

STATE OF ILLINOIS
103rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

57th Legislative Day

10/24/2023

Speaker Buckner: "The House will be in order. Members will be in their chairs. We will be led in prayer today by Dr. Muhammad M. Sharif and Imam Nasser Hussein. They are with the Islamic Foundation of Villa Park in Villa Park, Illinois. They are guests of Rep. Blair-Sherlock. Members and guests are asked to refrain from starting their laptops, turn off all cell phones, and rise for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance."

Imam Hussein: "[Recited in Arabic.] Peace.. may the peace and blessings and mercy of the God of Allah peace be on you... peace be upon you. I'm going to recite some ayat from the Quran, just to understanding what I'm saying. [Recited in Arabic.] Thank you."

Dr. Sharif: "As-salamu alaykum, everyone. The traditional greeting of Islam, which means peace be upon you. I will translate the verses recited from the Quran and then end with a short supplication. In the name of God, the most gracious, ever merciful. Praise be to God, Lord of all the worlds, the most gracious, the most merciful, master of the day of judgement. It is you we worship and you we call for help. Guide us to the straight path, the path of those whom you have blessed favors and not of those who are astray. This is the book in which there is no doubt, a guide for the righteous. Those who believe in the unseen, and perform prayers, and give from what we have provided for them. And those who believe in what was revealed to you, and what was revealed before you, and they are certain about the hereafter. These are the people who are under the guidance from their Lord. These are the successful. There is no God but Allah,

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the living, the eternal. He sent down the book with truth, confirming what came before it; and he sent down the original Torah and Injil, the book of Jesus. Before, as a guidance to mankind, he revealed the criterion of good and evil. Those who disbelieve in the verses of God will be treated by him in a harsh manner. Indeed, nothing is hidden from God on the earth or in the heavens. It is he who shapes you in the wombs as he wills. There is no God except he, the almighty, wise. All mankind, we created you from one man and one woman, and made you into races and tribes so you can recognize each other. In God's eye, the most honored are those who are most mindful of him. This is the supplication of all our prayer. O God, as we open our meeting, let your spirit be a guide in all our thinking, duties, and legislative efforts. O God, give us the strength of cooperation with each other and enthusiasm to fulfill our duties. Maybe... may we be worthy of trust placed in us by our constituents. O God, you are the source of all ethics. Inspire our hearts to be just and caring without discrimination against anyone. Amen. Thank you."

Speaker Buckner: "We'll be led in the Pledge of Allegiance today by Representative Ford."

Ford - et al: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Speaker Buckner: "Roll Call for Attendance. Leader Gabel is recognized to report any excused absences on the Democratic side of the aisle."

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Gabel: "Speaker, let the record show that Representatives Ammons, Avelar, Evans, Guerrero-Cuellar, Manley, Canty, Hirschauer, Lilly, Mason, Harper, and Andrade are excused today."

Speaker Buckner: "The record will reflect. Leader Windhorst is recognized to report any excused absences on the Republican side of the aisle."

Windhorst: "Please excuse Representative Chris Miller today."

Speaker Buckner: "Have all recorded themselves who wish? Mr. Clerk, please take the record. There being 106 Members answering the roll call, a quorum is present. Mr. Clerk, Committee Reports."

Clerk Hollman: "Committee Reports. Representative Rita, Chairperson from the Committee on... on the Executive reports the following committee action taken on October 24, 2023: do pass Short Debate is House Bill 4148."

Speaker Buckner: "Mr. Clerk."

Clerk Hollman: "Messages from the Secretary of State dated October 24, 2023. To the Honorable Speaker of the House: In compliance with the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Illinois, I'm forwarding herewith the enclosed House Bills from the 103rd General Assembly that's being returned by the Governor with specific recommendations for change. House Bills 2507, House Bill 2878, House Bill 3445. Respectfully signed, Alexi Giannoulis, Secretary of the State. A second message from the Secretary of State, also dated October 24, 2023. To the Honorable Speaker of the House: In compliance with provisions of the Constitution of the State of Illinois, I am forwarding herewith the enclosed House Bill from the 103rd General Assembly as vetoed by the Governor together

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with his objections. House Bill 3643. Respectfully signed,
Alexi Giannoulas, Secretary of the State."

Speaker Buckner: "Leader McCombie, for what reason do you seek
recognition?"

McCombie: "Point of personal privilege, Speaker."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed."

