

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The regular Session of the 91st General Assembly will please come to order. Will the Members please be at their desks? Will our guests in the galleries please rise? Our prayer today will be given by Pastor Jeff {sic} (James) Noah, Havana Church of Christ, Havana, Illinois. Pastor Noah.

PASTOR JAMES NOAH:

(Prayer by Pastor James Noah)

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Please remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Senator Sieben.

SENATOR SIEBEN:

(Pledge of Allegiance, led by Senator Sieben)

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Hawkinson, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR HAWKINSON:

Point of personal privilege...

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

State your point.

SENATOR HAWKINSON:

...Mr. President. Yesterday, during the debate on Senate Bill 794, from both sides of the aisle, there were people quoting -- purporting to quote from staff analyses, which had, in my opinion, some misinformation. And when I rose to speak, I suggested that we look at the bill. However, I also made the mistake of saying that we shouldn't look at the analysis. And the analysis was being misquoted. And as always, with our great staff, the analysis was right on the money; it was accurate. And I should not have made the reference to disregard the analysis, and I want to apologize to staff for that.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The -- the record will so indicate. Reading of the Journal.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

Senator Myers.

SENATOR MYERS:

Mr. President, I move that reading and approval of the Journals of Tuesday, November 16th, and Wednesday, November 17th, in the year 1999, be postponed, pending arrival of the printed Journal.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Myers moves to postpone the reading and approval of the Journal, pending the arrival of the printed transcript. There being no objection, so ordered. Resolutions.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Resolution 225, offered by Senator Shaw and all Members.

It's a death resolution, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Consent Calendar. Introduction of Bills.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Bill 1280, offered by Senator Obama.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1281, by Senators Karpel and Philip.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

Senate Bill 1282, by Senator Radogno.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

And Senate Bill 1283, offered by Senator Philip.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

1st Reading of the bills.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Messages.

SECRETARY HARRY:

A Message from the State Treasurer, dated October 29th, 1999.

To the Honorable Members of the -- of the Senate - I have nominated and appointed the following named person to the office

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

enumerated below and respectfully ask concurrence in and confirmation of this appointment by your Honorable Body: To be a member of the Personnel Review Board.

Another Message from the Treasurer, dated October 29th, 1999.

To the Honorable Members of the Senate - I have nominated and appointed the following named person to the office enumerated below and respectfully ask concurrence in and confirmation of this appointment by your Honorable Body.

Judy Baar Topinka, State Treasurer.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

On the top of page 2 of today's Calendar, the Order of Senate Bills 3rd Reading. Senate Bill 239. Senator Burzynski. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senate Bill 239.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Burzynski.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. As I indicated yesterday, this is taking care of a technical problem we had with the rewrite of the Illinois Realtors -- or, Real Estate License Act. And I'd be more than happy to answer any questions. But, basically, it deals with reciprocity between our State and our neighboring states surrounding us.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Any further discussion? Any further discussion? If not, Senator Burzynski, to close.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Just ask for an -- a favorable roll call.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

All right. The question is, shall Senate Bill 239 pass. Those in favor will signify by voting Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the -- take the record. On the question, there are 59 Yes, no Nays. House Bill -- Senate Bill 239, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. Senate Bill 677. Take it out of the record. Now, House Bills 3rd Reading, the top -- close to the top of page 2. House Bill 809. Senator Fawell. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 809.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Fawell.

SENATOR FAWELL:

Thank you very much. This bill now has -- does three things. It makes a technical correction to a bill that we passed last year regarding the strobe lights on school buses, and this was requested by IDOT. It makes a technical correction on another bill we passed last year which gave the Secretary of State, Jesse White, the authority to spend some accumulated funds on automated commercial driver's license testing equipment. This simply clarifies that these funds can be used for commuter -- computer software for the new equipment. And third, it clarifies that a person who gets a circuit breaker grant will still only have to pay twenty-four dollars for a Korean War license -- Veteran's license plate.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Any further discussion? Senator Demuzio.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Well, thank you, Mr. President. I intend to -- to vote in the

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

affirmative for this bill, but I'd like to point out that sometimes when we draft these pieces of legislation, sometimes, I guess, we don't think it all the way through, because it would appear, by the adoption of Senate Amendment No. 2, that we are now saying that all of the school buses that have to use these new strobe lights have -- are only on those buses manufactured after -- January the 1st, of 2000. And in the previous bill, it -- it pertained to all the old school buses. So it looks like that we are only applying ourselves to the new ones and not to the old ones. And I don't understand why we're doing that, but perhaps later on we might be able to resolve that in the next Session of the General Assembly. But I rise in support of this bill, as of -- as of this moment.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Fawell.

