what purpose do you arise, sir?

SENATOR PHILIP:

A point of information, Mr. President. As soon as the Governor's speech is over, if the Republicans would come to my

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office for a caucus, I would appreciate it.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. The -- the Senate will stand in recess until the hour of 1:30. Senate stands in recess until 1:30. We will reconvene back here. We have some business to transact. In the meantime, we are to go over and listen to the Governor's news. Senate will stand in recess till 1:30.

(RECESS)

(SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDENT ROCK:

The hour of 1:30 having arrived, the Senate will please come to order. Senator Vadalabene, for what purpose do you arise, sir?

SENATOR VADALABENE:

Yes, thank you, Mr. President. There'll be a Democratic Caucus in Room 212 immediately.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. Democratic Caucus immediately in Room 212. The Republicans are already in caucus, for those who are not there, in Senator Philip's Office. The Senate will stand in recess until the hour of three o'clock.

(RECESS)

(SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDENT ROCK:

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The hour of 3:30 having arrived, the Senate will reconvene and come to order, please. Senator Brookins, for what purpose do you arise, sir?

SENATOR BROOKINS:

Inquiry of the Chair, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Yes.

SENATOR BROOKINS:

Do I need to pass a resolution to get some heat on in here? Or, how do we do -- how do we go about it? My ears are cold. My feet's cold. I'm in trouble.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Your -- your heart is warm, as is your personality. You'll be all right. Channel 7 has visited us and asks leave to shoot some tape. Without objection, leave is granted. Message from the Secretary of State.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Dear Madam - This office is transmitting herewith a copy of the correspondence from Auditor General Robert G. Cronson. Filed by George H. Ryan, Secretary of State.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Communications from the President and Minority Leader.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Dear Ms. Hawker - Please be advised, pursuant to Rule 7B of the Rules of the Senate of the 87th General Assembly, I have appointed the following Members to the Senate Rules Committee: Senators Demuzio, D'Arco, Collins, Lechowicz, Savickas, J.J. Joyce and Holmberg. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours, Philip J. Rock, President.

Dear Ms. Hawker -- Pursuant to Rule 7B of the Senate Rules of the 87th General Assembly, as adopted, please be informed that, in addition to myself as Minority Leader, I have appointed the

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following Members to the Senate Rules Committee: Senators Davidson, DeAngelis, Maitland, Schaffer and Weaver.

Sincerely, James "Pate" Philip, Senate Minority Leader.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Introduction of Bills.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Bill 1490 offered by Senator Topinka.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1491 offered by Senator Collins.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1492 offered by Senator Vadalabene.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1493 offered by Senator Vadalabene.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1494 offered by Senator Schaffer.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1495 offered by Senators Smith, del Valle, Marovitz and others.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1496 offered by Senators Topinka, Dudycz, Fawell and others.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1497 offered by Senator Topinka.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1498 offered by Senator Brookins.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1499 offered by Senator Thomas Dunn.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1500 offered by Senator J.E. Joyce.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1501 offered by Senator del Valle.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

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Senate Bill 1502 offered by Senator del Valle.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1503 offered by Senator del Valle.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1504 offered by Senator del Valle.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1505 offered by Senator del Valle.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bills.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Rules Committee. Senator Brookins, the consensus is you've never looked better. Resolutions.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 887 offered by Senator Vadalabene.

Senate Resolution 888 offered by Senator Brookins.

Senate Resolution 889 offered by Senator Kelly.

Senate Resolution 890 offered by Senator Jacobs.

Senate Resolution 891 offered by Senator Brookins.

Senate Resolution 892 offered by Senator Vadalabene.

Senate Resolution 893 offered by Senator Vadalabene.

Senate Resolution 894 offered by Senator Hawkinson.

Senate Resolution 895 offered by Senator Daley and all Members.

Senate Resolution 896 offered by Senator Jones.

Senate Resolutions 897 and 898 offered by Senator Vadalabene.

Senate Resolution 899 offered by Senator Schaffer and all Members.

Senate Resolution 900 offered by Senator Cullerton.

Senate Resolution 901 offered by Senator Holmberg.

Senate Resolution 902 offered by Senator O'Daniel.

Senate Resolution 903 offered by Senator Watson.

Senate Resolution 904 offered by Senator Watson.

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Senate Resolutions 905 through 913 offered by Senator Topinka.