McCombie: "Since October 7, we have all seen the coverage of the
horrific terrorist attacks in Israel, which have devastated
families, women, and children around the world. This conflict
may be playing out in the Middle East, but we cannot ignore
the ties to our state or to this very chamber. We have learned
that Speaker Welch will not be calling forward any Resolutions
concerning the conflict. He noted that this is an
international issue, and we instead should focus on our state
and what is happening in Illinois. To that, I say the Speaker
has allowed 30 Resolutions concerning international issues in
the 102nd and the 103rd General Assembly. And this conflict
is relevant to our state. Recently, the Speaker took a
delegation to Israel. And Illinois residents were taken
hostage by Hamas terrorists. Illinois is a part of this.
Earlier this year, on February 22, our chamber welcomed the
Consul General of Israel. Consul General Cohen stressed the
importance of the strategic alliance between the United
States and Israel. And as a chamber, we supported that
alliance. We should not go back on our word, and we should
not be silent when we see terror playing out. As of this
morning, as a result of these heinous.. of this heinous attack
on Israel, 1400 Israelis have been killed, thousands wounded.
And Secretary of State Blinken, speaking to the UN Security

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Council, confirmed that 33 Americans have been killed thus far and approximately 215 are still being held by Hamas, roughly 10 of those Americans. I have filed House Resolution 446. House Republicans strongly condemn the violence in the Middle East and stand with Israel as it defends itself against the heinous acts of violence carried out by Hamas terrorists and to support and to express our unlimited, unwavering support for the families, the defenders, and the Republic of Israel. We express our sincere condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones, including the families of American citizens who have lost their lives and live in fear today. We support and pray for the safety of U.S. troops heading to the Eastern Mediterranean to aid Israel, for the people of Israel, and for peace in the region. I ask all Members to join us and sponsor HR446. And Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence."

Speaker Buckner: "The House will take a moment of silence. Thank you. Representative Slaughter, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Slaughter: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It does give me great pleasure to introduce the new leader of the 9th District. Today, we welcome State Representative Yolonda Morris to the chamber. Representative Morris is a mother of two children, a hardworking labor union member, a proud member of SEIU Healthcare. She's been a CNA for 26 years, spent 18 years in the nursing home industry. We look forward to working with her. And Mr. Speaker, if we could yield just a little bit of time to Representative Morris to say hello to the chamber?"

Speaker Buckner: "Representative Morris, please proceed."

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Morris: "Hello. My name is Yolonda Morris. I'm the newly appointed State Rep. of the 9th District, and I look forward to working with each and every one of you today. Thank you."

Speaker Buckner: "Welcome to the House. Representative Ford, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Ford: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks for letting me lead the Pledge. You look great up there and you sound great. But today I rise for a point of personal privilege to recognize the Illinois Harm Reduction and Recovery Coalition who's here downstairs, near Room 114. They've been here today since 9:00, and they will be here until 4:30. The purpose of their arrival here is to educate Legislators, members of the Governor's staff, members of the Speaker's staff, and everyone that would like to know more about the overdose prevention sites. Right here in Illinois, we know that we're suffering from lots of overdoses and people dying. So, they're engaging people downstairs in a tent to show you exactly what an overdose prevention facility looks like. And the message is, overdose prevention sites are designated to save lives, overdose prevention sites are cost effective, and overdose prevention sites is a one-stop shop where people who use drugs can get what they need when they need it. And overdose prevention sites reduce pollution of needles. I want to thank them for coming to Springfield and educating the Members of this Body and everyone that would like to learn more about saving lives in Illinois. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity."

Speaker Buckner: "Thank you. Representative Will Davis, welcome back. And for what reason do you seek recognition?"

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Davis, W.: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed."

Davis, W.: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to begin by acknowledging a couple special guests that we have in the Speaker's Gallery, and that is President Mahony of Southern Illinois University as well as Chancellor Austin Lane of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. There is a Resolution that has been filed to acknowledge what they're... the reason why they're here in Springfield today, which hasn't been adopted yet, but I'd like to take a moment just to read a couple passages out of it. And it starts by saying,

WHEREAS, Southern Illinois University (SIU) Carbondale was founded in 1869 as the State's second teachers college and has grown into a nationally-ranked comprehensive doctoral research university with six colleges, a school of education, a school of law, and a school of medicine; the flagship campus of the Southern Illinois University System offers more than 200 majors, minors, and specializations; and

WHEREAS, SIU Carbondale serves students from all 50 states and 100 nations, attracting students to the State with its commitment to affordability and access; for several years, the university has not raised undergraduate tuition; in 2020, it launched the Saluki Commitment and the Saluki Transfer Commitment to close financial gaps for Illinois families, using AIM HIGH funds, and it has eliminated out-of-state tuition; and

