

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
87th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

69th Legislative Day

July 15, 1991

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

The First Special Session will come to order. Reading of the Journal. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL:

Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Wait. Wait a minute. Hold on.

SENATOR HALL:

I move that the Journals just read --

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Wait a minute, Senator Hall. Just a moment.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Madam Secretary.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Journal of Thursday, July 11, 1991, from the First Special Session.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL:

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

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. You've heard the motion as placed by Senator Hall. Is there discussion? If not, those in favor will indicate by saying Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Aye have it. Motion carries. Further -- Senator Raica, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR RAICA:

Yes, sir, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Here we are in the -- almost the fourth week of negotiations between leadership and the Governor's Office. And at least it's the feeling of at least probably three-quarters of the General

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
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Assembly that we are no further -- or no closer than we were five weeks ago. That's not only my opinion, that seems to be opinion of a lot of people that are here present. After speaking to the general Membership on both sides of the aisle, I think that we ought to put a bill before us. We have -- I think it's Senate Bill 1 -- or Senate Bill 2 - Senator Luft has put amendments on there - and if the issue appears to be that of Cook County property tax relief -- or relief to constituents back home in Cook County, then that issue ought to be debated here on the Floor of the General Assembly, and let it go up or let it go down. There has been rumors that there are not twenty-eight Republicans that have support for Cook County property tax relief in Cook County and that is not, in fact, true whatsoever. There are twenty-eight Republicans that are willing to vote for tax relief in Cook County including the City of Chicago. In addition, we have talked with the Membership downstate that represents the Republican side of -- of -- of -- of the State of Illinois. And they have stated since it is an issue that is concerning a majority or even a small minority of the people within the Republican Party - the Cook County people - we will support you on that stand. Now, we have come to an agreement that there are twenty-eight people that -- that can at least live with that. Now, if it's the -- the -- the wishes of the Democrat side that we do not have property tax relief in Cook County, let's go up -- or vote it up or down. Let's not just stay stagnant like the House. We have never done that before. This Body should take the lead. Now as far as the surcharge -- the surtax goes, it's been debated on both sides of the aisle. Some people say that we should have a permanent tax for education. Were -- there's a minority that says we should have a temporary. Well, I have a roll call this morning and most of the people probably in this Body feel the same as I do - that there should be a permanent -- permanent surcharge for education.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
87th GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
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SENATE TRANSCRIPT

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Well, why the heck don't we put a bill before us and vote on it, and put it over to the other side of the Floor? But for us to sit here and do nothing while the leadership goes back and forth, and one guy -- you know, everybody paints themselves into a corner. If -- if you -- if you say you're not going to budge on this issue, and this party says we're not going to budge on this issue, before you know it, no one's going anywhere. But if four people or five people can't get this issue resolved -- I'm sure that everyone here in this General Assembly are reasonable and prudent people, and they ought to give everybody a chance to debate this issue, no matter what it may be - if it's the surcharge, or whether it be education, whether it be Public Aid funding - and let's put it to a vote as we did from the years that I've been here, and allow the general Membership of this General Assembly to vote it one way or another and get everybody involved in the process, and not just a handful. Now if there's a possibility maybe we can get that thing before us and do some business.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Madam Secretary, would you read the resolution for Pam.

SECRETARY HAWKER:

Senate Resolution 6-8-6 offered by President Rock and all Members.

(Secretary reads SR No. 686)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

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

SENATOR DUDYCZ:

Point of personal privilege, Mr. President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

State your point.

SENATOR DUDYCZ:

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
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Mr. President, I -- I know that we're in Special Session. I'd just like to know if -- if Senator Rock - I see him on the Floor - if he is prepared to -- to begin debating Senate Bill 2 on the First Special Session or if he plans to let this go on forever. I'd like to know what is the wishes of the sponsor of Senate Bill 2. I know that there are many Members of the Senate - at least, I know, on this side - that are quite anxious to debate the bill and the amendments and to see if we can resolve this and go home. Please.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

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

SENATOR TOPINKA:

Yes. Point of personal privilege, if I may. And that is, if I may add to my colleagues' questions, because we do have Senate Bill 45, which indeed does -- does address budget cuts. They're miserable, but they're painful. They have to be done. That's not being called. Our -- our hospital and long-term care assessment program follows up right on that. That's not being called. You know, we just sit here every day. We're wasting time. I think our publics back home are probably getting sick of this on both sides of the aisle. And I would just suggest, with all due respect to the President, that we kind of move this process along as quickly as possible, and at least get done those things which are not in the negotiations meetings.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Further -- Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL:

Well, I want to know -- are we in -- I'm reading from the First Special Session. I was cut off half way. Now, I am -- want to know where we are -- so I will continue to read this. Mr. President, I move that reading and approval of the Journals of Friday, July the 12th; Saturday, July the 13th; and Sunday, July

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
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the 14th, in the year 1991, be postponed, pending arrival of the printed Journals. I think you recognized me for that - didn't you?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

All right. Yes.

SENATOR HALL:

All right.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Again.

SENATOR HALL:

Okay.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

You've heard the motion as placed by Senator Hall. Is there discussion? If not, those in favor will indicate by saying Aye. Opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. Motion carries; so ordered. Further business to come before the Senate? Senator Rock.

SENATOR ROCK:

I would, as the sponsor of Senate Resolution 608 <sic> (686), dearly ask that we, as a Body, pay tribute to this young lady who has been with this Chamber for twenty years and deserves our congratulations and commendations and best wishes for the future.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR DEMUZIO)

Senator Rock moves that the Senate stand -- the First Special Session stand adjourned till tomorrow at the hour of 10:05. Senate adjourned.

DAILY TRANSCRIPTION OF DEBATE INDEX  
SPECIAL SESSION # 1

JULY 15, 1991

SUBJECT MATTER

SENATE TO ORDER - SENATOR DEMUZIO	PAGE	1
JOURNAL - APPROVED	PAGE	1
SR 686 (REGULAR SESSION) DISCUSSED	PAGE	3
JOURNALS - POSTPONED	PAGE	4
ADJOURNMENT	PAGE	5