SENATOR FAWELL:

Thank you very much. As an explanation, that was the original agreement and intent of the bill. What we are talking about is the -- the word -- in the original bill, it was any bus that was purchased. What was meant was any bus that was manufactured after a certain date would have these strobe lights. And that was the agreement.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Demuzio.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

I guess that's my point. I don't quarrel with what we are doing, but the -- it appears that we are doing something that -- we're not taking care of the old buses. We're only making it prospective. But, you know, perhaps we can look at that again. Thank you.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Further discussion? Further discussion? If not, Senator

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

Fawell, to close.

SENATOR FAWELL:

I ask for your affirmative vote, please.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

The question is, shall House Bill 809 pass. Those in favor will signify by voting Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the record. On the question, there are 58 Yeas, no Nays. House Bill 809, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. House Bill 1013 {sic} (1113). Senator Madigan. Senator Madigan. Take it out of the record. House Bill 1175. Senator Luechtefeld. Take it out of the record. House Bill 1276. Senator Burzynski. Take it out of the record. House Bill 1852. Senator Sieben. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 1852.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Sieben.

SENATOR SIEBEN:

Thank you, Mr. President, Members of the Senate. This legislation was amended in the State Government Operations Committee and the amendment becomes the bill. It now deals strictly with the Unclaimed Property Act, and it establishes language there to exempt business-to-business transactions from the provisions of the Unclaimed Property Act.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Further discussion? Senator Sullivan.

SENATOR SULLIVAN:

Will the sponsor yield?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

The sponsor indicates he will. Senator Sullivan.

SENATOR SULLIVAN:

Senator, for purposes of legislative intent, can you please explain what is covered by this exclusion for business-to-business transactions?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Sieben.

SENATOR SIEBEN:

Yes. Generally, it applies to any credits, credit balances, checks or any other similar items related to the accounts receivable or accounts payable in a company's financial records. It applies to transactions between business associations as defined in the Act. It does not apply to individuals or other entities defined by the Act.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Sullivan.

SENATOR SULLIVAN:

Could you give some examples of the items you've mentioned?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Sieben.

SENATOR SIEBEN:

Yes. It would include, but not be limited to, checks issued for the payment of goods and services or credits issued to business customers. It would also apply to refunds, overpayments, uncashed checks, credit memos and write-offs.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Further discussion? Further discussion? If not, Senator Sieben, to close.

SENATOR SIEBEN:

Thank you, Mr. President. I know of no opposition and I'd ask for an Aye vote.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

The question is, shall House Bill 1852 pass. Those in favor, signify by voting Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The voting is open. Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the record. On the question, there are 53 Yeas, 6 Nays. House Bill 1852, having received the required constitutional majority, is declared passed. House Bill 2648. Senator Dillard. Senator Dillard. Take it out of the record. House Bill 2773. Senator Syverson. Read the bill, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 2773.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Syverson.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

Thank you, Mr. President. House Bill 2773 is a -- a bill that I believe will address some of the concerns that have been raised regarding the child support program under the new State's Disbursement Unit. I believe this bill will help clarify, as well as set into Statute, some of the issues that seem to be constantly raised regarding implementing this new law. Let me first just begin by reminding everyone that we are here today because of this program, that this is the result of a federally mandated program upon the states that they set up and establish a central disbursement unit. Most of us believe that the current State system was working well, but because of the wisdom of our President and our Congress, we now have to implement this new program. By all accounts, the current system, we believe, is working well, when it's working as it was designed to do. The problem has been in the area of receiving accurate and complete information. How can we do that? Well, this legislation, I believe, will address some of the mechanical problems that we have



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

in the system. This bill will do -- first, clarifies where checks go. All public assistant cases and all non-income withholding payments will be sent to the SDU unit. And all nonpublic assistant cases in which direct payment is made to the circuit clerk will stay at the circuit clerk's level. The bill also goes on to say that any checks that were received by the SDU that should not be processed there should be returned to the sender, along with, if possible, written instructions of where payments should be sent. Second, notification. This legislation requires that Public Aid, within fifteen days, will provide written notification to the circuit clerks and to employers regarding which cases should be sent to the SDU and which should be sent and kept at the clerk's office. It also requires that the clerks, within fifteen days, provide written notification to noncustodial parents if their support is supposed to be processed at the local circuit clerk's office. Next is training. This legislation requires that the Department of Public Aid immediately conduct regional training seminars for circuit clerks to assist them in implementing the new system and also require that the Department of Public Aid will conduct regional meetings to help employers and employer groups understand what their role is and how the rules are supposed to work. Lastly, this legislation sets into place electronic fund transfer program. This will require that all employers with two hundred and fifty or more employees will be required to utilize electronic transferring after June 30th. Followed by that, all employers that pay child support that withhold on ten or more children -- or, ten or more support orders will also be required to use EFTs by January of 2001. With that, I'll be happy to answer any questions or ask for a favorable roll call.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Further discussion? Senator Demuzio, for what purpose do you