WHEREAS, In the fall of 2023 and for the very first time since 2014, there was an overall increase... increase, Ladies and

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Gentlemen... in enrollment at SIU Carbondale, being the highest percentage increase in more than 30 years and the first time in at least 50 years that it has had four consecutive freshman class increases. And while the Resolution is much longer, let me just end by saying that we welcome the inaugural 2023 Saluki Takeover Tour to Springfield, Illinois on October 25 and 26 of 2023, and that it further, of course, resolves that a suitable copy of this Resolution shall be printed to both gentlemen that are here. I am a graduate of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, a proud Saluki. And I have participated in their takeover events in the Chicago area and happy that they have made their way to Springfield, where they are meeting with high schools, principals, counselors, trying to work out agreements to get their students to Carbondale, as well as working with area community colleges to work out agreements so that students can have a smooth transfer from those community colleges to Springfield. So, I'm very happy to have these two gentlemen in the Speaker's Gallery. And again, we welcome them here to Springfield for their takeover event here. And you'll start to see these takeover events in more communities around the state. With that, Mr. Speaker, I... I have another point, but let me ask that Representative Windhorst be allowed to say a few words."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed, Representative Windhorst."

Windhorst: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to echo the words of Representative Davis and welcome President Mahony and Chancellor Lane. And thank you for your excellent leadership of Southern Illinois University and the Carbondale campus. Bright days are ahead, and it's a bright future based

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on your leadership. We thank you for everything you've done to this point and look forward to that future. Thank you."

Speaker Buckner: "Representative Davis."

Davis, W.: "Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My second point is I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the Members of this chamber in particular. To its Leaders, Speaker Welch, Leader McCombie, as well as other Members of the chamber. As many of you know, in April I suffered a... a minor stroke. And... which is why you didn't see me come back to Springfield. I took that time to get well, to get better so that I have the opportunity to come back and be back in this chamber with you, full strength and full force, in the future. I take... thank you. I take this opportunity... not that any of us or that... not that many of us haven't had, whether it's illnesses with ourselves or our families or, you know, close friends or loved ones. But I wanted to, again, take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Members of this chamber. I know that sometimes we differ on issues, we see things differently. But my hope, that I think I experienced, is that when a Member of our chamber suffers, to some degree we all suffer, and that we should all take a step back and forget our differences, but yet focus on supporting that Member to the best of our ability. Whether it's through prayers, or calls, flowers, cards, whatever it may be, to support that Member. And I received... or I am the beneficiary of a lot of that from many of you in this room. And even if we didn't talk, I know your prayers were with me. And it's those prayers that have allowed me to come back today to be back here with you to continue the work of the people of

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Illinois well into the... well into the future. I definitely want to thank my wife, Courtney, who, when it happened, she was there by my side. And she controlled everything. Some of you called, and she said, no, you can't talk to him. But that's what she was supposed to do. And... and I'm very happy that at that moment, this moment in my life, I had her with me to make sure that she focused on my health and made sure that my health and getting back was indeed a priority. So, for that, I am eternally grateful to her, of course, but to all of you. And I'm excited about getting back and getting back to doing things that I've been doing and the issues that were important to me. And if someone ever asks you the question whether or not I am back, well, yeah, I'm back. And let's get to work. Thank you all very much."

Speaker Buckner: "Welcome back, Representative Davis. Representative Cassidy, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Cassidy: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed."

Cassidy: "I want to welcome some guests to the gallery. We are joined by Taylor Ortiz and her parents, Nancy and Joe Ortiz. Taylor started as an intern in my district office, transitioned into a... a staffer, and is now working in the district office of Congressman Mike Quigley. But she and her parents are here exploring the Capitol. They took a Capitol tour this morning. And just want to welcome them to our Capitol."

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Speaker Buckner: "Welcome to your Capitol, Ortiz family. Representative Halbrook, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Halbrook: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of personal privilege, please."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed."

Halbrook: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen, I rise today in support of the holy land of Israel in the wake of ongoing attacks and military conflict with Hamas. Hamas is a terrorist organization which does not recognize Israel's right to exist. The Hamas terrorist organization launched a brutal, highly-organized, and unprecedented attack upon Israel and its citizens in the early morning hours of October 7, 2023. In its attack, Hamas fired thousands of rockets against Israel population centers in an attack... in an attempt to kill untold numbers of innocent civilians. This is why I introduced House Resolution 449, which resolves our support for Israel and condemns the attacks on the State of Israel and its people and strongly implore the government of Israel to bring the terrorist organization, Hamas, to an end. Further, that we resolve to recognize Israel's right to act decisively and unilaterally in self-defense to protect its citizens and to pursue without interference or condemnation the elimination of Hamas, until Hamas is permanently neutralized and public safety is assured. Finally, that we call upon the United States to provide assistance to support Israel in its defense against Hamas and all other terrorist organizations that threaten its sovereignty. And we convey

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our most heartfelt condolences to all the Israeli victims as well as their families and communities. Thank you."