Senate Resolution 914 offered by Senator Topinka.

Senate Resolution 915 offered by Senator Brookins and all Members.

Senate Resolution 916 offered by Senator Brookins and all Members.

Senate Resolutions 917 and 918 -- pardon me -- and 919 offered by Senator Topinka and all Members.

Senate Resolution 920 offered by Senator Topinka.

Senate Resolution 921 and 922 offered by Senator Jones.

Senate Resolution 923 offered by Senators Severns, Demuzio, President Rock and all Members -- all Democratic Members -- pardon me.

Senate Resolution 924 offered by Senators Severns, Demuzio, President Rock and all Democratic Members.

Senate Resolution 925 offered by Senator Vadalabene.

Senate Resolution 926 offered by Senator Hall.

Senate Resolution 927 offered by Senator Jones.

Senate Resolution 928 offered by Senator Daley.

Senate Resolution 929 offered by Senator Rea.

Senate Resolution 930 offered by Senator Friedland and all Members.

Senate Resolution 931 offered by Senator Thomas Dunn.

Senate Resolution 932 offered by President Rock and all Members.

Senate Resolution 933...(machine cutoff)...offered by Senator Demuzio, President Rock and all Members.

Senate Resolution 943 offered by Senators Demuzio, Vadalabene, Hall and others.

Senate Resolution 944 offered by Senator Geo-Karis.

Senate Resolutions 945 and 946 offered by Senator Ralph Dunn.

Senate Resolution 947 offered by President Rock and all



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Members.

Senate Joint Resolution 108 offered by Senator Vadalabene.

Senate Resolution <sic> 109 offered by Senator O'Daniel.

Senate Resolution <sic> 110 offered by Senator Schaffer.

And Senate Joint Resolution 111 offered by Senator Donahue.

They're all congratulatory and death resolutions.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Consent Calendar, Madam Secretary.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 948 offered by Senator J.E. Joyce.

Senate Resolution 949 offered by Senator Severns.

Senate Resolution 950 offered by Senators Topinka, Dudycz, Fawell and others.

Senate Resolution 951 offered by Senators Demuzio, Rea, O'Daniel and others.

Senate Resolution 952 offered by Senator Dudycz.

Senate Joint Resolution 107 offered by Senator Severns and President Rock.

Senate Joint Resolution 112 offered by Senator del Valle, Senator Smith and Senator Palmer.

Senate Joint Resolution 113 offered by Senators del Valle and Daley.

They're all -- pardon me -- they're all substantive.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Executive. Senator Joyce, for what purpose do you arise, sir?

SENATOR J.E. JOYCE:

Well, thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate. I would ask leave for a temporary suspension of the rules for the immediate consideration of that resolution which the Secretary just read.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. The Gentleman is seeking suspension of the rules

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for the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 948. Any discussion on the Motion to Suspend? Senator Donahue.

SENATOR DONAHUE:

Thank you, Mr. President. I would just ask what the resolution does. We're -- we're not familiar with it. And...

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Senator Joyce.

SENATOR J.E. JOYCE:

Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. This resolution deals with a particular problem that has come to my attention that evolved out of a meeting between the regional superintendent of DuPage, the Illinois State superintendent, and the Chicago Board of Education, whereby a program was transferred to the control and supervision of the Chicago Board of Education. And at the time that such transfer was made, there were certain promises and commitments made to those persons who were involved in the program. At this point, those people who were involved in this have been trying to find out whether or not there is going to be compliance with those representations. Those have to do with continuity of service and other fringe benefits. No one has indicated that that is not going to happen. The State has taken the position that, yes, those were true and accurate representations, but it's still up to the Chicago Board of Education to comply with it. The Chicago Board of Education is -- claims to be in the process of trying to do that, but it doesn't -- there doesn't seem to be a lot of progress on this. And I am trying to use this as a method to move this process along. I have spoken with the minority spokesperson, with respect to this. And if there are any other questions, I'll be happy to answer them. If not, I would move for a temporary suspension and then a favorable vote on this resolution.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Discussion? Senator Donahue.

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SENATOR DONAHUE:

Yes. I -- I have one more quick question. Is there any cost to the State? It's just simply within transfer and all that stuff?

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Senator Joyce.