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

rise?

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Thank you very much. To speak on this bill, if I might, Mr. President. I don't have any quarrel with what we are doing here with respect to the matters that are before us, and -- I find it intriguing, however, that by virtue of Amendment No. 2 - that was a committee amendment that was adopted - that the Republican side took all the fees out of the circuit clerk's office and said they needed the fees in order to administer this fiasco. And by virtue of Amendment No. 5, now, we have restored the fees to the circuit clerk. So I don't know what happened between one day to the next day, but things have a way of going bump in the night around here and have for a long time. Electronic filing I probably don't have any problem with. What I do feel, however, is those things that have not been addressed by this side of the aisle, that you have refused to consider Amendment No. 4 in the Senate Rules Committee and even have a hearing. If I might, Mr. President. I can't even hear myself.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Could we have a little peace and quiet?

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

So, I mean -- I don't -- I don't mind voting for this bill. It -- it's -- it's -- it's harmless, in the fact that it doesn't do a great deal. But the fact of the matter is, is that the most substantive bill -- substantive amendment - Amendment No. 4 - which would've penalized employers by two percent, which passed overwhelmingly in the Illinois House yesterday, to making sure that they make their payments on time to the SDU so that these single mothers might, in fact, get their payments on time. Also what wasn't addressed, obviously, was the call for a management audit that should be conducted. If you don't want to do a management audit, we, at some point, ought to command the Auditor

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

General at least to go in and find out what's going on with SDU, because I find it interesting that the Director can say on October 27th, it's a half a million, and then the following Monday, it's six million. The other day, it was nine and a half million, and this morning, I think it's in excess of thirteen million. And I think we're going to find, one of these days, that we're going to say to ourselves, when the next audit comes in, we ought to be ashamed of ourselves, because there's going to be a number of findings that are going to be in there and there's going to be a lot of money that's not going to be recovered by the State of Illinois because the Department of Public Aid doesn't know who got the money. They won't have any idea how they're going to get it back. They'll have no authorization for a revolving fund. These are the kinds of things that this Senate ought to be looking at, as a matter of fairness. This bill is a window dressing to -- to try to resolve this question. We're all going to vote for this bill, but I think the real thrust of helping the Department of Public Aid, as a matter of public policy, was missed by this Body.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Welch.

SENATOR WELCH:

Thank you, Mr. President. This bill is very interesting, because if you look at it, it is basically a condemnation of what Director Ann Patla has done in handling this program. Number one, it says that, well, we're going to start training the circuit clerks in the future how to handle this program. That's right. She didn't do that. She should have done that in the past. She should have recommended that months ago. And Senator Syverson is right in criticizing her with this bill. The money that was taken away from the circuit clerks was done because all the checks were going to go to the central unit, so the money was going to be used to help that processing. Well, now the checks -- some of the

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

checks are going to go back to every one of the circuit clerks. So they need the thirty-six dollars now to continue what they used to be doing, even though they will have fewer cases. So that, too, in my opinion, is a condemnation of the way Director Patla has handled this program. There's a lot of things in here that we would like to see in here, as Senator Demuzio has said. I'm not going to rehash them. I think it should be a bipartisan agreement here between both sides of the aisle, but it has become, for some reason, kind of a partisan situation. But this certainly is the beginning of what's going to happen when the audit does finally take place on this bill: that this program was completely mismanaged; it -- there wasn't enough planning in advance. And Senator -- Syverson, with this bill, has publicly acknowledged that. So I congratulate him for doing that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Jacobs.

SENATOR JACOBS:

Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Would the sponsor yield for just a couple questions?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Indicates he will. Senator Jacobs.