Speaker Buckner: "Representative Gill, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Gill: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed."

Gill: "Hi, everyone. Today, I want to... I have a Page for the day, Carson Banker. Carson was here a few years ago with our former colleague, Fran Hurley, and he loved it so much he wanted to come back. Carson is currently a senior in high school at Carl Sandburg High School in Orland Park. He is in Model UN, the Scholastic Bowl, and he founded the first coding club at his high school. He's an impressive young man who hopes to join the Illinois political world. Everyone, please give Carson a big Springfield welcome and make sure to give him an autograph if he comes by."

Speaker Buckner: "Carson, welcome to your Capitol. Representative Ugaste, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Ugaste: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed."

Ugaste: "Thank you. Normally, I... I don't like doing anything too personal in nature to me. But it's a big day for someone in my life, so I hope the chamber will join me. A number of years ago, I'm not going to say how many because that's how I've stayed married so long, my in-laws welcomed their first child into this world today, and I married her 23 years later. It's a big birthday for her today. And unfortunately, I'm not there to celebrate it with her. But I hope the chamber joins me in

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wishing my wife, Denise, truly my better half, a very happy birthday."

Speaker Buckner: "Happy birthday, Denise. Representative Severin, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Severin: "Point of personal privilege, please."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed."

Severin: "It's my honor today to have with me on the House Floor my two grandsons, Trayson Severin, who is a junior at Benton High School, and his little squirt brother, Brodie, who's a seventh grader at Benton Junior High. They both participate in sports, very active. They're both on the high honor rolls in both schools. Trayson plays football, basketball, and baseball. Brodie plays baseball and basketball. They both participate in community activities with the FCA. And so, I want to just welcome them to the House Floor. Their parents couldn't be with us today, my son, Travis, and daughter-in-law, Melissa. But their nay nay, my wife, Penny, she is in the gallery. So, we'd like to welcome her to the House Floor. But I'd like to welcome these two guys. I've been trying to get them here for the last few years, but it was my honor for them to skip school today. He's missing a big test. They're both missing practice, but they wanted to come and see what goes on, on the House Floor. So, I just want to tell you this. They've already got Severin ink pens in their pockets. They've already got t-shirts, hoodies, hats, and everything else we give away. But I just wanted to introduce them to the House Floor. They already met John Hollman from Murphysboro, and they already went... but... so, again, my pleasure and my

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privilege to bring my two grandsons to the House Floor, Trayson and Brodie Severin. Thank you."

Speaker Buckner: "Trayson and Brodie, welcome to your Capitol. Representative Sanalitra, for what reason do you seek recognition?"

Sanalitra: "Point of personal privilege."

Speaker Buckner: "Please proceed."

Sanalitra: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I'd like to welcome... I brought somebody very special with me from my district, he's my legislative assistant. He graduated from Lake Forest College with a double major in political science and in international relations, and he was on the dean's list. But he's doing a great job, and I want everybody to welcome him, please. Thank you."

Speaker Buckner: "Welcome to your Capitol. Leader Mah is recognized for an announcement."

Mah: "Mr. Speaker, the Democrats would request a caucus immediately in Room 114."

Speaker Buckner: "The Democrats will caucus immediately in Room 114. Leader Windhorst is recognized."

Windhorst: "Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Republicans will caucus in Room 118."

Speaker Buckner: "The Republicans will caucus in Room 118. Mr. Clerk, Agreed Resolutions."

Clerk Hollman: "Agreed Resolutions. House Resolution 341, offered by Representative Buckner. House Resolution 343, offered by Representative Coffey. House Resolution 344, offered by Representative Egofski. House Resolution 345, offered by Representative Gordon-Booth. House Resolution 347, offered by