SENATOR J.E. JOYCE:

No cost.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. The Gentleman has moved to suspend the rules for the immediate consideration and adoption of Senate Resolution 948. Is there any further discussion? If not, all in favor of the Motion to Suspend, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The rules are suspended. Senator Joyce now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution 948. Discussion? If not, all in favor, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The resolution is adopted. ...(machine cutoff)...Demuzio, for what purpose do you arise, sir?

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Thank you, Mr. President. I also have a resolution on the Desk. I don't know if it's been read in, but it -- it deals with coal miners' benefits. I have talked with Senator Donahue on the other side of the aisle. I understand it's okay, and I'd -- I'd like to -- to move that today, if I could.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. The Gentleman has moved to discharge the Committee on Executive from further consideration of Senate Resolution 951, and asks that the -- the resolution be immediately considered and adopted. Any discussion on the Motion to Discharge? Senator Watson.

SENATOR WATSON:

Thank you, Mr. President. Only that I'd like to be joined as

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a hyphenated co-sponsor. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

With leave of the Body, Senator Watson to be added as a co-sponsor. Leave is granted. All right. Senator Demuzio has moved to -- to discharge the Committee on Executive from further consideration of Senate Resolution 951, and asks for its immediate consideration. All in favor of that motion, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. Senate Resolution 951 is discharged and is under immediate consideration. Senator Demuzio now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution 951. Discussion? If not, all in favor, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The resolution is adopted. Senator Weaver, for what purpose do you arise, sir?

SENATOR WEAVER:

Thank you, Mr. President. I'd just like the record to show that Senator Davidson is absent due to the funeral of his secretary today.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

The record will so reflect. Thank you. Senator Holmberg, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR HOLMBERG:

Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to move for immediate consideration of -- of Senate Resolution 901. It's congratulatory.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. The Lady has moved to suspend the rules for the immediate consideration and adoption of a congratulatory resolution - Senate Resolution 901. Any discussion on the Motion to Suspend? If not, all in favor, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The -- the rules are suspended. Senator Holmberg now moves the adoption of Senate Resolution 901. Discussion? If not, all in favor, indicate by saying Aye. All

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opposed. The Ayes have it. The resolution is adopted. Senator Severns, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR SEVERNS:

Thank you -- thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate. I move to discharge from the Committee on Executive from further consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 107, and to suspend the rules to take up the immediate consideration and adoption of SJR 107.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. Senator Severns has moved to discharge the Committee on Executive from further consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 107. Any discussion on the motion? If not, all in favor, indicate by saying Aye. All opposed. The Ayes have it. The motion carries. Senate Joint Resolution 107 is discharged and is under immediate consideration. Senator Severns, on Senate Joint Resolution 107.

SENATOR SEVERNS:

Thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate. Senate Joint Resolution 107 is the resolution that is passed out on the desk of each Member. In fact, I've had the opportunity to discuss briefly with Chairman Marovitz and Minority Spokesperson Donahue this resolution, which simply calls for an immediate hiring freeze on positions and contractual hirees. Due to the State's fiscal crisis, we believe that this is one step that would garner some savings for the remaining months of this fiscal year without, hopefully, causing the kind of pain that some of the cuts that we're going to have to make will require. It recognizes that there are some positions that should be exempted from the freeze. And the positions exempted from the freeze "include those attendant" - and I'm reading from the resolution - "those attendant to the provision of direct services to individuals." For example: "nurses, mental health techs, correctional officers,

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caseworkers" and so on. Secondly, "those required by federal or State law, rules or regulations or court order." And thirdly, "those of such a technical nature that no current employee would be able to perform those functions and which are critical to the continued operation of State government." I believe these exemptions fairly and reasonably address any of the immediate concerns that the State would need to address through the hiring of any individual. I would hope that this resolution is met with favor, and believe that it is an opportunity to work toward our fiscal crisis.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

All right. Senator Severns has moved the adoption of Senate Joint Resolution 107. Discussion? Senator Demuzio.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Well, thank you very much, Mr. President. The -- the Senator has indicated that -- by virtue of the language in this resolution, that it exempts those positions that are required under federal or State law, rules or regulations, or a court order, and I think that pertains to exempting those staff positions at the Illinois School for the Deaf, the Illinois School for the Blind, and those things. And with that understanding, I would rise in support.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Further discussion? Senator Weaver.