SENATOR JACOBS:

Senator, first off, you know, we originally put the thirty-six-dollar fee in there for the clerks of the circuit court in order to be able to help them facilitate handling of this. But now we're dealing with a federal mandate, that we now are taking that same thirty-six dollars and we, as a State, are mandating that to the employers. And I'm just curious why we did not drop that thirty-six dollars for those going to the SDU.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Syverson.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

I'm not sure if I understand the thirty-six-dollar thing with employers, but the -- the reason we took this portion out is we don't want to address concerns over costs and -- and managing it now, at a time when we're trying to get the system to work as quickly as possible, to get checks into those individuals' hands. Just because the SDU is going to be sending out the checks does not mean that the local clerks still don't have a lot of activity - of taking phone calls; they're the original record keeper in updating the local records. They are still going to have involvement on these cases, so they believe that they should still be compensated for the work that they will be doing. And so we have agreed not to address the fee side of it, at this point.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Jacobs.

SENATOR JACOBS:

I understand that and I apologize for not asking my question properly. My question basically is: We now are bypassing the clerks of the circuit court, but we, as a State, are still collecting the fee for those checks going to SDU...

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Could we kind of hold down the noise so we can hear the debate, please? Thank you. Senator Syverson.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

The clerks are the one who -- who collect the checks. Those checks -- the fees. Those fees will be staying locally. There are no fees that are paid to the State and the State is not requesting any fees under the -- under the system.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Jacobs.

SENATOR JACOBS:

So, evidently the analysis I looked at, which happened to be a Republican analysis, or I should say from the committee, that

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

indicated, in effect, that the clerks of the circuit court would keep five dollars and send the remaining, was that in error? Okay.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Syverson.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

That provision was taken out.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Jacobs.

SENATOR JACOBS:

Thank you. Just one further question, just for my edification, because I'm hearing a number of rumors, like we all are. Everyone's trying to lay blame. As I indicated yesterday, I think it's past the blame game. I think it's time to resolve the issue. It's my understanding, and correct me if I'm wrong, or -- or you may not even have this information - if you don't, I'd like to have your committee at least check into it - that we are busing four hundred employees from Chicago to Wheaton to handle this and it's a hour and a half one way and an hour and a half another way and they're working five hours. Is that correct?

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Syverson.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

I have no idea. That's the first I've heard of that.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Senator Jacobs.

SENATOR JACOBS:

Just -- I would just appreciate it if the good Senator would check into that with his committee to find out if that's the case. Because if that is the case, it's no wonder we're that far behind.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

He indicates he will. Senator Demuzio, for the second time.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

Senator, I -- again, I -- I think perhaps the other thing that we ought to consider, Senator Syverson, is that when we come back here, perhaps if this thing isn't any clearer to being resolved than it is today, perhaps we, on a bipartisan basis, ought to draft a resolution urging Congress to give us a three-month waiver of some sort in order to -- to reconcile this -- this problem. I understand we're under the federal mandate. But there are so many monumental, colossal problems with these checks that we ought to at least ask to get some relief from them to help to resolve this question. Perhaps we ought to talk about that between now and when we come back. I'm not saying that we ought not to comply with the federal mandate; I'm saying that perhaps we ought to ask for some temporary relief until this problem is resolved. Thank you.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

Further discussion? If not, Senator Syverson, to close.

SENATOR SYVERSON:

Thank you very much. Let me just address a couple things. We keep hearing about how bad the system is. We need to understand that there are tens of thousands of checks that are being processed and processed in a timely fashion. The system itself is up to date. The system itself is working the way it was intended to work. When the information in there is correct, the checks are being sent out in a timely fashion. The problem has been information that isn't correct or information that isn't accurate going into the system. That's where the problem is. How do we correct that? We correct that by doing things that are already in the process and have been implemented by the Director that we are trying to clarify and codify now into Statute for the Director. The training is something that was done originally and is continuing to be done. Our bill talks about only training on the

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

-- on the points that we are clarifying in this legislation. The -- as far as working on -- on audits or having hearings or pointing more fingers at individuals, that doesn't help speed up checks; that takes people on department time away from solving the problems and puts them into hearings and meetings that don't expedite those checks. This legislation only codifies and addresses the problems of getting accurate information only. I think Director Patla has done an excellent job with this system. They have worked long and hard hours to get a very difficult, complicated system up and running. And we should be supportive of the system, supportive of making small changes in it to make it work better. In the end, if we still have problems in the next few months, we'll be happy to sit down and continue to work on ways to improve it. These are not window dressings. These are important changes so employers and clerks know exactly where checks are supposed to go. And I would urge an Aye vote on this legislation.