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Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 348, offered by Representative Crespo. House Resolution 350, offered by Representative Frese. House Resolution 351, offered by Representative Meyers-Martin. House Resolution 352, offered by Representative Ford. House Resolution 353, offered by Representative Halbbrook. House Resolution 354, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 356, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 358, offered by Representative Elik. House Resolution 360, offered by Representative Marron. House Resolution 361, offered by Representative Spain. House Resolution 362, offered by Representative Spain. House Resolution 363, offered by Representative Morgan. House Resolution 364, offered by Representative Harper. House Resolution 365, offered by Representative du Buclet. House Resolution 366, offered by Representative Scherer. House Resolution 367, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 369, offered by Representative Moylan. House Resolution 370, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 372, offered by Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 373, offered by Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 374, offered by Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 376 (sic-375), offered by Representative Lilly. House Resolution 376, offered by Representative Mason. House Resolution 377, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 378, offered by Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 379, offered by Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 380, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 381, offered by Representative du Buclet. House Resolution 383,

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offered by Representative Coffey. House Resolution 384, offered by Representative Rita. House Resolution 385, offered by Representative Harper. House Resolution 386, offered by Representative Lilly. House Resolution 387, offered by Representative Buckner. House Resolution 388, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 389, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 391, offered by Representative Frese. House Resolution 392, offered by Representative Meyers-Martin. House Resolution 393, offered by Representative Lilly. House Resolution 396, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 397, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 398, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 399, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 400, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 401, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 402, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 403, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 404, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 406, offered by Representative Gordon-Booth. House Resolution 407, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 410, offered by Representative Nichols. House Resolution 411, offered by Representative Moeller. House Resolution 413, offered by Representative Hoffman. House Resolution 414, offered by Representative Will Davis. House Resolution 416, offered by Leader McCombie. House Resolution 417, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 418, offered by Representative Davidsmeyer. House Resolution 419, offered by Representative Hauter. House Resolution 420, offered by

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Representative Meyers-Martin. House Resolution 421, offered by Representative Barbara Hernandez. House Resolution 422, offered by Representative Ozinga. House Resolution 423, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 424, offered by Representative Schmidt. House Resolution 425, offered by Representative Mayfield. House Resolution 426, offered by Representative West. House Resolution 427, offered by Representative Morgan. House Resolution 428, offered by Representative Carroll. House Resolution 429, offered by Representative Ammons. House Resolution 430, offered by Representative Jed Davis. House Resolution 431, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 432, offered by Representative Flowers. House Resolution 433, offered by Representative Rashid. House Resolution 434, offered by Representative Windhorst. House Resolution 435, offered by Representative Mason. House Resolution 436, offered by Representative Jed Davis. House Resolution 437, offered by Representative Avelar. House Resolution 439, offered by Representative Keicher. House Resolution 441, offered by Representative Evans. House Resolution 447, offered by Representative Kelly. House Resolution 448, offered by Representative Mason. House Resolution 450, offered by Representative Harper. House Resolution 451, offered by Representative Gong-Gershowitz. House Resolution 452, offered by Representative Schmidt. House Resolution 454, offered by Representative Ozinga. And House Resolution 455, offered by Representative Sanalidro."

Speaker Buckner: "Leader Gabel moves for the adoption of the Agreed Resolutions. All those in favor say 'aye'; all those

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opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the Agreed Resolutions are adopted. And now, allowing perfunctory time for the Clerk, Leader Gabel moves that the House stand adjourned until Wednesday, October 25, at the hour of 11 a.m. All those in favor say 'aye'; all those opposed say 'nay'. In the opinion of the Chair, the 'ayes' have it. And the House stands adjourned."

Clerk Hollman: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Second Reading of House Bills. House Bill 4148, a Bill for an Act concerning government. Second Reading of this House Bill. This will be held on the Order of Second Reading. Introduction of Resolutions. House Resolution 342, offered by Representative Ford; House Resolution 346, offered by Representative Jiménez; House Resolution 349, offered by Representative Benton; House Resolution 355, offered by Representative Evans; House Resolution 357, offered by Representative Evans; House Resolution 359, offered by Representative Marron; House Resolution 368, offered by Representative Keicher; House Resolution 371, offered by Representative Yednock; House Resolution 382, offered by Representative Keicher; House Resolution 390, offered by Representative Buckner; House Resolution 394, offered by Representative Kifowit; House Resolution 405, offered by Representative Mason; House Resolution 412, offered by Representative Ugaste; House Resolution 415, offered by Representative Flowers; House Resolution 438, offered by Representative Buckner; House Resolution 440, offered by Representative Evans; House Resolution 442, offered by Representative LaPointe; House Resolution 443, offered by

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Representative Kifowit; House Resolution 444, offered by Representative Jed Davis; House Resolution 446, offered by Leader McCombie; House Resolution 449, offered by Representative Halbrook; House Resolution 453, offered by Representative Ammons; House Joint Resolution 41, offered by Representative Niemerg; and House Joint Resolution 42, offered by Representative Cabello, are referred to the Rules Committee. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."