SENATOR WEAVER:

Well, thank you, Mr. President. I'm just wondering what real impact this might have, and whether or not it might be a little premature to be acting on this resolution before we address that which is going to be before us next week, Senator Severns.

PRESIDENT ROCK:

Senator Severns.

SENATOR SEVERNS:

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Thank -- thank you, Senator Weaver. I don't consider it premature. The personal services and consulting contracts combined constitute eighteen percent of the State's FY'92 budget. Personal services alone are at 4.274 billion, for the largest single expenditure in the FY'92 budget. Consulting contracts account for another ninety-eight million. As we know, and has been reported, four thousand nine hundred and forty-nine individuals opted for the early retirement provision that expired on December 31st. Additionally, we -- from the records from the Comptroller's Office - the monthly report of annualized salaries that we have used in our material - we know that roughly twenty-three hundred individuals, through normal attrition, vacate their positions each month. If we conservatively estimated that a third of that combined number would be exempted from the budget -- I mean, from the resolution, we would still have a considerable savings that -- that could be realized. And I think that, given the fiscal crisis, this is not premature, but just recognition that we must act, and act quickly.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Weaver.

SENATOR WEAVER:

Well, thank you, Senator. I guess I still feel that this should be postponed until next week, where the -- the Appropriations Committees, I understand, are going to hold some hearings, and we address these issues at that time, in context with whatever else we might do in reducing appropriations throughout every agency. So, I think it's just kind of premature to look at this and adopt this resolution at this time.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Further discussion? If not, Senator Severns may close. Senator Rock.

SENATOR ROCK:

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Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I, too, rise in support of Senate Joint Resolution 107, and frankly, have mentioned this directly to the Governor on more than one occasion. It seems to me only a reasonable step. And I applauded the Governor when he indeed bit the bullet and laid off some people; when he indeed, in the past, did not fill positions that had become vacant. This is prospective. And what we are saying is not unlike what IBM, and General Motors, and Sears, and everybody else is saying. We are not laying people off; we are suggesting that by the order of the Chief Executive, he just ought to stop hiring people. I think it's eminently reasonable. I presume we can argue about how much saving there will be, but this, it seems to me, is one absolutely reasonable step that we can take. And I will address -- after the passage of this resolution, I will address the schedule for next week, so that we can truly come to grips with this budget crisis - a crisis that everybody literally admits exists, and one that we have to do something about. In the meantime, I would urge the adoption of Senate Joint Resolution 107.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Further discussion? Senator DeAngelis.

SENATOR DeANGELIS:

Thank you, Mr. President. I have a question of the sponsor -- or sponsors.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Sponsor indicates she will yield, Senator DeAngelis.

SENATOR DeANGELIS:

It's been called to most of our attentions that approximately four to six thousand employees have taken early retirements. And in many instances, those people serve in positions that are very vital. They may not be technical. And I have not seen the resolution. I'm just reading the analysis. What happens in those



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situations in which those people that have been in those positions -- are we allowed to reload there or do we just turn around? Because what I don't want to see happen -- I'm in favor of your resolution, but I sure don't want to see some things go wrong and then all of a sudden we get blamed because of a shortsighted solution we've proposed to a problem. Because -- for any of you who may have tried to get a job out of the Edgar administration, I think you might find that this freeze is very unnecessary.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator DeAngelis, have you concluded? Further discussion?

SENATOR DeANGELIS:

No, wait. She's -- she's going to answer this.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Oh, I'm sorry. Senator Severns.

SENATOR SEVERNS:

Thank you, Mr. President. I -- I thought -- it was my understanding that the resolution had been passed out throughout the entire Floor. That's -- that's a legitimate question, and I believe that we've dealt with that. I can tell you in the assumptions that we've put forward based on the annualized salary report that Comptroller -- that the Comptroller -- current and past Comptrollers have provided every month to the General Assembly, we have estimated - I think conservatively - that one-half of the four thousand nine hundred forty-nine positions - or people who have opted for early retirement - would fit under the exempt language in the paragraph that is third up from the bottom. So I believe that it's a legitimate question, and I believe that the resolution very fairly and adequately addresses it.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Further discussion? If not, Senator Severns, do you wish to close? Senator Severns.

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SENATOR SEVERNS:

I would just ask for a favorable vote.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Senator Severns has moved the adoption of Senate Joint Resolution 107. All in favor, indicate by saying Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. Senate Joint Resolution 107 is adopted. Further business? Senator Rock.