PRESIDENT PHILIP:

All right. The question is, shall House Bill 2773 pass. Those in favor will vote Aye. Those not in favor will vote Nay. The voting is open. Have you all voted who wish? Have you all voted who wish? Take the record. On the question, there are 59 Yeas, no Nays. House Bill 2773, having -- having required {sic} the constitutional majority, is declared passed. Committee Reports.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Senator Weaver, Chairman of the Committee on Rules, reports the following Legislative Measures have been assigned: Refer to the Committee on Executive - House Bill 1202; to the Committee on Revenue - House Bill 1120; and Be Approved for Consideration - Senate Resolution 223, Senate Amendment 2 to House Bill 1276, and House Bill 2148.



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

House Bills 3rd Reading for the purpose of recall. House Bill 1276. Senator Burzynski? Senator Burzynski seeks leave of the Body to return House Bill 1276 to the Order of 2nd Reading for the purpose of an amendment or to...amendment. Senator Burzynski. Are there any amendments approved for consideration by either the committee or the Floor?

SECRETARY HARRY:

Amendment No. 2, offered by Senator Burzynski.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Senator Burzynski.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Thank you, Madam President. Amendment No. 2 clarifies and also helps us keep a commitment we made to the committee relative to this particular bill. Basically it says that this community does not levy a property tax and shall not levy a property tax for purposes of this particular Act. Be more than happy to explain the -- the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Further discussion? Senator Demuzio.

SENATOR DEMUZIO:

I wish -- I wish the -- the gentleman would, in fact, explain this Jumer amendment. I don't -- I don't fully understand it. Are we allowing a -- a tax without referendum, or are we taking that provision out, or -- or what are we doing with that? It's confusing.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Senator Burzynski.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Yes. Thank you for that question, Senator Demuzio. What we are doing is we are taking that provision out. We're stating that the municipality cannot tax -- cannot levy a property tax.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Further discussion? Any further discussion? All those in favor, say Aye. All opposed, say Nay. In the opinion of the Chair, the Ayes have it. And the amendment is adopted. Any further amendments, Floor amendments?

SECRETARY HARRY:

No further amendments reported.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

3rd Reading. On the Order of 3rd Reading is House Bill 1276. Senator Burzynski. Mr. Secretary, would you please read the bill?

SECRETARY HARRY:

House Bill 1276.

(Secretary reads title of bill)

3rd Reading of the bill.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Senator Burzynski.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Thank you, Madam President. House Bill 1276, as amended and now with this new Floor amendment, basically says that every city with a population of twelve thousand five hundred or more but less than twenty-five thousand that's located in a county with a population of two hundred and fifty thousand or more but less than two hundred and sixty thousand and does not levy a property tax has the power to acquire, construct, manage, control, maintain and operate a municipal convention hall. The amendment that we just added says that they can do this; however, they cannot levy a property tax in order to provide for this purpose.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Any further discussion? Senator Larry Walsh.

SENATOR L. WALSH:

Thank you, Madam President. Would the sponsor yield?

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

He indicates that he will.

SENATOR L. WALSH:

Senator Burzynski, I appreciate you bringing back to the Floor what you said you would do in committee when we discussed this in committee. But it's been brought to my attention that -- that your amendment is technically flawed. And I -- I had talked about that with you, that the Section -- the Section numbers are not listed correctly. If this is going to cause us a problem, that next week we'll be coming back again and adding a third amendment on here to correct that.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Senator Burzynski.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Thank you, Senator Walsh. I wasn't aware that that was the -- the question that we had earlier this morning. But I believe that Enrolling and Engrossing can work with this issue to clarify, to correct it, between now and the time this bill goes to the House.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Senator Walsh.

SENATOR L. WALSH:

Well, I don't know exactly what the proper procedure is, but we would basically be passing something that is technically flawed and -- and moving it on, hopefully that somebody else will correct it.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Senator Burzynski.

SENATOR BURZYNSKI:

Senator, my understanding is that the only difference, the only thing that we didn't do with Floor Amendment No. 2, is we did not reference the title of the Act that we were changing. The Act is enumerated in there. We did not -- simply did not list the title of the Act. The Section numbers.

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Any further discussion? Any further discussion? The question is, shall House Bill 1276 pass. All those in favor, vote Aye. All opposed. The voting is open. Have all voted who wished? Have all voted who wished? Have all voted who wished? Take the record. On that question, there are 55 voting Yea, 2 voting Nay, none voting Present. And this bill, having received the required constitutional majority, is hereby declared passed. We'll now proceed to the Order of Resolutions Consent Calendar. With -- with leave of the Body, all of those read in today will be added to the Consent Calendar. Mr. Secretary, have there been any objections filed to any resolution on the Consent Calendar?