SENATOR ROCK:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I don't think there's any one of us that can quarrel with the fact that we are confronted with a recessionary problem; that we, having labored long and hard last Session - indeed into the twenty-one days in July - are yet confronted with the fact that Government spending has again to be curtailed. We have been meeting with the Governor of Illinois for probably the past five or six weeks, and frankly, have no quarrel with the fact that his numbers reflect that we will face a year-end budget shortfall approximating three hundred million dollars, given the fact that we are in the midst of a recession, and given the fact that both sales and income tax receipts, as projected, simply are not living up to the projections. The Governor has proposed, frankly, some pretty tough medicine. And for those of you who have not yet seen it, I would direct your attention to the proposed Emergency Budget Act of Fiscal Year 1992. It is dramatic. It is draconian. And for those who have not read it -- and I will be honest with you, it was delivered to my office shortly before the address at noon. And while I am not generally obtuse about this, I have read it very quickly. And it gives the Governor, in my judgment, some unprecedented heretofore unexercised authority. It appears to say, if indeed authorized, that the Governor of Illinois will unilaterally be in the position to reduce current rates - rates that have been set by this General Assembly and by the agencies.

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I'm not sure we want to do that. And I'm not sure that you're sure we want to do that. And as I go through, this applies to the Department of Aging, the Department of Public Aid, the Department of Rehab Services - all those programs that I have heard Members on this Floor time and time again - irrespective of party - suggest ought not be tinkered with. And now we're going to give the Governor, at his request, unfettered authority to reduce rates and reimbursements, and I'm not sure we're ready. Further, I will admit to you that I am not sure, having sat with the Governor in close discussion for probably the last six weeks, what this means. And by this I mean a proposed three percent across-the-board cut, which would take eleven million dollars from the Department of Children and Family Services. Into what does that translate? Where is that cut going to happen? I happen to sit on the board of Maryville Academy, which on any given day has the care and custody of roughly five hundred abused and neglected wards, cocaine babies. What is that going to mean to them? I don't know. And it seems to me that we have a right to know. And so in pursuant of -- of what I think is our unalienable right to know, and to make a reasoned rational judgment, we are not going to act on this budget - emergency budget - today, or tomorrow. I have asked the chairmen of the Appropriations Committee - they tell me they have spoken with the minority spokesmen - to schedule a hearing in Chicago on Monday, in Springfield on Tuesday, and again in Springfield on Wednesday morning, to literally come to grips with the requested three hundred and fifty million dollars in cuts. And the Governor, in his press release, even said he was open to alternatives. Perhaps there is an alternative to an across-the-board cut. Perhaps the budgeteers can again meet and decide that some cuts in this amount - or an amount acceptable to the Governor - can indeed be imposed by this General Assembly, without giving the Governor unfettered authority to do literally

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whatever he chooses to do. And I initially was not even opposed to giving the Governor this kind of authority. I was here when we did it in nineteen hundred and eighty-three, with then Governor Thompson. One significant difference, however - that I will point out readily and have pointed out - is that back in nineteen hundred and eighty-three we had a full and open hearing, and we knew exactly where he was going to cut. I hasten to add, we don't have that same information, as of this moment. When he is proposing to cut a hundred and twenty-eight million dollars out of the Department of Public Aid, I'd defy anybody in this Chamber to tell me where he's going to cut - specifically, because he hasn't afforded us the opportunity to talk to the agency, or to find out what they're going to recommend in their budget. It seems to me only fair, only reasonable, that we have the opportunity to have this knowledge ahead of time. The Governor will wear the jacket for the cuts; he wore the jacket for the cuts we did in July. But we have a right to know. I, for one, do not wish to buy a pig in a poke. We have a right to know where this money is coming from, out of whose hide it's coming, what programs it's coming out of. I don't think that's unreasonable. And so I have discussed with Senator Philip and others the fact that we will be in Session next week. There is no way to duck our responsibility. The budget is short of what we suggested in March, and April, and May, and June, and July, it ought to be. We all admit it. But now we are confronted with a recessionary period, and the receipts - the money - is less than we projected - less than everybody projected. And so we have to come to grips with that, and I'm prepared to do it. But I am not prepared to do it without the proper information. And so I am suggesting that we will indeed call the Appropriations Committees on Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday morning, and that we will have -- tomorrow morning at nine o'clock when we reconvene, we will have an adjournment resolution that

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calls for us to return to Springfield next Wednesday at the hour of noon to come to grips with this problem that everybody admits exists. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Further business to come before the Senate? Senator Keats.