SECRETARY HARRY:

No objections have been filed, Madam President.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Can we have a little order, please? Any discussion? Hearing none. If not, the question is, shall the resolutions on the Consent Calendar be adopted. All those in favor, say Aye. All opposed, say Nay. The motion carries, and the resolutions are adopted. Messages from the House.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Message from the House by Mr. Rossi, 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:

House Joint Resolution 35.

(Secretary reads HJR No. 35)

Adopted by the House, November 18th, 1999.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Senator Donahue moves the adoption of House Joint Resolution -- oops! I'm sorry. We'll -- motion to suspend the rules so that

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

we can consider the -- purpose of the immediate consideration and adoption of Joint House Resolution 35. Those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed, Nay. The Ayes have it. The rules are suspended. Senator Donahue has moved for the adoption of House Joint Resolution 35. Those in favor, say Aye. All opposed, Nay. In the opinion of the Chair, the Ayes have it. And the resolution is adopted. We have effectively concluded our work for today, but we will remain open pursuant -- to do the -- the paperwork from the House. And we will reconvene on Tuesday -- until -- on Tuesday, the 30th of November, 1999, at noon. The Senate stands in recess. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

(SENATE STANDS IN RECESS/SENATE RECONVENES)

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Any further business... The Senate will reconvene. And Messages from the House.

SECRETARY HARRY:

Message from the House by Mr. Rossi, Clerk.

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed a bill of the following title, the veto of the Governor notwithstanding, in the passage of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Bill 523.

We have like Messages on House Bills 523, 733, 1165, 1232, 1261, 1325 and 1723.

All passed the House, November 17th, 1999, by a three-fifths vote.

A Message from the House by Mr. Rossi, Clerk.

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has accepted the Governor's specific

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE TRANSCRIPT

58th Legislative Day

November 18, 1999

recommendations for change, which are attached, to a bill of the following title, in the adoption of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Bill 421.

We have like Messages on House Bills 421, 427, 526, 721, 1366, 1383, 1388, 1676, 1762, 1766, 1816, 1832 and 2005.

All adopted by the House, November 17th, 1999, by a three-fifths vote.

A Message from the House by Mr. Rossi, 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 1144, together with House Amendment No. 1.

Passed the House, as amended, November 18th, 1999.

And a Message from the House by Mr. Rossi, Clerk.

Mr. President - I am directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has passed a bill of the following title, in the passage of which I am instructed to ask the concurrence of the Senate, to wit:

House Bill 2920.

Passed the House, November 18th, 1999.

PRESIDING OFFICER: (SENATOR GEO-KARIS)

Any further business to come before the Senate? If not, pursuant to the adjournment resolution, Senator Lauzen moves that the Senate stand adjourned until noon, Tuesday, 30 November, 1999. Have a happy Thanksgiving. And the Senate stands adjourned.

NOVEMBER 18, 1999

HB-0809 THIRD READING	PAGE	4
HB-1276 RECALLED	PAGE	17
HB-1276 THIRD READING	PAGE	18
HB-1852 THIRD READING	PAGE	6
HB-2773 THIRD READING	PAGE	8
SB-0239 THIRD READING	PAGE	3
SB-0794 DISCUSSED	PAGE	1
SB-1280 FIRST READING	PAGE	2
SB-1281 FIRST READING	PAGE	2
SB-1282 FIRST READING	PAGE	2
SB-1283 FIRST READING	PAGE	2
SR-0225 RESOLUTION OFFERED	PAGE	2
HJR-0035 ADOPTED	PAGE	21
HJR-0035 RESOLUTION OFFERED	PAGE	20

SUBJECT MATTER

SENATE TO ORDER-PRESIDENT PHILIP	PAGE	1
PRAYER-PASTOR JAMES NOAH	PAGE	1
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-SENATOR SIEBEN	PAGE	1
JOURNALS-POSTPONED	PAGE	2
MESSAGES FROM THE STATE TREASURER	PAGE	2
COMMITTEE REPORTS	PAGE	16
RESOLUTIONS CONSENT CALENDAR-ADOPTED	PAGE	20
MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE	PAGE	20
SENATE STANDS IN RECESS/SENATE RECONVENES	PAGE	21
MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE	PAGE	21
ADJOURNMENT	PAGE	22