SENATOR KEATS:

A question of the President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Indicates he will yield. Senator Keats.

SENATOR KEATS:

We don't have any particular problem with what you're saying, and if you think that's appropriate as our Leader, we'll follow your lead. I ask one question: Will we vote on Wednesday? 'Cause if not, in a tight budget Session, if it's just going to be a political charade, where we all dance in circles, I'll stay home and save the taxpayers a couple of dollars on per diem and mileage. If you tell me we're going to do something and solve the problem, I'll be here Wednesday standing with you ready to solve the problem. But if it's a political game, we could save the taxpayers a lot of money and not send so many people down here.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Senator Rock.

SENATOR ROCK:

A good question from an unlikely source. There -- there is no attempt -- there is no attempt on our part to do any kind of political dance. We spent over two hours in a caucus, as did you. Nobody quarrels with the fact that revenues are down and that our projected spending does not meet the projected revenue. There's a gap. We all admit it. We will stand, frankly, as long as it takes, as we did in July, to make sure that the budget is not balanced on the backs who can ill-afford, on the backs of those

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who otherwise can't take care of themselves. We will attempt, as the Governor has suggested, that there are some alternatives. But to give this Governor, or any Governor, a literal abdication of our responsibility - to give him unfettered authority - is not in our best interest. And so I will say to you, Senator Keats, as I have said to my own caucus, "Yes, be prepared to vote, please." There's going to be some very, very difficult choices. It is something we cannot duck. I suppose we could adjourn until after the primary when everybody's at least a little more comfortable, in that they've got a discernible, definable district in which to run - perhaps - or they will have made a decision by that time. We can't. I agree with the Governor. We are six-plus months into the fiscal year. If we're going to act, we have to act quickly - responsibly. But we are not going to act until we get the kind of information that we, as elected people, deserve to get. I am not, for one, as I have for the past five weeks, going to be denied access - access - to an agency director who can better tell me than some bureaucrat in the Bureau of the Budget what, in fact, is going to happen to the Department of Mental Health with a three percent across-the-board cut. That's all I want. Give me the information; I'll make the tough choice. And I hope you're here on Wednesday to vote with me.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Senator -- Senator Carroll, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR CARROLL:

Thank you, Mr. President. Just to follow up on President Rock's comments, and to identify that we will ask that all members of the Appropriations I and II Committees join with us - we've asked the House to join us as well - so that we can alleviate the problem of multiple hearings of various committees - House and Senate - and get all the answers at one time. As President Rock

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indicated, we had had two meetings in November, a meeting in December, and a meeting on January 2nd. We asked in mid-December for some very specific answers of the Bureau of the Budget on revenue shortfall indications and spending pressure indications that the Bureau had identified in mid-December they thought were going to be forthcoming and that we would have to deal with now. The Bureau was less than candid in their answers; in fact, failed to answer basically each and every of the questions we had asked. At those hearings, we again asked the questions, to be told by the Bureau, "We will work on it and get you the answers." Our staffs, at least, have found that the agencies were told they could not answer any questions that had been posed until the Governor had made his speech. We had wished - and that's why we had called for the meetings in advance - we had wished to be able to deal with the problem today. We had hoped to get the kind of questions answered that would give us comfort in the level of the revenue shortfall that had to be met, and with the severity of the cuts, and who would they impact, by the time we got here to hear the speech. For whatever reasons it was chosen to deny us access to that information, we will renew our call for the information. We understand now the agencies have been released to speak to us. And we would hope that we could have some real hearings Monday at noon at the State of Illinois Center in the 16th Floor hearing room; Tuesday, here at noon, in Room 212; and then most likely following up again Wednesday morning at -- probably at 9:00 or 9:30 in Room 212, the purpose of which will be to get identifiable numbers of the revenue shortfall and specifics - very specifics - on the cuts that they intend to make, where they intend to make them. I'm sorry, eleven o'clock is the Monday meeting. I said noon. I apologize. Thanks, Senator Hall. Eleven o'clock, Monday. It is our hope, Senator Keats, that from that information we can have an organized plan. If we are absent information, it's

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impossible to work towards a solution. If we can get that kind of information, we believe that together - Republican and Democratic sides in the Senate and House - can forge a solution acceptable to the Governor that will meet the fiscal crisis we're facing. Absent that information, it is impossible. Any of you who have seen their flow charts, as presented to the Senate Appropriations I and II Committees and the House Human Resources Appropriations Committee, recognize that the numbers did not add up. Their own columns did not add up. What they were saying were spending pressures, what they were saying were revenue shortfalls, and what they were saying their needs were, if you believe the numbers on their face, did not add up. Obvious questions were asked. Answers were told they would be forthcoming. We invite the participation of the administration in -- in getting us answers, so that you and us together can truly solve this problem. And therefore, again, we encourage all who are interested to be in attendance - eleven o'clock, at the State of Illinois Center on Monday, on the 16th Floor; noon on Tuesday, here; followed by another meeting on Wednesday, here; where hopefully we will know the severity of the problem and the proposal as to who's going to bear the brunt, and then, if necessary, have an alternative.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Senator Fawell, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR FAWELL:

Just a point of inquiry. Senator Carroll, one of the problems that we had at the last hearing was that we did not have the figures for December on the sales tax, which was one of the reasons why, obviously, some of the questions that we were asking could not be answered. Do you know if we have those figures now? Or do we have any idea how the December sales tax came in, which is about forty percent of the income from sales tax - normally?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)



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Senator Carroll.

SENATOR CARROLL:

Senator Fawell, that's one of the problems. We do not have a definitive answer. I am told that they had a preliminary figure, but I've heard two different versions of that just today. One was that in fact sales tax revenues were slightly above -- the projection, and one was that they were forty million down for the month of December. Obviously, that's a number we're going to have to know so that we can deal with it. For example, in the speech today, the Governor said, you know, that October was up some twenty million dollars and November was down one million; yet at the end of the first quarter, which is July, August, September, the Bureau, by press release, identified an eighty-three-million-dollar shortfall in revenue. The Governor today seemed to indicate that we were positive twenty million - at least for that time frame. I'm not sure. I'm not sure. All I'm saying is, that leads to more questions, not more answers. If we were down eighty-three million, which is why we called the November meetings -- and in November the Bureau said, "It's not that big a problem. It's maybe tens of millions of dollars." It, you know -- it was not something we were supposed to be concerned with. And then the next month, we made twenty million more than we thought we would. Of course, I recognize that was sales tax only. We've got to see those kind of numbers to know what the size of the problem is. I, for one, do not want to take more money from education just because somebody has suggested there might, in the future, be a problem, without knowing that there is a problem based on numbers.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Further discussion? Senator Etheredge.

SENATOR ETHEREDGE:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate.

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I wonder if Senator Carroll would yield to a question.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Indicates he will yield. Senator Etheredge.

SENATOR ETHEREDGE:

Senator, do we have an agenda for these three meetings? Specifically, do we know what Departments are going to appear on Monday, on Tuesday, and on Wednesday?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Carroll.

SENATOR CARROLL:

No, Senator Etheredge. It's our hope that we work on probably the following agenda. And I say it that vague on purpose. As of this moment, at least, our staff has been unable to get any answers at all, including from the Departments that were allegedly released at noon to start talking to us. Our staff were making calls up till about four o'clock, in order to get some preliminary questions asked and answered, so that we could schedule an agenda. We will work with your staff and the House staff. It is my thinking that the opening shot on Monday should probably again be the picture from the Bureau, and probably Revenue, as to what the revenue pressures are that the Governor is currently asking for. We asked some specific questions that we talked about; for example, an across-the-board cut as it related in -- in human services to the Boren Amendment - the Federal Amendment that says that you cannot cut the amount you're reimbursing hospitals, nursing homes, pharmacies, doctors, et cetera. The Bureau was supposed to get back to us with answers. I think those are appropriate questions for the opening hearing, so that we know the nature of the problem and whether those type of solutions would work. My thinking for the ease of the administration would be, on Tuesday, to have the Departments come in and tell us where they plan to propose the cuts - where the cuts would be in each and

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every Department, particularly the major ones. And -- and we'll work with the administration on that. I -- I think most of their fiscal and director people are down here, not in Chicago - so that we could keep, you know, to their schedule as easy as possible. If the administration would rather have some of those people testify on Monday, we would work that into the agenda as well. But I think the thought would be to have the Departments come here on Tuesday - to be very specific about where they would cut.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Etheredge.

SENATOR ETHEREDGE:

As I understand then, Senator, there would be -- you would be seeking general testimony on Monday. We would begin to hear from the Departments on Tuesday. And what is Wednesday?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Carroll.

SENATOR CARROLL:

As I said originally, my thought - subject to working it through with the various staffs, including the Governor's Office. I wouldn't say it as general as that. I think it's specific on Monday, probably to hone in on the revenue side, and then on Tuesday to hone in on the spending cuts side. But, we may want to hear from some of the Departments on Monday. We will try to develop that schedule tomorrow as we start getting some questions answered. Wednesday should be the catchall of anything we have failed to already deal with on -- on Monday and Tuesday, possibly even having some discussion on alternative solutions, if we can get that far.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Etheredge.

SENATOR ETHEREDGE:

Are we going to be scheduling testimony or groups - outside

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groups - that -- that wish to be heard at any one of these three meetings?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Carroll.

SENATOR CARROLL:

Well, I would think, you know -- as you know, the Committee process is the only time the public has the opportunity to be heard. So I believe there will be public at Monday, Tuesday and possibly Wednesday, but unfortunately, Senator Etheredge, I know that there was some confusion in -- in delivery of -- of our posting. When I conducted the meeting on January 2nd, I had asked those groups that had testified at the two meetings in November and at the meeting in December not to use the time - January 2nd - to reiterate the horror stories that they had told us before. And I intend to do that again. I don't think it important that we rehear that which we have heard, as to devastation of generalized theory. I would like to give them the opportunity to do the following, similar to when the medical providers told us about this Federal law that did not allow the Governor to cut what he wanted to cut in the health care side of Public Aid. That's a very important piece of public testimony that has yet to be responded to in, I think, an effective way. At the same time, if the Governor recommends a particular cut in Mental Health, we should not deny the Mental Health groups the right to come in and say, "Here's what it would do to us." So I think, you know, with that caveat, that we will not have it just as -- what some would call a dog and pony show. That is not our intent. Our intent is to gather useful information upon which to make an intelligent decision. In doing that, you've got to let the public come in and add to our input. But if it's just to rehash generalized statements, I don't think that would be considered in order by any of the members of the committee. If that answers you.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Etheredge.

SENATOR ETHEREDGE:

So that -- we could then invite groups that were -- had an interest in seeing specific kinds of cuts made, and we could invite them to present testimony. That's the way I'm interpreting your -- your response, Senator. If -- if I could just make one last comment. The representation was made earlier that the minority spokesmen had been informed in regard to this schedule of meetings for next week. And I am sorry to report that that, in fact, was not the case - that we are in the process of finding out information right now, as my series of questions suggest here. I would ask, therefore, that as the agenda for these three meetings is shaped up, I would ask that we do be informed as to what this schedule is, so that we can help all of those groups who have a stake in this - both those that are in favor of cuts, and -- as well as those that perhaps are opposed to any cuts that we might suggest.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Carroll.

SENATOR CARROLL:

Absolutely, Senator Etheredge. As I said several times in the remarks, we want to work with you on setting up the schedule, work with the House, and work with the Office of the Governor.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Further business to come before the Senate? If not, Senator Rock moves that we stand adjourned till tomorrow morning -- Senator Severns, for what purpose do you arise? Senator Severns.

SENATOR SEVERNS:

Thank you, Mr. President. I rise on a point of personal privilege.

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PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

State your point.

SENATOR SEVERNS:

It's my honor today to have as Pages, in the rear of the Chamber, both Dan and Jack Kiley from Shelbyville. And they -- they've been paging with us today, and I think enjoyed it very much. So -- they assured me they'll stick around and help with the budget crisis as well, if we'll let them.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

And they have a wonderful father.

SENATOR SEVERNS:

Thank you. That's right.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Senator Geo-Karis, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

I had another meeting. I regret that I had to step out, and I just got back in. Are we going to be in Session next week?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Yes. I --

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

I hope not.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Yes, we are. They'll explain it to you.

SENATOR GEO-KARIS:

When?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senate stands adjourned till tomorrow morning, nine o'clock.

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